



Uganda National Roads Authority

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WORLD BANK GROUP



***JFCU-NERAMP LANGO CLUSTER PROJECT
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 2022 TO MAY 2023***



MANAGING AND MITIGATING SOCIAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN ALONG NORTH-EASTERN ROAD CORRIDOR ASSET MANAGEMENT PROJECT (NERAMP) – LOT 2-LANGO CLUSTER

RFP No: UNRA/SRVCS/2017-18/00095

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Acronyms

ACAO	Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDO	Community Development Officer
CFARH	Centre For Adolescent Reproductive Health
D.E.O	District Education Officer
DCDO	District Community Development Officer
DHO	District Health Officer
DLG	District Local Government
DNMC	District NGO Management Committee
DPO	District Probation Officer
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GMC	Grievances Management Committees
GoU	Government of Uganda
HIV	Human Immuno-defficiency Virus
ID	Identification
IEC	Information Education and Communication
JFCU	Joy for Children Uganda
LC	Local Council
LG	Local Government
NERAMP	North Eastern Road Asset Management Project
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NUTAF	Northern Uganda Transparency And Accountability Forum
NWSC	National Water and Sewage Cooperation
ODLG	Oyam District Local Government
OPRC	Output and Performance-based Roads Contracts
P/S	Primary School
PIASCY	Presidential Initiative on AIDS Strategy for Communication to Youths
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
SDMC	Sub county NGO Management Committee
SIETCO	Shell International Eastern Trading company
UEDCL	Uganda Electricity Distribution Company Limited
UNRA	Uganda National Road Authority
VAC	Violence Against Children
YWIFD	Young Women Initiative For Development

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Executive Summary

Background

The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) is carrying out a maintenance of the road that runs from Soroti to Corner Kamdini running through the 4 districts of Dokolo, Lira, Kole and Oyam under the North Eastern Corridor and Asset Management Project (NERAMP) Lango cluster. The North Eastern Road corridor Asset Management Project (NERAMP) aims to reduce transport costs, enhance road safety, and improve services on the road through a cost-effective Output and Performance-based Road Contract (OPRC). The road under rehabilitation is of high importance to Uganda and the East African Community as it services besides of domestic purposes is a transit corridor between Northern and Eastern Uganda, South Sudan, North-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the port of Mombasa in Kenya.

Joy for Children Uganda (JFCU) a local Non-Government Organization (NGO) was awarded a contract dated November 2019 by Uganda National Road Authority to manage and mitigate the social risks (Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Violence Against Children (VAC) under NERAMP (Lango Cluster) - RFP No: UNRA/SRVCS/2017-18/00095) that would result or associated to, as an outcome of the influx of workers in the project communities under the road rehabilitation project. This is being achieved through support to survivors of VAC and GBV, continuously sensitization and awareness of the communities on the risk associated with GBV and VAC by JFCU.

This second Annual report compiles activities that were implemented by JFCU during FY 2022/2023.

Project implementation status and achievements FY 2022/2023

The project during the FY 2022/2023 registered a high increase in the number of activities and outputs than the previous FY 2021/2022 due to increased funding flows and an enabling environment (no covid 19 and strikes). With increased work on the road by the contractor, the negativity towards project activities in the community members reduced considerably and led to increased community willingness to participate in meetings organized by JFCU .

The activities implemented during the year include stakeholders meetings; sensitization of road construction workers about GBV and VAC issues; sensitization of school going children both in secondary and Primary schools; sensitization of members of the GMCs about referral and reporting of GBV and VAC cases in their respective communities; sensitization of community members in different communities with mobilization support by the GMCs; radio talk shows on FM radio stations about GBV and VAC in relation to the NERAMP project; sensitization of cultural and religious leaders about the NERAMP project, GBV and VAC issues and their roles in contributing towards reduction or prevention of escalation of the GBV and VAC incidences in their respective communities; distribution of VAC and GBV IEC materials in schools and

communities in the 4 project districts; identification of functional OVCs; and formation of Male Champions in the communities. Details of monthly outputs are in the Annex of the report.

Challenges during implementation

A number of challenges were encountered during the project implementation but were not strong to derail the planned activities as mitigation measures were taken to address them to avoid delays in planned activity implementation.

The following were noted as challenges:

- ❖ The strike of Teachers (UNATU) affected sensitization activities in schools as some of the teachers and pupils were not in school. Other schools in the project area that were open were substituted for project activities.
- ❖ Delayed funds disbursement from UNRA affected implementation of planned activities. The JFCU management had to mobilise resources from other sources for use to implement planned activities pending the funds to be secured from UNRA.
- ❖ Unplanned events taking place in communities e.g death of community member, weddings, political campaigns etc) affected mobilization and carrying out planned activities in such communities. In such events, other communities in the nearby areas were reached for sensitization activities.
- ❖ High financial expectation from community members for attending meetings affected number of participants when they could learn that no financial incentives were to be provided to participants. The politics of giving money to voters has spoilt the community towards participation in meetings that have no financial incentives. The project had to use the GMCs to lure and convince the community members to attend and in some instances it worked very well.
- ❖ Bad weather especially during rainy season affected planned activities some of which started late and even affected the number of participants. JFCU staff had to persevere and wait for the rains to stop and wait for the participants to come.
- ❖ Poor roads to some communities especially during rainy seasons made it practically impossible for the use of project transport logistics (motorcycle) to manoeuvre the slippery roads and also go to distant project sites. The resilience and commitment of project staff contributed to their efforts to ensure that they carried out planned activities through thin and thick of such bad situations.
- ❖ In the urban settings, community members were busy involved in commercial businesses and had little or no time to attend to the project meetings. It required intensive mobilization to bring them for such meetings. Some even during meetings could be partially attending as they also carried out their businesses.

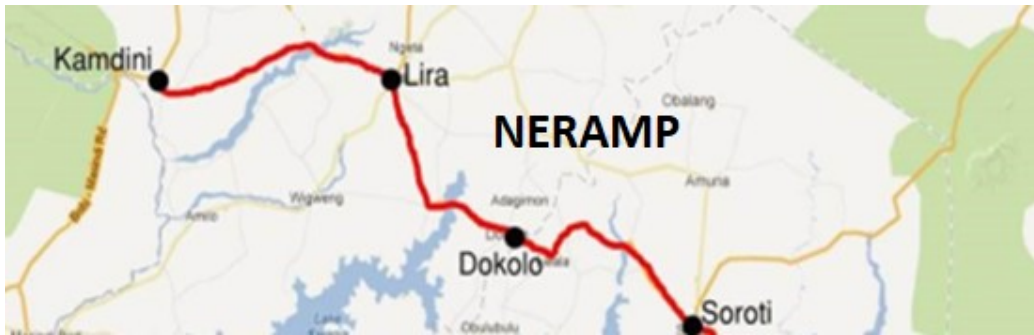
Good practices

- ✓ Use of the radio talk show reaches a wider audience and will spread the GBV and VAC prevention issues effectively and efficiently.
- ✓ Stakeholders meetings contribute to sharing experience and learning from others about practical areas for interventions that can significantly contribute towards the elimination or reduction GBV and VAC incidences in communities. They also increase coordination and collaboration among actors who are addressing GBV and VAC in communities.
- ✓ Timely funds disbursement contributes to effective and efficient project implementation.
- ✓ Keeping children in school contributes significantly to reduced chances of early teenage pregnancy and marriage
- ✓ Involving Cultural, religious and community leaders in community sensitization about GBV and VAC increases chances of community members adoption of the measures provided to end up the bad practices that contribute to GBV and VAC issues in communities

BACK GROUND INTRODUCTION

The Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) is carrying out a maintenance of the road that runs from Soroti to Corner Kamdini running through the 4 districts of Dokolo, Lira, Kole and Oyam under the North Eastern Corridor and Asset Management Project (NERAMP) Lango cluster. The North Eastern Road corridor Asset Management Project (NERAMP) aims to reduce transport costs, enhance road safety, and improve services on the road through a cost-effective Output and Performance-based Road Contract (OPRC). The road under rehabilitation is of high importance to Uganda and the East African Community as it services besides of domestic purposes is a transit corridor between Northern and Eastern Uganda, South Sudan, North-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the port of Mombasa in Kenya.

Map 1: NERAMP LANGO CLUSTER SECTION FROM DOKOLO TO KAMDINI



Joy for Children Uganda (JFCU) a local Non-Government Organization (NGO) was awarded a contract dated November 2019 by Uganda National Road Authority to manage and mitigate the social risks (Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Violence Against Children (VAC) under NERAMP (Lango Cluster) - RFP No: UNRA/SRVCS/2017-18/00095) that would result or associated to, as an outcome of the influx of workers in the project communities under the road rehabilitation project. This is being achieved through support to survivors of VAC and GBV, continuously sensitization and awareness of the communities on the risk associated with GBV and VAC by JFCU.

This second Annual report details activities that were implemented by JFCU during FY 2022/2023.

1.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN JUNE 2022

The section of the report gives details of the activities carried out in June 2022 by JFCU, collaborations, key challenges faced in the month and actions taken, lessons learnt, and activities in pictures.

During the month of June 2022 the following key activities were carried out:

1. School outreach sensitization with school going children on GBV and VAC due to NERAMP project.
2. Meeting with District officials to discuss about project activities by JFCU



Photo 1 : Learners of Rima Primary School during school sensitization meeting with JFCU staff and Teachers

Table 1: Outputs and level of achievements during June 2022

PLANNED ACTIVITY IN JUNE 2022	JUNE TARGET	JUNE ACHIEV'MT	% ACHIEV'MT	REMARKS
Meeting with District officials	1	1	100%	JFCU staff met with district officials in their offices to update them on the progress of the project
School outreach sensitizations with school going children on GBV and VAC due to NERAMP project.	20	7	35%	Children's increased knowledge on VAC and GBV, how to prevent the occurrences and where to report in case of violence.

1.1 School outreach sensitizations with school going children on GBV and VAC

In June 2022 JFCU carried out 7 school outreaches in Shilloh Standard Nursery and Primary School, Lira Primary Seven School, Elia Olet Primary School, Rima Nursery and Primary School, Faith Secondary School, Genesis Junior School, Bishop Kami Nursery and Primary School. A total of 446 children were reached (of which 273 were female and 173 were male).

The school outreaches involved sensitizing the children on violence, what violence is, types of violence, how to protect themselves from being harmed, where to report in case of violence and created awareness on violence that comes with road construction activities.

The children were informed about the ongoing road construction from Dokolo to Corner Kamdini via Lira, Oyam and Kole districts, the roles of UNRA and the company doing the road rehabilitation (Monta-Engile). The children were informed that the Monta-Engile road workers are always in reflector jackets written on Monta-Engil. Some children confirmed to have seen the workers and their cars with the company name. This was to ensure identity in case there is any violence that has been done to the child, they could easily pinpoint to the workers place of work since there are many other people who put on yellow reflectors including the boda boda riders.

Photo2 : Children of Elia Olet Primary School during sensitization on GBV and VAC by JFCU staff



JFCU shared with the pupils on definition of Violence Against Children (VAC) as a form of physical, sexual and emotional act-including neglect, maltreatment, exploitation, harm and abuse towards a child. VAC can be committed in any place and by any one.

The pupils were also informed during the sensitization that the following are institutions where they can report in case of any VAC done on them. They are police, LC1, clan leaders, Head teacher, senior man and senior woman teacher, health centers, JFCU, parents, and members of the GMCs.

1.01 Lira Primary Seven School

During the sensitization meeting with the children, they mentioned the following types of violence; physical, mental, emotional, and sexual.

Children mentioned the following as ways they can protect themselves from being harmed by strangers; avoiding walking at night, avoiding gifts from strangers, keeping distance from strangers and that when the strangers do bad things to them, they should report to either police, parents, teachers, Local leaders and fellow pals.



Photo3 : Pupils at Lira P7 Primary School during sensitization with JFCU staff on GBV and VAC issues.

Children of Lira Primary 7 school mentioned the following places for reporting violence cases; police, parents, elders, guardians, church leaders, teachers, and LC1.

The pupils of Lira primary school also mentioned their rights as children which include;

- Right to education
- Right to medical care
- Right to speech
- Right to worship
- Right to a name and shelter
- Right to clothing
- Right to entertainment etc.

At the end of the sensitization, children were asked to present questions about the presentation .

Table2 : Issues raised by pupils and teacher in Lira Primary 7 School.

Question/Concern.	Answer
During the constructing of the road, which road should we use?	You will use the same road. During construction, there will be flag ladies to show you how to use the road. When they put up red flag, you wait and when they show green, you pass safely from vehicles.
What is domestic violence.	The children were given an example of domestic animals that include; cows, goats, etc. The children were later told that domestic violence is violence that happens in homes between parents and even children themselves.
What are the children rights	Children rights are children’s entitlement like right to education, right to play, right to food. But they are also not rights for children to do bad things like refusing to go to school, abusing parents, or teachers, stealing etc.
The school requests that they help them in scooping rubbish with the contractor’s tractor.	They were informed that this request would be forwarded to Mote Engil and UNRA. They informed that they should put the request in writing and submit the letter to Mote Engil and a copy to JFCU.
What is physical violence ?	This means beating, fighting. It is violence that involves use of force on another person that can end up causing injuries to either or both of those involved in the act.

The teacher informed the children that there were no traffic lights on the road but a flag lady/man to guide traffic during road construction would be availed to help pupils and other people use the road to avoid accidents. They were informed that when she /he shows the red flag it means “you don’t cross” but when she/he shows green then it means “cars and people can cross safely”. The teacher advised the pupils to be careful with the road workers especially when they give money they should not accept. He also advised them not to miss class during road rehabilitation because of wasting time looking at the construction machines instead of going to school.

The teacher also requested the staff of JFCU to ask UNRA to remove the rubbish surrounding the school area and if possible dig for the school a rubbish pit. In response to this request, JFCU staff asked the school to write a formal letter to UNRA for their request but also promised to make a follow up.

1.02 Elia Olet Primary School

Children of Elia Olet P S mentioned the following as the children’s rights; right to health, right to shelter, right to names, right to worship, right to education, right to play, and right to speak.

Examples of child abuse mentioned by the learners are: child sacrifice, child labor, over beating, defilement, and domestic violence.

Children were asked to mentioned persons who carry out VAC acts and the following persons were mentioned: stepmothers, drunkards, kidnappers, aunties, guardians, rapists, criminals, and robbers.

They were also asked where to report incidences of VAC . They mentioned the following places and people : Police, LC1, CDO, LC5, and teachers.



Photo 4 : Pupils at Elia Olet primary School during the sensitization by JFCU staff

They also mentioned, how one can prevent VAC. They mentioned the following: Putting strict laws against the road workers, avoiding staying in bad peer groups, avoiding bad friends, and girls shouldn’t walk at night alone.

Table 3: *Issues raised by pupils and teacher in Elia Olet Primary 7 School.*

Questions/Concerns	Answer
What are they going to for the buildings near the road?	The buildings in the road reserves will be demolished but those not in the road reserve will stay. UNRA’s engineers will establish which buildings are in the road reserves.
What will happen to vendors and small kiosks near the road?	They will be moved away during construction with the help of their leaders.
When they destroy your things, what do you do? Will they talk to you before they do it?	The affected people will be engaged before .
Is JFCU connected to UNRA?	JFCU is different from UNRA but UNRA has hired JFCU to sensitize the community on GBV and VAC during road construction.

Doesn't JFCU sponsor children's education? JFCU only sponsors children in central region.

Photo 5 : A pupil at Elia Olet primary School explaining in summary to fellow learners what had been discussed during the meeting with JFCU staff on VAC and GBV during the sensitization by JFCU staff-a recap



1.03 Rima Nursery and Primary School

At Rima Primary school, the children were asked about the importance of the road as part of the introduction to the sensitization on VAC and GBV.



Photo 6: Staff of JFCU meeting learners of Rima primary school

They mentioned that good roads are used by truck drivers for transportation of goods and also are the causes of accidents as one of the disadvantages.

Children were warned to always be careful with strangers, avoid free gifts and free lifts. When children were asked how to avoid the bad impacts of roads they said that the right warning road signs should be put on the road.

Table 4: *Issues raised by pupils and teacher in Rima P S*

Concerns/Questions	Answers
Will they enlarge both sides of the road near our school	There is a design of the road, if your school is to be affected, UNRA will communicate to your school management.
Are they going to put a hump at our school?	This will depend on the road design.
Are they going to put traffic lights at our school?	No, they are not going to put the traffic lights.
When is construction beginning?	Construction has already begun. Already you can see the Mote Engil staff and their road construction machines on the road.
The head teacher of the school requested that they put a hump since it is a junction of 6 schools	The head teacher was requested to write to Monta-Engile and UNRA on the same issue for consideration since learners cross the road while going to the school.

1.04 Faith Secondary School

Children mentioned the following as their rights; right to education, right to eat, right to play, right to pray, right to medical care, right to parental care, right to belong to a family.

The children mentioned the following bad things and they don't want them to happen to them: abuse, beating, being chased away from home, forced marriage, child labour, denial to medical care, defilement, early pregnancy, and sexual harassment.



Photo 7: Students at Faith Secondary School taking notes on GBV and VAC during the sensitization meeting with JFCU staff

The children also mentioned the following as the forms of VAC;

- Child abuse
- Denial of education
- Denial of medical care
- Denial of shelter
- Forced marriage
- Defilement
- Early pregnancy

They also mentioned the following places where they can report cases of child abuses; parents, police, teachers, human rights organizations, elders.

They were asked to mention how they can prevent themselves from VAC incidences and the following measures were identified: abstinence, avoiding joining bad groups, avoiding moving in lonely places, avoid gifts for sex and avoiding moving at night.

The children also asked the staff of JFCU the following questions;

Table 5: *Issues raised by pupils in Faith Secondary Schools*

Question	Response
What is the difference between GBV and VAC?	GBV is mistreatment of people based on their gender while VAC is mistreatment of specifically children.
Which districts is the road being constructed?	The road under rehabilitation starts from corner Dakolo town through Dokolo, Lira, Kole and Oyam districts for the Lango cluster project.
How long will the construction take?	It will take 5-6 years that is 2022-2027/28. It can take even more years if some calamity falls e.g. Covid 19.
Where is Monta-engil located?	Monta-engil is a very big construction company based in Portugal. But they also have offices along the Dokolo –Lira road , at the camp site.
Is the NERAMP road a single or double way road?	It is two way road which is going to be renovated and made stronger to easy transport.

The students of faith secondary school also mentioned some the challenges that workers will face during the construction which include; language barrier, weather changes, shortage of food, disease outbreak, dangerous animals, geographical barriers like swamps, mountains, hills and poor accommodation.

1.05 Genesis Junior School



This school is located along Lira-soroti road and caters for children from age 4 years and above..

Photo 8: Signpost of Genesis Junior School

The children in this school identified the forms of violence against children as being; child labour, over beating children, defilement, early marriage, rape and child sacrifice.

They further identified the ways of preventing VAC

as; saying no to sex, avoiding bad peer groups which may led to school dropout and early marriage, avoiding dark corners, avoiding walking at night, avoiding “sugar mummies” and “daddie”s and not to receive gifts from strangers.

JFCU staff asked the children where they can report VAC cases and they replied the following; to parents, teachers, police, LC1.



Photo 9: pupils at Genesis junior school appreciating the JFCU staff sensitization on VAC and GBV

The children asked the staff of JFC the

following questions;

Table 6: *Issues raised by pupils in Genesis Junior School*

Question	Answer
When is the construction beginning ?	Construction already began
Who are sugar mummies and daddies?	These are elderly people who engage in sexual relationship with younger individuals.
What is defilement?	This means having sex with someone below 18 yrs. It is a serious crime that you can end up in prison for life.

The session was concluded by the deputy head master who appreciated JFCU for their initiative to sensitize the children about the risks associated with NERAMP. The HeadTeacher acknowledged that when children learn from visitors to the school, they tend to take the messages seriously than when the messages are from the teachers themselves.

1.06 Bishop Kami Nursey and Primary School

The staff of JFCU was welcomed by the deputy head mistress. The children were asked to mention under which ministry UNRA falls and they responded that it falls under the ministry of Works and Transport.

They were asked what bad people can do to children and they mentioned the following: spreading diseases, kidnaping children, defiling children, child sacrifice, and can rape them



Photo 10: Pupils at Bishop Kami Primary School during meeting with JFCU staff

The learners mentioned the following places where they can report cases of VAC. Police, teachers, elders, parents, and radio station.

They also mentioned how they can prevent VAC by: avoiding “lonely places”, avoiding moving at night, practicing PIASCY messages, avoiding receiving gifts from strangers, and avoiding peer pressure from bad groups.

Table 7: Issues raised by learners in Bishop Kami Primary School

Questions/Concerns	Answers
Why are the roads in Lira with no traffic lights	Traffic lights are put in a place with a very high traffic. In Lira, cars are very few and there is no need for traffic lights as of now. May be in future when many cars are there, the traffic lights will be installed to control cars movement.
How will the learners identify that this is a specific worker who has hammed me?	We are going to talk to the management of the workers to have name tags on their uniforms for identification during works and even when they do some bad thing, they can be identified by the names on uniforms..

1.07 Shilloh Standard Nursery and Primary School

At Shilloh Nursery and Primary school, the children were asked about what VAC means to them and they replied as follows;

VAC means beating children without reason, child abuse like defilement, rape, kidnap and child neglect. The children also identified the people who carry out VAC as; thieves, aunties, step parents and strangers. The children further identified the ways of avoiding strangers as; walking in groups, avoiding lifts from strangers, and not moving alone at night.



Photo 11: JFCU staff meeting children at Shilloh Standard Nursery and Primary School

They also mentioned the following places or persons where one can report incidences of VAC. They are Police, parents, teachers, elders and community leaders.

The following were some of the questions from the children in this school

Table 8: Issues raised by learners in Shilloh Standard Nursery and Primary School

Question	Response
When is the road construction starting?	The construction already started.
Why should we avoid strangers?	Because some strangers are bad and they can cause harm to children.
What is the importance of NERAMP road?	It will help ease transport, movement and trade mostly with , Uganda , Kenya, Tanzania and South Sudan.
Which company is constructing the road?	The road is being rehabilitated by a Portuguese company called Monta-Engil who were contracted by UNRA AND Uganda government.
What is the difference between defilement and rape?	Defilement means having a sexual relationship with a person below 18 years while rape means forced sex with a person above 18 yrs. without their consent.

1.08 Cwikut primary school



The children at Cwikut primary school identified their rights as; right to education, right to medical care, right to pray, right to speech, right to a name, right to know their parents.

Photo 12 : Pupils at Cwikut primary school displaying one of the posters developed for sensitizing children on prevention of GBV and VAC

The message on the poster was developed by themselves with guidance from JFCU project staff during sensitization on VAC with

the children,

Forms of VAC that were identified by the learners in this school are; child abuse, rape, giving hard work, defilement, bad touches, quarrelling often to the child causes torture, child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

They also mentioned ways of preventing being victims of VAC through the following ways: avoiding free gifts, abstaining from sex, avoiding walking at night, and avoiding bad peer groups.

They also mentioned places which they felt one should report VAC incidence as: Police, parents, teachers, friends, and CDOs.

1.2 Meeting with district officials

JFCU conducted a project review meeting with stakeholders at district level to keep abreast the project progress and performance. JFCU staff had a meeting with the Senior Education Officer (S.E.O) of Lira district.

JFCU staff shared with the S.E.O the progress of project implementation and the ongoing school outreaches in the district.

END GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

- DO NOT ACCEPT MONEY & GIFTS FROM STRANGERS.
- WALK IN GROUPS TO AVOID BEING VIOLATED.
- AVOID BAD TOUCHES.
- SAY NO TO DEFILEMENT.
- REPORT ANY FORM OF VIOLENCE TO COMMUNITY LEADERS, TEACHERS, PARENTS & THE POLICE.
- DO NOT BE DECEIVED INTO LOVE AFFAIRS.
- AVOID TEENAGE PREGNANCY.



NERAMP LANGO CLUSTER GBV AND VAC PROJECT



UGANDA NATIONAL
ROADS AUTHORITY



JOY FOR CHILDREN
UGANDA

He said that the roda construction workers were going to “terrorize” the community because they had the money. He said that there was need for JFCU to engage head teachers so that they talk to children during school assemblies. He further said that the communication needed to come from the district since the head teachers listen to and respect the district leadership. He said that the workers needed to be told the laws about defilement, rape and other VAC issues and the consequences of their actions. During the meeting JFCU staff also handed over to him samples of the IEC materials developed for the NERAMP Lango cluster project by children and JFCU staff.

Figure 1: Sample of the IEC posters developed by learners in primary schools for NERAMP Lango cluster project.

The S.E.O mentioned that the education department had not received as yet any report of child abuses from schools and also encouraged talking to the workers to know the consequences of their actions.

He further mentioned that he would engage the head teachers to talk to children at school and also appreciated the work that JFCU is doing to sensitize the community about the social risks associated with the project.

The S.E.O also encouraged the staff of JFCU to involve GMCs in their activities of which JFCU had already done through holding meeting with 11 GMCs.

JFCU also met with the District Probation Officer who requested that the district officials needed to be taken for community assessment on the project.

The probation officer further mentioned that there should be more engagement and monitoring to adjust to the reforms and changes in the community.

1.3 Challenges during implementation during the month

- Delay in release of project funds delayed the implementation of planned activities .
- With the UNATU strike, it made it hard to carry out school outreaches in some schools because they were closed.

2.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN JULY 2022

This section of the annual report provides activities carried out by JFCU during July 2022. The following activities were carried out:

1. Sensitization meeting with the NERAMP workers on GBV and VAC to reduce incidences of GBV and VAC in the project area.
2. School outreach sensitization with school going children on GBV and VAC due to NERAMP project.
3. Distributing IEC materials for the project in the schools and the communities
4. Participating in a community sensitization on GBV and VAC outreaches
5. Meeting Dokolo district officials



Photo13 : Sensitization of Mota- Engil workers on GBV and VAC issues by JFCU staff.

Table 9: Outputs and level of achievements during July 2022

PLANNED ACTIVITY IN JULY 2022	LIFE PROJECT TARGET	OF JULY TARGET	JULY ACHIEV'MT	% ACHIEV'MT	REMARKS
Distributing IEC materials for the project.		1	1	100%	Children during the school outreaches were given the IEC materials that were developed earlier on for behavioral change during road construction. This messages will be used for IECs.
School outreach sensitizations with school going children on GBV and VAC due to NERAMP project.		15	9	60%	Children's increased knowledge on VAC and GBV issues, how to prevent the occurrences and where to report in case of violence. Some schools were not met because they were currently doing end of second term exams.
Sensitization meeting with the NERAMP workers on GBV and VAC to reduce incidences of GBV and VAC in the project area.		2	1	50%	On the last minute, Monta-Engile sociologist said we have to seek permission from PMMC and UNRA before we can engage workers.
Meeting with Dokolo District officials		1	1	100%	JFCU staff met with district officials in their offices to update them on the progress of the project. Shared with them the IEC

materials on GBV and VAC prevention in schools and communities.

Photo 14: Sensitization of workers on GBV and VAC by JFCU and UNRA staff at Loro TC



2.1 School Outreach Sensitizations on GBV and VAC

In July 2022 JFCU carried out school outreaches in Acwikot p/s, Adak p/s, Loro parent's nursery and primary school, Alidi p/s, Amuda p/s, Iguli p/s, Adwoki p/s, Iguli girls S.S and Dokolo Progressive Secondary School.

The school outreaches aimed at sensitizing the children on violence, forms of violence, who commits VAC and where it is committed, how to prevent VAC, what kind of VAC to expect during road construction and how it can be reported.



Photo15 : Pupils during sensitization meeting on GBV and VAC with JFCU staff

The children were informed about UNRA and its functions, the constructing company of the project road, Monta-Engile and the role of JFCU on the road project. The pupils were informed that JFCU was to educate them on how to mitigate and manage VAC that comes with road construction.

JFCU staff shared with the pupils on; Violence Against Children (VAC)

that it is all forms of physical, sexual and emotional violence-including neglect, maltreatment, exploitation, harm and abuse towards a child. That VAC could be committed in any place and by any one.

The pupils were informed that the following authorities are where they can report in case of any VAC; police, LC1, clan leaders, Head teacher, senior man and senior woman teacher, health centers, JFCU offices in Lira City, parents, and members of GMCs located within their communities.

2.1.1 Acwikot Primary School

The JFCU and UNRA teams meet the pupils of Acwikot Primary school and sensitized them on GBV and VAC issues. The head teacher during her remarks told pupils not to go and start watching the workers as the works are going on but rather go to school.



Photo16: A learner during sensitization on GBV and VAC

JFCU staff advised the children that when they are coming to school and they find their young pupils of primary one watching the construction machines, they should pick them and bring them to school.

The learners mentioned the following as their rights:

- Education
- Medical care

- Prayers and
- Speech.

They also mentioned VAC forms as follows:

- Rape
- Giving hard work
- Defilement
- Bad touches
- Quarreling
- Child marriage and
- Teenage pregnancy.

They also suggested the following as a way of preventing VAC.

- Avoiding gifts from “sugar daddies” and “sugar mummies”
- Abstaining from sex
- Avoid walking at night
- Avoid bad peer groups

They mentioned where to report VAC incidences as follows:

- Police
- Parents
- Teachers
- CDOs
- Senior Woman Teacher
- LCIs
- Friends

2.1.2 Loro Parents Nursery and Primary School

JFCU staff was welcomed by the school Director of Studies(DOS). Loro parent’s primary school is a private school with about 200 pupils from Nursery to Primary Five.



Photo17: Pupils of Loro Parents watching workers of Monte Engil cutting grass along the road.

The DOS had positive attitude towards the road construction but raised a concern of whether or not the rain would not disrupt the construction process. He further said that he had not received any reports on the negative reports on negative impacts of the road workers so far in particular on violence against the children committed by a project staff. The staff of

JFCU then distributed VAC IEC materials to the school. The children were in for end of term examinations and there was no chance of carrying out a sensitization activity with them.

The DOS had a concern why some areas of the road were filed with murrum and others tarmac, and wondered whether the road was going to remain in the same status of murrum some parts and tarmac in others. In response, JFCU staff informed him that the road was going to be given a new tarmac layers and would all be tarmac and wider than it was currently.



Photo18: IEC material being posted by JFCU staff at Loro Nursery and Primary school in the presence of the Director of studies in the school.

JFCU staff informed the teachers that the road was still being made motorable but later the whole road would be worked on. He requested for a road hump to reduce on the speed of the vehicles. The DOS was informed that if there would be any case of GBV and VAC due to the project, he should report to GMCs and or

JFCU staff.

2.1.3 Loro Secondary School

At Loro Secondary School, JFCU staff met with the senior woman teacher who was informed that if any student reported and case of GBV and VAC due to the project, she should immediately report it to JFCU and or to the members of the GMCs or LCs leaders or Police. The students were also doing end of exam tests and not able to have a session on GBV and VAC. Consequently, only GBV and VAC IEC materials were distributed to the teacher who promised to display them in strategic places where the students would read them and get the messages as designed. Sensitization would be done during this term when the schools opens.

2.1.4 Alidi Primary School

The staff of JFCU met the Head master of Alidi Primary School who reported that the pupils were aware of the road construction and school administration was warning the children to be carefull while using the road to avoid accidents.

The following are some of the children's expectations from the Monta-Engil workers;

- Not to disturb children on their way to and from school
- Not to defile young girls and boys.

The children mentioned the following forms of VAC;

- Early marriage
- Fighting
- Kidnap of children
- Child labor
- Denial of food

Children mentioned where to report GBV and VAC cases which include;



- Police
- Local councils
- Parents
- Head teachers
- Duty masters
- Prefects

Photo19 : Learners of Alidi Primary school reading the IEC materials on GBV and VAC

The children mentioned the following as ways of preventing VAC and GBV;

- Not to accept gifts from strangers.
- To be careful on the road to and from school.

Children asked the following question;

Question	Answer
Will there be a signal man to help children cross the road?	There will be flag people for guidance
When will the construction begin?	The construction has already began

2.1.5 Bishop Kami Primary School

The head teacher of the school mentioned that , the meeting was timely to do sensitization because during roda construction there is always violence happening. The IEC Materials on VAC and GBV were given to the head teacher for displaying in the school.

2.1.6 Lira Primary Seven school

The head teacher, reported that sometimes girls say getting pregnant early is okay. That people who are telling them not to get pregnant have their own husbands yet no one is marrying them. The team distributed the IEC materials in the school. The team had already carried out sensitization on VAC and GBV in the school in June 2022 and only the materials had not been distributed.

2.1.7 Abutaodi Primary School

The team of JFCU carried sensitization on GBV and VAC for the second time and distributed the IEC materials on VAC.

2.1.8 Agwata Primary School

The head teacher of Agwata primary school highly appreciated JFCU for the distribution of IEC materials and said this would help to conduct pictorial comprehension and picture composition to the pupils.

“Our teachers always talk to children but some children are young and weak to understand” [Head teacher, Agwata Primary School]

He said that as a school they always advised children to walk in groups and the teachers were not allowed to send children to take books to teacher’s quarters whereby books should be marked in classes or under the trees to prevent cases of VAC in the school. Agwata primary had been visited by Raising Voices on the same issue of preventing VAC in schools.

2.1.9 Agwata Secondary School

In the school, FCU staff met the head teacher who advised JFCU to also engage the community in their activities. She emphasized that the girl child was vulnerable to risks associated with the construction of the road.



Photo20 : Head Teacher of Agwata Secondary school viewing the IEC materials on GBV and VAC.

The Teacher requested UNRA to widen the entrance to the school and also work on the drainage system. She was advised to write a request letter directly to UNRA. JFCU distributed IEC materials at Agwata Secondary School and the head teacher was impressed.

2.1.10 Dokolo Progressive Secondary School

In the school, teachers and pupils were sensitized about GBV and VAC and provided with IEC materials. The total enrollment was 500 students with 270 girls and 230 boys.



“The youth of today are in trouble and they are taken by petty things and go off guard”. [Head teacher Dokolo Progressive Secondary School]

Photo21 : Leaners of Dokolo Progressive Secondary and the Head Teacher during sensitization on GBV and VAC by the JFCU staff.

The students suggested the following as the negative effects of NERAMP project;

- Robbery where by some of these workers steal property from the community.
- Violence at home due to pressure of the wealthy workers who bribe people’s wives and husbands.
- High crime rates which lead to corruption.
- The project may lead to drug abuse.

The students stated the following as the importance of roads;

- Enables easy transport of goods
- Enables easy access to services for example education service and health services.
- Leads to development of area thus creating employment opportunities.

The students said that construction of the road was going to reduce accidents because there would be construction humps and zebra crossing mostly near schools.

Students of Dokolo Secondary School stated the following as the forms of VAC; teenage pregnancy, engaging young girls in sexual relationships which may lead to spread of STDs and STIs. Therefore, the children vowed to abstain from sex to keep safe.

The following are some of the questions that were asked by the students at Dokolo Progressive Secondary School;

Table 10 : Questions and answers

Question	Response
How long will the construction take?	The road is a 138km road that means it might take 3 to 5 years. The Head Teacher emphasized that the duration shouldn't matter but the impact should matter.
Should children accept work from Monta-Engel workers for payment?	School rules are strict on the movement of children therefore children should not move outside school.
What Action should be taken if one commits defilement?	The punishment for defilement is life imprisonment.
What is the difference between rape and defilement?	Rape is when an individual above 18 yrs. is forced to have sex without consent while defilement is having sex with a child below 18yrs of age.
What is marital rape?	This means raping a wife.

2.1.11 Iguli Girls Secondary School

At Iguli Girls Secondary School, the staff of JFCU met the deputy Head Teacher who appreciated the efforts of JFCU to sensitize the children about GBV and VAC issues.



Photo 22: Students of Iguli Girls Secondary School taking notes during VAC and GBV sensitization by JFCU staff

He also mentioned that cases of GBV and VAC also increased due to the Rural Electrification Agency project which caused a lot of destruction in families where by a case of GBV was reported where a man nearly killed his wife because of the relationships she had with the project staff.

The students suggested the following as the impact of Monta-Engel workers in the community;

Construction of the road will have both positive and negative impact.

Negative

- May lead to over population
- Creation of friendship either negative to the community(GBV/VAC) or positive in terms of education (locals learning skills from the new people).

The students listed the following forms of VAC;

- Corporal punishment
- Denial of food
- Use of vulgar language
- Child Abuse like defilement or rape
- Kidnap
- Denial of education
- School dropout
- Child labor
- Human trafficking
- Lack of medical care

The students said that VAC cases can be reported to; Elders, teachers, prefects, Head teachers, counselors, clan leaders, Human Right Organizations, police, RDC office, parents.

The staff of JFCU advised the children to avoid workers and stay in school and also they shouldn't be bribed by workers for sexual relationship. In case of any issue on VAC and GBV, they were advised to report to the authorities.

Students gave the following importance of roads; transport of goods to other destinations; boosting tourism and study purposes; increasing government revenue and also create employment opportunities.

Students asked the following questions;

Table 11: Questions and answers

Issue raised	Response
Will they dismantle the existing road and construct another?	The road from Dokolo to Soroti is good but that Lira to Corner Kamdini is destroyed. Therefore where the road is good they will just add tarmac. But the whole road is going to be rehabilitated to a new standard.
When the workers come, will they stay in one place or they will be distributed?	They have a campsite with offices but the workers will rent within the community therefore they will mix with in the community.
When will the construction begin?	Construction has already began
How long will the construction take?	Between 3-5 years unless there comes unplanned

	events like diseases(covid19), drought, conflicts, weather changes, sickness, accidents, death, flooding etc.
What types of workers are employed by Monta-Engel?	The company employs different types of workers that is to say cleaners, security, flag people, cooks, engineers, drivers etc.
Which combination does one do for engineering?	One must do physics mathematics with an option of chemistry.
Is Monta-Engel specialized in road construction?	Monta –Engel is more into road construction and it has its headquarters in Portugal.
Will JFCU also sensitize the workers?	JFCU will also meet workers and talk to them about the social risks of the road and the community through community dialogues.

The girls and women in the community were advised to have self-control and be responsible for their lives and future.

2.1.12 Amuda Primary School

The children identified the following as the forms of VAC; child Abuse, child neglect, child labour, defilement, child sacrifice, corporal punishment.

The children further mentioned the following as their rights;

- Right to medical care
- Right to education
- Right to food
- Right to play
- Right to shelter
- Freedom of speech but with respect
- Right to worship God
- Corporal punishment

The children mentioned the following authorities where to report VAC cases; to police, teachers, parents, LCs etc.

The effects of defilement from children were;

- Leads to school drop outs
- Leads to teenage pregnancy
- Leads to premature birth
- Leads to spread of STDs and STIs
- May lead to death while giving birth

The questions from children include;

Table 12: Questions and answers

question	response
What is the difference between GBV and VAC?	GBV relates to gender difference that is males and

How is defilement different from rape?	females while VAC relates to specifically children. Defilement means sexual intercourse with a child below 18 years of age while rape means forced sex with an individual above 18 years but without their consent.
What is the punishment for rape?	The punishment is life imprisonment due to risks involved for example spread of HIV/ AIDS.

The teacher presents during the sensitization session requested JFCU to also come up with handouts as a way of communication besides the pictorial IEC materials.

2.1.13 Iguli Primary School

The staff of JFCU met the Head Teacher of the school who reported that the school was in preparations of closing term two and sensitization could not be carried out at the moment but never the less IEC materials were distributed to the school.

JFCU promised to go back for sensitization in September or November 2022 when the children would have reported back to school for term three.

2.1.14 Adwoki Primary School

JFCU met the Head teacher who was also aware of the road construction and appreciated JFCU for the sensitization exercise.



Photo 23: Head Teacher and learners of Adwoki Primary school during sensitization on GBV and VAC by JFCU staff

The children stated the following as their rights;

- Right to education
- Right to food
- Right to medical care
- Right to play
- Right to shelter
- Right to speak with respect
- Right to basic needs

Children said that child abuse

is when a child is denied their rights.

They mentioned the following forms of child Abuse;

- Defilement
- Pornography

- Child labor
- Over beating children
- Child neglect

Children said the following people do VAC; step mothers, step fathers, own parents, alcoholics and strangers.

They said that roads construction may lead to; deforestation, accidents, early pregnancy, increased VAC.

Children of Adwoki primary school mentioned the following as ways of preventing VAC;

- Avoid walking alone at night
- Avoid going back home late
- Avoid early marriage
- Avoid playing on the road to and from school
- Avoid receiving gifts from strangers

They also mentioned the effects of defilement as; early pregnancy, school dropout, loss of life, child neglect, early marriage.

The authorities where to report VAC suggested by the pupils were; police, vice chairperson at LC, teachers, head teachers, parents, village Health Teams(VHTs), JFCU and the elders in the community.

2.1.15 Fr. Oryang Memorial Primary School



During the meeting the following were present; Road safety unit staff; Health and sanitation club members of the school; The Environmental and Social officers of Mota-Engil; JFCU staff and the Environmental and Sociologist officers of UNRA.

Photo 24: Pupils of Fr. Oryang Memorial during the school outreach

The Director of studies mentioned that the school administration was going to work together and report if there was any VAC issue that arose. He requested that their classrooms are upgraded from “cow dung floor to cement screen.

Communication from Mota-Engil

The Environmental officer from Mota-Engil said that they were working from Soroti to Kamdini. She said that the contractor, Mota-Engil is a Portuguese company. She advised children to stop walking while holding hands to avoid being knocked by speeding vehicles.

Discussion on road safety.

The road safety officer discussed with the pupils what road safety means.

The usage of the red and green flags during road construction

Photo 25: The environmental and health and safety officers from Mota-Engil demonstrating to children how the flags are used during road construction.



The environmental and health and safety officers from Mota-Engil explained to the pupils that when a red flag was been raised it means every one including people, motorcycle and cars MUST to stop. The reasons why people and cars must stop were that the machine operator was working in hand with the flag lady.. She said Mota-Engil has held a sensitization meeting so that no accidents occur during the road construction.

The school was requested to avail flags to the watch man to be used when children are crossing the road.

The cones

The environmental and health and safety officers from Mota-Engil also informed them about the use of the cones during road construction. He explained to them that the cones are used to make sure that vehicles keep one side of the road to allow the workers to carry out their work without being disturbed. She also told children to stay away from machines and not come to them when they are at work. She informed them that when parents send to go and sell fruits along the road, the children should be very being careful not be knocked by trailers and other cars. She showed the children the various road signs on a chart and what they stand for or mean and asked the children to inform their parents to respect the road signs as well.

She told the children to inform their parents to always begin their journeys early when travelling or driving to very far places to avoid driving at a high speed which at times contributes to the causes of accidents. She told the children not to use bodabodas whose riders are drunk and always put on helmet when using a boda boda or when riding a bicycle. She also advised the children to always keep right when walking along the road so that they will be able to clearly see the incoming cars towards them and avoid accidents.

Influx of labor

The environmental and health and safety officers from Mota-Engil told the children not to get spoilt because of the workers giving them money for love. She told the children never to allow gifts from strangers. She told the children that if they get problems with the road workers or anyone in their community, they should always report to the senior woman teacher and head teacher. She said that JFCU will also do sensitization on GBV and VAC. She also informed them the presence of the GMCs in the communities where they can always report any violence that has been done to them.

Environmental (waste management)

The environmental and health and safety officers from Mota-Engil informed the learners that plastics would degrade the environment and schools had to create places for disposing wastes. She encouraged the planting of trees and avoiding cutting the already planted trees in the schools.

In her conclusion she said that Mota-Engil doesn't employ any one below 18 years of age. She informed the learners that they should not allow sexual violence and all staff of Mota-Engil do sign a code of conduct and in case of any violence, the code of conduct is used to refer for punishing the workers. She told children to inform their parents to apply for jobs with Mota-Engil if they have qualifications for the job.

Communication from JFCU

The Child Protection officer from JFCU asked children to tell what JFCU had shared about the last time they met. The children mentioned that they learnt the children's rights that include the right to medical care, education, and shelter. JFCU staff told the children that according to the laws in Uganda, a child is a person below 18 years of age. Children have rights and there are people and NGOs to protect children.

Children mentioned the following as the violence's that happen to them; Defilement, poverty, child neglect, kidnapping, over beating, and sexual violence. JFCU officer asked children if they understand the term "sexual violence" and they said it included; Workers marrying your father or mother, defilement, and bad touches.

She informed the learners that if workers hiss at any of them on their way to school or a worker wants to give them a lift, they should always report such worker to the head teacher or JFCU. Children mentioned the following as some of the ways to prevent/protect themselves from violence; Moving in groups, avoiding lonely places, avoiding walking at night, and avoiding getting free gifts from strangers. The child protection officer from JFCU also advised the learners to avoid putting on short skirts (avoid wearing indecently) which is not good and exposes them to high risks of being defiled by men. The learners mentioned the following as places for reporting in case of violence; Elders, senior woman teacher, LC1, Police, and JFCU offices or staff.

Issues raised by the learners

Concerns/questions	Response
There are children who have finished (S.4 and S.6), can they apply for jobs in the Mota-Engil	Yes they can apply as unskilled labor
What if any of the workers has been knocked and died.	If the workers die on duty, the company will call the toll free number and Police. The worker is compensated if he dies on work

2.2 Meeting with the D.E.O and C.A.O of Dokolo District.

The JFCU met the staff in C.A.O of Dokolo being part of the stakeholder's management plan under the planned project activities. The CAO was out of office but the team left the IEC materials on GBV and VAC with the secretary for submission to the CAO once back in Office.

The team met the staff in DEO office Dokolo district and were provided with a sample of IEC materials in his office for VAC and GBV.

They further mentioned that as a result of construction of the roads in Dokolo in the past years, many children were left fatherless because the workers had contracts and when their contracts expired they moved to another area of work after impregnating some girls and women in the community.

They reported that some women left their homes due to money given to them by the workers which also led to increased spread of HIV/AIDS mostly to the young girls in Agwata.

“...in Agwata, most homes are headed by children since parents died of AIDS/HIV and left the children thereby forcing the elder child to become the head of the family and takes care of the younger ones which make them drop out of school hence exposing them to VAC.” [Secretary to DEO Dokolo]

The JFCU staff were asked during the meeting whether also the community would be sensitized because due to high rates of poverty, which was contributing to VAC and GBV in the community. She further mentioned that due to hunger, people were stealing food crops from other people's gardens in order to survive. Poverty among the community was identified as the main cause of GBV and VAC.

2.3 Distribution of IEC Behavioral Change Materials

IEC behavioral change materials were distributed in Acwikot p/s, Fr. Oryang Memorial P/S Adak p/s, Loro parent's nursery and primary school, Iyanyi p/s, Alidi p/s, Bishop Kami p/s, Lira Primary Seven, Amuda p/s, Iguli p/s, Akolodong p/s, Adwoki p/s, Loro S.S, Iguli girls S.S and Dokolo Progressive Secondary School, Mota-Engile workers, Adak B community members.



Photo 26: JFCU staff distributing IEC materials on GBV and VAC in schools.

Community members were told to go and spread the message of, saying no child abuse, not accepting money from strangers, walking in groups to avoid being abused, avoiding bad touches, saying NO to violence, reporting any case of violence and not to be intimidated, or deceived for love affairs based on money and other free gifts and avoiding teenage pregnancy.

2.4 Stakeholders Engagement Activities

2.4.1 Dokolo Police CFPU

The JFCU team in Dokolo police met the CFPU of the police. The DPC Dokolo police reported that Dokolo district had high reported and unreported cases of defilement (VAC).

“In Dokolo, a few families have two meals since they depend on Agriculture. In the Lango region Dokolo has the youngest mother (9yrs) and a highest number of street kids.” [DPC Dokolo district]

The DPC further said Dokolo District was one with a very high number of vulnerable communities in Lango Region and it had the highest rate of HIV and AIDS prevalence rate.

“Sex workers are as cheap as chapatti and bottle of mineral water” [DPC Dokolo district].

The team shared with the DPC the IEC materials on prevention of GBV and VAC for use during sensitization by the CFPU in the station.

2.4.2 Community Engagement at Adak B village

JFCU participated in a community engagement that was organized by Mota-Engil in Adak B.

Photo 27: A sociologist from UNRA speaking to the community members

The LC1 of Adak B thanked the team for coming but said the road was still in poor state.

Communication from Mota-Engil

The environmental officer from Mota-Engil gave a background of the project. She said that the company constructing the road was from Portugal. She apologized for the dust and said they were doing their best to reduce it. She told the community members to always respect the road signs, not to drink and drive. She also advised them not to be very close to the machines, because they can throw stones accidentally and injure them.



They were warned that whenever they find the red and white tape they should not remove it, because it is a sign that there is danger ahead or the section where the tape is put.

The environmental officer from Mota-Engil informed them that, all workers of Mota-Engil sign a code of conduct. During road works, nobody would like the girls to be defiled and advised all the girls not to accept free money from workers. The workers were also sensitized not to fall in love with the women and girls in the community. They were informed that JFCU was contracted to sensitize community members, and the construction workers about GBV and VAC and how it can be prevented. They were requested that if any of the workers gets someone wife or husband, the workers should be reported to community leaders

and to the members of the GMCs or Mota-Engil management for attention. They were also advised not to give credit to the construction workers for any service like food and other items. On environmental concerns, environmental officer from Mota-Engil informed requested the community to have waste garbage bins at their shops for waste management and also plant trees. She also indicated to them that there were employment opportunities for both skilled and skilled labor and those interested could apply through their LCs.

Communication from JFCU

The Child protection officer from JFCU said that during road construction there are new people that come in the community and these people have a lot of money than most of the community members. With the construction of Lira-Kamdini road it was expected that about 300 workers would be employed. She told the community members that during their engagement with the GMCs they requested them to tell the mothers and step mothers to stop sending their own children to go and meet workers in exchange of money. She said that workers were already complaining that in the community girls put on short dresses and expose their breasts tempting them to have sex. She told them that husbands needed to take care of wives and children because if the workers are interested in these wives especially those whose husbands have neglected them and not providing, they will end up being taken by them. She requested the community to be faithful to their partners and people to report any cases of GBV and VAC happening in their community. She also told them that JFCU was there to support in GBV and VAC case management whenever it is being reported to them.

Issue raised by community members

Table 13: Questions and answers

Concerns/Questions	Response
Alex asked ,whether the workers were going to sleep in the community or in a camp	Workers will stay in Lira city and staff buses to pick them in centres.
Jackson asked Which criteria they are using to employ workers because he had applied twice and he had not got response.	They select those that qualify. They were advised to put contact phone numbers in the application so that incase one number doesn't go through the other will. Some applications have no contact.
A certain vehicle stepped on stagnant water and it splashed on me, who will handle that?	Not, UNRA and Mota-Engil will not compensate but you can report to police
When am employed by Mota-Engil and they are working in my home village, should the shops still refuse to give me goods on credit.	The community was still encouraged not to give workers goods on credit. Whoever does so, should not blame UNRA or Mota-Engil if the workers fail to pay them or disappears with the debt.
When the worker fall in love with his daughter or wife who will help him in case handling since his poor and has no money.	JFCU will support in case management
When will construction begin	Construction has already began

2.4.3 Awareness creation meeting with the Road Workers.

The meeting was to create awareness to the 13 workers on the code of conduct that was acceptable during their work. JFCU staff explained to the workers about the messages that were developed by the children but also the workers were reminded of their rights. Workers were advised not to be intimidated by their bosses in fear of losing employment but also to use the established structures to raise their concerns.

The workers were told not to get involved in sexual violence and also not to use bad language in the community. Workers were warned that the offences of defilement and rape was a serious crime that can attract a life imprisonment.

The staff of JFCU informed the workers that data shows high teenage pregnancy in the Northern region therefore workers were advised not to interact with the children in the community.

The following are some of the issues the Mota-Engil workers:

- The workers on probation not getting identification cards.
- Long time taken to renew of expired identification cards.
- Lack of safety shoes for work.
- Delayed contracts that take long (2 to 3 months) for the contract to come from head office.
- Lack of communication from HR.
- The workers also raised the concern of no allowances and also requested separation of costs that is feeding and housing allowances.
- The workers also requested that the human resource management should be improved.

The Sociologist from UNRA complained that the traffic management by Mota-Engil workers on the road had reduced but the workers replied that some drivers like heavy truck drivers don't respect flag ladies and the rules of traffic during construction. She promised to follow up the issue and involving the Police to some extent to manage those errant drivers. The meeting with workers was organized by their moderator.

2.4.4 Engagements with District Officials

JFCU Team met the Lira City Inspector of Schools as part of the planned stakeholder's engagements activities to be carried out by JFCU. During the meeting, JFCU updated the Inspector of Education, what activities JFCU had so far carried out generally and specifically in Lira city under the sensitization of communities and children on issues of VAC and GBV. The Inspector informed the JFCU team that in most times road workers were the ones causing violence by taking men's wives and sexually abusing girls. He asked how JFCU was going to handle this. In response, JFCU child protection officer, informed him that it would carry out sensitization meetings with road workers and also with children in school and out school and the community members about GBV and VAC issues including their prevention to reduce occurrences.

2.5 Project challenges during implementation in the month.

1. JFCU intended to hold sensitization meeting with another set of the workers but the at the last minute was informed by the Environment and Social officer of Mota-Engil that they were not allowed to have the said meetings without permission from UNRA and PMMC.
2. During the month, most schools had started end of second term exams, so the team was not able to meet the learners as planned.
3. With the increased commodity prices, most schools closed early their term making it hard to meet the planned number of schools.
4. Delay in release of project funds has made the implementation of activities more challenging.



Photo 28: Community sensitization by JFCU staff in Loro

3.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN AUGUST 2022

This section of the annual report gives details of the activities carried out in August 2022 by JFCU. During the month of August 2022 the following key activities were carried out:

- ✓ Distributing IEC POSTERS on prevention of GBV and VAC in 7 communities
- ✓ Conducting sensitization meetings in the 7 communities on GBV and VAC issues to reduce incidences of GBV and VAC in project districts

The two activities were implemented in 7 communities in three districts of Kole, Oyam and Lira.



Photo 29: Meeting communities of GMC 92-Alidi

These planned activities below were planned but not implemented due to the reasons given.

- ❖ Conducting sensitization meetings with the NERAMP workers on GBV and VAC on issues to reduce incidences of GBV and VAC in project districts. Although an email was sent to Mota Engil requesting for the meeting the workers, the response was not received during the month.
- ❖ Referring of survivors to existing community or government service providers as per need such as legal pro bono services, psychosocial services, Health. There were no reported GBV and VAC incidences for referral or legal support in the month. This however does not imply that there were no GBV or VAC incidences that occurred in the whole of the 4 districts during the month. It's possible that they occurred but were not reported to the GMCs or LCs nor heard of in the community.
- ❖ Carrying out 9 Radio Talk shows sensitizing communities about GBV and VAC prevention due to influx of NERAMP work force. This was not done due to lack of funding.

3.1 Conducting sensitization meetings with the communities on GBV and VAC issues

Objective of meeting and sensitizing Communities

- i. To sensitize them about the issues of GBV and VAC, especially the negative impacts and likely causes and how they can prevent GBV and VAC occurrences in the communities.
- ii. To explain the roles of and relationship between JFCU-UNRA and GMCs in the communities
- iii. To get feedback from the community about extent of GBV and VAC issues, causes and how they are managed
- iv. Get feedback from the community social (GBV and VAC) issues that have been experienced by community as a result of the workers from Mota Engil and any other issues concerning road construction.

Methodology used

- ❖ The meetings were participatory and JFCU staff and members of the GMCs had to sensitize the community in their respective community zones.
- ❖ Use of posters (IEC materials) to explain the issues of VAC and GBV existing in the communities as portrayed by school going learners



Photo 30: Copy of materials used to sensitize communities about GBV

- ❖ Questions from the community members and answers from JFCU staff and GMC members to provide feedback to the community members

Mobilization mode

The communities were mobilized by the GMCs secretary/and Chairperson, who supported JFCU team during the meetings. However, in one community, the team could not carry out the meeting because a community member had passed away and it could not be ethical to have a meeting in the same community.

3.1.1 GMC 98-Barcel Alabolac Wirao Lwala (Oyam District)

JFCU staff met the community under GMC 98 with the help of their chairperson. The GMCs in this community were aware of the NERAMP project and had tried to sensitize the community about the risks associated with the project.



Photo 31: Community GBV and VAC sensitization meeting in GMC 98

The community said that they had not heard of a case of VAC but agree that the parents beat children as a way of punishing them for misbehaving although some parents do it with a lot of anger which leads to corporal punishment hence causing violence to the child. They further said in the local language that

“In Lango, if you don’t beat a child with a pestle, they won’t listen.” (Lango mito alek)

NERAMP GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(TORORO, MBALE, SOROTI, DOKOLO, LIRA, KAMUDINI ROAD CORRIDOR)

If you have any outstanding and upcoming grievance related to road works in this road corridor around **BARCEL, ALABOLAC, WIRAO and/or LWALA** village for example open borrow pits, Cracks on buildings, compensation issues, poor drainage channels, issues with access roads, safety issues, poor working conditions, sexual harassment etc. Please contact the following persons

GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Number 98	OMARA VINCENT	C/PERSON	0772075942
	ONYOK FRANCIS	SECRETARY	0781048727
	OLOTO FRANCIS	MOBILIZER	0787685710
	AKELLO SANTA	MEMBER	0773480278
	OLIR CHARLES	MEMBER	0777521911
	ANGOM CONCY	MEMBER	0784468276

They will review and register your grievance and contact the relevant authorities

Object 1: Structure and roles of a GMC

This clearly demonstrated lack of knowledge about different forms of VAC in the community and that VAC was rampant in the community but was being taken as a normal practice and not real VAC.

JFCU distributed IEC materials to people in the community which they interpreted well and understood the messages that were developed by children in schools. The community confirmed that indeed some parents do child labor like making a young child to carry a 20ltr jerry can. The community people mentioned that they can report cases of GBV and VAC to child care, police and also the GMCs in their areas.

Questions /concerns from the community

Table 14: Questions and answers

Question/ concern	Response/Answer by JFCU Team
Why is it that the construction is just worsening the condition of the road?	Construction is still going on therefore some parts are first made motorable by removing the potholes and then later tarmac will be added to the marram.
Why don't they construct the road like that of Gulu road?	This road after construction will be even better than the Gulu road. It's a process and it will take at least 3 years to complete the road to the best standards you want it to be.
Why do JFCU staff and UNRA come every year to sensitize people about the social impact of the road but nothing actually is going on in terms of the road construction?	The workers of Mota-Engil are already on the road working although they started with very bad parts of the road. Construction has started and if you travel from Lira to Corner Kamdini, you will see the road being worked on. JFCU only deals with the social aspect of the project. Road Construction is by Mota Engil which was contracted by UNRA
When and how fast will road construction go on is the question the community always forwards to GMCs?	The road construction is a process which cannot be complete in a weeks' time or in a month but rather takes 4 to 5 years to finish. Therefore the community should be patient and hope for the best out of this NERAMP project.
Why is Mota-Engil only grading and later potholes come back to the road?	The areas that are graded will later be improved and also tarmacked. It's just a matter of time and patience.
Are there vacancies for jobs at Mota-Engil?	Those who want jobs should apply to Mota-Engil and also specify their qualifications and what job they want in particular. The GMCs will forward the application to Mota Engil. Not every application qualifies for a job, so

some will get and others will not. Jobs are few but applications are many. Getting job will depend on qualifications, experience and expertise.

The staff of JFCU explained the meaning of the messages and photographs on IEC materials to the community and encouraged the parents to protect their girls from early pregnancy by keeping them in school and also avoid using bad language towards the children.



Photo 32: Participant registration during community sensitization on GBV and VAC

The community GMC concluded by saying that everybody wants a good road but construction was affected by factors like Covid 19 which led to delay in starting work. JFCU mentioned that the material used in construction is also another challenge but encouraged the community to stay patient for the road will be constructed and also put emphasis on controlling GBV and VAC due to the influx of workers on the road.

3.1.2 GMC 96-Odike (Oyam District)

The staff of JFCU met people in the community under GMC 96 through the Secretary.

The chairperson applauded the staff of JFCU and thanked them for their effort to sensitize the community about the social impact of the road. He further mentioned that the GMCs also do teach people in the community about the VAC and GBV issues and where to report such cases including VAC and GBV happening in the communities .

Parents were always being encouraged not to do violence in their homes and avoid violence against children.

JFCU staff also informed them that, GBV and VAC exists in the community, but there is need to sensitize community members about it and how it can be stopped. The workers were not the only ones causing GBV and VAC but their presence was most likely to escalate it and the need to be aware in order to stop it from happening.

The people in the community mentioned that most times GBV happens but actually is not reported to the respective authorities. One of the parents in the community said that;

“When you are annoyed, you beat the child”

The community further reported that domestic violence (“fighting”) in the community had reduced in homes where by now

“These days People fight using the mouth”

But JFCU staff informed them that “fighting” with the mouth was also another form of violence to a person and it should also be avoided.

Questions/ concerns from the community

Table 15: Questions and answers

Question/concern	Response/answer
Incase people working on the road impregnate our wives, what should we do?	<p>-That is why JFCU is here to let you know that incase of such, you report to GMCs then GMCs will forward the matter to respective authority.</p> <p>-Also depending on the situation, you can go directly to the police.</p>
What is the solution for the young boys in the community who might fall in love with the female workers?	<p>These boys should be guided on what to do in order to prevent them from being victims of VAC and also avoid spread of HIV/AIDS.</p>
Can the community people get jobs from Mota-Engil?	<p>JFCU advised them to apply and attach a letter from the LC1, national ID and also a letter of recommendation from the GMC.</p>



Photo 33: Chairman of Odike LCI welcoming JFCU and community members of GMC 96 for sensitization meeting on GBV and VAC

The staff of JFCU reminded people in the community that these workers will come from different parts of the world and therefore they should be aware because in case of any form of GBV and VAC, the worker can flee without trace. The LCs and GMCs members were advised to register any new person residing in the community and get details so that he or she can easily be traced in case of committing a crime in the community.

GMCs members present reported that they had done their work of sensitizing the community and mentioned that they got one case of a simple GBV case but the person was taken to the LC1 and he apologized for the wrong behavior thus promised not to repeat the same mistake. The team from JFCU distributed IEC materials on GBV and VAC to the community in the meeting .

3.1.3 GMC 87-Obelle Apalla Baramdyang Oyeteoley (Kole District)



The JFCU staff during the meeting made a brief explanation of the NERAMP and also the relationship between JFCU and UNRA. JFCU staff present said that it handles the risks associated with GBV and VAC along the NERAMP- (Dokolo to Corner Kamdini section).

Photo 34: Meeting community members of GMC 87.

UNRA maintains roads and ensures proper condition of the roads connecting districts.

JFCU staff mentioned that GMCs were selected among people in the community in order to allow people have a community based referral path way to communicate their grievances about the project easily. They mentioned that road workers are not bad people because they will leave with people in the community but rather become dangerous when they commit GBV or VAC in the community.

The community was encouraged to report any kind of violence that comes up to the authorities like Police, LC1s, community leaders and also the victims are taken to court after being accused of any form of violence.

Questions /concerns from the community

Table 16: Questions and answers

Question/concern	Response/answer
Is the road construction staff from Lango or from other places?	Some of the construction workers are from Lango and other places of the world like , Arua, Tororo, Kenya, Tanzania , Portugal

	China etc.
Are there job opportunities at Mota-Engil?	Those who want jobs should apply to Mota-Engil and those who applied before Covid 19 pandemic should apply again. Jobs will be given to those who have the needed qualifications and also depends on job availability. Not all that apply will be recruited because there are few job opportunities but very many people who apply for the same job.

The community informed the staff of JFCU that a staff of a hydro power company that was working on the pylons fixing the electricity wires and pylons murdered a girl in their area but up to now nothing had been done to apprehend the offender. They therefore suggested that the workers of Mota-Engil should at least have name tags to easily identify them in case they get involved in any form of violence in the community. The GMCs also suggested that since the security guards at Mota-Engil are always changed, the community should always be alert and aware because in case of anything, they would be able to identify the exact person who committed the offense.



Photo 35: A GMC Chairperson distributing IEC materials to community members during sensitization on GBV and VAC

JFCU staff distributed IEC materials to the people in the community meeting at GMC 87 and encouraged them to pass the messages to fellow individuals in the community. The staff also advised the LC chairperson to always have registers and records of foreign people who are staying in the community and the owners of the houses being rented must always report and introduce to the LC chairperson the person occupying the rental premises

3.1.4 GMC 90-Alyat A & B, Acero A&B (Kole District)

The chairman LC1 appreciated JFCU for the efforts made to sensitize communities about GBV and VAC in relation to the road construction project.. He explained to the community the roles of the GMCs in their community which were to; ensure that the community relates well with NERAMP workers, ensure that the construction workers don't leave people's wives and girls pregnant after the project, sensitize children in the community about HIV/AIDS, ensure that workers use good language in the community and also make sure that workers don't have sexual relationships with children in the community. They were advised to report every GBV and VAC cases than happen in the community to the relevant authorities like Police, LC chairperson, JFCU and UNRA.



Photo 36: Community sensitization in Alyat, Kole District with GMCs members in green shirts present

The staff of JFCU briefed the community on their role on NERAMP-Lango cluster project and put emphasis on the mitigating the negative social impact of the project (that is the risks of GBV and VAC). JFCU staff also defined GBV as sexual, physical, emotional violence while VAC as sexual abuse to children, denying of children their rights for example denial of their basic needs like education, food, health care etc.

The community suggested that the cases of GBV and VAC should be reported to the police and also the parents should talk to their children and don't send them to sell commodities to workers at the wrong time like at night. The parents were also encouraged to advise their girls to dress decently in the community to avoid being exposed to VAC.

The community listed the following ways of controlling GBV in homes; stop drinking a lot and women should go back home early from the markets. This relates to a case that there is a girl in the community who was below 18yrs but was married to someone in the community. JFCU staff promised to make a follow up that case but also encouraged the GMCs to report such cases of VAC and GBV. The staff of JFCU also advised the community to reduce the rate at which they consume alcohol.



Photo 37: Community member of the GMCs during sensitization about GBV and VAC

JFCU staff also encouraged the men to cater for the needs of their families since they are the heads of the family for example provide the necessities and the rights of their children as well. It's noticed that most women are single mothers.

Questions/concerns

Table 17: Questions and answers

Question /concern	Response/answer
Why do children report parents for punishing them to the authorities?	Some children don't respect their parents because they take advantage that they have rights but such children should be taken to clan leaders and counselors to talk to them about respect for their parents. Parents also should not beat children or mistreat them because it is against the laws.
Are they going to compensate those PAPs who are along the road?	UNRA carried out a survey on properties that are going to be affected by the road. The report will be used for determining

Question /concern	Response/answer
	<p>which people will be compensated depending on the location of the asset. Those who built in the road reserve will not be compensated but those who are to be affected by the road and are not in the road reserve will be compensated. Compensation will be on a case by case basis.</p>
<p>What will UNRA do for people whose houses are getting cracks due to the heavy vehicles and machines due to the construction process?</p>	<p>UNRA will do a survey and only compensate those people whose houses were genuinely cracked due to the road construction. People are advised to take pictures of their house before construction begins and after construction to provide solid evidence. However, the construction is not likely to cause cracks in buildings along the road since many are in a reasonable distance from the road and vibrations not likely to reach the house to cause serious damages like cracking.</p>
<p>Why is it that community meetings have been held several times but no work is done on the road?</p>	<p>Works delayed due to the global pandemic of Covid 19 but it has started already because on 1st April 2022 there was a ground opening then work officially started on 1st July 2022. Construction mainly along the Lira and Corner Kamdini has begun with removing tarmac in potholed places and filing marram and tarmac .</p>
<p>Why does Mota-Engil continue putting marram on the road instead of tarmac?</p>	<p>The road construction will take 4-5 years therefore all places that have marram will be tarmacked. What they are doing is part of the processes of road construction.</p>
<p>Why is it that the company working on Lira – Apac road is doing better work that on NERAMP-Dokolo-Corner Kamdini ?</p>	<p>Lira-Apac road is passing through swamps so they should a lot of marram to raise the road that is why it looks better than NERAMP. The final of all this will be a very good tarmac road.</p>
<p>Why is it that LC1s are not considered in GMCs yet the road passes through their villages and parishes?</p>	<p>In 2017, UNRA made a survey and formed GMCs from different villages but the cases of GBV and VAC can also be reported to LC1’s office. Also, all GMCs, the LCI is member and chairs the GMC. So it’s not true that LC chairpersons have been left out of the committees.</p>
<p>Why is NERAMP only concerned with GBV and VAC mainly?</p>	<p>Since NERAMP is mainly road construction, the influx of workers comes with the risks of GBV and VAC in the community therefore the communities have to be sensitized to safeguard against them. But , HIV and AIDS is also being considered and will be addressed by another implementing partner recruited by UNRA.</p>
<p>Where will the workers be staying during the period of the road</p>	<p>Workers will rent within the community but those owning houses where they will stay should inform the LC1 and also</p>

Question /concern	Response/answer
construction?	register the workers details for security purposes.

The community was encouraged to safe guard themselves from all forms of GBV and VAC in order to avoid issues of spread of HIV/AIDS, early marriage, teenage pregnancy etc. An example was cited by a community member who worked with Mota-Engil from Bulisa where many girls and women fell in love with the road workers and children were born and have no traceable fathers.

3.1.5 GMC 92-Ongor Alidi Atyeto Alimo (Kole District)

The chairperson of the GMC appreciated JFCU for the work of creating awareness to the community about GBV and VAC associated with the NERAMP project.



Photo 38: Meeting community members of GMC 92

He further mentioned that GMCs educate the community about their relationship with the road workers, women and children’s rights in relation to GBV and VAC. JFCU staff explained their role in the NERAMP project which is to sensitize the

community so as to mitigate the negative social risks (GBV and VAC) associated with the road rehabilitation project.

Table 18 Questions/concerns from the community

Question /concern	Response/answer
Will the people along the road be given employment opportunities from Mota-Engil?	Those who are interested in getting jobs should apply to Mota-Engil and those that applied before Covid 19, they should apply again. Job opportunities are there but limited and it’s only those who qualify that will be given the opportunity to work .
Why is it that the people of Lango region are not employed by Mota-Engil?	The people of Lango are also employed and working.

Are they recruiting women at Mota-Engil?	Yes, women are recruited but it depends on the qualifications that one has. You can even see the flag girls on the road along Lira to Corner Kamdini working.
What is the solution for the heavy machines that crack people's houses along the road?	The chances of houses getting crack are very low but in case it happens some compensation will be provided to seal the cracks if it is proven beyond reasonable doubt that they were caused by the road construction machinery.
An individual has a pork joint in the road reserve but he pays taxes to the government, will UNRA compensate the PAP?	UNRA will do a survey and make an evaluation that will determine the criteria of compensation to the PAP. However, people who built in the road reserve will have to remove their assets and will not be compensated.
In case the workers who are men involve in sexual relationships with our wives, what should we do?	Report them to the GMCs then the GMCs will do the needful. Also to LCs and or Police.
Does Mota-Engil have jobs for both skilled and unskilled people?	Yes it has but mostly wants those with certificates.
We have GMCs in our community but we have not been given jobs?	The construction was launched in April 2022, therefore people should be patient because they will still employ more people from the community.

3.1.6 GMC 76-Corner Amach Olil Alit Anyuma (Lira District)

The GMC chairperson explained to the community the role of GMCs in their community. He further



mentioned that there are six members on the GMC committee.

Photo 39: Participant asking question during sensitization meeting in Corner Amach.

He informed the community members that the GMCs ensure that the social wellbeing of the people that is women,

children and men is covered in the community. They also sensitize people about their good co-existence relationship with workers and encouraged them to report in case of any form of GBV and VAC in their community.

JFCU staff gave a brief about their working relationship with UNRA and the GMCs in regards to the NERAMP project and informed people that a base line survey was carried out in the area by a consultant to establish the extent of GBV and VAC in the project area. The survey looked at the extent of and knowledge of community members about GBV and VAC. The data would be used to measure the impact of the project at the end during evaluation. The baseline survey report was presented to the 4 districts and stakeholders.

JFCU staff also talked to the community about the presence of road workers and elaborated both the positive and negative effects of the road workers. Some of the positive impact of the workers is that they would be renting houses in the community, buying food and other essential items, and even making friends. So they would bring money into the community which is a good thing. However, there could also be negative effects of their presence which include; “stealing” people’s wives, raping women, defilement, spreading disease like HIV and AIDS which can lead to domestic violence and child abuse and even death.

The community was advised and encouraged to safeguard their children from all forms of VAC and the parents to also stop GBV in their homes.

Table 19: Questions/concerns from the community

Question/concern	Response/answer
When are the road workers coming to start the construction?	The project started so road construction started. Workers can easily be seen along the road .
Why can't Mota-Engil employ people in their community?	The people applied but they will not necessarily work in their respective communities but rather be stationed in different places of work.
Are the road workers going to rent in the community or will be stationed somewhere else?	Yes, workers will stay / rent within the community with permission from the LC1 chairperson and the landlord or lady who should register their details for security purposes.
Will Mota-Engil widen the road for the areas that are narrow?	The design is not to increase the size but is to maintain it and make the road it stronger. But where it necessitates widening, it will be done based on design of that section of the road.
Will they put road signs for children to cross the road?	There will be road signs like the ones commonly seen and also humps to reduce speed and prevent accidents. The road signs for children to cross the road especially where schools are located near the road will be put.
Will UNRA also work on roads leading to	No, UNRA only works on roads connecting

people's homes?

districts not those leading people's homes.



Photo 40: Community members in Corner Amach during sensitization on GBV and VAC displaying IEC messages

GMCs member thanked staff of JFCU for their efforts of sensitizing the communities to safe guard against GBV and VAC and closed the meeting with a prayer from the GMC secretary.

3.1.7 GMC 78: Gwengabara Balwala (Lira District)

The parish chief informed the community members about the social risks associated with the coming of road workers in their community. He also explained to them about the roles of GMC in the community as some of them had never heard about GMC.

The chairperson of GMC said that people who are coming to work on the road come from various places which they have different personality that is positive and negative hence causing GBV and VAC in the community. Therefore, people were warned to be careful with the workers because GMCs will continuously play their roles of sensitizing them and encouraging them to report any case of GBV and VAC whether it's by the construction workers or any member of the community they live in.

'Unfortunately some men in the communities are willing to leave their wives in exchange for money.' [Male, Adult, participant]



Photo 41: GMC mobiliser during sensitization.

JFCU staff still explained to the community what roles they play under the project and the linkage between them and the GMCs and UNRA. The staff encouraged the community members especially the landlords to register workers who rent in their areas with the LC1 chairman. The community was also advised not to commit any form of VAC or GBV because it's against the human rights and laws of the country.

Table 20: Questions/concerns from the community

Issue	Response
Why has the issue of workers coming become a song but they are not coming on ground?	The workers already came but started working on parts of the road that are very poor like the stretch from corner- kamdini to Lira. But the Lira- Dokolo road is not in a very bad condition but will be worked on as well.
Will they replace the culverts that they removed that lead to people's homes and shops?	They will be replaced with stronger culverts that can easily drain rain water and also contain flooding.
Why does the GMC membership not include the youth yet they are ones that are at risk of VAC and GBV?	UNRA formed the GMCs but this concern will also be forwarded to them for consideration.

Issue	Response
<p>What will UNRA do for people who have houses along that road will get cracked due to heavy vehicles and machinery?</p>	<p>Compensation will only be provided to people whose houses were truly cracked due to the road construction.</p>
<p>Why does UNRA tell the PAPs on the Apac (Aloi) road to go to court unlike the NERAMP project PAPs?</p>	<p>Different projects have their own structures. If is not happy with the compensation amount, he or she has the right to go to court. So those being told to go to court may be they did not agree with UNRA about the compensation amount. An example is the case of the tree on Kampala – Mpigi where the owners wanted a lot of money as compensation. They took UNRA to court and the court rules how much to compensate them and they had to accept the court ruling. Some PAPs want too much money out of compensation which is not realistic with what the affected asset has been valued by the government valuer. The government is even planning to adapt compulsory acquisition for such development projects to reduce the delays caused by such issues which costs government a lot of money because of delays.</p>



The community also raised concern that some road projects like the Apac project had no GMCs in place to address cases of GBV and VAC.

Photo 42: IEC materials distribution and sensitization of community members on GBV and VAC, in GMC 78

They also reported that some people ask them for money to forward their job applications to Mota-Engil.

3.2 Stakeholders Engagements

JFCU staff visited the campsite of Mota-Engil and had a meeting with the sociologist on the issue of meeting the workers which didn't take place because Mota-Engil believes that meeting workers stops production hence no work done. Therefore, the permission to meet workers should come directly with formal communication from UNRA.

JFCU Executive director had already sent a request for meeting the workers, but the response had not been received by the time JFCU staff were in the field. In such case, another date was be fixed after getting permission to meet the workers.

The JFCU staff also shared some of the community concerns about the project which included road design, cracking of houses, employment of locals, potholes in some parts of the road, tarmacking of the road where the old tarmac had been removed and compensation issues for those whose properties would be damaged.

JFCU staff then met the Lira City Education Officer to update him about the works of JFCU and the progress on road construction activities. Lira City Education office as a stake holder results from schools that were mapped for project interventions that are located in Lira City and are within the project intervention area. JFCU promised to share reports with the education officer and also received a list of schools in Lira City from him as well.

3.3. Challenges during sensitization meetings in the month

- 1) Death of a community member led to cancellation of a planned community meeting.
- 2) In another Community, in Baramdyang, there were two social functions, a wedding and community meeting. As a result, the expected turn up was low. However, the meeting was carried out successfully with the few persons that attended that included the GMCs members..
- 3) In another GMC, Kamdini Town Board, the phones of all the members of the GMC were not available and could not be reached. Although the GMC was among those sampled, it was not possible to meet any community and this will also be handled in the next planned meetings.
- 4) It was also noted that in some of the GMCs, some of the members passed on and there is need to update the list and to include at least alternative numbers on which members can be reached when in need.
- 5) GMCs members not well known by community members and had first to introduce themselves and explain their roles which took time for other planned activities else where,
- 6) High financial expectations of the community whenever they are called to attend meetings.



Photo 43: Community members of Corner Amach attending sensitization on GBV and VAC by JFCU staff.

4.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN SEPTEMBER 2022

This section of report covers implemented activities for the month of September 2022. They are: distribution of IEC materials on prevention of GBV and VAC in schools and communities, community sensitization, sensitization of learners on GBV/VAC and about NERAMP project. JFCU staff was able to reach out to five communities (Araki Abuki Iguli (GMC 69), Adwoki trading centre (GMC 71), Alwala Akaidebe (GMC 73), Agengi Teachi Adwila (GMC 74) and Iguli Primary School. All these activities were held in Dokolo district. The mobilisation members of the GMC's and the teachers in the Iguli Primary school, mobilised the communities for the meetings held.

4.1 Performance in the month

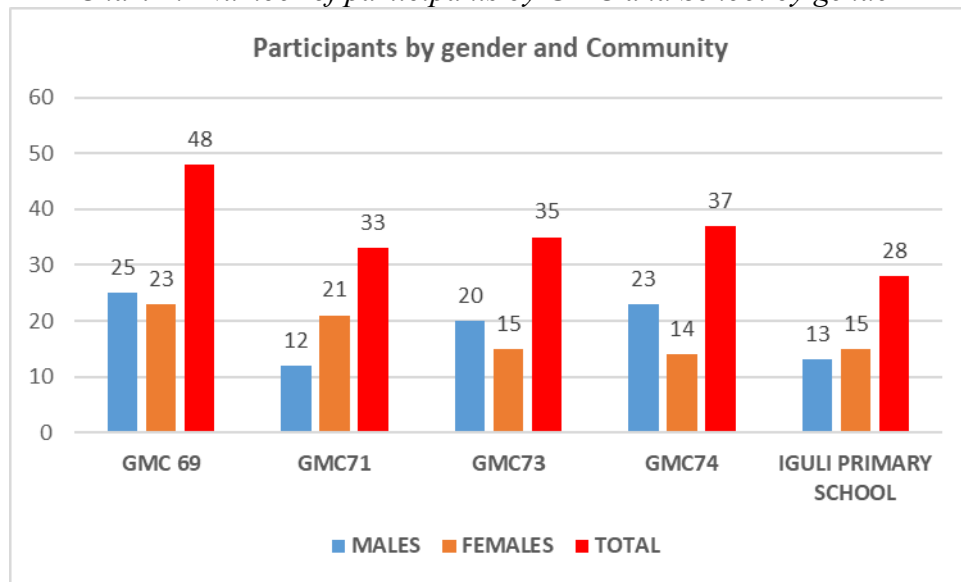
Table 21: Table one showing performance in September 2022.

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITY	ACHIEVEMENT	SCORES (%)
Strengthening community to help prevent GBV and VAC along the corridor	Community sensitization meetings to promote awareness on prevention of GBV and VAC	Sensitization meetings were held in 5 communities. The meetings were highly participatory. In various communities, majority of participants were males compared to females as seen on the list of participants in the Annexes. Participants from the community were punctual thus the GMC's earned credit for their strong mobilization.	Performance of GMCs 100% Mobilization 100% Participation 100% Punctuality 100%
	Distribution of IEC materials	IEC materials were distributed to the members present and every participant was able to receive these materials. The community and the pupils could easily understand and interpret information on IEC materials as the modulators were asking questions.	100%
	Sensitization of schools	Iguli primary school pupils were sensitized. The session was highly participatory and one of their teachers reported that he liked the program.	100%
Enhancing mechanisms to mitigate risks of	Supporting Survivors/victims of	So far, there were no survivors/victims of GBV/VAC reported to be referred.	

GBV and VAC due the road project.	GBV and VAC		
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Overall, a total of 181 (49% female) persons were sensitized during the meetings held with 5 communities (4 GMCs and one primary school community). Generally, in almost all the communities that were reached, communities were aware of their GMC leaders but they were not acquainted with their roles. Consequently, during the meetings, the members of the GMCs were asked to introduce themselves and explain to the community what their do in the community.

Chart 1: Number of participants by GMC and School by gender



The GMC’s did good mobilisation work despite some of the challenges in some villages such as Adwoki trading center where they had a burial and a market day. Members who were present in all communities shared their experiences with workers related to the past contractors on the past projects implemented by UNRA, NWSC, SIETCO and UEDCL carried out in the communities.

About road construction, JFCU staff informed the communities about the ongoing road rehabilitation project by UNRA/ Motal-Engil and how the work force was composed of staff both from Uganda and outside Uganda, and the positive and negative social effects that may occur during the course of this project. The participants were informed by the JFCU facilitators that whereas the work force/road workers are good people, promoting market for local community goods and services, they could also bring some bad things since they are human. Some of the negative things may include; stealing of things belonging to the community members, diseases like HIV and AIDS, Covid killing and since these workers have more money than community members, some of them may buy gifts for women, girls and thus end up having sexual relations with them which may lead to unwanted teenage pregnancies, spread of HIV, marriage breakdowns etc. In order to mitigate these from happening, JFCU was given a mandate by UNRA to sensitize the community so as to prevent such incidences from happening.

Communities were advised to strongly protect their children and spread this information to prevent violence against children/Gender based violence. JFCU staff informed them about cases of Chinese children in the community that were reported in Dokolo and other similar projects in Uganda where Chinese contractors produced children with girls and the children were left behind and the fathers not there to support the mothers upbringing the child. The staff further explained to the community how no one was aware of where the fathers of those Chinese children are and yet dowry had not been paid as per cultural practices and the burden of Chinese children was on those affected families. Similar incidences happened in Kiruhura district during the construction of Lyantonde to Kiruhura-Ibanda roads. It had been also reported of a case of a worker in Kole and how they killed a girl and run away. The Police was now looking for the workers who were involved in the murder of the innocent girl. Married women were also warned not to get involved in sexual relations with road workers as it could lead to fights between them and their husbands (GBV).

Since the meetings were highly participatory, communities were also able to share about both good and bad experiences they had encountered with the past construction companies in the area. Majority of community members were highly concerned about compensation related issues, contractors/workers buying goods on credit and never clearing debts, workers stealing food from their gardens, digging borrow pits for marram and never back filling, blocking of routes to villages/ homes and not remembering to clear those areas once the project ended, and the chances of cracks developing on their houses during road construction. As was reported at GMC 73, the past construction companies did not put humps and as a result, many traffic accidents had increased, pits which they dug for getting marram for road construction were left uncovered which increased mosquitoes due to water logging; Some parts of the road were raised above their houses thus roads leading to homes/ houses were blocked, no proper drainage systems thus running water entering their houses and reported cases of teenage pregnancy. The girls got “spoilt”, they got pregnant including house wives who moved on with workers.

With the use of IEC materials, JFCU staff asked communities to interpret pictures on IEC materials and the majority were able to properly interpret the messages on them which were mainly about acts of GBV and VAC that take place in the communities. The communities were also informed that the information on IEC materials was developed and designed by school children who were complaining about over beating and giving them heavy work beyond their capacity. And the moderator explained,

“Children are saying that you beat them, so stop beating children”. “You are making them carry heavy jerry cans of water.” And one old man replied, “It’s true”.

During sensitization of children in school, learners were asked to tell what kind of child abuse can come out of men and male teachers to which they replied, ‘pregnancy’. Children were sensitized about the negative effects of teenage pregnancy and how to avoid it and also not to get into relationships with the road construction workers else they would get pregnant and dropout of school. They were told that cases like defilement should always be reported to police and medical examinations should be done immediately before reporting to GMC’s otherwise such cases may not have proof if there is no report from the doctor and Police.

The community members were also informed the community that the road construction workers would be renting houses and therefore they must ask them to present their National ID’s and ensure to report

their presence to the chair person's in their villages so that in case of any issue, they can be easily traced.

At Alwalwa Akaidebe, the GMC chairperson in her remarks advised the community not to bring issues of long ago as cases but they should only consider bringing issues related to the current road project for example; love affairs of long ago, houses which were cracked long ago even before the upcoming road construction etc. are not relevant to them. Only cases related to current road works would be considered and the others be referred to Police and other law enforcement units in the community. The chairperson of GMC 69 in his remarks when appreciating the sensation by JFCU about the VAC and GBV issues told his community that *“knowledge is more important than food we eat because it lives with them forever”*.

GMC's members were asked by JFCU staff to continue getting information from the community and engaging them so that they can freely report their issues and promised to make JFCU T-shirts for GMCs. They were also cautioned to be watchful and report especially on incidences where drivers steal fuel. They were asked to take note of registration numbers on those vehicles, take photos if possible in case of they happen to see drivers stealing fuel and report to Mota Engil and UNRA staff such incidences because it affects the timely completion and increases the cost of construction of the road.

JFCU project staff during sensitizations meetings asked the men to report any domestic challenges issue to the community leaders, Police Child and Family Protection unit or clan leaders and not to resort to violence or beating their wives while married women were also cautioned to avoid having sexual relations with road workers. Communities were also cautioned to avoid giving goods to road workers on credit. Children were also advised not to receive funny gifts from strangers, avoid violence including beating their friends. Communities were also cautioned not to use IEC materials provided for making fire in their homes and also always report any issue concerning road construction and violence to GMC's.

4.1.1: Activity 1: Community Sensitization At Araki Abuki Iguli (GMC 69).

The meeting was organized to meet the GMCs and community members of GMC 69 to sensitize them about GBV and VAC issues and also get feedback on the same issues in the community. GMCs mobilization chairperson mobilized the community participants, a total of 48 participants (23 female) attended the meeting.

The GMC chairperson introduced the other GMCs members present and also the LC chairperson of the community. The JFCU project accountant also introduced the JFCU team members and explained to the community the roles of JFCU and its relationship with UNRA and GMCs.

The GMC chairperson was also asked to tell the community what they do since majority of the participants did not know their roles although some were part of the community members that elected them into their positions.



Photo 44: Photos showing participants during the sensitization meeting at GMC 69

After the presentations, the community were also given an opportunity to ask questions about the presentations.

Table22 : Questions that were raised by community at GMC 69 and their responses.

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<i>The most annoying thing with the road workers is that these people pick rubbish and soil and dump it in our compounds and they don't remove it thus leaving our environment dirty and hinders our children from playing in the compound.</i>	JFCU shall follow it up with the UNRA and Mota-Engil team and advise them to always remove that rubbish.
<i>Some of the community members have never been compensated for their land and houses affected during the previous road construction.</i>	JFCU shall take this issue to UNRA to come and explain why some people were compensated and why others were not. Also advised to take the issues to the GMC and be recorded and will be given to UNRA staff when they come to the community GMC.

<p><i>Construction companies come with heavy machines which sometimes scare children and they run away while some children also love standing along the road being constructed staring at the machines. And some of the workers harass our children.</i></p>	<p>Teachers are going to play a big role to prevent children from spectating at machines for road construction because they may get accidents.</p> <p>Harassment cases should be reported to the GMC's and where possible, photos should be taken to ease follow up.</p> <p>Parents should ensure that their children are really at school and not to keep any child out of school.</p> <p>Mota-Engil workers have also flag bearers who will be helping the traffic movements including children crossing the road where road construction is taking place to check the chances of motor accidents happening.</p>
<p><i>In case these people get marram from your land, and they don't back fill the borrow pits they created and yet when it rains, water logging occurs thus becoming a bleeding ground for mosquitoes. Children also play from this water. This has happened in the community and the pits are still not filled.</i></p>	<p>JFCU will make a follow up on those borrow pits created and follow up with the UNRA office to ensure that those borrow pits are back filled. Mota Engil will also be informed that when they dig the places for marram soil, they should fill back the hole created.</p>
<p><i>Our small roads which lead to villages and homes are usually blocked during construction and they forget to clear that place when they are done with their work</i></p>	<p>The contractor is supposed to ensure that culverts are put to ensure water drainage is very proper to take away rain storm water. In some places, small culverts will be removed and replaced with big ones. Roads will not be blocked and any soils that will have been damped on the roads will be removed to make them motor able.</p>
<p><i>A lady asked whether JFCU can help in following up with the previous company workers who went away leaving huge debts behind them for instance a debt of over Ugs 200,000 in her shop alone.</i></p>	<p>The community members were advised never to give their goods and services out to workers on credit since they don't know what befalls the company's work tomorrow. Land lords were also advised to get their rent payments in advance for 3 months before anybody occupies their houses.</p>

	<p>UNRA will not be able to follow up such old cases because the contactors left and even the person who took the debt is unknown and even could have already died.</p>
<p><i>Another lady pointed out that some workers started stealing their things especially agricultural products from the garden when the company they were employed in for instance; Uganda Electricity Distribution Company (UEDCL) took more than three Months to pay their salaries.</i></p>	<p>JFCU together with other stake holders will work together and address such incidences through sensitization of the workers and follow up on those who are criminals. Landlords were also advised to always take identifications of their tenants to local leaders for ease of follow ups. Mota Engil and UNRA social workers will also sensitize the workers and strongly warn them to desist from stealing or taking things from the community without their consent. Any worker who does that should be reported to the GMC members and will also be reported to Mota Engil and UNRA staff.</p>
<p><i>Another issue raised was on those workers who install wires from the electricity poles to residence and then comes later at night and steals the wires again, bundles it and transports it for sale somewhere else.</i></p>	<p>The community was advised to record on cameras such act and report it immediately to GMCs, LCs or Police so that such a person is arrested and produced in court for prosecution.</p> <p>For the road construction, fuel and cement were items that workers love to steal and community members were advised to always report anyone seen siphoning fuel from the road construction equipment's like tractors, lorries by taking even photograph of the people stealing fuel. Report them to GMCs and JFCU staff.</p>
<p><i>What can JFC do in cases where the company employs community people and they don't pay as it used to happen with other companies which operated in this area?</i></p>	<p>Contracts under UNRA are always paid on time. The contractors also ensure that the staff are paid on time. So, as advised they were told not to give credit to the workers who say they have not been paid as an excuse to get credit. If anyone feels that he or can give the workers a credit on humanitarian ground it's on their risk not on UNRA or Mota Engil.</p>
<p><i>The road construction usually leaves our houses with cracks.</i></p>	<p>Issues of cracked house; let them take photos of cracked houses and the Engineers will come and verify the magnitude for further consideration. Also UNRA and Mota Engil engineers will check whether the cracks were genuine as a result of the current road construction or they had been there</p>

	even before road construction to avoid people corruptly claiming cracks when they are old.
<i>The T shirts which were distributed by UNRA were very small for us and are not fitting.</i>	They were informed that may be some of the GMCs members have also grown and are big to fit the t-shirts or some got small sizes which were not their actual sizes. However, JFCU also plans to give T-shirts with IEC messages printed in local language about GBV and VAC prevention. Big T shirts will be procured so that they fit accordingly.

4.1.2: Activity 2: Sensitization at Iguli Primary School.

A sensitization meeting was also organized for learners in Iguli Primary school to talk about VAC issues in school, community and also in relation to the construction workers under the project. With the support of the teachers, a total of 28 learners (15 female) from Primary 6 and 7 classes were sensitized in the presence of their teachers about VAC.

JFCU staff explained to them the roles and importance of UNRA and the roads in Uganda, the role of JFCU, the contractors that will be carrying construction activities and the social risks associated with road construction especially VAC.



The sensitization was participatory since the learners were also asked questions relating to common types of violence that they face at school, home and in community they reside, how they can prevent themselves from being victims of child abuses and also the reporting and referral mechanisms they know of.

Photo 45 : Photos showing sensitization at Iguli Primary School.

They were also given IEC materials educating them about common violence and how to prevent themselves from being victims of VAC. The IEC materials were

developed by fellow learners in primary school in the Lango cluster districts. Children also were given an opportunity to ask questions to which they were responded by JFCU team.

Children and teachers were also cautioned about over beating and further warned children to also stop beating their fellow friends. Children were also warned to stop spending time along the road spectating at the machines during construction as it may lead to accidents. They were also informed that drivers

and road workers are also being warned about driving while drunk, defiling children and child labor. Finally, the children were asked to tell what they had learnt from the discussions.

Table23 : Questions and Responses during sensitization at Iguli Primary School

<i>What is UNRA in full?</i>	Uganda National Roads Authority
<i>What does it do?</i>	It is responsible for trunk roads construction in Uganda. Mainly , the big roads connecting districts in Uganda.
<i>From which ministry is UNRA under?</i>	No response. They were not aware. UNRA is under The Ministry of Works, and Transport (MoWT).
<i>Why do we need roads?</i>	They help to transport goods/exports We earn foreign exchange after transporting goods It promotes trade between countries and also between districts in Uganda. Eases communication for business and transporting people and goods to markets
<i>Tell us any bad things that strangers can do to children?</i>	They can kill you. They can rape you. They can steal your property. They can abuse you.
<i>Tell us the good things that road workers can do in this area?</i>	They provide market for our goods. They can provide more skills. They will introduce new language They can create new friendship They can provide job opportunities.
<i>How can you avoid getting pregnancy?</i>	Say no to defilement Stay away from men Avoid walking alone
<i>If they disturb you, where do you go?</i>	Report to parents, community leaders, police, teachers, uncles, LC's and neighbors.

<i>What other form of violence against children do you know apart from getting pregnant?</i>	Beating
<i>What type of violence is this? [From the IEC posters distributed to the learners]</i>	Woman is beating a child. This is also violence by parents and relatives
<i>Do teachers beat you?</i>	They beat but they do not over beat
<i>So, what have you learnt from us?</i>	I have learnt about how to stop child abuse. I have learnt about road construction. I have learnt about violence against children
Closing remarks; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid violence • Do not receive funny gifts from strangers • Tell your friends what you have been taught, share the information 	

4.1.3: Activity 3: Sensitization at Adwoki Trading Center GMC 71

A community meeting was also held at Adwoki Trading center with GMC 71 Community members.



Photo46 : JFCU Project officer using IEC materials to sensitize the community.

Table24 : Complaints and Responses at Adwoki Trading Center/ GMC 71

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p><i>We have a challenge of teenagers/girls in this village who leave their homes and loiter around trading centers, around road workers. These girls dress in short dresses to attract men and some of them are already involved in sex working business. How can Joy for Children help us on this issue.</i></p>	<p>They should be reported to the chairman LC1 and GMC's for follow up.</p>
<p><i>In case one of the road workers takes away my wife, what can JFC do to prevent me from killing him? What should I do before I kill that person?</i></p>	<p>Killing is bad. Report to leaders and that's why GMC's exist. Involve your clan leaders or take that woman back to her home instead of killing.</p>
<p><i>I can see, we already have a well-constructed road, what kind of road are they expanding?</i></p>	<p>The road will be made much better. Vehicles have increased and they carry a lot of goods yet the road has become small. When heavy lorries step on the road, it is affected. In some areas they want to put another layer. Humps will also be put on roads</p>
<p><i>I am a man and I have a daughter, If I comeback and find that my wife has made my child carry a big jerry can and I slap my wife and the woman starts fighting, who could have engineered the fight?</i></p>	<p>We are teaching about GBV. That is men beating wives and women fighting men.</p> <p>Avoid anger, anger is dangerous.</p> <p>You can slap your wife and she dies accidentally that turns into a murder case. You don't need to beat your wife. There is a better way to solve things. Talk to her that she is wrong. Sometimes you may beat her and she beats you more.</p>
<p><i>Assuming I support my girl and she is taken to work or gets employed on the road but later gets pregnant in the process. What can I do?</i></p>	<p>Report to GMC's</p> <p>Report to employers "office in Boroboro"</p> <p>UNRA also has a committee responsible for handling such issues and that's why we are warning children, workers and parents.</p> <p>If that girl is 20 years and above and has finished school, we advise them to come and meet parents and make it official and live as husband and wife. We don't want them to impregnate our children and run away because parents remain with the burden. If she is ready for marriage, she is allowed to marry in the normal process.</p>

Our daughters may tend to love and respect those men more than parents, what if we discover that our daughter was impregnated by road workers when they have already moved away from this area. Can JFC help?

Before the girl reaches that extent, take the child for counseling before she gets pregnant. Report to LCs, GMCs for follow up in case she is pregnant. We shall follow it up if your daughter knows the workers names.

If they don't impregnate but infect my wife with STDs, what do I do?

That's why we are here to warn you before such issues come up. Even men may get infected if they have sexual relations road workers. Please try not to go there.

4.1.4: Activity 4: Sensitization At Alwala Akaidebe GMC 73

Another sensitization activity was carried out with the communities of the GMC 73 at Alwala Akidabebe.



Photo 47: JFCU staff sensitization meeting in the community-GMC 73- ALWALA AKAIDEBE

Table 25 : Questions and responses at Alwala Akaidebe GMC 73

QUESTION/COMPLAINT	RESPONSE
<i>What do I do with a daughter whom I send to school but branches off to other places to loiter or go for sex work.</i>	<p>Ensure to follow up your child to be sure she went to school.</p> <p>Take the girl for counselling if you discover that she dodges classes</p>
<i>Are there job opportunities in UNRA? I applied for a job of a machine operator and I have never gotten any response.</i>	<p>We shall follow it up. Bring your application if you still have it. May be you did not have the required qualifications and driving permit.</p>

<p><i>Corruption while looking for UNRA jobs. Askaris ask for 50,000shs at the gate. Askaris cannot take the application unless you pay that money.</i></p> <p><i>Another gentle man said, “for me, I paid 5000shs. Askaris told me to put it the envelop in which my application was.</i></p>	<p>It is unacceptable procedure but JFCU will follow up with UNRA and Mota Engil.</p>
<p><i>Road workers come with a lot of money than us. What can I do if my wife starts undermining me after meeting these workers?</i></p>	<p>Once your wife cheats you with road workers, bring the matter to clan leaders, religious, or a counselor. Avoid use of violence.</p>
<p><i>Who will refund the dowry ?</i></p>	<p>Dowry will not be refunded.</p>
<p><i>Rape and defilement have been happening here. Now if it happens again, will there be a solution since defilers are always released by police?</i></p>	<p>When one is defiled, the first place should be reporting to the police, and taking the child for medical examination. Without medical examination, the case has no evidence. In case JFC is informed, we can get a way of following up the issue of the defiled victim</p>
<p><i>Are these road constructors going to the former barrow pits for marram or?</i></p>	<p>We are going to take it as a serious concern.</p> <p>GMCs will be responsible to watch where the workers are digging and follow up so that those places can be refilled again.</p>
<p><i>Some people were compensated while others were not</i></p>	<p>The issue of non-compensation should be forwarded to UNRA for follow ups and that is why GMCs have been formed to avoid repetition of such issues.</p>
<p><i>Even us men don’t complain but women beat us</i></p>	<p>Avoid any form of violence.</p> <p>Report such cases to LC’s, GMC’s or police.</p>
<p><i>There was an agreement that if they dig pits, they backfill but it was not followed.</i></p>	<p>If there was an agreement signed indicating who should backfill the barrow pit, then it can be very easy to follow up with the matter.</p>

4.1.5: Activity 5: Sensitization At Agengi Teachi Adwila GMC 74

Members of GMC 74 and the community was also sensitized in a similar manner like other GMCs about VAC and GBV issues. The following table shows the questions asked after sensitizing community members at GMC 74.

Table 26 : Sensitization at Agengi Teachi Adwila GMC 74

QUESTION/ COMPLAINT	RESPONSE
<i>In case road workers impregnate my daughter, what do I do?</i>	Report to either Police, GMC, or LC1. You should report to police, before you ran to GMC. Because police involves medical checkup.
<i>What if our daughter is impregnated by workers and run away</i>	These girls know their names when they are befriending them. If your daughter knows their name, we can follow up
<i>What do I do in case road workers impregnate my wife?</i>	Report to LC, GMC. Involve clan leaders, relatives. What we don't want to ere is "beating your wife"
<i>What if my wife elopes with workers and is taken away and they disappear?</i>	I hope you have photographs of your wife. You report to police and attach a photo of your wife and police will help to trace for the lost person that is if she is alive.
<i>What if I also happen to impregnate road workers?</i>	The worker who gets pregnant is managed by the company. The company also has rules and regulations for their workers. We encourage men to avoid the workers unless you want to marry her officially.
<i>During construction, what if the driver causes an accident that leads to death, is it JFC or UNRA to compensate?</i>	Accidents happen, no one drives to kill a person however, the law will go through to find out whether it was accidental or not and will face the law. Compensation is not automatic and this will be dealt with after Police investigations and also depending on the Policy regulations in the company about compensation.
<i>In case accidents happen during construction, is there anyway JFC can help us to be compensated?</i>	That is a police case. Report to police and in case you are not helped, report to us for follow up.
<i>In case I have knowledge and skill but with no papers but would like to join the work force</i>	We have to meet the job description in order for us to get the employment. No certificates no job. Unless the job does not require certificates.
<i>UNRA told us that they will give jobs to the community</i>	Write applications and give to the chairman and incase opportunities are there, you will be helped.

<p><i>We have been taking applications and they charge us money at the gate. “I put money in the application and sealed. I was interested in driving and I have the permit”.</i></p>	<p>That was unfortunate and bribery is not accepted to get a job. People should not bribe and if any one takes money from you, refuse or report to authority (Mota Engil, UNRA, JFCU) that that person is asking for money.</p> <p>Agum Daniel Darius. (victims name)</p>
<p><i>When is the actual construction going to begin?</i></p>	<p>The construction has already begun. This road construction is going to take four years. The road takes a process.</p>
<p><i>Are they going to increase/ extend the road reserve?</i></p>	<p>In some places, they will widen while in some places, they will work on drainage.</p>
<p><i>Are they also going to widen on the existing road?</i></p>	
<p><i>UNRA had promised to give us Tee shirts, gumboots, caps but they were not given.</i></p>	<p>We shall follow it up.</p>
<p><i>GMC’s were trained and work in the community. Now that we are also on board, how can we be considered?</i></p>	<p>GMC’s were formed by UNRA as voluntary workers and they are 6 members on the committee. We are not adding more.</p>

Photo 48: Children displaying boards with messages on prevention and reporting of VAC during community sensitization.



5.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN OCTOBER 2022

This section of the annual report gives details of activities carried out in October 2022 by JFCU and key challenges faced in the month. Pictorials have been used to capture event moments in the communities.

Objective of meeting and sensitizing Communities

- i. To promote awareness of social risks such as GBV/VAC that are most likely to come up during the implementation of the project.
- ii. To explain the roles and relationship between JFCU-UNRA and GMCs in the communities.
- iii. Get feedback from the community regarding road construction including their experiences in the past road construction projects.

Methodology used

- Participatory and participants were sensitized in their respective community zones.
- Question and answer session to get issues of concern from communities.
- Posters (IEC materials) to explain the issues of VAC and GBV existing in the communities as portrayed by school going learners.



Photo49 : Children of G/86 area displaying placards on VAC.

Mobilization

The communities were mobilized by the GMCs secretary, mobilizer or Chairperson, who were very supportive. However, there was a lot of difficulty in mobilization especially in the GMCs around the

City center especially (Jinja Camp) as well as trading centers such as GMC 89 since most of the community members were seriously engaged by their businesses.

Key activities carried out:

- Distribution of IEC POSTERS on prevention of GBV and VAC in communities.
- Community sensitization meetings on GBV/VAC in relation to NERAMP.
- Referring of survivors to existing community or government service providers as per need such as legal pro bono services, psychosocial services, and Health.



In the month of October 2022, Joy For Children Uganda (JFCU) reached out to six communities both in Lira and Kole districts and they include GMC 79, 81, 82,77, 86 and 89. In each of the meetings, JFCU staff sensitized both the members of GMCs and the community members.

Photo 50: IEC on roles of JFCU under NERAMP

IEC materials on prevention of child abuses and GBV were distributed to the participants as a tool for increasing knowledge on the issues of GBV and VAC. These posters and IEC materials

contained a simplified message on GBV/VAC both in writing and pictorial.

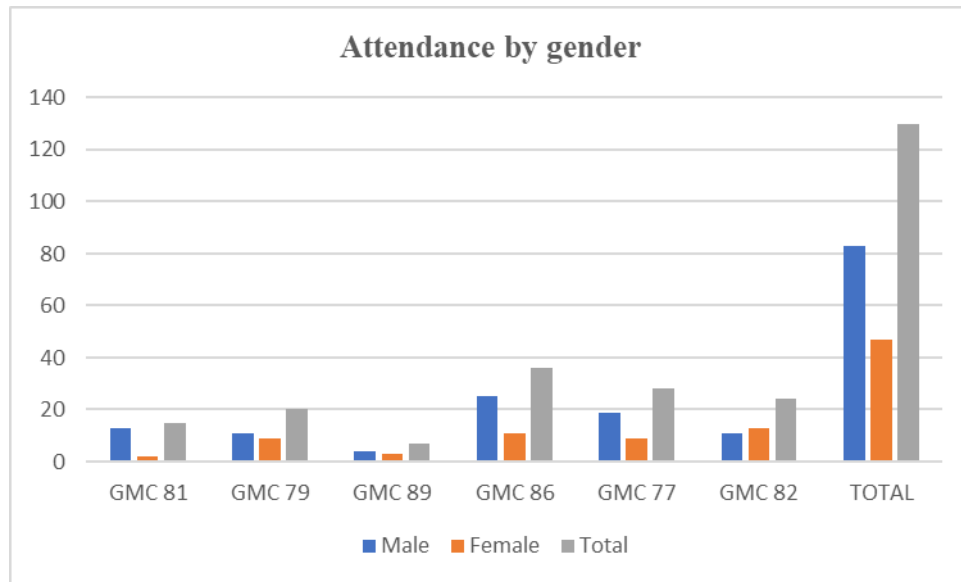
In total, 181 IEC materials were distributed to the communities. At GMC 79, 82, 86, 77, the participants arrived in time for the starting of the sensitization activities while at GMC 89 and 81, more time was taken to mobilize participants which made JFCU team to wait longer before sensitization begun. The delay was due to the fact that these two places are big and busy trading centers and so it was not easy for members to leave their businesses for the sensitization.

Overall, there were more male (83) participants compared to females (47). Pida 2 (GMC 86) had the highest number of participants (36) followed by GMC 77-Corner Bororo with 28 participants, GMC

82- Odokomit (24), GMC 79 -Angwetangwet (20), GMC 81 -Jinja Camp (15) and GMC 89 -Ayer with 7 participants respectively.

The Chart below shows the number of participants by GMC by gender who attended the sensitization meetings carried out.

Chart 1: Number of participants by GMC by gender



5.1 Community Sensitization meetings on GBV and VAC

The activity of community sensitization was done concurrently with the activity of IEC materials distribution.

Photo 51 : GMC member setting up the palp stand/posters before sensitization begins at Adokomit.

5.1.1 GMC 77- OPILA, OMARA, OPELO and OCUKURU (Boroboro Corner) Lira City.

JFCU staff met the community under GMC 77 with the help of their chairperson GMC. The members of this GMC in this community demonstrated that they are aware of the NERAMP project and had sensitized the community about the risks associated with the project. JFCU staff



explained to the community the roles played by JFCU under the project and the linkage between them and UNRA.

Participants could easily interpret information on IEC materials. However, JFCU explained in details the meaning of the messages and photographs on IEC materials and encouraged them to protect their girls from early pregnancy by keeping them in school and also avoid using bad language towards the children. The members of the GMC reported that they had not received any reported case of VAC although parents agreed that they beat children as a way of punishing them for misbehaving. However, it was also noted that some parents did it with a lot of anger which leads to corporal punishment hence causing violence to the child.

The community confirmed that indeed some parents subject the children to child labor like making a young child carry a 20ltr jerry can full of water. The JFCU facilitator then explained to the community members the difference in training a child in home chores and VAC.



Photo 52: Members at GMC 77 during sensitization

He explained that it's the right thing to train a child to learn and pick up home responsibilities while respecting their rights. For instance, a child should be trained to keep the compound clean, fetch water for domestic use, tether animals, prepare meals, wash dishes, etc. but the only problem comes in when the children are forced to do these home chores or given heavier tasks beyond their age and strength.

The community was also advised not to commit any form of VAC or GBV because it's against the human rights and laws of the country.

However, with issues regarding to rent, JFCU advised the community members especially the landlords to register workers with the LC1 chairman those who rent their assets. The community also highly complained about bad behaviors by Chinese road workers, tribalism in giving people jobs and also corruption especially being charged money to forward their applications especially at MOTA Engil gate while they are looking for jobs. The JFCU facilitator explained about the current workers were not Chinese and they could not be the ones may be those that worked on the road previously. They also told the community workers that the purpose of sensitization was to make the communities aware about such VAC and GBV issues so that they do not fall into trouble with the workers. The issue of corruption was forwarded to Mota Engil and UNRA management for handling since it is beyond the jurisdiction of JFCU.

Table 27: Questions /concerns from the community at GMC 77

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
<i>Why is it that the road junctions are left without culverts or rumps to ease access to the community access roads?</i>	Contractors are supposed to put those culverts to ease access to the community and the current contractor will endeavor to do it perfectly.
<i>Why is it that some foreigners who are holding big offices are having self-drive denying Ugandans job opportunity?</i>	Employment opportunity will be given to Ugandans and currently applications are being invited from the community members who may have the requirements of the job. Others are workers for Mota Engil abroad since it is an international firm , it recruits also from other countries.
<i>Why is it that there is a lot of tribalism and corruption during recruitment exercise?</i>	The jobs are there for only qualified and experienced Ugandans and any person who feels he or she wants the advertised job can apply for the job they qualify for. Mota Engil does not charge any money to recruit a worker. If anybody takes money from an applicant, that person should be reported immediately to the higher authority for appropriate action.
<i>The contractors always leave the borrow-pit open and unfilled and these borrow-pits cause accidents and are breeds mosquitoes</i>	The Law does not allow any construction company to leave borrow-pits uncovered and Mota Engil will follow the Law and cover the borrow-pits they dig.
<i>The Chinese are always rude to the local community who are using the side road and sometimes they stone passerby.</i>	The road construction is a process which takes many years and therefore as the construction goes on, the traffic should also be catered for. Community should avoid using blocked areas and report any grievances to the GMCs. Moreover, these workers are not Chinese.
<i>Why is Mota-Engil only grading and later potholes come back to the road?</i>	The areas that are graded will later be improved and also tarmacked. It's just a matter of time and patience.
<i>Are there vacancies for jobs at Mota Engil?</i>	Those who want jobs should apply to Mota Engil and also specify their qualifications and what job they want in particular. The GMCs will forward the application to Mota Engil. Not every application qualifies for a job, so some will get and others will not. Jobs are few but applications are many. Getting a job will depend on qualifications, experience and expertise. Also, apply only when job has been advertised.
<i>What if our daughter is impregnated by workers and run away?</i>	You can report the case to the GMC, or area LC, or Police, or contractor or clan leaders as may be appropriate. The contractor may be able to trace for that worker and bring

him back to face justice.

5.1.2 GMC 79- ANGWETANGWET A&B and BARLWALA (LIRA CITY)

The chairperson of GMC 79 introduced the Grievance management committee members who also introduced themselves and their roles in the community during the meeting.



Photo 53: Community meeting at Angwetangwet.

JFCU staff explained their roles, UNRA, Mota-Engil and Joy For Children Uganda on the on-going road construction project known as NERAMP. JFCU staff reminded the community that the Mota Engil workers come from different parts of the world including Uganda and therefore they should be aware because in case of any form of GBV and VAC, the worker can disappear without trace.

LCs and GMCs were advised to register any new person residing in the community and get details so that he or she can easily be traced in case of committing a crime in the community. JFCU staff also informed them that, GBV and VAC exists in the community, but there is need to

sensitize community members about it and how it can be stopped.

One of the participants showed concern that there were couples who sometimes come to an agreement that a spouse should go and elope with a worker seen to be having money so that the husband and friends may go and get them “red handed” and the worker would be forced to pay some money for the committed sin. To make it worse, sometimes it was the parents who send a daughter to do such plan so as to mint money from the paid workers. Furthermore, the community were concerned about a construction worker who slept with a mad woman and impregnated her. ***“What should be done to such a worker who happens to impregnate a mad person?”*** Therefore, JFCU encouraged them to make use of GMCs and police in reporting such cases.

The chairperson of GMC 79 thanked JFCU for their effort to sensitize the community about the negative social impact of the road and also encouraged GMCs (committee members) to teach people in the community on VAC/GBV and informed them to report such cases not only due to road construction workers but also other people in their communities.



Photo54 : GMC 79 Participants after receiving IEC materials.

Furthermore, he requested that UNRA should provide them with more materials like the reflector jackets, boots and even tags which would ease their work among the community and for easy identification as GMCs. He also requested that UNRA should ensure that they follow up with the issues of compensation to those whose properties were affected by NERAMP but did not get compensated.

The radio was identified as one of the media the project should use to reach more people who are unable to attend meetings and others being very far from project sites yet their children are in schools in project area.

Table 28: Questions/ concerns from the community

Question/concern	Response/answer
<i>Why is it that UNRA takes long to answer community problems like under compensation and no compensation at all and yet those who went through court process are now compensated?</i>	UNRA does not delay but there are processes UNRA goes through before final compensation is done. But those who were not paid for damages and duly deserves to be paid will get their compensation.
<i>What is the solution from UNRA on road junctions to the community roads which has remained inaccessible due to lack of culverts?</i>	All the road junctions are supposed to be made accessible by the contractor by installing the culverts and the contractor will be reminded to do so.
<i>During the previous construction of the road, one of the company worker used to sleep with a mad person and even ended up impregnating the woman. What should be done to such a worker when caught?</i>	JFCU is not only sensitizing the local community but also engaging with the workers of Mota Engil to avoid any unlawful act during their work. But also, the community should be reporting such cases to the relevant authority or report such behaviors to the

Question/concern	Response/answer
	GMCs.
<i>There are some parents and local leaders who are compromised with money when their daughters becomes victims of GBV, VAC or even domestic violence.</i>	Such cases should be reported to the GMCs, Local leaders, or any other relevant authorities for proper handling,
<i>The construction companies always leaves borrow pits uncovered and yet it causes a lot of threats to the community like hiding place for thieves, snakes, breeding mosquitos, etc.</i>	By Law, the contractor is supposed to cover up all the holes and borrow pits they could have dug during their works on the road. Report the issues to the GMCs for easy follow-ups.
<i>UNRA, JFCU and Mota Engil should always be on radio weekly where possible so that the whole community is made aware of the progress of the road.</i>	Radio talk show is one of the activity which will be implemented by inviting all the stakeholders to help in addressing issues concerning NERAMP and any other related issues.
<i>GMCs should be facilitated to mobilize and disseminate information to the community on issues of compensation. This should be in form of soft drinks to the community during the community gathering.</i>	Currently, we are using the GMCs to register and forward all the issues arising from the community concerning the NERAMP. Any person who is aggrieved by the NERAMP should just record their grievances with the GMCs who will be able to channel those grievances to the right authority for proper management. GMCs were formed by UNRA and the issue of facilitation should be solved by UNRA and Not JFCU. JFCU only works with GMCs to sensitize communities about GBV and VAC.

5.1.3 GMC 89 Ayer (Kole District)

The members of GMC 89 welcomed the staff of JFCU and also apologized on behalf of their Chairperson who did not make it for the meeting due some duties he had to attend to in Lamwo district.



Photo 55: GMC member trying to explain the condition of the child to JFCU male staff.

Brief explanation of the NERAMP and also the relationship between JFCU and UNRA was made and the roles of GMCs were emphasized as JFCU staff informed the community that members of the GMCs were selected among people in the community by the community members in order to allow people have a community based referral path way to communicate

their grievances about the project easily to UNRA, Police, Community Leaders and other stakeholders like JFCU.

He also informed the community that, road construction workers are not bad people because they were going to live with people in the community and even spend money buying things and only would be bad people only when they commit GBV or VAC offences in the community.

IEC materials were distributed to the participants which eased explanation on GBV/VAC. The community confessed that GBV/VAC is real and was being practiced in Ayer with evidence and a testimony of a child who had been abandoned by the mother at three months as a result of Gender



based violence in the family was provided. The case of this child was referred to Care Growth Organization which takes care of abandoned children as further investigations are being carried out to find the mother of the child.

Photo 56 : Community members at Ayer (GMC 89) during meeting.

Though this issue of GBV in this family was not related to road construction, JFCU warned community to be more careful since such cases are already evidenced in their community. ***“If your own community member can disappear and abandon a child due to GBV, how much more issues will come up once stranger’s/road workers happen to stay in the community, since these workers are most likely to disappear in case they happen to commit a crime?”***

JFCU staff therefore encouraged the community members especially the landlords to register workers who rent houses in their areas with the LC1 chairman. Community members at the meeting requested that Mota-Engil workers should have name tags for easy identification in case they get involved in any form of violence in the community. Participants were also advised not to commit any form of VAC or GBV because it was against the human rights and laws of the country since it’s not only road workers who may fall victims of GBV/VAC.

The community was encouraged to report any kind of violence that comes up to the authorities like



Community Development Officers, hospitals, police, LCIs, community leaders. However, regarding road construction, this community were grieved about the tribalism involved in getting employment opportunities in this road construction project.

Photo 57: GMC Member, JFCU staff and the abandoned child due Gender based violence in the family.

Table : Questions /concerns from the community at GMC 89

Table 29: Questions and answers

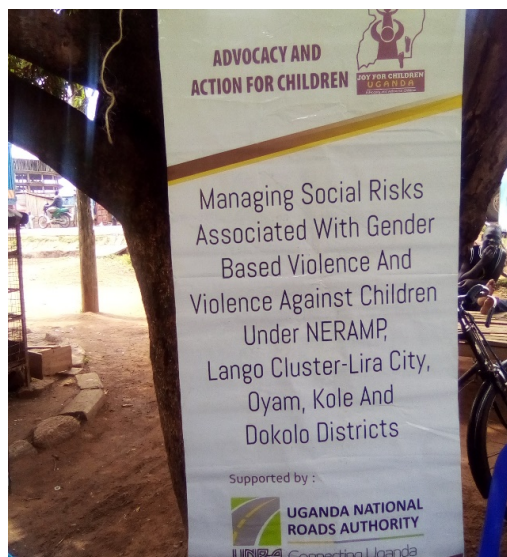
QUESTION/CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<i>The Lira – Kamdini road was constructed by Dot Services who left roadsides without proper drainage channels for proper water flow. What will UNRA do on that?</i>	Mota Engil has been given the contract to ensure that the road is useable and therefore will do everything possible and within their mandate to rectify some of those issues.
<i>There are a lot of tribalism, corruption and segregation in the process of employment in Mota Engil. Are you sure our children will get the job too when they apply?</i>	Those who want jobs should apply to Mota Engil. Those who applied before Covid 19 pandemic should apply again. Jobs will be given to those who have the needed qualifications and also depends on job availability. There are very many different tribes already working in Mota Engil which includes both local, National and international communities and tribes.

QUESTION/CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<p><i>In the current road maintenance process which is going on, there is a lot of accident especially from Lira to Kamdini due to dusts from the road section which they have worked on. What will UNRA do about that?</i></p>	<p>Road construction goes through a lot of process and stages. Road users should always be cautious when using the road since they can't be stopped from using the road under construction. Water is being sprayed on the sections that have very many people and also road signs and flag girls and boys are there to help in directing traffic to avoid such accidents. Because the road is now improving, drivers have started driving very fast on the road causing accidents. Police will also be told to arrest drivers who are reckless .</p>
<p><i>Our children who worked with Dot services were not paid. What assurance do we have incase our children are again considered for work in Mota Engil?</i></p>	<p>Mota Engil is a new company and will work well to protect their image. This time round, UNRA has set up the GMCs to register all issues relating to the on-going project to ensure that social wellbeing is sustained and everyone is left happy.</p>
<p><i>Most of these road workers sometimes work up to late in the night which makes it very difficult for us to monitor our children. What will be the official time of work for Mota Engil?</i></p>	<p>When someone is given a contract especially roads work, it's very difficult to restrict their work schedules since they draw their programs to ensure that they complete their contract at agreed period of time. We request that you manage and keep our children either in schools or at home but not allowing them to go and loiter in centers especially in the night..</p>

5.1.4 GMC 81 Kakoge A & B, Jinja Camp (Lira City)

At GMC 81, posters and IEC materials were used to display information of GBV/VAC.

Photos 58: Posters positioned at certain points in the community during the sensitization meeting at Jinja Camp.



Gender Based Violence was defined by community members present at the meeting as sexual, physical, emotional violence which happens in

families and community while VAC involves issues like sexual abuse to children, denying of children their rights, over working children, giving children heavy work beyond their strength or age, and cruel commands that causes fear or threats in their lives. The community was encouraged to safe guard themselves from all forms of GBV and VAC in order to avoid issues of spread of HIV/AIDS, early marriage, teenage pregnancy, divorce, unwanted pregnancies, abortion, etc. Participants suggested that the cases of GBV and VAC should be reported to the police and parents were advised to stop sending their children to sell commodities to road workers at the wrong time like at night.



Photo 59: JFCU Staff sensitizing the community

Community members were also advised to always keep their family relationship glowing and avoid admiring money from workers who might work in their areas for two or three months and go away leaving the community torn away in hunger and families broken up. Men were encouraged to cater for the needs of their families since they are the heads of the family and the rights of their children as well. JFCU facilitator informed the members of the GMC and all participants to monitor the behavior of road construction workers and register/ report any issues, sensitize children about HIV/AIDS, ensure that workers use good language in the community and also make sure that workers don't have sexual relationships with children in the community. JFCU staff advised Kakoge and Jinja Camp community to always make the best use of the GMC's in place in a way of helping the voiceless community access to justice.



Photo 60: Community member at Jinja camp displaying information on VAC.

Table 30 :Questions/concerns

QUESTION /CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<p><i>Our community members get jobs in these companies, sometimes they delay in paying the salaries and therefore results into causing GBV. What will UNRA and JFCU do to avoid salary delays?</i></p>	<p>Sometimes salaries delay because the money is not released in time. Those who are working should always take it that sometimes salaries delay. We should learn to plan well for the salary at hand as we wait for the next one and this should be explained clearly to our spouse to avoid GBV in families.</p>
<p><i>Why is it that our very own children are never given jobs?</i></p>	<p>The contractor has been employing people from different walks of life irrespective of their religious or tribal affiliations. Encourage your people in the community with the due qualification to always apply and currently, they are still taking in</p>

	<p>applications. There are very many workers who come from this region that are already employed. ITS NOT TRUE THAT OUR OWN CHILDREN ARE NOT GIVEN JOBS!!!</p>
<p><i>UNRA has been telling us that the roadwork is going to take place and many years have passed by without any work on this road. When is the actual roadwork going to begin ?</i></p>	<p>The work has been going on and has already taken more than three years. Covid 19 also stopped the project from proceeding. But, currently, the road works is majorly on maintenance especially the Lira-Kamdni road and the construction is a progress in stages. But the whole project will be completed and the road will be very okay for the community to use once completed.</p>
<p><i>Why is it that some workers are paid less wage while others are paid full despite the fact that they do the same work?</i></p>	<p>Every worker should get his or her payment according to what was stated in the contract agreement. When you are paid less than what was in your agreement, then the employer should be able to give you an explanation as to why you have not got your full pay.</p>
<p><i>Why is NERAMP only concerned with GBV and VAC mainly along the road, but excluding those communities deep in the village?</i></p>	<p>Since NERAMP is mainly road construction, the influx of workers comes with the risks of GBV and VAC in the community along the road section. Therefore, the community near and along the road have to be sensitized to safeguard against GBV and VAC.</p>

5.1.5 GMC 86-Amola, Pida 2 (Kole District)

Despite the heavy rains and winds that tried to interfere with sensitization at GMC 86, the community meeting still went on and it was successful. The chairperson of the GMC welcomed the staff of JFCU and thanked them for the sensitization and awareness creation to the community about GBV and VAC associated with the NERAMP project. JFCU staff explained their role in the NERAMP project which is to sensitize the community so as to mitigate the negative social risks (GBV and VAC) associated with the road rehabilitation project. Regarding defilement, community were advised to rush such issues immediately to police and also get a medical form in order to get evidence since defilement cases are serious criminal cases once reported immediately. Otherwise, the defilers will always be released due to lack of evidence. Members of the GMCs should also be aware and able to report such incidences occurring in the community especially issues related to road workers.

“What do I do in case road workers impregnate my wife?” [Participant]

To some men who were worried about road workers who may end up taking away their wives because of money were advised to always endeavor to report any issue to their elders, Local leaders, GMCs, clan leaders but avoid resorting to fights as a solution as fights may lead to violence. However, the community highly expressed their lack of trust in authorities such as police.



Photo 61: Participants at GMC 86 studying IEC materials.

“We have lost trust in our policemen when it comes to case handling and management since they are money hungry.”
[Participant]

The community also expressed their interest of wanting their own children to also get jobs on the road construction project since the project is usually having only workers from other tribes who don't speak Langi. Joy for Children facilitator advised them to always encourage their children to apply for jobs that is if they have skills and qualifications though sometimes not everyone

who applies gets a job since they go through interviews and the best candidates usually qualify for the jobs.

Participants were also not happy about the way road contractors disorganize their compounds by dumping logs and cramps and later fail to take initiative to clear those places when the construction is done. With Regards to road construction, the community highly expressed their interest of getting a chance to get employed in this road construction project especially on some jobs that don't require skills. They also testified of how they have always witnessed road workers selling fuel and construction materials in the community and they were advised to take photos of such workers and also report to GMCs such that such cases can be followed since stealing construction materials will end up affecting the quality of the road. They further requested that the road should be designed in a way that paths for pedestrians is marked separate in order to prevent accidents.



Photo 62: Some of the community members of GMC 86

Table 31: Questions/concerns from the community

QUESTION /CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<p><i>Why is it that these constructors dump logs and crumps removed from the road into people's compound and leave it there after their work is done?</i></p>	<p>It is not by design that the contractor should leave those soils and logs into people's compound or drainages. If this happens, the GMCs should be notified and the issue will be handled by appropriate office.</p>
<p><i>Why is it that walkways are not reserved for the pedestrians or cyclists during construction?</i></p>	<p>When the works are over, there are always painted marks demarcating where the vehicles are supposed to use and the roadsides are normally left for the pedestrians and cyclists.</p>
<p><i>Why is it that road workers especially the tipper drivers don't respect other road users which in most cases results into accident?</i></p>	<p>All the road users have the right to use the public road irrespective of whatever means they are using. Some of the drivers recruited are either excited or wants to make more trips so that they earn more allowance. Report these bad drivers to the GMCs.</p>

QUESTION /CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<i>What can we do to the machine operators who sell off fuel to the community?</i>	The machines are fueled to do the road work in a perfect way as planned. If the fuel is sold off, then there will be shoddy work which will be felt by the community in a short while. Report these acts and where possible, take their photos so that it is very easy to deal with such driver.
<i>Most of the workers who come to do road works are not from our area but other tribes hence we experience language barrier which affects our business. How can UNRA help us to make our own children get the jobs too?</i>	UNRA Mota Engil gives equal opportunity to all the citizens in Uganda when it comes to job recruitment. Some of the people employed are technical people who applied and competed at national level. Encourage your brothers and sisters who have the qualification to apply for available vacancies.
<i>Why is it that our center does not have a bus stop area and yet people from here who travel by bus are always picked or dropped by these buses which stop and block other road users?</i>	Bus stops should be designed in areas where passengers normally embark and disembark from busses. This is normally done according to the provision in the road design. UNRA will be notified on the issue.
<i>Does Mota-Engil have jobs for both skilled and unskilled people?</i>	Yes, it has but mostly wants those with certificates.
<i>We have lost trust in our policemen when it comes to case handling and management since they are money hungry. Will joy for children help us in case follow-ups?</i>	Yes. Report any case on GBV and VAC to the GMCs who are able to report to the relevant authority for proper handling. Not all police personnel are corrupt except the few. There are other cases that by law should be reported to the police.
<i>What do I do in case road workers impregnate my wife?</i>	Engage the area LC leaders and cultural leaders to help you in handling the issue. Don't fight with your wife or the worker since it would result into GBV and fighting is against the law.

5.1.6 GMC 82 – Odokomit (Lira District)

During the meeting, the GMC chairperson explained to the community the role of GMCs in their community and also stated that there are six members on the GMC committee. He informed the community that the GMCs ensures that the social wellbeing of the vulnerable and most at risk members of the community are protected from the social risks . They also sensitize people about their good co-existence relationship with workers and encourage them to report in case of any form of GBV and VAC in their community.

IEC materials and posters were used to explain on GBV/VAC since the messages on them were precise and clear.



Photo 63: GMC members displaying information on GBV/VAC in the community.

JFCU team informed participants about their role and relationship between JFCU, UNRA, Mota Engil in the NERAMP project. The community was informed that the construction company employs people who come from various walks and background of life, and therefore, they have different personality that may either be positive or negative. It's against this difference that the community may be faced with challenges that may result into GBV and VAC in the community. Some of the negative effects may include; eloping people's wives, raping women, defilement, spreading disease like HIV and AIDS which can lead to domestic violence and child abuse and even death. The community was advised and encouraged to safeguard their children from all forms of VAC and the parents to also stop GBV in their homes. Some parents at GMC 82 had a concern of children who don't hear and respect their parents and JFCU advised them to take such children for counselling by elders, religious leaders etc. The community also asked JFCU to extend this sensitization to the whole community including those communities far away from the construction area because the program is so educative.

Why can't JFCU extend this kind of sensitization on GBV and VAC to the entire community?

The Chairperson also warned the community whose properties are adjacent to the road to ensure that they leave the road reserve areas and shift their structures away without any force since the World Bank does not want force to be used on the community during the road construction adding that, it's unfortunate that UNRA has already named this area as one of the Red Zones in the NERAMP area. He also advised the community to evacuate the demarcated area along the road so as to ease construction process. GMC member thanked staff of JFCU for sensitization

Table 32: Questions/concerns from the community

QUESTION/CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
<i>Why can't JFCU extend this kind of sensitization on GBV and VAC to the entire community?</i>	JFCU deals with issues concerning GBV and VAC in the whole community. But the current project is designed and contracted to JFCU by UNRA which had a specific target and community they want JFCU to reach to.
<i>Why can't Mota-Engil employ people in our community?</i>	The people applied but they will not necessarily work in their respective communities but rather be stationed in different places of work.
<i>What can I do to a child who cannot listen to my advice as a parent?</i>	There are very many ways of teaching a child other than beating or punishing. You engage a reputable teacher, church leader, CDO, CFPU, clan leader or close relative to help you and talk to the child.
<i>Will Mota-Engil widen the road for the areas that are narrow?</i>	The design is not to increase the size but is to maintain it and make the road stronger. But where it necessitates widening, it will be done based on design of that section of the road.
<i>Will they put road signs for children to cross the road?</i>	There will be road signs like the ones commonly seen and also humps to reduce speed and prevent accidents. The road signs for children to cross the road especially where schools are located near the road will be put.
<i>What will UNRA do for people who have houses along that road once they get cracked due to heavy vehicles and machinery?</i>	Compensation will only be provided to people whose houses were truly cracked due to the road construction.
<i>When a road worker impregnates my daughter, what do I do?</i>	You can report the case to police if the girl is below 18 years. They will give you a form to take that girl to the hospital for STD/AIDS and the case will be generated after.

5.2 Challenges met during sensitization meetings

- i. The afternoon rains and winds disorganized sensitization meetings in GMCs 89 and 82 respectively and the posters hang had to be removed as well as a challenge of shifting the venue looking for shelter when rain starts. However, the rains did not stop the meeting rather delayed it and disorganized the process.
- ii. There was a challenge of getting a good sitting venue in GMC 77 since the usual venue had an operational grinding mill installed and was making a lot of noise that the meeting had to be shifted to another place with a very limited space to contain the 40 targeted people.
- iii. In city areas/ trading centers such as GMC (89 and 81), mobilization in trading centers was so challenging since majority of the community were so engaged and frankly told the mobilisers that they are not able to leave their businesses especially in GMC 89 and GMC81. Most of the GMC members ($\frac{4}{6}$) of G/81 had travelled away on business trips in other districts which made the sensitization almost failed because of poor mobilization.
- iv. The GMCs and what they do were not known in the community. The community members think the GMCs are just a bunch of group of people set up by UNRA to attend workshops and get paid.
- v. The ICE materials were so limited in numbers that it was not enough for the six GMCs especially for hanging purposes.
- vi. The transport mode used (motor cycle) was unsafe especially on ICE materials like the placards and charts.



Photo 64: Stake holders meeting held in Lira City

6.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN NOVEMBER 2022

This Section gives details of activities carried out in November 2022, key challenges faced in the month and pictures showing participants during the different meetings in the communities..

During the month of November 2022 under review, the following activities were carried out;

- Quarterly Stakeholder meetings at district levels.
- Mobilization of support from stake holders.

During the month of November 2022 under review, Joy for Children engaged 26 stake holders in the districts of Kole and Oyam. In both districts, the targeted participants included; CAO, District Chair Person, RDC, DEO, DHO, CDO, District Engineer, religious leaders, 2 NGO representatives (Youth Alive, World Vision), Police CFPU, Probation Officers, CDOs, UNRA Official, Mota Engil official.



Photo 65 : The CFPU Officer in Kole District sharing the current situation on GBV and VAC in Kole.

Purpose of Engaging Stake Holders.

- a) To share the annual report of the work done by JFCU in the NERAMP project so far in mitigating social risks associated to GBV/VAC in the project area.
- b) To mobilize stake holders, support for this project in order to promote community participation as well as project acceptance, reporting and referrals of GBV and VAC.
- c) To get feedback from stake holders on the gaps and how they can be addressed.

Methodology used for presentations during meeting

- Through meetings with stakeholders in the districts
- Use of Power Point to present key findings and achievements by JFCU during the Year
- Sharing the annual report
- A question and answer session was held in order to get feedback.
- The CPFUs shared the current status of GBV and VAC in both districts respectively.

Mobilization Methods

Through the office of the CAO (Chief Administration Officer), the CDOs (Community Development Officers) were able to help in mobilization of stake holders.

6.1 Stake holder engagement at Kole District Local Government.

Joy For Children Uganda engaged stake holders at Kole District Local Government. The Executive Director of JFCU gave opening remarks and briefly explained that Joy for children was established to fight for rights of vulnerable children. He also briefly shared the role of Joy For Children under the NERAMP project in mitigating social risks associated to Gender based violence and violence against Children.



Photo 66: JFCU Executive Director briefing the stakeholders

He informed stake holders that Gender based violence involves unfair acts that happen to both men and women though women are mostly affected compared to men. Various forms of GBV/VAC were also shared such as physical, sexual, psychological, etc.

Stake holders were warned that Men and women working on roads may have more money compared to the people in the local community and thus a possibility of sexual relations with women and men in the community could arise and may result into domestic violence.

The Assistant CAO also welcomed JFCU staff and the participants and highlighted on taking into consideration of the boy child to avoid future problems from men in their error. In his remarks, the Ass. CAO said, **“Both boy and girl child should be empowered to prevent future GBV.”**

Photo 67 : Asst. CAO Kole district addressing Participants

The CDO of Ayer thanked Joy for children for coming up with a great initiative to mitigate GBV and VAC and also reported that men are always taking advantage of women. The CPFU Officer also shared the situation regarding GBV and VAC in Kole district within the last 3 months (September, October and November 2022) ; 30 children were reported to have been neglected, 11 children reported with child dissertation and **22 defilement** cases were also reported.



JFCU staff shared various activities that have been implemented so far including conducting a mapping exercise of schools within the corridor, reaching out/sensitization of 32 committees of GMCs, training/orienting 50 Mota Engil Staff, Sensitizing and bringing cultural and religious leaders on board, carried out 17 community sensitization meetings held in various communities in the district, and in 10 primary and secondary schools. JFCU staff shared some of the challenges which had been interfering with their implementation such as COVID 19, difficulty in mobilizing communities around big trading centers since it's not easy for participants to leave their businesses for example, the past sensitization at Corner Molem where participants run away to attend to passengers in buses which were passing by to get market for their oranges.

JFCU also shared their challenge of community members who conceal their issues and sometimes reveal half-truth as they are presenting their matters and gave an example at Corner Molem of a child who was abandoned by the mother due to GBV in the family. The community could only reveal about the mother but concealed information about the father since the father was a community member.

After the power point presentation, the representative to the Speaker pledged full support to Joy For Children activities in Kole District Local Government. One of the religious leaders also pointed out that alcoholism is still a major challenge in fighting GBV/VAC thus leading to cases of rape in Kole district.

“...people were consuming alcohol from Monday to Sunday thus leading to raping”. [Religious Leader in Kole]

TABLE 33: Complaints/Reactions and Responses

COMPLAINTS/REACTIONS	RESPONSES/Actions
Road users should be sensitized on road signs	Noted. To be done during community sensitization meetings by JFCU, UNRA and Mota Engil.
Road workers should be sensitized on cultures and norms.	Noted. To be done by JFCU, JFCU and UNRA during community meetings.
We need to come up with a mechanism to report these cases	All cases must be reported to authorities, e.g. the GMCs, Police, LC Leaders, Probation Officers, Cultural and religious Leaders
Rampant accidents, we need humps. There are many accidents and we have lost many children and women especially along Kamdini road and Baramidyang.	Humps will be put. Mota Engil responsibility.
I encourage and suggest that our CDO should facilitate and take sensitization to communities along the road.	Noted. UNRA to support districts if funds are available. JFCU to continue sensitizing communities as a way of supporting Local government .
Boda boda men should be sensitized on how to differentiate between flags on road construction.	Noted. UNRA and Mota Engil to lead in this action.
We should come up with a way of empowering boy child.	Noted. Parents, Teachers, Religious Leaders, and development partners in district should play big role in this .
How can you send a child of two years to school alone? Let us also show some care to our children.	Noted. Parents roles.
This kind of meeting needs traffic officer present.	Noted. JFCU next meetings to consider this recommendation
It is our prayer as a church to minimize those cases.	Noted. The religious leaders must take lead but also the Police and drivers must be responsible citizens

6.2 Stake holder’s engagement at Oyam District Local Government.

Joy For Children engaged stake holders at Oyam District Local Government and shared the

the NERAMP/ JFCU /UNRA 2020/21 annual report in Oyam to the participants.



Photo 69 : Stake holders during the meeting at Oyam DLG.

The CAO welcomed Joy For Children staff present and pledged total support and further requested JFCU to keep updating them on the ongoing projects. He advised that there was need for more effort to address GBV/VAC in Oyam especially deep inside apart from road corridors. He also advised that road workers should be sensitized on sexual engagement with community. In his remarks, he asked,

“Is there a possibility of extending these sensitizations in the inner community?” “How is JFCU engaging with police and Judicial system” [CAO-Oyam].

The CFPU Officer of Oyam DLG reported that in the month of September alone, 12 cases of defilement were reported and advised Joy For Children Uganda to reconsider engaging non-schooling children for sensitizations because the school going ones already had the knowledge and are at a lesser risk compared to those not in school.

She said, ***“This project is concentrating on children at school while children who are not in school in Oyam are more vulnerable and prone to violence since school going children are already knowledgeable”.***



CFPU Officer in her remarks said, ***“Children not at school are more vulnerable and deadly”.***

Photo 70: A Participant sharing his views.

She also shared about some issues happening in the community and grieved about a certain girl who had recently been chased away from home and also expressed her worry about Loro market which had become a market for child marriage transactions and concluded that Oyam stands more vulnerable.

“As if we are selling off our children like animals”.

She also stated that there were very many issues of child Headed families. ***“We have engineers on roads so our community runs for money”.***

“We have also had of a case of two men fighting for a child from one woman”.

In her remarks, CFPU Oyam said, *“The more money men get, the more children and women. I have very many children who don’t have fathers”.*

The Senior CDO encouraged Joy For Children to engage key offices and other officials such as the police while carrying out their activities. He also raised a concern of Karuma Dam construction workers. The community complain about safety; that is **“we are not able to eat our cassava; I hope UNRA workers will not also steal from our gardens like Karuma workers”**. In general, stake holders were so concerned about children who are not going to school and advised that they need to be brought on board so as to benefit from this project since they are so ignorant and most likely to be victims of VAC. One of the participants also informed JFCU that Flag holders especially girls are also vulnerable to GBV/VAC from fellow road workers. The CAO also advised JFCU to come up with more income generating activities in order to sustain their projects and further requested for more engagements with stake holders.

The sociologist from UNRA also informed participants that UNRA is not the major cause for GBV/VAC cases however, we don’t want our project to add on the cases. She reported that road users have failed to respect traffic management plan yet UNRA does not intend to lose any lives due to road accidents.



Photo 71 : The Sociologist from UNRA responding to questions.

She asked stake holders to advise accordingly in case they feel that there is any gap. In her speech, she had a concern of a certain girl who asked her if she would be denied a chance of marrying a road work once she is in love. **“If I happen to love one of your workers, will you deny me a chance of getting married? [Female, Community member]**

She also shared some of the measures taken by UNRA to prevent GBV/VAC such as hiring community members to work on the road to minimize risks, road

workers signing a code of conduct, formation of GMCs who are also being supported and sensitized on how to report including reporting rumors for further investigations before further problems.

The LC5 chairperson closed the meeting by acknowledging that information on GBV/VAC is very important and encouraged Joy For Children not only to rely on GMC’s alone but also consider integrating district leaders other than relying on GMCs alone.

6.3 Challenges encountered during the month

1. Poor road network especially the road to Oyam district. This road was very poor, muddy and slippery due to the heavy rains in that place which made transport so challenging.
2. Financial challenges. There were limited funds for carrying out the activities. However, Joy for Children was able to mobilize the funds from other sources in order for the activities to be successful.
3. The number of participants exceeded the number of planned participants which later strained the budget thus leading to more unplanned expenses especially in facilitation of participants especially at Oyam DLG.

Lessons learnt

- ❖ Need to take into consideration of children not in school for VAC issues as well.
- ❖ VAC and GBV is widely spread among communities and needs to be addressed holistically to reach all. That's leaving no one behind.
- ❖ The issues of VAC and GBV are a concern for all and needs to be addressed by all means.



Photo 72: Sensitizing communities about GBV and VAC by JFCU staff

7.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN DECEMBER 2022

This section details the activities that were carried out in the month of December, 2022. During the month the following activities were carried out;

- ❖ Conducted community sensitization on GBV and VAC to reduce incidences of GBV and VAC in project districts in 4 communities of Akaidebe, Abotadi, Amuca and Regorego (Lira and Dokolo). Over all, 118 participants attended sensitization meetings.
- ❖ Sensitized and strengthened 24 (GMC) committee members across Dokolo and Lira districts on documentation, reporting and referral of GBV and VAC cases.
- ❖ Distributed very few posters containing simplified message on GBV and VAC both in English and Local language and used pull up stands to display the messages.

However, the following activities were not implemented as planned.

- ❖ Referral of survivors to existing community or government service providers as per need such as legal pro bono services, psychosocial services, Health. There were no reported GBV and VAC incidences for referral or legal support in the month. This however does not imply that there were no GBV or VAC incidences that occurred in the whole of the 4 districts during the month. It's that they occurred but were not reported to the GMC's or LC's.
- ❖ Distribution of IEC materials. IEC materials could not be adequately distributed to community members as it had been planned since they were still out of stock. However, JFCU Staff were able to display the information of VAC using a few available posters, pull up stands and banners which were hang in the community during sensitization.

Objective of holding sensitization meetings in communities.

- ❖ To promote awareness about the issues of GBV and VAC, especially the negative impacts and likely causes and how such occurrences can be prevented or managed.
- ❖ To promote awareness of the on-going road maintenance project and explain the roles and relationship between JFCU-UNRA and GMC's roles in the communities.
- ❖ To get feed back from the community regarding their concerns on GBV/VAC and any other issues that may be sprouting in the regarding the on-going road project so that they can be addressed.
- ❖ To encourage the community to make use of GMC staff regarding any issues of GBV/VAC.
- ❖ Empowering the community and strengthening referral systems regarding reporting and documentation of GBV/VAC cases from the grass root.

Methodology used during Sensitization meetings

- JFCU staff used simplified way of sharing the message by use of the local language translations in explaining issues on GBV/VAC.
- Participatory method of engaging the community by allowing them to share their concerns.
- JFCU also engaged GMC committee members to introduce and explain their roles to community. This helped to strengthen referral systems in the community.
- Displaying banners, posters, pull up stands with simplified message on GBV/VAC both in English and local language.

Table 34 : Outputs and level of achievements during the month of December, 2022.

PLANNED ACTIVITY IN DECEMBER 2022	DECEMBER TARGET	DECEMBER ACHIEVEMENT	PERCENTAGE ACHIEVEMENT	REMARKS
Distribution of IEC materials with simplified message on GBV/VAC	200+	00	00%	IEC materials were out of stock and orders had just been made for more. However, the sensitizations still took place.
Display of banners/Posters/Pull up stands containing message on VAC.			100%	JFCU has procured pull up stands, banners and posters containing simplified message on GBV/VAC both in English and Local Language.
Sensitizing and strengthening the capacity of 24 Grievance Management Committee members in the 4 planned GMC points.	24	24	100%	24 Grievance Management Committee members sensitized and strengthened on documentation, reporting and referral.
Sensitization of 120 participants in six different communities on GBV/VAC.	118	118	98%	Over 118 community members GMC of the planned six GMC's were sensitized on GBV and VAC.
Referring of survivors to existing legal service.	Only cases to be reported.	0	0%	No GBV and VAC cases registered and reported by GMCs during the period.
Carry out a question and answer session to get feedback.	05	05	100%	Question and answer sessions were held in 6 communities as detailed in the questions and answer table.

7.1 Community Sensitizations

7.1.1 GMC 70 (ALANYI A&B, ARIBI, KOROTU and OGORA) REGOREGO, in Dokolo District.



Community sensitization was conducted in GMC 70 by the JFCU team.

Photo 73: JFCU Staff sensitizing community of Regorego

The Chair Person GMC 70 explained to the community the work of GMC's and the reason for sensitization by JFCU in the community especially along Dokolo-Lira -Corner Kamdini road. He outlined some of the causes of GBV as poverty, cheating by a house wife/husbands who go to get money from the road workers.

JFCU staff during the sensitization attributed the influx of children in the name of “street children” or “corridor children” in towns and big centres to issues connected to GBV in homes. GBV may lead to divorce and thus children are torn between two parents who later may fail to take care of them hence joining streets as the only option for survival. The project Officer added that GBV issues had contributed a lot to occurrence of VAC.

“Because of GBV, our children can’t access education, good health, right for parents, shelter and many others”.

He requested members present to work hand in hand with the leaders and other stakeholders in ensuring that GBV and VAC is reduced in the community so that all may enjoy having a home.

The community members thanked JFCU staff for giving them knowledge on GBV and VAC which they had been able to use to differentiate between VAC and GBV and training a child to become a good citizen without causing any harm to them. JFCU team later thanked the GMC for the mobilization.

Table 35: Questions /concerns from the community in GMC 70.

QUESTION/CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
We have been working in the community as GMC's but we have no identification. Is there any plan to give us branded T-shirts?	UNRA has been giving the T-shirts well branded. JFCU will link up with UNRA to see if there are still more T-shirts to be provided to the GMCs.

<p>One of the Chinese road worker took our daughter to their home country and later deported her back to us and we even had to pay for her transport. How can I lawfully follow up the Chinese?</p>	<p>There are very many laws that we can follow to help us solve issues. We need to know if the girl was under-aged, married, disabled, schooling, healthy, and many others.</p>
<p>I worked with Mota Engil as a flag waver but they were not giving us food for lunch. Is that a normal system?</p>	<p>Anybody has a right to food. As a worker, you are entitled to food in order for you to remain strong while on duty. However this depends on the kind of agreement you have with the employer.</p>
<p>What can I do with my house which is always filled up with running water which enters my house whenever it rains because of the previous road work.</p>	<p>The best thing to do is to try and direct the running water to a specific place by either creating a gully or raising the verandar so that you may not be watered away. The current contract in being done with a lot of care as planned to avoid any future regrets.</p>
<p>Are there job vacancies at Mota Engil?</p>	<p>The construction work needs both skilled and unskilled labor. You can make an application and either deliver them to Mota Engil located in Boroboro, or rout it to the GMC who will take it to Mota Engil offices.</p>

7.1.2 GMC 75 (AKONYE A&B, APANGANCE, ABALALAI, TEOBIA, and OCANOYERE) ABUTADI, LIRA DISTRICT.

The chairperson GMC 75 welcomed all the members present but attributed the slow turn up to the rain. JFCU staff shared with the community the meaning of GBV and VAC, its causes and how it affects the community negatively.

Photo 74: Community member sharing his view during the meeting.

The community requested for more sensitization meetings regarding GBV/VAC since this topic was an eye opener on how to learn how to live with each other without violence. They requested JFCU to extend this sensitization to even deeper communities who are not close to the road corridor since they are victims of GBV/VAC. JFCU promised to discuss that with the top management to see possibility and advised the community to



report any occurrence of GBV and VAC to the GMC's, Police or LC1 authority so that the case follow up is made easy.

Table36 : Questions /concerns from the community in GMC 75

QUESTION/CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER
Why is it that most of the road junctions are left without culverts make which makes community access roads inaccessible?	The road workers and contractors are supposed to put the culverts at the junctions leading to community roads.
Some parents are so arrogant when we try to help and train their children especially stopping them from getting spoilt by road workers.	Report any form of abuse or violence to respective authority who will be able to follow up or make referral to respective partners concerned with the kind of violence committed.
Who is directly responsible for the compensation of destroyed properties? Is it the Mota Engil, JFCU or UNRA?	The construction work has been contracted to Mota Engil but UNRA/Government has the responsibility to compensate affected homes and properties. JFCU will always ensure that any form of GBV and VAC is handled appropriately and justice given to the victim.
We always see Mota Engil workers filling pot holes with marrum. Is that part of the road construction?	The road construction will take 4-5 years therefore all places that have marram will be tarmacked. What they are doing is part of the processes of road construction.
When I catch a roadworker with my wife, what should I do with that man since it also causes GBV?	There are several ways we can have issues handled other than violence. Clan leaders, church, police and LC's are institutions that can help us solve issues peacefully other than violence.
If I warn my child not to go to the road where there is construction but does not listen and then I beat, is that VAC?	Any act that harms a child physically, mentally or emotionally becomes violence. There are very many ways of talking and training our children to be obedient other than punishing them in a way that destroys them.
Why are church and clan leaders not considered in GMC set up?	UNRA helped the formation of the GMC's but this concern will also be forwarded to them for consideration. The members of GMCs were selected by the community themselves. At least a community leader has to be a member. Good idea that a church leader in the community be a member as well.
How do we stop road workers from spoiling our children especially school girls?	JFCU is engaging the roadworkers by talking to them on work ethic, laws and encouraging them to respect the culture of the community they are

working in.

7.1.3 GMC 68- Akaidebe Acungapenyi Olemon- (Dokolo District).

JFCU staff sensitized and strengthened 6 Grievance Management Committee members and 19 Community members of Dokolo Town Council on GBV, VAC; its causes, effects, reporting and referral system for the victims.

Photo 75 : JFCU Staff sensitizing community of Akaidebe



The community who confessed not knowing the roles of GMC's were told the roles of different stake holders engaged in NERAMP and activities being done by JFCU and all the risks associated with the road maintainance project. Community members said that there are cases of GBV and VAC in their community

being a Central Bussines Centre which needed serious attention and they asked for stiff intervention from JFCU to try and reduce VAC and GBV incidences. They attributed the increase in both VAC and GBV to the drunkenness, high cost of living, and population increase in the town which brought different walks of lives in the town. The community was then advised to always report any GBV/VAC incidences to available authorities like LC1, Police, hospital, church or school authorities for proper handling and management of both the victim and the offender.

JFCU staff explained to the community that the construction was affected by Covid 19 which led to delay in starting work. However, JFCU encouraged the community to stay patient since the road construction is in progress. Community were also cautioned to be on the look-out and report any issue on GBV and VAC especially for cases related to road construction workers so as to avoid escalating incidences of VAC and GBV in the project area.

Table 37: Questions /concerns from the community in GMC 68

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE/ANSWER BY JFCU TEAM
Is it true that there will be another road work going to be done on Dokolo highway?	The work has already started and it is going on. Road work takes longer period of time and phases which makes it look like it is delaying.

<p>We hear that there was a lot of shoddy work done during the previous construction and money was eaten by corrupt workers. Won't it be the same case again in the on coming project?</p>	<p>Under this project, the road will be strengthened to enable the road contain the heavy trucks that use it to serve both Uganda and the neighbouring countries. Work is expected to move on as planned and various stakeholders have been put in place to ensure that the road is completed as planned.</p>
<p>During the past road construction, we were made to move our houses some distance away from the road reserve. Will we not be asked again to destroy our houses?</p>	<p>This will depend on the current road design. If the design involve road expansion in an area and yet the road is on the reserve area, then the house may be required to be removed from the road reserve and the owner compensated according to the law.</p>
<p>Will those houses which were not compensated during the previous construction be considered for compensation during this new construction?</p>	<p>This is a new contract and any house which will be affected by the new construction will be compensated according to the assessment. The old cases , report to the GMCs for reporting to UNRA for advise.</p>
<p>Our children sent applications for job vacancies to Mota Engil almost three years ago but never got any employment opportunity. What is happening?</p>	<p>There are available vacancies with the contractor for those who qualify. The challenge is that, not all those who apply for a vacancy can be taken up since there are very many applications and yet the vacancy is limited to few.</p>
<p>Is it true that the standard of the current road has been denied by the World Bank?</p>	<p>The current road was done and completed according to the then traffic count or road use which had very few heavy trucks. The government decided to reconstruct the road and make it more stronger to accommodate heavy truck currently using the road to access neighbouring countries.</p>
<p>What are they going to do with the walk way line because it is not enough for even motorcycle to use it.</p>	<p>There will be improvement on the standard and size of the walk way to accommodate users in a more appropriate way.</p>
<p>One of the previous construction worker impregnated my niece. Is there any way we can get support to follow up the worker?</p>	<p>The previous construction was done by a different contractor who left after the completion of their work. The current construction is being done by Mota Engil who has a new contract. JFCU and other stakeholders are doing everything possible to avoid the repeat of such incidences. The reason we are here is to ensure that such incidences do not happen again. Does the niece know him? Report to UNRA for action if they can trace the worker , the laws of child care will be applied. If they fail ,the family will take care of the child.</p>

7.1.4 GMC 83 – (OLAGO, AWITA, OKECHOYERE And ADYANGOPIRO) Amuca, Lira District.

JFCU sensitized 32 community members and the 6 GMC members were also trained in reporting and documentation of cases.

The sensitization which had flopped the previous day kicked off with a little bit delay due to the locally organized football tournament which was going on. The Chair Person of the GMC welcomed the staff of JFCU and thanked them for their patience and effort to sensitize the community about the social risk associated with the road construction.



Photo 76 Community Sensitization at Amuca

He informed the JFCU team that the GMC's were active in the community on issues of VAC and GBV and had been advising the community to always report cases of GBV and VAC not only due to road construction workers but other cases occurring in their community related to violence.

JFCU team shared with the community on various ways of preventing GBV/VAC.

The Project officer said, ***“Do not resort to fights, take your grievances to local authorities, GMC's or police before things get out of hand, but do not fight each other”.***

JFCU team explained to the community that GBV/VAC already exists in the community but the sensitization was meant to prevent it from escalating since there was an influx of workers in the community.

“Roadworkers may not be the only ones likely to commit the crimes, but there are fears that it may increase”.

The community mostly raised concerns on issues regarding how to bring up children in a holistic way without infringing on their rights. They said it had always been a concern from parents on what the world refers to as children's rights and violence against children.

JFCU informed them that there was a clear line difference between children's right and violence against children. Rights are natural things provided to let that person or child enjoy life in fullness. However, the way children are trained to become good citizens sometimes violate their rights. Children are supposed to be raised to become better citizens to take over the mantle of developing the world.

An illustration was used to explain child labour by giving an example of two different children who were asked to fill up a one hundred litre drum. When a child is forced to fill up that drum as a way of punishment after beating and kicking with a lot of abusive words and moreover on an empty stomach, that child would have gone through not only VAC, but also the rights would have been denied. But the same drum can be filled joyfully by a child who has eaten and not been beaten and kicked but only told to fill the drum as one of the routine chores in the home. He advised participants to always groom children and properly teach them how to participate in doing home chores as best practice than as a punishment for better citizens in the near future.

“ Children should not be made to do work or carry big jerrycans beyond their age.”

JFCU also informed them that “fighting” with the mouth is also another form of violence to a person and it should also be avoided.

Table 38:. Questions/ concerns from the community

Question/concern	Response/answer
I had hired my land along the road to a tenant but when UNRA came to remove people from the road reserve, they said they were going to pay the tenant but not me. Why?	The tenant is going to be paid for the structure he had raised so as to facilitate him to shift to another place and construct the make shift. But the land would remain there.
Incuse people working on the road impregnate our wives, what should we do?	Those cases should be reported to respective authorities or the GMC’s who will then forward the matter to respective authority.
What is the solution for the young boys in the community who might fall in love with the female workers?	These boys should be guided on what to do in order to prevent them from being victims of VAC and also avoid spread of HIV/AIDS.
Why do children report parents for punishing them to the authorities?	Children sometimes are stubborn and have very low respect for their parents. However, such children should be taken to clan leaders and counselors for counselling. Parents should also avoid mistreating children as they will also be handled by the law once caught.
Where will the workers be staying during the period of the road construction?	Workers will rent within the community and those whose houses will be rented by workers should inform LC1 and also register the workers details for security purposes.
It has been a very long period of time that UNRA has been talking about the road construction. When is the actual work beginning?	The workers are already doing road maintenance but started working on parts of the road that are very poor like the stretch from corner- kamdini to Lira. But the Lira-Dokolo road is not in a very bad condition but will be worked on as well.

Will they put on junctions leading to people's homes and access roads?

They will put strong culverts that can easily drain rain water and also contain flooding.

LC's and GMC's were advised to register any new person residing in the community and get details so that he or she can easily be traced in case of committing any crime in the community. The staff of JFCU reminded people in the community that these workers will come from different parts of the world and therefore they should be aware because in case of any form of GBV and VAC, the worker can flee without trace.

Despite a few challenges in mobilization due to delays in funding of the activities and request for sitting allowances from the community, the planned activities were successfully implemented. JFCU managed to sensitize 118 community members and 24 GMC committee members were trained and strengthened in reporting, documentation and referral of cases.

7.2 Challenges encountered during project implementation in the month

- 1) Delay in release of funds to carry out the activities also contributed to delay of implementation, however, funds were later released which eased implementation.
- 2) Heavy rain especially could not allow the field activity and led to delayed sensitization meetings which had been scheduled. Some were rescheduled as a result.
- 3) Abrupt foot ball match organized by a church and boda boda riders delayed the start of the meeting at Amuca which consumed time of meeting other scheduled community meetings in other villages thus rescheduling and extending some meetings to another day.
- 4) Making appointments to prepare schedules was a challenge due to network problem especially with those on MTN lines. However, JFCU team kept trying different contacts in order to be able to access them and those who were completely unreachable were replaced and not considered for sensitization.
- 5) Lack of leadership in GMC's, where some positions fell vacant due to either death or lack of interest creating administrative vacuum. Where the mobiliser was lacking, mobilization of community members for meetings was a challenge. *Photo 77: JFCU staff at work*



8.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN JANUARY 2023

This section provides details of activities that were carried out in the month of January, 2023.

The following activities were carried out.

1. Conducted community sensitization road drive on GBV/VAC in six communities of Lira, Kole, Oyam and Dokolo along the GMC points.
2. Conducted one on one sensitization meetings in six communities in order to give details on prevention of GBV/VAC and also be able to get feedback from participants.
3. Distributed stickers with messages on prevention of GBV and VAC in six communities of Lango Sub-Region.
4. Responded to questions from communities with regards to issues concerning GBV/VAC and NERAMP.

8.1 Community Sensitization Road Drive On GBV and VAC

A community sensitization road drive in six communities in Dokolo, Oyam, Lira and Kole districts was carried out in the following communities : Corner Mowlem market (GMC 89), Kamdini Business Centre (GMC 81), Jinja Camp market, Adwoki market (GMC 71), Angwetangwet market (GMC 79) and Camp Swahili market (GMC 80). Some points such as Obelle trading center in Kole which had not been planned for were also engaged in with distribution of stickers in the road drive.

All the selected market centers were located along GMC points and these sensitization points had a large number of population. Participants in the sensitization drive comprised of men, women, youths and children which gave the sensitization activity a wide coverage of people in the community. Generally, all the activities went on as planned.



Photo 78: JFCU Team ready with the PAS, Banner setting off to Kole

Objective of sensitizing the communities

- a) To promote awareness of social risks such as GBV/VAC that are most likely to come up during the implementation of the NERAMP project and how they can be prevented and managed.
- b) To explain the roles and relationship between JFCU-UNRA and GMC's in the communities.
- c) To encourage the community to make use of GMC's in managing GBV/VAC cases.

- d) Get feedback from the community regarding road construction including their experiences in the past road construction projects.

Methodology used for sensitizing the communities

- Use of Public Address System: This was used to mobilize the community as they got attracted by the music played on the truck. After catching their attention, the same system was used as a medium for sensitization.
- Sensitization through reaching out to individuals/ one on one or groups of those who were gathered at work. This promoted in depth explanation on social risks that may be associated with the road project. The team from JFCU who interacted with individuals were able to get feedback from the community through holding question and answer session.
- Use of stickers with GBV and VAC messages like “stop violence against children, End Violence, Speak Up”. Stickers and cards bearing not only messages on GBV and VAC but also contacts of the JFCU offices were distributed to the community.

Photos 79 : JFCU staff sensitizing the community of Corner Mowlem market and Jinja Camp “Ajon” drinking joint.



Mobilization mode

Joy For Children team worked hand in hand with GMC mobilisers per community who were informed in advance to prepare for the sensitization. They also supported in finding the right point for sensitization.

Photo 80: JFCU staff, GMC Chairperson and Chairperson of Kamdini Town Board calling for attention from the community.

However, finding a gathering point for sensitization meetings was quite challenging since GMC’s who were the mobilisers were not familiar with this kind of activity. Though the community were found already operating their various businesses, they were mobilized and encouraged to pay attention to the messages being conveyed to them through the Public Address System. JFCU

used this mode of sensitization (Public Address System and music) as a way of attracting attention of the



community to hear the message on GBV/VAC since attendance of sensitization in market places like Corner Mowlem, Jinja Camp, Adwoki market had been quite challenging in the past sensitization meetings. There was always low turn up of participants in these areas as they always apologized that they couldnt leave their businesses to attend a community sensitization meeting. The PAS helped to reach out to a bigger number of participants of all ages and gender since youths, women and children hardly attended community meetings compared to older men in the past sensitization meetings. This sensitization drive was able to engage all categories.

8.2 Communtiy Sensitization

8.2.1 Corner Mowlem Market – Kole District

JFCU staff sensitized the community of Corner Mowlem with the help of the GMC mobilizer and the area Councilor.



Photo 81 : GMC member at Corner Mowlem addressing the community.

This sensitization was held at a GMC point (GMC 89). By use of PAS, JFCU staff explained to the community roles played by JFCU under the project, the relationship between them and UNRA, the NERAMP activity and its impact into the community in terms of VAC and GBV. JFCU explained the meaning of the messages on the stickers to the community and advised parents to stay as one family, keeping the young ones at school and protecting them from teenage pregnancies, School drop-out and keeping them safe from disease.



Photo 82: Chair Person addressing the community at Corner Molem market.

He encouraged them to protect their girls from early pregnancy by keeping them in school and also avoid using bad language towards children. JFCU facilitator also advised community members to avoid any form of VAC or GBV because it's against the human rights and dehumanizes a person.

8.2.2 Corner Kamdini – Oyam District

The chairperson of GMC 101 (Kamdini Town Board) introduced the Grievance management committee members who also



introduced themselves and their roles in the community. JFCU staff explained the mandate of the organization under NERAMP.

Table 39: Questions and answers

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
Most of these road workers sometimes work till late in the night which makes it very difficult for us to monitor our children. What will be the official time of work for Mota Engil?	<i>When someone is given a contract especially roads work, it's very difficult to restrict their work schedules since they draw their programs to ensure that they complete their contract at agreed period of time. We request that you manage and keep our children either in schools or at home but not allowing them to go and loiter in centers.</i>
Why can't JFCU and UNRA hold Radio talk shows so that the whole community is made aware of the progress of the road?	<i>Radio talk show is one of the activity which will be implemented this year 2023. This will be done by inviting all the stakeholders to help in addressing issues on NERAMP, GBV and VAC.</i>
What is UNRA doing to ensure that junctions to community roads have culverts installed in them?	<i>All the road junctions are supposed to be made accessible by the contractor by installing the culverts and the contractor will be reminded to do so.</i>
Some workers from this area were not paid during the last construction. How can that problem be solved?	<i>UNRA has set up the GMC's to register all issues relating to the on-going project to ensure that social wellbeing is sustained and everyone is left happy.</i>

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
There are some parents and local leaders who are compromised with money when their daughters become victims of GBV, VAC or even domestic violence.	<i>Such cases should be reported to the GMC's, Police, Local leaders, or any other relevant authorities for proper handling.</i>
What if our daughter is impregnated by workers who later run away leaving our daughters with their pregnancies?	<i>You can report the case to the area LC, police, GMCs or contractor. The contractor may be able to trace for that worker and bring him back to face justice.</i>
Are there vacancies for jobs at Mota Engil?	<i>Those who want jobs should apply to Mota Engil and also specify their qualifications and what job they want in particular. However, not every application qualifies for a job. Getting a job will depend on qualifications, experience and availability of such job in MotaEngil.</i>

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
Most of the children around City areas don't want to listen to parents because of children's rights. What should we do as parents?	<i>Children's rights do not stop you from raising a responsible child but instead, they help you to do so. Talk to them or involve a respectable and friendly person to help you talk to your child.</i>
Once I discover that a road worker has impregnated my daughter, how should I handle him?	<i>You can report the case to police if the girl is below 18 years. They will give you a form to take that girl to the hospital for medical check-up and the case will be generated after.</i>
Will Mota-Engil widen the road around here since we have trailers that park along the road and yet the population here is also crowded?	<i>The design is not meant to increase the size but to maintain it and make the road stronger. But where it necessitates widening, it will be done based on the design of that section of the road.</i>

8.2.3 Jinja Camp –Lira City

At the camp, a good number of community members attended the sensitization meeting located in the urban environs of Lira City.. Here, there were very many people due to the



Photo 84 : One -on- one outreach at Jinja Camp.

Most of the population stayed tuned and focused towards the sensitization activity as JFCU team moved among them to explain and answer questions on issues they did not understand about GBV and VAC in relation to NERAMP. Most of the questions and concerns here were related to GBV and VAC which were mainly coming from young mothers who were impregnated and later abandoned by their spouses. According to observation, there is an eminent issue on child neglect in this community compared to other areas. Most of the young

mothers who reside or operate business in this area are single mothers who are trying to make ends meet in order to fend for their children who are in the range of 0 to 4 years. JFCU guided Jinja Camp community to always make the best use of the GMC's in place in a way of helping the victims in their community access to justice.

The JFCU Project Officer sensitized them about the causes, effects and dangers that come up as a result of GBV and VAC. He also highlighted to the community, all the available spaces or organizations like JFCU, LC1, Police CDO, religious leaders and clan leaders where they can seek for help and justice. He also advised the community to report any issue regarding GBV and VAC in relation to NERAMP to the GMC

members in their area since they had been trained in registering, managing and making referrals of those issues to respective departments.

8.2.4 Adwoki Market-Dokolo District

The community was informed about all the partners involved in the NERAMP project, the relationship between UNRA and its partners like JFCU, GMC's and Mota Engil.

Photo 85 : JFCU sensitizing women in Adwoki market



Community were informed about the progress of actual road construction and the benefits that would come during and after the road construction period. According to some members of the community around this market, Adwoki market is one of the hotspots of high sexual activity within the community including the students themselves. During one on one outreach, one of the participants reported that there is high rate of divorce and defilement in this area though he was not able disclose the victims. A certain woman also grieved about her husband who has failed to take responsibility of taking care of his children. Some women also expressed bitterness about young boys who impregnate their

daughters and run to Lira city pretending to have gone to run businesses after abandoning their daughters.

The community was encouraged to keep their children in school when the term opens and restrain them from getting involved with the road workers during the construction since this could worsen the current situation of VAC in the area. This would be a better way of keeping our children safe from contracting diseases, defilement, early pregnancy and reduce school drop-out rate in the area. They were also encouraged to report any form of VAC or GBV to the GMC's who are established in the area to help in documentation, handling and referral of cases concerned with NERAMP. However, they were also advised to be careful with issues which bring about GBV and VAC.

Photo 86: JFCU staff sensitizing women in the market about GBV and VAC



QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
What will UNRA do for people who have houses along that road once they get cracked due to heavy vehicles and machinery?	<i>Compensation will only be provided to people whose houses were truly cracked due to the road construction.</i>
Why can't JFCU extend this kind of sensitization on GBV and VAC to the entire community?	<i>Yes, JFCU deals with issues concerning GBV and VAC in the whole community. But the current project is designed and contracted to JFCU by UNRA which had a specific target and community they want JFCU to reach.</i>
Chinese on road construction beat people.	<i>In case you come across such incidences, take photos or videos if you are able and forward it to us.</i>

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
What do I do in case road workers impregnate my wife?	<i>Engage the area LC leaders and cultural leaders to help you in handling the issue. Don't fight with your wife or the worker since it would result into GBV and fighting is against the law.</i>
Does Mota-Engil have jobs for us also? We have our children with driving license.	<i>Yes, it has but mostly wants those with certificates and valid driving license.</i>

QUESTION/ CONCERN	RESPONSE
The Lira– Kamdini road was constructed by Dot Services who left roadsides without proper drainage channels for proper water flow. What will UNRA do on that?	<i>Mota Engil has been given the contract to ensure that the road is useable and therefore will do everything possible and within their mandate to rectify some of those issues.</i>
What will JFCU do about the corruption being done by Mota Engil in the process of employment? Are you sure our children will get the job since they have applied?	<i>Those who want jobs should apply to Mota Engil and those who applied before Covid 19 pandemic should apply again. Jobs will be given to those who qualify depending on job availability. Different tribes are already working in Mota Engil which includes both local, National and international communities and tribes.</i>

8.2.5 Angwetangwet Market-Lira City

At Angwetangwet, the GMC mobilizer mobilized the market people for the sensitization.

Photo 87 : JFCU staff sensitizing using PAS.

JFCU staff explained their role in the NERAMP project and advised the community to always report any case of GBV and VAC in connection to NERAMP to the respective authorities so that their cases can be followed up until justice finally prevails. The community was also advised to report any form of GBV and VAC to the GMC's for documentation and follow up so that those victims can be helped to get justice for the crimes committed. GMC's were also encouraged to report any incidences occurring in the community especially issues related to road workers to the authorities who have the capacity or knowledge of handling such issues.



Some participants showed interest and love for this program. However, they requested for more radio talk shows since people who are busy attending to their businesses may not have time to attend community meetings. The community also expressed their interest of wanting their own children to also get jobs on the road construction project since the project is usually having only workers from other tribes who don't speak Langi and Joy for Children advised them to always encourage their children to apply if they have skills and qualifications though not everyone who applies gets a job since they go through interviews and the best candidates usually qualify for the jobs. Table : Questions/concerns from the community

Participants were also not happy about the way road constructors disorganize their compounds by dumping logs and cramps and later fail to take initiative to clear those places when the construction is done. With Regards to road construction, the community highly expressed their interest of getting a chance to get employed in this road construction project especially on some jobs that don't require skills.

They also testified of how they have always witnessed road workers selling fuel and construction materials in the community and they were advised to take photos of such workers and also report to GMC's such that such cases can be followed since stealing construction materials will end up affecting the quality of the road and they further requested that the road should be designed in a way that paths for pedestrians is marked separate in order to prevent accidents.

8.2.6 Camp Swahili Market-Lira City

During the community sensitization in this area, the community was informed about the roles and relationship between JFCU, UNRA, Mota Engil in the NERAMP project. The community was informed that the roadwork has already started. They were advised to take care of their families to prevent any form of

violence during the road construction period. It is the joy of World Bank, Ugandan government through UNRA and JFCU to see families and children using the road in perfect peace and harmony from other than having a broken family and helpless children who end up in streets after the road construction is over.

Photo 88: JFCU staff sensitizing women in the market about GBV and VAC

The project officer JFCU shared with the community on various causes of GBV/VAC in families including economic crisis/ high level of poverty but advised them that the current economic crisis

should not make us experience GBV and VAC in our community.

Community was advised and encouraged to safeguard their children from all forms of VAC and the parents to also stop GBV in their homes. However, responses from one on one out reach revealed indecent dressing and alcoholism as major cases of VAC in the area.

“Dressing of girls brings problems. Dressing may mistake me to feel that you want sex. If a child dresses indecently and they are raped, is that a crime?” The bible discourages poor dressing. They are selling beer here, so if someone is drunk, how can he avoid raping? [Female participant]

JFCU informed participants that children and youths are also being sensitized to prevent VAC issues. Community members were also advised to always keep their family relationships glowing and avoid interest in the money from workers who might work in their areas for two or three months and go away leaving the families broken up. Men were encouraged to cater for the needs of their families since they are family heads and the rights of their children as well.

8.3 Challenges during sensitization meetings

- 1) The community would run away from the meetings to attend to customers whenever a bus or a trailer would stop at the Centre. However, JFCU team tried to utilize those who were at the trading centers staring at what was going on.

- 2) Some few participants who registered for attendance refused to put either signatures, contacts including age and for the project accountability .
- 3) It was not easy to get feedback from the community since most of the people feared that the entire market population might get to know about their personal issues since the market had various category of people of different age, tribe. However, JFCU promised them confidentiality and some few finally opened up especially during one on one out reach session.
- 4) Lack of space for parking the PAS van. However, the GMC mobilisers helped to identify sensitization points.
- 5) High expectation for money from participants . This is due to influence from politicians who throw money during political campaigns looking for votes.
- 6) Individual or group sensitization was time consuming since you had to move to a smaller group of people to explain everything concerning GBV/VAC in the sticker. This kind of activity needed a bigger number of people to spread all over the market.
- 7) It was quite challenging to get a sensitization point especially in those communities visited in morning hours like Corner Mowlem and Adwoki market since the GMC mobilisers were not familiar with this kind of community sensitization road drive.
- 8) Morning hours were quite challenging to carry out a sensitization since most of the target communities were still at home and those in the market are business people who had come from other areas to do their business.

9.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN FEBRUARY 2023

In this section, details of activities that were carried out in the month of February 2023 are highlighted and the key challenges encountered during the implementation mentioned. Pictirials have been provided to show evidence of the activity by venue.

Summary of Achievements Against Planned Activities.

During the month of February 2023 under review, the following activities were carried out.

- 1) Conducted 10 sensitization meetings in schools on GBV/VAC.
- 2) Conducted one community sensitization meeting on GBV/VAC.
- 3) Sensitized 5 groups of road workers both in Dokolo and Oyam.
- 4) Distributed a sample of 100 stickers and cards containing contacts and information on GBV/VAC in 10 schools.

9.1 Sensitization activities

In the month of February 2023, Joy for Children Uganda (JFCU) project staff sensitized school children, road workers and communities on Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children in Lira, Dokolo, Kole and Oyam districts. In general, JFCU Staff reached out to a total of 899 participants (818 schooling children (405 Males and 413 Females), 31 community members (16 Males and 15 Females) from Kole at GMC 88/Pida 3, and 50 road construction workers (40 males, 10 females)).

Objective of sensitizing in schools, community, and road workers.

- iv. To promote awareness of social risks such as GBV/VAC that are most likely to come up in the project area during the road construction period and how they can be prevented and managed in the communities and vulnerable groups such as students and pupils.
- v. To encourage the community and road workers to make use of GMC's in managing GBV/VAC cases.
- vi. To share and remind the road workers about the code of conduct and to take it seriously.
- vii. Get feedback from participants regarding road construction and GBV/VAC issues.

Methodology used during sensitization.

- Students and pupils were sensitized in their respective schools' face to face.
- Sensitization in all meetings was participatory and thus participants were always able to give their views through question-and-answer session.
- Students were asked to write stories/ issues regarding their experience on GBV/VAC for those who had confidential matters and not able to speak publicly.
- Use of Banners, pulp stands and stickers to portray messages on GBV and VAC.
- Use of pull-up stands/ banners with the messages on GBV and VAC.

Mobilization Method

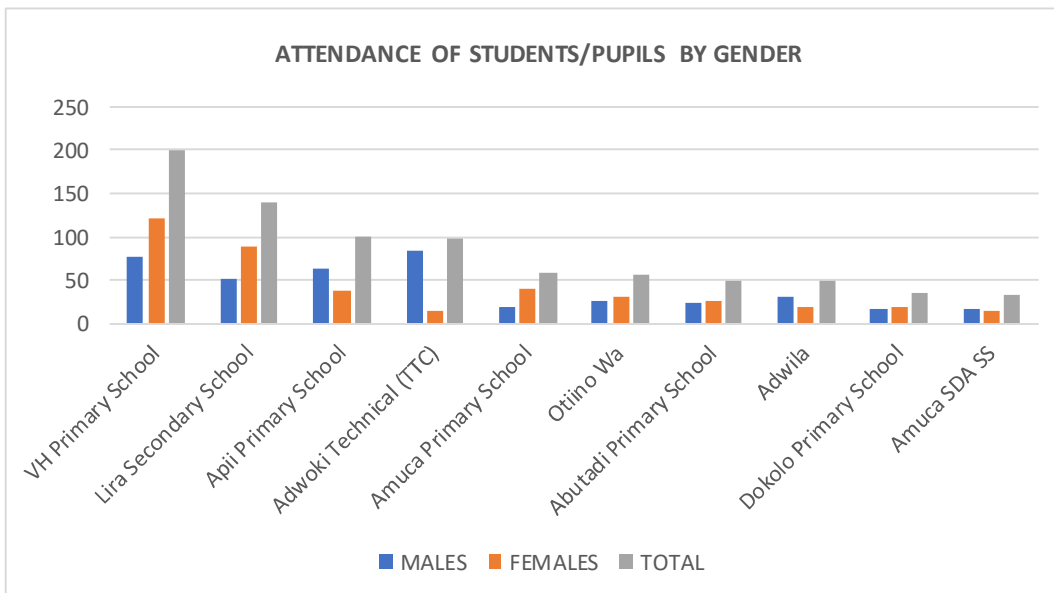
- Mota Engil team leader informed road workers at different sites to prepare and be ready to host JFCU staff for the sensitization meetings.
- Heads of schools were engaged to mobilize the pupils and made it easy for JFCU staff to be able to access schools.
- GMC mobilisers helped in mobilizing the community to be able to attend the sensitization meetings.

Sensitizations in schools in Lira, Dokolo and Kole.

Overall, a random sample of students in 10 schools were sensitized and they included (from 6 primary schools, one Technical Institution and 3 secondary schools) all located in Lira, Kole and Dokolo. Primary Schools included Amuca SDA Primary, Dokolo Primary School, Apii Primary, Otiino wa Primary, VH Primary School and Adwila Primary School.

Graph 2: Graph showing attendance by gender during sensitization in schools.

Secondary Schools included Lira Secondary School, Amuca SDA SS and Abutadi Secondary School, One



Technical School i.e., Adwoki Technical School (83 males, 14 females) and Apii Primary (62 males, 38 females) had more males attending the meeting compared to females.

The activity of sensitizing schools was done concurrently with the activity of distribution of stickers and a sample of 100 students received

stickers.



9.1.1 Amuca SDA Secondary School- Lira District

Joy for Children Uganda carried out sensitization on GBV/VAC at Amuca SDA Secondary School.

Photo 89: Students of Amuca SDA SS.

Since the school did not want interruption of general school programs, the Deputy Head of the school allowed JFCU to meet a sample of 40 students. Students at Amuca SDA secondary participated highly in this sensitization meeting and were willing to ask and share experiences regarding GBV/VAC.

The Project officer JFCU shared the definition of violence, forms of violence and shared various examples of violence against children such as Teachers abusing pupils or students in class for examplesaying to a pupil **“you are useless like your father”**, which is improper and makes a child loose self-confidence and concentration in class. Bullying fellow student, bad touches, and sexual advances against will, child neglect like producing and abandoning your child, beating, and giving a child heavy work beyond their age is also violence.

Teachers from Amuca also requested JFCU to highly consider men in issues of GBV. They said, **“Men are suffering silently. They need to be considered.”** When asked to share their concerns, one girls shared her story of how a road worker was interested in dating both the mother and her and the issue was reported to her father who intervened. She said, **“The road workers who speak our language “Langi” are the ones who are commonly found of dating young girls in our communities”**. One of the teachers requested that road workers should be given name tags so that they can easily be identified. At the end of the meeting, some 2 students were able to reach JFCU staff and disclose their private lives regarding sexual violence. One gentle man revealed about some girl in the school who would want to romance with him by force before COVID time and he was counselled. **“In the past, we used to suffer, even being sexually harassed but we had nowhere to report these cases, but now we know what to do.”** Reported a student.

Table 40: Questions and Responses.

QUESTIONS	RESPONSES
A 14-year-old girl used to move while shaking her bums and causing the road workers and other men to “get burnt” meaning erect or sexually ready. What should we do to a man who sleeps with such a girl?	It is against the law to engage anybody below the age of 18 into sexual conduct. We should be able to manage our behaviors especially against things which leads us to crime and sin.
Road workers from Apac used to deal and sell petrol and later report that the community is stealing their fuel.	People who are involved in stealing fuel and other construction materials should always be reported for prosecution in court. When these road materials are stolen, it compromises the quality of road construction.
In our community, the Chinese constructors cut off our friend’s head and shot some man dead, but when the case was taken to UNRA, no concern was taken and that was in 2018. [UNRA should follow up this case]	All the criminal offences must be reported to police for arrests and possible prosecution. It is against law for anybody to kill a human being.
Road workers from Apac always wait for women and girls in dark corners and rape them.	Rape is a capital offence which must be reported to police. Rape can cause un-wanted pregnancy, spread HIV/STI, cause mental disorder, bleeding, etc. Always report rape cases to police for appropriate action.
On my way from selling goods during holidays, I met one of the road workers and he asked me that he wants to fall in love with my mother.	That was a very bad behavior since the road worker was asking a wrong person and a minor for a sexually related issue. That was an abuse to you, and you should have

	reported it to either your parents, LC1 or any elder who would have retrained the worker from saying such thing to a child.
If a rapist among road workers have been identified, what step does UNRA normally take?	Rape cases are reported to police for arrest and prosecution. UNRA works within its code of conducts and would ensure that the victims are helped to find justice. The road work is contracted to Mota Engil who have all the authority to discipline or even expel the worker from the workforce according to the set code of conduct signed by all the workers.
If a man rapes a girl and the man is got to be HIV positive, how can that girl be helped?	The rape case must be reported to police as soon as possible so that a police medical form is given so that the girl is rushed to the hospital for proper medical management.
Police normally ask for money, what do you do if you have a case concerning violence and you don't have money for paying the police?	We have very many people around us who can help us when in danger. You can report violence to either your church or religious leader, cultural leader, LC1 chairperson, school authority, GMC, District/civil authority (DCDO, CFPU), RDC, trusted close relatives (brother, uncle, untie, granny, etc.)
There is high rate of accident along AMUCA road, can UNRA put for us Humps?	The road work has been contracted to Mota Engil who has all the designs and where possible, road humps, signs and zebra crossing will be put to help control the traffic on the road.
They (road workers) whistle after us especially when we are going back home from school. What should we do?	Report those acts to school authorities, area GMC, LC1 or elders in your area so that the whistling stops.
This road workers should be name-tagged for easy identification in case of any issue.	We shall request Mota Engil company management to provide some form of identification to their workers who would be on the road.
Road workers abuse us when they call us, and we don't go to them.	Report those behaviors to school authorities, area GMCs, LC1 or elders in your area so that the road workers are stopped.

9.1.2 Amuca SDA Primary School –City.

JFCU staff was sensitized pupils at Amuca SDA primary school. The project officer, JFCU shared about different types of violence against children. By use of illustrations, he explained to pupils.



“If the doctor gives you an injection, it’s not violence but if a friend pricks you with a compass, it’s violence”.

This is because the doctor is trying to help you heal from **sickness**, but your friend is just punishing you with pain and that’s why it becomes violence.

Photo 90: Pupils of Amuca SDA primary attending the sensitization meeting.

“If a boy comes to you that he wants to love you and yet you have come to school to study, you need to report the behavior to the school authority because they want to disorganize your education. School goers don’t fall in love”.

Pupils were warned to stop receiving gifts such as sweets etc. from strangers. ***“If you remain at school and concentrate, you will be a great person in future. So, you must ‘SAY NO’ to those gifts”.*** JFCU also taught children about their rights such as right to study etc. Pupils were advised to report any form of violence to their senior women teachers.

The project coordinator, JFCU also asked pupils if they had ever experienced any bad touches and majority of the girls raised their hands. She advised them to always report any form of bad touches to their teachers and their mothers. Pupils were also taught that being caned by teachers for failing exams is not violence. However, beating children so badly and use of bad abusive words may lead to psychological violence. JFCU staff asked children what they learnt, and these are some of the responses.

“We learnt that if road workers disturb, we report to elders. We learnt not to get any gifts from strangers. We learnt not to allow bad touches. We learnt not to bully our fellows at school”.

9.1.3 Dokolo Primary School-Dokolo District



JFCU staff sensitized a random sample of pupils at Dokolo Primary school on GBV/VAC. JFCU informed them about the on-going road project and the socio risks that are most likely to occur in the project that may lead to violence against children such as rape, defilement, sexual harassment, road workers convincing young girls by giving them gifts such as sweets which may result into negative consequences such as unintended pregnancies, and contraction of HIV/AIDS.

Photo 91: Pupils of Dokolo P/S during the sensitization meeting.

Children were advised to always report immediately in case such issues are noticed in the community since late reporting may “kill” time for processing evidence. Children were also advised not to fight each other. **“Fighting may lead to injuries or even cause death.”** Pupils were informed to be careful with strangers who may be interested in buying them nice gifts. However, they were also told that road workers are not bad people, but **“ warning you so that you consider them as strangers”** since they are new people in our community to avoid social risks that may come up.

9.1.4 Adwoki Technical-Dokolo District

JFCU sensitized students on GBV/VAC at Adwoki Technical School with support from school administration, the students highly participated this activity.



Photo 92: Students of Adwoki TTC during sensitization meeting.

JFCU asked students to brainstorm and mention good things or bad things that strangers can bring in the community and later informed them about the on-going road construction project and social risks that may come up and how they can be managed and prevented. Students were cautioned to avoid dating and receiving gifts from strangers without getting full information about them such as road workers who may be new in the communities since they are usually transferred to different sites and in case they commit

a crime, they could disappear and not easy to trace for prosecution in case they committed a crime in the community. Students were informed that forcing someone to have sex against their will, or when below the age of 18 years is sexual violence and is punishable by law once reported. Students in this college highly participated and thanked JFCU for delivering such important message. They also highly expressed their interest to get jobs in the road construction project.

9.1.5 Apii Primary School-Kole District

JFCU staff informed pupils about the on-going road construction project, the socio-risks that may come up during the project and the likelihood of increase in the spread of HIV/AIDS among both youth and the old,

high level of teenage pregnancy, increase in school dropout rate, pupils being killed or sacrificed once prevention measures are not implemented.



Photo 93: Pupils of Apii PS attending sensitization on VAC

They were informed that when the road construction is going on, there are both bad and good things that happen in the

community and schools along the roads. Some workers can do “bad things” to the pupils and the children were told to be careful dealing with strangers to avoid the bad things happening to them.

According to pupils of Apii primary school, Violence means ***“fighting/ beating a child or making them do something beyond their capability”, Violence is when a teacher over beats you instead of teaching you. Violence is forcing a child to do something against their will.”***

JFCU staff further taught them other forms of violence such as fighting, psychological violence, producing a child and failing to take responsibility, touching girl’s breasts and waist by force. Children were advised to report to teachers on duty or dormitory captain in case they fear approaching teachers, make an alarm in case someone is forcing any of them into sexual intercourse or when in a dark corner for help, Call police or any nearby leaders who you think is appropriate, **or** Call toll free number **116 SAUTI**.

Table 41: Questions and Responses

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
What can be done about the too much dust which is affecting us at school?	Mota Engil has been pouring water on the road to reduce on the dust. Children are encouraged to always wear face mask whenever approaching dusty areas to avoid bacterial infections which cause cough, flue, and eye infections.
Where should we cross the road from while going to school or returning home?	For now, that the road is under construction, teachers should be able to help you/children cross the road. When the roadwork is complete, zebra crossings will be put in place to help school children cross the road. There are also flag girls to help children and other road users to control the traffic for pedestrian use.
Why have they left the road construction at this status?	The roadwork is on-going and may take some 4 years period before completion. Road construction is a process which makes it impossible to complete at once.
Why are there no tarmac only gravels on the road?	The gravels are normally put before the actual tarmacking of the road, but the tarmac will finally be put, and the road will have been completed.
If a teacher canes, you more strokes than usual should we say its violence?	If the caning results into injury, fear, swellings, tearing of clothing, it becomes violence. We have very many other ways of training to make our children become responsible and respectable future leaders.
If my parents start fighting, can I support my mother by beating my father also?	No. It is always good to report any form of violence to authorities or people who can stop the violent act.

<p>How about the thieves beaten to death. Is that violence?</p>	<p>Yes. Everybody has the right to be judged by the court of laws for all the wrongs they would have committed. Beating a thief to death means that we have committed another crime of murder which is unlawful.</p>
<p>My aunty is taking care of us but sometimes she refuses to give us food but give her children. What do we do?</p>	<p>That is also violence in the form of denying you the basic right to food. This should be reported to relatives, friends, police, respectable family members, LC1, DCDO, CFPU, clan leaders etc. for help.</p>
<p>If there is rape cases and it's reported but police decline, what does joy for children do about that?</p>	<p>As JFCU, we can help the victim by making a follow-up of the reported case to ensure that justice is given to the person who deserves it.</p>

9.1.6 Otiino Wa Primary School-Kole District

Despite being an examination period, the Headmaster of Otiino Wa Primary School allowed JFCU staff to meet a sample of pupils. During the sensitization, JFCU staff was able to teach pupils about their rights and various forms of violence against children.



Photo 94: Pupils of Otiino Wa P/S during the sensitization meeting.

One of the teachers commented that many children had dropped out of school due to the misbehavior of the road workers along the road. These workers were reported to lure young girls and boys with their money and gifts and some infecting them with HIV/AIDS, leaving them pregnant and the girl child end up dropping out of school. The teacher also shared about parents/fathers who abandon their children which is a form of VAC.

During sensitization, misunderstanding between parents was discovered to be one of the causes of psychological torture to pupils which later affects their concentration at school. Pupils were advised to report to the senior woman teacher in case of anything concerning violence is seen.

“While in the community during holidays, you can report to your area LC1 or church leaders. If it’s an emergency, call 116 toll free SAUTI”.

When asked what they had learned from the session, a sample of pupils gave responses as stated below.

“Today, I now know where I can report any case concerning violence, said Zaddock. I have learnt to report to my parents in case of any violence, said Rebecca. I am Samantha and I appreciate JFCU for teaching us on what to do.”

Table 42: Questions and responses

QUESTIONS	RESPONSES
What is normally done to help a child who has dropped out of school due to school fees problems?	There are various areas, places and organizations who give study privilege to disadvantaged children. But those children who have dropped out of school are advised not to lose hope since there are other vocational trainings that can still be done to improve on our lives.
When is the road construction ending because we are suffering a lot of dust in our classes?	The road construction takes a longer period since it involves a lot of testing, compression, layers, etc. but once the road is completed, we shall have one of the best roads in the country. May be 4-5 years.
What can we do if we are raped or sexually aroused but if we report to our parents, they don't believe us but instead they say we started love issues early and they don't help us?	When it happens while at school, always report to the school authority. During holidays, you can report to a relative or religious leader or even the cultural head or LC1 who has its vice chairperson always in-charge of children's affairs.
What can be done if a child wants to study but the parents are not willing to pay for them school but instead want them to get married?	Report the parent to respective authority like the police, DCDO, CFPU, religious leaders, JFCU, etc. for assistance.

9.1.7 Abutadi Primary School-Lira City

Children in the school were sensitized on GBV and VAC by staff from JFCU. The Children were advised to



be very carefull when dealing with strangers and avoid accepting gifts, and lifts from strangers. They were advsid to always move in groups from and to school since some of the road workers may do bad things to them. The bad things could lead to unwanted pregnancies, early child marriages and contracting HIV/AIDS, dropping out of school and being used for child sacrifice while performing rituals.

Photos 95 : Pupils of Abutadi P/S during the sensitization meeting

When asked about lessons learnt, students' responses were as follows; ***“Avoid love affairs at school. Stop violence against children, Report in case of any violence”***.

Table 43: Questions and Responses.

QUESTIONS	RESPONSES
What is the meaning of NERAMP?	North – Eastern Road Asset Management Project. It is a road construction project which will cover the stretch between Corner Kamdini in Northern Uganda, up to Dokolo.
If am a student and above 18 years and my parents refuse to pay my fees claiming that am now old for school and yet I want to study, what can I do?	However old you are, you will always be a child to your parents. They should be willing to help you achieve your dreams. You can also try out other economic activities like making of bricks for sale to help you continue with studies. Other opportunities include bursaries, sponsorship, etc.
Which side of the road should we follow to avoid accident?	It is better to walk on the right side of the road if on foot. This will enable you to be able to see the on-coming vehicles and give way for them to pass unlike when walking on the left side of the road which keeps you glancing behind to see vehicles approaching from behind.
Is a child allowed to have ownership of their possessions of owning properties?	Yes. It is always good to encourage children to own things responsibly e.g., goats, pigs, chicken, banana plantation, cassava garden, etc.
What can my mother do if my father has left for another woman and abandoned us?	She can talk to the clan leaders, elders, church leaders, and if the issue persists report to police to lead her to Family and Child Protection Unit/Probation office.



9.1.9 Lira Secondary School-Lira City

Joy for Children Uganda staff carried out sensitization on GBV/VAC in Lira Secondary School.

Photo 96: Sensitization at Lira SS.

JFCU staff defined the term violence to the students and expounded by sharing various examples of violence which **included** forcing one to do what she or he does not like or want; Insulting and bullying at school; Child Neglect; Sexual harassment; and over working young children; denying children their rights e.g., rights to education, medical attention, and basic needs among others.

JFCU staff informed them about the findings regarding labour influx and how it can result into social risks such as rampant cases of Gender Based Violence/ Violence Against Children. They were told that VAC/GBV may result into high rate of HIV/AIDS transmission, increased school dropout rate, child marriages, and psychological torture. Young girls get lured with money and end up in early marriages hence dropping out of school. Students were advised to Speak Up or make an alarm to get immediate help in case of any rape issue, report to leaders like teachers, LC1, Police and parents.

Table 44: Questions and Responses

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
How can a child whose rights have been violated report and yet they live with stepparents and if they report they will be beaten?	Always speak out. Tell your aunt, uncle, church leader, head teacher and respectable neighbor who will be able to talk to your stepparents to treat you well. When you keep quiet, you will be promoting violence against you, and this will have a negative effect in your life in future.
What can you do if you are living with your aunt, and she doesn't treat you well?	Report to a religious leader for help.
How many years will it take for this road construction to get fully constructed?	The road project was delayed by the COVID-19 which affected and halted very many activities all over the world. But the construction work may not take long since the actual construction has already started and more so, from Kole meaning the Northern part of the project will not take about 5 years.



9.1.9 Adwila Primary School- Lira District

Joy for Children Uganda project staff carried out sensitization on GBV/VAC at Adwila Primary School and explained to the pupils about the relationship between UNRA, JFCU, Mota Engil and

World Bank in this road construction project.

Photo 97: Pupils of Adwila P/S.

Pupils were informed that research by World Bank revealed a higher likelihood of labour influx being associated with social risks in communities along road construction sites and therefore gave JFCU a mandate to manage and control their likelihood of occurrence in the project area.

Some of the consequences of GBV/VAC along construction areas mentioned to the students include increase in HIV/AIDS transmission, child sacrifice, defilement, infanticide, and children dropping out of school after acquiring unwanted pregnancies. The road workers do earn more money compared to community members and use money to attract young girls including people’s wives.

“After realizing that the road workers have more money than their own spouses, some women abandon their husbands while dating road workers hence causing GBV in homes when the spouses learn about it”.

Children were advised to report any form of violence in the community to elders such as teachers, parents or LC1.

Table 45: Questions and Responses.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
What about the boys who are normally conned by old women with money?	When we talk about VAC, we mean both boys and girls. Like girls, boys are lured too into sexual exploitation by women who have money. Therefore, boys should be careful and report any form of violence to responsible people in the community.
What about the cases of killing (child sacrifice) our children by foreign road workers?	Any sacrifice of a human being is not allowed in Uganda by law. Ensure that any human sacrifice done around you is reported to the police so that the suspect/culprit is reprimanded and charged in the courts of law.
If a teacher rapes or defiles a girl in this school, can he be reported to the head teacher who might even cover up the case?	Rape is a criminal/capital offence which must be reported to police. Since you may be afraid to report to police, you can report to any other teacher, LC1, parents, local leaders, religious leaders, health unit or government offices like the CDO or CFPU.

9.1.10 V.H Primary School- Lira District

The pupils in V.H Primary School were informed that JFCU was given a mandate to manage and prevent social risks associated to GBV/VAC that may come up during the ongoing construction project.



Photo 98: Pupils of VH P/S during sensitization meetings.

The Project Officer JFCU shared examples/ forms of Violence such as physical violence, mental/ psychological violence, sexual violence, mistreating a child, doing things against a child's consent, harassing, or beating children in a bad way

He also shared about the consequences of violence such as emotional or mental disorder, affects school performances, and

causes physical harm/disability, early pregnancy and children dropping out of school. They were informed that issues of GBV/VAC had been rampant in the communities, but no one wanted them to escalate it because of interaction between community and road workers. They were informed that road workers were not bad people but some could do bad things to children and women. They were advised to avoid being convinced by some of the road workers to do bad things and report any workers who does bad things to Police, parents, teachers and fellow students.

Table46 : Questions and Answers

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
How does road construction relate to GBV /VAC?	Since road workers take long far away from their families, they may develop some habits as they socialize with community which may result into violence. We advocate to minimize GBV and VAC which may come up because of the road work.
Can you please repeat for us UNRA in full!	Uganda National Road Authority which is an authority in-charge of all the roads in Uganda that connects between Districts or Countries, and it falls under Ministry of Works and Transport.
What can JFCU do in case a rape/ defilement case happens in our school?	All rape or defilement cases are capital offence and therefore, the culprit must be reported immediately to police. JFCU can help or support in following up with the case

if responsible people are left scot free to ensure that justice is delivered, and the affected child is protected from any danger.

9.2 Community Sensitization at Pida 3 GMC 88-Kole District



Photo 99: Community sensitization at Pida 3.

The community of Pida 3 at GMC 88 were sensitized about GBV and VAC and explained to them the relationship between JFCU, UNRA, and the role of GMCs in the on-going road construction project. JFCU staff shared various examples of GBV including fighting between spouses and mistreating your spouse.

Regarding VAC, the community was advised to stop beating

children badly or fighting them, stop raping girls, stop giving teenagers gifts to involve them into sexual relations, avoid marrying off children, and continue taking children to school etc. The community was informed that GBV/VAC was existing in the communities, but there was no need to escalate it because of the existence of the road workers interacting with local people along the construction sites.

Through illustrations, JFCU staff gave an example of a woman who may run away from her husband to fall in love with a road worker since road workers may be having more money compared to local people. Married women were advised to stop involving themselves in dating road workers as it may result into violence/fights once the real husband gets to know about that affair and this may even lead to death. Even children could be abandoned once married couples start having affairs outside marriage which will result into violence against children such as being abandoned, psychological torture, and the children running away from home to the streets for survival due to lack of parents etc..

“If we cannot be contented with our current financial statuses, then we shall put ourselves and lives in danger”. [JFCU]

Table 47: Community Questions and JFCU Responses

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Will Mota-Engil create humps in trading centers?	Mota Engil will ensure that they follow the right design and put in place all the necessary road signs, posts, zebra crossing, and humps as provided for.
Social gatherings are spoiling our children for example music in bars. What can we do	It is true that bar music does spoil children in trading centers especially those ones sent to shops

<p>to these bar owners?</p>	<p>at night or given freedom to move around at night. Community can have a meeting and pass a by-law limiting the time, volume, and age at any social gathering to protect vulnerable people in the community. As a parent, avoid sending your child out of home at night and keep them safe at home.</p>
<p>What can we do to our mothers dancing up to late hours in bars with babies on their back and yet later complain of malaria on the child?</p>	<p>Anybody above the age of 18 years has the right to freedom of association but our women or wives should be responsible women and respect their husband to build that mutual love and care. It is not right to have a child in the bar up to late night and anybody got should be reported immediately to the nearest police.</p>
<p>Do you have books on GBV/VAC so that you can give GMC Members?</p>	<p>Currently, we have very limited copies that may not be enough for all the many GMCs scattered across the road length. However, we shall consult with our partners to see a way of making more copies so that GMC's may be able to get copies to use during sensitization of the community.</p>
<p>Will surveyors ever come back since other houses were seen while others left out?</p>	<p>The surveyors are part of the construction workers being carried out by Mota Engil. They will always be available to carry out continuous assessment on houses that may be damaged during the current construction. However, it is not a must that every house must be compensated except those ones which seem to face the challenge during the construction.</p>
<p>JFCU should continue creating community awareness on GBV/VAC because it's a very sensitive issue in the community.</p>	<p>Yes. We are continuously doing the sensitization within the community and will continue even on radio and come back to the community to ensure all is well as far as VAC and GBV is concerned.</p>
<p>Roads should be enlarged at centers for packing/ offloading passengers.</p>	<p>Mota Engil is a credible company that will try to ensure that all the road design is followed and necessary signposts, parking lot and zebra crossings are put in place.</p>

9.3 Sensitization of road workers.

The road construction workers were sensitized about GBV and VAC issues from their workplace by the JFCU



project staff. According to the Sociologist from Mota Engil, road workers do not stay at fixed points since they are changed to different chainages/ points/ sites of the road any time of the day.

Photo 100: Sensitizing road workers

The road workers were sensitized from 3 chainages in Dokolo and 2 chainages in Oyam. The Chainages included CHAIN 99+100, CHAIN 85-400, CHAIN102+800 in Dokolo. Chainages in Oyam included

CHAIN 177 and CHAIN 164. The teams in Dokolo comprised of 3 vegetation control teams while teams in Oyam comprised of one Asphalt team in Oyam/Loro and one Earth works team. However, the remaining 3 construction sites/ teams in Kole could not be reached out to due to rain which interfered with the program. In general, 50 road workers were sensitized at different sites.

9.3.1 Chainage 99+100 –Dokolo District

CHAIN 99+100 was the first point where road workers on vegetation control team were sensitized on site. JFCU staff shared about various forms of GBV/VAC to road workers such as grooming, fighting, use of abusive words, whistling at girls, engaging minors (children before age of 18) into sexual activity etc.



Photo 101: Sensitization of road workers in Dokolo.

JFCU staff advised road workers to stop whistling at young girls since it is against the code of conduct. JFCU Staff shared with them about the code of conduct and asked them to take it seriously since there would be termination of contracts and being taken into courts of law once caught violating rights of children and adults in the community.

***“Be careful, keep yourself and your work and do not engage people’s wives into relationships”
[JFCU staff.]***

9.3.2 Chainage 85-400-Dokolo District

The same message to the road workers as above was shared at this point. JFCU shared and read to them the code of conduct in relation to GBV/VAC and consequences of violating it. Workers requested that each worker should be tested for HIV..



Photo 102: Sensitization of road workers at site Chain 85-400.

JFCU staff reminded them to be mindful of protecting communities, avoid use of abusive words to girls and women, not rushing to date young girls even if they are big in size and look mature since some of them look older than their age. JFCU staff encouraged them to make use of GMC’s such that they may not

“die” with their issues alone since GMC’s are located at major trading centers along the road corridor.

Table 48: Questions and Responses

QUESTION	RESPONSE FROM ANN (MOTA ENGIL)
I request you, don’t just stop on talking, we need workers to be tested annually.	<p>We have a clinic at the Camp site. If you are sick, you will get free medication at any appointment you feel fit for you.</p> <p>Also, Health centers do conduct FREE HIV Testing services and one can easily go for testing without being charged.</p>



9.3.3 Chainage 102-100

At Chainage 102-100, JFCU staff sensitized the workers about various forms of violence which included physical violence, sexual violence, and psychological violence. JFCU staff urged them to stop whistling at girls passing by.

Photo 103: Sensitization at CHAIN 102-100

The code of conduct regarding GBV/VAC was also read to them and it states that:

“Road workers should treat women and children with respect, they should not participate in sexual activity with minors, grooming is not allowed, they should not have sexual interactions with community members at work site without their consent and avoid exchanging money for sex, sexual interactions with minors is prohibited including digital media, inappropriate language or behavior towards women and girls such as use of abusive words, sexually provocative words and harassing is prohibited”. [CODE OF CONDUCT]

9.3.4 Chainage 177-Oyam District

At Chainage 177, the same message on prevention of GVBV/VAC was passed on to 17 road workers and when asked about code of conduct, they could easily recite it both men and women. They were also advised to be careful and avoid involving themselves in stealing building materials used for road construction as they are being monitored.



Photo 104: Sensitization of road workers at CHAIN 177.

Road workers at this chain also complained about community members who harass and provoke them. One of the road workers said, **“Community members also scare us, and that anger cannot be contained and therefore, we**

also take that law in our hands.” They also had complaints of road users who have no respect for road workers especially flag people *“they abuse you and run away, they don’t slow down when they are needed to which may lead to accidents”*. Disrespectful road users mentioned by this team included Local Government workers, Boda bodas and Bus drivers. JFCU staff requested this matter to be reported to their managers and also UNRA staff for management at a higher level since it was not in the mandate of JFCU to manage.

Table 49: Questions and Responses

QUESTION	RESPONSE
We also have problems from communities, they provoke us.	There is a GMC point at every trading center, report to GMC or LCI Chairman in case of any challenges with community.
Road users have no respect for us. Flag people are not respected. Road users over speed.	Take photos, report to police checks and they arrest them.

9.3.5 Chainage 164-Oyam District (Loro Trading Center).

At this site, the same message on GBV and VAC prevention, code of conduct was shared. JFCU staff advised them to be mindful of their behaviors since they don’t know any one’s HIV status to avoid being infected or spreading the virus also to community or back to their families.



Photo 105: Sensitization at CHAIN 164.

They were also advised to stop whistling at girls, avoid grooming, dating different people at once Ladies were advised to avoid dating married men from community. ***“Don’t steal people’s husbands”***.

Communication from Sociologist from Mota Engil.

The Sociologist from Monte-Engil warned road workers to avoid rushing to date young girls including girls who have children since some girls even look older than their age. She said,

“If I have a child and I am under 15 years , I am still a child.”

She reminded the road workers how the Human Resource Manage (HR) had always briefed them about the code of conduct

“....that paper which you signed, don’t end up just signing, put them into action. We have not had issues with you, keep it up, we appreciate your work. Well done”.

They were advised to report any work related issue. She also gave them the sexual harassment toll free number for reporting and asked them to store it.

In an interview with JFCU staff, the Mota Engil sociologist said that jobs were available for both skilled and non-skilled labour and all tribes are employed at Mota Engil both local and non-local people. Applicants should attach their ID, copy of LC Chair-person letter, Application letter and prepare for interviews. Applications should be left at Mota Engil entrance at the gate. She said that application for jobs was free since jobs are on merit and in case anyone was asked for money for applying by gate keepers, they were advised to ask for their contacts such that the culprits could be traced since people at the gate are changed daily.

“Gate keepers/ Askaris are usually changed and so if you get their contacts once they charge you money, we can be able to trace them.”

She also informed JFCU that it was not possible to make name tags for all workers since they are very many. ***“Workers are so many to be given tags.”*** She also said that name tags could not be given to workers for security purpose since they could encourage mob justice. However, all road workers had Identity Cards (ID’s). She also informed JFCU and road workers that Mota Engil pays the workers timely and discouraged workers from taking goods on credit from community shops since road workers are always changed to various sites in communities abruptly.

9.4 Challenges during activities implementation in the month

1. Some schools were refusing to give permission with an assumption that JFCU had a hidden agenda to promote homosexuality. However, JFCU staff discussed deeply with the school heads and teachers and shared the message with them before sharing with pupils and later approved to meet the pupils.
2. In some schools, teachers and students were expecting handouts like sodas but JFCU informed them that knowledge is very important etc.
3. Road workers were also expecting some handouts.
4. Bad weather especially the rain which affected the movement by motor bike and delays meeting appointments.

10.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN MARCH 2023

In this section of the annual report, activities implemented during March 2023 are illustrated with pictorials and quotations. The challenges encountered during implementation are mentioned. The key activity during the month was the stakeholders meeting that was held in Lira city. The stakeholders in the meeting were the staff and managers of the FM radio stations in the region that play a pivotal role in GBV and VAC IEC messaging to the community on issues of mitigating the social risks (GBV and VAC). They are part of the media that is used to propagate different messages under the project which are used to sensitize the communities about the project and the negative social impacts and how the community members can place themselves better to avoid being socially negatively affected by the project.

10.1 Lira District Stakeholders' Meeting

10.1.1 Chief Administrative Officer– Lira District



The CAO Lira District appreciated the supportive work stakeholders were providing on behalf of the government to the general community. GBV, VAC, HIV and Hepatitis B' were identified as some of the serious issues within the community that need to be handled with aggressiveness.

Photo 106: CAO Lira district addressing stakeholders during the meeting

He however advised the stakeholders in the meeting to always ensure that, they follow all

the available laws in the country while executing their activities so that they are not caught up in between their service and the Law. Finally, he called upon all the NGOs working in Lira and Uganda as a whole to always strive to make their projects beneficial to all the community the project is expected to serve.

10.1.2 Resident District Commissioner – Lira District

In his Opening remarks, the RDC said there are too many cases of rape, defilement, teenage pregnancies and irresponsible pregnancies in the community that had presented a lot of challenges to the government. He added that GBV appeared to be number one in Lango region when it comes to social issues in the community which needs to be urgently tackled by both the government and the stakeholders involved in fighting the same. He wondered how a secondary school in Oketkwer parish had only 100 students and yet the primary school near the secondary had over 1500 pupils. Possibly, most of the girls in the primary school dropped out after primary school to get married. He also advised JFCU to inform the community to avoid decoy reporting of cases especially concerning VAC where by the same parent reporting a crime again settles down

for compensation. He also encouraged stakeholders in the meeting to provide psycho-social support to the community and then declare the meeting officially open.

10.1.3 District Probation Officer – Lira District

The Department of Community Development was represented by the Senior Labor Officer who Reported that GBV and VAC had been existing in the district for a very long period within the community and cannot easily be stopped but can be suppressed to avoid its high rate of occurrences. He added that, absent parents (parents who gives birth to children and fail to take care of them) had become another serious social trait that needed urgent attention. He cited Amach Sub-county as a hot spot-light and as a result of the weekly market which brings traders from as far as South Sudan and various parts of Uganda who come to trade in both animal and cerial products and many other agricultural products. He said that a lot of GBV cases were being reported on daily basis to both police and Community Department in the District and physical violence was still the leading type of violence and advised that there was a need to take a drastic action in mitigating these social issues so that the World Bank may continue to fund even other projects intended to help or serve the community. He promised to share data on the prevalence of GBV and VAC in the district with JFCU.

10.1.4 JOY FOR CHILDREN UGANDA – Lira FIELD OFFICE

The JFCU staff informed the participants that a baseline survey had been carried out by JFCU and various structural organs were set up to help in coordination and registration and management on GBV and VAC cases in the community. Mapping of schools, police posts and health facilities was done along the road corridor from Dokolo to Corner Kamdini and Advocacy materials on ending GBV and VAC had been in use to help in sending out information to the community about how to avoid GBV and VAC.



She informed the members in the stakeholders meeting had been organized to help in report sharing and forge a way forward in ensuring that there is coordination and partnership among the relevant stakeholders in the fight to mitigate or reduce the incidences of GBV and VAC in the community.

Photo 107: JFCU staff taking notes during stakeholders meeting

The main challenge got from the community during sensitization was that there was high demand for money which sometimes makes it hard to deliver information since most of the community members avoid attending the sensitization meetings when they realise that there is no payment(allowances). This calls for the local and political leaders to try and talk to the community so that they get sensitized since knowledge, unlike money or food, stays for years and can be used at any time desired fit without any cost.

10.1.5 UNRA – LIRA STATION

UNRA was represented by the project staff in the region . She informed the participants that there was a lot of challenges faced by the road workers who are currently doing the construction especially some of the government vehicle drivers who normally don't respect the road signs and personnel that have been put along the road to direct traffic during roadworks. She advised the responsible officers to worn their drivers or else there was penalty for those who commit road or traffic related offences where road works take place.



Photo 108: UNRA Staff during the stakeholders meeting

She informed the participants that all the road workers were always provided with work IDs but the only challenge is that, they don't carry these IDs everyday to the work station due to their nature of work (heavy manual work) which sometimes may not favour the safety of they IDs.

She added that the NERAMP road project was having a length of 340km and because of its length, the contract was phased into lots. Lot 1 being from Tororo to Soroti and

Lot 2 from Soroti, Dokolo, and Kamdini. GMCs were established along the community and a refresher training for them will be done to increase their capacity on reporting of GBV/VAC cases and referral skills.

10.1.6 YOUNG WOMEN INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT (YWIFD)

During its presentation, YWIFD which was founded in 2005 during the LRA rebel activity, had an objective of empowering women, girls and boys who were affected by the war in Northern Uganda. The representative said the organization is engaged in life skill activities like tailoring, brick laying and hair dressing among many other life skill projects. This could be one of the referral organization to support survivors of GBV and VAC.

10.1.7 AMANI INITIATIVE

In their deliberation, AMANI Initiative mainly focused on education sponsorship, child protection, socio-economic empowerment and child adolescence as a way to help those victims of GBV and VAC in the community.

10.1.8 NORTHERN UGANDA TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FORUM (NUTAF)

NUTAF attributed the rise in cases of VAC to the current GBV cases which had been seen mostly among the divorced families. Families have shunned both cultural and religious values in community which contributes to GBV and VAC incidences in the community.



Photo 109: Participants in stakeholders meeting in lira

The staff member from the organization added that both physical and psychological torture makes the survivor to develop suicidal thoughts which later lead to death. Stakeholders were advised to increase relevant funding to support fight against GBV and VAC in the community; girls should be encouraged to stay in school and complete their studies,; provide economic empowerment to the community for self-reliance and always

encourage inclusive decision making in family setups.

10.1.9 CENTRE FOR ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (CFARH)

They requested for referral strengthening of the victims especial those who need specialists to handle their grievances like rape cases, infections and murder cases which might need to be investigated, prosecuted or examined medically. They also called for partnership among members especially while in the field or community.

10.2 Agreed Best Practices in addressing GBV and VAC

1. Setting up Child Wellbeing Committee in the Districts and Sub-counties to help in handling survivors of VAC in those specific areas.
2. Engaging the road workers on issues concerning GBV and VAC to mitigate VAC.
3. Engaging Community leaders of different capacities and levels in the community to take up the mantle of a fighting against GBV and VAC. These include cultural, civil, religious and political leaders.
4. Make a unifying platform for all the partners to help in consultations and referral processes so that survivors are easily referred.
5. Hold quarterly coordination review meetings .
6. Making of linkages with fellow NGO partners both within the area scope and outside the operation area.
7. Continue reaching out to schools, especially the ones having vulnerable learners like the primary and secondary school goers who are below the age of 18.

8. The District leadership to always involve NGOs during National Celebrations like women’s day, 16 days of activism, day of the African child, etc.
9. Making Radio talk shows happen often so as to reach out to most of the community.

Photos 110: PICTORIALS FOR LIRA STAKEHOLDERS MEETING



10.3 JFCU/NERAMP Radio Talk Show

The talkshow was attended by UNRA staff, JFCU staff and the Lira District Probation Officer. Hosted by the FM radio staff, these were the questions and responses from the team and the few questions got from the audience due to limited time.

Table 50: Questions from listeners of the program during the talk show

QUESTIONS/CONCERNS	RESPONSE/ANSWER	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
What is NERAMP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In full it is North-Eastern Road Asset Management Project. • The scope of work is from Kamdini-Tororo • The total length from Tororo to Kamdini is 340km • There are two clusters I & (II Dokolo – Kamdini) • The activity (maintenance & construction). • The contract period is 8 and half years. 	DIANA UNRA
Why do we have a road construction program on a road constructed already?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic count made the 1st construction to have a road which could not carry heavy trucks. • The road is overloaded because it's the shortest route to Congo and South Sudan. • Pot-holes and ditches developed on road because of heavy trucks. 	ISAAC JFCU
Who are the stakeholders in this NERAMP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WB, Government, MoWT, UNRA (Funding). • KAGGA (Consultancy work) • Mota Engil (Construction work) • JFCU (Social Risk Mitigation) • GMCs in the community. • The community (Schools, Local Government, Leaders, Centres, etc.) 	DIANA UNRA
Why do we have GBC/VAC sensitization on NERAMP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Bank Policy on Funded Projects. • To mitigate GBV/VAC due to labor influx. • Mitigate Teen-age pregnancy. • Mitigate School drop-out rate. • Mitigate spread of HIV/STI in the community. • Reduce unwanted pregnancies. • Maintain cultural/religious values. • Reduce on Divorce and separation rate. 	ISAAC JFCU
What is the scope of work by JFCU?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Dokolo Distict to Kamdini in Oyam through Lira District, Lira City and Kole District. • Sensitization od all mapped schools along the NERAMP on GBV/VAC. • Sensitization of all the GMCs located every 3kms along the NERAMP on GBV/VAC. • Sensitization of communities like Traditional leaders, Local leaders, Religious leaders and civil society on issues concerning GBV/VAC. 	DIANA JFCU

<p>What is GBV and VAC?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence Against Children (VAC) - is defined as physical, sexual or psychological harm of children (i.e. under the age of 18yrs). This also involves labor, financial advantage etc and it also includes other activities such as using computers, mobile phones, or video and digital cameras inappropriately to exploit or harass children or to access child pornography through any medium. • Gender-Based Violence (GBV) - refers to violence against a person based on their sex. • It can also be defined as any conduct, comment, gesture, or contact perpetrated by an individual (the perpetrator) on the work site or in its surroundings that is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to another individual (the survivor) without his/her consent, including threats of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivations of liberty. 	<p>DCDO 0772672792</p>
<p>What are the challenges experienced during sensitization?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crimes are concealed thus various cases are not registered. • Community are biased about referral systems due to corruption. • Mobilizing these communities especially those around trading centers is quite challenging. • Covid 19 pandemic was a great challenge since it halted project activities and community outreaches for about 2 years. • Sensitization meetings are majorly attended by men which leaves women ignorant yet they are victims to violence. • Encourage our children to go to school and complete their studies. • Lets proclaim love and care to our families because a strong family will always stand the taste of time but a divided one will always loose its value through separation. • Lets trust God in everything we do so that in the end, all the glories will finally be given to Him. 	<p>DIANA JFCU</p>
<p>When it rains, running</p>	<p>We need to come and assess the problem so that we are</p>	

water destroys our buildings and compounds because the road channels are either not constructed or blocked. What does UNRA say about that?	able to work out and fix up that problem.	DIANAN UNRA
There are a lot of road accidents along Gulu road. What will JFCU and UNRA do to reduce the accidents?	Zebra crossings and road signs will be erected or enforced around busy areas along the road so as to notify both the drivers and pedestrians using the road. This is an highway which needs to be used carefully since there is a traffic law which governs speeds on highways.	ISAAC JFCU
Why should Amach be mentioned as a hotspot yet it might not be the worst point in Lango?	When Amach is mentioned as a hotspot, it doesn't mean that everybody in Amach is bad or infected. We mean that the sexual activities happens around Amach because of traders who travels from far to trade in Amach.	ISAAC JFCU
Why do you keep roadworkers for so long without letting them go to see their families? That is why they end up spoiling our girls and women.	Road workers are always given leave to go and see their families. The only challenge is that, sometimes it is our families who provokes these wokers and that is why we are calling upon ourselves to take care of our families so that in the end, all of us would be able to enjoy the finished or completed road.	DIANA UNRA
COMMENTS		
Robinah – Amach GMC.	We know there are human behaviours that we may not manage but I encourage JFCU to continuously give us the sensitization. The few who will listen and follow will always be there to carry the country forward.	
Alex - Amach	It is true that there has been a lot of challenges especially as far as GBV and VAC is concerned and that is the reason we are having many street children in the City. People should always take care when they are informed.	
Prof. Olwa – Corner Loro	VHTs should always help in sensitizing the other communities deep in the vilages whomay not be along the NERAMP areas. Dear ladies should always be very careful since they are the most vulnerable to these road workers.	

10.4 DOKOLO DISTRICT STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING

10.4.1 District Health Officer – DOKOLO



The Assistant District Health Officer informed participants that teenage pregnancy among children was very high in the district because of the various problems like poverty, single parenthood as a result of divorce, absent parents adding that, even parents were not playing parenting roles.

Photo 111: DHO Dokolo during stakeholders meeting

She urged all the stakeholders to join hands in helping these children to live a positive life in the community. She noted that some parents decide to beat up a child who refuses to go back to the previous school. She said this child could have sensed some danger at that school like rape, abuse, sexual harassment, or fight.

10.4.2 JFCU TEAM – (P.O)

The main scope of work given to JFCU by UNRA is sensitization of the community on GBV and VAC which are in the forms of physical violence, sexual violence, emotional violence, economic violence and neglect which mainly which involves violation of children's rights.

10.4.3 UNRA

She informed the participants that the meeting was organized with the stakeholders to help in report sharing and forging a way forward in ensuring that there is coordination and partnership among the relevant stakeholders in the fight to mitigate or reduce the incidences of GBV and VAC in the community.

She added that a survey was carried out by JFCU whereby various organs were set up to help in coordination and registration and management on GBV and VAC cases in the community. Mapping of schools, police posts and health facilities was done along the road corridor from Dokolo to Corner Kamdini and Advocacy materials has been in use to help in sending out information to the community.

10.4.4 Resident District Commissioner (RDC)– Dokolo District

The RDC advised that there should be coordination right from the grassroots up to the District level so that all the data concerning GBV and VAC is well documented and followed up to the end adding that assistance on information sharing should be sought from sister NGOs dealing on GBV and VAC.

She advised JFCU to always write their Monthly, quarterly and Annual reports and endeavor to share it with the District Local Governments since these helps the District to include it in their discussion at various meetings that takes place at the District.

Finally, she advised that a memorandum of Understanding should be made immediately with Dokolo District Local Government in order to make JFCU a legally operating NGO in the District as the Law requires and also advised that the District Community Development Office to always be contacted and engaged in all the activities of the organization so that there is well coordinated activity in the community.

10.4.5 SEO – (Senior Education Officer) -Dokolo District

He told the meeting that he had not heard the mentioning of parents in the fight to reduce or fight against GBV and VAC and yet the parents are the primary solution providers in these two issues. He said that teen

age pregnancy rate went high during Covid '19 and parents seriously failed to manage their children adding that he sees a gap parenting abilities and skills.

Photo 112: Stakeholders meeting in Dokolo LG

“Parents are not talking to their children because they lack a better approach in handling adolescence issues with their children”.[SEO]

He encouraged JFCU and commended them for their work and encouraged JFCU to be the **“Joy of Children”** by developing a designing interventions of parental skills to bridge the knowledge gap in the community.



10.4.6 CFPU – DOKOLO POLICE H/Q

The Officer in-charge CFPU Department in Dokolo Police H/Q reported that defilement and rape cases reported to police show that most of the boys and girls whose cases are handled are HIV positive and she encouraged JFCU to strengthen and deepen their sensitization to even the wider community band not only to the road corridor community.

Community policing on GBV and VAC needs to be done jointly with the JFCU team so as to combine the efforts to end injustice in the community. She encouraged the stakeholders to unite their efforts to fight and reduce GBV, VAC as well as other crimes so that the country may have healthy and responsible citizens in Uganda

Table 51: Questions and response during the stakeholders’ meeting in Dokolo District (Production Hall)

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<p>What is JFCU doing for those young girls who are already engaged in prostitution as sex workers in the streets?</p>	<p>We are doing sensitization on GBV and VAC in the community and we do it to everyone. We sensitize, advocate, refer and follow up on issues to ensure that GBV and VAC is reduced in the community.</p>
<p>How is JFCU handling cases of the company workers who are engaged with young ladies sexually?</p>	<p>It against the code of conduct of the company for anyone to engage in unlawful acts in Uganda. As JFCU, we help the victim by making referral to either police for legal redress, local leaders, religious leaders or health facilities.</p>
<p>There are many children who are a product of previous unprotected and unplanned sex with company workers. What has JFCU done to help these innocent children?</p>	<p>The reason for sensitization is to reduce on the occurrence of such unplanned sexual engagement in the community. We also partner with other NGOs like Child Restoration Organization who are currently taking care of the street children by paying school fees, feeding and we shall be starting an economic empowerment training and start up provision for GBV and VAC survivors.</p>

11.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN APRIL 2023



Photo 113: Sensitization of community members on GBV and VAC

During the month of April 2023, the following activities were carried out to strengthen the community to help them prevent GBV and VAC along the road corridor.

1. Quarter stake holder's meeting at community levels at Sub-County/T/C Level.
2. Identification of OVC committees.
3. Sensitization in 5 communities on GBV/VAC at Sub-County level.
4. Formation of male champion groups in 5 Sub-Counties.
5. Referrals of 3 survivors for management to relevant authorities

Methodology used

- ❖ At each Sub-County, Joy For Children first carried out a general sensitization/ awareness of GBV/VAC regarding the NERAMP project in the area to both community and the Sub-County leaders at once and Sub-County leaders who were present also addressed the community.
- ❖ JFCU gave the stake holders/ community a chance to ask questions and responses were given.
- ❖ The CDO's who were present gave a report on whether OVC committees/ structures existed and functional or not.

- ❖ Leaders participation and talking to community members. These included, GMC's, CDO's, CFPU, Sub-County Chiefs, LC3, Religious Leaders, School representatives

(Headmaster), Parish Chiefs, LC1 of the area and for Sub-Counties which were far from the road, Town Council leaders such as the Mayor, the Town Clerk participated.

- ❖ Formation of male Champions in those communities..
- ❖ Pull up stands were used to portray the message of GBV/VAC in communities.
- ❖ Stories/illustrations and examples were given to differentiate between VAC and Children’s Rights.

Mobilization Methods used

- ❖ Community Development Officers were engaged to mobilize the target community.
- ❖ The Parish Chiefs especially in areas directly impacted by NERAMP activities were also engaged.
- ❖ The host area Local council 1 chairperson was also involved.
- ❖ GMC mobiliser in the target community was also engaged.

Attendance

Overall, JFCU Staff reached out to **287** participants including teenagers/ school dropouts, youths, older men, and women; Adok Sub-county had **52** participants (**29** Males and **23** Females), Amwoma Sub-county **40** participants (**30** Males and **10** Females); Awiodyek Sub-county **39** (**27** males, **12** females), Agwata Town Council **86** participants (**19** males, **67** females) respectively, Ayer Town Council **70** participants (**29** males, **41** females) respectively. At Amwoma Sub-County, it was reported that women attended in less numbers because they were engaged in business at Adwoki market since it was a market day. The table below shows details of attendance by gender.

Table 52: Attendance of participants by gender

TARGET PARTICIPANTS Sub-county or Town Council	VENUE	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Adok Sub-county	Hassa Memorial P/S	29	23	52
Agwata Town Council	Council Hall	19	67	86
Wiodyek Sub County	Council Hall	27	12	39
Amwoma Sub-county	Akolodong Parish Hall	30	10	40
Ayer Town Council	Corner Park Trading Centre	29	41	70
General Total		134	153	287

Project Objectives

1. To promote awareness of social risks such as GBV/VAC that are most likely to come up in the project area and how they can be prevented and managed.
2. To promote coordination between JFCU, GMC’s, community and Sub-County/Town council leaders in handling GBV/VAC issues that may come in the project area.

3. To solicit for support from Sub County/ Town Council leaders to improve reporting and referral of cases and victims of GBVVAC in the project area.
4. To be able to find out whether OVC Committees are existing and functional to engage them in project activities.
5. To promote awareness of use of GMCs at each trading center along the road.
6. Get feedback from Sub-County/ Town Council leaders and community regarding community concerns about the road construction.
7. Form the Male Champion Groups in all the visited Sub-Counties to support JFCU as activists in the community.

11.1 Sensitization/ Stake Holder Engagement a Community Levels

Joy For Children Staff shared the genesis of the current road reconstruction and community were informed that World Bank had come up with a policy of sensitizing communities on



issues concerning GBV and VAC since it had been noticed that projects such as road construction contributed to increased GBV and VAC cases in communities where the projects transect.

Photo 114: Sensitization at sub county level

Serious issues identified included increase in the spread of HIV/AIDS, increase in school drop-out, child neglect, increased teenage pregnancies, increased divorce, increased rape, and

defilement among many other negative social impacts. JFCU staff explained the meaning of VAC and GBV, its prevention measures and management. Community was advised to report to authorities like the LC1, GMC, Police, Local leaders, Religious leaders or JFCU in case these vices happen in their communities so that a proper way or channel of referral can be provided to protect the victim. Parents were advised to bring up their children in a healthy way and desist from using violence on them saying, it is the main reason why there are so many street children and out of school young girls in the community. The JFCU staff added that there should be no child labour especially along the road corridor during the road construction saying that whoever will be found encouraging child labour will be arrested and prosecuted in the court of law. During sensitization meetings at Adok and Ayer, some participants complained about GMC'S improper way handling sensitive matters as some of them are found of rumor mongering sensitive issues reported to them. The participant said,

“Should we just beat them up since they cannot help the community?”

Joy For Children staff concluded the sensitization by informing them that a group of male champions were going to be formed. Their roles and responsibilities were also shared with the communities. Identification of male Champions was carried out through election while some were appointed such as the LC1 Chairpersons were appointed to be part of the team as a must. Though in some meetings where the LC1 had missed the meeting, any other member

of LC level in that village was appointed. Community was informed that these Male Champions would be engaged by Joy For Children in reporting all forms of abuse, acting as a source of change and inspiration for men, and being role models for mindset change in the community.

11.1.1 Adok Sub County stakeholders meeting in Dokolo District.

The Community Development Officer for Adok sub-county confirmed that GBV and VAC is real in Adok, and it accounts for the highest crimes committed in the area by the community especially during harvesting season. She said that when a man sells off the farm products and gets a lot of money, he tends to ignore the family who helped him during cultivation and rather, begins going out with other women and spends all the money leaving his own family without food, clothing, school fees and medical responsibilities.

“There is a lot of child neglect in this community. I remember a 12-years and 9-year-old siblings came reporting to me how their father sent them to their mother who earns nothing, for school fees after spending all the money with women in the trading Centre.”
[CDO-Adok SC]

Photo 115: CDO Adok

She advised the community to always report to police as soon as possible when their children get raped or defiled since these are criminal offences that need to be tried in the court of law. She also advised them to report to a health facility in the shortest time so that the victim can be helped especially when it is still within 72 hours from the occurrence of the offence. This

is because the medical practitioner will be able to confirm that either the victim has been infected, raped, or assaulted so that appropriate help can be given.



Table 53: Questions And Responses At Adok Sub County.

QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

<i>UNRA has messed up with our houses along the road in form of leaving our compound ungraded leading to flooding especially</i>	Any construction shouldn't leave the water flooding into people's compound but create a water channel for the runoff water to drain away
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<i>around houses along the road. How does UNRA plan to rectify these problems?</i>	from people's compound. The engineers will assess the problem and work on it as appropriate.
<i>We were to be compensated for our destroyed houses. My neighbors were paid and yet I didn't get paid. How can I get my payment?</i>	You may write a concern to the UNRA about the issue, and they will send their engineers to come and assess the complaint and follow-up on the compensation.
<i>What will UNRA and JFCU do if these road workers get to mess with our children and women?</i>	Children must be protected from all sorts of crime. Our women too deserve the right to be protected from all sorts of abuse. Any criminal offence committed in an area must be reported to the relevant authority for investigation and possible commitment to the court of laws in Uganda.
<i>Previous road workers used to buy drugs like opium from our community here and yet these are the things which make them to commit crimes like rape defilement. What should we do to the new road workers if they follow the same bad behaviors?</i>	Drug dealing and drug abuse is criminal in Uganda. Anybody found to be engaged in these activities must be reported to police and arrested for behaving in a manner that negatively affects the community.
<i>The Group known as GMC's are not helpful to the community. They always go behind you if you report a case to them. Should we just beat them up since they cannot help the community?</i>	Beating a person is not only a violent act but also criminal in Uganda. There are other authorities that we can use to help us during problem solving. We are soon going to strengthen these GMCs to enable them to perform their task properly.
<i>If there is a rape case and it's reported but police decline, what does joy for children do about that?</i>	It is rare that Police will not act on rape cases. If it happens, advised to report to another Police station near or to GMC and LCs for helping and JFCU staff will follow the case to ensure that the perpetrator is put to book and face the courts of law.
<i>The road workers get used to us and our businesses and later get our goods and services and run away without paying. What does World Bank as a funder say about such workers?</i>	These workers have come to stay with us but for a very short period and yet sometimes they are transferred to other areas without our knowledge. Please don't allow unnecessary credit to these road workers unless it is from your whole heart that you want to assist that person who has a challenge at that specific moment.
<i>Can UNRA put for us humps and zebra crossing since we have registered a lot of accidents around here due to speeding vehicles along the highway!</i>	The road contractor will endeavor to put all the necessary road signs and posts including zebra crossings and humps as designed.
<i>How do we trace these road workers when they commit a crime around here since their</i>	Report any offence or crime to the leaders in your area like the LC1, GMC, police, or to the

bosses keep transferring them?

CDO in your area.

11.1.2 Agwata Town Council (Dokolo District) stake holders

Town Clerck Agwata

The meeting was attended by the community comprising of the Town Council leaders, the local community and about 50 school dropouts within Agwata who were being trained in life skill activities like tailoring, brick laying & concrete practices, carpentry, welding, and bakery among others. The Town Clerk cautioned children both boys and girls to be aware all



the problems which may befall them because of sexual harassment, defilement and other sexual abuses which result into violence against a child.

He told the community gathered that HIV/AIDS was real and called for everybody to take care of themselves and the family to stay healthy and enjoy the development the road would bring to

Photo 116: The Town Clerk – the area once the construction is done and completed. He urged them to stop living in regrets but live uprightly for the benefit of their families.

He advised the young boys and girls who dropped out of school and are now doing tailoring training, welding, hair dressing, brick

laying, bakery and so on, not to lose hope but work hard to ensure that they get back to school since there is no age limit in Education.

“I stand here to advice you that you should value

CDO- Agwata Town Council (Dokolo District)

The Community Development Officer of Agwata Town Council in his speech said that GBV and VAC issues were many in Agwata and attributed it to the high rate of school dropout especially among girls in the area.

“GBV and VAC has been and is still among us and has touched each of us in one way or the other. We should be careful when deciding to marry and when choosing our marriage partners.”

[CDO-Agwata TC]



Photo 117: School dropouts attending the meeting at the Town Council

He was puzzled at how religious leaders seem to have left out something very important in raising up good family and urged the institution to redirect their teachings towards raising up a good family since it is the family which is a Godly fulfillment on this earth.

Community was advised to always know and follow all the cultural norms and values instilled in the society like the marriage, friendship, up-bringing and respect to elders and everybody as the only way our society can maintain its virtue.

He added that, it is unfortunate that it is now girls who go after boys looking for “love” which is un-cultural in the society and requested JFCU to develop simple hand-out or booklets on GBV and VAC both in English and Luo so that the rest of the community in Agwata may benefit from the messages being given to the people along the NERAMP area.

He requested that a Council Hall needs to be constructed in Agwata Town Council either by UNRA or Mota-Engil as part of social responsibility since the one they are having is small for a Town Council and really dilapidated and needs renovation.

The Mayor – Agwata Town Council (Dokolo District)

The Mayor noted with concern that most of the community members especially those who have families, can only afford to laugh when relaxing with friends but stay moody while at home because of the level of problems at home raised by poverty.

He advised the community to always make friendship with their families so that even if there are challenges, family members can easily understand the situations they are in and therefore, move forward together as one body.

He also thanked JFCU for the good deliberations during the sensitization and encouraged the young people to always guide their young ones not to fall in the same pit by highlighting to the siblings all the dangers faced when GBC and VAC occurs so that the younger children may grow up avoiding those bad practices and concentrate on studies.

Cultural Leader/ Elder – Agwata Town Council

The leader advised the community to always follow the slogan that the Lango Paramount Chief uses which says:

“wan omito kuc, yotkom kede nyodo” literally translated as ***“we want peace, good health and production of children”***

The cultural leader advised that this slogan was only possible when there are law abiding citizens who are married and healthy. He identified laziness, peer pressure, cash economy, lack of self-control and frustration as key circumstances that surround issues on GBV and VAC in the community which leads people to do useless things in life.

Table 54: questions and responses at agwata town council.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<i>Why are there no humps on some of the centers along the highway and yet there are many accidents occurring on this highway?</i>	Humps and road signs will be put in places as designed especially when the roadwork is completed.
<i>Why is it that UNRA employs only men in our area and yet this is not the case in other areas?</i>	UNRA is the contract manager for Mota Engil and therefore it is Mota Engil that employs workers irrespective of the gender, both skilled and unskilled labour is required during the road construction.
<i>Do you have any vocational training in your program for those young people who are out of school?</i>	Currently, we are conducting community sensitization on GBV and VAC along the NERAMP area. But where need be, we can also liaise with the NGO's offering those training needs so that the school drop-out are trained on vocational activities.
<i>Now that you are engaging people along NERAMP, how will your message reach out to the community who will be coming to the work area in future?</i>	We are not only physically reaching out to the community, but we also have Radio programs where we sensitize people on Radios, and we are able to reach everyone tuned to the Radio.
<i>If there is rape cases and it's reported but police decline to act, what does Joy For Children do about that?</i>	There are very many ways of ensuring that the victim finds justice. You can talk to any leader approachable to help you raise your concern e.g., LC1, CDO, Health centers, RDC, etc. don't keep quiet on a crime.

11.1.3 Awiodyek Sub-County – (Lira District)

The Sub-County Chief – Awiodyek S/C

In his opening remarks, the Sub-County Chief told the community that there are always two things involved whenever there is development taking place in an area and named them as “*good and bad*” things. He added that these two things normally yield to three things “*mat, myel kede mwodo*” literally meaning *disco, dance and feasting* which culminates into issues to do with pregnancy and disease contraction in the community.

He warned the community to be mindful of their society especially around this season when there will be road development and road workers on the road. He concluded that, the



Photo 118 : Stake holders/ community meeting in Awiodyek Sub-County S/C.

community should always value their lives since it can't be bought, get back to school since there is no age limit and regrets in studies and, advised the community not to repeat the same mistake they made in life so that their lives may yield from the wound and be built again.

Chairman LCIII Awiodyek Sub-County – Awiodyek S/C

He started by encouraging the community to always ensure that they spread the knowledge they have acquired to the rest of the community who might have not got the chance to attend the sensitization so that the information benefits the whole community.

He added that, parents should work hard to ensure that their children grow up trained to be good citizens and have good character for the future generation to have a strong and committed people who would take up development to a higher and greater level and avoid being left behind.

He said, ***“there is a scenario which occurred in Awiodyek trading Centre during the previous road work where 12 girls were renting a single room but were able to make it a routine to serve a boy sexually at a go in favor of food and rental”.***

He advised women to keep their marital relationships strong since a married man/woman earns more respect than those who are not yet married or are divorced. He also advised motorbike riders to always be careful and take care while using the road in a bid to reduce on the level of road accident along the highway. He also advised JFCU to extend its sensitization to the community in the trading centers and beyond so that this good message may spread and protect the whole community in Lango sub-region as a whole and requested for a zebra crossing in the area.

CDO – Awiodyek Sub-County.

While deliberating on GBV and VAC during the meeting, the CDO acknowledged that there was a high number of accidents recorded along the highway especially around Awiodyek trading Centre and requested that the Police department should take up the mantle to sensitize the community on the road usage to reduce on the number of accidents in the area.



Photo 119: CDO Awiodyek S/C

He also added that there was high rate of GBV, and VAC recorded in the area due to poverty and cultural decay which has seen most families divided after just a simple issue which could otherwise be resolved without any huddle. He also advised members in the meeting to carry the message they have got from JFCU to the rest of the community so that the vices of GBV and VAC is reduced in the community.

CFPU – Awiodyek Sub-County.

The Officer in Charge Awiodyek Police Post revealed to the members that the most rampant violence committed in Awiodyek was as a result of neglect where most parents ignore their responsibilities of providing for their children’s needs and rights like education, good food, health, and social values. He said that most of the parents had failed to know the difference between rights and violence against children. He mentioned some of children’s rights as, rights to education, health, good home and beddings, food, religion, and culture among others.

He attributed emotional violence as the main contributor to the divorce phenomenon in the area whereby a partner becomes too emotional over a small issue and makes it so big to the extent that the family finally separates all they have gained together as a family turns out to be destroyed and the main people who suffer to this effect are the children who end up going to the street to look for survival.

He concluded by adding that there was a lot of concealment of crime especially by those



involving child marriages and teenage pregnancies of young girls bellow the age of 18 years.

Photo 120: JFCU staff at Awiodyek with community members during sensitization meeting.

He said this has made it very difficult for the police

department to carry out their duties of curbing down the crime in the area.

Table 55: Questions and responses

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<p><i>We have borrowed pits that are not covered, and it poses the risks to our children during rainy season since it collects a lot of water. Whose responsibility is it to cover up the pit?</i></p>	<p>Borrow pits are not allowed to be left un-covered or backfilled. Sometimes it is the owner who through the agreement accepts to cover up the pit and yet they don’t have the required machine to do the work. Area communities should never allow this in future and should task the contractor to always fill-up the pit.</p>

The participants had the following requests and comments.

1. Request for road humps and zebra crossings to reduce on the rate of accidents in the area.
2. Request for sensitization especially on radio on the best road uses to reduce on the level of accident in Awiodyek trading Centre and Awiodyek primary school.
3. Road signs be erected in the area since most of them were stolen by thieves and scrap dealers.
4. Request for Corporate Social Responsibility in form of Awiodyek Health Centre especially along the highway.
5. Request to road contractors who leave the pit on the road uncovered to always cover the dug pit/hole to reduce accidents.

11.1.4 Amwoma Sub County –Dokolo District.

LCIII Chairperson – Amwoma S/C

The chairperson LCIII informed the participants that GBV and VAC had serious negative impacts since it results into enmity and death of the people involved..



Photo 121 : The Sub- County engagement meeting in Amwoma

He also informed the meeting that, giving birth to children without planning was another serious contributor to GBV and VAC in the community in the sense that, the born child would be denied the basic rights he or she deserves like education, health, good home, feeding, and parenthood among other social mistreats by peer and

the child would suffer right from the womb until his or her death while on earth.

He advised married couples to always look for positive solutions whenever they are challenged by problems like poverty so that the marital status is preserved for the betterment of the family and the general community around.

“Let’s learn to handle our problems within ourselves and where need be, involve any responsible person you trust to help you with the solutions to the challenge so that we are able to carry on with our societal image” he advised.

He urged married couples to learn to always tolerate one another.

Sub-County Chief-Amwoma Sub-County.

The Sub-County Chief thanked JFCU and all the community members available for turning up for the meeting in such a great number even though most of the community is engaged in weeding their crops, adding that the meeting organized by JFCU is mainly to offer sensitization on GBV and VAC, its causes, consequences and how to avoid it from happening in the community.



Photo 122: The Sub-CDO Amwoma addressing the community

She said that women were becoming more violent than men in the community. She said it was very unfortunate that whenever one listens to the radio stations, it was very unusual to skip a day without hearing about a woman either beating up a man or even sturbbing him to death using a sharp object like knives and spears.

The Chief advised that JFCU should consider providing psycho-social support to the community who are

generally tortured psychologically or lack moral integrity so that the community may come into terms with life which was sometimes hard or favorable but manageable when efforts are put together. She called upon all the members present to always try hard to endeavor to be like the community educators on issues concerning GBV and VAC since they had been equipped with the knowledge of handling issues and where to report the occurrence of any act that promotes VAC and GBV in the community.

CDO – Amwoma Sub-County

The Sub-County CDO of Amwoma informed the meeting that there was a lot of GBV/VAC which is taking place in the community mainly caused by poverty and drunkenness in families. He said that most of the violence are economic violence, Child Sexual Abuse, and Child Neglect and abandonment. He encouraged JFCU to endeavor and reach out to even the rest of the community widely spread into villages so that most of the families are made aware of the effects of violence in the community and how GBV and VAC can be avoided and where to get assistance when it occurs.

He also requested JFCU to engage other NGO partners to come in and support the community through giving them psycho-social and recovery programs especially to the survivors who will want to be back to school or back to join the families or community they live in.

O/C Police – Amwoma

The O/C station for Amwoma Sub-county advised the community to always try to solve their



issues before they go out of hand which may result into arrests and possible prosecution in the courts of Law.

Photo 123: The O/C Amwoma S/C

He said that when a problem arises in a family, members should be able to get a solution as fast as possible and if this fails, they should be able to involve a third

party who would be able to assist them through advice.

He also called upon the JFCU and other partner NGOs to help the community by continuously sensitizing them since when the sensitization was being done only once and the community tend to forget so soon but when it is done over and over, the community is able to memorize the messages.

Table 56: Questions and answers

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<i>What will JFCU do to those people in villages who will come to the trading Centre during the actual construction?</i>	We have trained GMCs to help in recording, handling, and referring concerns and issues to respective offices for resolutions. We shall also be holding Radio talk show to sensitize the community on GBV and VAC.
<i>What kind of jobs are available in Mota Engil?</i>	There are various jobs in Mota Engil both formal and informal. You can apply for the one you feel you can do. But most of the road construction jobs need energetic people and takes long ours, the advice is that when you are weak either by age or disease, then it is not advisable to apply.
<i>I am keeping a child whose parents are separated but all of them have refused to take care of their child. What advise can you give me since I don't want to continue keeping the child yet both parents are there?</i>	Those parents should be reported to police for child neglect. A child has the right to parents, good feeding, health religion, clothing, education, and others and when the parents are not giving the child those rights, then they should be held responsible.

11.1.5 Ayer Town Council – Kole District.

Town Clerk – Ayer Town Council

The clerk considered the importance of JFCU for considering sensitization as a key activity that needs to be done to the community especially during this period where road workers comprising of different tribes are camping in Kole as they reconstruct the road section in this area.



Photo 124: Community members during sensitization meeting.

He said that during the previous roadwork, children were born by different road workers who ended up going away leaving these children without their fathers and efforts to try to trace them was futile.

He added that some of these children get violence from fellow pupils who provoke them that they are destitute either because of their from single parents or different color acquired from fathers who were mainly Chinese in origin working on the road construction.



Photo 125: JFCU staff during sensitization

He advised the community to take the message from JFCU with seriousness and encouraged them to always report any violence that will happen in the community

so that a faster solution would be found to avoid the increase in the magnitude of the problems. He also urged the community to put the message into action saying that, even if JFCU or the leaders at the District talk and the community fails to put the words got in the

sensitization into action, then it becomes just a waste of time and resource to keep on sensitizing the community.

Mayor – Ayer Town Council.

He advised the community to take that sensitization with utmost seriousness since the leaders



do not want to see the construction work causing more harm to the community than the good intention directed to benefiting the community along the highway.

Photo 126: The Mayor Ayer Town Council

He informed JFCU that constructions like this had caused a lot of problems in the left divorced, businesses stalled, families with unplanned children, crimes and abuses which overwhelmed the Town

council authorities to handle.

He cautioned leaders to always be alert so that the issue concerning GBV, and VAC can be reduced during the construction and advised drivers to make good use of the road by following the traffic Law and avoid over speeding especially around trading centers and schools to reduce on the number of road accidents along the highway.

The Mayor also cautioned women to always go back home early enough to take care of the family especially children other than staying at the trading Centre up to late hours which may cause GBV and VAC in their homes and he advised all the stake holders involved in the road construction to endeavor to work together to reduce on GBV and VAC in the community.

He urged LC1 chairpersons to register all the road workers who may intend to rent houses in their areas so that incase of any crime committed by them, it is very easy to trace them with the company there are working in and called for unity among the community to fight the vice of GBC and VAC in the area.

11.2 Formation of Male Champions/ Male Action Groups.

JFCU also formed Male Champion groups in five Sub-Counties where sensitization was carried out. Male Champions are a group of men who speak out on behalf of girls on



education in their communities and act where possible to see that girls are protected from violence and abuse.

Photo 127: Male Champions of Ayer T/C

These men were carefully selected by the community from within the community.

They are volunteers who have shown themselves to be passionate champions and advocate for girls' education. These Male champions will also work with Mother Groups in conducting community mobilization activities such as community discussion forums. They will have regular contact with child protection committees, workers, Mother Groups, and teachers. Their main responsibilities in the community will be:

- ❖ *Participate in Champion Trainings with JFCU* office in form of phone meetings, in-person meetings. Meetings and trainings are required for Champion and program success. A variety of efforts will be made to make these opportunities as accessible to all Champions as possible.
- ❖ *To Walk the Talk*: Champions are expected to engage in well-being opportunities at the worksite and shouldn't be victims of abuse.
- ❖ *Communicate and Promote*: Champions spread the word about well-being initiatives and invite participation. They post flyers, send emails, talk with co-workers, and make time during meetings to share information about well-being. Champions serve as a primary point of contact for the community and JFCU office.
- ❖ *Report Back*: Champions will be asked to provide information on success stories within the community.

Engaging men and boys to champion girls and women's rights is not a new idea. Men hold influence and power and often are the decision makers where their daughters and women in their families are concerned. The way men behave towards women is also important because of how boys learn from the role models around them.

11.3 Referral of survivors of GBV and VAC.

JFCU received 3 cases regarding VAC in the community and schools though they were not caused by road workers. One case was about child neglect from Kamdini Town Board where 5 children were left neglected/ abandoned after the divorce from their parents and the person who reported was advised to report to the nearest police post in the area while the other case was about psychological torture from pupils and a teacher.

She was referred to the CDO of Adok Sub-County and the Head master of her school for follow up. JFCU intends to follow her up. JFCU also received a call regarding VAC from one of the schools which were sensitized in the month of Feb, 2023 where a certain teacher was interested in having a love affair with a student who reported to the Deputy Head master who handled the case and also informed JFCU to come and intervene. The student was counselled and the authorities of that same school requested JFCU to go back to their school and sensitize and also conduct a counselling session of students since students are always reporting various issues since the time JFCU went to that school. The Head master of Amuca SDA also requested JFCU to also consider holding a sensitization meeting with the staff room to reduce such incidencies of teachers harrassing students.

11.4 Challenges and Actions Taken

- Delay and late release of activity fund which made mobilization very hard and yet mobilization is key in sensitization of the community. The team had to use all the possible means to ensure that the mobilization is done though through a lot of hard challenges.

- Heavy rainfall affected the exercise especially on the day of Adok Sub county sensitization. Team waited for the community who were already mobilized to come for the meeting after rain even though the facilitator was already wet all over.
- Lack of office camera affected the photo coverage. The phone cameras used are of poor quality and this has really affected the quality of pictures used in the report.



Photo 128: Boys Champions

12.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN MAY 2023

This section gives details on activities that were implemented to support in mitigating the social risks in the month of May, 2023.

Summary Of Activities Implemented.

1. Engaged/ conducted sensitization of religious and cultural leaders.
2. Conducted a radio talk show on Voice of Lango FM.
3. Conducted counselling of GBV case.
4. Referral.
5. Engaged/ conducted sensitization of religious and cultural leaders.

Objective of Engaging Religious and Cultural Leaders

- a) To promote awareness of social risks such as GBV/VAC that are most likely to come up in the project area during the road construction period and how they can be prevented, mitigated or managed in our communities.
- b) To explain the roles and relationship between JFCU, UNRA and Mota Engil in the NERAMP and all the other stakeholders engaged in NERAMP activities.
- c) To get feedback from these leaders regarding road construction including their experiences in the past road construction projects.
- d) Sensitize religious and cultural leaders about NERAMP, GBV, VAC prevention, management and reporting. Religious and cultural leaders meet very many people and they are very influential in the society thus easing penetration of JFCU in various churches and communities through religious and cultural leaders.

Methodology used during sensitization.

- Both religious and cultural leaders were *mobilized in one meeting held in Mama Theresa Guest house* located near Lango Sports Ground and All Saints University Lango along Boroboro road.
- During sensitization, *the meeting was participatory* and thus participants were encouraged to ask questions, give comments or share their experience on GBV and VAC issues.
- *Use of pull-up banners with the messages* on GBV and VAC during the sensitization meeting.

Mobilization Methodology used

- Phone calls were made to 10 identified religious leaders under various denominations and also to 07 identified cultural leaders within Lira City.
- Text messages were also sent to participants who could have been out of network so that whenever they would reach where there is network, they would get the message.

Summary of Achievements

- i. All the targeted participants were in attendance.

- ii. UNRA was represented and was able to answer questions concerning road construction.
- iii. Received and answered phone calls from the participants especially the religious leaders who were calling JFCU for clarity on how to consider certain challenges with victims of both GBV and VAC.
- iv. A referral from a Sheik of Uganda Muslim Supreme Council Lira, of a woman who has been supporting 14 orphans single-handedly was received by the JFCU staff.

12.1 Sensitization of Religious and Cultural Leaders in Lira City

Joy for Children Uganda (JFCU) conducted a sensitization meeting with both the religious and cultural leaders on Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children Lira City. The meeting which took place in Mama Theresa Guest House in Ireda City, East Division, had 07 traditional leaders with one-woman traditional leader, three youth leaders and three clan leaders. In attendance were also 10 religious leaders from Catholics (02), Anglican (02), Muslims (03) and the Born Again Churches (03). The meeting was facilitated by a team from JFCU and also UNRA representative.

Participants were very active as indicated by the questions they asked facilitators, and also



the testimonies and contributions regarding GBV and VAC.

Photo 129: showing cultural and religious leaders attending sensitization meeting on GBV/VAC and NERAMP

UNRA official highlighted to the leaders in the meeting about the project activities and the scope of the activities to be done on the project. She made mention of the contract being

undertaken by JFCU and all the other stakeholders involved in the project.

Contributions by Participants

- One of the leaders gave a story of a certain foreign road worker who was working on Soroti road, how he married and had 4 children with a lady but later went to Kampala with her wife when the contract ended he disappeared and boarded a plane, leaving the wife in Kampala with only 5,000/= as lunch money. ***“When I met the lady stranded in Kampala as she explained to me, I just advised her to travel back home and take care of her children”***

- Another participant brought in an idea that JFCU should come up with a counselling strategy or start some small project activities like training girls from areas that are hotspots like Jinja Camp, Camp Swahili and areas around Kakoge. He said that these areas have busy business activities like street vending, bars, lodges, trailer drivers, etc. which encourages these young girls into the street and sexually abused hence ending up getting pregnant or infected by HIV. ***“These girls are not on the street for men but for money. We can preach GBV & VAC in our churches and mosque but without money, our messages are rendered useless.”***
- Another leader advised JFCU and UNRA to at least start including cultural leaders in the talk shows and community meetings or sensitization and also to support the young victims who could not continue with studies especially girls who have children to fend for, with hand works like weaving and hair dressing, tailoring and garment cutting, braidery, handwork materials, etc.
- A reverend advised men to always get back home early enough so that they are able to bring up their children together as a family to avoid the issues of abusing a child for the failure of a parent to bring up a child in a good way and advised fellow religious leaders to always preach the true gospel to the followers other than just minting money from heartbroken members during prayers.
- Another leader encouraged leaders to try as much as possible to reach out to the community they serve and help them to avoid GBV and VAC since it is no longer a regional challenge but a challenge all over the country.

Table 57: Questions and responses.

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
<i>Does UNRA also talk to these road workers about how to engage with the community before they are given contract?</i>	We normally talk to them and they also have their regulations to be followed but human beings are sometimes hard to deal with. However, when you find any violation in the community, please report as soon as possible so that actions can be taken against the wrong doer before they escape either from the company or country.
<i>Men also face domestic violence in the community but since most people are concerned with women, men don't report any violence. Where exactly should men report violence against them?</i>	GBV occurs to both men and women and they report at the same offices like CDO's, CFPU, Vice Chairpersons of the Local Council, etc. Sometimes it is pride and fears that make men never to report the violence they go through.
<i>Is there anything JFCU can do for those girls who have dropped out of school and are trying to look for a living on the streets?</i>	Our main activity is concerned with GBV and VAC issues in relation to NERAMP area in Lango sub region. JFCU is dedicated to working with children, families, and communities to end injustice to children and women. However, we have a component of Providing Economic empowerment training and start up provision for GBV and VAC survivors.
<i>Now that you are concentrating on the communities along NERAMP area, what will you do for the bigger</i>	Apart from the sensitization activities in schools and communities along the road, we have been having

<p><i>community out there who are most vulnerable to GBV and VAC?</i></p>	<p>stake holders' meetings with political, civil and local leaders both at the District and sub-county levels who are encouraged to take the message to the communities they serve. We have also carried out radio talk shows which has enabled us to reach out to the mass effectively.</p>
<p><i>When we report cases of GBV and VAC to authorities especially police department, nothing serious is done, what can JFCU and UNRA advise us to do?</i></p>	<p>We do have various places where we can report cases of GBV and VAC and they are willing to handle the case e.g. CDO's office, Local Council offices, religious leaders, cultural leaders, line NGOs, Human Rights offices and JFCU. We should always report violence cases so that the vice is reduced or minimized in the community.</p>

12.2 Sensitization Through Radio Talk-Show On Voice of Lango Fm (88.0)

Objectives of Conducting a Radio Talk Show

- To be able to sensitize widely, the negative social issues of GBV/VAC that could arise because of NERAMP.
- To promote awareness of the GMC system in the community and their roles on NERAMP so that community can make use of it.
- To promote awareness of GBV/VAC in relation to NERAMP project.

JFCU staff conducted a radio talk-show on GBV and VAC on Voice of Lango FM. The talk-show hosted two participants from JFCU, 2 participants from District Community



Development Department and a participant from AMACODE which is a local based NGO operating in Kole District.

Photo 130: showing facilitators in the radio Talk show at Voice of Lango FM.

During the talk-show, listeners were briefed on the NERAMP activities especially from Dokolo to Oyam road works. They were made to

understand what roles are played by different stakeholders involved in the road project. Listeners were also sensitized on the meaning of gender-based violence and Violence against children, causes, types of violence, forms of violence, effects and way forward incase these

violations happen in the community. They were also encouraged to call in during the show to either give their comments, make submissions, experiences, and testimonies or ask questions in regard to the on-going road construction in relation to GBV and VAC.

One of the callers from Amach Trading Centre noted with concern how young girls of these days pay deaf ears to their parents.

“Our children always make mistakes even after advising them but as parents, we should always endeavor to pick them up again to better their lives. Mistakes are human but education does not mind about age so don’t be harsh on your children when they go astray but encourage them that they can make it again in life.”

Table 58: Questions and responses.

QUESTIONS	RESPONSES
<i>The road project has taken several years now but we do not see any tangible progress on the road. When is the road construction ending?</i>	The road construction has taken longer period than it was planned because of the Corona virus lockdown which made the work to delay for two years. But the work is on-going and we shall have one of the best road in the country once the road is completed.
<i>What can we do with these girls who are already pregnant and others have children and they are out of school?</i>	These girls are our children and we cannot deny them a better future. They can still be taken back to continue with studies so long as they are willing. Others can be encouraged to enroll for a vocational skilling so as to get knowledge and skills for doing economic activities to support them.
<i>My wife does not listen to me and doesn’t not mind about children’s welfare or home even if I talk to her. I don’t even want to beat her and break the law. What should I do?</i>	Involve elders in your community to try and talk to her. She should be made to know that child neglect is already a VAC and it is punishable by law if reported.
<i>Young children are being allowed in disco halls in the City here. What can we do to the owners of those disco halls?</i>	The law prohibits children below the age of 18 years from going to disco halls or even drinking alcoholic substances. Always report to police or local leaders in the area so that appropriate action is taken on those disco owners.
<i>Children are no longer listening to their parents. If you stop a girl from certain behaviors that she is still young, she doesn’t listen and yet when you punish her, they say you are violating her right. What do we do then?</i>	Incase children no longer listen to their parents, try and get a suitable person to help talk to them. Punishment sometimes may not help so long as the child has not understood what is expected of them to be good citizens in future. As a parent, you should have time to talk to your children about consequences of doing good or bad things.

12.3 Referral

JFCU tempted to do a referral for a case that had been presented, however, the survivor did not give consent since she claimed that she had made up her mind not to reunite with her husband again and did not also want issues to go far.

12.4 Challenges and actions taken

Table 59: Challenges and remedies

CHALLENGE	ACTION
Almost all the cultural leaders within the City (Lira City) are high profiled political leaders, business men or civil workers who were out of reach or could not spare time for the meeting.	They sent their representatives to attend the meeting on their behalf.
Some radio callers were emotional on issues concerning GBV and VAC on the way some leaders who should help victims behave.	They were encouraged never to give up but try other level of leaders so that they are helped and also to call on JFCU for help.
Most churches in the city have tight programs on Fridays especially prayers, deliverance and choir practice programs from morning to evening which made it hard for the invited leaders to attend the meeting.	They managed to send their representatives to attend the meeting.
About 20% of the invited leaders were unreachable either because of network challenge or low batteries.	Short messages (SMS) were sent to them and most of them responded by calling back after receiving the message.
Most of the leaders are moved by the amount of money they will get in a meeting as a sitting allowance or transport refund after the meeting	A moderate transport refund was given to the participants.

Annexes

Monthly Summary Table of Activities carried out

The summary table below shows the monthly activities carried out and outputs of people reached during the activities.

Table 60: Summary outputs by month

Month	Summary of Activities carried out.
June 2022	VAC and GBV sensitization in 10 primary and secondary school. 446 children sensitized about types of GBV and VAC, prevention, referral and reporting
July 2022	Sensitization of road construction workers about about types of GBV and VAC, prevention, referral and reporting GBV and VAC cases VAC and GBV sensitization in 10 primary and secondary school Distribution of GBV and VAC IEC materials in schools and communities Meeting district officials to discuss about JFC roles in NERAMP project in districts Community sensitization about GBV and VAC issues Meeting 11 GMCs in 11 communities while carrying out sensitization on GBV and VAC Prevention, referral and reporting
August 2022	Sensitization in 7 communities about GBV and VAC issues Distribution of VAC and GVC IEC material in 7 communities
September 2022	Sensitization in 5 communities about GBV and VAC issues (181 community members sensitized) Sensitized 28 learners in schools about VAC and GBV issues mainly on types of GBV and VAC, prevention, reporting/referral of survivors
October 2022	Sensitization on GBV and VAC in 6 communities/GMCs Distribution of 181 IEC materials on GBV and VAC in schools and communities Reached 83 participants and sensitized them about VAC and GBV issues mainly on types of GBV and VAC, prevention, reporting/referral of survivors
November 2022	Stakeholders meeting (26 participants) in Lira city and discussed about VAC and GBV issues in the project districts 50 Mota Engil construction workers sensitized about VAC and GBV issues mainly

	<p>on types of GBV and VAC, prevention, reporting/referral of survivors</p> <p>32 cultural and religious leaders sensitized about VAC and GBV issues mainly on types of GBV and VAC, prevention, reporting/referral of survivors and their roles to prevent occurrence of GBV and VAC through community awareness during prayers .</p>
December 2022	<p>4 Community sensitization meetings held about VAC and GBV issues mainly on types of GBV and VAC, prevention, reporting/referral of survivors- 118 participants reached.</p> <p>24 GMC meetings held in Dokolo and Ilra district about GBV and VAC case reporting and referral pathways</p> <p>Distributed GBV and VAC IEC materials in communities and schools</p>
January 2023	<p>Community sensitization on GBV and VAC using road drive methodology in 6 communities</p> <p>Distributed stickers with IEC messages on GBV and VAC prevention messages in 6 communities</p>
February 2023	<p>Held 10 sensitization meetings on GBV and VAC in 10 schools. Total of 818 children sensitized.</p> <p>Held one community sensitization meeting on GBV and VAC issues. A total of 31 community members reached</p> <p>Held 5 meetings with 5 groups of Mota Engil workers (50 workers reached).</p>
March 2023	<p>Lira District stakeholders meeting on GBV and VAC issues in the district</p> <p>Radio Talk show in Lira District</p> <p>Dokolo stakeholders meeting on GBV and VAC issues in the district</p>
April 2023	<p>Held stakeholders meetings in Dokolo and Kole districts</p> <p>Identification of OVCs</p> <p>Carried out 5 sensitization meetings about GBV and VAC in 5 Communities. About 287 persons reached with messages on GBV and VAC related issues</p> <p>Formation of 5 male champion groups in 5 Sub counties</p>
May 2023	<p>Sensitization of religious and Cultural leaders</p> <p>Carried out Radio Talk show on GBV and VAC in relation to NERAMP project</p> <p>Carried out counselling of GBV survivor</p>