

UGANDA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (UNACOH)



Annual Report
2016



Group Photo with Jinja District Leadership under Alcohol Control Project



Drama activity in Masindi District under Alcohol Control Project

Annual Report 2016

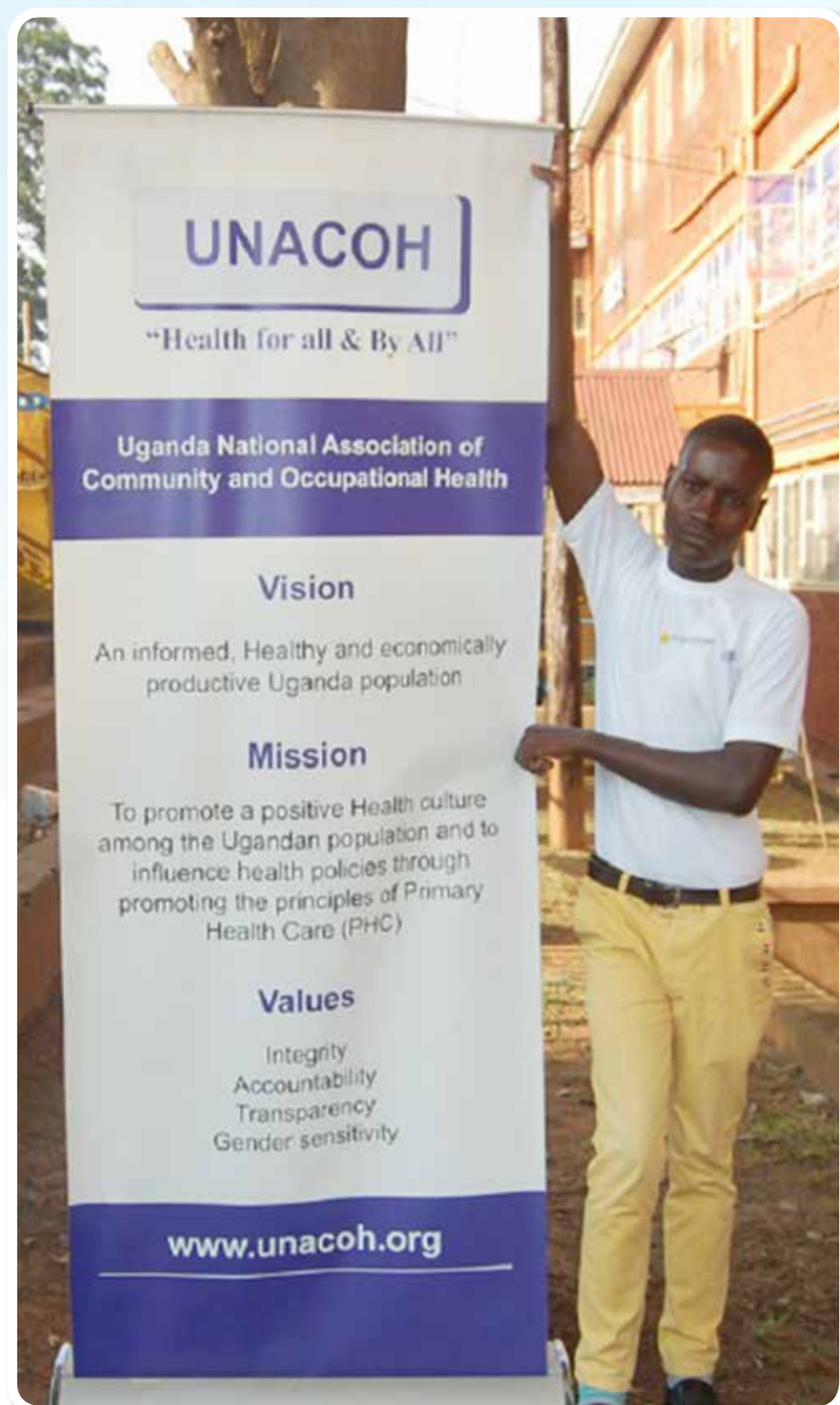
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List of Abbreviations

UNACOH:	UGANDA National Association of Community and Occupational Health
PHE	Pesticide use, Health and Environment Project
PPPH	Public Private Partnership for Health
AFPHA	Africa Federation of Public Health Association
WFPHA	World Federation of Public Health Association
WHO	World Health Organization
NEC	National Executive Committee
JASHC	Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference
UAP	Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance
TOT	Training of Trainers
VHT	Village Health Team
AGM	Annual General Meeting
SACCO	Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization
DGAL	Directorate of Government Analytical Laboratories

Who we are



National Executive Committee

2016/2017



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Remarks from the President

UNACOH aims at promoting a positive health culture and influencing healthy public policies in Uganda through: advocacy, information, education, communication (IEC), research and service.

UNACOH has continued to pursue this goal through building a strong well-coordinated team and making appropriate public health intervention.

I am honored to chair the current UNACOH National Executive Committee (NEC). Through our oversight function as a Board, we managed to reach out to some of our District Branches like Jinja, Mbale and Budaka. This was part of a wider plan of re-activating activities in the 21 District Branches across the country.

We do appreciate the commitment, energy and zeal that members in their different capacities have exhibited during the year 2016 in furthering UNACOH Mission. It was a busy year and one that set the pace for many things we intend to do in 2017. This year marked the end of the Strategic Plan 2012-2016. In the next Strategic Plan, 2017-2021 we hope to see a UNACOH that will be better positioned and more relevant to deliver on its mandate. This report highlights the work that UNACOH has done in the past year, and I would like to thank everyone who has made a contribution to the fulfillment of our mandate. We know that it takes a lot of effort and time to ensure that each activity is implemented. We look forward to the continued support of each and every one.

We thank the Government of Uganda through its ministries, departments and agencies, as well as district local governments and our partners, both local and international, for continuing to support our cause of promoting health of all Ugandans.

Kadama

Dr. Patrick Kadama



Remarks from the Ag. Executive Director

The year 2016 was an eventful year for UNACOH. We engaged UNACOH members, interacted with the health scientific community in Uganda and abroad, engaged in meetings and discussions with local and central governments, and had community level health activities in a number of districts.

During the year, we established a new database of Members, recruited new members and held District Branch workshops that came up with strategies of membership recruitment, retention and re-activation of the District Branches. As regards engagement with the Scientific Community, we continued to work with Makerere University College of Health Sciences in organizing the Joint Annual Scientific Health (JASH) Conference, worked with the School of Public Health Institution Review Board and National Council of Science and Technology in approving our research projects. In addition, some of our research findings were published.

On the Advocacy platform, UNACOH had national and district level engagements with leaders on various policy matters like the establishment of the National Poisoning Centre with the Directorate of Government Analytical Laboratories (DGAL) and Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture on Regulation of Agro Chemicals, and discussion about the formulation of sub county By-laws and District Ordinances, on Alcohol control. At the community level, we managed to make interventions involving active community participation. For example the involvement of Village Health Teams and other local stakeholders was pursued in the various projects implemented.

On the partnership front, we have had several MOUs signed with new partners. At regional and International levels UNACOH is a member of AFPHA and WFPHA, respectively. UNACOH members have been involved in a number of AFPHA and WFPHA activities.

This report is a snapshot of UNACOH's work in 2016. We hope you will enjoy it and the short videos at our Website.

We especially thank most graciously our partners countrywide and beyond. Specially, we thank the CISU and DIALOGOS for supporting the Pesticide Use, Health and Environment Project for the last six years; IOGT NTO Movement, WHO, USAID, and the different Government Ministries and District Local Governments for the invaluable support and cordial cooperation in our service to improve the lives of Ugandans.



Dr. D.K. Sekimpi

1. Introduction

This report covers the activities carried out during the years 2016, guided by UNACOH's Strategic Plan 2012-2016. The active participation and commitment of UNACOH NEC members, staff and the continued support and collaboration of our partners made it possible for us to achieve the results that are being reported under the four strategic Objectives below

1. *To promote a positive health culture among the Ugandan population;*
2. *To influence decision makers at all levels to make and promote healthy Policies on PHC principles;*
3. *To build capacity of UNACOH to remain an effective contributor to the national dialogue for sustained health action;*
4. *To Strengthen the financial sustainability of UNACOH.*

2. Governance and Management

2.1 National Executive Committee

The National Executive Committee (NEC) implements the decisions of the Annual General

Meeting. NEC is chaired by the President/ Vice President. Its main role is to oversee the activities of Secretariat, Subcommittees and programs. The Committee has had regular monthly meetings with active participation of most of the members, It is chaired by the President, Dr. Patrick Kadama, elected at the AGM of 2015, replacing Dr. Peter Eriki who had served his two full term of four years.

2.2 Secretariat

The Secretariat headed by the Ag. Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, has a staffing of 18 employees, out of whom 12 are full staff and 6 are part-time /Volunteers. Under PHE Project support, the organization has undertaken capacity building trainings for some members of staff, in form of further studies and also organized Board members and staff trainings during annual retreat. This year's retreat had training in Research, Letter Writing, writing scientific articles, Journals. During retreats, UNACOH NEC members and staff reflect on organizational development issues, like membership development, projects Development, Strategic plan, Monitoring and Evaluation, Resource mobilization among others. Action teams are now in places to deliver on the above core areas.



Annual General Assembly, 2015

2.3 Staff Training and Development

As part of Capacity Development, a training workshop was arranged under the PHE Project to build staff capacity in Research Methods and Data Analysis. The five days' training involved ten staff from the different projects at the Secretariat. The training took place at Makerere University School of Food science and Technology. Also during the year, as part of the Monitoring and Supervision under the PHE Project the Administration/Finance and Audit team visited the Project offices in Pallisa and Wakiso with the aim of meeting the project beneficiaries to get a feel and feedback about the project, but also to be updated on the running of the offices.



Research Training



A Visit to Pallisa Office

3. Project Implementation

3.1 Pesticide Use, Health and Environment (PHE) project.

The Project has been running for 6 years, funded by Dialogos, a Danish-based Organization. The project aims at reducing negative health and environmental effects of pesticide use in Uganda, currently being implemented in Pallisa and Wakiso districts.

Several other groups in the project communities like Agro Dealers, Spray men, and Schools have benefited from the training and general public through mass media.

A number of activities have been carried out in the PHE project this year like refresher training for Health Care Workers, VHT's, Health Educators, Public spray-men,

extension workers, School sensitization, Fruit fly Trap Distribution, Newsletter production, Radio talk show programmes, drama shows through drama groups; and the activities were carried out with the help of IEC materials.

The project also promoted the use of biological methods like Push-Pull methods, pheromone traps amongst trained farmers, community and agro-dealers on IPM methods in collaboration with the district authorities majority (89.3%) using alternative methods to manage pests and diseases.

Workshops and Seminars with different Universities were also done and this involved IEC materials which included school booklets which were distributed to schools and universities, and studies that also included submission of scientific articles to different scientific journals.



Field Monitoring in Wakiso under PHE Project



VHT Community Sensitization in Wakiso

In 2016, the PHE team together with the Danish medical students carried out a study aimed at assessing the health care workers' knowledge on diagnosing, management and treatment of pesticide poisoning cases in the health care units of Wakiso, Pallisa, Mukono and Kumi districts.

The project involves all stakeholders in the planning and implementation of Project activities at community, District and National level. These include, farmers, Village Health Teams, Sub-County chiefs, CAOs and the line department heads, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and other partner organizations.

3.2 Alcohol Control Project

This project runs in two districts of Masindi and Jinja. It is funded by IOGT NTO Movement and the main objective of the project is to reduce on the absenteeism of workers, industrial injuries and social crime due to alcohol use. The project has carried out awareness campaigns on the dangers of alcohol consumption on social and economic welfare of the communities. The project embraces the principle of community involvement and participation, which is evidenced by the Village Health Teams and local leaders' full involvement in the planning and implementation of the project activities and this has made it possible for it to run smoothly.

The project has registered success in working with communities to come up with by-laws to regulate alcohol consumption after community members realizing the social economic impact of alcohol. These include the following;

Increased advocacy and participation of leaders in regulation of alcohol consumption. The project registered 152 local leaders who participated in formulation of by-laws and advocacy of alcohol consumption regulation activities. These participated in various activities including: mobilization of community meetings during the formulation process, active involvement in the planning of alcohol regulation advocacy activities, introducing alcohol regulation to council meetings as well as taking on roles and responsibilities in regulation of alcohol in their communities.

As a result of the increased participation and advocacy amongst leaders in regulation of alcohol consumption, all sub counties in the project areas have developed alcohol control by-laws ready for district endorsement. Some community leaders have started implementing sections of these by-laws especially those regarding drinking-hour-restriction.



Meeting with Jinja District Leadership under Alcohol Control Project

Community contribution and involvement in project design increased cost efficiency by reducing the overall cost of achieving some of the project results and these have been in form of space, effort and time, planning and management. More collaboration with other community groups including youth groups, women groups, sports groups, saving groups and grass root organisations in the community motivation of stakeholders also contributed to greater efficiency.

There has been formulation of village saving and loan groups in the sugar producing communities in various villages. As a result, community members have been able to invest in other income generating activities. For example, Umoja Village Saving and Loan Association in Nyabyeya Parish in Masindi District was able to save 27 million Uganda shillings and have been able to invest in better income generating activities such as commercial farming.

The use of VHTs and TOTs to undertake an alcohol use reduction campaign in the sugar industries and surrounding communities. As a result of these campaigns, communities have supported the formulation and implementation of alcohol control regulation, increased number of those now abstaining from alcohol and others reducing their consumption patterns in the process of stopping completely.

3.3 Public-Private Partnerships for Health (PPPH) Project



UNACOH was contracted by USAID Private Health Support Program to work with MOH to strengthen its Public Private Partnership for Health (PPPH) Node. The one year project started in November, 2016 and will end in October, 2017

The project focuses on two main strategies

- 1) Formalizing and operationalizing the Public Private Partnership Node in the Ministry of Health
- 2) Building support among key Ministry of Health decision makers for Public Private Public Partnerships in health.

The project activities include the following

- a) Conducting analysis of other country Public Private Partnership (PPP) Units and nodes in the health sector in order to make recommendations on how to organize Uganda's PPPH node.
- b) Analyzing the existing PPPH structure set out in the Uganda PPPH policy.
- c) Drafting organizational charts/linkages of the PPPH node in and out of the Ministry of Health.
- d) Developing staffing plans and individual work plans for the staff at the PPPH node at the Ministry of Health.
- e) Drafting implementation guidelines for PPPHs and establishing operation systems and tools to implement PPPs in the health sector.
- f) Training Ministry of Health staff and private sector as trainers of trainers in PPPH.
- g) Conducting an analysis to inform a PPPH five year strategy.
- h) Developing the implementation Plan for the PPPH 5 year Strategy.
- i) Presenting the draft PPPH five year strategy to secure buy-in and support.
- j) Conducting a baseline survey of public private partnerships in Uganda in order to create a data base of Public Private Partnership in Health
- k) Strengthening Ministry of Health leadership capacity in Public Private partnership in Health
- l) Assisting the Ministry of Health to broker at least one simple Public private partnership in Health

- m) Reviewing the composition of the Public Private Partnership Technical Working Group and aligning it to the PPP law and PPPH policy

4. Project Proposal Development

The committee was able to develop and submit a total of 7 proposals for possible funding and by the end of the year, two proposals had been approved for funding – Mercury Free Gold Mining Project, supported by CICU/ Dialogos and PPPH Project by USAID. Some other potential funders where proposals were submitted included; WHO, TASO, UNDP, Action Fund among others.

5. Information Sharing and Dissemination

Annual Scientific Conference and Dr. Mathew Lukwiya Memorial Lecture

The chief organizers of this 12th Joint Health Conference were UNACOH and Makerere College of Health Sciences and World Health Organization. The conference was held at Kabira Country Club, 12-23 September, 2016.

This conference was attended by about 320 participants who comprised of students from various Universities, Lecturers, representatives from civil society Organizations and the general public. The

Conference drew both local and international participants from different countries such as South Africa, Nigeria, Cameroon, Mozambique, USA, Southern Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia among others.

The Guest of Honor was Prof. Ezra Suluma, the Chancellor, Makerere University, who also gave a Keynote Speech. The 15th Dr. Mathew Lukwiya Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Peter Eriki the past President of UNACOH.

There were 114 presentations made in form of oral and poster presentations on various sub-themes that included National Planning and Sustainable Development Goals for Health,, Health in All Policies, Health Systems, Community Health, TB, Research and Development, Non-Communicable Diseases, Occupational Health and Safety, HIV/AIDS, Public Health, Health Systems, Infectious Diseases, Cardiovascular Diseases, Maternal and Child Health, and Health Professions Education.

The conference sponsors included,, University of Minnesota, MESAU, USAID Infectious Disease Institute, Child Health and Development Center, Ministry of Health, , MBN, IMMY, PATH, PART,SEEK-GSP, and the main organizers - UNACOH, WHO, School of Medicine and School of Public Health.

The three day event was crowned with recognition of some individuals and organizations with Awards and a Cocktail.

“Sharing Health information with members, Scientific Community, Policy Makers and Public at Large”



Group Photo of Conference Participants at Kabira Country Club, 2016



Some of the IEC materials used in training and Advocacy work

6. Policy and Advocacy

Under the PHE Project, a lot of advocacy work was done particularly in the following areas: mainstreaming the training materials of the Project, Getting the National Poisoning Centre operational, engaging various Universities regarding this use/inclusion of Pesticide material in their training Curriculum. On the side of Alcohol Control Project, advocacy efforts were directed towards the formulation of Community Alcohol Control By-laws. The project mobilized support from the Local leaders and by the close of the year all project sub-counties had formulated their By-laws. As a member of UAP Newark, we participated actively in several engagement meetings with Members of Parliament and relevant Ministries regarding the formulation of the National Alcohol Control Policy and supporting the Private Member's Bill on the regulation of Alcohol Consumption.

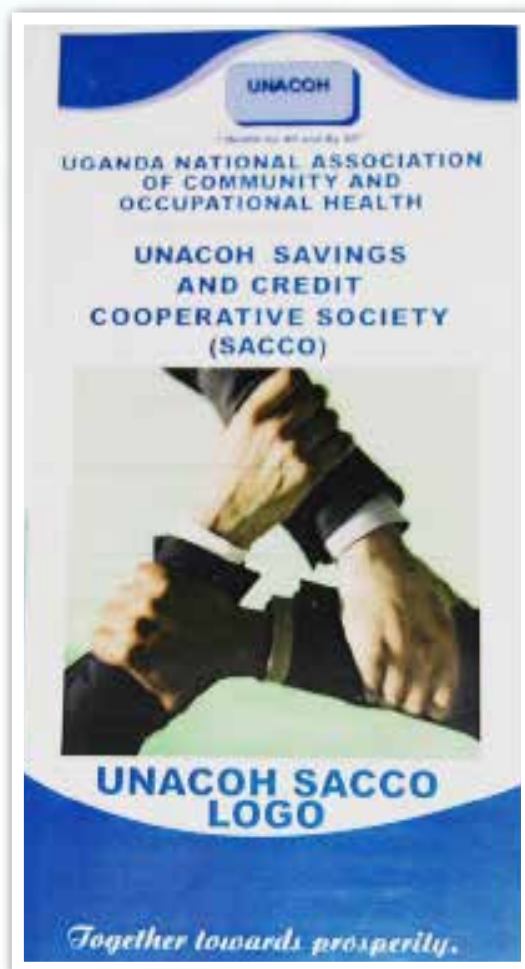
7. Membership Development

In July 2016, a District Branch Workshop was held in Kampala at Emerald Hotel with the main objective of re-activating the District Branches. The Workshop was attended by District Branch

representatives from Kampala, Kasese, Mbale, Pallisa, Jinja and Budaka. The meeting discussed issues affecting Membership Development and came up with a one year Workplan aimed at improving membership recruitment, retention and Re-activating the Branches. At the Close of the year, Jinja and Mbale Branch meetings had been held with the team from the center.

8. UNACOH SACCO

At the close of the year, the SACCO had 21 registered members, with a total saving of UGX 8.6Million. The Annual General Meeting was held in October, 2016 and some Constitution amendments made. The Management Committees were formed that included the Main Committee, Chaired by Mr. Massy Moses Kasule (RIP), Credit Committee and Investment Committee.



9. Volunteering and Internship

UNACOH, as part of the mentorship program avails opportunities especially to young undergraduates and graduates out of Universities and Colleges, both local and international to gain practical experience by recruiting and deploying them in various organization activities. Some of the activities they are involved in include; administration work, project activities that may involve data collection for research, Report writing, accounts, logistics and procurement among others.

Under the program, this year, UNACOH received interns from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark through Dialogos. The Students participated in a study on Assessing the Training of HealthCare Workers under the PHE Project and the publication was expected in early, 2017. In the same year, five (5) Volunteers worked with UNACOH, four (4) of whom were attached to the Secretariat and one (1) attached to Pallisa PHE Project Office.



An Intern from Denmark conducting a research interview with a Health Worker in Mukono District

10. Affiliation to other Bodies

Locally, UNACOH is a member of National NGO Forum and a member of the Alcohol Policy Alliance (UAP).

During the year, UNACOH participated in the Forum's activities that included, the Annual General Meeting and discussion of the NGO Act and draft regulations. As members of UAP, our participation was very visible in support of the Private member's bill and discussion of

the draft National Alcohol Control Policy.

At the Regional/Continental level, UNACOH is a member of the African Federation of Public Health Association (AFPHA). During the year, UNACOH was represented in Nigeria and Malawi on a mission to establish the training institutions/Colleges that offer training for Public Health Professionals and their method of training.

At the International Level, UNACOH is a member of the World Federation of Public Health Association (WFPHA), and was represented at the Annual General Assembly in Geneva by Dr. Patrick Kadama, the current President of UNACOH. Also, UNACOH reported its activities in the WFPHA Annual Report and participated in the “Photos of the year competition”. We were among the best member Associations that presented the best photos depicting their work. In addition, we participated in the WFPHA Chatter discussions.

11. Financial support

The activities mentioned above were carried out with support from the following partners and internally generated resources.

CISU/Dialogos, Denmark

IOGT NTO Movement, Sweden

World Health Organization

USAID

Membership fees and contributions

UNACOH STAFF TEAM 2016



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Aggrey Atuhaire



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Peace Nakayiza



Ratibu Mugume



Margaret Aumo



Dan Musinguzi



Micheal Musibala



Prof. Ezra Suluma (R) Chanceller Makerere University, presenting an award to Prof. M. Kamy



Participation in IOGT NTO Movement Annual Partners Meeting, Arusha 2016



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