

PROJECT GOAL: Reducing health and environmental effects of pesticides through research, community sensitisation and promotion of integrated pest management strategy (IPM)

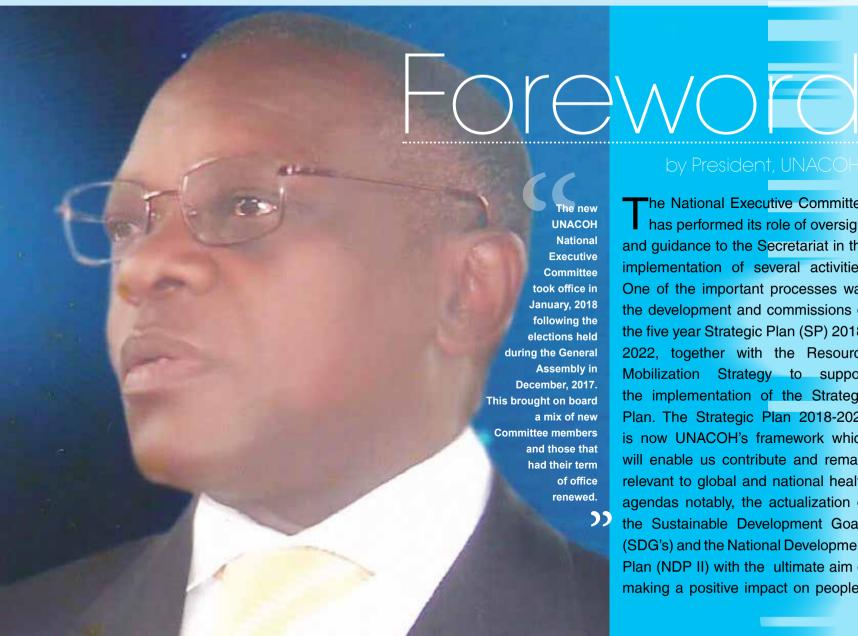






## TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	4
LIST OF ACRONYMS	6
CHAPTER ONEUNACOH Institutional Capacity Building	7
CHAPTER TWO 1 Engagement with the Scientific Community	0
CHAPTER THREE 1 Community Mobilization and Support	2
CHAPTER FOUR 1 Policy Advocacy	5
CHAPTER FIVE 1 Project Development and Implementation.	6
CHAPTER SIX2	0



The National Executive Committee has performed its role of oversight and guidance to the Secretariat in the implementation of several activities. One of the important processes was the development and commissions of the five year Strategic Plan (SP) 2018-2022, together with the Resource Mobilization Strategy to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan 2018-2022 is now UNACOH's framework which will enable us contribute and remain relevant to global and national health agendas notably, the actualization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and the National Development Plan (NDP II) with the ultimate aim of making a positive impact on people's health in Uganda and world over.

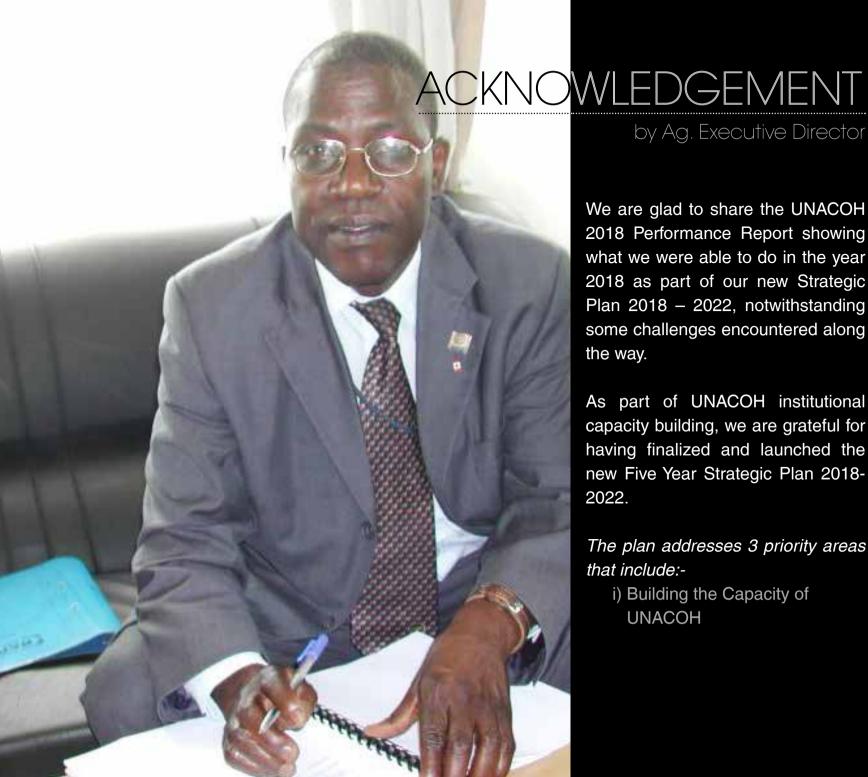
During the year, we participated in a number policy processes both at National and District level. In the first quarter. UNACOH working on behalf of Ministry of Health, engaged several Consultants to develop systems needed to strengthen the MOH Public Private Partnership for Health Node. We were able to produce the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for the Node, the implementation plan for the five year PPPH Strategic Plan among other documentation. In addition, as a member of Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance, UNACOH was actively involved in stakeholder consultations on the formulations of a National Alcohol control Policy and drafting of the Alcohol Control Bill. Under the Mercury Free Gold Mining Project, a ground breaking study on the Assessment of the occupational, environmental and other impacts from use of mercury in Artisanal Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) in Uganda was conducted and findings presented at a National Stakeholders Conference.

At the District level, under the Alcohol Control Project, in Masindi District. an Ordinance on Alcohol Control was passed by Masindi District Council. while Jinja District had started on the same process. In the two districts. several Sub Counties are already implementing alcohol control by-laws. Efforts have been made to strengthen the existing partnerships and create We worked with various more Ministries in the policy engagements including MOH, MOGLSD, MAAIF, MEMD and NEMA among other MDAs represented UNACOH at the WFPHA Annual Assembly in Geneva in May 2018. We have continued to collaborate with World Health Organization- Uganda Country Office on the Annual Dr. Mathew Lukwiya Memorial Lecture and this vear marked the 17th Lecture. We also had close links with the academia. as the 14th Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference (JASHC) coorganized with Makerere University College of Health Sciences, was held in September 2018 in Kampala . We

have had close working relations with Makerere University School of Public Health Institutional Review Board and Uganda National Council of Science and Technology on the approval of our research proposals. we also worked with the Directorate of Government Analytical Laboratories (DGAL). We have also had cordial relations with various District Local Governments where we implement our activities. Further, we have signed a number of MOUs this year with several organizations to partner in some strategic aspects of our work. We are proud of the great milestones achieved this year.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our local and international partners for the financial and technical support. Great thanks to UNACOH National Executive Committee members and the Secretariat staff for the tireless efforts which have enabled to register some achievements amidst challenges.

Dr. Patrick Kadama



by Ag. Executive Director

We are glad to share the UNACOH 2018 Performance Report showing what we were able to do in the year 2018 as part of our new Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022, notwithstanding some challenges encountered along the way.

As part of UNACOH institutional capacity building, we are grateful for having finalized and launched the new Five Year Strategic Plan 2018-2022.

The plan addresses 3 priority areas that include:-

i) Building the Capacity of **UNACOH** 

- ii) Contributing to strengthening of health systems and OSH governance and
- iii) To promote Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) action in Uganda's economic/production sectors, such as agriculture and all sectors of the economy. Each of these strategic areas has got strategic actions and expected outcomes, which we pursued in 2018.

During the year, we had three main projects, notably, Pesticide Use, Health and Environment Project, the Alcohol Control Project and the Mercury Free Gold Mining Project, alongside other activities at the Secretariat.

The key activities involved; the Joint Annual Scientific Health (JASH) Conference and the Dr. Mathew Lukwiya Memorial Lecture; training

and sensitization of communities in project areas, research, advocacy engagements with decision makers, among others.

I wish to acknowledge with thanks the UNACOH National Executive Committee for the guidance given. We thank our partners who variously supported what we were able to do. We are grateful to the members of staff for the continued dedicated service that enabled us record achievements in 2018.

I wish you a healthy and prosperous 2019

Dr. D.K. Sekimpi

Ag. Executive Director, UNACOH

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASGM : Artisanal Small Scale Gold Miners

DGAL : Directorate of Government Analytical Laboratories

IEC : Information, Education and Communication

JASHC : Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference

MAAIF : Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries

MDAs : Ministries, Departments and Agencies

MEMD : Minister of Energy and Mineral Development

MOGLSD : Minister of Gender Labor and Social Development

MOH : Ministry of Health

MOU : Memorandum of Understanding

\*NAPE : National Association of Professional Environmentalists

NDP : National Development Plan

NEC : National Executive Committee

SDGs : Sustainable Development Goals

TOT : Trainer of Trainers

UNACOH \_ Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health

VHT . Village Health Teams

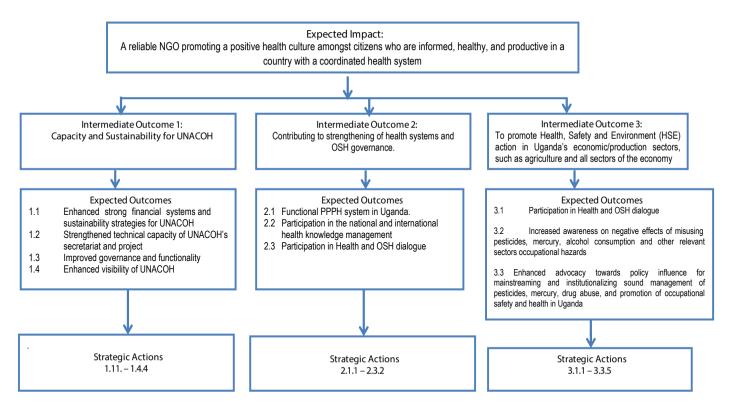
WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Association

WHO : World Health Organization

**UNACOH** has evolved in the last 30 years, in terms of Human Resource, systems strengthening and governance, During the year 2018, the 4th Strategic Plan for the period 2018-2022 was finalized and produced. The Strategic Plan has a total Budget of UGX 5.020 Billion.

A Resource Mobilization Strategy was developed to actualize the implementation of Strategic Plan with the assistance of a hired consultant who presented the draft for discussion at an Annual Retreat meeting held at Sports View Hotel, Kireka.

### 3.5 Strategic Plan Results Framework



On the side of administration, the Secretariat under the leadership of the Ag. Executive Ag. Director and Deputy Executive Director had a busy schedule during the year that involved supporting the day - to - day operations of the Secretariat and programme activities The Secretariat had 18 full and part-time staff supported by two Volunteers and one Intern. Later in the year, a part-time Internal Auditor for the PHE Project was appointed, replacing the Late Mr. Kiwanuka Katende Godfrey (RIP).

As part of governance, after elections in 2017, the following committee members took office in January, 2018:

Name	Position
Dr. Patrick Kadama	President
Ms. Monica Filder Odella	Vice President
Dr. D.K. Sekimpi	Ag. Executive Director
Dr. Victoria Mukasa	Ag. Dep. Executive Director
Ms. Max Walusimbi	Treasurer General
Mr. Hamidu Kizito	Vice Treasurer General

Dr. Regina Mbabazi	Chair/ Scientific Committee				
Dr. Rose Chalo Nabirye	Chair/ Finance Committee				
Mr. Juuko Paul Ndawula	Chair/Publicity Committee				
Mr. David Gusongoirye	Chair/Editorial Committee				

The monthly meetings of the National Executive committee were conducted throughout the year chaired by Dr. Patrick Kadam and Co. chaired by Ms. Monica Odella.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION**

During the year, a new data base of members was programmed and data entry by Volunteers and Interns was still going on by the end of the year. Sixteen (16) new members were recruited in 2018 and 66 members were paid up out of the 380 members on the register at the start of the year. In comparison with 2017, new members were 6 and paid up members were 66, representing an increase of 167% and 106% respectively. This increase was attributed

to more student members who were recruited especially from the School of Public Health and increased number of members who paid their annual subscription to participate in the JASH conference 2018.

During the Conference. а UNACOH **Business** meeting was held. This provided an opportunity to share with > members from different districts the on-going activities at the Secretariat and future plans. The meeting deliberated on how best the membership growth and retention could be approached, and introduced members to the Investment Club.

UNACOH continues to be a member of World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA), African Federation

of Public Health Associations (AFPHA), IOGT International, Uganda National NGO Forum, and Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance among other local umbrella organizations and Networks.

As regards compliance, there was maximum observance

of the relevant statutory regulations of Uganda National Bureau for NGOs, Uganda Registration Service Bureau, Uganda Revenue Authority, Uganda Intelligence Authority among other regulatory Bodies.



The Scientific Community includes universities. colleges. research bodies and individual professional consultants. The key activities with the Scientific Community involved the Annual Scientific Conference and collaboration on Research agenda. On the Research front. UNACOH collaborated with Makerere University School of Public Health Institutional Review Board (IRB) in the approval of researches and participation of some Senior Lecturers in the studies. The Uganda National Council of Science and Technology (UNCST) gave final approval of the studies after the University Internal Review Board. Among the studies approved and implemented included: "The effects of pesticide exposure on lung function and hyperglycemic risk among small-scale farmers in Wakiso District", and "Occupational, Environmental and other impacts from use of Mercury in Artisanal Small Scale Gold Mining in Uganda".

UNACOH in collaboration with Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS), held the 14th Joint Annual Scientific Health (JASH) Conference and the 17th WHO - sponsored Dr. Mathew Lukwiya Memorial Lecture, September 26-28, 2018 at Golf Course Hotel, Kampala. This was the 27th UNACOH Annual Scientific Conference. The Theme of the Conference was "The Research, Innovations and Resources for Meeting the Health Related SDGs"

The three - day conference was attended by about 430 participants, with varying numbers on each of the days. The participants included University Students, Lecturers, Civil Society members, policy makers from Government and Development partners. The conference attracted 80 competitively selected oral presentations; 44 posters; 11 keynote addresses; 3 panel discussions (Wellness-diet, exercise and medical litigation); and 3 pre-conference workshops (ODK, MUELLE, Quality improvement). A memorial lecture was also held to remember Dr. Mathew Lukwiya and the health workers that lost their lives to Ebola and other infectious diseases. Dr. Ian Crozier delivered the lecture. The Guest of Honour was Hon Dr. Joyce Kaducu, Minister of State for Health (PHC).

There is an increasing need to align academic training and skilling programmes to strengthen and produce a transformative

workforce with competences to address the ever changing complexity of community health problems. We could learn good practices from the One Health Approach that is conceptualised around capacity building and multi-disciplinary collaboration to address human, animal, environmental and eco-system health.

#### Policy makers

There is need for evidence - based improved monitoring and accountability mechanisms for health. In addition, there is need to consider potential challenges towards achievement of SDGs e.g. feasibility and resource availability. By acknowledging the relevance of innovations, policy makers should support scaling up innovations that have been shown to work. Government has already established the Ministry of Science Innovation and Technology with resources that will be a link between policy makers and researchers

Government should commit resources towards improving the quality of electronic data surveillance systems to enable community members, and

accurate measurement of key health outcomes

### **Practitioners and**

acknowledging contribution of all stakeholders towards attainment of SDGs practitioners should prioritize nartnershins (including implementing partners. heath workers, researchers, government) to avoid duplication, and improve on impacting health.

#### Awards

Best poster presentation

**Best Oral Presentation** to Ronald Muleheke

**Best Innovator** 

to Violet Nabimanya

Certificate of Appreciation

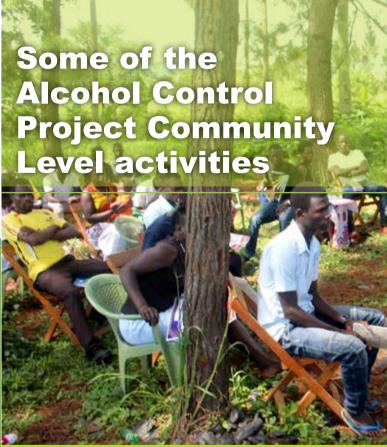
to Dr. Ian Crozier



Through the on-going projects, the Pesticide Use, Health and Environment Project. Alcohol Control Project, Mercury Free Gold Mining Project and Latek sponsored VHT Training Project in Nama sub county Mukono District. UNACOH was able to mobilize communities to take action on issues that affect their lives. This was successfully done through community participation and involvement from planning to actual implementation.



Under the PHE Project, activities were carried out in 17 Districts of Uganda, comprising the Western, Central, Eastern and Northern Region. Among the key activities at the community level was the environmental study that involved collection of water samples from eighty six (86) surface and ground water points mapped across the four regions of the country in seventeen (17) districts with the aim of determining the level of Pesticide residues in water sources. The Findings were later disseminated to the district leaders and other stakeholders at the district



There were various Alcohol control community activities that involved sensitization campaigns carried out by Village Health Teams, Youth led Football Matches, Community Drama and Women self help initiatives. The implementation of the community by-laws was also evident in some



communities like Budongo Subcounty in Masindi District. The process of formulating District Ordinances spearheaded by the district leadership in Jinja and Masindi District was still on-going particularly community consultations.



The Project conducted a series of practical trainings for the Artisanal Small Scale Miners from Mubende, Buhweju, Busia, Namayingo and Nakapiriprit Districts at Namayingo Demonstration site. At the end of the training, Miners could confidently apply the Gravity Concentration Technique using Bolax as an alternative to the use of Mercury in Gold extraction. Namayingo Mercury Free Gold Mining Demonstration Site was launched and handed over to the community. The findings of the Baseline study carried out in four districts were disseminated at a national conference with full participation of key stakeholders including miners from the mining communities and the minister for Energy and Minerals Hon. Henry Lokeris.

There were several avenues explored to share and disseminate information with various stakeholders and the general public. The JASH Conference and UAPA Conference were such a big opportunity that was utilized to showcase our activities in form of exhibitions and paper presentations. UNACOH also participated actively in Ibanda District Farmers Expos and Bugiri District Farmers Expos under the PHE Project arrangement. UNACOH supported and participated in the MUEHSA Conference

In a related development, a number of IEC materials

were developed by the different projects and distributed to the stakeholders. The procurement process for a service provider to redesign the website was in progress. However, the Facebook and Twitter accounts were actively running. The Health Pulse Magazine was not issued out in the year; however, the PHE Project Annual Newsletter came out and was distributed. The Publication of the project studies undertaken is in the pipeline.

## Village Health Team Training



## in Nama Sub-county, Mukono District

End of project evaluation meeting in Naama Sub county, Mukono District

An evaluation exercise was conducted aimed at measuring the impact of the trainings previously conducted among 30 VHT from Mukono District-Nama Sub County on safe pesticide use. The evaluation specifically intended to measure the capacity of VHT Trainers of Trainees (ToT) in passing on the knowledge acquired to the farmers in the community

UNACOH as a member of the Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance was engaged in discussions with key stakeholders, advocating for the National Alcohol Control Policy, which featured very well at the 1st National Alcohol Conference. At the community and district level, facilitation of community by-laws and District Ordinances formulation processes were on course.



Early in the year, UNACOH completed the Public Private Partnership for Health Project with Ministry of Health. Under the PPPH project, UNACOH advocated for the strengthening of the MOH PPPH Node and made documented recommendations in this regard.

Under the PHE Project, discussions for operationalizing the National Poisoning Information Centre with DGAL and other stakeholders were in progress. At the district level, dissemination workshops for findings from the Environmental study were conducted in 15 districts. The Project also developed an advocacy Strategy to guide the project advocacy work.

Under the Mercury free Project, the advocacy efforts were tagged at promoting the Mercury Free Gold Mining using Borax as a safe alternative method and putting in place Namayingo Demonstration Site for this matter.



women self-help groups' initiatives. The implementation of the newly formulated alcohol control by-laws in the project area has also contributed to reduced consumption of alcohol in some villages.

A draft Alcohol Control Ordinance was developed for Jinia district basing on the initial by-laws in sub-counties covered so far. This draft regulation provides for regulation of density of alcohol outlets through licensing. These draft regulations also contain restrictions on the consumption, sale, advertising and promotion of alcohol especially among minors. This draft is currently being reviewed by key stakeholders in the district as part of the legal requirements of the approval process. There has been a reduction in the number of alcohol sale points in a 1km radius in some villages. These include Mafubira Zone B (reduced from 20 points to 15) and Kiko village (reduced from 8 to 4)

In Masindi, initial steps to drafting a district Alcohol Control Ordinance are being taken under. Community views from all the 9 Sub Counties have been collected on identified regulation gaps in the current alcohol regulations. These include restrictions on the manufacture, production, sale, consumption, licensing, accessibility and advertising of alcohol.

The above process was spearheaded

mainly by the advocacy initiatives of the Sub County and District Alcohol Control Committees formulated

The project also registered some "early adopters" (15) among alcohol sellers and brewers in the project area who had taken up alternative income generating activities. This suggests that more might take on alternative income generating activities with time, consequently reducing the availability of ilicit, locally produced alcohol in the project area. This was achieved through the support of self-help women groups in the community. Alternative income generating activities adopted include vegetable selling, catering services, groceries and selling of used clothes. Training of women groups in Masindi on alternatives such as making bags has also started. Results are awaited. Dissemination and implementation of alcohol control by-laws in Budongo Sub County had been incorporated in the Sub County Work plan of Quarter 2 and 3 of 2018 as a result of the advocacy initiatives by Budongo Sub County Network. Consequently, Budongo Sub County Local Government contributed some fuel and human resource for dissemination and enforcement of the alcohol control by laws.

The rest of the District and Sub County Networks have decided to

include alcohol on their agenda in all government activities being implemented in the area. There are also efforts to include an alcohol control budget during the next financial year (2019/2020).

## Pesticide use, Health and Environment Project

The project scaled up from two districts in phase 1 and 2, to now 17 districts of Uganda in Phase 3. The main objective of the project is to improve the life of the Ugandan population by reducing the negative health and environmental effects of pesticide use. In 2018, key milestones were achieved in line with the projects objectives as explained below

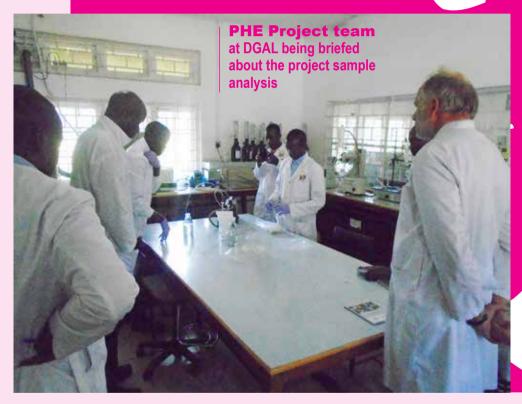
A virtual data bank with information materials developed by the PHE project, secondary literature, and relevant online links on Integrated Pest Management, prevention and management of pesticide poisoning has been created on the local partner's website for public access and use.

In partnership with the Government

of Uganda's Pesticide Residue Laboratory under Ministry of Internal Affairs, PHE Project was able to undertake an analytical assessment to determine pesticide residue levels in water samples from across the country. A total of 25 different pesticides were detected (14 insecticides, 5 herbicides, 4 acaricides, and 2 fungicides). In addition. pesticide residue levels were determined in tomato and cabbage samples from farms and markets across the country. Eight (8) different pesticides were detected, with notably high Mancozeb residue levels in all the samples.

pesticide Existing laws have been analyzed and different loopholes identified. including; lack of water standards relating to pesticides, protection of water resources from agricultural pollution not catered for in the existing laws, Agricultural workers and farmers are not sufficiently protected by existing Occupational health policies, lack of cross-sectoral coordination, lack of decentralisation and capacity building of local government human resource, weak enforcement and monitoring of pesticide trade and usage.

Fora to discuss, lobby and promote pesticide safety have been created in up to 13 districts. These are spearheaded by a District Pesticide Committee of 10-12 persons (mostly local government leaders) that meets on a quarterly basis to plan for activities and report on assigned action



Associations have adopted and are issues will inform development of utilizing pesticide safety promotion policy briefs and a position paper materials in their work. Local leaders that will be submitted to Parliament and extension workers in 15 districts of Uganda for corrective action. with the help of information materials Up to three (3) different manuscripts provided by the project, started are being drafted by the project sensitizing members of the community team for publication in international on pesticide safety

in the country are being gathered been submitted and is under review through up to eighty (80) community by the journal of Advances in Public level meetings (involving up to 4,000 Health.

points. Fifteen (15) District Farmer farmers) across the country. These

journals. One (1) article on 'Project experiences in registration of acute Community views regarding pesticides pesticide poisoning in Uganda' has



The Project which ended in September, 2018, supported by Dialogos, was implemented in four (4) districts of Uganda, namely, Mubende, Buhweju, Namayingo and Nakapriprit. The key primary target groups of the project were the Artisanal Small Scale Gold Miners (ASGMs) in the aforementioned districts. UNACOH was the Lead Implementing Agency in partnership with National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) and Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MOGLSD). The key results achieved by the project included the following:

- 839 (531 ASGMs and Project Partner and 308 members of the secondary group) were sensitised about the harmful effects of Mercury use to human life and the environment.
- There is a demonstration site for mercury free gold extraction in Namayingo and at least 20 ASGMs can extract gold without using mercury.
- A ground breaking Ugandan research on human exposure levels of mercury (through blood and urine analysis) was carried out alongside the environmental analysis that has been carried out a number of times before).
- A multi sectoral group of stakeholders came together in the National Project Steering Committee to deliberate on issues of ASGMs and mercury free gold mining into the future.
- UNACOH and NAPE were selected by NEMA to be part of the coordination mechanism to contribute towards the National Action Plan of the Minimata Convention.

### The sustainability of the intervention:

- The demonstration site at Namayingo District will ensure that the ASGMs trained on the Gravity Concentration Method (GCM) with Borax the Mercury Free Technique will pass on the skill to fellow ASGMs. The proceeds from wet crushing of ore will sustain the project. For example in Namayingo, the Demonstration Site Committee has already bought a generator and a solar system for lighting up the site at night using proceeds from the wet ore processing of ore.
- The Networks at District, National, sub regional and international levels create a synergy of action and therefore sustainability of mercury free gold mining in Uganda.

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITUR	RE STATEMENT 2018	PHE Project	Alcohol Control Project	MFGP	LATEK	UNACOH General	TOTAL
		UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX
Grant Income		553,797,369.95	195,159,962	339,193,568.19	10,000,000		1,098,150,900.14
Other Income		0	0	0	0	35,270,030	35,270,030
Total Income		553,797,369.95	195,159,962	339,193,568.19	10,000,000	35,270,030	1,133,420,930.14
Less:							
Expenditure							
Project activities direct costs		239,733,914	104,705,040	283,271,006	10,000,000	-	637,709,960
Capital Investment		2,507,000	0	7,200,000	0	-	9,707,000
Administration		230,491,266	86,004,209	258,219,095	0	40,493,708	615,208,278
Total Expenditure		472,732,180	190,709,249	548,690,101	10,000,000	40,493,708	1,262,625,238
Surplus/Deficit		81,065,189.85	4,450,713.00	(209,496,532.81)	•	(5,223,678.00)	(129,204,307.96)
Project	Source of funding						
PHE Project	Dialogos						
Alcohol Control Project	IOGT NTO Movwement						
Mercury Free Gold Mining Project (MFGMP)	Dialogos						
VTH Training	LATEK						



### "Health for All and By All"

## **Objectives of the Club**

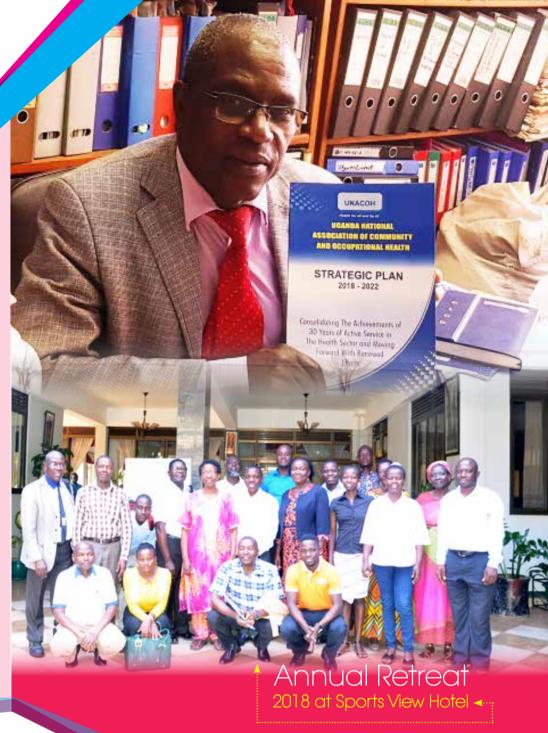
- 1. To mobilize savings from members to accumulate a capital pool that can be invested in capital or money market or any other safe investment option that earns a good return for the members
- 2. To act as platform that brings members together to advance the cause of UNACOH

## Who is eligible?

Only members and staff of UNACOH

## **Obligations**

- Making a monthly savings of UGx 50,000/= plus UGX 10,000/= (contribution to administrative costs)
- A commitment to make savings consistently
- Attending the Club Annual General Meetings



# UGANDA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (UNACOH)

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