



THE UGANDA – SAXONY PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP REPORT

14TH JULY, 2023

GIZ OFFICE Plot 23 NAKASERO



Entwicklungspolitisches
Netzwerk Sachsen e.V.



This project is financed from tax funds based on the budget passed by the members of the Parliament of the Free State of Saxony.



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I. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The Uganda-Saxony Partnership is a project funded by the Free State of Saxony, through the Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk Sachsen, ENS e.V. (Development Policy Network [Saxony](#)) The partnership project seeks to strengthen cooperation of actors in Uganda and Saxony that work in different areas of sustainable development including Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), schools, cultural institutions, social institutions, sciences, business sector and municipalities interested in social and sustainable development. The project directly contributes to the implementation of SDG 17: **“Partnerships to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”**.

Capitalizing on the ~~V~~visit of the State Minister Mr. Oliver Schenk and his delegation to Uganda from 8th to 16th July, 2023 that included scientists, politicians, business, schools, CSOs including representatives from ENS, KWDT organized a workshop on 14th July, 2023. The workshop brought together [civil society](#) organizations [and schools](#) that had expressed interest in partnering with the German organizations under the Uganda-Saxony Partnership, those that had an existing partnership with different German Organizations, as well as those that had been visited by the delegates to explore areas of possible partnership.

The workshop was attended by a total of 35 participants from organizations and institutions including those supporting women, children, education institutions, nursing and midwifery, agriculture as well as advocacy. The workshop provided a dedicated time and space for organizations both from Germany and Uganda to discuss important topics related to development and exchanged information and experience about their work.

The workshop intended to achieve the following objectives;

- i. Provide a platform to share information about Uganda-Saxony Partnership.
- ii. Provide space for organizations to share their experiences, achievements as well as challenges and explore possible ways of improving their work through the partnership.
- iii. Engage participants in shaping the desired direction (road map) for the partnership in a multi-cultural context.

The report below highlights the proceedings and outcomes of the workshop.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE UGANDA-SAXONY PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP

i. Opening remarks



Ms. Ulrike Rosemann began the workshop by thanking participants for their presence. She introduced the Development [Policy Network Saxony](#) (Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk Sachsen ENS e.V) and the work they do. Ms. Ulrike noted that ENS works with organizations to enhance their capacities by conducting networking events, counselling, and trainings on organizational development. ENS also engages in activities to advance economic and human rights, including working with trade unions to improve working conditions. Additionally, they engage fashion companies to take responsibility for their supply chain and procurement procedures to ensure the protection of the environment and human rights.

ENS also conducts analysis for Saxony's legal framework. Basing on fact sheets, ENS engages in human rights advocacy by focusing on recommendations made by the international bodies to national governments and ministries. ENS is also a member of the Bündnis gegen Rassismus (Alliance against Racism) that fights against racism in Saxony and across the globe through the production of various educational materials programs and exhibitions.

Ms. Ulrike provided insights on the Uganda-Saxony Partnership, coordinated by Katosi Women Development Trust, with funding from the Free State of Saxony. The partnership seeks to promote networking and provide information to support development.

Introducing the other participants from Saxony, including four delegates from the education sector, Ms. Ulrike noted their interest in establishing partnerships, adding that the role of this partnership project is to bring actors in [Germany Saxony](#) and Uganda together. She informed participants about an upcoming [conference symposium](#) in November 2023, which will include [panel discussions workshops](#) about [current development policies and plans](#) [how to build equal international partnerships](#).

She emphasised that the Uganda-Saxony Partnership is not to provide direct funding for projects but could provide direction and guidance on the available opportunities. The team [is](#) developing a website that will provide information about the partnership and all possible opportunities.

ii. About the Uganda Saxony Project

Coordinator KWDT, Ms. Margaret Nakato, presented the background and progress of the establishment of the Uganda–Saxony Partnership. Margaret noted in 2022, a delegation led by the State Minister of Saxony, Mr. Oliver Schenk, visited Uganda and since then a discussion to establish the Uganda–Saxony Partnership ~~started~~[developed further](#). A decision by the Free State of Saxony to establish and formalize a partnership with Uganda was approved early 2023. KWDT was introduced to ENS who is the collaborative partner in Germany to coordinate the partnership. She explained the Logo, developed in collaboration with ENS was inspired by the Uganda crested crane, the green colour of the Free State of Saxony, the rays that represent hope and the two letters; U for Uganda and S for Saxony. Together, U and S become “US” demonstrating the willingness of both parties to invest equally their efforts in the partnership. The partnership seeks to collaborate Civil Society Organisations in Uganda and German, as well as schools, [municipalities and people from the science and business sector](#).

Prior to the visit of the delegation KWDT conducted several field visits learning about the work of various Civil Society Organizations, businesses and education institutions to assess their suitability to meet the needs identified by the visiting delegation. She also noted the importance of working together to shape the direction of the Uganda-Saxony partnership.

Ms. Margaret emphasized the importance of having all partners at the same level of participation if the team is to build a strong and sustainable partnership. She appreciated the Free State of Saxony and ENS for the support accorded to KWDT to implement the Uganda-Saxony Workshop. She commended the good work that all partners are doing and emphasized how the team was impressed during the visitation in the past days.

Ms. Margaret thanked all participants for accepting to come, some of them on a short notice. She concluded by informing the participants that a website is under development in Uganda where all information concerning this partnership will be shared. Whereas ENS will establish communication platforms in [Saxony](#)/Germany, KWDT will also establish the same in Uganda. She encouraged participants to interact with these platforms.

Follow the Uganda Saxony Partnership Project at:-

[Uganda](#)

Twitter: [Uganda Saxony Partnership](#)

Facebook: [Uganda Saxony Partnership](#)

Instagram: [Uganda Saxony Partnership](#)

~~Follow the Saxony:~~

Facebook: [Partnerschaft Uganda Sachsen](#)

Instagram: [Partnerschaft Uganda Sachsen](#)

Commented [1]: Uli: I think we should leave that out here, because this sector is not part of the partnership project between ENS and KWDT. It's more dealt with by the state chancellery or independently.

iii. Experience sharing

This session provided an opportunity for all to share their work they are doing and their view of the Uganda-Saxony Partnership.

a) Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT)

Ms. Margaret Nakato introduced KWDT, a non-profit organization with a goal to improve living standards of poor, rural fisher communities in Uganda by empowering them to engage in their development processes. KWDT brings together 1,050 women organized in 44 groups in rural and fisher communities in Mukono, Kalangala and Buvuma. KWDT has been working with rural and fisher women for more than 25 years and has been instrumental in creating change in the lives of the rural fisher women and their communities. KWDT intervenes on economic empowerment, access to water, sanitation and improvement of hygiene, education and environment conservation through the women's groups while mainstreaming health, youth, gender, disability and environment across all programs. KWDT also pursues a holistic and comprehensive approach of development of people and communities while recognizing the needs to conserve and protect the environment. The Economic Empowerment program engages women in integrated sustainable agriculture, fishing, fish processing and fish trade while supporting their efforts to diversify livelihoods through access to micro credit.



Other than increasing access to water and sanitation facilities, the Water Access Hygiene and Sanitation (WASH) empowers women and communities with knowledge and information on hygiene and sanitation and how to avoid WASH related diseases. Women are skilled to repair boreholes and shallow wells, construct bio-sand filters to provide clean drinking water and to engage in emptying pit latrines using a cesspool emptier. In addition to the above, KWDT has also introduced new technologies in the communities such as Bio-sand filters for water purification and ecosan latrine.

The education program aims to support the education of children in fishing villages through improvement of primary school infrastructure; constructing classrooms, providing water and toilets facilities and establishing sanitation clubs in schools all help to create a conducive atmosphere for learning. While knowledge and skills empowerment for adults, through training on human rights, digital literacy, business management records keeping is to ensure women make informed development decisions.

Lastly, KWDT pursues development cognisant of protection and conserving the environment by supporting production and use of renewable energy, converting waste into briquettes and use of solar.

Guided by the Strategic Plan 2022-2026 KWDT will continue to intervene in rural and fisher communities engaging women and female youth in economic empowerment, WASH, Education and environment, institutional development while mainstreaming health, youth, gender, disability and environment.

Website: www.katosi.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/katosi.womendt/

Twitter: www.twitter.com/katosiwomen

Instagram: www.instagram.com/katosi_women_development_trust/

b) Technical University of Dresden Alumni Uganda

Mrs. Dorothy Elsie Nsereko introduced the work of the Technical University of Dresden Alumni Uganda that was founded by a team of people from Germany. The organization is located in Entebbe. The institute is contributing towards the achievement of SDG 4; Education and SDG 17; partnership to achieve SDGs.



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The organization supports learners with employable skills to increase their employability beyond blue collar jobs. This has been impactful for female youth and in particular single mothers, who seek jobs abroad only to be exploited and abused and sometimes physically injured. The organization also offers trainings in Swahili, German and French languages which has increased employment opportunities in neighbouring countries including Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan. Women in fishing communities have also been supported to engage in fisheries. The Institute also provides water and sanitation support especially for schools, as well as tree planting. TUDA-U has an existing partnership with [Global-Know How Global e.V.](#) and is establishing with Weltclub Dresden - Ein Projekt von Afropa e.V.

c) **Foundation of Women Affected by Conflict (FOWAC)**

Ms. Grace Arach, Executive Director, presented the work of the Foundation of Women Affected by Conflict (FOWAC), an organization established in Northern Uganda in 2007 with a head office in Kitgum. The organization supports women and children affected by war through three thematic areas; Economic empowerment, Advocacy and Psychosocial support to overcome and mitigate the effects of trauma and psychological torture as a result of war.



FOWAC has also partnered with [AFROPA Afropa e.V.](#) to support women in income generating activities and water access.

Twitter: [Foundation for Women Affected by Conflicts](#)

Facebook [Foundation for Women Affected by Conflicts](#)

d) **Zollikon Vocational Training Center**

Ms. Loy Mwesigwa introduced the work of Zollikon Vocational Training Centre located in Nakisunga along Mukono-Katosi road. The vocational centre specializes in computer skills, hairdressing, motor vehicle mechanics, tailoring and fashion designing, building and concrete practice, carpentry and joinery. The Centre has received some support from MIVA Switzerland and self-sponsored students. The products from the vocational centre are sold to the community to meet the expenses of the vocational centre. Some of the trainees are also retained as employees of the training centre.

e) **Nakawa Vocational Training College**



Mr. Fred Muwanga introduced Nakawa Vocational Training College that operates under the Ministry of Education and Sports. The College opened in 1968 through a collaboration between Government of Uganda, and Government of Japan and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The primary objective by then was to upgrade the skills of workers in industries with a view of enabling them to address the new challenges that arose from the changing technology. Currently the college has been upgraded to also offer a number of extra programs including; electronics, plumbing, woodwork, welding and fabrication, building and construction, etc. The college offers tailor made courses and collaborates with Kyambogo University to offer diploma courses.

The college currently has a student population of 1,350. Out of these, only 10% are girls, which the principle highlighted as a challenge because the courses offered are dominated by male [students](#).

Website: [Nakawa Vocational Training College](#)

Twitter: [Nakawa Vocational Training College](#)

Facebook: [Nakawa Vocational Training College](#)

f) Kasawo College of Business and Technical Education

Mr. Mwesigwa David, the Principal, introduced Kasawo College of Business and Technical Education. He shared that the college is located on Mukono-Kayunga Road. The college targets school dropouts like teenage mothers in Nakifuma county Mukono. The college currently offers a number of courses with certificates; hairdressing, bricklaying and concrete practice, motor vehicle mechanics, electrical installation and tailoring. To support the many young mothers in this community, the college additionally provides courses such as baking.



g) St. Michael Lubaga Hospital Training School



Sister Bernadette Nalubuga, the Administrator St. Michael Lubaga Hospital Training School presented the Catholic-founded school that offers training for nurses and other medical practitioners. The school was founded in 1956 and offers courses in nursing, midwifery, laboratory, [physiotherapy](#) and emergency techniques. Sister Bernadette noted that St. Michael Lubaga Hospital Training School is the only institute that offers the emergency course for now. The school currently has 850 students and 660 are residents. She further noted that despite the demand to take in more students, it lacks the necessary facilities to expand. The school also offers e-learning programs but is challenged by the cost of internet for both the staff and students. She also noted that, many of the students come from poor families and often drop out because

of failure to pay the required school fees. Sister Bernadette concluded that they are looking forward to the partnership and possibility of exchange programs and visits between St. Michael Lubaga Training School and similar institutions in Saxony.

Facebook: [St. Michael Lubaga Hospital Training School](#)

Website: [St. Michael Lubaga Hospital Training School](#)

h) Kololo Senior Secondary School

Mr. Edward Kanoonya, the head teacher of Kololo Secondary School introduced the school. Located in the middle of Kampala city, Kololo Secondary school was founded in 1954 and currently has a population of 5,200 students who are day scholars. The school is government aided school and trains learners between the age of 13 and 19. While the government pays tuition for the learners, parents are supposed to meet the costs of feeding; those costs approximately €48 and €14.25 ~~for uniform; costs approximately~~ However, for over 2000 children, their parents are not able to meet these costs as many are single parents. The head teacher noted that the common phrase used by mothers that come to his office is *'I am the mother and the father'* indicating the fact that they are the sole providers for their children. The head teacher welcomes the partnership and looks forward to partnerships that support children that are unable to meet their school requirements.



Website: [Kololo Senior Secondary School](http://www.kololoschools.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070072487255>

i) Germany's education system



The partners from Saxony including Ms. Miriam Bankert, Mr. Martin McCall, Mr. Thomas Wagner and Ms. Steffi Wenzel spoke about the German education system and the various institutions that they represent. ~~She~~^{They} noted that primary school in Germany starts at the age of six and continues to 10. Thereafter there are several ways and options of continuing. One of the options is the ~~S~~^H~~Haupt~~^{aupts}schule, that is partly secondary school that starts at age 10 and then vocational school that starts at the age of 15. Ms. Bankert gave a brief presentation about [Gemeinschaftsschule](http://www.gemeinschaftsschule.de) Campus Cordis Dresden, a new school founded in 2020 with a capacity of 800 but currently has 200 students. Campus Cordis Dresden focuses on different themes including sustainability and saving the planet, an aspect that she is interested in advancing through building partnerships. She noted that there are many schools in Saxony that are interested in and are looking forward to having schools in Uganda for partnerships.

Mr. Martin McCall introduced the second type of school that continues after primary, called Gymnasium. This system, continues from 12 years until 18 years, and it could be equivalent of secondary school in Uganda. This system/level prepares students for university education. Mr. Martin McCall and Mr. Thomas Wagner also gave a presentation about their school Peter - Breuer Gymnasium, a catholic school founded in 1994. The school has over 600 students currently and they are interested in forming a partnership with Ugandan Catholic founded secondary schools.

Ms. Steffi Wenzel, the principal of Triebischtal-~~schule Meissen~~ (Secondary School ~~type~~ ~~Meissen~~), noted that about 80% of the students join vocational education but only 20% continue with the vocational training. She noted that vocational training is very practical, and students offer special subjects that prepare them for work and gives them general knowledge about different situations such as health, nutrition and also techniques like working with wood and metal. The students start practicing their work skills at 13-14 years whereby they apply for their first practice at workplaces and only work for two weeks.

According to Ms. Steffi, Triebischtal-~~schule Meissen~~ ~~Secondary School~~ is interested in forming partnerships with secondary schools in Uganda particularly those that offers Music.

Overview German School Types:
primary school - Grundschule: age 6 to 10
secondary schools – Oberschule incl. Hauptschule: age 11 to 15/16
Gymnasium: age 11 to 18
Gemeinschaftsschule: age 11 to 18
vocational schools – Berufsschule: starts from age 15
university level – Univeristät/Fachhochschule: starts from age 18

Contact information

Campus Cordis Dresden

website: <https://gmscc.de/>

Facebook:

Peter - Bruer Gymnasium

Website: <https://pbgym.de/>

Facebook:

Twitter:

Triebischtal Secondary School Meiben

Website: <https://triebischtschule.edu-meissen.de>

Facebook

Twitter:

Commented [3]: Uli: this overview is just an idea. Feel free to delete it if you think it unnecessary.

Commented [MOU4]: Jose kindly confirm this website, the address provided by Mr. Schmitt is inactive

Commented [MOU5]: Fiona I have all these contacts please

Commented [FO6]: I have failed to get the Facebook page and Twitter. Joseline please support us with this.

j) Hill Preparatory School

Hill Preparatory school was represented by the head teacher Mr. Lukusa Kibuuka Ambrose and the Director, Ms. Wavamunno Claire. The school, started in 1988, focuses on educating and integrating children with special needs. The school offers the official curriculum for children who are able to pursue it, but also offers other trainings like sports, music, dance and drama and vocational skills.

Claire noted that imparting skills to children with special needs calls for modified ways of teaching and they offer more trainings like speech therapy, language and occupational therapy. The school received support from special needs Germany that contributed 50% to their basketball project. The school also provides swimming lessons and hosts other institutions that need training in special needs including Makerere University Learning Therapy and Butabika Hospital as well as other research organizations.

Website: www.hillprepschool.ac.ug

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hillpreparatoryschool>

k) Orutindo Kids Foundation

Orutindo Kids Foundation introduced by Mr. Byamukama Innocent, is an organization working with children in Ntungamo district providing them with education and support at different levels including primary, secondary, and vocational institutions. The school focuses on orphans, children abandoned by their parents and guardians or those whose parents are unable to support them



through education. Children are also engaged in activities like poultry. Orutindo Kids Foundation provides health services especially to children affected by HIV/AIDs. The foundation requires support in establishing a community library for the children, a computer training centre and improving sanitation and hygiene in the nearby schools, through construction of latrines.

Website: www.orutindo.eu

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/orutindoprojects>

l) Lugazi Rural Development Trust

Lugazi Rural Development Trust, represented by Mr. Arthur Nsubuga, operates in rural communities of Mukono district. The organization has an ongoing partnership with the State of Saxony that is supporting the development and use of medicinal plants in Uganda and general conservation of the environment. The organization wishes to engage in communication information technology to support the schools especially in computer training.



m) Africa Center for Sustainable Development



The African Center for Sustainable Development was represented by Mr. Byaruhanga Robert and Ms. Joy Birungi. The organization operates in oil producing communities in Hoima. Some of the challenges the organization is trying to address include the relationship between people and wildlife like Chimpanzees that sometimes kill people especially children. The presenters noted that part of the reasons why the chimpanzees are escaping and causing harm to humans is because of the destruction of the natural habitats by humans. The organization conducts sensitization to

people and work towards the restoration of the ecosystem. In addition, new challenges are emerging in the region due to several development projects such as the oil pipeline causing evictions and conflicts. African Centre for Sustainable Development is also engaged in improving hygiene and sanitation for communities by tackling open defecation especially in multi-cultural fisher communities. The organization wishes to reintroduce green energy technologies such as processing of ethanol from cassava to reduce the usage of biomass within the cities.

n) Youth and Women Empowerment Foundation (YAWE)



Mr. Akora George William and Ms. Basemera Jamila introduced Youth and Women Empowerment Foundation (YAWE) operating in western Uganda. YAWE focuses on women empowerment and works in the districts of Kabarole, Bunyangabo, Kyenjojo and Kamwenge. Through music, and drama, the organization aims at

restoring hope among persons living with HIV. Music is also used as a communication tool to fight stigma in the community. YAWE partners with Ministry of Health and Joint Medical Stores to provide medical supplies. The organization also conducts skills trainings such as tailoring, knitting, hairdressing, welding, and metal fabrication as well as carpentry for persons living with HIV. YAWE welcomes the Uganda-Saxony partnership and they have been in the process of seeking partnership with Germany based organizations to look for funding from Germany agencies. YAWE desires to have music exchange programs within the partnership.

Website: www.yawefoundation.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/yawefoundation>

o) Square Ministries Africa (SMA)

Dr. Emmanuel Mukeshimana and Ms. Nyiraburanga Emilienne represented Square Ministries Africa (SMA), that was registered in 2018 and operates in Mukono, Tororo, Kapchorwa and Soroti districts. The organization conducts hospital outreaches, micro-finance to support widows and women. Additionally, SMA awards young people that cannot afford to pay for their education are given sponsorships at the various levels ranging from primary to university. SMA also supports older persons with material support and engages them in various income generating activities.

Website: www.squareministriesafrica.org



p) **Slow Food Uganda (SFU)**



Mr. John Kiwagalo presented the work of Slow Food Uganda, as part of the International Slow Food Association, which is working to ensure access to good, clean, and fair food. Slow Food was started in 1989 in Italy and came to Uganda in 2006. Slow food promotes the consumption of good food;

food that is healthy and fit for consumption and whose production is environmental-friendly. The presenter noted that food should also be accessible and affordable. Slow Food envisions a world where people can access and enjoy food that is good for them, good for those who grow it, and good for the planet.

The organization has three priorities including; defending biological and cultural diversity, Educate, inspire, and mobilize citizens towards having safe food, as well as influencing policies in the public and private sector.

Website: www.slowfooduganda.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/slowfooduganda>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/slowfood_uganda/

i. **Civic space in Uganda**

Following the sharing and exchange among the institutions and organizations, a presentation on Civic space in Uganda was made by Mr. Chris Nkwatsibwe, who represented the Executive Director of the Uganda National NGO Forum. The presenter highlighted the elusive promise of democracy in Uganda, a strong political leadership as well as a dominant political party in power for the last close to 40 years. He noted that Uganda is a blend of military and civilian rule, a strong fusion that remained between the National Resistance Movement, an organized political party and the National Resistance Army, the military resistance party. This fusion is evidenced by the presence of the army in running all major sectors of the economy such as agriculture, construction and pandemic responses. The army also takes charge of the electoral processes in the country.

Mr. Nkwatsibwe presented an analysis and the history of the relationship between the Government of Uganda and Non-Governmental Organizations in which he demystified the notion of the ‘*shrinking space*’ for Non-Governmental Organizations, stating that this space never existed in the first place. The presenter spoke on the history of NGO’s roles alongside government noting that NGOs having supported the current government to seize power by supporting the guerrilla warfare in Uganda, made them a potential threat. Hence the affairs of managing NGOs are hosted under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, responsible for matters of security.

He highlighted that, for a long time, NGOs have been complementing government programs for example, NGOs provide up to 40% of the education services in this country and contribute up to 70% of our health support budget. Since NGOs had invested in service delivery, they were allowed space and freedom as their interventions did not challenge the fundamental power structure of the government. But with time, as NGOs observed the poor service delivery and corruption tendencies, they resorted to advocacy and demand for improved services, and this led to the shrinking space for NGOs.

The presenter also provided highlights of the laws governing the operations of NGOs such as; The 1989 NGO Registrations Act, that was followed by the NGO Registrations Act of 2006. In 2015, the government introduced a new bill; the NGO Amendment Bill of 2015. The bill was in response to three things; the anti-corruption campaigns of 2011, the advocacy of free and fair elections, and the calls for government transparency, which NGOs at the national level and across the country are involved in.

Unfortunately, the new law gives power to the NGO Bureau to refuse registration of an entity on the basis that this entity’s objectives are not in line with the interests of Uganda. The law creates multiple reporting layers and sets exorbitant fees for registration. International NGOs for instance, must pay an estimated amount of \$300 for a permit and a registration certificate, while local NGOs, have to pay up to \$40 annually for the same. In addition, a fine of up to \$800 per month is charged to organisations that delay to renew their permits. The presenter noted that such high fees make it difficult for NGOs to operate and offer good services.

Despite the downsides, the new law is an improvement compared to the old laws as it;

- i. Streamlines the registration of NGOs. Previously, NGOs would have to be incorporated under the NGO Board under the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB). The Act of 2016 therefore streamlined that to make sure that the incorporation happens once with the URSB only.
- ii. It establishes a semi-autonomous entity, the National NGO Bureau, which is under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, but semi-autonomous with powers to make decisions on matters to do with NGOs.
- iii. It creates an appeal mechanism. If an NGO is not in agreement with the decision of the Bureau, it can appeal through a structure that has been established, which is called the Adjudication Committee, under the NGO Bureau.
- iv. It removes Resident District Commissioners (RDCs) from the monitoring of NGO activities. According to the new law, an RDC does not have the power to close the operation of an NGO, but they must go through a process, which is led and established by the district NGO monitoring committee, that is chaired by the technical person, the Chief Administrative Officer.

In addition to all the above, there are other laws and obligations that NGOs have to comply with such as the Anti-Money Laundering Act, the Financing for Terrorism Act, and the Company’s Act and others.

Mr. Nkwatsibwe also presented the work of the NGO Forum, a platform membership-based organization, with about 600 registered members. He noted that the Forum ensures 100% compliance with government requirements. However, after participating in monitoring the 2021 general election in Uganda and hosting the National Elections Watch, the NGO Bureau organized a press conference and announced that the operations of the NGO Forum have been suspended without warning. The Forum’s

bank accounts were frozen in August 2020 and no work could go on. Several other organizations have since been suspended and threatened.



In his closing remarks, he encouraged all institutions whether registered as NGOs or not, to comply with government requirements to avoid such challenges. Whereas this compliance may not save institutions from threats and suspension, it provides a firm foundation for them to be supported in case of any eventualities. He also encouraged NGOs to be very strategic and tactful in their approach while confronting those in power.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNNGOF>

Website: <https://ngoforum.or.ug>

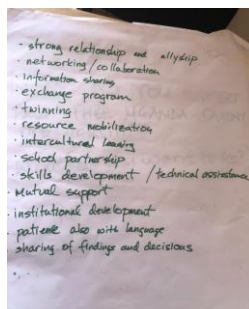
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ngoforum>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ngoforumug>

ii. The desired Uganda-Saxony Partnership



Participants separated into two groups to discuss the nature of partnership that they desire to have as well as their expectations. Among others, a good partnership was perceived as that with a shared vision, common goals, transparency, good communication as well as mutual respect. Support on fundraising and networking, information sharing, and exchange programs emerged as the most common expectations that participants expressed.



III. CLOSURE AND NEXT STEPS

Ms. Margaret Nakato thanked all participants for turning up. She thanked participants for the rich experiences shared and noted that organizations present will be proud 100 years from now to reflect and see how far the partnership that they initiated has gone.

In her closing remarks, Ms. Ulrike Roseman introduced Mr. Schmitt, ~~the Chancellor of the~~ [policy advisor at the Saxon State Chancellery, Free State of Saxony](#). She noted that Mr. Schmitt has greatly contributed to initiating and building of this partnership project. Ms. Ulrike thanked participants for their commitment and willingness to be part of this partnership. She noted that the ideas from the groups will help to provide an orientation and direction for the partnership.

Mr. Christoph Schmidt introduced himself ~~as the State Chancellor of Saxony~~. [Heand](#) expressed his gratitude to see many people taking part in the discussion and noted that the Saxony government has made a decision to step into a closer cooperation with Uganda. He noted that the government of Uganda and a number of organizations have expressed willingness to partner with the Saxony state including universities, business entities and other institutions and individuals. He closed the workshop and thanked participants and the organizers for a successful workshop.



IV. ANNEXES (WORKSHOP PROGRAM AND ATTENDANCE LIST)

PROGRAM FOR

THE UGANDA – SAXONY PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP

14TH JULY, 2023

GIZ OFFICE Plot 23 NAKASERO

TIME	ACTIVITY	IN-CHARGE
8:00-9:00am	Arrival and registration	KWDT
9:00-9:30am	Welcome and introduction	Facilitator
9:30- 9:40am	Presentation about ENS	Ms. Ulrike Rosemann
9:40-9:50am	Presentation on the project; Uganda-Saxony Partnership	Ms. Margaret Nakato
9:50-10:20am	BREAK	KWDT
10:20- 11:40am	Sharing about our work <i>Each participant has approx. 2 minutes to talk about their work</i>	All participants
11:40-12:00	Presentation on Civic Space in Uganda	NGO Forum
12:00 - 1:00pm	LUNCH	KWDT
1:00-2:30pm	Group discussions and presentations	All participants
2:30-3:00 pm	Way forward and closure	Ms. Margaret Nakato

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE UGANDA SAXONY PARTNERSHIP WORKSHOP

S/No	Names of Participants	Institution
01	Mr. Akora George Williams	Youth And Women Empowerment (Yawe Foundation)
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