

WOMEN'S VIEW POINT UGANDA

Presentation about WVPU work

By

Patricia Amne Aceng

C.E.O

WVPU Northern - Lira
Program

At the Annual monitoring
review meeting.

28th November ,2020



INTRODUCTION

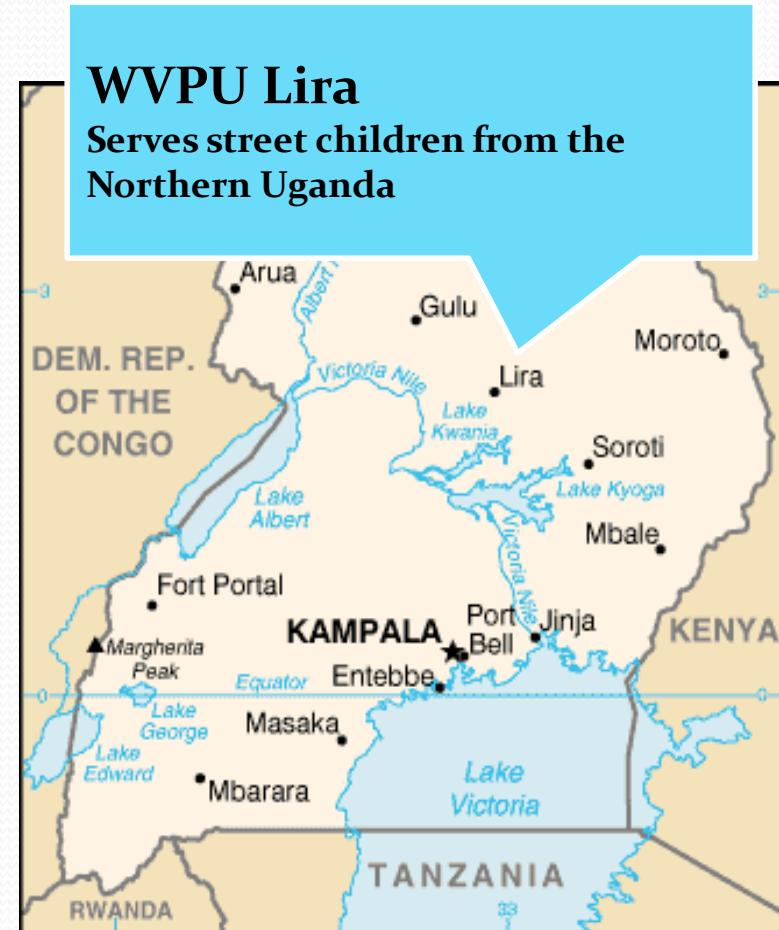
- Women's view point (WVPU) is a Christian local NGO founded in 04th April 2016 by a group of Christian leaders (women and men) of northern Uganda.
- WVPU works with children on the streets and their families in Uganda.
- The organization operates in northern districts (Lira, Gulu & Moroto). Lira is the Head Office/ regional headquarter office.

WVPU Operation Areas



WVPU Lira Program Area

- **Donor:** Members of the organization are the ones' currently strengthening the organization with their own contribution.
- **Timeframe:** 2016-2020
- **Staffing:** 14 staff and 3 volunteers
- **Partners/ stakeholders**
 - Children
 - The government
 - Religious and cultural leaders
 - Parents and community members
 - Other developmental partners



Women's view point Uganda Lira Program Office

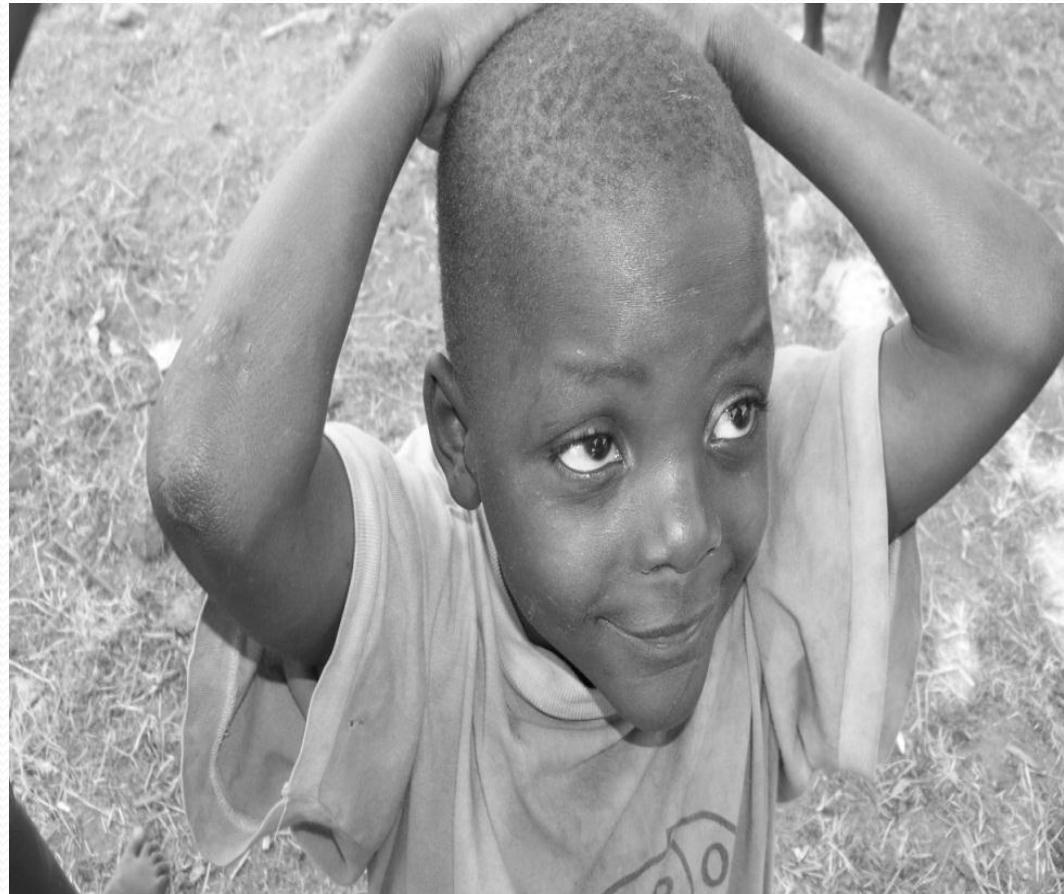


WVPU Lira-Background

- WVPU Lira Program is a main branch of WVPU Uganda, opened in 2016 as a result of the socio economic and political challenges following the two decades Lords Resistance Army war in Northern Uganda that left most people displaced into the IDP camps.
- WVPU Lira has been in existence for the last 1 and half years supporting children living and working on the street and their caregivers in Lira municipality
- WVPU networks with different NGOs, Government bodies and other civil society organizations in the district for effective and efficient service delivery specifically with regard to addressing childcare, protection and ensuring children's rights.

WVPU VISION

“Children formerly living on the streets holistically transformed into productive and responsible persons in society”



WVPU MISSION

“To rebuild the lives of child headed families, school dropout children, streets children by restoring/reconciling them with God and with their families and empowering women to become productive in the community”



WVPU VALUES

- Christianity,
- Commitment to the poor,
- Value people,
- Stewardship,
- Partnership,
- Empowerment,
- Parenting Growth and Dev't



STAKEHOLDERS

The key stakeholders of this project are:

- **Duty bearers:** All leaders including political/elected, appointed, religious and cultural leaders
- **People's institutions:** The people ensure children in their communities are protected.
- **Parents/caregivers:** of children and other community members
- **Health and Education institutions:** Schools and referral hospitals are key stakeholders of the this project.
- **Children:** Children on the Streets and other Children in targeted communities are key .

WVPU Thematic Areas and Sub Themes

Health and Nutrition	Livelihood	Education	Child Protection
Nutrition support to children and mothers	Strengthening community led P.I.s through wise investment initiatives .	Strengthening access to basic education	Prevention of SGBV/Domestic Violence
Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive health	Household economic empowerment through VSLA and IGAs	Vocational Skills training through apprenticeship and VTIs	Rehabilitation and family reintegration
Health Institutional strengthening		Capacity strengthening for education stakeholders	Elimination of Violence against children

Cross-cutting themes: Gender, Resilience and Disability

- **Gender:** Use the Gender Equality Toolkit to analyze the issues facing children and youth through a gender equality lens. We will consider gender equality in developing national level Breakthroughs, sub-thematic results and in designing and implementing programs. At minimum, our approaches should be gender-sensitive and, where possible, gender transformative.
- **Resilience:** The ability of individuals (including children), communities and countries to resist, adapt and manage change by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of shocks or stresses, without compromising their long term prospects.
- **Disability:** We are gradually integrating disability in our program

Sub thematic results

HEALTH AND NURRITION RESULTS	SYNERGY		CONTEXT
	Across Theme	With cross cutting themes	
Preventable newborn deaths are eliminated	CP, Edn	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
All children and youth who are deprived have equitable access to health and nutrition services	CP, Edn	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
All women and girls have access to and use quality sexual and reproductive health services	CP, Edn, & Livhd	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks

Sub thematic results

LIVELIHOOD RESULTS	SYNERGY		CONTEXT
	Across themes	With cross cutting theme	
Both female and male care-givers have sufficient income at all times to meet the essential needs of their children for survival, learning and protection	H&N, Edn, CP	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
families who are poor are resilient against disasters and shocks and continue to invest in their children's survival, learning and protection	H&N, Edn, CP	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
Adolescent girls and boys who are deprived have the opportunity to build the skills, networks and self-esteem they need to make the transition to safe and decent livelihoods	H&N, Edn, CP	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks

Sub thematic results

EDUCATION RESULTS	SYNERGY		CONTEXT
	Across themes	With cross cutting themes	
Deprived children attend good quality inclusive basic education and demonstrate relevant learning outcomes.	CP, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
All vulnerable children and have continuous access to a good quality and marketable vocational skills training	CP, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
Effective governance systems exist to ensure that deprived children have equitable access to good quality basic education and demonstrate relevant learning outcomes	CP, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks

Sub thematic results

CHILD PROTECTION RESULTS	SYNERGY		CONTEXT
	Across themes	With cross cutting themes	
All children have appropriate care either from their own families or community-based alternatives	Ed, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
Children are protected from Physical and Humiliating Punishment in the home and in school	Ed, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
All children are protected through a strong Child Protection System, integrating both formal and informal components	Ed, H&N	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks
All children and youth who are deprived have equitable access to resources & social services	Ed, H&N Livelhd	Gender & Resilience	Partnership and Networks

Our sustainable commitment

Commitment

- We will continue to work to achieve the rights of all vulnerable people including street children through our full strategy but we will consciously and deliberately put the most deprived people first in our own work and advocate for others to do the same.

Implications

- Increased focus on gender, inclusion /disability
- Improved analytical capabilities, including strategic planning tool
- Participation more inclusive of most deprived
- Stronger advocacy efforts
- More donor advocacy
- Engage the government to deliver services to the people

The Current Project

Support Reintegration and Improved Livelihood Opportunities For Children on the Streets, their Families and Communities

Donor: Non (members participation)

Duration: 2016 to 2020

Target Areas:

- The 4 divisions in Lira Municipality
- Nearby sub counties in Lira District
- Other catchment areas in Lango and N.Uganda as a whole.

The Project Goal

- To contribute to the rehabilitation, reintegration of street children into families and enhanced capacities of communities for improved livelihood and civic responsibility by 2018.

Strategies

- Protection
- Reintegration
- Empowerment
- Advocacy and Lobby
- Institutional Strengthening

WVPU Project Target

- ❑ Overall the project target 6,000 children, which includes 30 Children's Groups, parents/caregivers, school teachers, households and children under the households as follows:
 - ❑ 600 street children (200 girls and 400 boys),
 - ❑ 400 SHGs formed and strengthened. translate into 6,000 and an estimated 6,000 children as indirect beneficiaries
 - ❑ 300 teachers empowered with skills on child rights, protection and SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) Methodology.
 - ❑ 4,000 children between 5 and 17 years from 30 Children's Groups as household beneficiaries
- 700 Parents/guardians of former street children

Children on the street

- ❑ Street children are children who live , work and survive on the streets of urban centers in Uganda
- ❑ Part time street children maintain their family but daily come to work, beg, and eat from the street, but later in the evening get back to their families in the slums of urban centers.
- ❑ Full time street children live, work, survive and spend their nights on the street. They are completely detached from their families and live in gangs in temporary makeshift shelters. They regard the streets as a “residential estate” and form gangs for physical and emotional support, identity, security, and relief from life and anxieties within their groups.

Generic Causes of children looming to streets

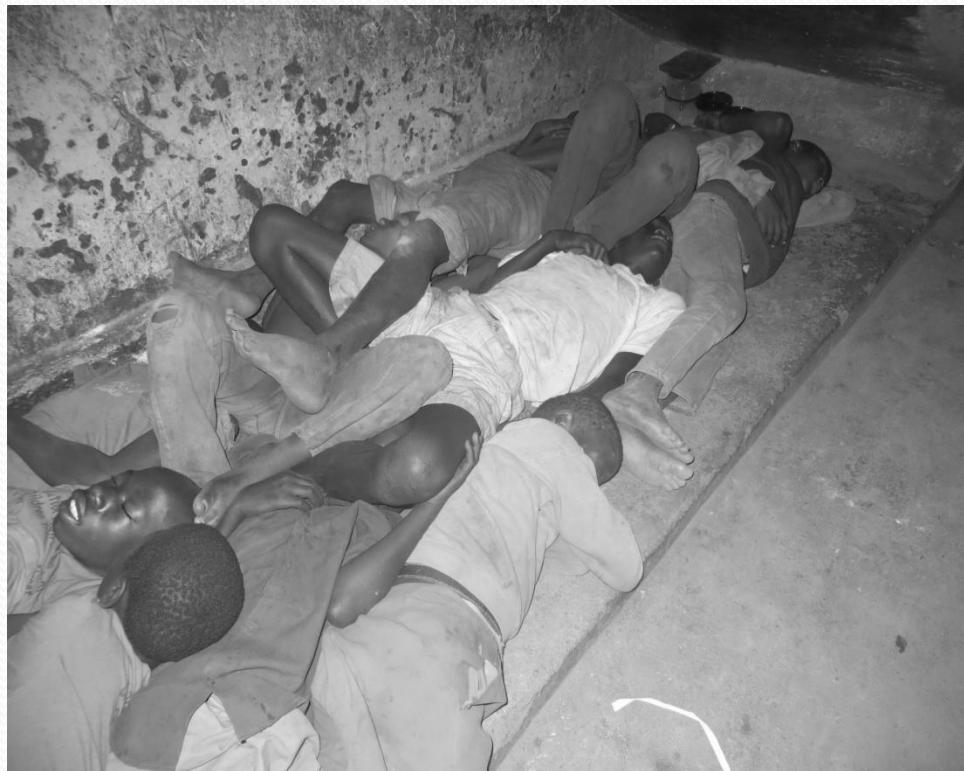
- Civil strife e.g. in Northern Uganda
- The HIV/AIDS Pandemic leading to orphaned children
- Domestic violence and family disintegration
- Wide spread Poverty
- Child abuses such as neglect and physical harm by parents/ adults
- Natural calamities – drought and famine, landslides, floods

SITUATION OF CHILDREN ON THE STREET. - WVPU

SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

- All street children (100%) are a vulnerable group.
- 60% of the children on the street have lost both parents due to HIV/AIDS, other disease or wars. This has left them scarred and hopeless.
- They suffer from abject poverty , trauma, stigma , discrimination, diseases, mob justices and multiple losses
- 69% of the children on the streets are in the age bracket of 6-12 years, while 31% are between 13-17years
- Most of the children got during the night survey are boys than girls.
- Girls are accepted in homes because they will be married and so not a threat to the family Assets.
- Some girls work as prostitutes so not easily seen out on the streets. They are mostly in the lodges.

DAY AND NIGHT STREET SURVEY



AGE BRACKET OF CHILDREN ON THE STREETS

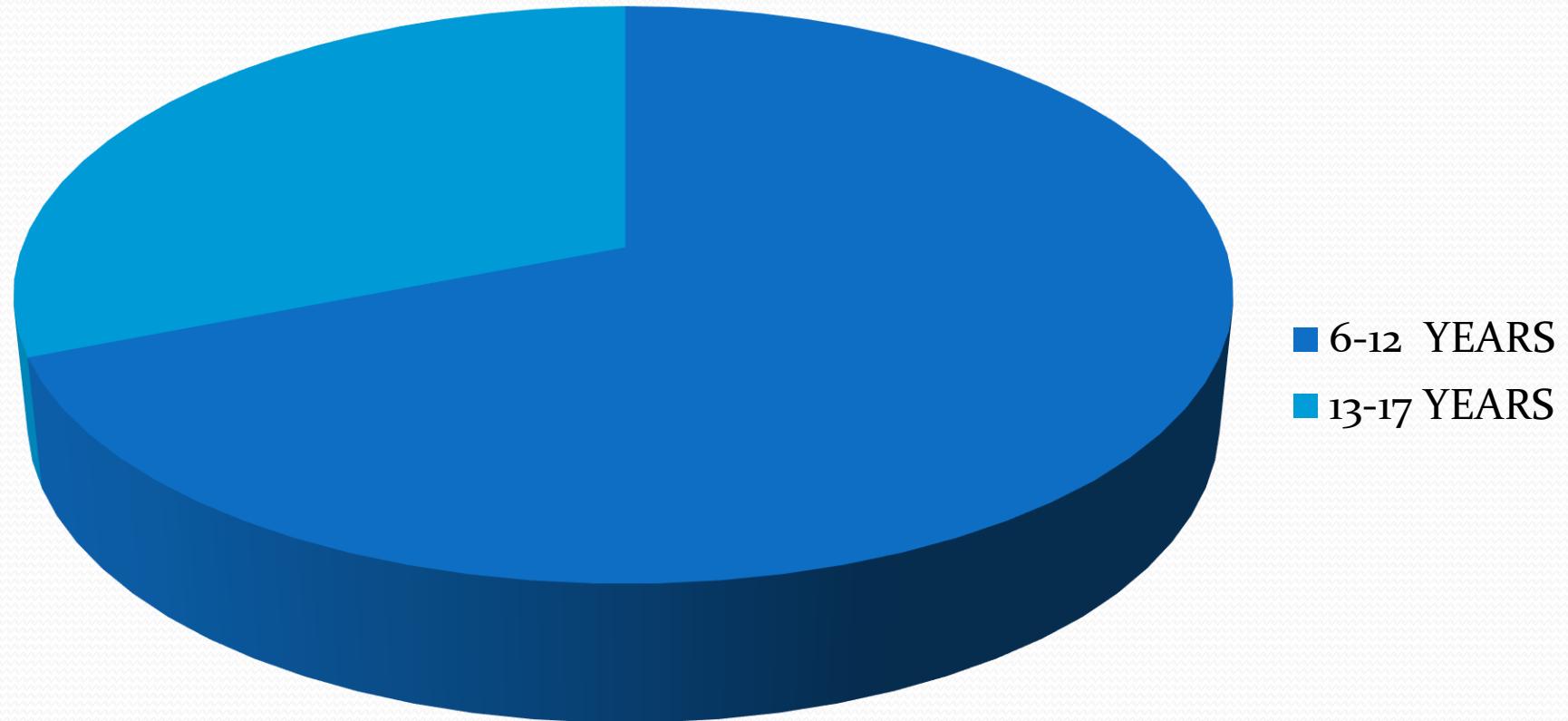
6-12 YEARS

69%

13-17 YEARS

31%

A PIE CHART SHOWING AGE BRACKET OF CHILDREN ON THE STREETS

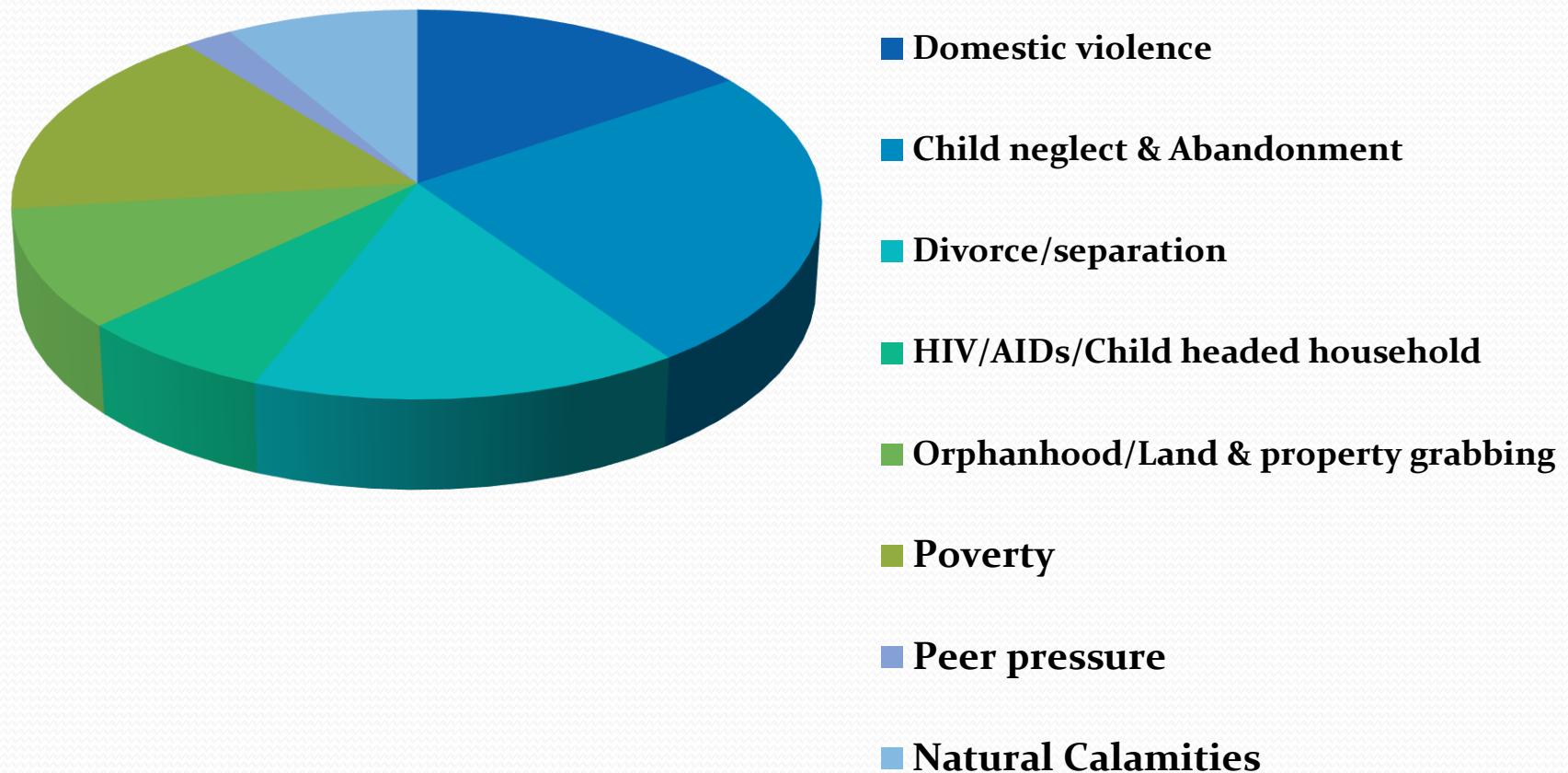


What causes children to live on the streets?

WVPU Situational Analysis

Domestic violence	15.4
Child neglect & Abandonment	25
Divorce/separation	15.5
HIV/AIDs/Child headed household	7.1
Orphan hood/Land & property grabbing	9.9
Poverty	16.4
Peer pressure	2.2
Natural Calamities	8.5
TOTAL	100

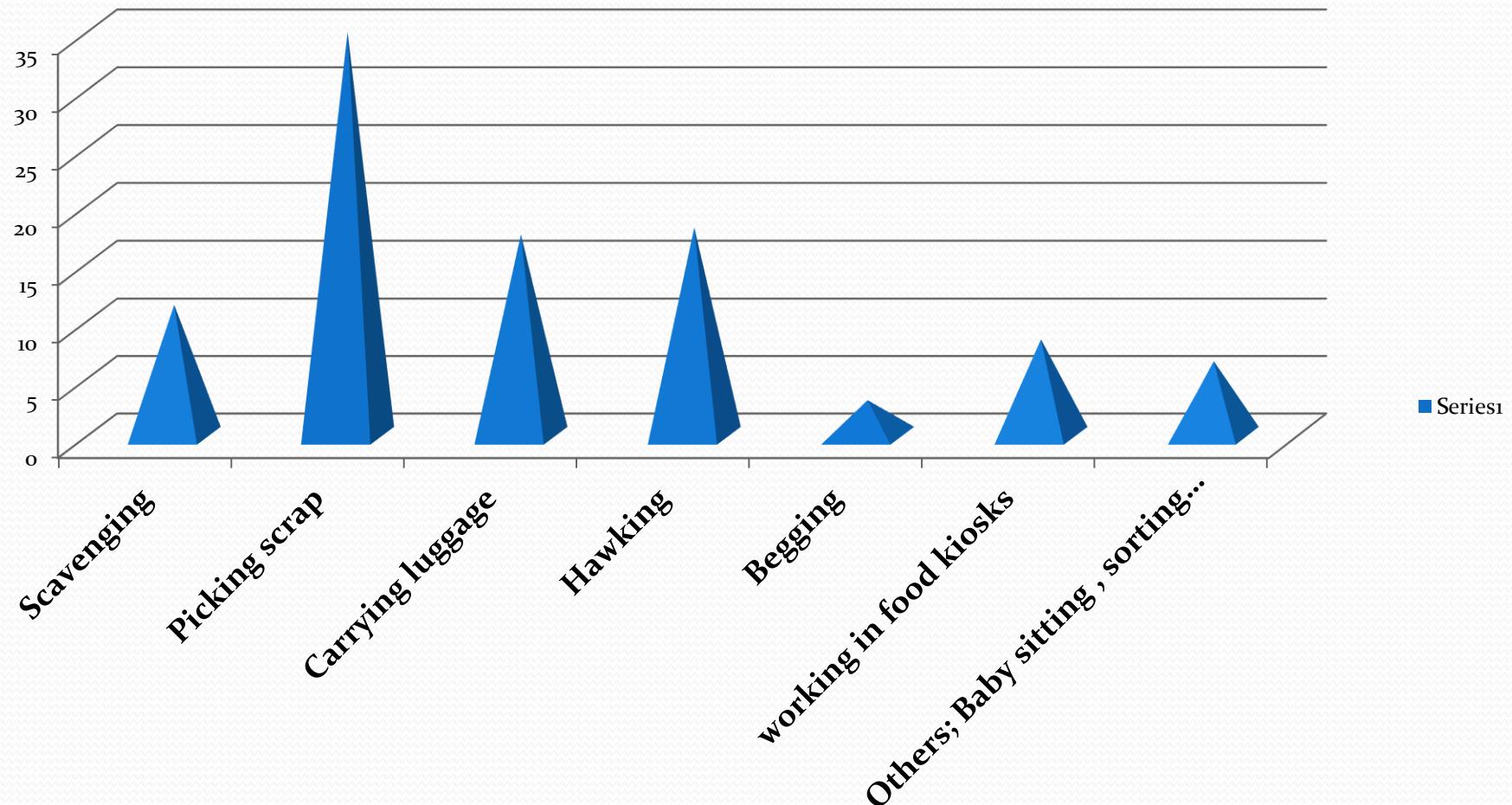
A PIE CHART SHOWING THE CAUSES OF CHILDREN LIVING ON THE STREET.



ACTIVITIES CHILDREN ENGAGE IN WHILE ON THE STREET.

ACTIVITES	%age
Scavenging	11.4
Picking scrap	35
Carrying luggage	17.5
Hawking	18.1
Begging	3.1
working in food kiosks	8.4
Others; Baby sitting , sorting G.nuts/coffee	6.5
Total	100

A PYRAMID SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES CHILDREN ENGAGE IN WHILE ON THE STREETS



WVPU Approach

- WVPU uses a community based and holistic approach in working with the children.
- WVPU uses a rights based approach by empowering the rights holders who are the children to demand for their rights from the duty bearers.
- WVPU uses holistic approach to meet the physical the emotional, social, mental and spiritual needs of the children, which are considered as essential elements of meaningful and positive human development
- WVPU provides psychosocial support to street children as a way of helping them to understand their own internal processes so that they can adequately take control of their own situational responses and decision making process.
- Each child is attached to a counselor who assists them to overcome or cope with their situation. This is on regular basis.

WVPU ACTIVITIES

Activities with the children

- Identification of the children on the streets.
- Rehabilitation program
- Psychosocial care and support
- Formal education
- Family tracing and resettlement
- Vocational training
- Nutritional support
- Health care
- Home visits
- Agricultural promotion
- Recreation activities and camps
- Youth Exchange Program
- Child rights promotion

Activities with the community

- ▶ Women and men clubs
- ▶ Income Generating Activities
- ▶ Adult literacy classes
- ▶ Self Help Groups
- ▶ Village Savings and Loans Association
- ▶ Family planning and immunization
- ▶ Community training workshops
- ▶ Advocacy and lobby

Key efforts

- ❑ More efforts in addressing domestic violence and family disintegration
- ❑ Engaging religious and cultural leaders in addressing land wrangle in the communities
- ❑ Community awareness on positive parenting, roles responsibilities
- ❑ Increased focus on gender, inclusion /disability
- ❑ Improved analytical capabilities, including strategic planning tool
- ❑ Increase participation which is more inclusive of most deprived
- ❑ Stronger advocacy with duty bearers
- ❑ Strengthen our resource mobilization for more intervention
- ❑ Engage the government to deliver services to the people

CHALLENGES

- Increasing numbers of street children with limited funds.
- There is increase in number of child headed households, with no immediate family to take responsibility of the children.
- Results with street children come slowly, because rehabilitation is a process, but partners and the community want to see quick results which at times paints negative results for WVPU.
- Drug abuse among the children which affects the progress of our work
- Breakdown in social and cultural fabrics means more children continue to face hardships

OUR APEAL

- ▶ WVPU calls for collective effort to handle the problems of street children since there are more community based push factors than the pull factors.
- ▶ Joint monitoring efforts by WVPU and the District Authority
- ▶ Specifically, we appeal for ownership of the People's Institution by the District Authority for sustainability and continuity in service delivery through the above PIs.
- ▶ The problem of drug abuse would require the intervention of many stakeholders including security organs especially the police and other stakeholders

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WVPU - UG

Ms. Patricia Amne Aceng

Contact:

Email: tetricia.trema@gmail.com

Address: P.O BOX, 871 LIRA.

Lira District (U).

