

# Rwenzori Anti-Corruption Coalition

Annual Report - 2015



## List of Board Members

Name	Position on Board	District
Mr. James Mwirima	Chairperson	Kasese
Ms. Margaret Kateeba	Vice Chairperson	Kabarole
Hon. Flavia Rwabuhoro	General Secretary	Kyegegwa
Mr. Gerald Twebaze	Treasurer	Kamwenge
Mr. Sunday Justus	Partners' Representative	Kamwenge
Ms. Olivia Mutamba	Gender Representative	Ntoroko
Mr. Bagambe James	District Coordinator --	Bundibugyo
Hon. Norman Birungi	District Coordinator – Kyenjojo/	Kyegegwa
Mr. Zalot Kipura	District Coordinator – Kasese	Kasese
Mr. Kamili Anthony	District Coordinator – Kamwenge	Kamwenge
Mr. Emmy Manyindo	District Coordinator – Kabarole	Kabarole
Hon. Alex Ruhunda	Patron	Kabarole
Dr. Fabias Byaruhanga	Advisor	Kamwenge

## List of Staff members

	Name	Position
1	Ms. Angela Byangwa Senabulya	Executive Director
2	Mr. Dan Katorogo	Accountant
3	Mr. Muthabali Augustine	Advocacy Officer
4	Ms. Victoria Namugga Busiinge	Communication and Documentary Officer
5	Mr. Byomuntura Meshach	Gender Officer
6	Ms. Aisha Nassaka	Accounts Assistant
7	Ms. Muhumuza Edith	Administrative Secretary
8	Mr. Isingoma Edward	ICT Assistant
9	Mr. Mugisha Paul	Driver

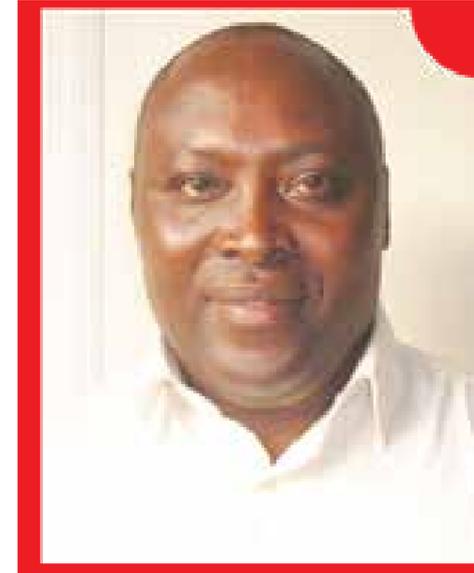
RWENZORI ANTI-CORRUPTION COALITION – RAC  
Plot 24, Ruhandika Street,  
Omar Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Fort Portal  
Office Tel: 0483-425244

Others : 0701-220956, 0705-787407, 0788398680

Email: [rwenantico@gmail.com](mailto:rwenantico@gmail.com), [rac@racuganda.org](mailto:rac@racuganda.org)



### Communication from the Board chairperson



To all the friends of Rwenzori Anti-Corruption Coalition,

I warmly welcome you to yet another exciting moment when we get to share with you our annual accomplishments in the fight against corruption in the Rwenzori region and Uganda in general.

I congratulate you for undergoing a largely peaceful general election in February and March 2016. To victors and losers as well as the voters I congratulate you on playing your part in the democratization process. However, I condemn in the strongest terms possible the increased use of money in elections, particularly by candidates. Voters need not to be influenced by money to vote. This is unacceptable. This is against what RAC stands for. I also condemn in the strongest terms possible the post-election violence that has been witnessed in the region particularly in Kasese and Bundibugyo districts. Some of these conflicts trace their origins to corruption and injustice and RAC strongly condemns this. To all the RAC members, I call upon you to exhibit the unity and oneness of the people of the Rwenzori region. We have worked together as a family in spite of our ethnic, religious and political differences. Let's preach this gospel of unity (OBUMU) to the rest of the communities where we come from. Since

time immemorial we have lived together as a community in spite of our differences. Why not now?

Basing on our corporate mission of mobilizing the communities in the Rwenzori region into a social movement and enhancing their capacity to detect, report and cause action against corruption, we have made wide strides, despite several challenges in fighting against corruption in the districts of the region. Some of the achievements registered in 2015 include the following:

1. Awareness creation and public education on corruption and how it impacts service delivery and the quality of life. This targeted the population of the entire region and through radio, publications and community outreaches the message was delivered to at least 1 million citizens.
2. Community mobilization: We targeted youths out of school. A total of 1500 youths were mobilized as anti-corruption activists who in turn reported new cases of corruption particularly in youth livelihood related projects. Also mobilized were women groups especially those living adjacent to forest reserves who actively reported injustices and corruption in the forestry sector for example injustices in eviction of people from forest reserves in Kyenjojo and Kyegegwa. This attracted the attention of the Prime Minister who recently came to the ground to ameliorate the situation.

4. Monitoring and exposure of corruption: the monitors and the communities in general have continued to detect, expose and report corruption cases wherever it occurs. Several corruption cases were reported, we analyzed them and either followed them up or referred them to the relevant government anti-corruption agencies for action.

5. Networking, lobbying and advocacy: RAC works with others in its contribution to the anti-corruption struggle. At the local government level, RAC has partnered with the district local governments, particularly the RDCs, and has contributed to facilitating District Integrity Promotion Forum (DIPFs) in all districts. This has contributed to speedy action on cases reported. At national level, RAC has worked closely with the Inter Agency Forum to ensure action on cases it reports is taken.

The results of all these include a community that has been sensitized and is vigilant and now hostile to the corrupt; reduced levels of impunity especially within the local governments and increased action against corruption. All this has contributed to making service delivery better.

However, the fight against corruption is not an event; it is a process. The corrupt are sophisticated and well connected people. While RAC continues to mobilize citizens to act against corruption, some of the corruption cases are beyond the community's capacity. While the community continues to lament or blow whistles the corrupt continue plying their trade unabated because of factors beyond the community. We therefore call upon the entire corruption chain link to be more proactive and play a leadership role in achieving the ruling government's policy goal of "zero tolerance to corruption". In particular we call upon the elected leaders, whom we have just given fresh mandate, to provide leadership in resisting corruption. As a country we cannot afford being the region's laughing stock on account of corruption. We cannot afford to see people dying simply because a healthy worker has stolen drugs or is absent from duty or demanding a bribe from a helpless peasant. We cannot afford to see infrastructure projects being done shoddily simply because someone has stolen the budgeted funds. As citizens we shall sound war drums and attack anyone suspected of corruption.

Happy Reading!

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

JAMES MWIRIMA  
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### Message from the Executive Director

I am glad to present to you our Annual Report for the year 2015.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our development partners; the Democratic Governance Facility [DGF], Action Aid Uganda [AAU], CARE International and Transparency International – Uganda (TIU)-ACFIM. Without your support, celebrating the various achievements and delivering on our mandate would be impossible.

Furthermore I recognize the immense contribution of the RAC monitors – through your selfless efforts, RAC's mandate is achieved. Finally, I recognize and appreciate the tremendous contribution of RAC secretariat and the partners whose skills and networking have pushed the anti-corruption agenda ashore.

Significant strides were registered during the year including ; 28 high level DIPF meetings, community dialogues, as well as reaching over 1,000,000 people with key messages on accountability. Through social media, we reached 255,000 citizens on Facebook and Twitter and reached 230 visitors through our website. We also shared information on accountability issues through 12,000 produced information materials.

Through policy advocacy, we gave input into the Anti-Corruption Amendment Act [2015]. We hope these laws contribute to greater accountability and transparency in government institutions.

We once again commemorated the annual Anti-Corruption convention and participated in national Anti-corruption Week [ACW] events, sharing and giving testimonies about our work. Emphasis in 2015 was on voter bribery. We engaged the electorate to interact with aspiring political candidates in the 'face the citizen meetings' through radio and other public rallies.

Throughout the year, we worked closely with relevant accountability Ministry Departments and Agencies [MDAs] including; the Inspectorate of government [IG], office of the Auditor General [OAG], police, Local Governments and the Directorate of Ethics and Integrity [DEI].

In the year 2016, RAC will continue to empower citizens to actively and effectively use accountability spaces to demand for transparency and accountability. We shall continue to work with partners and relevant government institutions to augment accountability voices. Priority will be accorded to strengthening the secretariat and members through diversifying our income sources. We shall also work to strengthen our efforts in monitoring and working with local government accountability organs and continue to mobilize communities to double their efforts in the fight against corruption in the Rwenzori region.

For God and My Country.

Augustine Muthabali  
AG Executive Director

## Background

Rwenzori Anti-corruption Coalition (RAC) is a citizen led anti-corruption organization that was formed in 2002 with the core mission of empowering communities in the Rwenzori region to expose and cause action against corruption, as a means to improve service delivery and hence alleviate poverty and suffering. The coalition operates in the seven districts of the Rwenzori region<sup>1</sup>, with over 450 grassroots community animators popularly known as the RAC monitors.

Since her inception, RAC's efforts have greatly contributed to increased community vigilance evidenced by the coalition's monitors who have continuously unearthed corruption scandals without fear or favor; thus triggering audits, arrests and prosecutions of the accused.



*RAC Monitors - The brains behind our success*



As a result of RAC's engagements, community awareness about corruption has increased as evidenced by the increased number of corruption cases reported to our office in Fort Portal town, and to all the 450 RAC monitors spread all over the region. This has been achieved through sensitization and awareness creation through a number of activities like radio programs, Forum Theatre, exhibitions, community meetings, public notice boards, school outreach programs, debates and production of IEC materials including brochures, the TRACK newsletter, posters and placards.

Through its great efforts, RAC has been able to work closely with the Directorate of Ethics and Integrity in the Office the President as well as other state anti-graft agencies including the Inspector General of Government (IGG), the Police, the Auditor General (AG), Directorate of Public Prosecution (DPP), Public Accounts Committee (PAC), and partner Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who work together to increase community awareness about the existent corruption in public institutions and empower them to advocate for their rights.

Despite the above achievements, the road to fighting graft in the region and in Uganda at large has not been smooth all the way. Impediments including government's slowness to address corruption cases to logical conclusion tend to discourage activists.

It is also difficult for RAC to reach out to the entire region, considering its vastness, and the fact that the largest part of our programs is donor funded. With a restricted budget, RAC's major programs are confined to only 30 sub-counties of the Rwenzori region.

Nonetheless, the struggle continues...

## Executive summary

For over a decade, RAC has and continues to support government to fight against corruption for better service delivery, with the goal of alleviating poverty. This is done through the various projects implemented by RAC through her grassroots community animators – the RAC monitors. The projects implemented are in line with the RAC 5 Year strategic plan, and are intended to fulfill the goal of contributing to poverty reduction, accountability and service delivery in the Rwenzori region by mobilising, empowering and coordinating communities to sustainably demand for transparent, efficient and accountable use of public resources.

What follows in this report is a description of the projects and activities implemented throughout the year 2015. Various achievements were realized throughout the year.

Activities implemented during the period under review include;

- Training of the Health Unit Management Committees of all HCII-IV in Kyegegwa and Kasese districts;
- Community outreach programs targeting youth out of school in selected sub-counties of the seven districts of the Rwenzori region, reaching out to 1,500 youth (600 female, 900 male)
- Printing of IEC material
- Case follow up and monitoring
- District Integrity Promotion Forum meetings
- Dialogues with key anti-graft agencies
- Monitoring and support visits paid to all the RAC branches of monitors
- Media campaign (radio talk shows)
- 1 RAC video documentary produced and broadcast on UBC
- 9 Governance meetings held
- 2015 Anti-corruption convention

Key results realized from the above activities include among others; bringing the corruption to book through interdiction, transfer, demotion or dismissal from public offices, refund of embezzled monies and re-do of shoddy works among other actions. Other results include; increased vigilance by the community to fight against the corrupt, accountable leadership, stronger partnerships with key state anti-graft agencies among others.

Challenges notwithstanding, RAC moved another milestone in the fight against graft. With concerted effort from all the key players, we are optimistic that corruption in the region and the country at large will be brought at bay.

## Introduction

In pursuit of her goal, RAC implements various activities through four broad program areas i.e.

- Monitoring
- Lobbying and advocacy
- Capacity building
- Mass sensitization and awareness creation
- Networking

The subsequent section describes key activities implemented throughout the year under each of the afore-mentioned program areas, highlighting key results realized from the implemented activities:

### Monitoring

**Monitoring government programs and Case follow up** is one of the strategies through which RAC pursues her goal. Monitoring is done right from budgeting; to check if community concerns are integrated into budget releases, fund utilization is done according to plan and to confirm value for money for the implemented projects. All this is geared towards having improved service delivery in a transparent and accountable manner.

In a joint-monitoring move with key government anti-graft agencies, the Directorate of Ethics and Integrity (DEI) paid a visit to RAC as a way of supporting her in expediting action against some of the key pending cases that had stalled for some time. DEI together with RAC made a trip to Bundibugyo and Ntoroko districts in a case-follow up exercise. Site visits were made and interviews held with key informants/accused for response and resolution. Leaders/duty bearers of the two districts were also interviewed for response on the cases under investigation, resulting into the following achievements:

A team of five officials i.e. the Bundibugyo district Chief Administrative Officer, District Police Commander (DPC), District Internal Security Officer (DISO), RDC and the RAC program officer was set up to investigate 6 cases (all related to misappropriation of public resources) to logical conclusion. A deadline of January 30th, 2016 was given to have all these cases concluded.



*: RAC and DEI delegates in Bundibugyo during a meeting*

Two monitoring tools in education and health were distributed to all the 30 branches; the tools were very influential in obtaining key information about the schools and health centers visited. A total of 60 reports (30 in health, 30 in education) were submitted to RAC with detailed information on the performance of all the schools and health centers monitored.

### Lobbying and advocacy

- Commemoration of the 2015 anti-corruption convention:** Commemoration of the 2015 anti-corruption convention was held on December 06, 2015 at Kagote SDA hall in Fort Portal Municipality – Kabarole district. The one-day event brought together leaders from the regional and national level to decry corruption and chart the way forward on how best corruption in the region and the country at large can be defeated. A total of 477 participants (191 women and 286 men) including regional and national leaders, CSOs, RAC monitors, government agencies and the general community attended the convention. Key among the day’s achievements was the free and direct interaction between the lay people – the community and the leaders at different levels. This interaction was very instrumental in building community’s confidence in demanding for transparent and accountable leadership from their leaders. The duty bearers on the other hand got a chance to listen to the pleas, cares and concerns of the community and in return pledged to address them accordingly. Key among the issues raised was the issue of drug stock-outs in various health centers and the illegal fees charged to patients in public health facilities. The acting DHO- Kabarole – Mr. Ruhindi Nathan in responding to the 23 complaints against Buhinga regional referral hospital clarified on the myths that had for long circulated about the hospital (such as charges for x-ray): he said that much as the x-ray films are supposed to be given free of charge, fees may be levied to patients to expedite their treatment in case they are out of stock. Mistreatment of expectant mothers was another key issue of concern. The DHO pledged to follow up all the complaints raised by the community and as such bring to book all the culprits identified. All participants at the anti-corruption convention were very appreciative of RAC for putting up such an interactive platform to bring the duty bearers closer to the community. 8 new cases (4in health, 2in education 1 in forestry and 1 in works) were reported to RAC for further investigation during the anti-corruption commemoration.

- 9 advocacy meetings were held in the period under review i.e. two meetings with the RAC board of governors to review the implemented activities as well as participate in the planning of the up-coming activities – especially the anti-corruption. The meetings were also aimed at strategizing on the way forward, after a mini evaluation for the RAC programs across the region, where over 2,000 stakeholders were consulted on RAC’s performance, what has worked well, what has not worked and suggestions for improvement. A livelihood program for the RAC monitors is one of the major resolutions drawn at these meetings to support the RAC monitors to improve their livelihoods in order to meaningfully participate in the



*Fr. Roschil Kabura addressing participants at the 2015*

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- Seven (7) other meetings were held with different stakeholders (district political and technical leaders/staff) across the seven districts, in a follow up exercise on some of the cases reported to RAC. These included among others acquisition of the land title for Butebe forest reserve in Kabarole district, value for money audit in the installation of electricity in Kakabara HCIII in Kyegegwa district, value for money audit in the construction of maternity wards at Kanara health center in Kamwenge district, among others. Officials met include; the Chief Administrative officers of all the districts, district engineers, District Police Commander of Kamwenge, as well as other relevant officials in the cases under follow up. All these cases are at different levels of completion.

### Capacity building

Some of the challenges affecting service delivery in the region are as a result of capacity gaps by the workers in various public institutions. In order to improve their performance, capacity building and strengthening cannot be avoided. It is for this reason that we delivered different capacity building programs in areas that were found to be weak or lacking.

Capacity building is not only a RAC strategy of implementation but also a commitment that was drawn in the memoranda of understanding between RAC and the seven district local governments of the Rwenzori region where we agreed to support government programs in whichever way possible.

Capacity building in the year 2015 took two dimensions: internal and external.

- Internally, support supervision visits were paid to all the 30 RAC branches. These branch visits served various purposes i.e. understanding monitors challenges, consulting



them on the possible livelihood program they would wish to be supported with in order to improve their livelihoods as well as evaluation of all the RAC programs (what has worked and what hasn't worked). The information obtained from these branch visits was very influential in charting RAC's future programs. The monitors were further supported in their areas of weakness – (especially on how to make evidence based reports). The monitors were further equipped with better monitoring skills.

- 2 refresher trainings were carried out for the HUMC members in the district of Kyegegwa and Kasese. Participants were drawn from all the health centers (II-IV) in the afore-mentioned districts. A

total of 74 participants (29 female and 45 male) attended the training). The training was a follow-up of the first, where participants were taken through their roles and obligations, while at the same time identifying some of the key challenges faced within the health sector. In the training, emphasis was laid on the review and evaluation of the previous one, assessing the benefits obtained in the previous one, and how these had contributed to better services at their respective health centers.

### Mass sensitization and awareness creation

Mass sensitization and awareness creation is a strategy derived from the fact that a community can only demand for accountability from their leaders if they are informed: they need to know what they are entitled to in order to demand for it; after all, how can they demand for what they are ignorant about?

As RAC, we commit to bring information closer to the people so that they can ably demand for transparent and accountable leadership.

To this end, the following activities were implemented:

- 2 RAC documentaries (video and print) were developed with support from Wizarts Media; the documentaries basically talk about the RAC story, how far we have

come, the milestones moved, achievements realized, challenges faced, partnerships created and where we want to go from here. The video documentary was show-cased on UBC on 13th February 2015 for the entire nation to know about its work. This has enabled and encouraged others to know about community based approach to fighting corruption. UBC was impressed with RAC work and continued to air the documentary twice at no extra cost for the additional time. This goes to show the relevancy and appreciation of the public of our work.

- 7 community outreach programs were carried out in selected sub-counties of the seven districts of the Rwenzori region, where RAC operates. The youth out of school were targeted, reaching out to 1,500 youth (600 female, 900 male). The outreaches were aimed at bringing on board more youth in the fight against corruption and indeed, over 300 youth (216 male, 84 female) expressed interest in joining RAC as monitors. The youth were sensitized on the meaning of corruption, where to report corruption, what to do when they site corruption tendencies in their community and various other corruption-related copies. 54 new cases (mostly in health and administration) were reported during these outreaches and are now being followed up by RAC for action

**Media Campaign/Radio Talks: Media campaign:** In the period under review, the radio was used as one of the avenues for mass sensitization and awareness creation. Radio spots, endorsements and drama series with messages on corruption and service delivery were aired on four different local FM radio stations (i.e. Hits Fm and Jubilee Fm in Kabarole district, Kyenjojo fm in Kyenjojo district and UBC in Bundibugyo district) reaching out to over one million men and women in the Rwenzori region. The spots were used to raise awareness on the utilization of Community driven development (CDD) funds to enable the community to closely monitor their utilization and distribution, since fund misappropriation had become a common practice across the seven districts of the Rwenzori region. The drama series on the other hand laid emphasis on the community's role in ensuring better service delivery, as well as promoting transparent and accountable leadership.

- **Other radio talk-shows** were held on VOT to sensitize the masses, especially the youth on the need to involve themselves in the fight against corruption. During the shows, a number of callers requested RAC to intervene in some of the disturbing issues in service delivery in the region. These included among others the issues of Mpanga SSS, where for long, parents, students and teachers had raised concerns on the general administration of the school. In response, the caller was informed that RAC had already taken a step in addressing the issues of Mpanga, but further pledged to work with the relevant bodies to ensure that these issues of conflict are permanently put to rest. RAC has increased the number of youth in schools and these have joined the anti-corruption fight.

- **Newspaper articles:** In addition to the radio talk-shows, RAC's visibility across the country was increased when various articles on RAC interventions in corruption related cases were published in the Monitor Newspaper, stipulating the different success stories that RAC had registered in the region.

- **Publication:** Further awareness was raised through RAC publication – the TRACK newsletter whose main focus was on the health sector and education sector. Articles in the newsletter included; success stories and general information on the health sector such as the drug supply chain of the National Medical Stores and the role of Health Unit Management Committees. Over 600 people were thus sensitized through the dissemination of these newsletters, and at the same time RAC's visibility within the region and beyond was increased. More cases have thus been reported to RAC, seeking for intervention in areas with service delivery gaps. Notable among these was the story of the two women in labor whose lives (together with their new born babies) were saved after RAC's intervention. The two women in labor had been denied



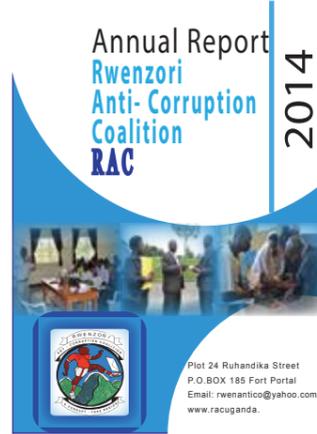
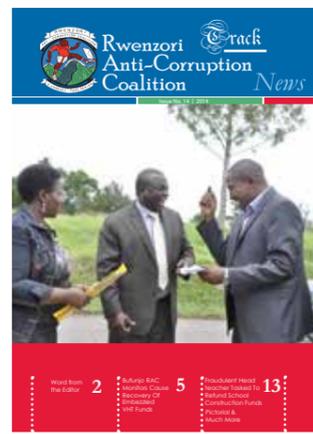
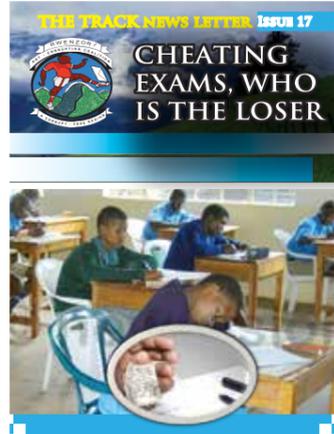
services at the regional referral hospital in Fort portal for failure to pay a bribe of 100,000/= each. One of their care-takers, having heard about RAC through radio and publications quickly called our monitor for rescue. When RAC intervened, the women received medical care and gave birth to live a bouncing baby boy at no cost, thereby saving life.

• **Forum Theatre:** sensitizing the masses through forum theatre is one of the most effective ways through which a message can be delivered. It is mostly effective because the messaged is packaged in such a way that is easy to understand by a wide range of people, especially the grassroots. Messages were thus developed, packaged and disseminated to the masses to raise their awareness on corruption within the health sector, where to report and how to resist it in the community.

**Networking**

**District Integrity Promotion Forums (DIPF):** In the period under review, 14 district integrity promotion forums were held across the seven districts of the region where RAC operates. From these meetings, key resolutions and action points were drawn to address issues of service delivery reported to RAC. In Kisinga sub-county in Kasese district for example, the district promotion forum members resolved that the key signatories (i.e. the treasurer, Chair and secretary of a group – Kajwenge united youth association that mismanaged CDD funds return the money as well as other equipment) like the chairs, that had been illegally taken by the LCI chairperson.

One stakeholders' review meeting was held, bringing together RAC staff and board members to assess the organization's operational strategies in order to plan for the future. A total of 49 participants (11 female and 38 male) attended the meeting. The review process was influential in determining what has worked, what hasn't worked and what needs to be improved. This process gave birth to improved implementation strate



gies that led to better results such as wider outreach to the community through mass media. Adoption of community radios is one of the recommendations that was drawn at the meeting and this has greatly improved our awareness campaign through mass media, evidenced by the number of cases reported from other sub-counties that are outside RAC's primary target.

**Key results**

Improved service delivery as a means to ending poverty is what RAC envisions. All the activities implemented throughout the course of the year were thus done with the same aim. Results realized from the afore-mentioned activities include; :

**Improved service delivery in the Rwenzori region**

Through RAC's periodic monitoring and public expenditure tracking surveys, service delivery has greatly improved especially in the sectors of health, education and works (roads). Our continuous mass sensitization on corruption has created a critical mass of whistle-blowers who raise a red flag whenever corruption tendencies are observed. This is evidenced in the increasing number of cases reported to RAC by our monitors, leaders and the wider community for follow up. As a result, the corrupt have been brought to book (through interdiction, transfer, demotion or dismissal from public office), refund of embezzled monies and re-do of shoddy works among other actions. In the year under review, RAC working together with other anti-corruption agencies was able to cause recovery of over one billion shillings (1,000,000,000) through the afore-mentioned actions, hence contributing to better services in the region. Examples include; the Bundibugyo health workers who illegally demanded for fees from an expectant mother, theft of solar panels, ghost CDD groups among others.

**Stronger Partnerships created at district, regional and national level**

RAC has been able to strengthen her partnerships with various anti-corruption agencies at various levels, thereby elevating her influence in expediting some of the cases reported to her office – a challenge that we have grappled with for a long time. Examples include the chain-link committee at the district and regional level where the RAC Executive Director sits as a member. Other structures/agencies through which RAC operates

include the DEI's District Integrity Promotion Forum which brings together various anti-corruption agencies within the district to address issues of corruption. Over 10 cases in the year under review were acted upon and concluded with support from this forum

### Improved transparency and accountability

RAC's mass sensitization campaign has greatly contributed to improved transparency and accountability within the public sector, emanating from the increasing demand by the community to have transparent and accountable duty bearers. This is evidenced in the increased number of notice-boards displayed at various points. These display various fund releases to local governments and service delivery points, thereby enabling the community to closely monitor utilization and hence demand for accountability. In all the health centers visited during our monitoring visits, utilization of PHC funds and other releases was well displayed on all the health centers' notice boards and from our analysis, these funds had been put to their right use and as such, the community was enjoying the services offered. There has also been improved access to information of all public documents such as Public Accounts Committee reports, internal and external audit reports among others. All these contribute to transparency, thereby reducing cases of fraud within public service.



*Without Fear or Favor! A woman stresses a point at a dialogue meeting in Kamwenge district*

## 2015 stories of change

### RAC's Heroic Intervention saves lives at Buhinga Referral hospital

Bribery is a vice that has been reported in various public institutions. Although its consequences are grave, it continues to thrive even in health facilities where people run to save their lives....

The memory of her son's birth will forever linger on, for it brought her close to the gates of the grave, simply because she could not afford a 'soda' that the doctor demanded for in exchange for service. .

It all happened on May 15, 2015 when Happy Robina (not real name) went to deliver at Buhinga hospital, having been advised to do so since her pregnancy was the kind referred to as 'highly risky'. She had experienced various complications with her previous pregnancy and this time round, the baby was poorly positioned. Happy Robina therefore needed immediate medical attention to save her life and the baby's.

Reprehensibly, Happy Robina spent two days in hospital without receiving any medical attention, albeit being in labor, on claims that the medical supplies required for her operation were missing and therefore, they needed to purchase for them.

suspicious, Happy Robina's husband called one of the RAC monitors for rescue. The monitor quickly ran to the hospital to offer support in the best way he could. On arrival, the monitor talked to some other nurses on duty who also claimed that the supplies were missing. The monitor went further to consult a senior nursing officer if truly, the listed supplies were actually missing but to his surprise, the nurse gave him all the required supplies from the maternity wing. Unfortunately, this did not provide the solution to Happy Robina's problems. The nurse's demands shifted goal posts from supplies to 'doctor's soda and airtime worth' worth 100,000/=, failure of which she could not be operated on.

Luckily for her, the RAC monitor was by her side... he informed Dr. Olara, a senior doctor at the hospital who requested the team of visiting doctors from Kamwenge to come to Happy Robina's rescue.

A stitch in time saves nine...it is thus RAC's stitch that saved the life of Happy Robina and her baby, since failure to pay the 100,000/- could not earn her any medical attention.

The same medical team from Kamwenge rescued another expectant mother who too had been denied services due to failure to pay the 100,000/= bribe, in the name of buying airtime. Kobusinge was referred from Bufunjo HCIII to Kyenjojo hospital for delivery but when her blood pressure shot up, she was quickly referred to Buhinga hospital for emergency care. It was until the Kamwenge team intervened that Kobusinge was helped to deliver.



*RAC staff and board members pause for a photo at the completed staff house at Nyabusokoma primary school*



*Happy Robinah with her new born baby*

### Nyabusokoma Staff house finally completed

In the year 2010, Bundibugyo district local government extended funds worth Shs. 50,400,000/= to Nyabusokoma Primary school for the construction of a staff house and a VIP latrine. Located in Karugutu sub-county - Ntoroko district, the project purpose was to provide accommodation for the school teachers to reduce absenteeism and late-coming for duty. This was way back in 2010 before Ntoroko was carved out of her mother district – Bundibugyo.

However, construction stalled at slab level for two years, yet all the funds had been released at project start. When this case was brought to RAC, she worked tooth and nail to ensure that unscrupulous people do not deny the people of Ntoroko quality service delivery. Deeper investigations into the case were made to identify who the contractor was and why the project had stalled. This issue was tabled for discussion at various RAC activities, including the district integrity promotion forum and district dialogues. It is from these engagements that Ntoroko district authorities considered setting funds aside to have the teachers' house constructed, , while they dig deeper into allegations of fund misappropriation for this project.

In the financial year 2014/15, the district, succumbing to RAC's pressure set funds aside to have new staff houses at Nyabusokoma Primary school constructed. . The house and latrine were completed and handed over to the school and are now being utilized by the intended beneficiaries i.e. four teachers.



## Challenges

Despite the above achievements and results, the year 2015 was not go smooth all the way. Challenges faced include;

- **Instability:** The insurgency in the two districts of Kasese and Bundibugyo where RAC operates affected us in a way; as the planned activities had to be postponed, hence derailing implementation. During this insurgency, we opted for online coordination of activities such as phone calls in terms of case follow up and working with the RAC monitors on ground to update us on the status of the insurgency. Where it became difficult to move, activities were postponed until calm returned to the region.

- **Absence of a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer** is still a great challenged faced by RAC. A lot of time is spent on implementation of program activities, but less time is spent on tracking and evaluating the impact of our work. This is largely as a result of a minimal human resource base. There is need to recruit an M&E officer to continuously track our impact, and evaluate the results of the program and activi-

ties implemented. In the mean time, a short evaluation form is attached to every activity to capture all the necessary data to assess/evaluate the implemented activity in regard to the project objectives.

- Feedback from government on cases sent to them for redress e.g. there is a case reported to the regional IGG about the students from Ibanda district who benefited from the QUOTA system of Kamwenge district illegally. IGG sanctioned the file but up to now no arrests or refund made and the students graduated and are now working. To address such gaps, RAC has strengthened her partnership with all anti-graft agencies to ensure that at whatever stage a case might be, the relevant body should be able to handle it and provide feedback to RAC in time and vice versa.

- Frequent transfers of investigating officers which causes delay in prosecution of corruption cases. To address this gap, RAC intends to access and share reports for any given case at anyone moment such that even if the officer is transferred, a track record of any given case will readily available at any given to time to ensure continuity of case follow-up.

## Key lessons learned

- Collaboration with government bodies is very paramount as it helps in timely action and response to issues of concern
- Advocacy work requires concerted efforts in order to maximize results, it is important to work with all the relevant stakeholders in the anti-corruption fight.
- Evidence based reporting and monitoring is very important in order to gain credibility and support for our work
- Working with the youth in the fight against corruption is key as they are the majority

## Analysis of cases monitored, acted upon and estimated amount of monies saved

