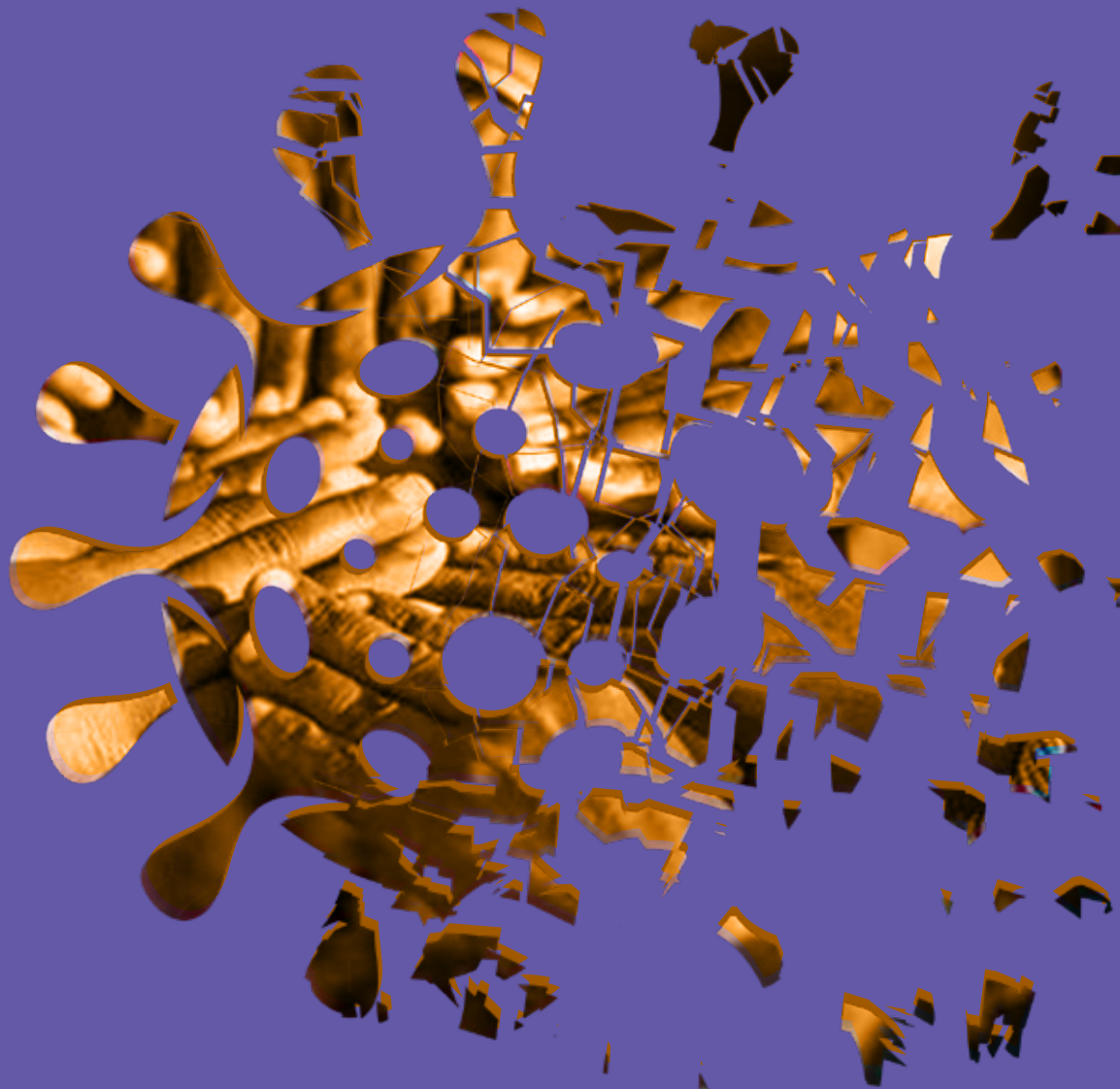


GENEROSITY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

Stories of giving in the time of the coronavirus pandemic
in Uganda.

Period Covered

March 31st to April 30th, 2020



About CivSource Africa

CivSource Africa is a philanthropy support and advisory organization committed to nurturing a more sustainable, effective and connected civil society that advances the dignity and voices of all people. We do this through promoting reflective, responsive, and accountable philanthropic practice.

CivSource Africa is also passionate about promoting African philanthropy and telling the stories of African giving and generosity.

Plot 18, Balikuddembe Road, Naguru Kampala,
Uganda
P.O Box 4310 Tel: +256 393 224 056
civsourceafrica.com
info@civsourceafrica.com



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WHERE PHILANTHROPY MEETS CIVIL SOCIETY

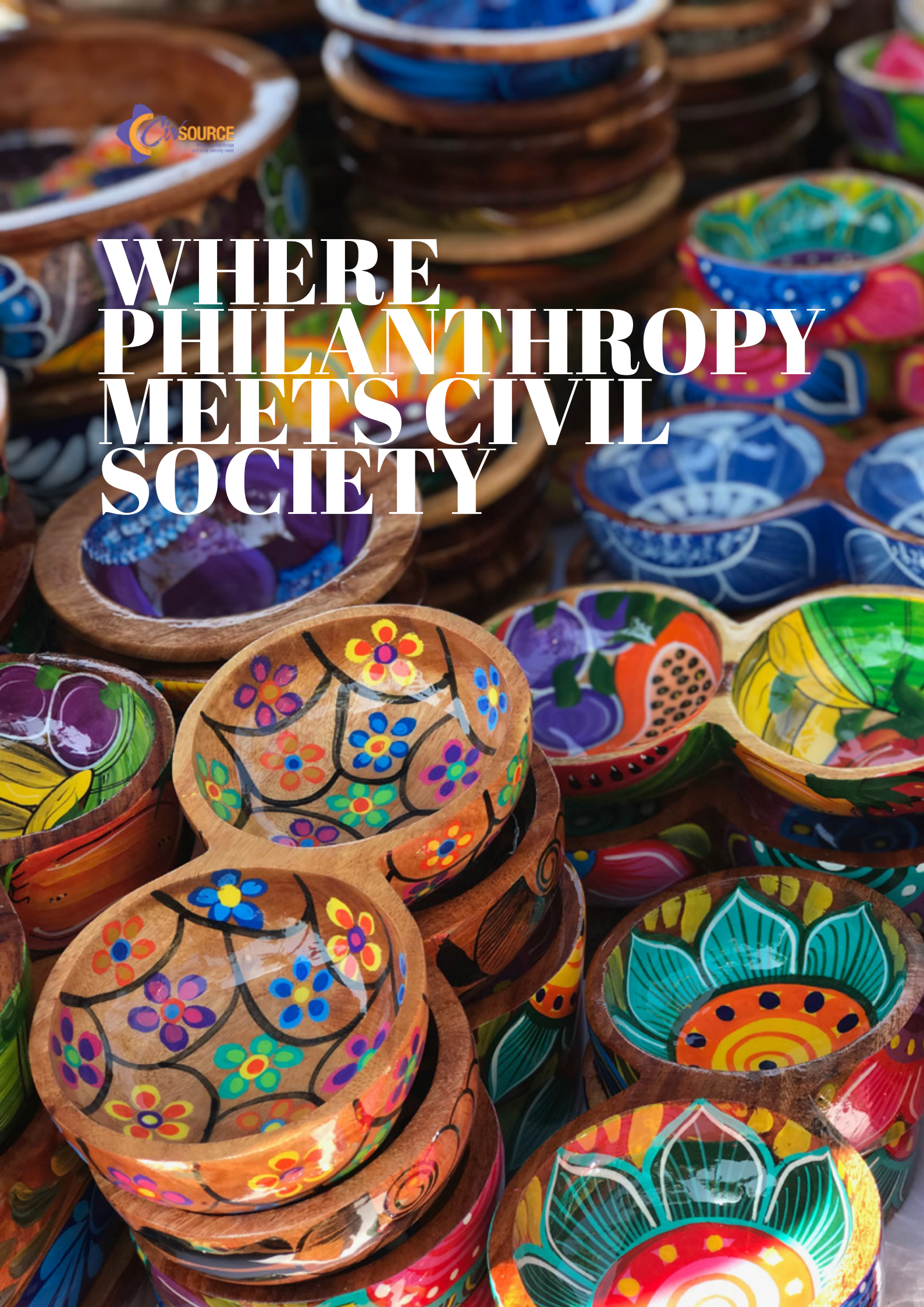


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Forward

It gives us great pleasure to bring you this first of several reports about giving during COVID-19 lock down in Uganda. Right from the announcement of the first lock down on 31st March 2020, we started noticing reports of giving and we decided that we needed to capture this momentous time.

Of course, Ugandans have always given, and they will continue giving long after the COVID-19 pandemic is over. The importance of this report is to capture a snapshot in time – a snapshot which we hope helps capture the generous spirit of Ugandans.

One thing that we've been clear about since we started collecting and curating these stories, is that we will never capture the length and breadth of giving that happened during the lockdown. A lot of giving happened in small communities, among and between neighbors and at family level, far away from the glare of the media. So, this snapshot is but a small glimpse into all the giving that happened in this period.

That said, we hope this snapshot helps us reveal the good and the lingering when it comes to questions of our generosity and philanthropy in Uganda. While many Ugandans gave, many more questions persisted about trust in Government and its institutions, not just to receive the donations, but their capacity to

distribute the items received to the right beneficiaries, as well as accountability for all that was given. In fact, this report just shares what was given, and we hope it can be used as a basis to demand accountability for where and how and by whom the resources were used.

Secondly, while many Ugandans gave, it's also an opportune time to ask about the larger framework within which giving happens in Uganda. Is giving supported in Uganda? Is there adequate infrastructure upon which to build more enduring and collectivized philanthropy in Uganda? How can we use this moment to build that lasting framework?

We have also been challenged in gathering the stories under lock down, since movement was restricted, but we did what we could. The question going forward is how we, as a country, can consciously and consistently document the giving that goes on daily, for all kinds of causes, by all kinds of people. How do we also celebrate the giving, whatever the amount given?

In this report we bring you both stories of giving, as well as three opinion pieces from regular Ugandans. We hope you both enjoy reading this report, as well as help us answer the questions and pose more that we need to ponder.

CivSource Team

Acknowledgements:

This report would not have been possible if it wasn't for the tireless work and effort of the following people, to whom we are eternally indebted: Ms Caroline Ariba who gathered and curated the stories; Mr Stuart Nsingwire who helped with the publication design; Ms Peace Kadondi who took time to literally 'count the giving' and ensure we had summarized the figures correctly. We also appreciate the three Ugandans who provided us their perspectives on giving in the time of COVID.

Last but certainly not least, we thank the team at NakivArt, who allowed us to use their painting for the back page of this report. NakivArt is an art collective for and by refugees that live in Nakivale Refugee Settlement in Isingiro (in Western Uganda). NakivArt uses drawing and drama to heal trauma.

NakivArt used their art skills to educate their community about keeping safe during the Corona pandemic.

This report was made possible by the generous support of Global Fund for Community Foundations.

Acronyms

WHO	World Health Organisation
UIA	Uganda Investment Authority
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PR	Public Relations
MUASA	Makerere University Student's Association
SARS	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome
ETS	Execu-Tran Services
LC	Local Council
LDU	Local Defense Unit
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
VHT	Village Health Trainer

Background

In December 2019, the world awoke to news of a SARS-like virus in Wuhan, China. Without notice, this virus spread across the world infecting millions of people, forcing the World Health Organization (WHO) to declare it a pandemic. As scientists struggled to fathom and contain this virus, most governments across the globe put in place strict measures to reduce infections.

First, they advised populations to wash hands, wipe down surfaces with disinfectant, and cover the mouth when coughing. While that was a good move, they soon learnt that it was not enough; more had to be done.

Slowly, countries started restricting entry and then many closed their borders all together, allowing in only cargo planes.

Despite this, infections continued increasing, a thing experts said was from prior entries. They tried to implore those feeling unwell to self-quarantine but it didn't work. Nothing was working, and they were left with one option, a lockdown.

In Uganda, schools were closed, curfew

introduced and public transport suspended for everyone, except essential workers. Large gatherings were stopped and most shopping places closed – except those selling food. While this was a known solution to beating the virus, sadly it left a large percentage of the population that lives from 'hand-to-mouth' in a dire state.

Note that 80% of Uganda's labor force works in the informal sector, where most of the non-essential workers fall. Ergo without income coming in, families were going hungry. But also, life was different, the social scene none-existent and all of this was sudden.

During this time, CivSource Africa noticed a surge in philanthropy. The giving was both of cash and non-cash items. We also saw people give in kind; time, talent, love; anyone with anything to give, gave!

This is therefore a curation of the stories of giving during this time, but also a chance to have a conversation about philanthropy in Uganda.

Summary

FOOD ITEMS

	Quantity
Trays of eggs	6,660
Salt (kg)	30
Maize flour (tonnes)	10,135.80
Water (Cartons)	2,063
Wheat flour (tonnes)	600.48
Assorted food bags	900
Oil boxes	36,050
Rice (tonnes)	23.03
Beans (tonnes)	6.60
Sugar (tonnes)	129.60
Chickens	500
Milk (Cartons)	560
Passion fruits (tonnes)	5
Soya bean (tonnes)	1
Assorted Food Items (UGX - million)	754.50

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

Bedsheets	2,000.00
Mattresses	663.00
Face masks	189,560.00
Pairs of gloves	168,300.00
Blankets	1,030.00
Essential items worth (UGX-bn)	3,435.50
Soap (tonnes)	57.42
Testing Kits	27,589.00
PPEs	1,493.00
Face shields	1,201.00
Medical supplies (UGX - bn)	2,484.69
Hand wash (bottles)	6,000.00
Hand sanitizers (litres)	19,650.00
Spray pump	3.00
Sit-on-top Gas Cookers	100.00
Hands washing tanks	60.00
Medical Equipment (ugx-bn)	1,602.00
Isolation tent	1.00
Pens	100,000.00

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Call Centers (with personnel, internet data)	6.00
Fuel (ugx - million)	275.50
Leased veichles (buses and trucks) for pandemic	
Pick-up trucks to own	43.00
Motorcycles	36.00
Ambulances	17.00
Ambulance Service Bay	4.00
ICT equipment suppliers	1.00
Boat	2.00
Bicycles	1.00
Airtime (ugx - million)	100.00
Free radio PSA on COVID-19 recorded in all languages spoken in Uganda	388.00

\$217677.23

**UGX
12.1BN
CASH**

\$6460644.48

**UGX
24.32BN**

MAIZE FLOUR AT MARKET PRICE

36

TRUCKS

43

LEASED VEHICLES

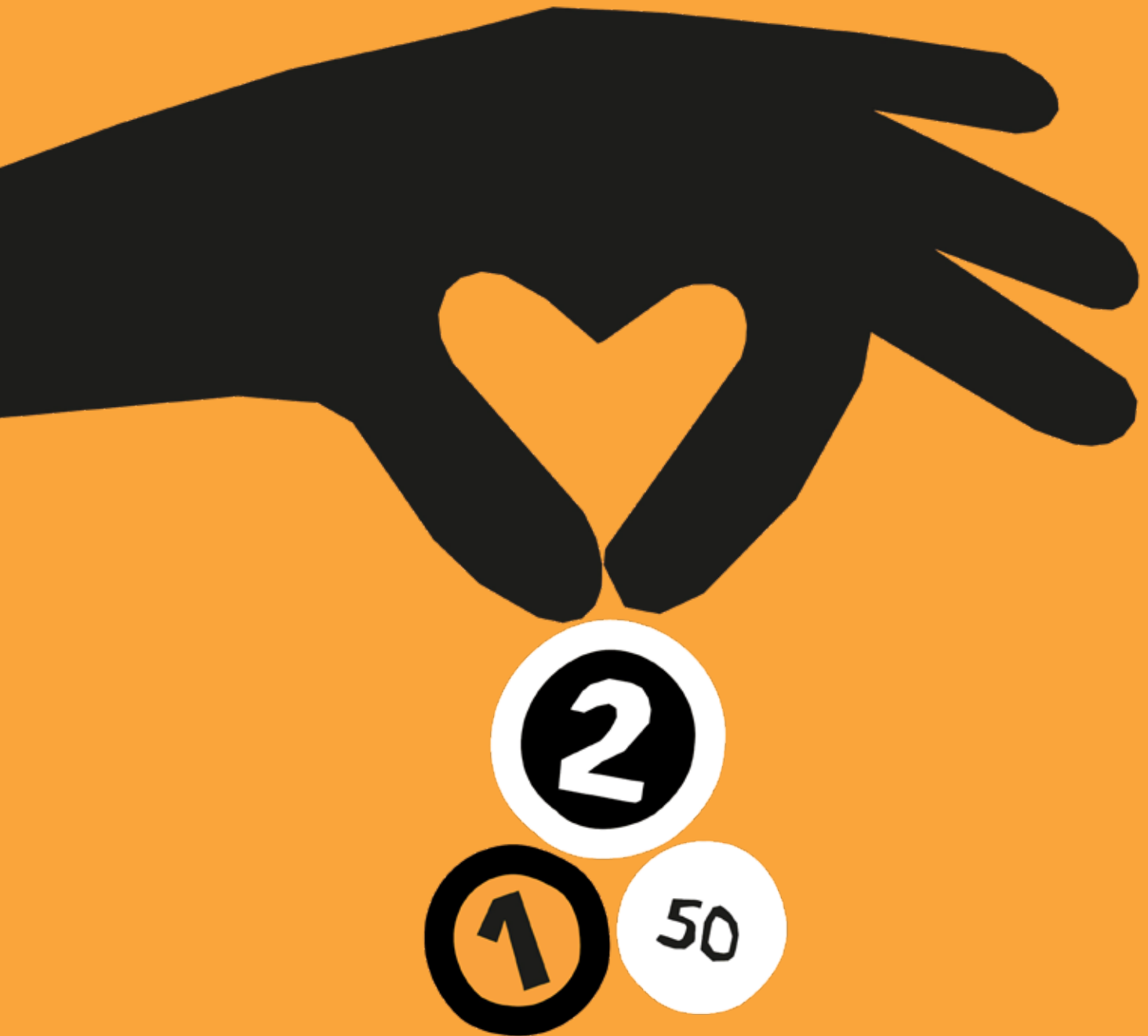
\$200301.23

UGX 754M

AN ASSORTMENT OF FOOD ITEMS

Chapter 1

Giving by Private Sector, Cultural and Other Institutions



A week into the lock down, we saw the philanthropic arm of the private sector, NGOs, cultural institutions and associations unfold right before our eyes. Almost instantly, Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), the body that regulates investors acknowledged this giving in a detailed article titled: 'Covid-19: Investors donate generously towards fight against pandemic in Uganda'.

The article made it clear that the giving we were seeing was in fact a response to the President's call. "Dozens of investors, other private sector players, institutions and individuals have risen to President Yoweri Museveni's clarion call to contribute towards the fight against the coronavirus pandemic," UIA noted. They went on to say that on two occasions out of his several national addresses on measures

against Covid-19, the President had appealed directly to investors and all well-wishers to contribute generously towards Government's efforts to combat the pandemic.

President Museveni requested that more cars be donated to help the country with its shortage of ambulances should the pandemic get worse. On a closer look, we indeed noticed an increase in the number of car donations by the investors as well as donations to other essential areas. In fact, some companies donated cars as well as food and essential medical items.

In mid-April, about two weeks into the lock down, a national COVID task force was established, with the Office of the Prime Minister directly in charge. Occasionally, the president would read out all the donations and say a thank you on

behalf of the country.

It was during that time that we also noticed that the giving was happening in both the profit and not for profit entities.

In this section therefore, we bring you an updated list of all the giving that was documented; the donations that went straight to the COVID-19 task force in Uganda. For a more organised curation, we clustered these donations into four, with some companies donating in all sections. While some came out to clearly state the quantity of their donations, some simply mentioned items and we documented as they were presented.

- Food
- Essential medical items
- Cash donations
- Transport and communication

What was given

FOOD



Binyinzika Poultry Ltd.

2,160 trays of eggs

Ugachick

500 trays of eggs

Roko

UGX 10M tonnes of maize flour

Maria Cargo Importers

300 bags of maize flour

Rwenzori

30 Cartons bottled water

Pepsi

Bottled water 100 Cartons

Amber Heart Foundation

900 bags of food

Blue Wave

800 Cartons of water

People Power

50 bags of maize flour, 30 Cartons of salt

Fresh Cuts

10 tonnes of maize flour

Pembe Group

100 cartons of multi-purpose flour, 50 boxes of Pembe oil

Kaliro Sugar

100 tonnes of sugar

Synohydro

20M worth cooking oil and rice

Sarrai Group

5000 bags of wheat flour, 20,000kgs of sugar

Leisure Farm

500 hens

Nile Breweries

25 tonnes of maize flour

Cipla Uganda

3 tonnes of rice, 1 ton of beans and 2.5 tonnes of maize flour

Ahmed Raza Food

An assortment of food (baking flour, biscuits, etc.)

Bar Owners Association Of Uganda

560 cartons of long life milk, 200 cartons of water

Bidco Uganda Ltd

36,000 cartons of cooking oil worth UGX 77M

East African Legislative Assembly

50 bags of passion fruits

Makerere University

Food items worth UGX85M

Bunyoro Kingdom

40 bags of Kinyara sugar and cartons of wheat flour

Japan Auto Motors

100 cartons of water

Female Ambassadors

6.53 tonnes of rice worth UGX 23M

Democratic Party

5tonnes of maize

Jibu Water

10,000ltrs of drinking water

Fufa

12.5 tonnes of rice

Eurochick

4,000 trays of eggs

Africell

1ton of Posho, 1ton of Rice & 1ton of soya beans

Uganda Unites In Partnership With Robert Katende Initiative, The Cradle, Safeboda Uganda

Assortment of food items

40_40'S

Food items

<p>Jhpadhola Kingdom 37M worth food- and 2.5m Cash</p> <p>Langi Chiefdom 5Tonnes Maize Flour</p> <p>Tax corporation of Uganda 17 tonnes of maize flour, beans and sugar</p> <p>Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Samaj temple An assortment of food items</p> <p>Registered trustees of Patidar Samaj Kampala food items worth UGX 25M</p> <p>Kiruhura farmers UGX 60M worth of Powdered Milk</p> <p>Mbarara Archdiocese Development Association UGX 6M</p> <p>Masaka Business community UGX 54.5M worth food stuff</p> <p>Nepan Technical services UGX 51M worth of maize flour</p> <p>Water and environment sector partners UGX 49M and assorted food</p> <p>Letsheigo Uganda Foodstuff</p> <p>Africa Oil Ltd UGX 25M worth of milk</p> <p>Nile Energy/Gaz Petrol station 4 tonnes of maize flour</p>	<p>Kidawalime bakery UGX 12.5 tonnes of maize flour</p> <p>KK Transport group of companies 10 tonnes of maize flour</p> <p>Staff of Electricity Regulatory authority 4.2 tonnes of maize</p> <p>Sipapa 5 heifers and food items worth UGX 52M</p> <p>Sogeya Satum in partnership with National Water Water worth 100M</p> <p>MTN Uganda UGX 20M worth of food</p> <p>Bidco Uganda Ltd Oil, soap and detergent UGX 115M</p>	<p>Uganda Insurers Association 1,000 Blankets and 1,000 pairs of bedsheets</p> <p>World Vision Essential items worth UGX 1BN</p> <p>Mega Industries 150 cartons of soap</p> <p>Alibaba Group 100.000 masks, 20,089 testing kits, 741 PPEs, 1,111 face shields.</p> <p>Resolve TSL Medical supplies worth UGX200M</p> <p>Sunbelt Isolation clothing, nitrile gloves, goggles, Isolation masks.</p> <p>Indian Association of Uganda 500 PPE, 30,000 pairs of gloves, 1,200 hand sanitizers, 100 cartons of washing powder, 200 liters of liquid soap, 90 pieces of face shield.</p> <p>Echo 3 Spray pumps</p> <p>BRAC Uganda 17,000 bars of soap</p> <p>Sprout Capital Investments 200 Mattresses</p>
ESSENTIAL ITEMS		
	<p>Nytil/ Nyanza Uganda 1,000 bedsheets and 1,000 facial masks</p> <p>Jumia Uganda 30,000 Face masks</p> <p>Seed Global 860 masks, N95 respirators, and decontamination materials.</p> <p>UAERA 30,000 Pairs of gloves</p>	

<p>Sarrai Group 10,000 Liters Of Sanitizers, 10,000 Bars Of Soap</p> <p>Doditor Group 10,000 Face Masks, 500 Test Kits</p> <p>Baraj Group 1000 Liters Of Sanitizer</p> <p>Tokotoko Gas 70 Pieces Of Sit On Top Cookers</p> <p>Ramco Gas 30 Pieces Of Stand-Alone Burners Worth Ugx 30M</p> <p>Phillips Pharmaceuticals Portable Ultrasound Machine Worth Ugx 60M</p> <p>Crestank 50 Hands-Free Washing Tanks</p> <p>Kamcare Phama Ltd 25 Packs Of Hydroxychloroquine, 50 Packs Of Sugaquin, 50 Injections Of Deselin And 100 Packs Of Vitamin C</p> <p>Gittoes Pharma An Array Of Medicines</p> <p>Ex-Ken Ltd 1,500 Face Masks</p> <p>Pharmaceutical Association Of Uganda Hand Sanitizers Worth Ugx 10M</p> <p>Super Medic Essential Supplies Worth Ugx 15M</p>	<p>Housing Finance Bank 30 Boxes Of Gloves And 50 Liters Of Sanitizers</p> <p>Europa Engineering Ltd One Wheelchair And An Assortment Of Ppes</p> <p>Stanbic Bank 5,000 Gloves</p> <p>Vivo Energy Ugx 10M Worth Of Medical Supplies</p> <p>Bunyoro Kingdom 10,000 Bars Of Soap</p> <p>Bar Owners Association Of Uganda 10 Hand Washing Tanks</p> <p>Bidco Uganda Ltd Oil, Soap And Detergent Ugx 115M</p> <p>Abacus Pharmaceuticals 3,000 Pieces Of Sanitizer, 3,000 Normal Saline Packs, 2,010 Ringers, 1,000 Fluids, 1,000 Packs Of Paracetamol And 17,000 Pieces Of Black Soap.</p> <p>Group Of Companies (Eurofoam, Comfoam, Rosefoam, Crestfoam, Uganda Breweries, Ugachick, Supa, Nc Bank And Night Frank) 920 Anti-Bacterial Mattresses.</p>	<p>Bidco Uganda Ltd Ppe Worth Ugx70m. 1,300 Cartons Of Soap Work Ugx 105M, 72 Cartons Of Detergents Worth Ugx 108M</p> <p>Uganda Association Of External Recruitment 30,000 Pairs Of Gloves</p> <p>Cafomi In Partnership With Malteser 33 Mattresses And 30 Blankets</p> <p>Mtn Uganda 220M To National Water And Sewerage Company</p> <p>Letshego Uganda Supplies Worth Ugx38m</p> <p>Makerere University Supplies Worth Ugx 85M</p> <p>Hunan Road Bridge Construction 25,000 Surgical Masks And Face Recognition Equipment Worth Ugx 50M</p> <p>Path Medical Supplies Worth Ugx 27.7M</p> <p>Absa Bank Uganda Isolation Tents Worth Ugx 100M</p>
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<p>Plan International 1,000 Packets Of Sanitary Towels</p> <p>Roperfree Brand Products 5Tonnes Maize Flour</p> <p>Tax Corporation Of Uganda 175 Boxes Of Mosquito Repellants Estimated At Ugx 15M.</p> <p>Medical Access Point Medical Supplies Worth Ugx 11M</p> <p>Ambiance Distillers Ltd 200Ltrs Of Hand Sanitizers</p> <p>Spouts Of Water Water Distillers Worth Ugx 292.5 M</p> <p>Devine Bamboo 1 Ton Of Briquettes</p> <p>Entebbe Handling Services 7,000 Antibody Rapid Diagnostic Test Kits Worth Ugx 530M</p> <p>United Nations Capital Development Fund Ppe Worth 10M</p> <p>Letsheigo Uganda Foodstuff</p> <p>Rotary- Uganda/Tanzania Ugx 800M – Medical Equipment</p> <p>Equity Staff Ugx 100M Worth Ppe</p> <p>Movit Products Anti-Bacterial Soaps, Liquid Handwash, Gel Sanitisers Worth Ugx 150M</p>	<p>Uganda Drilling Contractors Association To Drill 24 Boreholes Worth Ugx 657M</p> <p>Staff Of Electricity Regulatory Authority 4.2 Tonnes Of Maize</p> <p>Centenary Bank 90M Worth Ppe</p> <p>City Bank Fully Equipped Theatre Worth Ugx 270M</p> <p>Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Samaj Temple Ugx 125M Medical Equip</p> <p>Registered Trustees Of Partidal Samaj Kampala Medical Equipment</p> <p>National Fellowship Of Born Again Ministries 1,500 Ppe, 500 Respiratory Kits, 4,200 N95 Masks- Worth 3.1B</p> <p>Ahamadiyah Muslim Association 500 Sanitizers, 200 Masks, 60 Jerrycans Of Liquid Soap</p> <p>Guangzhou Dongsong Energy Group 5000 Masks</p>	<p>Hunan Road And Bridge Contractor Ugx 50M Worth Medical Equipment</p> <p>Water And Environment Sector Partners Medical Equipment</p> <p>Kk Transport Group Of Companies 400 Mattresses</p> <p>United Nations Capital Development Fund Ppe Worth Ugx 10M</p> <p>Asahi Eyito 1,000 Pieces Of Face Masks Worth Ugx 65M</p> <p>Uganda Communications Commission Ugx 5,000 Pieces Of Masks, 10,000 Pairs Of Gloves, 252 Pieces Of Coveralls Worth 60M</p> <p>Africa Queen 100,000 Pieces Of Bic Pens Worth Ugx 50M</p> <p>People Power (Political Group) 30 Boxes Of Soap</p> <p>Technet East Africa Solution 10,000 Masks Worth Ugx 40M</p>
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<p>Path Medical Items Worth Ugx 27.7M</p> <p>Kyagalanyi Coffee 1,000 Litres Of Sanitizers</p> <p>Uganda Dental Officers And Technologists Associations Gloves Worth Ugx 1.5M</p> <p>Dfcu Bank Essential Items Worth Ugx 30M</p> <p>Housing Finance Bank 30 Mattresses, 30 Boxes Of Gloves And 50 Litres Of Sanitizers</p> <p>Agricultural Pharmaceuticals India 1,400ml Of Ibuprofen, 1000 Packs Of 200ml Of Metronidazol, 960 Packs Of Fluoric Acid Worth 786M</p> <p>Dembe Group Imperial Hotel Solar Lighting Worth 380M</p> <p>American Tower Corporation Test Kits Worth 345M</p> <p>Asahi Eyito 1,000 Face Masks Worth Ugx 65M</p> <p>Uganda Communications Commission Ugx 5,000 Masks, 10,000 Pairs Of Gloves, 252 Overalls Worth 60M</p>	<p>The Institute For Social Transformation Sanitizers, Pads, Water, Hand Washing Soap, Water Tanks, Mosquito Repellants (For Market Women).</p> <p>Plan International Essential Items Worth Ugx 598M</p> <p>Korea Foundation For International Healthcare Covid-19 Test Kits And Personal Protective Equipment Worth Ugx 390M.</p> <p>Roofings Group Offered Free Oxygen Supply To All Health Facilities Should Need Arise.</p> <p>Igad Health Supplies Worth Ugx 95M</p> <p>Rotary 1.2Bn Worth Essential Items (Ugx 800M Directly To Government Task Force And Ugx 400M Across The Country)</p> <p>Lions 4,000 Liters Of Hand Sanitizer</p> <p>Microhaem Scientifics And Medical Supplies Ltd Essential Emergency Supplies Worth Ugx 155M.</p>	<p>CASH </p> <p>Uba Bank Ugx570m</p> <p>Nytil/ Nyanza Uganda Ugx100m</p> <p>Igad Staff Ugx 376M</p> <p>Nrm Party Ugx 380M</p> <p>Diamond Trust Bank (Dtb) Ugx 250M.</p> <p>Sanlam Insurance Company Ugx 285M</p> <p>Scd Uganda (Makers Of Darling Hair) Ugx 200M</p> <p>Coffee Group Ugx 152M</p> <p>Sunbelt Industries Ugx 114M</p> <p>Stanbic Ugx 100M</p> <p>Standard Chartered Bank Ugx 100M</p> <p>Dfcu Bank Ugx 70M</p> <p>Ham Foundation Ugx 100M</p> <p>Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom Ugx 60M</p> <p>Busoga Kingdom Ugx 85M</p>
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Buganda Kingdom Ugx 100M	Yogi Steel Group Ugx 150M	Mwalimu Nyerere Leadership Center Ugx 1M
Seya & Brothers Ugx 50M	Techno Ltd Ugx 200M	United Somali Community Ugx 14.5M
Stabex Ltd Ugx 20M	Compassion International- Ugx 1.2Bn	South Sudanese Women Fellowship Ugx 2.5M
Synohydro Ugx 20M	Ruparalia Group Ugx 100M	Vandeco Enterprises Ugx 52M
NSSF Uganda Ugx 281M	The Mastercard Foundation Ugx 500M	Idero Uganda Ugx 50M
China National Aero Technology International Engineering Cooperation Ugx 10M	Equity Group Foundation Ugx 300M	Invictus Africa Ugx 50M
People With Disability Ugx 200.000	Airtel Uganda Ugx 1.25Bn	Bayport Financial Services Ugx 38M
Max Imports Ugx 10M	Paramount Chief Of Lango Ugx10m	Guangzhou Dongsong Energy Group Ugx 38M
Mantra Ugx 80M	Tiang Adhola Ugx 2.5M	Uganda Hotel Owners Association Ugx 30M
Dfcu Bank Ugx 70M	Afrexim Bank Ugx 760M	Kampala Associated Advocates Ugx 30M
House Of Prayer Ministries Ugx 100M	Uganda Bati Ugx 120M	Assa Microfinance Ugx 30M
Bidco Uganda Ltd Ugx 505M	Centenary Bank Ugx 10M Cash To Uganda Bankers Association	Education, Health, Public Service Commission Ugx 25M
Crown Beverages Ugx 700M	Mbarara Ecclesiastical Province Association Ugx 11M	Best Ingredients Africa Ltd Ugx 20M
Total Group Ugx 270M	Kakande Ministries Ugx 40M	Staff Of Ubos Ugx 21M
Modern Group Ugx 100M	Institute Of Certified Accountants Ugx 35M	
Mukono Chinese Factories (Mbalala Mabel) Ugx 268M		

Association of Secondary school head teachers UGX 23M	Kampala International Christian Center UGX 10M	Estuphanos and family trading company UGX 2.5M
Ntugamo Dairy Farmers cooperative union UGX 22.5M	Fresh patch LTD UGX 10M	Desa General Tradings UGX 3M
Lewis Dryfus company UGX 20M	MK publishers UGX 10M	Shewa imports and exports UGX 3M
Covid19 fund committee UGX 16M	Street Abattoir Development UGX 10M	Kyarunga Memorial foundation UGX 2.5M
UNI Engineers company UGX 15M	Desmac coffee UGX 10M	SMC East LTD UGX 2M
Electoral commission UGX 15M	Bam petroleum UGX 5M	Hopeland Trans-star apartments UGX 3M
Judicial officers UGX 12M	Rubaya cooperatives, savings and credit associations UGX 5M	Rainbow apartments UGX 3M
National secretariat of patriotism coordinators and staff UGX 12.2M	Action Africa Health UGX 5M	Dot Chevita General Merchandise UGX 2M
Redico company UGX 10M	Dr. Mutesi Farida UGX 3.8M	IBM Global UGX 2M
Mukama nayamba health products UGX 10M	Luwero Social club UGX 5M	Parya Foundation UGX 1.5M
Multiplex UGX 10M and 4 tonnes of maize flour	Mbarara Stores LTD UGX UGX5M	Coca-Cola UGX 1.3BN
Nobel Hint Arua UGX 10M	Environmental and Health association workers of Uganda UGX 4M	TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION
Jan Japan auto motors UGX 20 vehicles loaned for pandemic	Pulider ministry Uganda UGX 3.5M	Airtel Uganda Call Center Personnel, Internet data Communication Development Foundation Uganda Call Center Personnel



Marie Stopes Uganda

Call Center
Personnel

NITA-U

Call Center
Personnel

Synohydro

Phones worth UGX
10M

Stanbic Bank

UGX 50M worth of
fuel

Total

Oil UGX 40M
worth of fuel

Uganda Breweries

UGX 40M worth of
fuel

Vivo Energy

Fuel worth UGX
50M

Gateway

3 fully fueled
buses to be
used during the
pandemic

Roko Construction

Double Cabin
pick-up

Oryx Fuels

Fuel worth UGX
80M

MAC EA

10 motorcycles

Simba Automotive

3 Motorcycles and
one tricycle all
worth UGX 50M

Bidco Uganda Ltd

Mazda pick-up
truck worth UGX
144M

Tiang Tiang Group

2 vehicles

Ruparelia Group of companies

2 vehicles

Hariss

International

One Ambulance

Japan Auto Motors

8 Vehicles

UNDP

ICT equipment

Mulwana Group

2 Ambulances

Tembo Steel

1 pick-up

Dott services

1 Pick-up

MTN Uganda

3 hard body
pickups, call center
personnel, free
messaging and free
access to learning
sites for University
Students

BrandPoint Experts

Recording free
radio adverts in all
languages spoken
in Uganda in
order to sensitize
the public about
COVID-19.

Huawei

Video
Conferencing ICT
equipment for the
health ministry
and State House

Equity Bank

2 Toyota double
cabin pick-ups

Madhivani Group

2 double cabin
pick-ups

Yoshino General Trading

1 land cruiser

Kesekugiken

1 Land Cruiser

Kalpatar Power Transmission company

1 Tata Single
cabin

Kawacom

1 Tata double
cabin

Indian Business Forum

1 pick-up

Indian Association

1 pick-up

Africell

5 vehicles and call
center worth 157M

Kwagalana Group

1 double-cabin
pick-up

Dott Services

One Truck to own
and 20 trucks
loaned for the
pandemic

Nile fishing company

A boat and two motorcycles worth UGX 210M

Kingdom Media

Airtime worth UGX 388M

Shia Imami Ismaili Community

Free Ambulance service bay

Tax Corporation
100 bicycles-worth UGX 50M

Nile Fishing Company

Boats worth 200 million, 2 motorcycles worth UGX 10M

Korea Foundation for International Healthcare


1 Ambulance

Nile Energy/Gaz Petrol station

UGX 15.5 M worth fuel

Coca-Cola

3 pick-ups



Chapter 2

Individual Giving

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“Imagine waking up to bunches of matooke outside your gate. Imagine the sight of ripe sweet bananas spread out at different points in the neighborhood for people to pick and eat. Sounds like Manna from the garden, right? A kind gentleman sent his boda boda rider (motorcycle taxi) to his farm over 33km away from the city, to pick up food for the neighborhood. No one was informed about the activity as we are all staying indoors. But those who opened their gates, saw food packed at their gates. The food distribution will happen again this week.”

INTRODUCTION.

Away from the spotlight of corporate giving, we noticed a rise in individual giving. No cameras, no PR teams on standby, no budget whatsoever, just individuals giving. In this particular section, you will notice that giving happened across all sections of the public. The wealthy gave as did the poor; this made for the heart of the entire giving process. In a subtle way, it even challenged the 'haves' to do better.

Some of these individuals were as young as five years and others were grandparents looking to make life easier for the less fortunate. The donations ranged from cash to food items mostly and were as low as five thousand shillings all the way to the hundreds of millions.

It goes without saying that some communities

had anonymous givers; some people woke to food at their gates, some had names registered and an anonymous good Samaritan gave them supplies to last the entire lock down.

We also noticed a lot of giving in kind; it wasn't money, but time or a skill. In many instances, these were lifesaving non-monetary gestures. The thought that went into this giving was what made it even more special. Some turned their social media platforms into fundraising spaces, imploring friends and acquaintances to help the needy; in fact, in the second leg of the lockdown, we saw an increase in this category of giving.

Below are some of the stories we captured:

Luzira's Anonymous Guardian Angel

I have realized over the years that sustainable giving is more effective when you involve local leaders and respected persons in the community. To this end, I have over time purposed to actively interact with these categories of people in the two communities I call home; Gayaza (my village) and Luzira where I live.

When Covid19 hit and we, the privileged were buying everything off the shelf, I could tell how this was going to pan out for the less privileged amongst us (this was shortly after the first Presidential Address). I therefore asked my contact person in my village to compile and share a list. First was the sick and elderly persons with no families/support systems, then widows and single parents with meager resources. I also helped the indigent or as locally known the Bakateyamba (those who have no income at all). With the list (about 40 homes), I donated posho (maize flour), beans and soap, with a message. The message was to sensitize them about the disease, hand washing, staying home and also the fact that the disease was going to hit hard and they needed to use the food sparingly because it would be a long run.

I asked the community coordinator along with the Local Council (LC) committee to sensitize the shop keepers on the 'kyaalo' (village) to have soap and water available for their clients and to enforce it. I intend to keep replenishing the rations everyone

month until we are out of the woods.

I also sent a few gloves and masks to the community health center for the health workers there with information about the disease. Luzira is an affluent neighborhood with a small slum right beside us. Interestingly, the community here communes mostly on a WhatsApp group, so the underprivileged are obviously not on there. I asked our LC1 Chairperson to compile a list of the number of homes in the area that needed help and also to let me know how we could be of help. There was a laxity on her part. I think the people did finally reach out to her though and she contacted me. I asked again for a list of homes and I was told we have 97 vulnerable homes here. I have since sent the LC rations of posho, beans and sugar to send to the said homes as we await the government food aid which is yet to be given in our area.



I tell this story because I feel that we need to go back in time and commune in a neighborly manner; the way we did when I grew up in the 1990s. These times have shown me that while I

cannot give the entire nation, I can give to my neighbors and I wish more people would work with the local leaders and trusted community workers to bring about a little oneness with each other.

Nuwamanya offered to pick ARVs for those living with HIV

When the directive to stop any and all public means was passed, people living with HIV/AIDS struggled to get their life-saving drugs. Since the motorcycle taxis (boda-boda) were allowed, they tried to use those, but got brutalized by security agents who said no passengers were allowed on the motorcycles. When they tried to send just the riders, news of their status spread like a wildfire, as did the stigma in this Busabala suburb. That is when a young man, Hillary Nuwamanya swooped in.

Born with HIV/AIDS about 24 years ago, Hillary was just the savior the people living with HIV in Busabala areas needed. "Because I am open about my status, many reached out to me and opened up," he says.

Defeated, he first started by walking to health centers on Entebbe road to collect drugs for some

people, until a friend saw what he was doing and gave him a bicycle. "Now I ride the bicycle for kilometers carrying small chits with me to make stops at many ARVs collection points," he says. His commitment to volunteerism soars through every word; he has chosen to do this at no cost. "Government forgot us, we had to find a way to look after each other. I didn't have money, so I offered to pick their ARVs for them!" he says.



Food for those taking ARVs on an empty stomach

For about two years now, a young woman called Hamah Nsubuga has been open about her HIV status. "I am an HIV activist and I am also HIV positive!" that is how she introduces herself. Since opening up about her status, she has taken to encouraging those living with the virus to take their medication correctly. That was until the country went into lockdown; Hamah is now making sure those on medication have food at the very least.

"Many people living with HIV/AIDS are unemployed and very vulnerable; this COVID-19 crisis has affected us a lot!" she explains. Besides not having income, she says that the ban on public transport impaired their strides to access the much needed medication.

Some of these people started reaching out to her through Facebook and Twitter. It broke her heart to see how dire their situation was. "I felt so bad at first because I had nothing to give!" she recalls painfully. One of the messages read, "Hamah, I am depressed. I am HIV positive and on drugs! My family doesn't know about my status because I fear judgement. Right now I really just need to buy food and drinks, the tabs are so strong, if anyone could give me like fifty thousand shillings, I will find a way forward somehow."

It was the second message from a pregnant woman who had spent her last money hiring a pick-up truck to collect her medicine that got Hamah thinking of a way forward. "Hamah, I can't manage this situation. This lockdown found me six months pregnant and on medication. I am taking



medicine on one meal a day, and I throw up every morning because I wake up hungry," the woman cried out.

To avoid stigma, she blurred their names and posted the screenshots beseeching her followers to share whatever they had. "Some of my followers helped with a little contribution which I then divided and forwarded to each of these people's mobile money accounts," she narrates.

However, when the lockdown was extended, the messages increased. "I didn't know what next to do," she says. After voicing her worries, a friend of hers and fellow HIV activist, Williams Matovu, came on board. Together they started a fundraising called Akabo (or a Luganda word to mean basket). "We have managed to collect one million Uganda shillings. We are going to buy for them food and distribute using a bicycle!" an elated Hamah says.

Mutebi's Emergency Relief Fund for the Vulnerable

As soon as the lock down was announced in Uganda, philanthropist Brian Mutebi sprang into action. Through an organization he runs called Education & Development Opportunity- Uganda, Mutebi quickly set up what he calls the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund.

Having worked with different vulnerable communities, Mutebi knew that the lock down would make life difficult for them. "We developed a concept for the relief fund," he says. Besides food, he also anticipated an increase in sexual and reproductive health needs. He was right! It was not long before they got calls from the community asking for food and contraceptives. "One particular lady was worried her days had run out and she didn't want to conceive." Mutebi weaved a short-term project around these needs for beneficiaries in the districts of Kampala, Wakiso, Mityana and Kiboga where the organization operates.

“Someone gave me charcoal, but no food. And my only piece of soap for bathing was stolen by a rat. I am so happy you didn't only buy me food, but a whole bar of soap,”

"This fund has for over a month now been giving out an assortment of relief items to the most affected families," he notes. "A total of 173 people; 115 of whom are children and 58 adults in 43 households, have been beneficiaries of this relief."

Mutebi and team distributed maize flour, rice, beans, groundnuts, bread, soap, sugar, salt and tea leaves. After a discussion, they also agreed that they would distribute hard cash

for people to meet needs they may have been omitted.

an elated mother said upon receiving her package.

On the reproductive health front, Mutebi says that the money was indeed a welcome stride. "That is the money some women who needed contraceptives used to buy

them," he says.

About Mushabe's Dolphin Fund

When the Economic Misfit first run this story, it caught our eye. It also didn't come as a surprise to his peers that Dickson Mushabe, an entrepreneur and author, would think of a 'techy' way to give during these tough times. Like many, he understood that a large number of people depended on daily income to afford food, accommodation, and other basic necessities of life, a thing the lock

down had since made impossible.

And that is how the DophinFund, a community driven platform which enables individuals and organisations to raise funds for worthy causes, came about. The Economic Misfit wrote thusly: DolphinFund is an internet based crowdfunding platform that allows individuals to set up accounts, describe the need for which they are raising funds and invite others to

contribute to it. The platform can be accessed at <https://dolphinfund.org/>. Funds are donated through a cashless payments and collection system powered by the internationally recognised and licensed payments company Flutterwave. Through this transaction system, donations can be made using mobile money or credit and debit cards. The funds collected are then transferred to a bank account or mobile money wallet specified by the fundraiser.

The DolphinFund platform is a Ugandan product, built with a deep understanding of the Ugandan ecosystem and dynamics. Account funds will be denominated in Ugandan shillings. However, donations can be received from both local and international sources.

Built with innovative technology, the platform

includes capabilities for people to represent communities or other individuals that are not able to access the internet themselves.

Since it costs nothing to set up and only has a small management fee attached to it, Mushabe thought this would be a viable alternative in these tough times. "Although the inspiration behind the platform was to help those affected by COVID19," the Economic Misfit noted in the article about the fund.

"DolphinFund platform will remain operational even after the coronavirus restrictions are lifted as it is expected that it will take some time for businesses and other sources of livelihood to get back to normal."



Journalist, Esagala Helps Two Single Mothers

In the face of the borderless coronavirus in Uganda, an award winning Ugandan photojournalist chose to do better. Besides just delivering heart-rending pictures of women vendors whipped by some Local Defense Units (LDUs) LDUs in a bid to enforce a lock down, The Daily Monitor's Alex Esagala led a fundraising drive for the said women on his FaceBook page. He implored his followers to help these women who were single mothers with a measly income and couldn't afford to stay home.

Pictures of Christine Awori and Aloyo Hadijah graced his Facebook page a day after that with a plea to his followers to help them. "Friends, kindly support Ms Aloyo Hadijah, a vendor who was beaten up by LDUs in Kampala on Thursday, I will be delivering the money on Thursday," he begged.

He then took his audience on a visual journey into the stark reality of the poverty that forced these women on the streets. Videos of his visits to the women who live in the slums of Nankulabye gripped many hearts. Despite undergoing financial hardship themselves, many Ugandans managed to raise money for basic needs for these women. Day by day, Esagala updated his followers attracting help from many, including city socialites.

"It took me one week to raise funds from my Facebook friends and well-wishers, it was such a great moment for me to accomplish," he says. "I really love to help those in need. That day I felt so bad when these women were caned by LDUs." He watched them lose everything, it broke his heart and so he decided to do something about it.

"Remember these were old women in their late 40s. I was touched and I decided to help them," he narrates. "Fortunately good people came on board. I thank God for the whole process." He then adds as a matter of fact, "I don't want to see a man caning or torturing a woman." He raised money and food items worth UGX 5M for Christine Awori. Due to halting of private donations by the President, Aloyo didn't get as much. "I had collected shs400.000 for Aloyo," he explains. "The following day, I sent the money on her phone to help get her capital back."

Just before he ended the fundraising, the drive got a new boost from the Rupaleria Foundation. "I want to thank Rupaleria Foundation which donated to Ms Aloyo!" he adds. They gave her posho (maize flour), beans and soap among others. That was a good gesture from the Foundation.

Dr. Olive Kobusingye's Aids Health Workers

The Daily monitor, a Ugandan local daily describes her as a change agent. Verbatim: Dr. Olive Kobusingye is a consultant trauma surgeon, emergency surgeon, accident injury epidemiologist, academic and author. Her desire is to see change in Uganda's health sector and she authored books to this effect. She currently serves as a senior research fellow at Makerere University School of Public Health.

And that was the description that would lead CivSource Africa to dig into what she might be up to as the country tries to cope with coronavirus. "Well," she starts. "It is all there on my Facebook page." True, the doctor made it a point that the world didn't forget the Ugandan health workers. Her Facebook page was awash with advocacy for the health workers to be protected and provided for during COVID-19. "I just posted that our health workers were going to need help, and I told people what kind of help I thought they would need," she explains. "For a couple of days it just sat there, nobody did anything." But something changed and she started to see results. "Then a friend gave me 50,000 shillings and another gave me

100,000 shillings," she recalls.

She dared not tell them the days spent with no response had demoralized her team. "Now I knew I could not just tell them we had lost steam," she muses. "So I began to thank them loudly, and others started to give." The least



amount she has received was Shs 10,000. "The largest donation is from a Ugandan doctor in Australia, he sent me Aus\$1,000," she recalls. She got to work, but needed a little more help getting the job done. "I called a couple of colleagues, told them I needed their help. We have been buying masks, gowns, and foodstuffs, then delivering them to Mulago hospital," she says.

These Gestures are Invaluable

By Richard Arina

I have been the recipient of kindness during this lockdown. Although it has come in different forms, it touched and humbled me in many ways. Ultimately though, it is teaching me lessons along the way on our



shared humanity. The people responsible have inspired me to share what I have to ease the pain of others who are struggling during these difficult times.

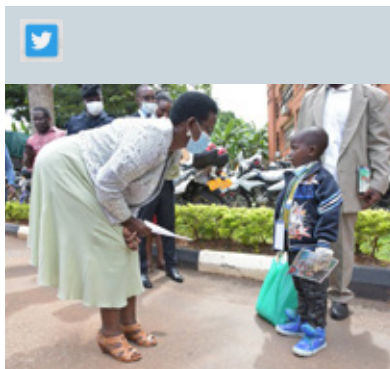
A friend called me at the start of the lockdown and, after talking briefly, asked politely if I would be okay with them sending me some money. It turned out to be \$125 that I received with gratitude. I hadn't even mentioned anywhere in our conversation that I needed money or help. Then on Easter Day, I and a number of friends teamed up to ensure a few poor families at least had decent meals. Kindness has also been expressed in other forms; through calls and messages of encouragement. Some do it daily just to make sure I have woken up not feeling low. Others challenge me to be better, pointing out areas I

can work on in a gentle, loving way. Their goal is to see me better. To show me that life is still here to be lived regardless of what's happening now. Others make me laugh. It's medicine, you know. Some have, through online Bible expositions spearheaded by a wonderful Nigerian friend, called me higher, ensuring I don't lose faith. A Kenyan friend and also poet, who teaches literature at one of the Universities over there tags me in these beautiful poems sent from all

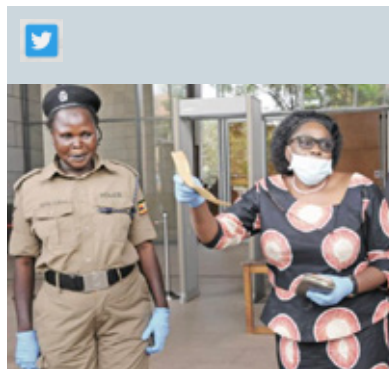
over Africa. They keep me connected to what others are experiencing, as they pour their hearts out in verse.

We have an all African online devotional session that I'm looking forward to. This is yet another event organized to ensure we all show love and kindness to one another. They help us have a better appreciation of life.

These gestures are invaluable during times like this. I'm grateful!

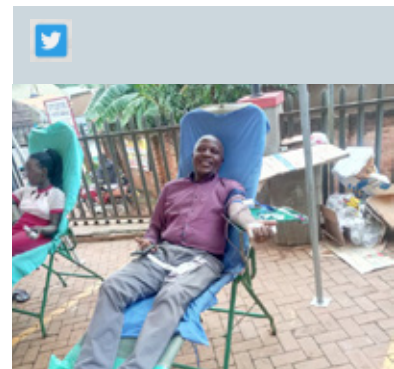


5 year old, Mulindwa Sulaiti also heeded to H E @KagutaMuseveni call to support the COVID-19 response and donated 10kg of posho and Ugx 10,000. The National Task Force appreciates your hands and kind gesture.



Thank you to this Uganda Police Woman Maneno Ayikoru who donated Ugx 200,000 to the COVID19 National Task Force.

She really deserves a Million Likes.

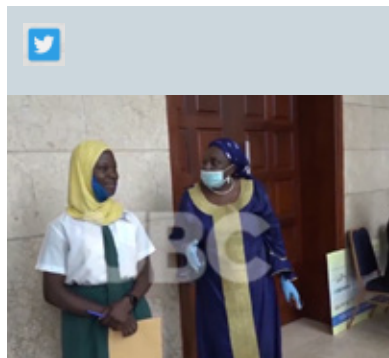


Blood donation at Benco suppermarket today collected 50 units of Blood thanks to everyone. @DianaAtwine @Blood4Uganda @khan256moses@UgandaRedCross @OxfaminUganda @AmbroseMugume1

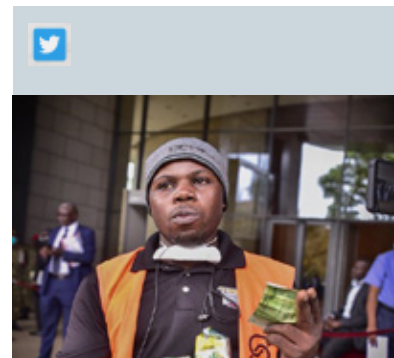


Ugandan citizen Samuel Kimbowa who fetches water for a living donated UGX5000 to aid the government in the fight against #COVID19.

#NBSUpdates #StaySafeUG



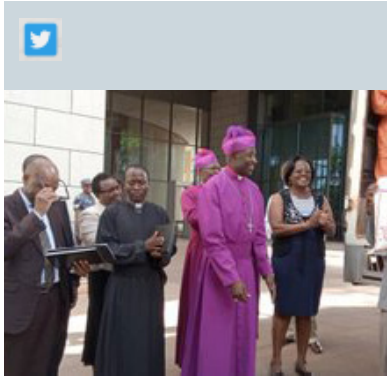
Meet Aiko Aisha a senior four student of Lubiri High School, who walked on foot from Natete to donate her 15,000 UGX to the #COVID19 relief response team to help fight the disease. #UBCNews #WeCanDoThis #StaySafeUG



Mr Augustine Nyanga a @SafeBoda cyclist from wakiso has donated 4bars of soap and ughs 5000 to the #Covid29UG National task force . he hopes that his donation will help a few Ugandans may be affected by the #lockdownug #Uglockdown @observerug



Meet Masiko Gad, a tutor at Bishop Stuart Primary Teachers College in Mbarara, resident of Kabale. He contributed his March salary of UGX 850,000, as support towards the vulnerable people during the #COVID__19 response. Join me to applaud the generosity. #StayHome



The Archbishop of the Church of Uganda Stephen Kazimba Mugalu has donated 565 bags of posho and 500kgs of beans to the National Response to #COVID19 Taskforce. This confirmation was made by the Office of the Prime Minister earlier today.

#NBSUpdates #StaySafeUG



#UOT: There are hungry, vulnerable pple in every neighborhood. Their livelihoods have been cut off; and they'll likely go without food tonight. Looking for 100 pple to commit 30K & buy at least 10kgs of posho & beans. Place them at yo LCs office for distribution. #EachOneFeedOne



My friends & I are setting up a distribution chain through our boda guy/housekeepers to donate dry foods, charcoal + WASH basics in my neighbourhood. Please do what you can to ease the burden on people you are connected to that are struggling. #COVID19

Individual donations to national task force

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Father Henry Kasasa from Uganda Martyrs SS Namugongo donated 	<p>UGX 300M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birungi Mary donated
<p>200 hens & 200 trays of eggs to residents of Kira.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aiko Aisha a senior four student of Lubiri High School, 	<p>UGX 1.5M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ugandans on Twitter donated
<p>walked on foot from Natete to donate her 15,000 UGX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five-year-old Sulaiti Mulindwa donated 	<p>UGX 1.3M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male Kamyia donated
<p>10kg of posho and UGX10,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samuel Kimbowa who fetches water for a living donated 	<p>UGX 1M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gustavo Orach donated
<p>UGX5,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brig. Gen. John Mugenyi (Rtd) donated 	<p>UGX 1M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leonard Rutaro donated
<p>a brand new double cabin pick up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police officer, Jackson Mucunguzi donated 	<p>UGX 1M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bishop Elwana Stephano donated
<p>quarter of his April salary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fabris Rulinda donated 	<p>UGX 100.000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Isiah Tumwinyinze donated
<p>500 Litres of fuel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masiko Gad, a tutor at Bishop Stuart Primary Teacher's College in Kabale- 	<p>UGX 1.5M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nazarin Family Makerere donated
<p>donated UGX 850,000 which was his March Salary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kireka LC 1 donated 	<p>UGX 2M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aliba Clement donated
<p>UGX 1M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police woman Maneno Ayikoru donated 	<p>UGX 2M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mutesi Farida donated
<p>UGX 200,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustin Nyanga, a safe boda donated 	<p>UGX 3.8M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joseph Brown donated
<p>4bars of soap and UGX 5,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sk Mbuga donated 	<p>UGX 3.8M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thakur from Sweden donated
<p>40 tonnes of food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Mwangi- Equity Bank CEO donated 	<p>UGX 10M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Family of Nicholas and Rosette Byangoma donated UGX 5M
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architect Stanley and Professor Deborah Mulumba donated UGX 2M
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenipher (Full Figure) donated
	<p>UGX 1M</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Akiteng Grace donated hard ware worth
	<p>UGX 2M</p>



Chapter 3

Giving by Artists

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“I would like to thank all the artists who have participated in this effort because they did this without any payment. I would like to encourage them to dedicate their platforms to educate their followers more about coronavirus and to follow the directives of the President and the Ministry of Health.”

A musical giving

Music. This is one of the notable weapons Ugandan arts have brought to the battle against coronavirus. It's been song after song; artistes, big and small, solo projects, collabos and all-star scenes have graced the airwaves. In reviewing the musical scene as regards to the virus, Dominic Makwa, a lecturer at Makerere University had an insightful piece published by online journal, *The Conversation*.

Makwa casts a quick glance through the most notable of songs and lists the artistes therein. He says that notable among them was Bobi Wine and Nubian Li's Corona Virus Alert and Bebe Cool's Corona Distance. He also says that there's also the likes of Pastor Frank Kyeyune's Katonda Yekka ku Corona (Only God on Corona), Dickens Ahabwe's Coronavirus in Uganda and Corona by Ykee Benda, King Saha, Joanita Kawalya, B2C, Fefe Busu Dre Cali and Myci Ou.

"These are simple songs that assume a responsibility to help educate citizens. They are dense in information about COVID-19, about preventing its spread and getting help if one is infected," he says. Makwa however wonders how effective this music is in public health communication, a question he then quickly explores.

"In Corona Virus Alert, Bobi and Nubian Li emphasize, among others, the responsibility of all Ugandans to wash and sanitize their hands, observe social distancing, to isolate by going into quarantine if symptoms appear. The artistes also list the signs and symptoms of COVID-19," he says. This was a good thing, if the messaging by the Health Ministry had not delivered the message well, then music would. In the song Corona Distance, Bebe Cool teamed up with Vinka, John Blaq, A Pass, Ykee Benda, Fik Fameika, Peace Among, Azawi, Fresh Kid and Paper Daddy, to deliver a musical message about the virus. While releasing the song, the crooner told *Daily Monitor* about the importance of giving and art.

"I would like to thank all the artistes who have participated in this chapter because they did this without any payment and would

like to encourage you to also dedicate your platforms to educate our followers more about coronavirus and to follow the directives of the president and the ministry of health," he said. Unlike fellow artistes listed above, Mesach Semakula's song, Tusonyiwe (Forgive us) is a prayer. The Golden Band crooner begs God to save the world from the coronavirus. "The COVID-19 prayer gives hope to many and makes believers know that there is light at the end of the tunnel," the *Daily Monitor* noted. Interestingly though, in a bid to sensitize the population about COVID-19, comedians also took to song. Vision Group's Reagan Ssempijja tells of a musical project by a collection of Uganda's A-list comedians, under their umbrella association, The Uganda Comedians Association (TUCA). Recorded at producer Artin's studio, the song is titled, "We Say No to Corona".

It features distinguished comedians like Patriko Mujuuka, Hannington Bujingo, Richard Tuwangye, Alex Muhangi, Godi Godi, Reign and Agnes Akite among others. "A number of them sounded more like comedians than musicians, but all this will be delved into when the situation returns to normalcy. For now, the country needs each and every



comforting message," Ssempijja notes. He further notes that unlike many other songs released earlier, this particular song is known to tickle listeners into hearty laughter. "They decided to turn the situation into one that can be laughed about, but still stay conscious of the set measures and guidelines to prevent the spread of the virus."

Art: Sketching the Message

In the Disney movie Queen of Katwe, she plays wife to British-Nigerian actor, David Oyelowo. That is where many would have recognized the name Esteri Tebandeka. Outside of acting though, the actress takes on many other creative roles; a comic, a designer, a dancer and a chef! Yes, that and more, will define Esteri's time. In the wake of the coronavirus, through one of her comic characters, Muna-U (slang to mean, a Ugandan), the loveable Esteri uses satire to echo messages. Asked why she uses satire, she said, "I use satire because I want to be free to say anything I want without being judged!" She explains a little more: "I also chose satire because it's easier to deliver the message that way; people take information directly aimed at them better when packaged in a different way." Esteri decided to call her character Muna-U because she believes what he says resonates with many Ugandans. "It's the things I have heard and seen people do; the people who love Muna-U relate



to him from that place," she says.

While creating the character, it was important for her that the message and not the character be seen. "Muna-U is a man of average looks; he has a potbelly, he is bolding, he is not 'eye candy'," she explains. In making him less appealing, she has been able to communicate without worrying about the message getting drowned by his looks.

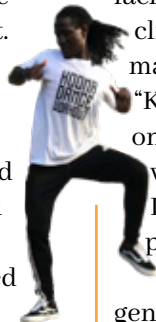
For a few months now, Muna-U has found ways to tell people to stay home, without sounding too official. For example, in one of the episodes, Muna-U is at the immigration desk. When the officer asks for his nationality, he responds, "Sitting room!" During the Easter holiday, a sad Muna-U said, "Now I would be in the village distributing my ka hard earned money." In the end though, he advises everyone to stay home.

To capture the general sentiments and anxiety that came with a possibility of lifting the lockdown, Muna-U joked, "Now people are ironing their car engines- Kiro mo!" Before that though, Muna-U is seen telling his member of parliament to call his 20million shillings to vote for him.

Koona Dance

Koona dance is an urban youth Luganda and English word-play meant to cheer on dancers. But in these dire times of the coronavirus in Uganda, Koona Dance has become a dance movement of sorts to keep many sane and fit. The young man behind it, Okumu Felix Wamala, decided to give back during the lock down. On his social media pages, Facebook, Koona Dance workout Uganda and Instagram, koonadanceworkout, he urges all and sundry to keep fit.

A chat with Felix revealed the fact that indeed giving can be in kind. "Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, my country has been in lock down," he starts when asked why he chose to give back through dance. "As a dance fitness instructor, I had to put all our commercial workout sessions at all gym facilities all week round on hold." He says that everything seemed surreal, at first, and he mostly just felt defeated and needed purpose. To then decided to give something to help others who were feeling like him, get through this. "Initially it didn't feel real, but eventually the



message got home," he says. "Since all the gym facilities were shut down, I had no other means of reaching our followers and the rest of the people facing the pandemic lock down." It was just his clientele at first, but soon Felix was inspiring many other people.

"Koona Dance workout has been offering free online live workout videos three days of the week on social media- mainly Facebook and Instagram" he says. "On average 50 to 100 people work out per session on the live video."

These online workout sessions have also been gentle reminders for people to be cautious. "During the online workouts, viewers are encouraged to exercise caution, sanitize, keep social distance, stay home, be safe and fit during this pandemic," he maintains. Asked what his reward is, the selfless young man says: "The clients' comments and messages of appreciation show that Koona has impacted lives." That seems to be reward enough for him for now. "Together, we shall continue to stay fit and stay safe with the Koona Dance workout," he adds as a matter of fact.

Artsy Generosity in the Wake of COVID-19

By Moses Serugo

It took a distress call from a mother of six-month-old twins for Douglas Kasule Benda to champion a fundraiser for relief aid to film industry practitioners affected by the COVID-19. “This Nalongo (Luganda for mother of twins) is an actress living with HIV and cannot breastfeed her two kids for fear of passing the virus onto them. She feeds them on egg yolk. But because the film industry is in lockdown, she has no livelihood. And with no money, she can’t feed her babies,” Benda says in a heart-wrenching video he posted on his Facebook wall.

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasbenda/videos/2857199107649491/>

That appeal saw him raise up to UGX600,000 with UGX50,000 from his own pocket with remittances of at least UGX10,000 to film industry practitioners that reached him on his personal phone lines. Another film practitioner Shakira Kibirige, a make-up artiste of great repute quickly jumped into the fray with 25kgs of rice worth UGX180,000 from her personal savings. Both were compelled to help on account of the slow response of the National Task Force in getting food to the hungry masses. “Various heads of the film industry organisations had heeded the call to give their relief items to the National Task Force who would in turn deliver it to the masses. But we wanted a more targeted approach that was not about

photo-ops and mentions during the Presidential updates on COVID-19,” Kibirige explains. A plan to map out the residential areas of needy filmmakers was quickly hatched and boda boda motorcycles were used to deliver at least 5kgs to film practitioners that had households of at least five family members.

The duo has, however, been overwhelmed by appeals for relief aid from as far as Gulu and Kabale which got Benda to make an emotional appeal to UCC (Uganda Communications Commission) to commit just a quarter of this year’s Uganda Film Festival budget to relief aid for filmmakers.

“I wish Uganda Film Festival through the Uganda Communications Commission would just give ¼ of this year’s festival budget to help filmmakers through these hard times. But who am I to say? Our leaders from Uganda Film Council or UFMI (Uganda Federation of Movie Industry) or UFN (Uganda Film Network) will wait to ask for a transportation van to take filmmakers for burial when they die of hunger. Ssi kyo?” he lamented yet again on his Facebook wall.

Unfortunately, Julianne Mweheirwe, the festival director says that the budgets for the festival are approved by the line Ministry of ICT and National Guidance and that diverting festival money to anything outside what it was requisitioned for would raise

a lot of red flags. Benda hopes more relief aid; monetary or otherwise can come through by way of his personal lines; 0779-211785 or 0702-792926. On the performing arts front, acclaimed Ugandan dancer Walter Ruva is spearheading a relief fund for his peers in the dance community. Ruva also used the power of a Facebook video to launch his initiative starting off with UGX100,000 from his own pocket.

<https://www.facebook.com/ruva.walter/videos/3097286586995009/>

“I noticed that mainstream musicians who are generally well-off by industry standards were only supporting DJs and not the other people that support them in their art,” Ruva laments. “Granted, DJs play the artistes music but they only deal with the finished product. We the dancers are there with the artistes in the kitchen during the making of music videos and also garnish their live performances



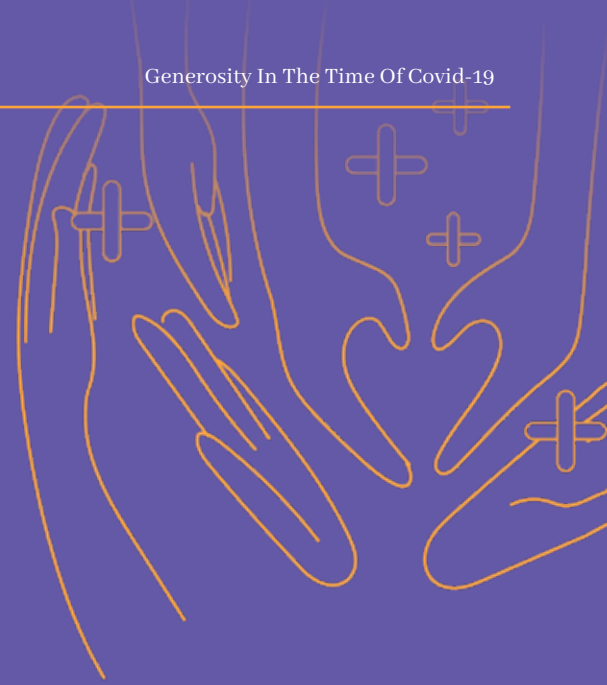
with choreography,” says the renowned choreographer and fitness instructor who has appeared in a couple of music videos by pop artistes.

Chapter 4

Giving in Collectives

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Through their COVID-19 Emergency Response Committee, the club mobilized over 5,000 Rotarians and Rotary partners in the district to help in the national efforts in both countries. And indeed, you will notice them feature across our regional curation of giving.



In this section, we look at how individuals channeled assistance through groups. The team spirit and the gift of numbers saw many people receive help. For example, a group of ladies, through the FOWA charity drive 2020, pooled resources and bought food items for about 11 families.

Each family, who were notably mostly single mothers and or widows, got food items worth UGX250,000.

This we noticed was the trend that informed most of the group and or association giving. At a glance, look at why indeed this particular families deserved rescuing:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single mother with 5 children (3 girls and 2 boys aged 10-18yrs.) who had been thrown out of their home due to rent dues. Her eldest child, 18yrs, was in P7 but got pregnant and now has a newborn baby. While the church got them a temporary room to live in. So the mum started washing clothes for people to earn a living, but now everyone is at home and washing their own clothes so she has no job. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single mother, in her 40s, works as hawker for smoked fish, but had to halt that since public transport was cancelled. With two little girls both in primary school to feed, this mother and her children would have gone hungry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single mother aged 44 years with 4 kids found herself unable to continue hawking clothes for a living. Soon, he couldn't afford rent and food for her and her four children until help reached her way.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single mother of 3, living on her own in Kitintale. Used to work at a soap factory earning daily wages. Factory is closed due to covid19. Her and kids are now surviving on porridge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 47-year-old single dad, with disability was a beneficiary. The banana leaf vendor in Gayaza market is also diabetic/hypertensive. Since his leg was amputated due to diabetes, he could barely walk to work, since public means were banned. Currently staying with his children 12, 10 and 9 years, the father also struggles with finding the appropriate diet for his condition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An elderly lady whose foot was amputated due to diabetes who was abandoned by her husband and left to fend for two children, some of who are single young mothers with no source of income. The help couldn't have come at a better time for her.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single mother who used to roast plantain and maize on the roadside in the evenings, but can't due to the 7pm curfew that came with the lock down. She has three children to feed; two teenager works and pre-teen, and was out of options. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 32-year-old mother who cleans houses for a living found herself without work, as everyone is now opting to do the work themselves. This mother of three who stays in Maule-Nangabo was stuck, and lucky for her, this group identified her 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The other beneficiary was an HIV positive widow and mother of four children. Before the lock down, she walked around doing laundry for different people, but no client needs her services now. Despite being on ARVs and needing food for the treatment to work better, she had been going hungry when the group found her.

Lawyers Rescue Their Own

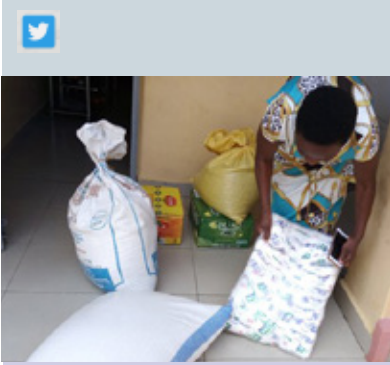
COVID-19 might have brought with it so much misery, but watching lawyers help their own, was nothing short of inspirational. They called it the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund for Lawyers. Since its inception by Advocate Assumpta Kemigisha Ssebunya and approval by the Uganda Law Society, it has saved 98 vulnerable advocates from starving.

In a report jointly released by Ssebunya and the Fund's Goodwill Committee Chairperson, and Advocate Sylvia Namawejje Ebitu, the Treasurer, 65 lawyers made contributions that have put a smile on the faces of 98 vulnerable legal practitioners.

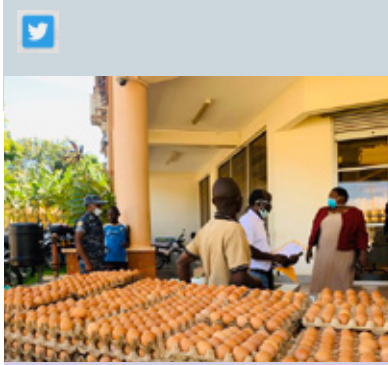
Chairperson Ssebunya added that hundreds

of lawyers were also counselled on how best to go through the COVID-19 crisis and how to prepare for post-COVID life in legal practice. She described the initiative, whose lead architects also included firebrand lawyer Isaac Ssemakadde, as 'a resounding success'.

It attracted 65 donors, rescued 98 lawyers in need, counselled so many, and saved Shs 3,609,000 for future disbursements. "We are exceedingly grateful for the generosity of our donors, compassion of counsellors, and the trust and courage of our beneficiaries, without whom these achievements would not have been possible," Assumpta told Press.



Small acts mean a lot during Covid19 lockdown. My friends and I under Team Njala Foundation contributed 20/50k each and lo, today we've raised more than 600k. We've bought rice, beans, soap, oil & porridge for kids with hydrocephalus complications. What a joy in giving!!!!



The Old Boys Association of St. Mary's College, Kisubi(70's class) donated 200 trays of eggs worth UGX 2M in support of the COVID-19 response. "These eggs will be given to our frontline health workers who are sacrificing their lives to end COVID-19 in Uganda" Hon. Robinah Nabbanja



On behalf of the National Task Force, the Permanent Secretary, @DianaAtwine received a donation of medical supplies from @MbeguZa (An association of children of the NRA/UPDF soldiers) comprising of 200 face shields and 18 boxes of hand gloves to support the COVID-19 response.



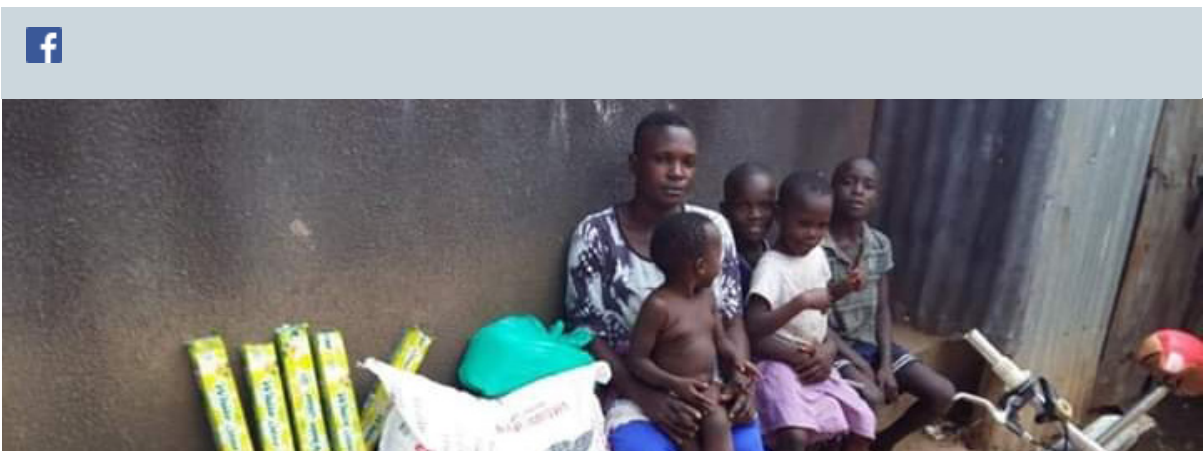
The Environmental Health Workers Association of Uganda donated UGX 4,100,000 towards the COVID-19 response in #Uganda.



The Uganda Professional Pilots Association Association donated an assortment of medical supplies to support the frontline health workers in the COVID-19 response. The supplies include; 1000 face masks, 1,000 surgical gloves and 200 face shields and were received by @DianaAtwine



The Minister of Health, @JaneRuth_Aceng, State Minister for Health for Primary Health Care, @MorikuJoyce and PS @DianaAtwine received a donation worth UGX 440M from Uganda Bankers Association and the Deposit Protection Fund to support the fight against COVID-19 in Uganda.



The lady who undressed in the video which made rounds on social media in protest of hunger has today been rescued by Namilyango Junior Boys School old students Association.

The Rotaries

In Uganda, two renowned clubs built on philanthropic principles also gave. For example, as soon as news of the lockdown went out, rotary club, the biggest in the country, showed commitment in helping the cause. The Rotary district 9211 that combines Uganda and Tanzania contributed UGX 1BN to the fight against covid-19 to the Uganda task force.

Prior to that, a meeting between Uganda Minister of Health, Jane Ruth Aceng and District Governor, D 9211, Francis Xavier Sentamu was held and the club told of plans to contribute PPE, Test kits and Wash facilities, all valued at one billion Uganda Shillings.

Besides the donation to the national task force, the Rotary District 9211,



through its 168 clubs in Uganda and Tanzania also contributed enormously to risk communication and community mobilization to create awareness of the government guidelines for the control of the COVID-19 spread. Through their COVID-19 Emergency Response Committee, the club mobilized over 5,000 Rotarians and Rotary partners in the district to help in the national efforts in both countries. And indeed, you will notice them feature across our regional curation of giving.

The Lions

Mostly known for their battle against diabetes in Uganda, the Lions Club of Uganda this time round took to active hygiene sensitization in villages. On the national front, they donated sanitizers to the taskforce. "The fight against the spread of COVID-19 is our fight, all of us. We are grateful to our Lions Clubs in Uganda that are playing a constructive role to serve their communities by providing food and other needs, working with the Local Government Task Forces," they noted on their official pages.

Club members came together and in a few days raised UGX 24million, which was dedicated to the protection of the frontline health workers. "It is through this combined effort that we have contributed 4000 liters of medical-grade sanitizers. These were handed over by the Lion Leaders to the National Task Force yesterday at the Office of the Prime Minister," they noted.



Chapter 5

A Regional Glance

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“I am what I am
today because
others helped
me.”





A REGIONAL GLANCE

The dire need that sparked West Nile's philanthropy

A large section of Yumbe District is made up of South Sudan refugees. But a story stood out; the New Vision reported that all was not well for the non-refugee population in Yumbe District. It was one of the first districts in the West Nile area to ask for help, but not for long, as the other districts cried out almost instantly.

The paper reported that hunger and anger were building up in this West Nile district and slowly across the region. They said that the poor could hardly put food on their tables. This, they noted was as a result of the lockdown, which was put in place to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

"Walking through the streets of the major towns in the region, it is clear that normal life is on hold," they noted. "Most of the shops and restaurants remain closed, except for hardware and wholesale shops."

They further said that one is greeted by emaciated youth and middle-aged men sitting desperately on the streets. They maintained that the situation was even worse in the rural areas, where many families were starving.

In the thick of this, a one Sarah

Wokoru, the managing director of ETS Logistics Services couldn't help but reach out to a starving family. "Things are not good. People are dying of hunger," she said. "I have just returned from Yumbe, where I had gone to deliver a bag of posho and 5kg of beans to a starving family," she said. Shortly, Premier Hotels Yumbe made a contribution of UGX 2M too.

Beyond food, the districts were worried the hospitals were not well prepared. A group called KKT procured and sent 400 mattresses as the company support, the distribution started from Adjumani, Moyo, Yumbe, Koboko, Maracha and Nebbish.

In Paidha town, FUFA donated 26 bags of rice to Paidha Black Angels Football Club. "Imagine going days without food," a young footballer rendered jobless as matches get postponed, said. "I wanted to walk to the village to my mother, but I didn't even have the energy!"

Eva Olivia and Eden Okia, both business personalities from Koboko donated Shs 1.6M, 300 Cartons of water, 50kgs maize flour, 150kgs Sugar, Cooking oil 9 cartons, Salt 25 cartons, rice 25kgs, beans 150kgs, 25 cartons of

assorted biscuits, and 4 cartons of toilet paper.

Leaving many challenged, a 109-year-old lady donated 20 cartons of water and UGX400,000 in cash to the Arua District COVID-19 task force. Khemisa Batte Kajja, solicited the items from her family members and ensured that she personally handed over the contribution.

The region still needed help and it wasn't just monetary; ensuring the message trickled down to the last person was fast becoming important.

Artists Astro Lifer and Elton Lover Boy were quick to hit the studio and whip up a song titled, corona Virus. In this song, they talk about hygiene, and implore their brothers and sisters from West Nile to wash their hands with soap and water in order to beat the virus. The catchy tune soon saw the song playing across radio stations in the region and this went a long way in sensitizing the masses.

Away from the messaging, some districts needed qualified personnel while some individuals needed an act of kindness, but also, they needed help with the sensitization messages.



A REGIONAL GLANCE

She Dared to go Where Many Wouldn't

When the news of a COVID-19 patient in the district arrived, Adjumani went into shock. Everyone panicked. Though being hundreds of kilometers away from the capital city, Adjumani District was among the first districts to get a COVID-19 case. Immediately, the district leadership convened an emergency response meeting and made calls but many shunned the call to duty. However, a nurse, Vicky Opia, immediately answered the call and started work that very day. Besides being hands-

on with the patient, she also offered to spearhead the COVID-19 psychosocial team on the district task force. Opia, also a member of the Palliative Association of Uganda, noticed that component was lacking in the district strategy. To affirm her membership, the Palliative Association of Uganda, celebrated her. They called her an unsung hero before going on to explain why her presence there was pertinent. "Psychosocial support is part of our biggest mandate during the COVID-19 response as many people and

families are stressed out by the pandemic," they said. Speaking to New Vision, Dr. George Bhoka, the district health officer, said that when Opia called, he was glad because the district task force was short of staff at that time. "When I talked to her upon confirming the COVID-19 case in the district, within 24 hours she had put together a team that came up with a comprehensive COVID-19 psychosocial plan and budget. This guided us well," he said. When Opia spoke, it was to emphasize the importance of self-

motivation. "Health workers should learn to be self-motivated in the face of pandemics. They should not focus on treatment only, but be part of things such as resource mobilization," Opia told The New Vision. She also says throughout the period the COVID-19 patient was in their hands at Adjumani Hospital, they kept coaching themselves. "Every morning, we held a meeting to remind ourselves of the basic things, such as washing our hands," Opia explains.



A REGIONAL GLANCE

Arua's Selfless Nurse

Arua's Selfless Nurse Doris Okudinia, a nurse at Ediofe Health Centre III will forever be etched in our memories. Images of her wheeling a critically ill patient from Ediofe Health Center to Arua Regional Referral Hospital, kilometers away, will not be forgotten anytime soon. "Life of any human being is precious," the soft-spoken Okudinia told Daily Monitor when asked why she did it. She then explained that though the patient had been brought to the health center in the morning, the ambulance was

nowhere to be seen for a whole six hours later. "This patient came to the health centre at around 7am. As I reached the facility, I found him lying on the verandah and we had to wait for the clinical officer to arrive at 8 am. He took the prescriptions and recommended laboratory tests," Okudinia explained. She said that though the health centre gave first aid treatment and referred the patient to Arua Regional Referral Hospital, hours later, there was no ambulance. When the officer-in-charge

requested a cyclist to transport the patient he declined for fear of being arrested. Note that one of the presidential directives on the spread of coronavirus stopped cyclists from transporting passengers. That's when patient's wife approached several nurses, crying in desperation because her husband's condition was deteriorating.

"It was not my decision to use the wheelchair after the wife of the patient pleaded for it. She cried to us that 'if you people have a

wheelchair, let us use this to carry him.' I then helped her, thinking that if the ambulance found us on the way, they would take it up from there," she told the Daily Monitor. During the journey, the patient asked to rest at River Enyau for about 30 minutes and then set off to the hilly part of the road leading to Arua Town. "That patient was ill. Helping him was not a sin because even God knows that I only wanted to save the life of the patient," she said. "I am what I am today because others helped me."

A REGIONAL GLANCE

One act of Kindness Deserves Another: Arua Nurse gets Scholarship

When she set out to help wheel the patient to the regional referral hospital in Arua, Doris Okundinia didn't know the blessings that awaited her. She was celebrated by the health Ministry, with both the Permanent Secretary and Minister calling her a hero. That was not all, more good news awaited her.

The Uganda Christian Institute (UCI) School of Nursing and Midwifery in Lira District offered the young nurse a full scholarship to upgrade

her qualifications from certificate to diploma. "Okundinia's photograph recently appeared on various mainstream and social media forums wheeling a patient on a wheelchair from Ediofe Health Centre III where she works to Arua Regional Referral Hospital. We considered her action as a total commitment to enhance a health living, protect lives and boost health service delivery to our people," Rt. Rev. Prof Olwa, the Chairperson Governing Council UCI



said.

They said that board did this because of her commitment to saving lives and serving humanity in totality by a trained professional medical worker. "With a view to

recognize, appreciate and congratulate comrade Okundinia, the management resolved to reward her with a full Diploma Scholarship in General Nursing valued at 9 Million Uganda Shillings," they said. They said that by offering Okundinia, a full scholarship program to further her education, they would directly have equipped and retooled her with a lifetime of skills, knowledge, and even supported her to effectively serve the community better.

The Madi Community Unites

The Madi Cultural and Development Foundation (MACDEF), with support from Madi communities in Uganda and diaspora, mobilized essential medical items worth shillings 18million.

The Foundation said that the items were meant to help the locals in the ongoing fight against coronavirus. They were equally shared and handed over to the district taskforce officials chaired by the Resident District Commissioners of the three districts of

Adjumani, Moyo and Obongi in Madi Sub-region. Henry Akra Ayiasi, the secretary of MACDEF noted that because coronavirus has no vaccine now, it was pertinent that they help the communities prevent it. "We procured essential items under the guidance of our district health officers and we delivered them to the respective district taskforces," he said. To appreciate the contribution, Dr. Franklin Iddi, the Moyo

District health officer, said that they needed all the help they could get. Indeed, according to the Daily Monitor, though Moyo District had submitted a budget of Shs4.3 billion to the central government for all operational activities to manage the pandemic, the district had only received Shs165 million. Peter Taban Data, the Adjumani RDC, said the items were much needed and that they would straight away be dispatched for use. "In delivering these items,

MACDEF has already answered the cries of our people. We want to thank you, MACDEF for



A REGIONAL GLANCE

A Fundraising Drive for West Nile's Vulnerable

They had initially thought of coming together to put West Nile on the national electricity grid, then the lockdown was announced. Today, this group called Voice of West Nile has put everything on hold to make sure the region's vulnerable poor don't starve to death. First they sent out a communication asking group members to contribute, but soon realized that this was bigger than them. They then asked the general public to join

and this moved proved successful. "Dear sons, daughters, friends and in-laws of West Nile. We would wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation and say thank you for your selfless acts having heeded to the clarion call we made 2 weeks ago to contribute for our vulnerable people of west Nile during this COVID -19 lockdown," a group member Nyakuezaibo Ezra said. A total of UGX 43, 387,470 (forty three million three hundred eighty seven thousand

four hundred seventy) was collected. "The contribution is being used to buy food which



is given to the various task forces of the eleven districts of West Nile for distribution to vulnerable people of West Nile," he said. They purchased cassava flour and beans from farmers within the region and distributed it.

The aid would be going to the vulnerable people of West Nile; the old, the pregnant and the sick. He said that despite delivering this food, the fundraising wouldn't stop and that money for any and all basic needs was being collected. In fact, many had also donated mattresses on top of the cash contributions. "We learned to give not because we have much but we know exactly how it feels to have nothing," he said. "God bless you all!"

This Orphan Living with HIV Just Wants to Study

George who stays in Zombo District has a very inspirational story to tell. At a time when many could have chosen to hold onto the little they had, his mother opened their doors to a little orphan girl with a big dream. Verbatim he said: A young girl in my neighborhood about 12 years old living with HIV/AIDS in P.4 shared with me her love for education and her frustration with the closure of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Japonji, Gen para mi doku Nurse dong ube jwik, acopu somu ungo nikum radio upe yofua, ke konya Doo japonji....."

She lamented the first time we met, while tears rolled down her cheek. She lamented that her dreams of becoming a nurse in the future are slowly fading because she can't access any radios to learn during this pandemic and cried out to me to help her out. This was so touching to me. I reflected on the number of children in her situation, children with so much passion but whose dreams are being shattered by this pandemic. Some are probably going to drop out of school when this is all over while others are going to lose out on their dreams. I thought I should do

something to help her out. There are a lot of children of this kind in our communities - hopeless and frustrated yet with so much love for education and they have dreams too. Let's not let their hopes fade away. I talked to my mom and we offered this little girl an opportunity to continue learning.



She now stays at home with my mum, every morning and afternoon she listens to education lessons on TV. I help her

to study and help her learn to speak English. My Mom, who is a nurse, is also helping to monitor the little girl's health. She ensures that the 'nurse to be' takes her ARVs as prescribed and I am sure she will be fine and live to see her dreams come true one day. It gives me great joy to see that the little girl's smile has been restored and her hopes and dreams have been reawakened. If we all continue to do the right things in small ways, right where we are, we can make a big difference.



A REGIONAL GLANCE

Grandmother Beaten by Grandson can now Smile Again

Mego Lucy Anek was mercilessly battered by her grandson. He beat her till she dropped on her knees begging to be forgiven. Her plea fell on barren ground, as the young man carried on beating her. Somehow, she managed to crawl, then stagger into mundanely thatched semi-permanent hut. Though faced with their own troubles as the world battles coronavirus, watching Ugandans demand help for the old woman was humbling. They reckoned that domestic violence cases were on the rise and that something had to be done to rescue victims from their abusers. Luckily several leaders,

including the district Chairman of Gulu District, Martin Ojara Mapinduzi heard their cry, as did police. First, a local clinic offered free treatment for the old woman and the LC1 gave her shelter for a few days as the police traced her abuser. Once it was confirmed that he was in police custody, together with the local leadership, she was returned to her home, which sadly had also been destroyed by her furious abuser. Again the accommodation was offered to the old woman as a plea was made for well-wishers to come to her rescue, and they did! James Alemi, a re-known philanthropist was

among those creating awareness, and nearly 6M was raised in a few days, with a local organization called GWED-G donating Shs3m. As the days went on, many leaders, locals and well-wishers joined the campaign and a committee was even formed. "This afternoon, I visited the home of Mego Lucy Anek, our old mama who was savagely assaulted by her grandson about 12 days ago," the Gulu Chairman, Mapinduzi gleefully wrote. "I'm happy to inform you that the small committee headed by Ms. Flavia Teddy Okello (Director Flama Morning Uganda) to support Mego Anek Lucy is doing a great job

and the construction of her house is in progress." On top of ensuring she had a roof over her head, the well-wishers also contributed a little more cash for her to start life with. "I also handed over today an additional 740,000/= (Seven Hundred Forty Thousand Shillings only) to the Committee as contributions from the following," Mapinduzi said before listing the donors. "Mego Stella Oryang-115,325/=, Madam Nyino Mugisha- 152,543/=, Ladit Samuel Donge (sent to me thru Hon. Obol Simpleman) 362,000/=, Ladit Ben Cirino (sent to me thru Hon. Obol Simpleman)-100,000/=, Isabella Okello- 10,000/=."

A REGIONAL GLANCE

Teenage Orphan lays Bricks and Donates Money

Nicholas Opiyo Ogweng, a 13-year-old boy from Gulu District left the district COVID-19 task force awed. It wasn't just that the young man donated Shs50.000 that left many impressed, it was the fact that he had spent time laying bricks so he could donate the money. As if that wasn't impressive enough, it was reported that teenager, Ogweng, an orphan, walked from Uyama Sub-county, about 10 km from Gulu town to bring the money. According to the online-

based Gangwa News, Ogweng, a primary six pupil said he has always heard on Radio how the Corona virus pandemic has ravaged the World. What blew him away the most was hearing how people were coming together to fight the disease by donating to the task force to help the Medical team and vulnerable people affected by the Pandemic. "I started laying bricks after we came back from school because of the lock down So after selling I thought it was wise to share with the

Task Force and help in the fight." Ogweng told an online outlet. "I am happy that I have done something to fight Covid-19 in my district." Gulu District RDC, Major Santos Okot Lapolo applauded the



boy for his generous contribution to fight Covid-19 saying that everyone should emulate this young

boy's heart and help people who are in need in this trying time. "The world needs more people like this young man right here," the RDC said. "Let us all try to learn from this young boy, we should always try to help people in need." The beaming Ogweng said that he had been a beneficiary of the kindness of others and wanted to give back. But more than anything, he encouraged his peers to give back too, and help those in need.

The Giving Scene in Karamoja

As a result of the distance from the rural communities and homesteads, and restrictions on movement of private car, the story of giving in Karamoja is unique. It is one to follow keenly, especially since some of the country's most vulnerable populations live there. The region's NGOs have put up a unified front to help the communities in this North Eastern sub-region. At the beginning of the lockdown, Moroto District received assorted items for handwashing from Mercy Corps Uganda to

help the district boost their capacities to fight the coronavirus. Mr. Peter Keen Lochap, the Resident District Commissioner (RDC) Moroto who doubles as chairman district Taskforce on Covid-19, while receiving the items on Friday April 17, 2020, thanked Mercy Corps for the items saying it will boost the fight against the disease. The items donated to the district include 2,000 five-liter Jerrycans for hand washing and 80 boxes of soap among others. Pastor Samuel Kakande also donated 200 bags

of posho of 25kg each to the vulnerable communities. Unknown to many, Pastor Kayanja's company, Mechanized Agro Uganda Limited, which works with artisan miners in Moroto District, also donated to the region. The donation was



received by Peter Ken Lochap, the Moroto Resident District Commissioner and LC

V chairperson, Andrew Napajja. "The food came from a church far away in Kampala," one of the elders in Moroto told our contact. He had no idea that Miracle Center's Pastor Robert Kayanja was the one, all he knew was that someone was kind enough to bring them food at a time when they had none. The districts agreed that the food relief would go to the furthest districts like Longole, Kaabong, Amudat and Kotido which border Kenya. Noticeable was the sensitization in Karamoja. A

coronavirus song by musicians from Teso and Karamoja is currently a popular in the region. One of the biggest worries for experts in Karamoja is messaging; thus this song was a welcome stride. Outside of music though, the church was best placed to

communicate and our givers this time round became the radio station Etoile FM and the church. As many people in the urban areas stayed glued to their TVs for the Easter season, Etoil FM sought out one of the region's biggest cathedrals and brought church to

their listeners, a thing they hadn't explored before. "Right now, we are broadcasting from Good Shepard Cathedral, Kotido," they said. "The English mass just ended, and we are now going to start the Ngakarimojong mass. At 11:00, we

will be live at Christ Church Cathedral for the Anglican Easter Service and later in the afternoon, we will be broadcasting the Easter Service for the Pentecostal Assemblies of God, Kotido at 5:00pm. Tune in to 92.7 FM."

A REGIONAL GLANCE

EASTERN UGANDA

From Teso to Busoga

Teso radio presenters and DJs woke up to news of a modest donation by one of their celebrated artists, Mark P Ikwap. The UGX 1.5M went to selected media personalities who were facing pay cuts and or those that had to go without income during the COVID-19 times. After all, they (media personalities) are best placed to communicate to the people about the deadly coronavirus.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=340582173592217&id=100029213110346

Individual givers like Dr. Epodoi Joseph and Rev. Sr. Dr. Ajiko Mary of the department of Surgery at Soroti Hospital donated 100kgs of sugar to support fellow staff. Uganda Cranes goalkeeper Salim Jamal Magoola

donated 28 bags of posho to the impoverished communities in his native town of Pallisa. The Bam supermarket proprietor distributed food to the Muslim community in Mbale. The districts were most worried about lack of health supplies and health workers had threatened to go on

hand covers, foot covers, eye glasses, hand sanitizers, hand washing tanks and washing soap. The supplies were transported to 13 different districts of Eastern Uganda and handed over to the task force teams in each of the districts. The districts were - Mbale, Sironko, Kapchorwa,

salvage the now looming hunger. First was Haji Nageje the Prime Minister for Bagwere who donated 1.5 tonnes of Posho and UGX 1.2M. Then came Rtd. Maj. Mugweri Geoffrey who donated 800kgs of posho to Budaka District and then Prof. Kiwolu James who donated 1,000Kgs of Posho.



strike in Mbale. To reduce the burden on the health sector therein, Tana group of companies gave essential items. They gave disposable PPE suits, masks, gloves,

Manafwa, Bududa, Kumi, Palissa, Budaka, Butaleja, Tororo, Busia, Soroti and Bugiri. In Bugwere, Budaka district received several individual donations to help

Still in Budaka, the from Rotary club of Mbale donated several items to Budaka District. Upon receiving the donations, an elated Martin Orochi, the RDC Budaka said it was just what they needed. "This has been the greatest donation in the district among all donations the district has so far received. This is because the items delivered have been those that the district has been lacking in the

health facilities” Orochi said.

The donations were:

1. 20 pieces of coverall protective suits.
2. 50 packs of surgical gloves.
3. 30 eye goggles.
4. 10 packs of N95 respirators masks
5. 50 packs of surgical masks.
6. 50 pieces of aprons.
7. 5 bottles of 5 litres of disinfectant (Jim)

8. 5 Jerrycans of 5 litres of hand sanitizers.

9. 5 jerrycans of 20 litres of Liquid Soap.

10. 2 sets of Padel operated hand washing facilities.

11. 5 pieces of Infrared thermometers.

A sigh of relief as UPDF donates much needed blood in Soroti

A post by a blood bank worker in the Soroti office, caught our eye. Martha Ajilong was first seen making a plea to the public to donate blood, and to do it urgently. Sadly because of the lockdown, the response was not good. In fact, it was mostly hospital staff of the Soroti Regional Hospital who showed up.

“We are inviting you to please join us at Soroti Regional Referral Hospital daily to donate that precious gift - safe blood,” she wrote. “Together, let’s save life.” Ajilong was getting desperate, the district had already lost about four children who couldn’t access their blood type and a pregnant mother was in dire need. “We lost 4 kids yesterday and a mother is dying if we don’t avail her blood,” she

begged.

She again pleaded with those living around the municipality to donate blood and promised that safety would be maintained. Lucky for her, that plea fell on the ears of the Soroti Army Barracks. They mobilized themselves and over 217 Uganda People’s Defense Force officers gave blood. A gleeful Ajilong wrote, “Thankyou UPDF for your generous donation. The medical staff of the force has boosted the UBTS field team. It is happening at the Military Barracks in Soroti.” As if giving their blood was not enough, the army medical staff helped collect it. “And their nurses, lab staff, clinician helped,” she said. “These soldiers honestly saved the blood crisis!”



Putting the message in song

Erongo korona (coronavirus is bad), is one of the songs that are gracing the airwaves in Teso.

Sung by the Ngero Rock Painting Akogo Group, a popular traditional music band from Teso, the song uses the catchy thumb piano melody to deliver the message. The band, known mostly for its Christian music, educates the community in song before making a plea to God for salvation from the pandemic.



The song starts by calling upon everyone to pay attention because will this is the only way the disease can be beaten. The song then delves into prevention tips; from nutrition to behavior change. “Let’s not be in overcrowded places, stay home, but even if you must move, don’t forget to keep washing your hands with soap and clean water,” the band sings.

The band then goes on to implore people to increase vegetable intake in order to boost their immunity. “Drink hot water, corona fears hot water,” the band also says in song. And for those who think it is not a serious problem, the band warns that no matter where they go, the virus is there. “Be it America, China, Italy, the virus is there!” The band then cries out to God to forgive his people, “Please stretch your hand out. Please heavenly Father, please stretch out your hand.” VHT Gilbert Arimon says that until music came, they had to trust that people were listening to the adverts from the radio, which wasn’t necessarily the case.

“Sometimes they would, but most cases they just look for another channel when the adverts begin. These songs are really good, because people sing them and the message sinks in,” he explains.

A REGIONAL GLANCE

Serere District's Oucor donates to his people

Philanthropist Philip Oucor came to the rescue of the people of Serere District in Teso sub-region. Besides the effects of the lockdown, Teso sub-region was facing a famine scare as a result of the delay in the planting season brought about by the locust invasion. But also, the waters of Lake Kyoga were rising, and experts warned that this would soon see districts like Serere located on the shores of the lake, flooding.

With this in mind, Oucor who is from Serere District, thought

he might come to the rescue of his people. Journalist Peterson Oluka broke down the details of Oucor's donations that were handed over to the district task force: Oluka further said that Oucor, added five tonnes of high quality

first class posho grown and packaged from the lands of Serere District, two tonnes of salt, one thousand kilograms of sugar and twenty four boxes of soap to help in washing of hands in various health care units.

He also gave fifty

cartons of the Pepsi drink to the security agents as they labor to enforce the Presidential and Ministry of Health directives. He further added. "In total, his donations were worth twenty one million shillings on top of fully paid three month daily radio adverts running thrice a day."

It is believed the people of Serere celebrated Oucor for the kind gesture and beseeched others to help not just Serere District, but Teso as a whole.

"He gave two million shillings to the District Taskforce as fuel facilitation, one million shillings for police facilitation on fuel expenses to allow them ensure tight security in the area and maintaining the Presidential directives."

Floods in Kaptoyoy: A tale a neighbor's keeper

The rains fell hard in Kaptoyoy Sub County in Kween District, and took with them not just people's food, but destroyed houses as well. This should have left the village's people in this mountainous area completely devastated, but something happened. A kindness swept over some of the village people and generosity took center stage.

"People here have sheltered their village mates. No one is sleeping out in the

cold," Cheptoyet explained when asked what the plan was. "The food has all been washed away, but neighbors share what little food they have with each other!"

They are not sure when the rains will stop but they trust that their families and friends, guided by the philanthropy that is woven into their way of life, will keep them

warm.

"First thing we did was to find a place for all the children, pregnant women and old people," a VHT, Emmanuel Cheptoris said.

"Remember we didn't have public transport, so we walked from door to door asking neighbors to accept a visitor for a short while." Granted, it is not yet perfect, the rains are still falling, but for as long as they keep being there for each other, the people of Kween will be just fine.



A REGIONAL GLANCE

Daddy Andre Donates to Mbale's Muslim Community

When a man only identified as Isma spoke of the rumor that a certain musician had donated food to muslims in Mbale, they didn't expect it to be singer Daddy Andre. True, the Tonelabira singer had indeed donated specifically to the fasting Muslim community in the Eastern district of Mbale.

"We are happy that they remembered us

in Mbale, especially those of us who are fasting at a time when our income streams dried up. I tried to keep the shop open, but the cost of transporting my stock doubled" Ibra Gibutai, a trader in

Mbale said. Not to lose capital, Gibutai tried to increase the prices but found that making even just the one sale a day was impossible, so he closed shop.

The news of this kind gesture from the

musician couldn't have come at a better time for the father of six who worried about how to survive throughout the lockdown.

To celebrate him, a one Lubanga Pash said, "In these hard times, a person who can remember his people is the best person to be identified as a true friend to the nation." She also added, "Thanks so much Daddy Andre for the kind heart."



Fetching Water for the Elderly

He didn't expect it, so when they knocked on his door and asked for his jerrycan, he thought the village youth had come to rob him. "They said that they wanted to fetch water for me. I asked them why, and they said that they had agreed with fellow

church members that, that would be their contribution during this time of corona," 86year old Josiah Kakidi from Budaka recalls.

Because he didn't trust them at first, one offered to go to the borehole with his own jerrycan and then empty the

water into the old man's drum. "I said, okay!" he burst into laughter. Indeed, the young man fetched not one but two jerrycans of water for the old man and promised to come back to refill it.

"I don't know what is happening, but this

corona has changed people. The other day they brought us food, now I am seeing water, what is happening?" he wondered. The gift that keeps giving is in the philanthropy that many like Kakidi above have experienced during these grim times.



A REGIONAL GLANCE

Bunyole's Waisana Rides Over 50km to Deliver Drugs

Patrick Waisana, a volunteer at Busolwe Hospital rode his bicycle daily to take ARVs and anti-TB drugs to patients who were due for a refill but couldn't access health care centers because of the travel ban. The thoughtful Waisana rode over 50km, expecting no pay. Kirabo Brian, a young man who works in Busolwe affirmed that indeed Waisana was one of a kind. "I have known W.W.P meaning Waisana Wiseker Patrick for the last 7 years," he started. "I worked with him in the same hospital, he is a very devoted man if it

comes to serving people; he does his work with a lot of vigour and always wants to learn more and more."

A widow and client of Waisana, called him a Godsend. "That man is just rare," she said. "He saved my life and when this whole thing is over, I hope I can say thank you to him." She had resigned to fate; she couldn't walk for over 25 kilometers to pick up her drugs, she had decided to let the worst happen. Then I heard him arriving and even though he looked tired, he said he had to drop off more drugs to other clients.

The 50-year-old

Waisana, also a former teacher and resident of Bungoma Village in Butaleja Sub-County, Butaleja District, understood why it was important that



the clients got their drugs. "Skipping or abandoning treatment affects the reduction of the viral load and protection of the

immune system. HIV has the potential to change and develop resistance if the viral load isn't suppressed fully..." he told the Daily Monitor.

He also said, "In 2005, I suffered from tuberculosis but because I never missed my medication it helped me to recover. Even these people living with HIV shouldn't miss taking their drugs and failure to access medication could lead to poor adherence and drug resistance in the long run."

Rachel Magoola sensitizes masses in song

A song by celebrated singer/song writer, Racheal Magoola made waves. The song about coronavirus, written in



Lusoga, an Eastern Uganda local dialect, starts with a plea to friends and family to please stay home. "Stay home and save your children," she educates in song. "Corona doesn't have shoes or a human calf, when you move, you're the one that distributes it." Magoola goes on to call for handwashing, a recommended preventive measure whilst dealing with the virus. Complete with gestures, a little dance, she sings from a home setting with what looks like her family. "Don't visit me, I won't visit so we can avoid the spread," she says. "It kills the young, youthful and the

elderly."

This, a short song, easy to learn, and a message that doesn't look to mince words explains why the 'Obangaina' hit maker is a force to reckon with. Complete with a home setting, the message can't be hard to find and in times like this, especially when a lot could get lost in translation. Rachel nailed it with her straight-to-the-point kind of song.

A REGIONAL GLANCE

WESTERN UGANDA)

Double tragedy: A Call to Help Kasese

Though still engulfed in the battle against coronavirus, Kasese, a district located in South Western Uganda literally found itself in murky waters. A Ugandan Magazine, The Independent, reported that at least over 120,000 persons that have been displaced by floods

helpless, naked and homeless, so we need a lot of interventions and going forward, I pray that government looks at a total reconstruction at Kasese District.” The woman MP, Winnie Kiiza told press. It was also reported that religious leaders in Kasese District were rallying well-to-

Mukonjo the chairperson Inter-religious committee of Kasese called on well-wishers in the district to contribute generously given that the district is faced with multiple calamities. Rev. Mukonjo observed that the government was stretched and that it couldn't attend to the

Kasese and the help started arriving. The guild president of Kyambogo University Tundulu Jonathan's donation to Kasese caught our eye. He donated 100kgs of maize flour which he delivered to Hon. Winnie Kiiza, the Kasese Woman Member of Parliament. Many would follow suit.

A tweet would also soon catch our eye: Today, People Power Uganda through Hon. Kyagulanyi handed over 13.5mn UGX to Hon. Winnie Kiiza to support fellow Ugandans in Kasese District that were hard hit by floods that destroyed property and livelihoods. We pray for Kasese to recover. Special thanks to Ugandans here and abroad for the contributions. Seeing Ugandans send help to the people of Kasese at a time of scarcity was humbling, but also just seeing how the Western region showed up for the needy is inspirational.



that hit the district. “The fact that they were forced into internally displaced people's camps, social distancing aspects are not being respected and during such a time I call upon the government to speed up the process of helping out people with what they can use in camps because they are hungry,

do Ugandans in the region to contribute relief items towards persons affected by the ongoing lockdown and floods. It was also reported that residents from various places had increasingly been storming the RDC's compound demanding for relief since the extension of the lockdown. Rev Ezra Nyongeza

rising humanitarian needs across the country. Kasese District Khadi Sheikh Abdu Akim Juma said that several people were stuck in their houses with nothing to eat, adding that some Muslim families were fasting with difficulty during the month of Ramadhan. Their cries were heard beyond

A REGIONAL GLANCE

Rallying behind Kasese

Until recently, Kenneth Kabagambe was mostly focused on Hepatitis B advocacy. Then the floods in Kasese happened! Kabagambe, the founder of the National Organization for People Living with Hepatitis B took to fundraising for the people devastated by the floods. Besides making personal pleas to friends, through his friend, Catherine Freeland, he also started a GoFundMe page calling upon many to help one of the worst hit places in the district.

“The people of Bukonzo West County, in Kasese District of Southwestern Uganda, Africa, are in great need of donations following the recent massive floods that



destroyed much of the area on 22nd May 2020,” Kabagambe said. “Many homes and public health infrastructure were destroyed by

the floods and tens of thousands are badly affected.”

He worried that the conditions in the camps where the displaced people lived, would increase their vulnerability of contracting COVID 19, HIV/AIDS/STIs, Hepatitis B, and cholera due to poor sanitation. He added that the communities needed food, mosquito nets, sanitary pads, anti-malarial drugs, clothes, beddings, kitchen kits, psychosocial support, safe water, face masks, sanitizers, surgical

and disposable gloves, tarpaulins and mama kits.

“With the current pandemic of COVID 19 and the outbreak of Ebola in DR Congo which borders the Kasese district, these vulnerable communities are left starving and many homeless as their property and farmland has been swept away by the flash floods,” he said.

Caring Grandmother Feeds Isingiro’s Hungry

At 76 years of age, Joyce Kaffoko refused to sit and watch the vulnerable starve. Through her organization, the Joyce Kaffoko Foundation, she has given a food contribution to the people of Isingiro District. The Joyce Kaffoko Foundation is a new Non-Governmental Organization, with operations mainly in the districts of Isingiro and Mbarara.

“With the ongoing lockdown in the

country as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, so many families have been affected financially leaving them without food supplies and other



basic necessities for survival,” Hannington Musinguzi, the NGO’s chairman said on behalf

of Joyce Kaffoko. The Foundation donated 1,000 Kgs of Maize flour for the vulnerable people of Isingiro. To ensure that as many households as

possible got food, they split it into bags as was reflected in their letter to the District Resident

Commissioner. “The purpose of this letter is to request your office to receive this maize flour, packaged in 200 bags of 5kgs each for onward distribution to the most vulnerable families in Isingiro District, preferably, Masha sub-county,” he wrote. To show her commitment and certify that all went well, Musinguzi added that Mrs. Joyce Kaffoko, the Patron of the Foundation would be available to make this handover in person.

A REGIONAL GLANCE

Musical Sensitization

A 9 year old girl composed a song titled Ninza Kwega, meaning, I will learn. Little Murungi and her mother, rapper, Emily Kikazi not only donated food to the vulnerable in Mbarara, but they took to discussing the virus and all that has unfolded since. First was a duet in which the two gave tips on how to prevent the virus, then came the young girl's solo project. Their song, Twerinde coronavirus (let's prevent coronavirus) amassed so much airplay and put the two at the forefront of shaping the messages on the virus.



Interestingly though, another artiste, Lauben Nuwamanya equally had a song cautioning the public against the virus. Mwerinde Coronavirus is a call to community to prevent the virus.

Upon launching this song, Sheema Woman MP, Hon. Jacklet Atuhaire Rwabukurukuru said that the song was best placed to help with the messaging process of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

"This is a troubling time and there is need to tap into all avenues that can bring awareness to the public as fast as possible," the honorable told Online Journal, The Capital Times. "Music in our mother tongues is key when looking for solace or even to calm the nerves of the affected citizens. It is clear from the message that I have to bring comfort to the people through nothing but tradition and in familiar melodies and lyrics."

The Honorable Rwabukurukuru also added: "Without doubt, this Coronavirus is certainly going to bring indelible moments of musical communion. There is a lot of power in songs to unify and console the community this song Mwerinde Coronavirus, has surely struck the right code that goes beyond Sheema District. A contact disease has no boundaries, so awareness is the key to its prevention."

The Unpredictable Donors

Imagine the shock of locals when the Orphanage they should have been rescuing instead went on a rescue mission. Yes, Kigezi Orphan Children's Charity Limited, donated one and a quarter tone of maize flour and salt to selected disabled persons families living within Kabale Municipality.

Reverend Rodgers Mashemererwa, the Chairman Board of the organization handing over the consignment urged the general public to recognize the fact that disabled persons were badly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, and therefore needed the helping hand.

"As an organization and our friends, we brought what we had. If we get anything later we can bring it here. I want to urge other people of good heart to consider these people in this pandemic. How do you think they will survive yet they aren't working?" Mashemererwa told MK news link.

As the people with disability received the much-needed help, 100 less privileged people in Kihhi town awoke to food and soap from the Kihhi Community church. Not too far away, Bishop Dan Zoreka donated food worth UGX 32M to Kinkizi Christians. On an interesting note, many people in the urban centers also woke up to anonymous donations - sugarcane, fresh beans, bananas, name it.

In Bushenyi, some few residents woke up to food at their door step. "Me I thought it was someone who wanted to stand for MP," one of the beneficiaries said. "We feared to even eat the things, but because we were starving, we just ate." They waited for nearly a week wondering when the donor would show reveal themselves, but this never happened.



The Unpredictable Donors

A REGIONAL GLANCE

Western Uganda giving at a glance

• A young graduate barely out of school dug into his savings and donated bags of posho to the people of Hoima municipality. Lwebuga Coastor left many humbled and his peers impressed not just for the donation but his deliberate effort to sensitize the Municipality's people.

• The Rotary Club of Bushenyi donated 70 bunches of Matooke to KIU international students who are stranded in their hostels in Ishaka.

• The Rotary Club of Bushenyi donated 70 bunches of Matooke to KIU international students who are stranded in their hostels in Ishaka.

• In Kabale, Kyakwazi Denis Nzeirwe on Wednesday gave 200 kilograms of rice to Journalists

• Henry Kyarimpa Kiviri donated 3,000kgs of maize flour to support the poor and vulnerable families in the district.

• Nyamasoga Primary School, in greater Buseruka Sub county Hoima district got a new pit latrine courtesy of SBC Uganda Ltd.

• A modern pit latrine constructed at Kigaga market by SBC

• A hand pump borehole, a water tank of 10,000 liters capacity installed at Hoima Central police station by SBC

• Dustbins to be installed in Kabale, Rugashari and Buseruka trading centers, hand wash facilities at the Hoima Ebola task force location by SBC.

• Hoima Elite football club a corporate team that plays health donated 100kgs of rice to Kitara FC

• Mr. Matsiko David of Rugando Parents School and team, donated food worth UGX 1.5M to the people living within his area.

• Dr. James Garuga Musinguzi offered 2.3 acres of land located in Butogota Town Council for the proposed site of Ntungamo Health Center 3.

• Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom donated 2,000 litres of sanitisers, 128 boxes of face masks, 16 infrared thermometers and 100 boxes of gloves.

Singer Toniks donates

David K Muhame of Mushaba Foundation together with singer Allan Ampeire alias Allan Toniks, donated food relief to the Mbarara District coronavirus taskforce chairperson, Lt Col James Mwesigye. While handing over the donation, Muhame said they intended to help people who were locked up in their houses without anything to eat such as boda boda cyclists, orphans, and saloon operators, among others.

They handed over 150Kg of maize flour and 20 bunches of matooke to help the urban poor. Toniks noted that while not many artistes can quickly whip up a song about the pandemic, they could join in donating food for their hungry fans.



Chapter 6

Giving Within Refugee Communities

(TALES OF SURVIVAL)

A group of children are running along a dirt path in a rural setting. The children are of various ages and are wearing simple, colorful clothing. The background shows lush green trees and foliage. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

“

It's from this money that I help my fellow refugees where we live in Gulu town; Posho is the only food a few urban refugees here can afford and share with fellow refugees. We also get support from a few Ugandans who share with us even from their gardens.



Humanity and Media Ethics

Giving to refugees and the needy can be motivating to a journalist. I do it a lot. Sometimes we do this with words, and other times, the aid is more direct. I am not sure how this can be related to media ethics, but when I give, it makes me feel so good. For example, it was wonderful for my kids and I to share something with Kiryandongo refugees

(For details, see <https://web.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1376188512412226&set=a.429869537044133&type=3&theater>).

In this lockdown, we helplessly saw how my refugee neighbors, the majority of whom are from DR Congo and South Sudan, struggle to feed their families. I couldn't but share what little we have with them. I took a few kilograms of maize floor (posho/for ogali) from my kitchen and shared it with my refugee neighbors. I also got bananas, commonly known as matooke, from my garden and shared them with my refugee neighbors in Kampala.

(See <https://web.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=3188961664468226&set=a.429869537044133&type=&theater>).

As journalists, we are human too and when reporting situation of refugees, displaced and other vulnerable groups who are in need it is important to report with a heart. Our humanity is the foundation of our good reporting.

Gloria Laker Aciro – Adiiki is a Ugandan peace journalist; she runs the Refugees and Migration Media Network.

Clinging on: A tale of Kampala's Urban Refugees in Lockdown

The impacts of coronavirus were felt world over. Nations were forced into travel restrictions and closure of businesses. Though necessary, these measures left many in dire situations. For the refugees, hope seemed to rise when they left their war-torn countries for other nations. Sadly, the tranquility they sought in Uganda and outside our homelands generally, was disrupted by the virus. There was a painful

experience by urban refugees living around the Freedom City mall. The owner of the mall donated relief food to be distributed to his customers/ neighbourhood of the multimillion shopping mall but surprisingly, the local leader opted to give food only to Ugandan nationals on presentation of the national identification. This is a situation which taints Uganda's good hospitality.

Despite the difficult situation, urban refugees adapted through solidarity. Many admitted that it was harder to go through a lock down in a place you were not raised and with no garden and no food. "We have no food yes but we have to also focus on what we can do to control getting coronavirus, no matter how hard it is, now is a prudent way of showing unity in this great fight by sharing and giving

among ourselves," Murefu Piere said.

A refugee in the outskirts of Kisenyi, a Kampala suburb noted that it is important to collectively do what it takes to walk out free from this disease and after that priorities can change. Much as questions about Uganda's renowned hospitality circulate given the pathetic state of urban refugees, Makuol Majok 37, a resident of Kisenyi

explained that many refugee neighbors used to get food items and non-food items from humanitarian organizations and host communities around, however that stopped under lock down.

“The lockdown has made things harder for us urban refugees in Kampala I believe the situation is quite understandable. Restriction of movement of people has meant that many people are struggling to feed their own families, yet expectations are high in the refugee communities”, he added. Makuol further noted

that they have been sharing the little food they have amongst



themselves since the lock down measures barred many urban refugees from access to money generating activities as they wait for the corona virus task force in Uganda to come to their rescue. Many refugee humanitarian agencies focused their attentions to settlement

camps leaving out urban refugees. Hon Musa Ecweru,

Ugandan Minister of State for Relief and Disaster Preparedness and Refugees revealed that plans are under way to distribute relief food to urban refugees because of the COVID-19 lockdown. But he advised that after the lockdown, the refugees in urban

centers who are not doing business to relocate back to the settlement for our easy support.

Some of the refugees absorbed in Uganda’s employment sectors like the industrialists, wood work/carpenters and mechanics who reopened and resumed work are carrying ultimate responsibility of using and sharing the little they make to put food on the table for their families and sometimes even fellow refugee neighbors.

Aggrey Ojok Obwoyo is an environmental journalist working with Uganda Refugees and Migration Media Network.

A struggle: How Kiryandongo Refugees are Coping with the Lockdown

The corona virus pandemic has caused serious suffering among refugees. Like other refugee settlements, Kiryandongo settlement with a population of 59,114 refugees holding 9,882 households, is struggling to stay afloat during the lockdown. The refugees are mainly from different African countries, with South Sudan having the highest number of refugees. From their

motherland in South Sudan to Midwestern Uganda in Kiryandongo District, South Sudanese refugees are encountering another undesirable test - the COVID-19 disaster.

First, they were forced to flee their countries of origin because of continued violence, and now a lockdown has found them in another country. But also, there has been a drastic change in portions

of relief items given. Before lockdown, each household used to get 12kg of maize grain and 31,000 Uganda shillings on a monthly basis but this isn’t the case now as food ration and money given to refugees have been reduced to 8kg of maize and 22,000 Uganda shillings respectively per household which have affected the feeding habits of many families.

Ayaa Rebecca, a mother

of 6 children, says that it has been difficult for her to feed the children. “There are days I am not sure what to give them but somehow we get what to eat, and it’s because of rainfall we have greens and you find yourself cooking,” she said. “I am so grateful to my neighbors who sometimes allow me to harvest their cassava. Without their support I would not know what to do. It’s my prayer that

this disease goes away.”

In order to minimize gatherings, World Food program began



distributing ‘double food ratio’ for May and June. Many refugees worry that this system

may not be good because the relief food will get done in less than a month which could possibly cause

serious starvation in the second month. However, Ayaa thinks differently, “Already

we cannot move freely, therefore giving us food for 2 months will save us from starvation and reduce our chances of contracting and spreading the Corona Virus.”

Luckily, the refugees in Kiryandongo can find work cultivating in different fields around the neighboring settlement camps. “We also have some refugees who plant some food crops like maize, cassava, greens next to their houses. These food crops are grown mainly

for consumption and some sold,” Ayaa said.

Some youths have formed groups for hire, which have also become associations of sorts that do agricultural work. Should tragedy befall any of them, the group loans monies to be paid flexibly.

Augustine Opra is a freelance volunteer journalist working with Uganda Refugees and Migration Media Network.

Gulu’s Urban Refugees Relying on Friends and Neighbors for Food

Since the lockdown, the South Sudanese urban refugees in Gulu have found themselves without food. “Porridge is our main meal,” Kevin Majok a refugee in Tegwana a suburb of Gulu town said. Luckily for Kevin, she and her neighbors also refugees, are living alone making it easy to share the porridge. Topeny Wilson slashes grass at people’s homes but he must be cautious while doing it. “Before I get into their homes, I wash my hands. Many have washing places in their homes and I don’t get close to any one until I complete my work and they mostly pay me using mobile

money,” he says. When he gets paid, he also helps fellow refugees without a source of income. “It’s from this money that I help my fellow refugees where we live in Gulu town. Posho is the only food a few urban refugees here can afford and share with fellow refugees. We also get support from a few Ugandans who share with us even from their gardens,” he said. 32-year-old mother of four, Rachel Akuach, also a South Sudanese refugee living in Kanyogoga village, in Gulu municipality, said that she can no longer get her share of food from the camp in

Adjumani. Though they have been allowed to walk to Adjumani, the 90kms are impossible to cover by foot. Rachel has been surviving on plaiting hair in Gulu town but



now that the saloons are closed, she has no source of income. “My friends and I used to plait hair, but most of us are now affected

since our businesses are closed. We now rely on the little we get from friends and neighbors,” she narrated. Kaunda Patrick Oyet, a local leader in Gulu confirmed the suffering

of the refugees in his village and appealed to the agency distributing food to jointly deliver food reliefs to the refugees in Kanyogoga

A village, in Gulu town. “It is true the refugee community from South Sudan is here in Kanyogoga A village, used to do businesses like hand craft, saloon work and market vending here in Gulu town for survival, but the lockdown has made it harder for them because they no longer work,” he said. According to Kaunda, the local people also fear that refugees going to and from camps to expose them to coronavirus. The same concern about the urban refugees

not having food is being experienced in Kasubi also a Gulu town suburb. According to the chairperson of Kasubi central Ms Ayetto Pollinea the urban refugees are in urgent need of relief food. Gulu District chairman Martin Ojara Mpenduzi, revealed that about 2,000 South Sudan refugee nationals registered as refugees to get food from the humanitarian agencies in the camps in West Nile districts. “Public and private transport have been shut down

and the movement of the refugees in and out of Gulu is not allowed” Mpenduzi added. When contacted, Hon Musa Ecweru, Ugandan Minister of State for Relief and Disaster Preparedness and Refugees said that the state would distribute food. He said however that it is harder to support the refugees when they are away from the camps. “After the lockdown I plan to meet the urban refugees and encourage those not doing anything productive to go and settle in the settlement

camps where it’s easy to monitor and support them,” Ecweru said. He said for those running business that can sustain them will continue to do their business in the centers. Those who have no income were urged to go back to the camps where they can be supported and also be enabled to lead a more productive life. Alex Pithua is a reporter with Uganda Refugees and Migration Media Network based in Gulu

Migration of the refugees

I am from Boroli refugee settlement in Adjumani. I left my settlement one month ago due to the outbreak, of corona virus because the food



received cannot last half a month,” said Zabel Brigget, a South Sudanese Refugee. Since the lockdown, the camps saw a drop in food rations and yet all their sources of income were closed. Some refugees have since moved further into the villages and rented land from the locals as worry of a prolonged lockdown lingers. “The rural people give and share their land with us at a lower rate, and they are quick when it comes to helping refugees. There are times you hire a land from a rural land owner and you are given more, so this is how we are overcoming the COVID-19 lockdown

by engaging in farming activities,” Zabel explains her decision to leave the camp. “Refugees are also settling for much rural land because the lockdown has seen local land owners return home to dig and they are using the land they used to hire and refugees have to go deeper into the villages in order to get free land to hire at a much lower price than land closer to town.” Even as they move further, they have noticed many people cultivate their land after government encouraged citizens to cultivate food in case of a prolonged lockdown. She says that since the lock down, the refugee

savings groups have lost members as many hold onto the little they have. “The rate of saving (the village saving group) in the settlement has dropped because there is no way they can get money, and this has made life hard forcing refugee community to begin looking for work in the farm,” Zabel says. She believes that employment in these farms is a form of giving; that at least they gave them a job. Hassan Hadiyah is a volunteer journalist working with Uganda Refugees and Migration Media Network based in Adjumani

Chapter 7

— GIVING: PERSPRECTIVES

“

CSR post-COVID-19 will need to be radically different. It should focus on addressing the root causes of many of the inefficiencies in Africa, which are strongly linked to bad governance and weak institutions. To meet this goal, Corporate Social Responsibility..... needs to become Collaborative Social Responsibility.”

Kenneth Amaeshi

In this section, we bring you articles by 2 Ugandans, on their take on giving in the time of COVID-19. These articles are meant to spark conversations on our collective giving as a nation, but also to stir you to reflect on your own perceptions about giving during the lockdown.

Corporate Philanthropy And The Covid-19 Crisis In Uganda.

written by Collin Shandaba Tumusiime.

lawyer and research contributor at the Mawazo Policy Research Institute.

A Critical Analysis

In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent lockdown imposed by government, corporate CEOs have shown great leadership in ramping up the charge for corporate philanthropy to support ordinary Ugandans affected by the lockdown. Individuals, learning, religious and cultural institutions have followed suit. This article argues that corporate philanthropy during the COVID-19 crisis enhances the shareholder, stakeholder and intrinsic value of the company. The article also argues that the state centralization of philanthropy as a result of instituting the National Taskforce on COVID-19 diminishes the freedom of private actors and is inherently weak and less effective in enhancing the welfare of people during this covid-19 crisis.

INTRODUCTION.

Coronavirus, also called COVID-19 has been declared a global pandemic, meaning it will have sustained global impact. Governments worldwide have imposed lockdowns to encourage social distancing and isolation. As a result, the global economy has plunged with experts predicting another economic recession that might supersede the 2008 financial crisis. Governments worldwide have made economic interventions to support people locked in their homes and stimulate businesses that have been affected by the lockdowns. Measures taken by central banks worldwide have included cutting interest rates, fiscal and monetary stimulus, quantitative easing to mention a few. A case in point is the 'helicopter money' intervention by the US government to help families, and businesses withstand the economic haemorrhage caused by covid-19.

UK has also made the same interventions by paying up to 80% of the wages of furloughed workers.(i)

The African response to effects of COVID-19 lockdown: A case of Uganda.

Most African countries cannot afford to introduce social safety nets like those employed in Western countries. Only a handful of countries like Kenya and South Africa have put in place social protection measures. This is largely in part because



African countries do not have enough money to do more. Between 2010 and

218 average public debt in sub-Saharan Africa has risen from 40% to 59% of GDP. Any fiscal response on the scale seen in the rich world would require outside help. (ii) This therefore begs the question: How have African countries responded to the effects of COVID-19 lockdown to populace. In the case of Uganda, the answer has been wide scale philanthropy. Perhaps out of genuine realization that their governments can only do so much, or conscientiousness towards the plight of ordinary people, private individuals and corporate companies have engaged in philanthropy to help the population that has been put out of work cope with the lockdown. This paper will analyze and critique the philanthropic approach and the state in Uganda. Particularly about whether a state centric philanthropy approach that has been adopted in Uganda is the most effective and efficient way of utilizing limited resources offered by private individuals, corporate companies, cultural and religious institutions.

Philanthropy in Uganda.

Philanthropy derived from the Greek word *philanthropos* means voluntary, active, non-reciprocal efforts (financial, organizational, human resources, etc.) by an entity with the sole purpose of benefiting human beings, or fulfilling an unmet social need, regardless of any specific return on investment™ for the donor. The primary responsibility for human development undoubtedly rests with national governments and their administrations. However, government burdened by continuing deficits may lack the resources to effectively address many pressing national concerns. Therefore, private individuals, large corporations and other religious and cultural institutions can fill this gap by engaging in philanthropy.

South Africa has a \$ 26.3 billion Coronavirus economic package for businesses and citizens.

Namibia set up a \$ 544 million relief fund for businesses and citizens over Coronavirus.

Botswana has a \$ 168 million relief fund to assist businesses in paying salaries of their employees.

Philanthropy as a concept has always been key to promoting the social welfare of society. Although parallel to the state, philanthropy has always reinforced state efforts to improve the living conditions of the wider society where the state cannot reach. As a result, philanthropy has buffered the state against social discontent and uprising, hence preserving it. David Owen, an English historian argues that during the Tudor era in England, the key motivating factor in the enthusiasm that was shown for philanthropy was the realization by the donors that failure to address social problems associated with poverty would harm the wider fabric of society and perhaps lead to unrest and even revolt.(iii) In African countries like Uganda that are already burdened by budget deficits, the state may not have the capacity to address the effect caused by the lockdown on the economic survival of most Ugandans. Mr Matia Kasaija, the ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development has stated that the low activity in the industry and service sectors as a result of the government lockdown will result into loss of jobs, further leading to a decline in economic growth and an increase in the level of poverty. He has stated that:

“ The number of people that could be pushed into poverty is estimated at approximately 780,000.”

Without any state intervention, these large sections of Ugandans could degenerate into social malcontents and becoming a danger to the establishment. Philanthropy therefore offers a much-needed lifeline to ensure their survival in these tough economic times. Following the declaration of the lockdown in Uganda as a result of coronavirus, a group of CEOs from the private sector have offered leadership by ramping up the charge for corporate philanthropy which has gained traction in all spheres of society ranging from religious institutions, cultural and

traditional institutions, small businesses, wealthy individuals, musicians et al. The government has responded to this wave by state centralizing all philanthropic efforts made by individuals, companies and to avoid exacerbating the spread of the virus. According to the state, some politicians engaging in cheap politicking of offering aid would attract crowds hence endangering the lives of the people. communities around them. Therefore, the government has set up the National Taskforce through which all philanthropic efforts would be channeled and well-coordinated.

To give or not to give: What does the law say about giving?

The primary responsibility for human development undoubtedly rests with national governments and their democratic institutions. However, the inability of overburdened government resources to meet society's most pressing needs has reinforced the necessity for philanthropy in Uganda especially during this COVID-19 crisis. A lot of contributions have been made to government during this crisis. Most notably contributions from corporate companies like MTN, Crown beverages, Toyota Uganda, Mukwano industries, Vivo Energy, Multichoice Uganda to mention a few. i For several decades, corporate activities to promote human welfare and increase positive impacts on society over and above their business activities have been regarded as an integral part of their corporate social responsibility. But not without judicial scrutiny. So, what does the law say about companies engaging in philanthropic drives?

The initial position under common law was that a company has no power to make a gift out of corporate property or assets unless such payments of were reasonably incidental to the carrying out of the company's business and was meant for the benefit of the company for example to contribute to its property or assets. This is based on the predominant assumption that the company's predominant purpose is to make profits, also known as the shareholder value theory. As was stated in the words of Lord Justice Bowen:ii

The initial position under common law was that a company has no power to make a gift out of corporate property or assets unless such payments of were reasonably incidental to the carrying out of the company's business and was meant for the benefit of the company for example to contribute to its property or assets. This is based on the predominant assumption that the company's predominant purpose is to make profits, also known as the shareholder value theory. As was stated in the words of Lord Justice Bowen:ii

“The law does not say that there are not to be cakes and ale but there are to be cakes and ale except such as required for the benefit of the company”.

This position of law prevailed when old provisions of the Companies Act required that company's objects be clearly stipulated and ultra vires doctrine applied to invalidate any transactions against the company's objects clause. However, in light section 7(5) of the Companies Act that allows companies to carry out general commercial activities that are incidental or conducive to the carrying on of any trade or business by it, the ultra vires doctrine may not apply to invalidate gifts or donations made by companies. This is because there is nothing to say that business and profits must come first. Given the separation of ownership and management in corporate structure, that is the transfer of corporate power from owners to managers, decisions about corporate policies are now made by those who are not owners i.e. the directors (Bearle and Means). Corporate philanthropy has depended on predominantly on the social values, sensitivity and awareness of a firm's top management. Those managers who as private individuals value benevolence and welfare enhancement of the needy have been likely to apply their intrinsic concern for others in the corporate context and support the company's engagement in corporate philanthropy. However, the propriety of directors spending money belonging to members of the company has at times been questioned by the shareholders. In the *Grundt v Great Boulders Proprietary Gold mines*,iii Cohen J stated:

“there is nothing unusual in the shareholders not being allowed to interfere in matters which have been deliberately placed under the control of the directors”

The directors are the mind and will of the corporation, the very ego and centre of the personality of the company.^{iv} They have the power to act on behalf of the company including taking part in philanthropic activities. In undertaking this role, they may be accountable for their actions if they act unlawfully or fraudulently. The Companies Act under section 198 allows directors to act in a manner that promotes the success of the business of the company. It also allows directors to act in good faith in the interests of the company as a whole. Acting in the interests of the company means adding value to the company. In recent times, there has been a trend towards stakeholder value as opposed to shareholder value theory which mainly focuses on making profits. Today, the company is required to play the role of good corporate citizenship and as a part of society, the company is expected to part of the solution to problems affecting it despite the fact the shareholder value still persists. For shareholder value theory, corporate objectives like social value and profits cannot be maximized at the same time, constituting – at least in the short term – a direct goal conflict. As a result, a focus on profit maximization is likely to exclude bankrolling philanthropy from corporate funds – for reasons set out by Milton Friedman many years ago.^v On the other hand, according to the stakeholder value perception, companies should engage in corporate philanthropy in order to satisfy the requests and expectations of stakeholders (e.g. civil society organizations, neighbouring communities, employees and other

specific constituencies). The underlying rationale is that the company receives benefits such as higher consumer loyalty; deeper employee commitment and motivation due to the greater pride they take in the organization; and improved public image as a responsible member of society and a ‘good’ corporate citizen. Giving back to the various constituencies that grant the company its societal license to operate preserves and enhances the value of corporate assets. It can generate positive ‘moral capital’ among communities and stakeholders beyond the company’s direct business relationships. Such ‘moral capital’ as a result of the firm’s philanthropic activities can provide a company and its shareholders with an “insurance-like protection for a company’s intangible assets in the event of accidents or other unfortunate incidents. Where corporate management is perceived to be socially aware and responsive to others’ needs, unfortunate accidents cannot be attributed to corporate greed. Therefore, to soften the stance carried by shareholder value, one could look at enhanced corporate reputation or increased employee morale as elements that contribute to the financial gain of the company. However, in contrast to short term financial gain, stakeholder value is difficult to quantify. No accepted standards, accounting metrics or performance benchmarks exist for measuring social returns to the company. Furthermore, stakeholder value accrues over the long term; it does not appear in quid pro quo fashion in the next quarterly results.

Lastly, engaging in corporate philanthropy during the COVID-19 crisis can be construed as being in the interest of the company because of the intrinsic value that arises from being part of the solution to the COVID-19 crisis. The intrinsic value lies in the results themselves for example reduction of child mortality. In relation to COVID-19, the value can lie in avoiding social unrest and revolt that can arise from prolonged effects of lockdown like poverty. Therefore, engaging in corporate philanthropy during this COVID-19 pandemic enhances the shareholder, stakeholder and intrinsic value of the company. In so doing, the corporate management would be furthering the interests of the company except in situations where it would be pernicious to the company's assets, fraudulent or unlawful. Neither the shareholders nor the courts would challenge the powers exercised by the directors to engage in corporate philanthropy during this COVID-19 crisis because it would be within the director's duties i.e. promoting the interests of the company as a whole in accordance with section 198. The only way shareholders can control the exercise of powers vested by the article in directors is by altering those articles, or if the opportunity arises under the articles, by refusing to re-elect the directors of whose

actions they disapprove.^{vi} According to Bowmans, a top tier law firm in Uganda,^{vii} the most common form of business vehicle in Uganda is Private limited liability company.^{viii} A private limited liability company can have one or two share holders but its members must not exceed 100.^{ix} The shareholders can take any form ranging from natural persons to corporate bodies or non ugandan share holders. In Uganda, most private limited liability companies are privately held companies owned by close family relations with few share holders who have overlapping duties as directors of the company. Therefore, the decision whether to engage in corporate philanthropy is taken by both the owners and directors of the company. In such instances, there are no competing interests between shareholders and directors and the power exercised by the company to engage in philanthropic activities cannot be challenged.

Other society stakeholders like individuals, religious and traditional cultural institutions have responded to the call by the president to help respond to the effects of COVID-19. Traditional cultural institutions Kingdom of Buganda donated items worth shs. 100 million, the kingdom of Bunyoro Kitara donated a total sum of shs 60 million. Religious and learning institutions have also widely donated to the National Taskforce in the fight against COVID-19.

Challenges with the law

Most companies and individuals are making donations to the National Taskforce on COVID-19. The donations. These donations are not subjected to tax deduction in accordance with the income tax Act as the government is not among the defined exempt organizations.

State attitude towards Philanthropy during the COVID-19 crisis

The state suspicion towards philanthropic efforts made by “politicians” who are self-serving has caused philanthropy during the COVID-19 crisis to be centralized. The government has put in place the National Taskforce for COVID -19 response where all philanthropic efforts in the fight against the crisis and its effects should be directed. The justification made by the President for setting up the National Taskforce is to avoid people’s lives getting endangered by self-serving politicians who attract crowds when offering aid to people affected by the lockdown. Another justification is to coordinate philanthropic efforts made by the private sector in order to benefit the wider populace using government structures already in place. As a result of state centralization of philanthropy, all philanthropic efforts made by the private sector has been banned. Individuals found taking part in direct philanthropic acts

without handing over their resources to the National Taskforce have been apprehended by the police. A case in point is the arrest of Mityana member of Parliament, Francis Zaake for distributing food to his starving electorate in this ongoing COVID-19 lockdown. Basically, philanthropy may be done but only through the National Taskforce on COVID-19. It can be argued that the state centralization of philanthropy has encouraged more giving by the private sector and other cultural and religious organizations as well as the external non state actors like the US embassy as philanthropic efforts continue to increase rapidly. However, the question is whether state centralization philanthropy is the most effective way of reducing the economic strain the lockdown is having on ordinary Ugandans who are merely surviving during this period.

Shortcomings and analysis.

State centralization of philanthropy takes away the freedom of private sector donors to directly engage in philanthropy.

ensuring that their relief aid is utilized to good ends as opposed to government actors who are merely doing their job while distributing relief aid. Private sector organizations would be motivated with amassing social and moral capital that would accrue from giving to the population under lockdown. Therefore, their direct relief efforts would be more deliberate.

Secondly, private sector organizations and individuals can easily positively discriminate

Private sector organizations and individuals would be better placed to carry out philanthropic activities because they have more experience in donating to the public and have a vested interest in

while offering aid. They can do so by targeting the people who need relief items more than others. Government by nature tends to be more egalitarian when bringing services and goods to the people and is more concerned about general welfare whereas individuals and private sector organizations would be more concerned with strategic goals of offering goods and services which therefore can lead to better utilization of relief resources. However, due to strategic preferences of individuals and private organizations, this would place a bigger burden to these groups to reach as many people as possible which they can easily discharge by handing over to a centralized authority like the National taskforce to distribute. The main shortcoming being that the state may not utilize the relief to achieve the strategic goals of the individual or private organization.

Recommendations for improvement.

Instead of centralizing philanthropic through the National Taskforce on COVID-19, the government should enable the private sector to directly engage in philanthropy by issuing Ministry of health standing operating guidelines to be followed when providing relief. This would enhance the freedom of the private sector to provide relief items like food to targeted groups like people in slum areas.

It is recommended that the Income Tax Act be amended to allow the private sector benefit from tax deductions on donations regardless of whether they are made to exempt organizations or not. As long as the donations are for philanthropic or charitable ends. It is also further recommended that the tax deductible amount for donations by the private sector be extended from 5% to 10% so as to encourage more philanthropy.

Conclusions.

The response by corporate entities, individuals, religious and cultural institutions to ease the burden on the people most affected by the COVID-19 lockdown shows that there is a lot of potential for philanthropy to improve the social welfare of Ugandans. The crisis has shown that Corporate management can be a substantial force for good: indeed “it is companies, not abstract economic forces or governments which create and distribute most of society’s wealth, innovate, trade and raise living standards.”^{xiii} Therefore, the government ought to recognize the potential of corporate philanthropy and make power conferring rules through which these corporate entities can obtain privileges as a result of engaging in philanthropy. A case in point is amending the income tax Act to provide for tax deductions on philanthropic efforts made by the private sector regardless of whether it is made to exempt organizations or not.

The Ugandan government can only so much. Instead of government being suspicious of non-government philanthropic actors and looking to control them, the government should put in place Ministry of health standing operation guidelines to enable them engage in philanthropy directly rather than leaving the state to be the only one to intervene on their behalf.

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ii Hutton v West Cork Rly Company (1883) 23 Ch D 654.

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iv Lennard’s carrying co ltd v Asiatic Petroleum ltd (1915) AC 705.

v Friedman M: The Social Responsibility of Business is to increase its profits, The New York Times Magazine, September 13, 1970.

vi John Shaw & sons ltd v Shaw [1935] 2 KB 113.

vii Leading Firms, <https://www.legal500.com/c/uganda/leading-firms/>.

viii Bowmans, ‘A brief guide to doing business in Uganda’, 2019, 8.

ix Section 5 of the Companies Act 2012.

x Barbara Nalweyiso, ‘Virus lockdown: MP Zaaake arrested for distributing relief food’, Daily Monitor, Sunday April 19, 2020, <https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Virus-lockdown-MP-Zaaake-arrested-distributing-relief-food/688334-5529128-7ar8yy/index.html> accessed on April 28, 2020 at 7:54 PM.

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With Young People In The Lead, The Future Of Giving In Uganda Couldn't Get Any Better.



- Benjamin Rukwengye
CEO, Boundless Minds

The organization that I lead, Boundless Minds, had been training university students and recent graduates on work-readiness for two years. Our reviews deduced that the need was greater than our methods and resources could meet.

If we were going to prepare every student in University and

we had run 40 Days Over 40 Smiles Foundation, arguably the leading youth-led crowd funded charity organization in Uganda. Galvanizing the goodwill of thousands of young people through social media, we had enabled over 3000 children born in vulnerable communities to access education, built dormitories, a library, hosted



Vocational school to make that transition from school-to-work, we would have to go online. Our dream was to build a digital mentorship platform that would open access to content and mentors to any student,

regardless of where they were. But we didn't have the money for it; and had been turned down by funders several times. So we turned to the public, in December 2019, and raised \$5000 to start building The Mentor – our dream platform. I was sure that we would raise this amount because for 7 years, together with a group of friends,

several medical camps, and run literacy camps.

On December 31, we hit the \$5000 mark to start building The Mentor. We were able to do this because young people on the internet, friends, strangers and acquaintances, showed up to see this dream come to life.

My suspicion, having led and participated in tens of fundraising campaigns, mobilizing youth to give of their time, resources, skills and networks is that Uganda ranks high up among the most philanthropic countries in the

world.

So when I sought out the CAF World Giving Index which measures giving behavior in a country, it was only to confirm my bias. The 10 year aggregated scores and ranking places Uganda in 35th position, with an overall score of 38%.

The index measures countries by proportion of population giving rather than how much they give. It relies on a simple averaging of the proportions of people who answer "Yes" to three key questions:

In the last month have you...

1. Helped a stranger, or someone you didn't know who needed help?
2. Donated money to a charity?
3. Volunteered your time to an organisation?

There is a tendency to equate giving and generosity with money. In a country such as Uganda where the youth component of the population continues to bulge, with thousands getting drawn into nonprofit work, asking these kinds of questions is important exactly because it puts youth at the centre of giving. It validates their time and skills and networks, which they so willingly give.

That's why now more than ever, you will have seen young people

involved in some way, in acts of philanthropy as a result of COVID-19 destabilization. From running social media campaigns rallying their peers to donate food items to vulnerable children and women in slum communities; supporting health workers with supplies or even volunteering to drop them off at work – when the ban on public transport was imposed – at the risk of their own lives.

Or throwing free online concerts so that everybody can stay still retain some semblance of sanity. Creating and sharing education content so that children, especially those from vulnerable backgrounds can

continue to learn and grow and hope even in this moment.

Or even pooling together to share their insights and expert knowledge on a broad range of topics, to help others learn and cope – through webinars, tweet chats, facebook live, zoom, et al. What's even more encouraging is the fact that you can bet on this spirit outliving the difficult times we currently face, even if youths will be the hardest hit – economically.

Older people are the least likely to help a stranger, particularly in the developed world. Without a lot of money to donate and a lot more time on their hands due to a shift in economic

activity, we shall probably see a lot more young people volunteering their time and talent.

Research shows that the older people get, the more they drift towards donating money and away from giving of their time and talent. In that regard, for a country as young as Uganda, you can bet on the future of philanthropy growing beyond levels that we can imagine. You should also hope that we capture and report data on all manner of giving – whether it be in fulfillment of social commitments, to keep others afloat, or just because.

Political Giving and the Politics of Giving in the Covidian Age .



- Andrew Karamagi
Lawyer and human Rights Activist



Vito Corleone raised his hands in surprise. “I am asking you a favour, only that. One never knows when one might need a friend, isn’t that true? Here, take this money as a sign of my goodwill and make your own decision.” He thrust the money into Mr. Roberto’s hand. “If you want the woman out of your house, how can I stop you? It’s your property, after all. If you don’t want the dog in there, I can understand. I dislike animals myself.” He patted Mr. Roberto on the shoulder. “Do me this service, eh? I won’t forget it. Ask your friends in the neighbourhood about me, they’ll tell you I am a man who believes in showing his gratitude.”

The Godfather

Summary

We Ugandans are a remarkably generous peoples. But it appears that the ruling political class and its oligarchs are stretching their luck and taking advantage of our giving culture. While the President scores political points and basks in the limelight, affecting the image of a great visionary, we are being fleeced. He has studiously avoided pertinent questions on public finance management specifically, and economic governance in general and recast himself as a humorous and affable grandpa. Yet nothing could be farther from the truth.

Detail

For a society as religious and communal as Uganda, giving is woven into our upbringing and social fabric, across ethnicities and status.

Car washes, marathons, food drives, fundraisers and other commonplace acts of charity confirm the national character of our largesse. The terminally ill, accident victims and disaster ravaged communities have gotten a fresh lease of life from these acts of solidarity.

In fact, it is not socially awkward for one to light their sigiri (earthenware stove) using hot coals from a neighbour’s kitchen. The same courtesy

extends to salt. A proverb exists in many dialects depicting how strong enmity between adjacent



homesteads must be if they cannot occasionally get salt from each other’s houses.

Amongst the higher classes, neighbours will give each other

food upon returning from a countryside trip just as farming communities in the countryside

share their harvest with neighbours.

The widely respected clergy and clerics of the most populous religious traditions have

ensured that almsgiving is etched into our psyche. And so when the raging typhoon of a runaway virus made landfall, it found a country that is culturally and socially inclined to weathering storms by pulling together. When the Commander-in-Chief sounded the drum, we responded. Corporations, cultural and religious organisations, academic institutions and individuals from all walks (including children), overwhelmingly answered the call to the tune of twenty-one billion shillings. Countrywide, district task forces are running the relief effort.

The operation run into headwinds when the Office of the Prime Minister—the nerve centre for disaster management and relief operations—hit an iceberg that exposed a multibillion scandal pertaining to the procurement and quality of the food rations.

It would soon be the turn of the National Assembly to endure a walk of shame as they appropriated over a trillion shillings with a sweetener of ten billion shillings for each legislator in the name of combating the spread of the virus.

Sensing the pulse of the public, the President distanced himself from the mess and threw the House under the yellow bus—

sparking off a row that has pitted an irate Speaker against the President. Court ruled the appropriation unlawful and halted the payments to parliamentarians. State House has kept the four hundred billion shillings it received as classified expenditure as did the security and intelligence community which was allotted up to eighty billion.

It is worth noting that anxiety and anger over the pace of government's food distribution has regularly ticked off unrest in several locations, requiring the intervention of law enforcement.

Opposition politicians whom the President decreed were barred from distributing food lest they be charged with “attempted murder” have mostly called his bluff. They have either donated to the authorities or altogether gone ahead and distributed rations. One such legislator is hospitalized, following an apparent ordeal of torture during detention.

Amidst the fog, two incidents have dampened the country's mood and swayed it towards a palpable but suppressed cynicism. The President made a personal donation of one million four hundred thousand shillings. This was followed by the Chairperson of the National Taskforce, Emmanuel Katongole, who asked salaried Ugandans do donate ten

thousand shillings each so as to plug a shortfall in the estimated 170 billion budget.

Majority Ugandans who are being asked by Emmanuel Katongole to make up the budget shortfall are living in uncertainty and on shoestring budgets. The corporate sector, which has led in donations, is at the same time laying off employees—a classic case of keeping up appearances.

For anyone, at such a time, to brazenly ask worried and desperate Ugandans for yet another contribution reveals the degree of aloofness that informs the thoughts and actions of our country's untouchables.

It also suggests that the otherwise reputable people who constitute the national taskforce and cabinet do not understand the essence of the social contract, which is what gives the state the right to impose taxes from which the billions of shillings already allocated are funded.

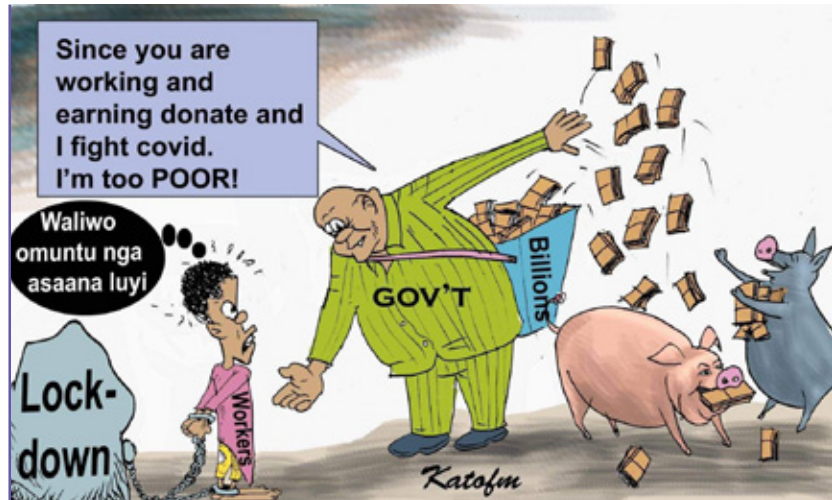
It is scandalous enough that more than a trillion has been stolen from us in one quarter—this handshake should not go beyond the elbow. Please don't

forget the 120 billion shillings that was given by the European Union!

The plot thickens when one remembers recent presidential donations to musicians Catherine Kusasira and Bebe Cool who were given 600 million apiece, Full Figure and Eddy Kenzo who received 300 million shillings each, Big Eye and DJ Michael who received 30 million each and the 100 million that was given to events promoter Balaam Barugahare.

Ugandans who are rightly questioning the audacity of a President who finds it fit to make a personal donation of one million four hundred thousand shillings to a national cause. That he and his colleagues expect the public to be gratified, yet his fingerprints have been found at many scenes of previous heists, reveals an acute case of hubris.

His penchant for bragging about how wealthy he is leaves a bad taste in the mouth at a moment like this. One would want to inquire into whether the sheer cost of delivering that paltry cheque, knowing the opulence of the president's motorcade and security detail, did not exceed the very donation he gave. It is an insult



for the president to donate such a negligible amount, only to be followed by an oligarch who leads the taskforce to ask Ugandans for more.

Moreover, in a country that is as steeped in cronyism as Uganda, only the gods know how much in tax breaks and other unofficial favours the multinationals and corporations that have donated vehicles and money are going to be rewarded with. The same to be recovered from already overtaxed Ugandans in fresh taxes due next month.

As it were, the national coffers are already losing one and a half trillion shillings annually in the tax holiday galore, ostensibly a policy measure that seeks to encourage investment and job creation as the same

investors cut wages and layoff employees! Meantime, another trillion, veiled as supplementary expenditure, has disappeared into the COVID-19 abyss.

The relative silence and modesty of ordinary Ugandans in the face of disaster is an act of civility—it should not be mistaken for idiocy, as Museveni routinely refers to Ugandans.

**“Kwiba zaburiire, nitakushekyerere.”
After destroying your garden, the birds should not add insult to injury by laughing at you.**



Plot 18, Balikuddembe Road, Naguru Kampala, Uganda
P.O Box 4310 Tel: +256 393 224 056
civsourceafrica.com | info@civsourceafrica.com