

Dear Partners, Welcome to the third Issue of this newsletter. We have lots of news to share with you this quarter, including the launch of the State of Alcohol Abuse in Uganda Report, 2013, updates about the IOC Prevention & Health Through Sports Project and new developments in the region, and upcoming meetings and conferences.

1. Local Prevention News

a) Child Trafficking and Migration

This year alone, UYDEL has received 33 children repatriated from outside the country including 3 cases from Asia. The numbers received from internal migration and trafficking have reached 215 children mainly withdrawn from commercial sexual exploitation, labor, and armed related conflicts. All these have been rehabilitated and resettled back to their communities. One thing we have learnt is that the staff needs a lot of time to help children deal with post stress traumatic disorders and lack of employable skills which often leads them to exploitation and abuse.

b) NGOs undertake training in Alcohol Policy Advocacy in Uganda

Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance (UAPA), an NGO network completed a one day training workshop in advocacy for effective alcohol policies on 21st August 2013 at Kolping Hotel in Kampala. The workshop was facilitated by Maik Düennbier the Policy and Communication Officer IOGT International. The theme of the training was advocacy for alcohol for regulation; what UAPA can do to address alcohol related harm and how to help children lead a life free from Alcohol. Uganda in the past has been ranked among the 10 worst drinking nations. The industry is trying to target children which are a cause for alarm. 14 participants from 10 NGOs attended the workshop.



Above: UAPA members attending the advocacy training workshop at Kolping Hotel

c) Mentor IOC Prevention and Health through Sports Project

The Prevention and Health through Sport project is funded by the International Olympic Committee and Mentor International, with support and endorsement from the Uganda Olympic Committee. The project aims at promoting and strengthening in young people a range of health attitudes and behaviors through an education process and by involvement with sport. The project has been piloted at the community level with 3 community based organizations working with boys and girls in the 14-18 year old age range, that is, UYDEL, Children's Rights Advocacy and Lobby Mission (CALM Africa) and Kanyanya Pioneer HIV/AIDS Prevention Center. Each organization has completed the 12-sessions of the Sports Resource manual and has reached out to over 120 young people. This project is implemented in partnership with Uganda National Olympic Committee. An evaluation of this project shall be undertaken by Jeff Lee mid September 2013.



Above: UYDEL trainees having both an indoor and outdoor session practical exercises

d) The State of Alcohol Report, 2013 finally launched

UYDEL together with Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance launched the State of alcohol abuse in Uganda, 2013 through a press briefing on 22nd August 2013 at Ibamba Restaurant. The report casts Uganda in a very precarious situation where children as early as six years can buy alcohol from retailers. There is a deliberate move by the industry to target children by distributing free alcohol in public spaces where minors are present, packaging of alcohol in sachets, unethical misleading adverts, lobbying for lower taxes all the time so that many people can consume alcohol, targeting food crops in the name of making cheap alcohol. The report appeals to government to raise taxes on all alcoholic beverages, review the Alcohol Act of 1966, and instituting an alcohol commission to oversee the proliferation, production and distribution of alcohol. This work is supported by IOGT-NTO. For details see full report on www.uysel.org.

Follow this link to see this newspaper article (<http://www.newvision.co.ug/news/646420-activists-want-another-5-tax-on-alcohol.html>)

Also See You Tube Link (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4i7-GZ6i80>) as covered by NTV

and You Tube Link (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9J3ees3aqY8>) as covered by Top Television



Above: Mr. Kasirye Rogers and Mr. Kalema David addressing the press during the launch of the State of Alcohol Report In Uganda Report, 2013.

e) Good practices interventions for adolescent commercial sex workers

A good practice in sexual reproductive health interventions for adolescent commercial sex workers in Uganda has been released. The good practice document is a product of three years intensive work of undertaking socio-economic re-integration of adolescent in Kampala. This report is useful for partners who want to undertake similar programmes in their areas of work. Please visit www.uydel.org for details.

f) Street Children and juvenile justice work

The number of children on the streets and slums has been increasing and the government appears to be overwhelmed by the numbers. UYDEL expanded its street children work. Last year 27 children were withdrawn from the streets and 39 children have been withdrawn from the streets from January to August 2013. In two years alone, 66 children have been withdrawn from juvenile detention centers, and the streets; rehabilitated, trained in vocational skills, and resettled. One of the interesting ways of withdrawing children is by picking a few, take them to the center, explain to them what happens and ask them if they want to join. One of the boys said *“I can stay in this place because am assured of food, and life has been hard on the streets sometimes going without food”*



Above L-R: UYDEL social workers identifying and reaching to some the street children in Kisenyi. Street children being guided by the social worker while touring the Masooli Rehabilitation center before admission.

g) Child Protection project

A new one year project to be linked to UYDEL Masooli rehabilitation center started thanks to the New York based Foundation. This project intends to strengthen child protection systems especially working with local leaders, teachers, parents, police, and sub county technical staff and local leadership. This project also intends to withdraw 100 children and provide vocational skills, entrepreneurship skills, and psychosocial support.

h) UYDEL Masooli Rehabilitation Center

UYDEL has continued to rehabilitate young people who are victims of trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, street children, drug abuse, homeless and other vulnerable categories of children. To date, UYDEL has rehabilitated over 300 young people; these have been resettled with their families and are undergoing industrial training with various artisan workshops.



Above: A cross section of young people during the behavioural change and life skills building group session at Masooli center.

2. Regional News- From Kenya

President Uhuru Kenyatta urged the Treasury to allocate more resources for prevention and control of alcohol and drug abuse during the opening of the NACADA conference in June 2013: President Uhuru called upon county governments to play a frontline role in the control of alcohol and drugs as set out in the Constitution. County governments should enhance collaboration with NACADA so as to reach out to communities more effectively. He appealed to the leaders, both in Government and in the community, which *“we must take seriously the responsibility of ensuring that our youth are not exposed to drugs”*. He also urged the Treasury to allocate more resources for prevention and control of alcohol and drug abuse, and to seek innovative ways of securing bilateral funding that would increase NACADA’s resource base in order to scale up the campaign against alcohol and drug abuse in the country. For details see links below;

<http://www.statehousekenya.go.ke/speeches/uhuru/june2013/2013100601.htm>

<http://www.statehousekenya.go.ke/news/june2013/2013100601.htm>

3. Upcoming Conferences and meetings

- A public dialogue on the State of alcohol abuse with the theme: ***Targeting children, food shortage and harm to others-the hidden cost of the alcohol industry*** is scheduled on 18th August 2013.
- A regional conference for East African countries on understanding best practices in social economic re-integration of youth involved in commercial sex work is scheduled at end of October 2013. It is being supported by French Development Agency, ECPAT France and UYDEL. Dates shall be communicated in due course.
- A meeting of the Uganda Coalition against Trafficking in Persons on 5th September 2013.
- GAPA conference with the theme: From Local and national action to Global change in Seoul, South Korea from 7th to 9th October 2013.

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You are encouraged to subscribe to the Mentor Prevention Update (www.mentorfoundation.org/prevention-update) or sign up at www.preventionhub.org to receive the FREE fortnightly Prevention Update offering a unique update on what is happening in the world of drug abuse prevention