

WorldGranny

*toekomst voor
generaties*



WorldGranny Annual Report 2019

WorldGranny Foundation Annual Report 2019

Since 2004, WorldGranny is the Dutch non-profit organization dedicated to the quality of life of older people worldwide. With a total turnover of almost 7 million euros, we have been able to support ten thousands of older people and their (grand)children in small scale projects in Africa, Asia and Latin-America between 2004 and 2016. In 2017 we wrote a substantive report on the activities WorldGranny had undertaken in the 12 years since its start. We noticed the meaningful progress towards achieving the main Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and addressed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which sets the vision for the next 15 years of global action. These Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include the unfinished business of the MDGs but address a wider, truly global agenda.

In many regions, especially in Africa, HIV/Aids has still an enormous impact on the population. The Dutch Grannies2Grannies group continues to support local NGOs, especially in Uganda, where new houses are being built for grandmothers who support their orphaned grandchildren. Taking all this into account, WorldGranny decided to continue working on the SDG and aging agenda as WorldGranny Social Enterprise. The activities of the WorldGranny Foundation, which faced challenges with respect to fundraising, will be geared towards emergency assistance and incidental project support. A strategic decision was made to no longer actively fundraise, but support projects with the existing funds and recently made donations.

Since 2017 WorldGranny is partnering up with the Ugandan NGO URICT that create an enabling environment for 50 grannies in Kamuli Eastern Uganda and implement the so-called Pink Butterfly Project and this project has been the main focus in 2019 as well.

1. URICT – A ray of hope to the grandmothers

Introduction

WorldGranny has supported URICT in their efforts to create an enabling environment for the grandmothers that looked after their orphaned HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren. They titled their endeavour: *The Pink Butterfly Project, A ray of hope to Grandmothers*. After detailed research and baseline studies, at the beginning of 2017 URICT, embarked on designing a comprehensive project which was intended to empower and create an enabling environment for grannies looking after their Orphaned HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren. As a growing organization, URICT has suffered some challenges especially with ability to fundraise, since they still have a small funding base but all in all the impact is visible on the ground.

URICT is creating an enabling environment for older women in Kamuli.

Since the beginning of this year URICT to reach out to over 100 grannies in Kamuli, this was after detailed research and baseline studies earlier on in 2017 which translated into URICT embarking on designing and developing a comprehensive project which empowering and create an enabling environment for grannies looking after their Orphaned HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren.

The Program aimed at empowering grandmothers, whose children died because of HIV/AIDS and who now have a full-time parent role to raise and look after their HIV/AIDS orphans. This project was developed as a response to dramatic increase in the number of children living without their parents due to HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kamuli. Many of the children targeted by the project are orphans taking care of their fellow children, while others are under the care of needy grandmothers with a burden of poverty and related challenges.



To address the challenges faced by grandmothers and their orphaned grandchildren, UNRICT has managed to do many activities since the beginning of the project. Underneath, you'll find their report over the year 2019.



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URICT - Uganda's Report on the Pink Butterfly Grannies' project – funded by WorldGranny – the Netherlands 2019/June-2020

A ray of hope to Grandmothers

Robin Mukyala 79 lost all her five Children to HIV/AIDS. She was left with 13 Grandchildren. She was selected as one of the beneficiaries of the project together with other 99 grandmothers taking care of orphaned grandchildren.

She was pleased to have been selected to benefit from the project and was happy to learn that at least URICT has waived her abandon of providing for the Orphans. URICT provided her with food supplements such soya beans, milk that made her remember the golden days when her children would provide such to her. She had lost hope of ever testing such food staff, which had made her malnourished and weak. On a weekly basis, a volunteer nurse visits her to asses her health and to which she is proud of.

She was also given seed, she mobilised her grand children to help in the garden and confesses that food no longer a major problem in her home.

The Pink Butterfly Project (PBP) with a keen goal to create an enabling Environment for the Grannies who are taking care of their HIV/AIDS orphaned Children.

Half year Report July 2019 - January/2020

1.0 Introduction:

URICT, with funding from World Granny – The Netherlands, successfully implemented the Pink Butterfly Project (PBP) for the period July/2019 - January/2020. As a growing organization, URICT has suffered some capacity challenges but all in all the impact is visible on the ground. All the Grannies and their orphaned grandchildren are proud to have witnessed the different interventions URICT designed in this Pink Butterfly Project.

Beginning of July/2019 saw URICT embark on a 6 months PBP with continued financial support from World Granny – The Netherlands. In mid of 2019 URICT proposed to World Granny a program expansion, where World Granny once again came me with more additional support towards the Grannies program. World Granny went ahead and provided €5,000 Euros for this program.

Pink Butterfly Project (PBP) - Highlights

The Program aimed at empowering Grandmothers and their HIV/AIDS affected grandchildren in Busota Village Kamuli District.

This project was developed as a response to dramatic increase in the number of orphaned children living with their grannies due to HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kamuli. Many of the grannies and their grandchildren targeted by the project are the poorest among the poor and without the support of World Granny, they are no other way they can sustain themselves.

There an old time saying, it takes a Village to raise a child, however the times have changed, diseases like HIV/AIDS and other sicknesses are claiming the youthful and able working class, leaving the villages with the elderly women and men. URICT Uganda has witnessed over the years that the grannies have been unwillingly handed over the full responsibility of looking after their owned grand children. Its heart breaking to learn that, the elderly like grannies also need support themselves. Yet even with nothing, they still have to stand strong and be counted to provide for their children, in the end they are forced to an early grave with their grandchildren because of starvation and disease.

There is where URICT – Uganda decided to come in and break this unforgiving circle of struggle and suffering. Since 2018, URICT has been partnering with WorldGranny – The Netherlands to create an enabling environment for the grannies, so that they can be able to provide for themselves and their orphaned grandchildren. Ample evidence indicates that elderly women have taken on the responsibility of looking after their orphaned grandchildren, this happens mainly after the death of their parents. However though these grannies are weak and poor, but when empowered they are able to look after their grandchildren.

In Kamuli just like other communities, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of children living without their parents due to HIV/AIDS epidemic. Many of these orphaned children become dependants on their extended families often already over burdened and in poverty. With the increasing death of adult sons and daughters, old people especially grandmothers are left as the sole caretakers of their orphaned grandchildren.

Despite their poverty and vulnerability, grandparents have important roles within their communities and if supported and empowered can contribute to their Families and communities in poverty reduction and prevention of HIV/AIDS spread

To address the challenges faced by grandmothers and their orphaned grandchildren, the project has managed to do the following;

1. Economic empowerment (food security) through provision of agricultural incentives to grandmothers. Grandmothers have been empowered to become active members within their communities through revival of their skills and experience. URICT provided grandmothers with agricultural equipment such as hand hoes, and seeds that enabled them to increase on household food, as well as providing them with information on market. On the other hand URICT has provided food supplement to needy and weak grandmothers unable to engage in agriculture related activities.

60 grannies have successfully completed their Training Program as peer educators, so that they can pass on the knowledge in skills in first aid when their grand children get attacks in situations where there is no doctor and each was equipped with the tools needed to do the work. More seven⁷ are still training and they should be ready to serve by the end of this month/June. Each granny has the skills & knowledge, vital contacts, a medical box, a phone and support from URICT Team. We refer them as village community health workers and they are so happy that we added this component to this program. They help each while also passing on knowledge and skills to prevent diseases among themselves and their grandchildren. We have focused on using locally available herbs and bush medicinal trees.

2. We have distributed to the 25kilos of maize/corn seeds, 15 kilos of soya beans, 20 kilos of kidney beans, 10 kilos of millet seeds, cassava trees/seedlings, and potatoes leaf/seedlings, banana seedlings to each of the selected 600 grannies.
3. Each of the hundred grannies was supposed to prepare their farm fields by a team of the 60 youth friends. We created the 45 youth volunteer team, which we named friends of the grannies. These are strong able young men and women, who we have trained and prepared to offer labour to the grannies. It's a way of growing a generation of young people who love and appreciate the struggles of the grannies.
4. We are so far reached over 214 locals (including politicians, local councils, village elders, church leaders etc) to create awareness about the plight of the grannies. In so doing we intend to attract more people to support the grannies in Busoga Eastern Uganda. Our Hon. Member of Parliament – Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament Rebecca Alitwala has pledged to bring the issue to the Ugandan parliament and re-cause the debt where the Ugandan Government gives a monthly support to all the registered grannies in Uganda. We are strictly following up on this matter and we are already getting media attention on the same.
5. Each of the 60 selected grannies has been trained on animal husbandry and how to run it like a business, yet how the animal waste can be used in their farm fields. Each granny, has received has received 3 goats, 4 piglets and 10 chicken. In this effect we have 4 extension volunteer workers who give reach out services to the grannies. This is a key component of the project, and since it's intended for income generation, URICT

has kept a keen eye on each of the animals and the birds, to avoid any mortality.

6. We have distributed farm tools and each of the selected 60 grannies have received a set of tools which include; - pangas, hoes, garden forks, cutters, etc. These are tools which can be used for a prolonged period of time.
7. We continue to train the grannies and the locals in WASH to avoid water borne disease. Sanitation & Hygiene. A number of sessions have been held with individual household on how to improve on their sanitation and hygiene. In addition each household has been provided with soap, basins, mosquito nets, and jerry cans. This in turn has contributed to reduction in sickness amongst the targeted households. URICT has observed that the sanitation and hygiene in households targeted by the project have improved at least each of the households with a pit latrine and with registered decrease in incidences of preventable diseases.

Other supplementary activities complementing this project.

- i. Provision of School requirements to 190 Orphans & Vulnerable Children (OVCs) under the care of their grand mothers. Through Educational Support Program. This includes provision of Books, Pens, Pencils, School Uniforms, and Shoes etc. This has enabled many OVCs to attend School, which could have been impossible without URICT's immediate interventions. It should be noted that, although government of Uganda caters partly for school fees for all children in primary schools, parents are expected to meet other needs such as school uniform, exercise books, pencils and mid day meals. Most orphaned children are unable to meet the above, which excludes them from accessing education.
- ii. Addressing the impact of HIV/AIDS. The project has equipped OVCs & Grannies with skills to manage HIV related challenges through awareness creation and sensitisation. URICT has worked with 120 households headed by grandmothers and equipped them with information on prevention and care of HIV/AIDS, provided counselling and guidance support, as well as referring them to other service providers for professional assistance like ARVs.
- iii. 2 Bicycle Ambulance, which are helping households of the Grannies in Busota to access the Health Services in a distance of 15KM. Busota, is inaccessible place, with poor roads. So the Bicycle Ambulance came in as a saviour.
- iv. Fighting of tropical malaria (a major killer in Africa) by provision of 550 Mosquito nets

1.1 Recap on the Objectives of Pink Butterfly Project:

On the eve of the Project kick-off URICT set out to implement the 12 months Pink Butterfly Project with the following Objectives:-

Situation on completion July/2020

- ✓ Create food security for 120 granny headed households
- ✓ Access to better Health & Care including Access to WASH for the selected 120 granny headed households.
- ✓ The Busota Community mainly Grannies and OVCs are accessing the nearest Hospital in 15-20KM for Health services using the bicycle ambulances.
- ✓ 120+ Grannies are supplied with supplements of food on a monthly basis.
- ✓ 120+ Grannies are trained in HIV/AIDS Care, Prevention, Mitigation and Support.

- ✓ 120+ Grannies are supplied with Seeds and Garden Tools in a bid to secure food security in their homes. (Agriculture incentives)
- ✓ Supported Grannies access Markets for their local produce of agriculture.
- ✓ Provided Mosquito Nets to 190 OVCs & 120+ Grannies to prevent tropical malaria fever.
- ✓ Access to Education for the orphaned grandchildren of the selected grannies.

With the aforementioned objectives, URICT's activities have been geared towards the fulfilment of the PBP Project's goals and/or objectives.

The Busota Community mainly Grannies and OVCs are accessing the nearest Hospital in 15-20KM for Health services using the bicycle ambulances.

Busota is a remote Village, almost inaccessible; the nearest hospital is in 15-20KM. This Village has got many Grannies & OVCs. The Village is highly affected by HIV/AIDS. The PBP Project realized that in an effort to offer a holistic approach to support the OVCs and the Grannies, there is need to ease the accessibility to the nearest Health Centers. In so doing PBP secured two bicycle ambulances to be transporting the OVCs & Grannies to the Hospital.

In last 6 months, the 2 bicycle ambulances have transported 216 grannies to the nearest Hospital. Had it not ***been these 2 bicycle ambulances, chances are high that the lives of these 146 patients could have been left on*** line. So access to health services has been attain above even our imagination

120+ Grannies are supplied with supplements of food on a monthly basis.

Feeding the OVCs at the same time when you are a very old woman who can not fend for themselves properly, yet when your Son or daughter died because of HIV/AIDS, hence they (OVCs) where technically left for you to look after (them) is always a big challenge in a community like Busota.

In so doing PBP designed a system to supply food supplements to the 80+ Grannies for a period of 6months as we develop their capacity to be able to secure food security in their homes/families. On a monthly basis, (some times 2 twice a month) PBP supplies, Sugar, Milk, Soya Flour, Millet Flour, Rice, Cooking Oil etc.

This has helped the Grannies supplement their food. In so doing their health and that of the OVCs has improved.

I am very grateful to URICT for the support they have given me since my parents died. Upon the death of my parents, my uncle who was left to take care of me, sold all the property left by my father and ran away, then my granny – Alice took me on but still we were homeless. Even when URICT picked me up, I did not trust them, but with time, I realised that they were friendly and supportive. I had lost hope that I would go back to school after spending a year out of school. I have now finished Primary seven and passed with 14 aggregates. My dream is to become a teacher.

Bakali Yusuf 15yrs

120+ Grannies are trained in HIV/AIDS Care, Prevention, Mitigation and Support.

The Grannies always have an HIV/AIDS patient they are looking after in their Home. This means they need immediate basic education on HIV/AIDS in order to properly care and look after the sick (HIV/AIDS)

PBP trained all the Grannies in HIV/AIDS; they are now well equipped with knowledge and skills on how to look after the patients of HIV/AIDS. This activity was conducted in Busota Kamuli and surrounding areas. It was well attended by all sorts of people. It was done in an outreach manner.

120+ Grannies are supplied with Seeds and Garden Tools in a bid to secure food security in their homes. (Agriculture incentives)

Giving the Grannies, food supplies today and not being in position to give them tomorrow isn't a sustainable approach. It's like giving a man fish and you don't teach him to fish.

It was so called for to develop a strategy where food security is secured in the families of the Grannies.

PBP supplied seeds/crops for planting and farm garden tools to the Grannies depending on rainy seasons. Grannies have had 2 harvests, hence reducing on the PBP program costs of the monthly food supplies to the Grannies.

However the recent strong winds and storms in Eastern Uganda, heavily affected the grannies gardens, which has threatened the long waited total food security among the grannies.

Supported Grannies access Markets for their local produce of agriculture.

After securing food security for the Grannies there is a need to put place a source of income for the Grannies, we want to help them use the agriculture produce to attain some income.

So in program of market access, we are already in partnership with 2 Eastern Giants Agriculture Produce Buyers who offering a better deals to the Grannies for their agriculture products.

Promoted self esteem for 190 Orphans directly affected by HIV/AIDS

URICT planned and implemented the promotion and development of self esteem among 190 OVCs. The 190 OVCs in different Schools in Busota Kamuli were organized into small groups in their respective schools. In these different groups they were trained in life skill planning, living for a purpose. They were supported to respect their lives and care for them. This activity went further to help them develop different skills in sports and games. The teachers in these Schools where our OVCs go to, were also trained and supported to respect the OVCs with all their shortfalls. The different schools were also trained and supported in handling the OVCs.

This activity was conducted in Busota Primary School, Kabukye Primary School, Butabaala Primary School, and Namisabya Primary. Verona Collage, St. John Bosco, Kabukye Senior Secondary School, Mwiri Primary School, Magwa Primary and Busota.

A total of 190 OVCs were the direct beneficiaries, 63 Teachers were also directly reached and secondary beneficiaries and the general schools were also thirdly reached through the on & off program in order to effectively create an impact of self esteem on the directly targeted 190 OVCs.

On a small key low note in January/2020 as it had been set, URICT started assessing the immediate impact of this activity and the following was found out;-

- That the ***performance of the 190 OVCs in classes*** had started increasing. This was realized through School Term Reports and Performance Reports from the Teachers and the Schools. This can only be attributed to the SELF ESTEEM activity. Because fear, worries, bullying, abuses etc always affect the performance of the Children in Class. The OVCs have got a lot of problems right from their homes to the School. They are always referred to as a social disgrace by their fellow Children at School. So when URICT came in with this program a lot changed e.g.; - Children at Schools started loving the OVCs this love came with a lot of respect and attachment to one another in the Children. Also the teachers supplemented the activity by encouraging further the OVCs and other Children in School, hence having an immediate impact on the performance of the Children in these different Schools.
- **Talent *Development in Sports & Games***: The OVCs have also started engaging themselves in the different School Programs for example sports and games. When the OVCs talents in sports and games are realized, chances are high that they will become useful people in society.
- **Teachers respecting the OVCs**: It has also been noted that the teachers have come to learn how to handle these special cares of OVCs in School.
- **Creation of peer educators in the Schools**: These Schools have moved an extra mile to create Peer Educators clubs in these Schools. Pupils/students help each other to copy with the psycho- emotional challenges they face in the large community.

190 Orphans (140 in Primary & 50 in Secondary) are proudly attending Classes in different Schools in Kamuli.

The PBP Project set targets at its onset, this involved supporting the OVCs who can't afford to pay School fees or any school dues contributions (please note that the Government of Uganda also

contributes to the Primary & Secondary Education Program by paying the basic school fees for all school going age Children. However because of a big number the government can't afford paying for meals and other related direct school expenses. At the same time the standard of education in these public schools have totally gone down due to poor salary payments in these Schools) This called on URICT with her PBP project to make a immediate intervention.

We are proud to report to you that 190 OVCs are attending School. These OVCs are being taken care of by the Grannies. 140 OVCs are in primary & 50 OVCs are in Senior Secondary Schools.

Assessing the immediate impact of the activity.

Its not easy to measure the immediate impact of the activity. Its' clear to URICT and her PBP project that within the next 2 years, 50% of the 140 Primary OVCs will be graduating to Senior Secondary Level or Vocational School Level, while 75% of the 50 OVCs in Senior Secondary Level will be graduating to University or Tertiary Institution Level.

However interlinking with the self esteem activity chances are high that these OVCs will perform so well in Schools and hence become useful citizens in Uganda and the world at large.

190 are with all the basic Scholastic Materials to ease their learning process at School. (Books, Pens, Pencils, Makers, School Bags, Calculators, Shoes, Uniforms etc)

Interrelated with **the above** URICT with her PBP has dedicatedly supported the 190 OVCs with alls sorts of Scholastic Materials these range from books, pens/pencils, colours etc, School Uniforms, Shoes/Stocks, School Bags, calculators etc to MTC Sets & Text books.

The **assessment of this activity on its importance on the community** is that the love for going to School among these OVCs has increased because of the ease in going to School and having all the requirements to study comfortably. This has also helped them to improve on their performance at School

Raised awareness on HIV/AIDS among the targeted the School Communities were OVCs attend.

As a way of making her impact sustainable in different communities, URICT set out to reach to 12 Schools where our OVCs go in order to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. We targeted 8 Senior Secondary Schools and 4 Primary Schools.

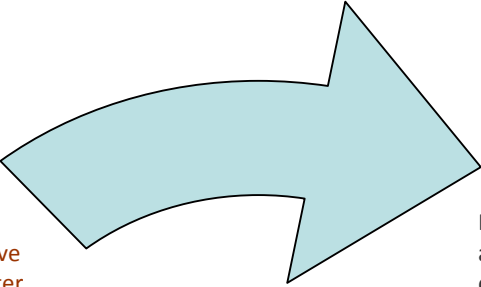
The issue of care, prevention and mitigation were over emphasized. It's clear to URICT that 96% of the targeted OVCs became Orphans after the death of their Parents caused by HIV/AIDS.

So we don't want our OVCs to become also victims unless they were born with the HIV/AIDS virus. At the same time, we want to equip the Schools with Skills on how to cover for the HIV/AIDS patients.

The importance of this activity is priceless, its creating a sense of awareness among the School Communities, now the School understand that it's a social problem which everyone should get involved in to fight.

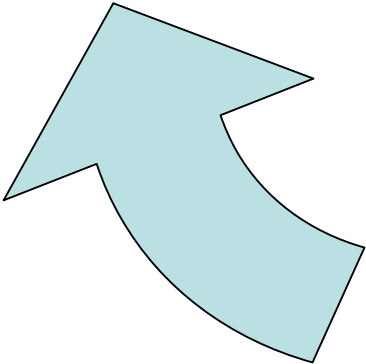
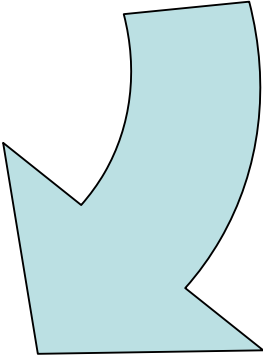
We are certain; ***in future this will check the spread of HV/AIDS*** among these School Children.

Also with the skills in care, ***the OVCs can now look after their HV/AIDS*** affected Grannies, Guardians, and relatives.



Now the daughters (Sex Workers) are willing to have unsafe sex because of better payments, they get pregnant and HIV/AIDS. When they die of HIV/AIDS they leave behind Orphans, without anybody to take care

Now the Orphans, without anywhere to go, they have no choice but to go back to the Village to live with their Grannies. Which grannies are poor, they don't know how to look after HIV/AIDS positive living, they have no food, yet they are too old.



Grannies! Producing their daughters, who never get a chance to go to School to get Education in order to get a job. They become sex working to earn a living

URICT comes in to hold this crisis in check

Provided Mosquito Nets to 190 OVCs & 120+ Grannies to prevent tropical malaria fever.

It's not only HIV/AIDS which is claiming many lives of Africans but also Malaria is doing the same. So PBP supplied Mosquito Nets to 190 OVCs & 120+ grannies.

This has checked the ever increasing tropical malaria.

Other Activities:

- ***More than 75% of the 200 youths have acquired basic skills in SRH for health living***
- ***Organized 24 out-reach to encourage the community to be supportive and help the youths move out of Sex Trade.***
- ***Sensitization on alternative economic resource access/activities to more than 75% of the targeted 200 youths***
- ***The Vocational & Life Skill Training Project has not yet kicked off due to limited resources.***

URICT participated in the in World AIDS's day.

URICT participated in the World AIDS's day. During the event saw URICT put up a stall to exhibit and demonstration our activities to the people who attended the function. Condom use

education, demonstration, distribution, music dance and drama on SRHR & HIV/AIDS were also put a cross to make a point on our program activities. On site VCT was also done. URICT also presented a paper to the District Chairman about the challenges of Grannies and the OVCs.

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

History and background of URICT

URICT is a Non Profit, Non Government Organization registered as an NGO by the NGO board in Uganda Prior to registering a NGO, URICT had been registered as CBO in Jinja & Kamuli.

URICT's Values

There are five values or beliefs, which underpin our work and guide our behaviour. The values act as benchmarks for guiding our partnership, actions and behaviour. We believe that, if followed fully, the values shall enable the world to become a better world. Our beliefs include:

Equality: We believe that all human beings should have equal access to opportunities and participation. We believe that women and children have been marginalised and therefore, we will deliberately work for benefit of these categories of people in our society.

Integrity: We believe in transparency and have zero-tolerance for corruption in our organisation and in the process of doing our work

Participation: We believe in participation of our stakeholders in decisions that shape their lives. In this way we manage to harness the potential that the marginalised groups have for their own development.

Self Determination. We believe that we are local NGO, with a local but global development agenda. We believe in protecting our autonomy; and setting and driving our own agenda.

Learning: We believe that development is a process, with no blue prints but an exploratory process. We therefore seek to learn from what, why, and how we do it in our organisations and communities. We believe that learning should be the agenda of networking and partnership among development actors in the world

The Pink Butterfly Project is revised and additional support is put up by WORLD GRANNY.

URICT was overwhelmed by the turn-up of the Grannies & OVCs. The number almost doubled. There was also an event of theft, which attracted the police, to arrest one of our Grannies. This prompted URICT to get back to WORLD GRANNY for more support.

URICT & Rape Hurts Foundation (RHF)

URICT has kept on receiving technical capacity building from RHF. This Organizational Development support has helped URICT consider looking into many of her strategies, policies and conduct.

Evaluation

Much as there has been some on-going small time activity internal evaluation, URICT deems it fit to carry out a detailed and external evaluation of her activities at the end of the project.

Lessons learnt

During the implementation of the activities URICT has learnt a couple of lessons;-

- Every activity needs a well thought strategy if URICT wants an overwhelming impact at the end of the project period. These new strategies developed by URICT have been very wonderful in the implementation.
- The out reach activity of going public with HIV/AIDS has a high potential as an IEC Strategy.
- URICT needs a better funding raising strategy to raise enough funds for her programs.
- Donors need to be kept on every development of the project.
- Grannies & OVCs are highly vulnerable and face many challenges.

Conclusion:

URICT appreciates all the funding from WORLD GRANNY and appeals for more support both technical and financial in order to properly phase out the program, as she (URICT) looks around for more support

URICT – Uganda Administrative Structure as at 2019/2020

