



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE: A CASE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM IN UGANDA

BY

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# Rationale for the presentation



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- ❖ Sharing best practices with respect to Community involvement



# Background information



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- ❖ Pre-colonial period/Dispute resolution
- ❖ Prior to 1962 – Colonial period
- ❖ Period 1962 – 1996(Kampala declaration)
- ❖ Community Service 2001-2007: Implementation & Outcomes(legislation, structures & rollout)
- ❖ Community service 2008 – 2013(Community actively involved)





- ❖ Strength: Uganda government interventions(2001-2007): legislation, investments, institutions, sensitization had been done
- ❖ Weaknesses: Negative perception by the public, high abscondment rates, little public participation, low numbers of CS Projects, judicial officers not being motivated to issue CSO...Low CSO.
- ❖ Opportunities: Positive perception of CS where there is public involvement, Willingness of the community to participate
- ❖ Challenges: Resources



# Why the interventions were adopted



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- ❖ Persistent low performance
- ❖ Minimal involvement of the Community
- ❖ Relevancy of CS
- ❖ Evidence of performance where there was community involvement/projects
- ❖ Persistent negative perception
- ❖ Negative perception by judicial officers



- ❖ Strategy: Case study
- ❖ Data collection: Lit Rev, Interview guide, Consultations, Documentary review
- ❖ In-house assessment
- ❖ Community/Public Think Tank

# Strategies applied



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- ❖ Community involvement in the assessment.
- ❖ Community bench marking.
- ❖ Community Supervision.
- ❖ Community Peer support.
- ❖ Community representation at the DCSC/JLOS.
- ❖ Community Initiated Projects.
- ❖ CSO's involvement.
- ❖ Community led Volunteerism
- ❖ Partnership with legal aid practitioners/CSOs.
- ❖ Community taking the lead in sensitization awareness.

# Lessons



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- ❖ Community involvement at all levels
- ❖ Community based projects
- ❖ Encourage communities to start their own CS Projects
- ❖ Culture should be considered when designing interventions
- ❖ Bench marking within the community as first priority
- ❖ Community based rehabilitation schemes be incorporated
- ❖ Community awareness to take center stage
- ❖ Community involvement in the design of the strategies



# Conclusion



- ❖ Community involvement is fundamental
- ❖ Community involvement should move hand in hand with Legislation & Institutionalization
- ❖ Community Bench marking as first priority, thereafter in the region/Outside/profession



End of my presentation

Thank you



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