



MY NEW NORMALS

PROJECT PROPOSAL

KAYUNGA COMMUNITY CLUB
PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT

ACRONYMS

SHGs – Self Help Groups

SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals

NGO(s) – Non Governmental Organisation(s)

PrEP - HIV Prevention Pre-exposure Prophylaxis

GBV – Gender Based Violence

CFOs – Community Facilitating Organisations

UN – United Nations

PSC – Project Steering committee

RA-M&E – Resource Agency Monitoring and Evaluation

AWP – Annual Work Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Title	MY NEW NORMALS
Donor Name	
Name of Organization	KAYUNGA COMMUNITY CLUB
Registration Number	5096/2018
Telephone Number	0787526668/0703189186/0702341553
	kayungacommunityclub@gmail.com
Email Proposed Budget	UGX 67,393,000, USD 19,000

Project Summary: The project **My New Normals** is a project set to be implemented in Kayunga-Uganda.

The project builds on the social empowerment processes initiated under that seeks to adopt an integrated approach in Kayunga to strengthen simultaneously all the key dimensions of widows' empowerment – social, economic and leadership. The project's immediate objective is: "By 2025, widows supported by the project in Kayunga to achieve a secure and enhanced income and effectively participate and contribute to decision-making in domestic and public spheres".

Located within the widows' empowerment framework, the project will execute the following strategies: (a) Diversify economic opportunities and choices that lead to sustainable increase in their household incomes and enable them to play an enhanced and strategic role in the economic sphere; (b) Expand the process of social mobilization to cover 40,000 widows organized in self-help groups all over Kayunga and neighboring areas ; and (c) enhancing leadership participation and representation of widows so that they contribute effectively in local decision-making and demand quality public services.

The project will bring to the widows and their groups high quality technical and advisory services and will link them with other local administration, financial institutions and technical agencies to access information and additional resources. The project will support establishment of strong institutions and networks of widows with the capacity to sustain the results beyond the project period.

The project will establish strong linkages with the State Government to advocate on widows' empowerment issues within the overall function of poverty reduction and livelihood promotion of the poor. It will also engage with local administration and state government to widely replicate successful strategies tested in the project areas across all the regions.

Overall, the project is designed to contribute to achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 1: No poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger, SDG 3: Good health and well-being, SDG 4: Quality education, SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth, SDG 10: Reduced inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions and SDG 17: partnership for the goals.

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The My New Normals project aims to create a society where widows attain; Economic Empowerment, inclusion and participation in the society with the ability to cater for their needs and sustain their livelihoods. Through the research we conducted we recognized that widowhood and single motherhood is one of the critical factors that forces women left behind into poverty, neglect and abandonment. It also recognized the inter-linkages between children drop out of school education, health, women's empowerment, household indebtedness and prevalent social issues linked to gender and social discrimination. Kayunga Community Club has developed a women's empowerment component largely involved the formation of SHGs to make women economically self-reliant, open avenues of self-employment and income generation and reduce household debt. The empowerment component is also meant to empower widows improve their technical skills by encouraging vocational training.

The SHG component is deemed successful in organizing widows and single mothers, getting them to meet together on a regular basis, creating awareness on a range of women's rights and social issues, providing credit to members at lower rates of interest as compared to moneylenders who charge high rates and fostering a positive attitude within the groups for change and development.

The social and leadership participation and involvement component will encourage and involve widow participation in organized social activities and cultural festival events organized annually to encourage widows' involvement and participation in social activities and promote widows and women's rights at large. From other researches the status of widows and in the East African community which includes Ugandan widows face extreme poverty, starvation, rape, HIV/AIDS, seizure of their homes and possessions, and social exclusion, the deprivation they face have been invisible to the public and policy makers. While their children often have to endure extreme poverty, illiteracy, child labour, prostitution or enforced labour or are used as bargaining chips to strip widows of their economic assets and rights. Collectively, and through no fault of their own, they have little hope of reversing a life of ever diminishing options.

There is lack of communication lines between widowed women and the concerned institutions and authorities for voicing their challenges/demands.

The level of awareness among widowed women about their entitlements under government programs/schemes is critically low. There is also little evidence of community's involvement in monitoring service delivery to them.

Based on these findings, Kayunga Community Club has come up with the My New Normals project to strengthen the economic, social dimension of widow's empowerment in Kayunga.

Widowhood context

The Loomba Foundation Global Widows Report in 2015 stated that there are 258,481,056 million widows around the world and 584,574,358 children of widows (children under age 18 and adult children).

The Loomba Foundation has estimated that in 2015, approximately 38,261,345 million widows and , or 14.8% of all widows, live in extreme poverty where basic needs go unmet; this is a minimum estimate. Uganda is ranked 33rd worldwide among the countries where widows live a devastated lifestyle with approximately 5 million widows and 50% of families in Uganda are single parent households subjected to extreme poverty, starvation, rape, HIV/AIDS, seizure of their homes/possessions, and social exclusion.

Economic empowerment of widows is key to achieving, not only human rights but also attaining the SDGs5 of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

Resource factor

It is clear that the paucity of research and policy attention has a concrete role in sustaining widows deprivation as an extreme form of poverty. It has also been shown by previous campaigning experience that while local NGOs do the work that matters on the ground, they are limited in the scale of their impact due to lack of resources.

Ugandan context

With changing living standards and upcoming lifestyle diseases including alcoholism, diabetes, liver, HIV and kidney failures, cancer and uncontrollable number of accidents taking men's lives every day before they reach a prime age, there is a great epidemic that is becoming evident in Uganda. Statistics show that of every coffin on a truck travelling on the Kampala – Kayunga road, 3 of these are men. These therefore leave young wives and young children with no one to take care of them.

There is no group more affected by the sin of omission than widows. They are painfully absent from the statistics of many developing countries and are rarely mentioned in the multiple numerous sample reports on women's education, health, poverty, development or human rights published in the last 25 years yet they occupy a significant percentage of the total population of our country. There has also been a growing evidence of their vulnerability in their socio-economic and psychological statuses. Across a wide range of cultures, widows are subject to harsh patriarchal customary and religious laws and confront all kinds of discrimination. Many also suffer from exploitation, abuse, violence and stigmatization. This now urgently calls for attention at all levels of society, given the extent and severity of the challenges widows' experience.

This urgency is constantly increased by the fact that there is an increasing number of widows in the country every single day. Our country is yet to be researched deeply, documented and squarely addressed by non-governmental organizations committed to safeguard and fight for the rights of women.

There is a serious gap and need for comprehensive research that needs to be done concerning widows' statuses in terms of health and finances not leaving behind advocating for their rights and increasing their participation (that is unrestricted by culture or social status) in politics, decision making processes, sports, arts , music, among others.

There is a need to empower and help the widows in the country access justice, gain skill that will bring income which will in turn create positive direct impact on their livelihoods, participate in decision making processes, and be recognized among different systems in the country.

Project Description

A summary of the project objectives and expected outputs is provided below for which Kayunga community club will be accountable. Further details are provided in the Logical Framework developed for the project.

The development objective

The project is designed to contribute to achievement of SDG 1: No poverty, SDG 2: Zero hunger, SDG 3: Good health and well-being, SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth, SDG 10: Reduced inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions and SDG 17: partnership for the goals. The development objective for this project is “Widows become economic empowered and attain their right to protection, development and participation.”

The Projects immediate objective

Within the above development objective, the project’s immediate objective is: “By 2025, widows supported by the project achieve a secure and enhanced income and effectively participate and contribute to decision-making process in domestic and public spheres”.

Indicators

Sustainable increase by at least 20% in average household income for 40000 poor women who are members of collective groups supported by project.

Expected results from objectives

	Key Performance Indicators
Objective 1 - Social Empowerment Poor widows organized in strong collectives at group and cluster levels and their capacities developed for running these sustainably.	• At least 40000 poor and marginalized widows in Uganda become members of SHGs supported by project • At least 35000 of the total SHG widows are poor. • All 200 women trained in functional literacy and skill. • At least 200 widows will learn their rights and champion them. • At least 500 children will get access to education both formal and informal.

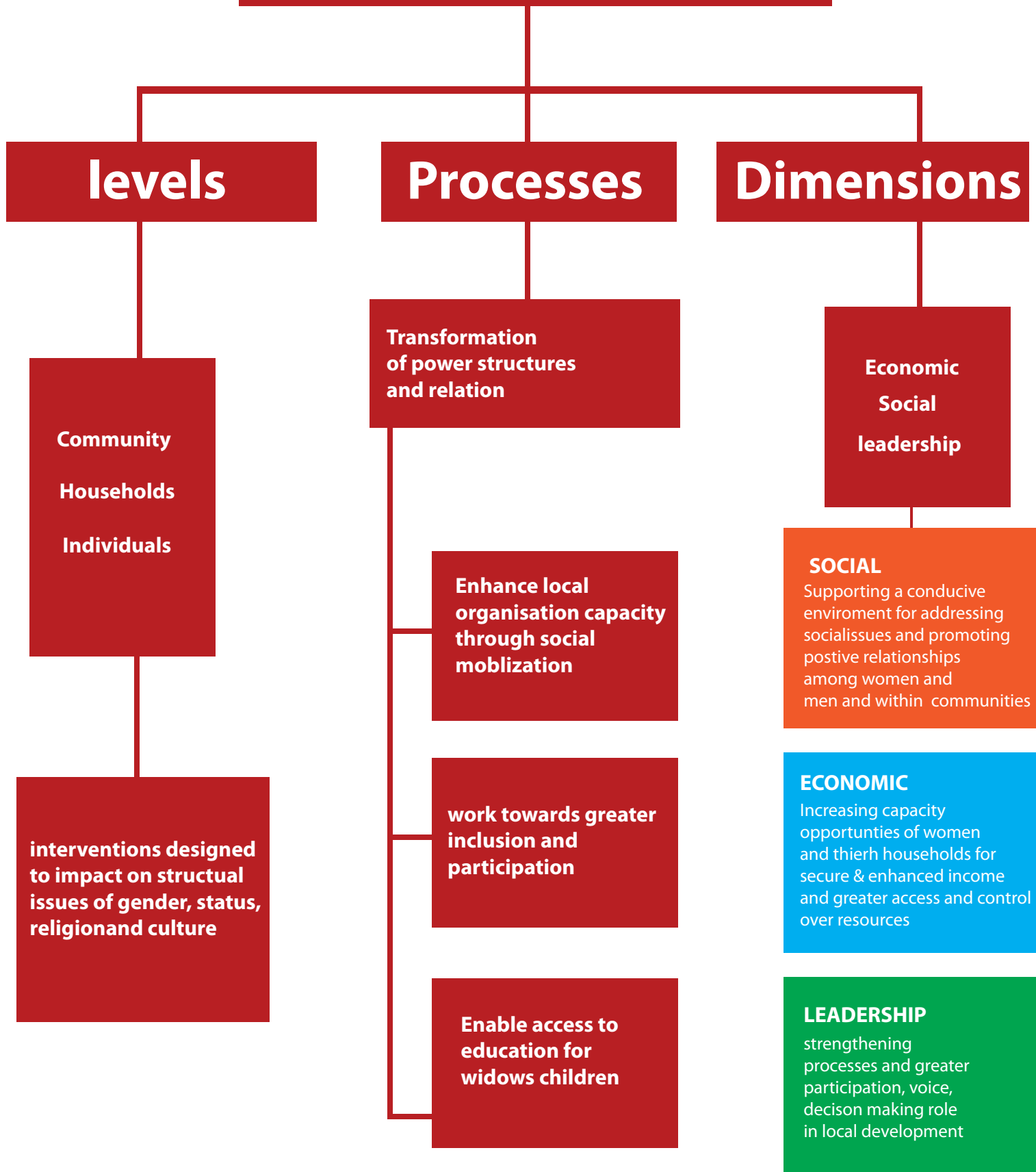
	Key Performance Indicators
Objective 2- Economic Empowerment Capabilities enhanced and economic enterprises of women established and/or strengthened for enhanced household income.	• At least 5,000 widows trained in entrepreneurship and financial literacy. • At least 20,000 widows trained by project running small micro-enterprises (SMEs) • Of the 35,000 widows trained by project in entrepreneurship, at least 10,000 participate in select value chains. • Of the groups supported by the project, at least 400 Self Help groups regularly access financial services from formal institutions'
Objective 3 – Leadership Empowerment Women leaders supported to contribute effectively in local decision-making and to demand quality public services.	• At least 4,000 widow representatives and SHG leaders) trained in leadership knowledge and skills¹⁷. • At least 4,000 widow leaders and SHG leaders) trained in legal awareness.

Strategy

The project is designed within an overarching objective of women's empowerment in view of the prevailing socio-economic and leadership conditions in Kayunga and to bring about a positive change in their position within both the household and community.

According to Kayunga Community Club, gender equity cannot come only through changes in women's condition alone i.e. in terms of their health, income and education; it also requires transformation of the structures and systems, which lie at the root of inequality to bring about a change in their position. Gender equality demands a process that goes beyond economic empowerment and leads to greater and effective participation in social and leadership processes and greater decision-making power.

Widows Empowerment



SOCIAL: Supporting a conducive environment for addressing social issues and promoting positive relationships among women and men and within communities.

ECONOMIC: Increasing capacity and opportunities of women and their households for secure & enhanced income and greater.

LEADERSHIP: Strengthening processes and greater participation, voice and decision making role in local development access and control over resources.

Project Implementation Strategy

The project will be located in Kayunga

The project will require a management structure that is effective to achieve the development objectives and results oriented. In order for the project to have its own identity, widows in the project areas will be encouraged to identify with the My New Normals project. Kayunga Community Club will have the oversight and full management responsibility to visualize, plan, roll out and monitor the project.

Kayunga Community club will enter into a partnership with at least one Community Facilitating Organization in his region, which will be key in working with the widows and other women's groups directly in the field. The project activities will be undertaken over a five-year period in a phased manner with learning's from each year feeding into the future interventions. From time to time, technical agencies will be hired to bring in specific expertise for the widows' groups as well as to the project itself.

Kayunga Community Club will work closely with the community organizations to formulate a communication strategy for informing its external and internal audiences and for disseminating the project results. A unique identity will be created for the project which instantaneously connects stakeholders to its core mission and the work on the ground with widows.

The project strategies will be complemented by carrying out gender and empowerment analysis through the different stages of project cycle – planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

This will help to assess the differences in participation and accrual of benefits between widows and their communities and monitor progress towards gender equity and changes in gender relations. At the same time, the capacity of the implementing partners for gender sensitive implementation and monitoring will be assessed and appropriate inputs will be provided to strengthen this dimensions.

The project proposes the following strategies

1. Diversify economic opportunities and choices:

Concerted efforts are required to enable widows and their SHGs to make the transition to secure and enhanced livelihoods and to bring about qualitative changes to their economic status and life.

This will require strengthening the capacities of SHGs members and stabilizing their incomes so that they can move above the material poverty line, improve the education and health status of the households and their children. The aim will be to create on the ground a number of self-sustaining economic institutions of widows that can independently carry out the operations, interface with the market and create linkages with technical agencies, financial institutions, government schemes and private sector.

For widows, the skills acquired, networks and income from enterprise activity will give them greater power to negotiate economic, social and political changes in gender inequity at household and community level.

Specifically, the following aspects will be emphasized:

- **Training for SHGs:** SHG members will be provided training in financial literacy, entrepreneurship and developing group level micro plans. This will be supplemented by facilitating their access to appropriate inputs, technologies and services and to the extent possible with banks and other financial institutions.
- **Promotion of small enterprises:** Through partnerships with financial providers we will be in a position of conducting comprehensive analysis of the existing markets and potential sub-sectors. Some of the promising sub sectors include: agriculture/agri-business, dairy farming, embroidery, poultry farming, goat keeping & selling, beadwork, modern basketry especially using recycled polythene papers, woodwork.

The sub-sector analysis will be used to identify value chains where widows can engage in different roles such as producers, suppliers, workers, entrepreneurs, service provider or aggregators and thus gain access to diversified and remunerative sources of income and a greater integration with different stages in the value chain. Widows will be supported to scale up existing economic activities into more organized enterprises that can engage a large number of members, streamline the production processes, contribute to skill building, generate a regular source of income and increase their bargaining power in relation to markets and other players. These could take different forms such as micro-enterprises, cooperatives, producer companies or groups.

- **Promote access to government schemes, institutional credit and microfinance institutions:** a substantial part of the funds will need to be raised from the financial institutions, SHGs and resources available in government schemes. The project will help generate awareness among women on the different sources of funds such as SHG credit and subsidies available through government schemes and financial institutions such as rural banks and microfinance institutions.
- **Promote greater recognition participation and inclusion of women in economic activities including aspects of entitlement and control over resources and benefits:** the SHGs will be supported in their ongoing thrift and credit activities by introducing greater financial discipline, establishing linkages with banks and microfinance institutions for accessing loans and providing handholding support to draw up viable business plans for existing and new livelihood activities which can be taken up by widows at the household level.

2. Expand the process of social mobilization:

As a starting point, the project will build on the social mobilization processes. In partnership with CFOs, it will begin with reenergizing the primary level institutions created, mainly SHGs, deepen and broaden their presence in the communities by forming new groups, ensure that the poorest of the poor and marginalized widows are not left out of this process and create mechanisms that the SHGs in the communities network with each other and the larger society.

- **Promote networking, collective strength and greater visibility of women in public spheres including representation in mainstream institutions and decision making bodies:** The cluster level groups in the project areas will be consolidated at the community level and taken through a visioning exercise to identify their purpose, role and specific activities that they can take up to provide additional support to SHG members in the targeted communities. Initial focus will be at the community level for widows to engage with the community members and seek the benefits from ongoing schemes as well as bring to their attention the specific needs of SHGs in a village.

As the project progresses, consolidation of groups beyond the community level into Region level will be explored in consultation with the widows' groups for further consolidating the energies of women in a geographical area but also for developing various service support systems for sustainability of the institutions. The regional block levels could also emerge as entities similar to local NGOs that would provide the support and services to SHGs.

- **Sensitize the communities including men to improve the lives of widows and their children in the community:**

To create a broad social consensus among the community, men and women on issues that previously have been marginalized as only of importance to widows, mobilize resources and institutions controlled by men, resulting in a net gain in resources available to meet the needs of widows and their children; contribute to raising the next generation children in a framework of gender equity.

Addressing possible conflicts

Practically any empowerment strategy will face a number of dilemmas: such as tradeoffs between benefits in one sphere and costs in others. For example, widows may gain control over small amounts of their assets but their workload may increase significantly.

Another constraint could be that different people will have different priorities – relatively better off widows' and the community may be able to maximize benefits but very poor widows may be more concerned to decrease vulnerability to crises. Lastly, there might be cases of conflict of interest – mothers of the widows - or mothers in law many use the unpaid labor of widows who are their daughters or daughter-in law. In view of these dilemmas, the project strategies focus on the process of participatory negotiation to provide space for people to discuss their needs and to incorporate their views at all stages of the design, monitoring and evolution of interventions.

Risks and Assumptions

The project envisions mobilizing nearly 40,000 widows' and supporting creation of collective groups if they are not already existing at community levels. The different interventions proposed for economic empowerment will create opportunities for increased participation of widows' in economic activities, a greater control over the economic processes and increased mobility and visibility in the economic sphere. The children of economically empowered widows will be able to access education.

Another important risk is associated with natural calamity. If the regions faces severe weather conditions within the country, it would adversely affect agriculture that is crucial for food security and is the main source of household income.

The project is providing resources and opportunities to widows, their children and their households in the economic sphere that will cushion the negative impact of neglect. Moreover the project will try to diversify the livelihoods of the poor widows' and their households so that they can absorb the shocks due to natural calamities and help smoothen cash flows. The project, while looking at market-driven economic activities, will try to include activities that also have local.

Target beneficiaries and participants

The primary target group comprises 40,000 widows across Kayunga and neighboring areas. They will include:

- Widows and their children living in absolute poverty
- Ethnic minorities including orphans
- Widows and their children living with HIV/AIDS
- Widows and their children living in slum urban areas
- Marginalized Widows and their children living in rural areas
- Widows whose husbands were killed in conflicts and wars
- Widows who have been rejected with their communities because of their widowhood status

Activities

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

A variety of formal and informal monitoring tools and mechanisms will be used, including field visits, progress reports, annual reports and project reviews. The broad contours of the M & E system are described below:

- A project Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and a Project Monitoring Schedule will be set up as soon as the project is initiated, and will be adhered to rigorously for tracking the progress of the project towards planned results. This will be guided by the elements of the widows' empowerment framework developed for the project.
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- Updating of Issues, Risks and lessons learned Logs will ensure that major project learning's are tracked in a timely manner and issues are addressed expeditiously.
- Regular field visits by Project Management Team and other stake holders at a pre-decided frequency will be undertaken, and will be documented through brief and action-oriented reports.
- An Annual Review Report shall be prepared by the Project Management team and shared with the Project Steering Committee.
- An Annual Project Review shall be conducted during the second semiannual review of every year to assess the performance of the project and appraise the Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the following year. In the last year, this review will be a final assessment. This review is driven by the Project Steering Committee and may involve other stakeholders as required. It shall focus on the extent to which progress is being made towards outputs, and that these remain aligned to appropriate outcomes.
- A resource agency (RA-M&E) with relevant experience would be hired by the PSC to develop and carry out a comprehensive monitoring, evaluation and reporting system for the project. Appropriate computerized systems for the same will be set up as required.
- Physical and financial reports will be submitted to donors as per their formats and requirements.
- Kayunga Community Club will present progress on the project at Annual Review with PSC.

- In line with Kayunga Community Club Evaluation procedures, Mid-term and end-project evaluations will be conducted. The PSC may also commission thematic evaluations from time to time as and when required.
- Baseline surveys on the indicators of the project in both project and control regions will be conducted within the first six months of the project. A sub-set of indicators on widows' empowerment for baseline and tracking will be identified in consultation with widow members from SHGs and cluster groups.
- End-line surveys and impact assessments would be carried out in last six months of the project. The findings would help in refining the continuation of the project, withdrawal strategy/ methodology and suggest models for replication.

Project organization and management

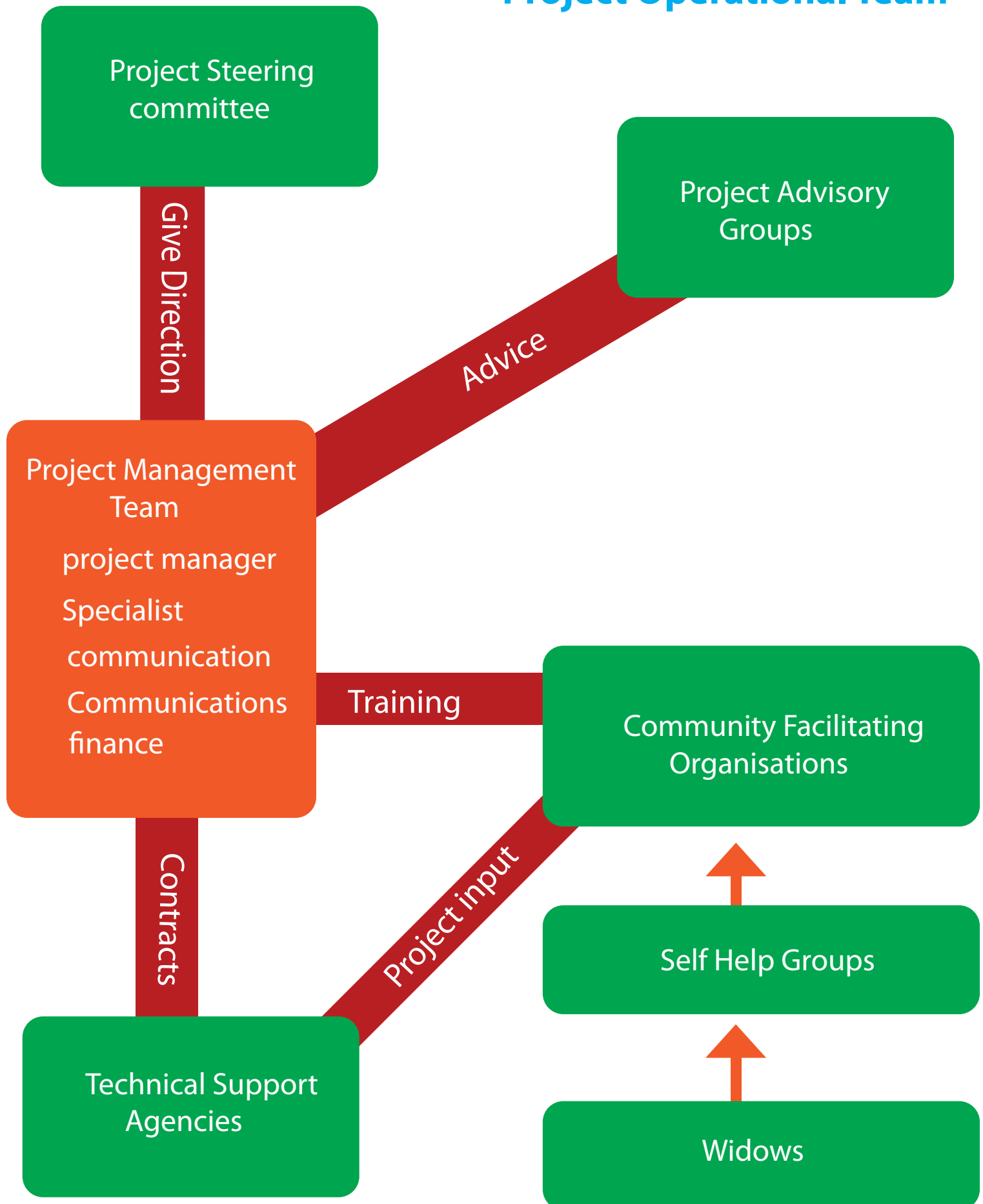
The project will be implemented by Kayunga Community club who will have full responsibility and accountability for delivering the agreed outputs. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be set up to provide strategic direction, decision making and reviewing the work plans and progress.

Activiutie In Widows

Kayunga Community Community educates widows on their rights as well as the rights of their children, during such empowerment training we socially, emotionally and spiritually empower widows to stand above their widowhood challenge and be there for their individual households.

Kuyunga Community Club intends to train many more widows on kneading and basketry by use of locally available raw materials such as polythene bags, beadwork, wood work, poultry keeping and dairy farming among other activities that they can engage in for economic growth (still being researched).

Project Operational Team



Organizational Background

Kayunga community club is a registered community based organization dedicated in fostering and promoting good friendly relations, promoting development, Hygiene, education, innovation and awareness, committed to men, women, youths through support of an active community of Kayunga and neighborhoods in order to achieve future development through mobilization of savings and Investment.

Mission

To improve the socio-economic status of the community members through the formation and operation of a savings and investments scheme and partaking in Investment activities.

Vision

Building a community where people have pathways to unparalleled life skills, experience, protection, development, and participation.

Our core values

- Integrity and transparency
- Honor and respect for all persons
- Service Delight
- Service above self

Brief profile of Kayunga community club

Kayunga community club is a community based organization that was started in 30th september 2018 and it has grown ever since through a foundation of dedicated community service and development of all its members and the community of Kayunga.

With all over 80% of our projects having been undertaken in rural / pro-poor finance, we look at delivering a solution to the members and community at large and enjoy a close relationship, trust and confidence with other institutions, authorities, the general public, development partners and the community we serve.

What we do

Our core service can be categorized into the following:

Socio-economic Development

Savings and investment

Community awareness, public Health, education and capacity building

Activities With Windows

In the past we have empowered widows spiritually and socially through empowerment conferences and talks which are often done in conjunction with our partners and the friends of Kayunga Community club (including well-wishers to the course).

Kayunga Community Club has been able to give donations to needy children's homes and also during crises, educate the needy widow's children and the total orphan children.

Lately Kayunga Community Club is training few widows on matters related to starting small business enterprises and doing table banking among Widows Self-Help groups to build each other grow economically and encourage the spirit of saving and financial access.

MY NEW NORMALS PROJECT PHASE 1 BUDGET (6MONTHS)

Project Budget Outline	unit cost	activity	US\$	UGX	Status
10 Training**	\$				
10. Empowerment Trainings (rights, social and economic policy issues)					
10.00Rent of the workshop facilities		100Workshops	8,458.00	30,000,526	uncovered
10.02Handout preparation		100Workshops	4,200.00	14,897,400	Covered
10.03Refreshments		100Workshops	6,300.00	22,346,100	Covered
10.04 Mobilization & coordination fee for the regions		100Workshops	8,400.00	29,794,800	Covered
10.05Stationaries		100Workshops	16,800.00	59,589,600	Covered
10.06Transportation for the workshop		100Workshops	6,300.00	22,346,100	Covered
10.07Per diem & Accommodation		100Workshops*4people*	13,440.00	47,671,680	Covered
10.08Info sheets		3types(1000copies each)	900.00	3,192,300	Covered
10.09 consultants		100Workshops	8,400.00	29,794,800	Covered
40.00 skill trainings (entrepreneurial, farming and sports &arts participation, writing and drawing)					
20.01 awareness creation		100Workshops	42.00.00	14,897,400	uncovered
20.02 T shirt, banners, caps and recall material printing		100Workshops	6,342.00	22,495,074	uncovered
Grand Total			83,740	297,025,780	

uncovered  USD 19,000

Fund Covered  USD 64,740

Payments

The grants should be paid to our organizational bank account

Bank: Finance Trust Bank,

Account Name: Kayunga Community Club,

Account Number: 204214000523

Branch name: Kayunga Branch.

All project funds to our organization are subject to internal and external auditing where semiannual and annual reports together with monitoring and evaluation reports should be produced.

Organization Structure

