

*File  
CBR*

**THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER  
BUSIA DISTRICT.**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 124  
BUSIA (U).**

17<sup>th</sup> January, 2006.

**REF: REPORT ON LAUNCH OF COMMUNITY BASED  
REHABILITATION (CBR) PROGRAMME – BUSIA  
DISTRICT.**

Please find herein the above report for your perusal and attention.

Thank you.



**Titus Ouma  
Community Development Officer  
Busia.**

**Introduction:** The launch of CBR programme took place on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2005 at Madibira primary school play grounds in Busia Town Council. This was a result of the recent renewal of an agreement between the Government of Uganda and Norwegian Association of the Disabled (NAD) to expand the CBR programme to two other new districts.

Community Based Rehabilitation whose mission is "to create an enabling environment for equalization of opportunities and service leading to improved quality of life of people with Disability (PWDs)" is defined as a strategy within general Community Development for rehabilitation, equalization of opportunities and Social inclusion of all children and adults with disabilities themselves, their families and communities and the appropriate health, educational, vocational and Social services.

**The goals of CBR are to:-**

- Enhance the activities of daily living of disabled persons.
- Promote awareness in respect to disability issues.
- Break barriers associated with disability.
- Promote community participation in order to encourage PWDs to participate in community activities.
- Promote community ownership of CBR programme to ensure sustainability.

**Attendance:** The launch was attended by District and sub-county political leaders, District and sub-county technical officers, religious leaders, technical staff from ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, leaders of Disabled people's organizations, PWDs themselves and the entire public.

All members of parliament in the country representing PWDs and members of parliament representing Busia District were invited, but they did not turn up because on this date an important motion concerning affirmative action for special interest groups was to be debated.

The Guest of honour was expected to be the Minister of state for Disability and Elderly but was represented by the Director of Labour in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

**Speeches:** Different people made remarks on the launch and these included;-

- The Local Council I chairperson of the area.
- The Local Council III chairperson for Busia Town Council.
- The chairperson of Busia District Union of people with Disability.
- The Community Based Services Officer.
- The Chief Administrative Officer.
- The National Coordinator Community Based Rehabilitation.
- The Secretary of Gender Busia District Local Government.
- The Chairperson L.C.V Busia District Council.
- The representative of the Guest of honour.

**Entertainment, Music, Dance & Drama:** Different groups entertained the guests with Music, Dance and Drama. They included;-

- A testimony by the L.C. V female councilor representing PWDs.
- Drama by straight talk foundation group – Busia branch.
- Traditional Dance by members of Busia District PWDs association.

The entertainment reflected on issues that concern people with Disabilities especially the issue of totally empowering PWDs. Different entertainers especially PWDs dancers manifested the fact that disability is not inability.

In her testimony the L.C.V female councilor informed the occasion that she got disabled in 1997 when she was shot at with a bullet. She tried many hospitals in vain and later

opted for traditional herbs, but then when CBR programme was introduced in Tororo, she was recruited as a client and got successfully rehabilitated. She later trained as a teacher and then went on to become L.C.V female councilor representing PWDs.

Drama and Device brought out different issues concerning PWDs including;-

- PWDs are not supposed to be kept in stores.
- PWDs can perform well in schools.
- Blind people can also be integrated in other different programmes.
- PWDs should not be discriminated.

### **Issues that came out from the speeches**

- All the people who made remarks appreciated the cooperation between the Government of Uganda and the Norwegian Association of the Disabled, that funds CBR activities. They also appreciated the fact that Busia District had been identified to benefit from CBR.
- With CBR PWDs in Busia District will now be totally empowered.
- PWDs will be empowered with their families and communities.
- The NRM Government brought PWDs to the Lime light through affirmative action.
- PWDs have been considered on different Boards and Commissions in Busia District.

### **Remark by Hon. Florence Nayiga Ssekabira Minister of State for Elderly and Disability affairs.**

- She congratulated Busia District for accessing CBR programme.
- Testified that being beneficiary to the programme and therefore receiving donor support from NAD is great blessing that comes along with certain benefits.

- She emphasized that the District should ensure that target beneficiaries of the programme PWDs, themselves benefit. She said that in the Disability movement there is a philosophy that "Nothing for us, without us".
- She asked the District to ensure good accountability for the funds.
- She said that CBR programme is just a complementary support and therefore the District shouldn't get complacent and strike off disability issues from its budget line.
- She said that the Ministry will remain open to offer technical guidance, setting performance standards e.g. guidelines, receive and transmit funds, conduct routine supervision, monitoring and evaluation.
- She reminded the occasion that the Ministry has already prepared a National Policy on Disability, and there is also a National Council for Disability created by an act of parliament as yet another organ for reinforcing consolidation of disability issues in the country.

During the occasion, two computers and a fax machine were handed over to the District chairperson as a donation from NAD to support CBR programme implementation.

The occasion ended at 4:00 p.m. with the singing of the National Anthem.

*c.c. Secretary Gender*

*c.c. CBR Steering Committee*