



Donor

UNEP & Co-funded by European Union



Period

May 2020 to Sept 2023



Targeted District

Wakiso



Total Budget

\$120,000



Reach

1,086 people

Direct Reach - 181
(M 70 · F 111)

Indirect Reach - 905
(M 348 · F 557)



Partners

Makerere University
School of Women and
Gender Studies, University
of California San Diego



CMP

CARE USA



SDG



The Central Problem

Social norms - the often rules that govern behaviour- shape almost all aspects of life. In Eastern Africa, social and gender norms are pivotal in peoples' lives, shaping opportunity and outcomes. The impact of harmful social norms, such as expectations on gender-based violence, child bearing, women's economic engagement, reproductive health and masculinity have increasingly received attention. As more programs seek to foster norms shifting for healthier and positive behaviour, there is opportunity to advance understanding of social and gender norms—what they are, how to measure them and how they influence behaviour—and how to scale-up promising interventions. Given the increasing number of researchers and practitioners working on social and gender norms, it is a critical moment to make the latest knowledge and evidence on social and gender norms accessible and provide opportunities for sharing and generating knowledge.

Solution Statement

The vision for the Eastern Africa Social and Gender Norms Learning Collaborative (EALC) is to support effective program implementation and scale-up with evidence-based approaches. This will be achieved through support to a community of practice (CoP) and sharing of expert knowledge and resources. The EALC seeks to strengthen social and gender norms practice in the Eastern Africa Region in all areas and sectors that are influenced by social and gender norms. Representatives from local governments, NGOs, researchers, evaluators, donors, and development partners form a social and gender norms CoP to strengthen or forge networks; build sustained expertise and capacity in Eastern African organizations and institutions; and support effective programming. The mission of the EALC is to build a network of practitioners, researchers, and evaluators that supports social and gender norms programming, strengthens expertise at the implementation level, informs policy, and advances positive development outcomes.

Expected Results

- A network of collaborators that enables exchange of information and experiences amongst practitioners, researchers, advocates and evaluators in the Eastern Africa region.
- Integrated evidence based social and gender norms approaches in policy and programming on gender and social norms in Eastern Africa region.
- Latest social and gender norm evidence, tools, approaches and resources shared.
- Strengthened social and gender norms programming, research and measurement
- Capacity of higher education institutions on gender and social norms theory and methodology strengthened
- Mobilized resources to promote collaboration within the community of practice to strengthen social and gender norms practice.





Intervention Approaches

EALC activities are implemented through online platforms that are conducive to collaborative learning and exchange. A few face-to-face activities are organized in accordance with COVID-19 prevention measures and guidance.

Innovations

The first 17 months of collaborative activities have seen several spinoffs including:



Commencing a study on unpaid care work implemented by the co-hosts CARE and SWGS with the Uganda - Economic Policy Research Centre



Members of the collaborative have obtained grants to test out models on community activism to shift gender and social norms as well as effective advocacy



Members of the collaborative have tested tools e.g. the social norms exploration tool to customize it to the Eastern Africa contest.



The collaborative has obtained additional funds for consolidation over the next 24 months starting October 2021

Achievements

A network of participants engaging discussions, research, reflection and sharing has been established across Eastern Africa and linked to Franco Phone Africa, Nigeria, South Asia and with the global community of practice; there is greater knowledge on social and gender norms programming, research, advocacy and measurement. More resources are available, evidence generation and validation are on-going. Collaboration with governments on gender and social norms practice has deepened especially in Uganda

Consortium Description

The EALC is co-hosted by CARE International in Uganda and the Makerere University School of Women and Gender Studies. The Collaborative is supported by the Centre on Gender Equity and Health at the University of California San Diego with funding from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. It works closely with the Global Learning Collaborative to Advance Normative Change—a global network of researchers, practitioners, and donor organizations collaborating to advance social norms theory, measurement, and practice—as well as with other regional learning collaboratives in the network: Nigeria, South Asia, Franco Phone Africa and the Global Learning Collaborative:

<https://www.alignplatform.org/learning-collaborative>

Participant Quote

It [EALC] was a good space –there were academicians, CSO people with many views on social norms analysis, the discussion was very interesting giving a lot of information from many countries

