

Advocates Coalition For Development and Environment

Annual Report 2002

**Extending the Frontiers of Public Policy
Research and Advocacy**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of contents _____	2
Message from the chairperson _____	3
Message from the Executive Director _____	4
Introduction _____	6
Why ACODE was formed _____	6
Vision, Mission and Objectives of ACODE _____	6
Objectives _____	7
Programme Activities: Flashback to 2002 _____	7
1. Environmental Democracy Programme _____	7
The Access Initiatives (TAI) Project _____	8
Programme out look for 2003 _____	9
2. Intellectual Property Rights and Biotechnology policy programme _____	9
Activities and Achievements _____	10
International Events _____	11
Challenges _____	11
3. Peace and Conflicts Programme becomes of Age _____	12
The quadruple partnership _____	12
4. Trade Policy Governance Programme _____	13
Achievements of the Trade Policy Programme _____	13
Staff Profile _____	14
Board News _____	14
Profile of Board Members _____	16
Ex - Official Members _____	16
2003 Events Calendar _____	17
ACODE Library of Law and Public Policy _____	18

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



It is now over three years since ACODE started its operations. While this is not a long time in the existence of an organization, those three years have demonstrated what a committed group of professionals can achieve. Since we started our operations in January 2000, we have made great strides as an organization. We have not only expanded in terms of staff and associates, we have also expanded the scope of our programmes and partnerships with Government, like-minded civil society organizations and development partners.

Over the years, we have been able to establish a sound organization that has found its rightful place among its peers. In addition to having well-staffed and effective Secretariat, we were able to fully constitute a regional Board with highly respected members from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. By ensuring regular Board meetings and Board-Secretariat interactions, we have been able to direct the organization to the desired direction while keeping focus of our mission and objectives. My special thanks go to my colleagues on the Board without whose guidance and advice we would not have come this far.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board and at the Secretariat and on my own behalf, I would like to extend my unreserved appreciation to our donors and partners without whom we would not have come this far. Special thanks go to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Resources Institute (WRI) who provided us with our first grant. It is because of this grant that we were able to establish an infrastructure that is taking us to greater heights in both research and advocacy. In the same breath, I extend similar appreciation to the Rockefeller Foundation, the Department for International Development (DFID EA-Uganda) and the Environmental Conservation Trust (ECOTRUST) for their continued support.

We would like to extend appreciation to our international and local partners who have been supportive in our programme development and implementation. ACODE's special relationship with the Meridian Institute, the Centre for International Environmental Law (CIEL), Environmental Law Institute (ELI), Environmental Alert (EA), Volunteer Efforts for Development Concern (VEDCO) and many others are greatly appreciated.

As an organization, we cherish the new found partnership between ACODE and many government agencies with whom we work. We value this partnership and pledge our commitment to add value to their work by contributing independent policy ideas and monitoring implementation of relevant government programmes.

Lastly, we have now developed and adopted a 5 Year Strategic Plan for the period 2003-2007. It is our belief that by implementing this work programme, we will not only help to contribute to the formulation of global, regional and national pro-poor policies, but we will also ensure full and accountable implementation of these policies.

Once again, we thank each one of you and your institutions for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Ntambirweki', written over a white rectangular background.

John Ntambirweki
Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I take this opportunity to welcome our partners and readers to the first ever Annual Report of the Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE). Coming three years since ACODE started its operations, we try to provide you with a snapshot of some of our activities, achievements and challenges over the period. We also take the opportunity to share with you the highlights of our new programme of work (2003-2007) that was approved at the 5th Meeting of our Board in November 2002.



Since ACODE started its operations in January 2000, our work has been premised on three broad principle. First, we have attempted to improve the quality of policy making by contributing independent policy ideas in the policy making processes at the global, regional and national level. Secondly, we have endeavoured to link our policy research work to advocacy. As a result, we have been engaged in ensuring that new policies are developed in a transparent and accountable manner. Thirdly, we have invested significant resources to ensure that the emerging policies are responsive to the interests and needs of the poor.

Although we are still a young and growing organization, we have been able to achieve tremendous successes in the relatively short time of our existence. We have not only contributed to the formulation of new policies of government in various areas such as fisheries, forestry, agriculture and governance, we have also given confidence to our civil society partners in their engagement with government in policy development and policy formulation.

We take pride in having finalized the development of our 5 Year Strategic Plan (2003-2007). The Programme of work approved under the strategic plan gives us the opportunity not only to contribute to the development of pro-poor policies but also to promote the values that are the foundation of our work. The values of inclusion, transparency and giving a voice to the voiceless will continue to guide our work as we implement this Strategic Plan. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to all our partners who contributed to the development of our 5-year work programme.

As we implement our work programme for the next 5 years, we will maintain the programmatic focus elaborated therein while expanding the geographical coverage to include countries in Eastern and Southern Africa pursuant to the relevant Board Decisions. In Uganda, we intend to focus more on working with local NGOs and NGO networks to build capacity for independent monitoring of government policies and programmes as well as oversight over local government operations.

The last three years have not been without challenges. As a young organization, we are still making efforts to build our financial resources base to ensure the necessary research and human capacity for effective policy advocacy. We hope that our new programme work will act as a vehicle for mobilizing the necessary resources to enable us achieve our mission.

In July 2002, several of our staff were involved in a tragic road accident in which we lost our Programme Assistant, Grace Bakunda. The Late Grace's ingenuity at work continues to be a strong motivation for us all and we shall endeavour to ensure that her spirit lives through the success of ACODE.

Finally, let me extend our gratitude to our financial donors without whose support we could not have come this far. I would like to specifically single out the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the World Resources Institute (WRI) who provided us with our start-up grant. We are also grateful to the Rockefeller Foundation for their support to our Intellectual Property Rights and Biotechnology Policy Programme and the Department for International Development (DFID EA-Uganda) for their support to our Environmental Democracy Programme. In the same spirit, we would like to extend our gratitude to the Environment Conservation Trust (ECOTRUST) for pioneering support to our district outreach activities.

With your individual and collective support, we at the Secretariat are dedicated to extending the frontiers of independent public policy research and advocacy.



Godber Tumushabe
Executive Director

INTRODUCTION

The Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE) is an independent public policy think-tank engaged in public policy research, analysis and advocacy. It was registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation in December 1999 and began its operations in its current offices at Plot 96 Kanjokya Street, Kamwokya Kampala in January 2000. Since it was founded, this is the first time it is publishing an annual report. The report therefore covers some of ACODE' activities and impacts over the last two years.

WHY ACODE WAS FORMED

ACODE was formed at a time when the NGO terrain in Eastern and Southern Africa was slowly changing. At the end of the 1990s, many NGOs were shifting from public service delivery that had dominated NGO work for over two decades, to engage government in policy making and policy development. This contrasts sharply with largely academic think-tanks that were engaged in policy research and publishing policy-relevant information.

When ACODE was formed, we sought to link three key components that make policies focus on the power and vulnerable sections of society i.e. policy research and analysis, policy advocacy and accountability and monitoring implementation of policies at all levels. It is ACODE' unparalleled ability to undertake highly independent policy relevant research, work with government policy makers, development partners and the private sector that puts ACODE in its own category of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Eastern and Southern Africa.

ACODE's formation was triggered by the growing appreciation that there has been considerably limited participation of civil society organizations in policy debates at different levels. While human rights CSOs had evolved and gained recognition by governments and other actors, CSOs operating in the areas of trade and environment were largely not very effective in holding government accountable to set policies and standards.

VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF ACODE

Vision

The vision of ACODE is to be a leading policy research and advocacy organisation for sustainable development.

Mission:

ACODE's mission is to influence development and governance policies for promotion of social justice in Eastern Africa through policy research and advocacy.

OBJECTIVES:

- To lobby and advocate for national, regional and global policies for sustainable management and utilisation of natural resources;
- To promote transparency and accountability in public policy process;
- To promote peace and the creation of enabling conditions for sustainable development;
- To promote compliance with policies that support sustainable development.

Programme Activities: Flashback to 2002

As an organization, we look back at a year of achievements and impacts in the areas where we work. We have not only been part and parcel of the policy development process at the global, regional, national, and local levels, we have also invested our resources in ensuring that new policies are pro-poor and they support all the three pillars of sustainable development. During 2002, we undertook research and advocacy work in all the four programme areas.

1. ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY PROGRAMME

The overall objective of this programme is to contribute to the formulation of public environmental policies at the global, regional, national and local level. Its aim is to ensure that such policies support sustainable development and create opportunities for poor people to get more access to productive assets.

The Programme provided support to the Butamira Pressure Group as they struggled to safeguard their rights in Butamira Forest Reserve. For the first time in the history of the Parliament of Uganda, Butamira Pressure Group with the assistance of ACODE presented a *citizens' petition* in Parliament challenging Government plans to degazette Butamira Forest Reserve.

BUTAMIRA

The Programme continued to facilitate the participation of civil society organizations in the reforms in the forestry sector. As a member of the Uganda Forest Working Group, ACODE was able to contribute to the formulation of the National Forestry Plan, the National Forestry Authority Business Plan as well as the new Forestry bill. We anticipate to continue working in the sector mainly focusing on monitoring the implementation of the policy, the plan and the legislation. We shall also increase our pro bono legal services' support to communities whose rights are being undermined by governmental or private sector actions.



"Butamira tree farmers discussing the fate of their forest before it was degazetted"

Project on Implementing the Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture through Field Lessons and Experiences:

This is a two-year project from January 2002 to December 2003 and is supported by the Department for International Development (DFID). The project is implemented under a tripartite arrangement with ACODE, Voluntary Efforts for Development Concerns (VEDCO) and Environmental Alert. The Project is aimed at contributing to the development and implementation of key policy processes under the Plan for the Modernisation of Agriculture (PMA) and the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS).

Under the project, the partner organizations are engaged in the following national policy processes:

- National Food and Nutrition Policy;
- Contributing to the analytical work on the relationship between poverty, agriculture and environmental policy;
- Documentation and dissemination of best practices for farmer group formation;
- Integration of environment and natural resources concerns in the implementation of the NAADS; and
- Monitoring the utilization of PMA Non-Sectoral Conditional Grants.

The programme initiated a project on implementing the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) through Field Lessons and Experiences. Through the project, ACODE is working with other partners to influence a range of policy processes in the context of the PMA and the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS). We are confident that through the project, we have been able to present an independent voice of civil society organizations in the ongoing policy processes within the context of the PMA.

The Access Initiative (TAI) Project

The Access Initiative (TAI) is a global coalition of NGOs working together to promote the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the associated outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). This coalition encourages countries to implement the right of access to information, public participation and access to justice with a view to creating opportunities for poor people to improve their livelihoods and support sustainable management of the environment. Under this project, ACODE undertook an assessment of Uganda's implementation of Principle 10 commitments since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. As the Regional Focal Point for Africa, ACODE has now embarked on developing a strategy to roll out TAI assessments in several countries in the ASARECA region. In addition, ACODE is continuing to work with the Government of Uganda to develop a National Action Plan to further the implementation of Principle 10 and the associated outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). You can visit The Access Initiative Website at www.accessinitiative.org



Minister Ruhakana Rugunda (centre) at the launch of the Partnership for Principle 10 in Johannesburg

The Partnership for Principle 10 (pp10) is born

In September 2002, ACODE together with the core member organizations of The Access Initiative launched a Type II Partnership called the Partnership for Principle 10. While The Access Initiative is a coalition of civil society organizations monitoring and promoting implementation of Principle 10, the Partnership for Principle 10 is a broader coalition involving Governments, CSOs, International Organizations and donors. The overall objective of the Partnership is to mobilize resources and political will to ensure effective and timely implementation of the right of access to information, public participation and access to justice at the national level. At its first meeting in Lisbon, Portugal in April 2003, the founding members of the Partnership elaborated on the governance structure of the partnerships, the nature of the commitments and a timetable for making specific commitments by the partners. During the year 2003, ACODE will be working with the Government of Uganda to agree on the specific commitments and submit them to the PP10 Secretariat. For more information on this initiative, you can visit us at the PP10 website at www.pp10.org.

Reaching out to local governments:

During the year 2002, ACODE started to work with local governments. Together with the Uganda Wildlife Society (UWS), we assisted the local governments of Tororo and Mbale to develop their district environment ordinances. By the end of the year, Tororo had already submitted their ordinances to the Attorney General for approval. We would like to extend our appreciation to the district leadership and the technical officers in the two districts for a job well done. For us, it was another exercise where we continued to learn while helping out to build frameworks for supporting sustainable development initiatives.

At the end of 2002, ACODE and UWS secured funding from ECOTRUST to work with the Local Governments of Bushenyi and Ntungamo, and the Wetlands Inspection Division to engage in similar legislative process. We would like to extend our appreciation to ECOTRUST for providing this funding that is contributing to our efforts to link up national level policy and legislative processes to the local level. We intend to expand the reach of our partnerships with local governments to ensure that the emerging local legal regimes create an enabling environment for achieving the triplet objectives of sustainable development.

Programme Outlook for 2003

The Environmental Democracy Programme strategy for 2003 is to focus on those activities that amplify the voices of the poor people in the making of public policy while ensuring that implementation of environmental policies promote the three twin objectives of sustainable development: economic development, social development and environmental protection. We shall scale up our work with local governments while implementing projects that focus on monitoring policy implementation and the impacts of policy at the local level. The programme is also going to develop more effective mechanisms for providing pro bono legal advisory services for poor communities in distress or those that want to take advantage of opportunities provided by new policies. The programme will promote the work of The Access Initiative in Eastern and Southern Africa.

2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND BIOTECHNOLOGY POLICY PROGRAMME

The IPR and Biotechnology Policy Programme is designed to address four major issues. First, it provides a vehicle for ACODE researchers and associates to engage in and influence

the ongoing global, regional and national policy debates on intellectual property rights and biotechnology. Secondly, it mobilizes Ugandan professionals to invest in building their skills and capacity to effectively participate and influence ongoing public policy processes. Thirdly, the Programme mobilizes Civil Society Organizations to participate in national policy reforms in the areas of intellectual property rights and biotechnology policy. Finally, we invest in monitoring the impacts of IPR regimes and biotechnology on smallholder farmers.



“Participants at a regional workshop organised by ACODE on the negotiations for a liability and redress regime under the cartagena protocol on Biosafety held in October, 2002.

Activities and Achievements

ACODE facilitated high-level policy discussions on the forthcoming negotiations for a liability and redress regime under article 27 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Under a project supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, a series of research activities were undertaken. We commissioned studies in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania to analyze the relevance of existing legal regimes in addressing damage arising from the transboundary movement of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs).

In October 2002, the Programme organized a regional workshop where the various papers were presented and a strategy to guide preparation developed and adopted by the participants. The workshop was attended by key policy makers, national biosafety focal points, parliamentarians and civil society representatives from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. You can find the full report of the workshop at our website at www.acode-u.org.

ACODE has also been involved in a series of other activities related to intellectual property rights, biotechnology and the indigenous knowledge. With financial support from the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST), ACODE undertook analytical work and provided guidance on how the current legal framework can be harnessed to integrate indigenous knowledge into the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA). The Programme is also taking leadership in contributing to and influencing the formulation of national policies on biotechnology, biosafety and the development of biosafety regulations.

International Events

ACODE staff participated in a series of international events where they made presentations and participated in panel discussions. Mr. Arthur Mpeirwe, participated in the workshop on liability and redress organised by the Meridian Institute. The workshop, which aimed at debriefing the delegates to the Third Meeting of the ICCP3, took place in The Hague, The Netherlands in April 2002. This was followed by the Third Meeting of the Inter-governmental Committee on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP3) where Mpeirwe attended as an official member of the Delegation of the Government of Uganda.

Through the activities of the IPR and Biotechnology Policy Programme, ACODE has been able to develop a mutually beneficial partnership with the National Focal Point for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Meridian Institute.

Challenges

The major challenge for the program was limited financial resources to engage in the broad range of advocacy activities. Because of its hitherto impact, partners, especially in Government are putting considerable demands on the Programme. Yet, personnel to address these demands are limited by lack of funding. Similarly, other aspects of the program remain unfunded and as such no activities are carried out.

Programme Outlook for 2003

The Programme of Work for 2003 will focus on consolidating the impact created in the last year while exploring opportunities for new activities and partnerships. Current trends dictate that we put additional emphasis on our work on liability and redress and invest substantial human and financial resources to support the development of biotechnology policies and biosafety regimes in Africa. We will establish more effective partnerships especially with ASARECA, the East African Community (EAC) and to some extent the Forum for Agriculture Research in Africa (FARA). We will explore developing working relationship with the Science and Technology Commission of NEPAD and the CAADP.

At the national level, we will continue to work with the UNCST and other Government of Uganda agencies on a broad range of policy issues and processes including:

- Development and implementation of a national bioprospecting programme;
- Development of a national biotechnology policy, a biosafety policy and biosafety regulations; and
- Mobilizing civil society organizations to engage in and influence these policy reforms.

We intend to further develop the IPR aspects of our programme to ensure that emerging IPR regimes at all levels do not create negative impacts on the poor people. During the course of 2003, efforts will be made to develop a set of activities to influence law reform processes in this area. We therefore envisage establishing working relationship with the Law Reform Commission and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs.

3. PEACE AND CONFLICTS PROGRAMME BECOMES OF AGE

For the last two years, ACODE's research team has engaged in a process to develop the Organization's Peace and Conflicts Programme. The main challenge during this process was to develop and define the scope of the Programme that would not duplicate existing CSO programmes, encourage value addition and be unique in terms of scope and content.

In tandem with the above principles, the current Peace and Conflicts Programme emphasizes the research and documentation aspects of peace and conflicts work in Uganda.

Its uniqueness lies in the fact that we are striving to achieve strategic alliances to promote the teaching of peace in higher institutions of learning.

The Programme has concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Faculty of Arts, Makerere University and the Faculty of Development Studies, Mbarara University of Science and Technology to develop programmes for the teaching of peace at the two Universities. Finally, the programme is designed to add value to current efforts by linking current peace and conflict research with advocacy for peace and peace building.

Objectives of the Peace and Conflicts Programme

- To promote and strengthen national and regional mechanisms for conflict prevention, resolution and management.
- To mobilise, train and nurture national and regional talents from research institutions, academia and governments who can carry out peace and conflict research to support policy makers by providing independent policy analysis.
- To develop a regional mechanism/ system for early Warning and responses to potential violent conflicts to nub them in the bud before degenerating into overt violent conflicts.
- To promote graduate training in peace and conflicts studies through partnership with higher learning institutions.

In July 2002, ACODE and the Centre for Conflict Resolution (CECORE) hosted a consultative meeting on the design of the Africa Programme of the United Nations University for Peace. The meeting, which took place at the ACODE Library of Law and Public Policy, attracted up to 20 CSO representatives and was facilitated by Dr. Mary King and Dr. David Francis from the Africa Peace Programme.

The Quadruple Partnerships

The Peace and Conflicts Programme of ACODE is founded on the realism that strategic alliances between institutions of different competencies can optimize resource use while scaling up impacts and outcomes. Consequently, the Programme started on a process to forge key partnerships to pursue its strategic objectives.

◆ Partnership for Peace Teaching, Research and Advocacy

In 2002, the British Council approved a proposal submitted by ACODE, Mbarara University, Makerere University and the University of Bradford for building capacity for the teaching of peace at the two Ugandan Universities. The project, which is for an initial period of three years, involves development of relevant curricula for undergraduate and graduate studies in peace and conflicts. ACODE will play a major role in ensuring that the research undertaken under this partnership is effectively used in advocacy for peace. By hosting students from the two Universities, students will get opportunities for practical research and hands on experience in advocacy work.

◆ Partnership to Strengthen the Foundations for Peace in Uganda

ACODE initiated discussions with Mbarara University, Makerere University and the Great Lakes Resource Centre to develop projects to build long lasting foundations for peace in Uganda. The four institutions are sponsoring the formation of Uganda National Peace Council (UNPC) and a project to promote the use of scenario methodology to generate debate during the political transition process leading up to 2006.

In addition to these partnerships, ACODE has continued to contribute to the design of the Africa Peace Programme of the United Nations University for Peace (UPEACE). ACODE is co-sponsoring a regional curriculum development workshop later this year.

Programme Outlook for 2003

The Peace and Conflicts Programme will focus on strengthening the Quadruple partnerships and put additional emphasis on linking peace research, teaching and advocacy. The following will form the key elements of our activities under the Programme.

- ❖ We will work with partners to finalize the concept of the Uganda National Peace Council (UNPC) and launch it before the end of the year.
- ❖ ACODE working under the Partnership for Peace Teaching, Research and Advocacy will engage in research to systematically document and analyze the peace initiatives with respect to the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) rebellion.
- ❖ Under the Programme, ACODE will work with partners in Uganda and the Africa Peace Programme of the United Nations to organize the curriculum development workshop for the teaching of peace.

4. TRADE POLICY GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

The overall objective of ACODE's Trade Policy Governance Programme (TPGP) is to promote the democratisation of national, regional and international trade policymaking and trade policy implementation. Staff under this Programme undertake trade policy analysis and advocacy to influence the emerging national, regional and international trade policy initiatives. The goal of our work is to ensure that they contribute to the achievement of poverty eradication objectives while working with Governments in the region to streamline their trade policy institutions.

Specific objectives of the Trade Policy Governance Programme

- Advocating for institutional reforms to ensure coordination, efficiency and accountability in trade policy formulation and implementation;
- Working with Government to formulate trade negotiating positions and advocating for pro-poor trade decisions at the international and regional trade negotiation agendas.
- Strengthen the partnership between civil society and government in trade policy formulation, and the implementation of regional and international trade policy commitments that are responsive to the needs of poor people.

Achievements for the Trade Policy Programme:

During the year 2002, the Trade Policy Governance Programme focused most of its work on facilitating the work of the Inter-Institutional Trade Committee – a multi-stakeholder committee that handles trade policy issues and trade negotiations for the Government of Uganda. ACODE was invited to represent civil society on the IITC and its key sub-committees on TRIPS, Services and Agriculture.

Programme outlook for 2003

Over the year 2003, the Programme will focus most of its work on the following key policy processes:

- Monitoring and influencing the implementation of the WTO Doha Development Agenda to ensure that the outcomes are pro-poor and they support sustainable development;
- Enhancing the role of civil society organizations in the negotiations for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement; and
- Promoting the role of civil society organizations in the formulation of a national trade policy.

Staff Profile

Behind the success of ACODE is a team of highly dedicated professional Research Fellows and support staff. They include:

Godber Tumushabe was appointed Executive Director for ACODE for five year term beginning period April 1, 2002. He holds a Master's Degree in Law and has specialized in governance, environmental law and trade policy. He formerly worked as a Senior Research Fellow with the African Centre for Technology Studies, a regional policy think tank based in Nairobi, Kenya.

E-mail: gtumushabe@acode-u.org

Vicky Luyima is currently working as a Research Fellow (Policy Analyst) with ACODE. Vicky heads ACODE's Environmental Democracy Programme. She holds a Master's Degree in Planning and Development. She has previously worked as Assistant Civil Society Advisor with Department for International Development (DFID EA Uganda), Programme Officer with Oxfam (GB) and as an Economist with Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development of the Republic of Uganda.

E-mail: vluyima@acode-u.org

Arthur Mpeirwe is a Research fellow with ACODE. His work and research interests focus mainly on Intellectual Property Rights, Biotechnology and Biosafety, Indigenous Knowledge and Food Security issues. He is the head of ACODE's Intellectual Property Rights and Biotechnology Programme. Prior to joining ACODE, Arthur worked with the Inspector General of Government as a Legal Officer and the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda as a Legislative Research Analyst. Arthur holds an LLB from Makerere University and a Masters

Degree in Human Rights and Intellectual Property Rights Law from the University of Lund, Sweden.

Email: ampeirwe@acode-u.org

Sophie Kutegeka currently works as the Library Assistant for the ACODE Library of Law and Public Policy. She joined ACODE as a Student Associate and worked as a Volunteer. She is the lady behind the formation and proper management of the ACODE Library of Law and Public Policy Database. She is also Programme Assistant for the PMA project. She has a Bachelors Degree in Arts from Makerere University. She also has a Certificate in Database Management and Systems Administration from Uganda Management Institute. She is currently pursuing a Certificate of Proficiency in Information Systems Management (CPISM) at APTECH Computer Education Kampala.

Email. library@acode-u.org

Loy Night is a Resident Reseach Associate with ACODE. She holds a Bachelors of Laws Degree from Makerere University and a Post Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice awarded by the Law Development Centre. She works mainly in the areas of environmental governance and advises local governments in the formulation and implementation of environmental ordinances and byelaws.

Dick Nuwamanya is currently a Resident Research Associate with ACODE. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture Economics (Hons) from Makerere University. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Science Degree in Agriculture Economics at Makerere University. He specializes in International Trade and Agro-Biotechnology Policy and represents ACODE in the Inter-Institutional Trade Committee of the Government of Uganda.

E-mail: dick@acode-u.org

Johnson Mbaitwa Sibasi is the ACODE Accountant. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration/Accounting from Ndejje University. He also holds a Post graduate Diploma in Financial Management from the Uganda Management Institute. He formerly worked as an external auditor with Kassim-Lakha & Company Certified Public Accountants of Uganda. He also worked as a Senior Accounts Assistant with Church of Uganda before he joined ACODE.

Carolyne Atono is ACODE's Programme Assistant. She offers support to the different programmes and also deals with all the administrative aspects of ACODE. Carolyne holds a Bachelor's Degree in Library & Information Science from Makerere University Kampala and has previously worked as University Librarian of two Universities: Namasagali University and Uganda Christian University, Bishop Barham University College. She also held a teaching position in the previous University in English: writing and study skills. She is currently pursuing a Cisco Certified Networking Academy (CCNA) course at the Department of Women and Gender Studies Makerere University.

Email: acode@acode-u.org

Support staff

Patricia Arinaitwe

Sayuni Godius

Jjagwe Elly

Board News

The Board of Trustees of ACODE met for its 5th Meeting on 1st November, 2002. The Board made a series of programme and institutional related governance decisions that have continued to shape and guide Secretariat operations to date. The Board will convene in Kampala for its 6th Board Meeting on June 5 2003.

Profile of Board Members



Mr. John Ntambirweki is the Chairperson of the Board. He is a Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, Makerere University, Kampala and is also the Founder and Director of the Grotius School of Law and Professional Studies at Busoga University. He holds a Master of Laws degree from the University of Nairobi. He brings with him a wealth of experience working with Government agencies in many African countries and many international organizations. He has vast experience working on many national, regional and international issues and brings with him vast intellectual experience to the Board.



Dr. Patricia G. Kameri-Mbote is currently a lecturer in the Department of private law, Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi and a Senior Researcher at the African Center for Technology Studies (ACTS), Nairobi. She holds a Doctorate of the Science of Law (J.S.D) from Stanford University and a Juridical Sciences Master (U.S.M) from the same University. She also holds a Master of Laws (LLM) in Development from the University of Warwick. Patricia brings a lot of intellectual capital and experience relevant to several programmatic areas of ACODE especially in the areas of Biotechnology Policy and Intellectual Property Rights.



Dr. John Palamagamba Kabudi is currently a Senior Lecturer at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, in the United Republic of Tanzania. He is also advisor to the Office of the Vice President on the environment. Dr. Kabudi is a member of the Board of the Lawyers' Environment Action Team (LEAT) and the Human Rights and Legal Resource Centre- two leading partner NGOs in Tanzania. He therefore brings with him immense experience in NGO management.



Mr. Frank Rwakabwohe is the Deputy Co-coordinator of the Planning, Development and Rehabilitation (PDR) Office of the Church of Uganda. He sits on the Boards of several Ugandan NGOs and his grassroots work experience is a great contribution to ensuring that ACODE's policy research and advocacy work responds to the needs of the poor.



Dr. Josephine Ajema Odera holds a Doctorate degree in Conflict Management from the University of Ghent, Belgium having previously qualified with a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Nairobi. She is currently engaged as a lecturer at the Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies (IDIS), University of Nairobi and serves as the Deputy Director for the Africa Peace Forum. Josephine's current involvement in the on-going peace initiatives in the region brings with her first hand experience to ACODE's Peace and Conflict Programme.



Mr. Medad John Mwesigwa is the Principle Accountant with the Housing Finance Company of Uganda and also teaches professional programmes at the Makerere University Business School. He is the Board Treasurer and his background and immense experience is invaluable to the Organization especially in matters of financial management and oversight.



Ms. Christine Lalobo holds a Master of Arts Degree in Journalism from Rostov State University and is currently the Programme Manager; Hope for Africa Children Initiative (HACI). She has worked with a number of local and international NGOs including World Learning and Uganda Community Based Association for Child Welfare. She also formerly worked as Trust Administrator for the Mgahinga and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest Conservation Trust (MBIFCT) and is currently President of the Association of African Women for Research and Development (AA WORD).



Professor Ephraim Kamuntu is currently the Member of Parliament for Sheema South, Bushenyi District and Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sessional Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development. He is a professor of economics, former Cabinet Minister and has extensive experience working with the private sector.

Ex-official Members



Mr. Godber Tumushabe was appointed Executive Director for ACODE for five year term beginning period April 1, 2002. He holds a Master's Degree in Law and has specialized in governance, environmental law and trade policy. He formerly worked as a Senior Research Fellow with the African Centre for Technology Studies, a regional policy think tank based in Nairobi, Kenya.

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Mr. Arthur Bainomugisha is a Research Associate of ACODE. He heads the Peace and Conflicts Programme and also works with the Planning Development and Rehabilitation program of Church of Uganda as a Management Information Systems officer. He holds a Master of Arts Degree in Peace Studies from the University of Bradford, United Kingdom and a Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communication from Makerere University, Kampala.



Mr. Onesmus Mugenyi is a Research fellow with ACODE. He heads the Trade Policy Governance Programme and also lectures commercial and International Business Law at Makerere University Business School, Kampala. He is an advocate & has specialised training in poverty reduction strategies & policy analysis skills.

2003 Events Calendar

- Policy Dialogue meeting on the National Food Security and Nutrition Policy, January 29th, 2003.
- Out put to purpose Review of the PMA Project, 4 - 7th Feb, May, 2003
- Widening Civil Society Participation In The ENR SWAP And PEAP Revision Process, April 24 -25, 2003.
- Sixth Meeting of the Board, Kampala, Uganda- June 5, 2003
- Eastern and Southern Africa Sub-Regional Workshop on Genetically Modified Organisms, Kampala, Uganda - June 30-July 2, 2003
- Meeting of technical officers to discuss committments for partnership for principal 10 (pp10), 4th July, 2003, Min. of Water, Lands & Environment Board Room.

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