

What GUSO has done in Iganga.

The implementation of the Get Up Speak Out (GUSO) project by 8 organizations (UNYPA, RHU, STF, FLEP, RD, NAFOPHANU, RAHU and CHERDU) under the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Alliance Uganda for five years from 2016-2020 in Iganga district has led to the empowerment of Young People Living with HIV and People affected by HIV with information to advocate for their Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).

Since Iganga district is one of the district with the highest levels of HIV prevalence rates, teenage pregnancy, child marriages and SRHR violations in Uganda.

The project led to introduction of the Peer Buddy model where various peer buddies were posted to health facilities providing ART services in the sub counties of Nakigo and Namungalwe so that they conduct health education, counseling on SRHR issue and sharing experiences with HIV+ mothers.

The implementation of the GUSO project in the district has enabled various Young People Living with HIV to access SRHR services during the COVID-19 pandemic like HIV/TB drugs and condoms as well as provision of food when restrictions to public transport means and lockdowns were introduced by the government to prevent the spread of the virus.

The project through district advocacy activities has led to the formation of a district network called “Iganga Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS (INYPA)” towards addressing SRHR challenges that hinder adolescents & young people from realizing their life goals.