

# AWYAD NEWS



**Celebrating Women's  
Triumphs: AWYAD &  
Partners Empower  
Grassroots Women with  
Financial Skills & Startup  
Grants!**

**Gender-Based Violence (GBV) remains a major challenge for women in vulnerable settings—especially in urban slums and refugee settlements, where poverty and displacement heighten risks.**

**For 14 years, AWYAD has championed the rights of women and girls, working to eliminate all forms of violence and inequality.**

**In 2024, we launched two impactful projects [STEPS & Spotlight Initiative] focused on ending violence against women and girls. Special attention is given to refugee women and women with disabilities—ensuring those most at risk receive the tools, support, and protection needed to reclaim their power.**

**Through strong collaboration with government ministries and partners, AWYAD continues to support women in Kampala, urban poor communities, and settlements with protection services and start-up grants—enabling them to achieve economic independence and live free from violence.**

**This quarter, we've seen real change: women's voices are rising, small businesses are growing, and more women are taking on leadership roles. These inspiring stories are shared in our latest newsletter. At AWYAD, we believe women must not only be protected—they must lead.**

**Thank you to our donors, partners, and supporters for walking this journey with us.**

**Steven Wamono Bwayo  
Executive Director, AWYAD**

**Watch More-  
[https://www.youtube.co  
m/watch?  
v=eq1z8WelfWw&t=51s&  
pp=ygUSV29tZW4gZmly  
c3QtVUJDIFR2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq1z8WelfWw&t=51s&pp=ygUSV29tZW4gZmlyc3QtVUJDIFR2)**

# Advancing Gender Data for Impact: AWYAD Engages in EPRC's Gender Statistics Initiative

AWYAD was honored to participate in the launch of Training Manuals & the Mentorship Programme on Embedding Gender Statistics in Decision-Making and Policy Advocacy, led by the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC).

[Read More](#)

[https://x.com/EPRC\\_official/status/1897655028443230212](https://x.com/EPRC_official/status/1897655028443230212)



## Henry Bakira Joins EPRC's Mentorship Program

As part of this initiative, EPRC is rolling out a mentorship program in gender statistics, and we are thrilled to share that Henry Bakira will be representing AWYAD as a trainee! His participation will enhance our capacity to leverage gender data for more effective advocacy and program implementation.

[Read More on](#)

<https://x.com/nuwodu/status/1897522633735815442>

This landmark event brought together key stakeholders—including government ministries, departments, agencies, civil society organizations, and development partners—committed to strengthening gender data production, analysis, and advocacy.

EPRC has developed comprehensive training manuals aimed at equipping stakeholders with the skills needed to integrate gender statistics into policy and decision-making. These resources will play a crucial role in advancing gender-responsive governance and ensuring data-driven advocacy.





## Hope in Action at Nyakabande Transit Centre!

Since February, AWYAD has been at the forefront of providing urgent protection support to individuals arriving at Nyakabande Transit Centre—a lifeline for many amidst an increasing influx of persons of concern

Thanks to the unwavering support from CARE International Uganda, we've reached 244 people with critical Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Child Protection services. Among them were 117 children and 127 adults, each with a unique story and a need for compassion, care, and safety.

Under the STEPS Project (Sustainable Transition to Locally Led Emergency and Protection Services), our team continues to show up where it matters most—putting protection first, restoring dignity, and walking alongside the most vulnerable, especially women and children, during times of uncertainty.

Together, we are making every step count toward a safer, more humane future.



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# AWYAD and Heroes Teenagers & Women's Centre Launch SRH Education at YY Okot Memorial

AWYAD, in partnership with Heroes Teenagers and Women's Centre, has launched a Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Education program at YY Okot Memorial to address critical challenges affecting students' retention in school.

A needs assessment conducted prior to the launch revealed that a significant number of children were dropping out of school due to a lack of essential needs, including menstrual hygiene products.



In response, AWYAD and Heroes will be training students on how to make reusable pads, ensuring that girls can manage their menstrual health with dignity and continue their education without disruption.



Additionally, capacity-building sessions for teachers on mental health will be conducted to equip them with the skills needed to identify and support students facing mental health challenges.

This initiative reflects AWYAD's ongoing commitment to promoting inclusive education and well-being for all learners by addressing both reproductive health and mental health needs in schools.

[\*Read More\*](#)

[\*https://x.com/EPRC\\_official/status/1897655028443230212\*](https://x.com/EPRC_official/status/1897655028443230212)



# Empowering Women, Transforming Lives: AWYAD Celebrates Grassroots Women's Achievements

On March 7, 2025, AWYAD marked International Women's Day with a grand celebration in Naguru Go-Down Community, honoring the resilience and achievements of grassroots women.

Since 2024, AWYAD has been empowering vulnerable women in this area, focusing on refugees, HIV-positive individuals, the elderly, and women with disabilities.



As part of this initiative, AWYAD partnered with Opportunity Bank to provide financial literacy training to 150 women.

During the celebrations, 50 women were awarded certificates for successfully completing the training, recognizing their commitment to financial independence.

Additionally, 10 outstanding women received startup grants to boost their businesses—many of whom have already shown remarkable growth.



The event, organized in partnership with KCCA and other key stakeholders, was a powerful testament to the impact of economic empowerment in transforming lives.

AWYAD remains committed to ensuring that grassroots women continue to access skills, resources, and opportunities that enable them to thrive.

[Read More](#)

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# Welcoming Our New Head of Finance and Administration



We are delighted to introduce Dan Mugwanya as our new Head of Finance and Administration.

Dan brings a wealth of experience and expertise in financial management and organizational administration.

His leadership will be instrumental in strengthening our internal systems and supporting the growth and impact of our work.

Join us in warmly welcoming Dan to the team!



# AWYAD Staff Trained on PSEA & Safeguarding

On March 28, 2025, AWYAD was honored to host Ms. Julia Kushemererwa from NRC , who conducted an in-depth training session on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) & Safeguarding for AWYAD staff

As humanitarian aid workers, we recognize that safeguarding is at the core of our work.

It is our responsibility to uphold the highest standards of protection for the communities we serve—including refugees, GBV survivors, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups—ensuring they are safe from sexual exploitation, harassment, and abuse.



AWYAD team taking part in a vibrant and interactive session during the PSEA & Safeguarding Training, reinforcing our commitment to protection and accountability.

At AWYAD, we are committed to:

- ✓ Zero tolerance for abuse or sexual misconduct—ensuring a safe environment for all.
- ✓ Reporting all safeguarding concerns—accountability is key to protection.
- ✓ Treating everyone with dignity and respect—regardless of background or circumstance.
- ✓ Ensuring safe and ethical engagement with children—avoiding inappropriate physical contact, never sharing sleeping spaces, and prioritizing their well-being at all times.

[Read More](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

APR

28- WORLD MENSTRUAL HYGIENE DAY

JUN

11-INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PLAY

JUN

16-DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

JUN

20-WORLD REFUGEE DAY



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