1. **Objective and relevance**

**Objective of the intervention**

Strengthening Child Friendly Organisation Uganda (CFOUs) cooperation with NGOs for financial cooperation and promotion of the Psycho Social Model.

**Why is the intervention important?**

It is necessary and important for CFOU as an NGO to establish strong cooperation with local and international NGOs, CBOs as well as Government departments for future diversity resource mobilisation.

CFOU has been working in Busedde Sub County, Jinja District, since 2008 with projects/interventions for orphans and children and youth living with HIV/AIDS.

CFOU has been cooperating and networking with several local civic organisations mainly on the professional side using a holistic Psycho-social model developed by CFOU during the years of operation. CFOU has managed to get small funds for special activities from different CBOs and well wishers but CFOU needs to enter into alliances with other NGOs for financial cooperation and promotion of the psycho-social model to other organisations and Government Ministries and departments.

Up to 2019 CFOU was recognized as a CBO approved to work in Busedde Sub County only. By 15th of January 2019 CFOU was recognized as an NGO and permitted to operate an organisation in Jinja, Buyende, Luuka, Mayuge, Iganga and Sironko Districts. This makes it necessary for CFOU to achieve diversity funding through cooperation with national and international NGOs in order to fulfil her obligations according to permission: “The organization shall carry out its activities in the fields of providing health and educational services; providing psycho-social support & economic empowerment; sensitizing people living with HIV/AIDS; promoting primary health care and community outreach.

The organization shall operate in Jinja, Buyende, Luuka, Mayuge, Iganga and Sironko Districts.”

CFOU is the only civil society organization working in Busedde apart from some organization who is donating small funds to specific activities – e.g. donating mosquito nets to most vulnerable children

**Context of the intervention**

Busedde is composed of five Parishes and 45 villages and has approximately 6000 orphans - 1200 in each parish. The orphans mainly due to HIV/AIDS suffer stigmatization, lack of parental love, grief, neglecting, forced into child labor, physical and sexual abuse, poverty, school dropout and forced early marriages.

Two Health Centre’s in Busedde offer HIV/AIDS services for the children and youth living with HIV/AIDS.

There are four secondary schools, four governmental primary schools and a number of private schools. School’s enrolment and completion rates are below average compared to urban schools in Uganda.

The majority of people living in Busedde rural Sub County is very poor and is compounded by hunger. The people are mainly small-scale sugarcane growers with a very small or no profit margin. Most farmers have reduced the land for growing sugar cane and hired out to rich farmers (the out growers) which often lead to food crisis in the area. Unemployment is common and most youths and men loiter in the small trading centers.

As a part of the Small Scale Intervention for strengthening CFOU’s resource mobilization a strategy plan was carried out. The extern consultant writes in the abstract: “Non-Governmental organizations in Uganda are confronted with the declining external donor funding.

The environment in which resources are mobilized is increasingly competitive, given the rise of numerous development actors, coupled with scarcity of resources resulting from the recent global economic crisis. Resource mobilization has therefore become a more challenging exercise demanding a mix of knowledge and skills”.

A comprehensive strategy was prepared and will be used by CFOU in planning the strategy for this intervention.

CFOU is at present implementing a Citizenship Participation Intervention. The evaluation report concludes among other issues that:

“In the period of September 2018 to August 2020, CFOUs aims were community capacity development, psycho social and Advocacy activities, community and local leaders’ involvement in CFOU’s activities. The intervention has been relevant, and was implemented using a community-based approach which empowered and encouraged community participation and ownership of the project in the two parishes of Nalinaibi and Kisasi”.

Among the recommendations the consultant writes “The sub county should lobby the district for more partners to implement projects in Busedde because the needs of the community are many and cannot be solved by CFOU alone. CFOU on the other hand should continue collaborating with other partners for referral of such cases that are beyond her mandate”.

CFOU work in collaboration with relevant Government line ministries, local political and traditional leaders, the police unit for family protection, and NGOs such as ANNPCAN (African Network for prevention and protection against child abuse and neglect) NEMACY (Network for Marginalized Children and Youths) TASO (leading organization working with people living with HIV/AIDS) – Uganda Red Cross Youth (working with projects in life planning skills training for youths).

However, the cooperation with these organizations is only on the professional implementation level; no of the organizations have capacity to support CFOU on the financial level.

Therefore, CFOU must seek for partnership and alliance with NGO with whom CFOU can cooperate on the financial level and for promotion of the psycho-social model district’s and national wide.

The intervention will take place in a stable context. However, the Covid19 pandemic has caused a lot of severe social and physiological problems for the people and communities in Busedde Sub County. Shortly after the out spring of the virus in March a lot of domestic violence was reported; the vast majority lost their jobs and the government stopped all public transport. CFOU had to close the office and the staff stayed at home

**How this intervention can contribute to supporting collaboration, public engagement and civil organising and how this in time will contribute to social justice**

The intervention will contribute to supporting public engagement through the workshops with the local leaders, community members and local schools in which CFOU will share information on the result from the outcome analysis and evaluation reports.

These groups will be involved in the decisions regarding future CFOU applications.

Memorandums of Understanding will be signed with relevant departments, NGOs and CVO’s in order to secure that government programs and strategies are fulfilled.

**Climate- and environmental conditions**

Busedde is facing a lot of environmental challenges because the area is liable to droughts and the opposite erratic rainfalls; the majority of farmers are sugarcane growers and have reduced their piece of land for growing sugarcane, whereby growing food crops are limited. These factors lead to food crisis and add to the general poverty in the area. The majority of households use firewood for cooking which is leading to a high extends of tree cutting and health problems among family members.

In order to fight three cutting and health problems in the households CFOU has trained community members in building and use of energy saving stoves made of local material.

These activities have contributed to fight the environmental conditions and will continue to pay a key part of CFOU activities in the future.

**Previous acquaintance and cooperation between the partners**

Child friendly Organisation Uganda (CFOU) was established by people in living and working in Busedde in 2002 as a community-based organisation, CBO. It was funded by well wishers and with the vision to catalyze the transformation of health services to orphans and children living with HIV/AIDS in Busedde Sub County.

In 2007 two members of SwB visit the organisation and the partnership between the organisations established. CISU granted a small project which was followed by three more grants and a capacity building intervention and in 2019 a Small Intervention with the aim to strengthen CFO’s capacity for resource mobilisation.

CFOU implemented in the period September 2018 – ultimo October 2020 a Citizenship Intervention with the aim to build the capacities of community members in two parishes to implement psycho social activities for orphans and children/youth living with HIV/AIDS.

A core value of CFOU’s work is that children and youth must be involved in designing of the project’s objectives and activities together with caregivers, community members and local leaders. Different tools such as the Problem Tree and need assessment interview in groups is used.

Stigmatisation has always been described by the orphans and children and youth living with HIV/AIDS as one of their main problems in homes, communities and schools. Advocacy, awareness raising and information activities have therefore been an activity included in all projects.

Throughout the years of operation CFOU has developed the Psycho-Social model into a holistic method in which the psycho-social activities, advocacy activities for children’s right and organic/intensive farming method pay and equal important part. The method also includes life skills training e.g. hygiene, repair of clothes, soap-making, handicraft for children and adolescent. Additional Life Planning Skills training pay and important part in psycho-social model including, sexuality, family planning, how to plan for future, communication for youth.

The Psycho Social method is a holistic approach that enables orphans and caregivers to experience love, protection, build meaningful relations and have a sense of self worth, belonging and hope. The psycho social sessions are a set of activities comprised of free play, organized play, music and dance, sport activities, counseling and peer group discussions/activities. Furthermore, CFOU has developed a model called Expressive Therapy. It is an action oriented counseling/therapy method through which children and adolescents with special psychological problems explore issues and communicate their feelings to a trained counselor. The tools used are LEGO, clay modeling, story writing, group and individual counseling.

The partners implemented an outcome analysis for the period 2009-20017 as a part of a Small Scale Intervention with the aim to strengthen CFOU’s resource mobilization capacity.

The analyses concluded that:

* The children and youth personnel and social competences strengthened
* Their hopes for a better future raised
* Stigmatization of the children and youth reduced to a minimum
* Child labor in the sugar plantations reduced to a minimum and bay law prohibiting child labor in Busedde Sub County is in place
* Sexual and physical violence against children and youth reduced in homes and communities
* A number of youths trained in skills such as sewing, shoe repair, hair dressing, soap making, handicraft, ecological gardening/farming raising of domestic animals and building of energy sawing owns which have made them able to earn a living
* A number of caregivers and local farmers trained in ecological-intensive farming which have made them earn a living and secured food supply

The overall conclusion is “The psychosocial method and life planning skills trainings, have created a positive impact to the orphans and children living with HIV/AIDS in Bussede Sub County this is observed through the behavioral change of the orphans and youth.

Child Friendly Organization Uganda, through its sensitization drives, advocated for the rights of the orphans and children living with HIV/AIDS”.

SwB has established a group of four members who have been involved in the project for several years and thereby gained a lot of experience in Psycho-social methods and the context in Busedde Sub County. Furthermore, three of them have experiences from working in Uganda, Kenya and Zimbabwe, in similar projects and the fourth member has experience and economic knowledge on a high level.

The partners experiences has feed in designing this intervention in the way that all previous cooperation and learning gained is the background for designing the intervention. However it is difficult to point out specific activities.

**CFOU - Capacity and resources**

CFOU is a membership organization and has a board of seven board members democratically elected by the General Assembly. The members are local people including one member who joined CFOU as an orphan when the organization started, and some professionals who have been working in Busedde for several years for other CBOs.

There are three employees: A director/coordinator – half time, which has a university degree in child and adolescent therapy, a psycho-social officer with a bachelor in child and adolescent therapy, (she also joined CFOU as an orphan many years back) and an accountant – half time - with a certificate, who also work as an assistant administrator.

The board members and staff have undergone training in project administration, planning, monitoring and implementation. CFOU has successfully implemented four CISU financed project and two capacity building interventions, one in cooperation with SwB partner CARC, Zimbabwe, with the aim to develop the psycho-social method and produce guides in psycho-social work. These guides are now widely spread to other organizations, Kenya included.

CFOU has also managed to source funds for skills training of youth in Busedde as well as funding for other small projects.

When it comes to resources CFOU has engaged and trained almost 80 volunteers throughout her existence. Some the volunteers implement psycho-social activities, some train fellow community members in extensive organic farming and use of IMF, and building energy saving stoves. Some volunteers do the important work of mobilizing orphans, caregivers and other community members for activities.

In cooperation with SwB CFOU applied to a Danish fund for building a house in the center of Busedde Sub county; the house is housing CFOU offices, meeting and assembly rooms which are used also for skills training, workshop etc. and a library.

**Partners roles, and responsibilities.**

The Role of CFOU in the intervention will be to administrate the funds, plan all activities and be responsible for the entire implementation and report writing – including reports to SwB.

SwB will have the overall responsibility for the Intervention and contact with CISU. SwB will supervise CFOU accordingly and respond on the reports received.

A monthly report by CFOU will be submitted to SwB.

Target groups

**The primary target group**

* At least 15 NGOs identified by CFOU as relevant partners for future alliances

**The secondary target group**

* CFOU board (seven members) and staff (three members).
* CFOU volunteers (80), local politicians and community leaders, local community members and the orphans (appr. 600) who participated in the previous CFOU-projects and interventions.

CFOU board and staff will benefit from the intervention because they will be strengthened to cooperate and enter into alliances with NGOs and relevant Government Ministries in order to obtain financial anchoring and sustainability.

Communities in Busedde Sub County and other Sub counties will thereby benefit from the results of this intervention in the long run.

The primary target group will plan and implement the activities in this intervention.

The secondary targets will participate in this intervention through workshops where orphans, youth, caregivers will present the psycho-social model through drama, plays, dances etc., volunteers how they are working with the model, primary counselling and advocacy activities.

The local leaders and community members by presenting the impact CFOUs activities have had in then communities.

**Immediate objective**

CFOU has identified relevant partners among national and international NGOs for future financial alliances and promotion of the psycho-social model

**Expected results**

CFOU has entered into alliances with at least up to five NGOs for financial support and cooperation and promotion of the psycho-social model.

The intervention is designed to take place in 6 months. As the first step in the strategy CFOU will establish a task force of board members and staff with the purpose to identify relevant NGOs to approach for meeting to the organisation concerning discussion of a possible alliance.

CFOU will focus on NGOs already operating in the districts in which CFOU is supposed to operate in according her permit to operate in.

CFOU will identify key stake holders among the different departments in the Districts in which CFOU is supposed to operate in, both political and technical staff for networking. Memorandum of understand regarding cooperation should be signed.

CFOU will visit the identified NGOs and stakeholders in order to create personal contacts and information about CFOU’s and the activities the organisation has carried out during the period of operation.

As a tool CFOU will present the outcome analysis report and the information material prepared by a journalist as a result of the information strategy worked out during the outcome analysis. CFOU has a website which will be updated and edited.

As the second step in the strategy CFOU will conduct two workshops at her premises at Bugobia in Busedde Sub County.

The participants will be the identified partners for alliances and cooperation. The purpose of the workshop is to present how CFOU is working and her premises.

A number of local leaders, volunteers, representatives for the children/ youth and caregivers will participate and present CFOU activities.

Visits to caregivers, child headed families will take place.

CFOU conduct a conference will for NGOs in order to discuss and sign memorandum of understanding.

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| Activities | With whom | Time plan |
| Establish a task force to work on the intervention - plan the activities |  | December 2020 |
| CFOU to identify at least 15 relevant NGOs in the Uganda to approach for entering into alliances |  | January –February 2021 |
| Visits to identified NGOs |  | February –March 2021 |
| Workshops with NGOs in the District with CFOU and local leaders, technical staff, representatives of youths and caregivers to inform about the intervention and results of the visits to NGOs |  | March 2021 |
|  Conference at CFOU for Signing of MOU, CFOU with NGOs identified. Local leaders and other relevant stakeholders to be present. |  | March 2021 |
| CFOU staff, Board and relevant NGOs visit selected households of orphans, child headed households in villages, presenting the Psycho-social model in action.  |  | April - May 2021 |
| Finalising the intervention - Six months report  |  | May 2021 |
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