

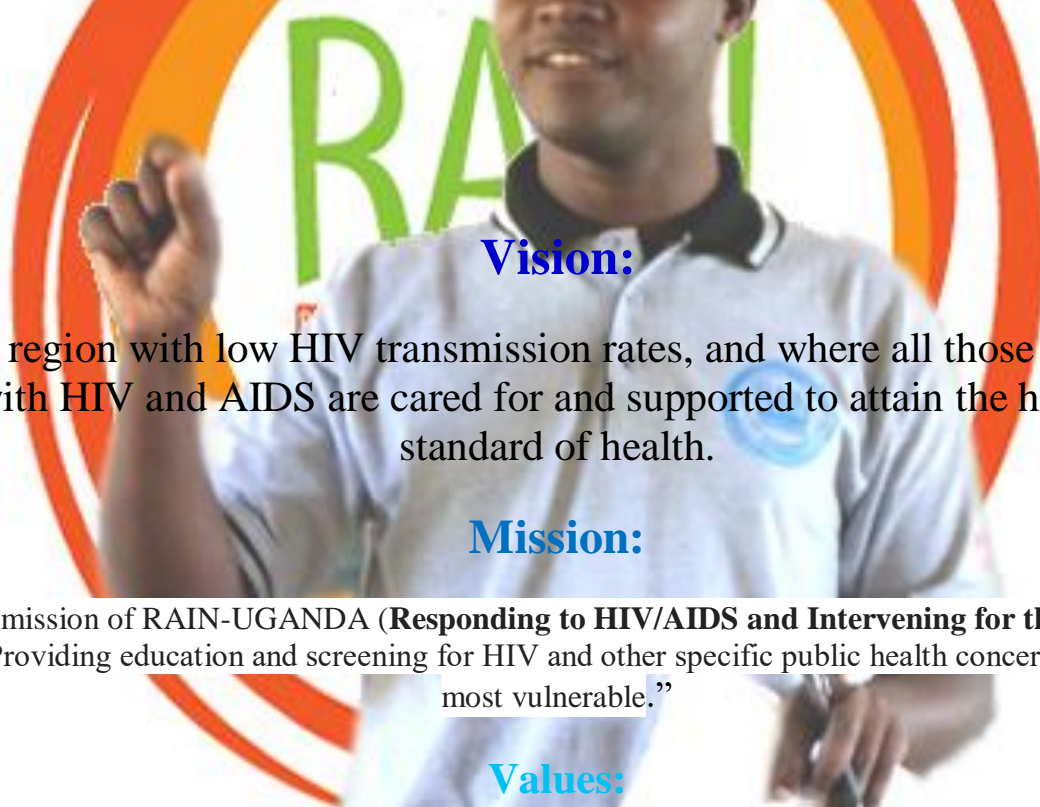
# RAIN-UGANDA

## Monthly Progress Report



**Written by: David Okweny and Juma Kasolo**

## March 1<sup>st</sup>- March 31<sup>st</sup> 2021



### **Vision:**

A region with low HIV transmission rates, and where all those living with HIV and AIDS are cared for and supported to attain the highest standard of health.

### **Mission:**

The mission of RAIN-UGANDA (**R**esponding to HIV/AIDS and **I**ntervening for the Needy) is, “Providing education and screening for HIV and other specific public health concerns to those most vulnerable.”

### **Values:**

Integrity • Confidentiality • Innovation • Accountability  
• Compassion • Mutual respect • Accountability

### **Editorial Team:**

David Okweny and Kasolo Juma

**Photography:** David Okweny Kasolo Juma.

**Design:** David Okweny

## PREAMBLE

Responding to HIV/AIDS and Intervening for the needy (RAIN-Uganda) is a non-governmental, non-political, inter-faith based organization which started in 2006 as an informal group of individuals and volunteers. RAIN-Uganda is committed to advocating for accessibility, equity and equality of health services on behalf of the disadvantaged communities in our catchment areas.

The mission of RAIN-UGANDA (**Responding to HIV/AIDS and Intervening for the Needy**) is, “Providing education and screening for HIV and other specific public health concerns to those most vulnerable”. RAIN strives to achieve this mission through community outreaches in rural villages, doing educational meetings for HIV and cervical cancer, and follow up screening for both. RAIN has been providing these services in some capacity for 10 years.

**Legal Status:** RAIN-UG is an indigenous Non-Governmental, Non-Profit Making, Non-Denominational, Charitable Organization; first registered in 2010 (**registration number 8295**) under the Non-Governmental Organizations’ Registration Statute of 1989 and has renewed their license (**S.5914/8825**)

**Geographical Coverage:** RAIN-UGANDA was formed to function in rural areas where these issues could be addressed and intervention could begin and currently RAIN-UG now operates in 9 districts with a total estimated population of **2,469,800** people as stated in the table below

District	Estimated Population 2020
Budaka	253,100
<u>Bududa</u>	271,100
Butebo	121,200
Kibuku	250,600
Manafwa	175,200
Mbale	586,300
Namutumba	306,500
Sironko	274,300
Namisindwa	231,500

RAIN-Uganda serves as a dynamic information resource, sharing its knowledge and experience with other communities, in order to ensure that similar independent, community-owned programs are successfully proliferated

RAIN-Uganda therefore strives to restore health in its entirety: physical, social, mental, spiritual and socio-economic, defining each component as necessary in the delivery of the minimum health care package as defined in Uganda's Health Sector Strategic Plan (MOH, Uganda) and contributing to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals(MDGs).

## **RAIN UGANDA PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES**

### **1. HIV &AIDS**

Our Interventions include

- Training of the relevant health care professionals
- Community health education on HIV &AIDS
- HIV Testing Services (HTS), To attain the first 90, RAIN Uganda strengthened HTS at community level through outreaches
- Linkage to care for clients with positive HIV test result for management and treatment
- Follow up

### **2. CERVICAL CANCER/ Breast cancer screening**

It is the second most common cancer among women worldwide yet preventable, but most women in poorer countries do not have access to effective screening programmes. **Our**

**Interventions include**

- Training of the relevant health care professionals
- Community health education on Breast and cervical cancer
- Community screening through outreaches
- Linkage to care for women with an abnormal test result for management and treatment
- Follow-up

### **3. Health Screening ( HT, DM,Hepatitis, Malaria Syphilis)**

**4. COVID 19 Education** and clinical Screening & referrals for lab testing at accredited laboratories with guidance from MOH

5. Distribution of IEC Materials (HIV, Hepatitis B, Breast and Cervical cancer and COVID 19)

7. Condom Distribution

8. Distribution of Hand Washing facilities

## **RAIN UGANDA, AHF HIV/AIDS, COVID-19 AND CERVICAL CANCER EDUCATION, SCREENING AND REFERRAL PROJECT (RACERS Project)**

COVID 19 The worst health crisis of our generation is challenging the world. We are extremely concerned about how COVID-19 is affecting the most vulnerable populations. Reduced infrastructure and healthcare provisions make the virus harder to control. This, in turn, makes the pandemic and the already existing diseases harder to control. We are responding to the COVID-19 outbreak by adapting our current recommendations and programmes and implementing new remote approaches to ensure we address the immediate and medium impacts of the outbreak. Our response is tailored towards the most vulnerable communities in which we already work. RAIN Uganda seeks to raise awareness and provide factual information about HIV and COVID-19, transmission, management, and care. It does this through day-long seminars with community leaders and educational sessions held at the beginning of each testing session. RAIN Uganda addresses the need of educating local women and men about the HIV, HPV and COVID-19 virus, how it is contracted, and their prevention. RAIN Uganda seeks to increase the demand and access to screening services, particularly in rural locations where we are present. RAIN Uganda will create the demand for COVID-19 screening and education communities on home base COVID-19 Management and referral protocols in line with Ministry of Health guidelines. With the funding from AHF, RAIN.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE RACERS PROJECT:**

1. To scale up awareness on COVID 19, HIV/AIDS and Cervical /Breast cancer among the youth, elderly and married couples.
2. To Increase access to HIV testing by 25% in our catchment area( **scale up to 24 outreaches from 19 outreaches previously**)
3. To Increase knowledge and demand for screening of specific health conditions including HIV and AIDS, COVID-19 and Cervical Cancer by 15% in our catchment area ( **hold atleast 20 education sessions**)



4. To Increase the number of women of reproductive age testing with other family members by 10% (from 568 to 625 women), We shall also encourage and facilitate at least 500 People with Signs and symptoms of COVID19 access testing services and ensure those who test positive give appropriate care.
5. Assisted Partner Notification(APN)services: APN is a process through which HIV-positive index clients (i.e., infected persons who are candidates for Assisted partner notification services) are interviewed to elicit information about their sexual partners, who can then be confidentially notified of their possible exposure or potential risk, and offered HIV testing services. The overall goal of APN services is to prevent HIV transmission and progression through partner notification and the provision of screening and referrals for treatment for identified partners.
6. Consolidate health services of a drop in Center within RAIN UGANDA offices. Drop in center is a point of HIV testing services are made readily available to the populations who would otherwise lack access to HIV testing services either due to existing subgroup specific barriers or because of inadequate outreaches due to government regulations put in place due to social distancing. HIV testing will be provided using the National Testing Algorithm.
7. To provide counseling and testing for HIV/AIDS and Cervical /Breast cancer and link the infected to care.
8. Conduct at least 18 education and sensitization sessions in the community: Multi-disease sensitization campaigns decrease stigma and discrimination and attract different age groups and social classes who may otherwise not test for HIV or COVID-19. Other medical conditions such syphilis, Hepatitis B, Diabetes, Hypertension screening may be promoted as well as cervical cancer for women including family planning services.
9. Access and distribute at least 500 copies of Information, Education and Communication materials about HIV, Cervical/breast cancer, and COVID-19.
10. To provide care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS and the affected families.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRESS SO FAR MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>-31<sup>ST</sup>/2021

### 1. LAUNCH OF THE RACERS PROJECT AT RAIN UGANDA

Rain Uganda staff we inducted to the new RACERS project. This took place at hill top hotel in Mbale. The staff were taken through the project objectives by Executive Director Dr. Wamani Samson where he emphasized that his project is about increasing access to HIV testing, breast/ cervical cancer screen and education for COVID 19.

He recommended purchase of corporate wear for all staff which should always be worn whenever one is on Duty.

### 2. LAUNCH OF RACERS PROJECT IN BUDAKA DISTRICT

This was done on Thursday march 18<sup>th</sup> 2021

The dignitaries in Attendance included

**RAIN UGANDA**  
Responding to HIV/AIDS and Intervening for the Needy

Attendance List Form

Activity: District Stakeholders' meeting  
Venue: District Headquarters, Budaka Date: 18/03/2021

S/N	Name	Title	Contact	Email	Signature
1.	NABUNGA Lwanga	DPC	052009368	Nabunga.lwanga@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
2.	MUGAZZI Julia	SPSOD	0782818087	juliana.mugazi@gmail.com	[Signature]
3.	MUGAZI KANIFA	SED	0782965452	kanifa@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
4.	Ndegemo Rebecca	Dist Sec	0771066915	ndegemo@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
5.	KIATA CHARITWE	SCDO	0702301433	charitwe@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
6.	KIRITU FREDRICK	DCAO	0779264742	kitutuherbert2020@gmail.com	[Signature]
7.	MULEKA KARIM	MCPSO	0750811675	abdulkarim@gmail.com	[Signature]
8.	WAKKORICHARD	(PEO)	0772872334	wakkorichard@gmail.com	[Signature]
9.	KIURE GERALD	DIS	0782439547	gerald.kiure@gmail.com	[Signature]
10.	Kanyenza Helen	ASD	070235320	kanyenza.helen@gmail.com	[Signature]
11.	Namugwero Victor	SHS	0772771409	namugwero.victor@gmail.com	[Signature]
12.	KANIFA	PEO	0772771409	kanifa@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
13.	WURE PAUL	CIP	0772919056	compau@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
14.	Mpindi Pius	DCDO	0777753541	mpindi@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
15.	Kaluya Mase	Office	0776141568	kaluya@rainuganda.org	[Signature]
16.					

Prepared by: Kasolo Julia  
Signature: [Signature]  
Title: Admin. Finance

### **Welcome Remarks: -**

On the behalf of the Executive director and RAIN-Uganda RACERS project team Mr. Kasolo Juma made the welcome remarks where he welcomed and thanked the dignitaries for sparing their time to be part of the high level meeting.

Sr. Takali Sylvia took the dignitaries through RAIN Uganda overview and the RACERS project. In her remarks, Sr. Takali commended the distinguished guests present in attendance that their presence highlights both a strong interest in human rights in the context of HIV/AIDS, Cervical/breast cancer and COVID 19 as well as a shared concern that Budaka district has unresolved problems in this areas.

She emphasized the major objective of this meeting, was to Meet and build relationships with leadership of Budaka district for quality service delivery and to create awareness among the stakeholders of RAIN- UGANDA programme activities at the District

Sr. Takali also said that RAIN-UGANDA recognises that HIV/AIDS, Breast/Cervical cancer and COVID 19 prevention is the most effective approach to reducing new infections and minimizing the impact of these epidemics. Since the last decade, Uganda has been expanding coverage and improving the quality of HIV prevention services which combine behavioural, biomedical and structural interventions. These include, among others, behavioural change counselling for individuals, couples and communities; condom promotion, optimizing the benefits of antiretroviral therapy for HIV prevention especially in the prevention of HIV transmission to children and removing HIV related stigmatization and discrimination.

Some progress has been made in Uganda: The number of young people and children newly infected with HIV continues to decline. We can now realistically envision dramatic reductions of new HIV infections in children if we collectively implement the “Global Plan for the Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV”. This will be a way towards achieving an HIV free generation.

This has all been possible through the collective responsibility of all stakeholders. There has been significant financial investment into the AIDS response, more affordable drugs and commodities have been made more accessible, innovative service delivery approaches have been expanded, activism has promoted visibility of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and communities have



been at the forefront of the response. We also recognize the scientific advances that have been made in the recent past but Breast/ Cervical cancer still remains the silent epidemic.



***Fig.1 Sr. Takali Sylvia taking stake holders on RAIN Uganda overview***



***Fig.2 Group Photo of RAIN Uganda Staff and Budaka District leadership after the meeting***



***Fig.3 Stake holders Listening to Sr. Takali on 18.03.2021 at Budaka District Headquarters***

### 3. NANGEYE OUTREACH

Activity Date: 14/3/2021

Type of activity: HIV/Cervical Cancer Education and Screening

4. Venue: Nangeye Primary School-Naboa Sub county and the Staff Involved: `

SNo.	Title	No.	Organization
1	Lab Techs	2	RAIN-UGANDA
2	Team Leader	1	RAIN-UGANDA
3	Counsellors	4	RAIN-UGANDA
4	Nursing Officers	2	RAIN-UGANDA
5	Cancer/Screening Assistants	1	RAIN-UGANDA
8	Communbity Linkages Officer	1	RAIN -UGANDA
1	Community Members	4	Nangeye Community
	Total	16	Staff

#### Description of outputs targeted by the activity:

##### HIV Counselling and Testing Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served		
		Male	Female	Total
Number of people counselled for HIV and Syphilis	140	90	142	232
Number of people counselled and tested for HIV and Syphilis	140	90	142	232
Number of people counselled, tested for HIV and Syphilis and received results	140	90	142	232
Number of people counselled and NOT tested for HIV	0	<i>Already on HIV treatment</i>		1
Number of people who tested positive for Syphilis	0	0		0
Number of people who tested positive for HIV		0	2	2
Number of individuals who were counselled and tested together as a couple	0	1	1	2
Number of sero-discordant individuals identified during couple HCT	0	1	1	1

Table 2: Shows total number of people who tested for HIV in nangeye according to age category

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Age Range (Years)</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Total</b>
Children + Adolescent	2-17 years	26	23	49
Adults	18-35 years	56	37	93
	36-64 years	55	29	84
	65 Years +	4	3	7
Total				<b>232</b>

#### **Nangeye P/S Cervical /Breast Cancer Briefer**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Planned Target</b>	<b>Number served</b>	
		<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of people counselled for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>
Number of people counselled and screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>
Number of people counselled, screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER and received results	<b>30</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>
Number of people who screened positive for CERVICAL CANCER	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Number of people who screened positive for BREAST CANCER	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>



The planned target for cervical/ breast cancer screening was achieved, and non screened positive for either cervical nor breast cancer



***Fig.3 Registration of clients***



***Fig.4 pre-test counselling***



***Fif.5 Laboratory testing***



***Dr. Consultation at Nangeye Out reach***

## 5. Kagumu p/s Outreach- Kibuku District

Activity Date: 21/3/2021

Type of activity: HIV/Cervical Cancer Education and Screening

Venue: Kagumu P/S Kibuku district

### Kagumu P/S HIV Counseling and Testing Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served		
		Male	Female	Total
Number of people counseled for HIV and Syphilis	140	34	107	141
Number of people counseled and tested for HIV and Syphilis	140	34	107	141
Number of people counseled, tested for HIV and Syphilis and received results	140	34	107	141
Number of people counseled and NOT tested for HIV	0	<i>Already on HIV treatment</i>		0
Number of people who tested positive for Syphilis	0	0		0
Number of people who tested positive for HIV		1	5	6
Number of individuals who were counseled and tested together as a couple	0	2	2	4
Number of sero-discordant individuals identified during couple HCT	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Shows total number of people who tested for HIV in Kagumu according to age category

Age group	Age Range (Years)	Females	Males	Total
Children + Adolescent	2-17 years	10	5	15
Adults	18-35 years	33	9	42
	36-64 years	48	15	63
	65 Years +	16	5	21
Total				141



## Cervical /Breast Cancer Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served	
		Female	Total
Number of people counseled for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	29	29
Number of people counseled and screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	29	29
Number of people counseled, screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER and received results	30	29	29
Number of people who screened positive for CERVICAL CANCER	0	1	1
Number of people who screened positive for BREAST CANCER	0	0	0

## Blood pressure, blood sugar check, Albendazole and condom distribution

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served
		Total
Approximate number of people who had their blood pressure checked	200	200
Number of people who had their blood sugar checked	50	50
Number of people who received Albendazole	0	0
Number of male condoms distributed	500	1000
Number of female condoms distributed	0	0



*Fig. 6. Women waiting for cancer screening*



*Fig.7. Health educator giving briefs*



***Dr. Akol Listening to a mother at Kagumu Pre Testing counselling by Mama Rebecca***



***Pre-test counselling by Mr. Kasolo Juma***



## 5. BUDAKA District Head quarter outreach on Womens day celebration

Activity Date: 25/3/2021

Type of activity: HIV/Cervical Cancer Education and Screening

Venue: Budaka District head quarter play ground

### Budaka District Headquarter HIV Counselling and Testing Briefer on women's day

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served		
		Male	Female	Total
Number of people counseled for HIV and Syphilis	140	23	53	76
Number of people counseled and tested for HIV and Syphilis	140	23	53	76
Number of people counseled, tested for HIV and Syphilis and received results	140	23	53	
Number of people counseled and NOT tested for HIV	0	<i>Already on HIV treatment</i>		0
Number of people who tested positive for Syphilis	0	0		0
Number of people who tested positive for HIV		0	1	1
Number of individuals who were counseled and tested together as a couple	0	0	0	0
Number of sero-discordant individuals identified during couple HCT	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Shows total number of people who tested for HIV in Budaka District Head quarter according to age category

Age group	Age Range (Years)	Females	Males	Total
Children + Adolescent	2-17 years	3	0	3
Adults	18-35 years	19	9	28
	36-64 years	27	13	40
	65 Years +	4	1	5
Total				76

### Budaka District Headquarter Cervical /Breast Cancer Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served	
		Female	Total
Number of people counseled for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	18	18
Number of people counseled and screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	18	18
Number of people counseled, screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER and received results	30	18	18
Number of people who screened positive for CERVICAL CANCER	0	1	1
Number of people who screened positive for BREAST CANCER	0	0	0

The planned target for cervical/ breast cancer screening was not achieved, probably because many of the women who turned up had just come to attend the women's day celebration but not to seek medical care

### Blood pressure, blood sugar check, Albendazole and condom distribution

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served
		Total
Approximate number of people who had their blood pressure checked	25	50
Number of people who had their blood sugar checked	20	15
Number of people who received Albendazole	0	0
Number of male condoms distributed	500	800
Number of female condoms distributed	0	0

## 6. Kacuru P/s BUTEBO DISTRICT Out reach

Activity Date: 28/3/2021

Type of activity: HIV/Cervical Cancer Education and Screening

Venue: Kacuru P/S Butebo district

Kacuru PS HIV Counseling and Testing Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served		
		Male	Female	Total
Number of people counseled for HIV and Syphilis	140	50	105	155
Number of people counseled and tested for HIV and Syphilis	140	50	105	155
Number of people counseled, tested for HIV and Syphilis and received results	140	50	105	155
Number of people counseled and NOT tested for HIV	0	<i>Already on HIV treatment</i>		0
Number of people who tested positive for Syphilis	0	0		0
Number of people who tested positive for HIV		1	3	4
Number of individuals who were counseled and tested together as a couple	0	0	0	0
Number of sero-discordant individuals identified during couple HCT	0	0	0	0

Table 2: Shows total number of people who tested for HIV in Kacuru according to age category

Age group	Age Range (Years)	Females	Males	Total
Children + Adolescent	2-17 years	5	4	9
Adults	18-35 years	35	14	49
	36-64 years	52	21	76
	65 Years +	14	7	21
Total				155



### Kacuru Cervical /Breast Cancer Briefer

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served	
		Female	Total
Number of people counseled for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	42	42
Number of people counseled and screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER	30	42	42
Number of people counseled, screened for CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER and received results	30	42	42
Number of people who screened positive for CERVICAL CANCER	0	0	0
Number of people who screened positive for BREAST CANCER	0	0	0

The planned target for cervical/ breast cancer screening was achieved

### Blood pressure, blood sugar check, Albendazole and condom distribution

Indicator	Planned Target	Number served
		Total
Approximate number of people who had their blood pressure checked	25	20
Number of people who had their blood sugar checked	25	15
Number of people who received Albendazole	0	0
Number of male condoms distributed	500	1000
Number of female condoms distributed	0	0

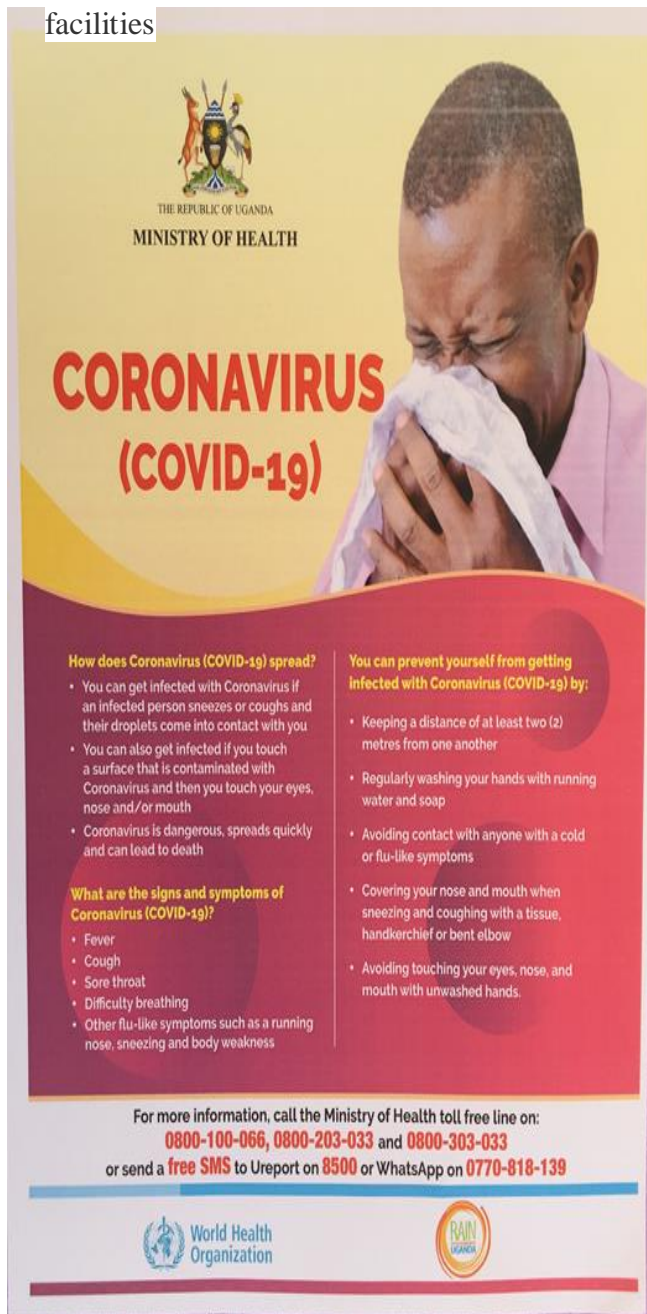
## 7. Distribution of COVID 19 IEC materials and Hand washing Facilities

As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads across the globe, millions of people are heeding the advice of health experts to wash their hands. A simple tool to promote public health, handwashing is one of the most effective ways to prevent transmission of disease—not just the coronavirus (e.g. COVID-19), but also diarrhea, cholera, and typhoid.

RAIN Uganda with support from AHF in the month of March 2021 has distributed over 5000 IEC materials and 5 Hand washing facilities to different communities and institutions to promote public health. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials are used to convey public health messaging in order to support the overarching behaviour change strategy developed to respond to a public health problem

It is important to note that most IEC materials are not powerful enough by themselves to change behaviour so RAIN Uganda incorporates them in an activity or activities in such a way that they

form a behaviour change package. Below is a pictorial of the hand-over of the hand washing facilities



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

# **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

**How does Coronavirus (COVID-19) spread?**

- You can get infected with Coronavirus if an infected person sneezes or coughs and their droplets come into contact with you
- You can also get infected if you touch a surface that is contaminated with Coronavirus and then you touch your eyes, nose and/or mouth
- Coronavirus is dangerous, spreads quickly and can lead to death



**What are the signs and symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)?**

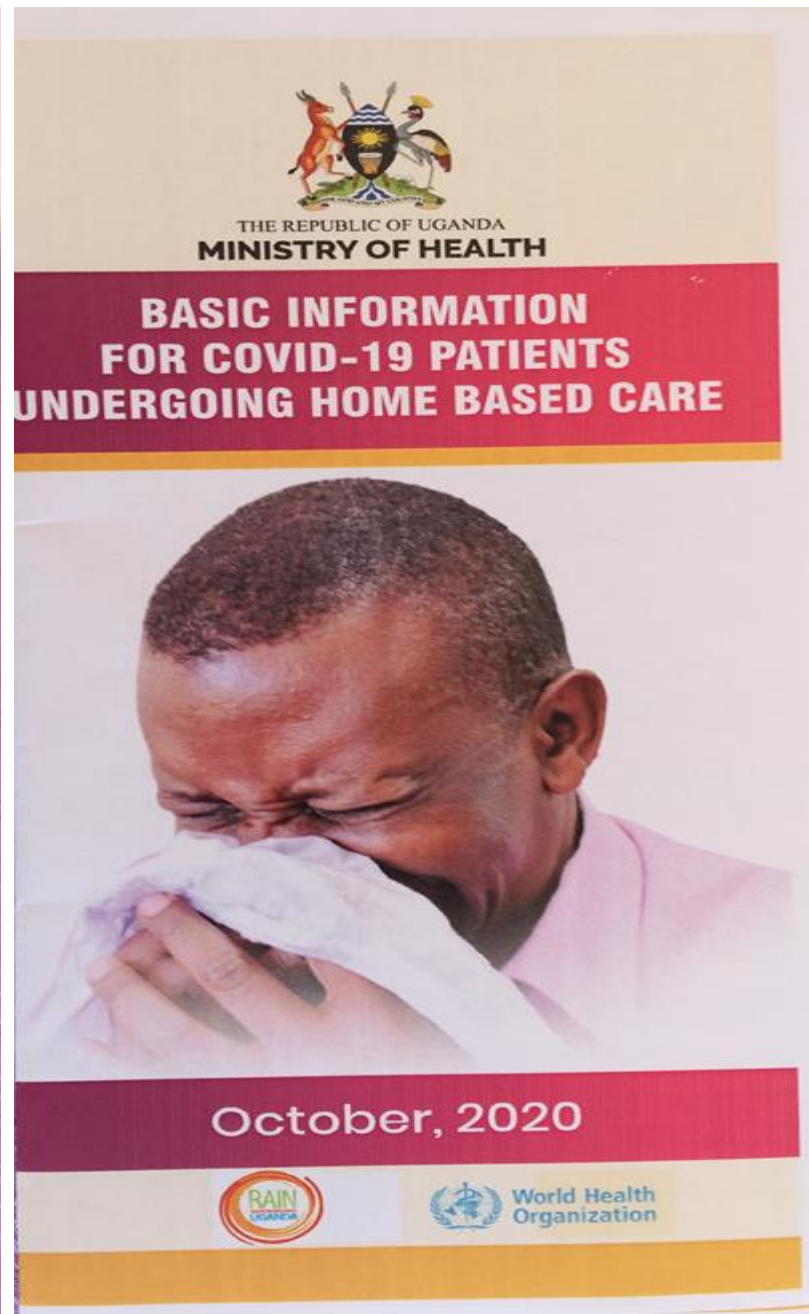
- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Difficulty breathing
- Other flu-like symptoms such as a running nose, sneezing and body weakness

**You can prevent yourself from getting infected with Coronavirus (COVID-19) by:**

- Keeping a distance of at least two (2) metres from one another
- Regularly washing your hands with running water and soap
- Avoiding contact with anyone with a cold or flu-like symptoms
- Covering your nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing with a tissue, handkerchief or bent elbow
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

For more information, call the Ministry of Health toll free line on:  
**0800-100-066, 0800-203-033 and 0800-303-033**  
or send a **free SMS** to Ureport on **8500** or WhatsApp on **0770-818-139**



 World Health Organization 



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**  
**MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

# **BASIC INFORMATION FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS UNDERGOING HOME BASED CARE**

**October, 2020**

  World Health Organization

*Sample of customised IEC materials printed and distributed to help PREVENT COVID 19*





*Nangeye Primary School management and pupils with RAIN staff after handover of the hand washing facility*



*Sample of customised hand washing facilities      Kacuru Church of Uganda hand-over by Dr.Akol*



## 8. INCREASING COMMUNITY AWARENESS ON COVID-19, HIV AND CERVICAL/BREAST CANCER PREVENTION IN EASTERN UGANDA THROUGH COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION

To help save lives from this outbreak, RAIN Uganda, with support from AHF conducted three awareness health educations to community health volunteers and local leaders in the communities of Nangeye in Naboa Subcounty, Budaka district, Kagumu subcounty in Kibuku and Kacuru sub country in Butebo district. The training aimed to raise awareness of COVID-19, HIV/AIDS and Cervical/ Breast cancer prevention so they could share the messages with their communities.



*Community Health Education by RAIN Uganda Kacuru- Butebo district and Nangeye Budaka District*



*Community members attentively listening to the RAIN staff during community health education*

HOPE IS VITAL

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY