Laws are not Enough: Citizens Against Corruption in Police and Judicial Institutions

Topic of Discussion
Police Community Partnership Forum

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Objectives of the Project

• The overall objective of the project is to undertake activities aimed at improving police community service, reducing corruption and reinforced police community integrity.

• Specific objectives
  • To ask people whether they had actually paid Police a bribe in the past 6 months or know of any one who paid a bribe through a survey
Project Objectives continued

- To provide information to the public about police community partnership with NAFODU and the laws governing the conduct of the police through a series of radio broadcasts.

- To improve police understanding of their own codes of conduct, their performance within the police community and to promote justice and fairness in the region through Police Ethics training.

- To Prevent Police abuses and promote citizen outreach, networking of NAFODU Monitors through public information campaign.
Project accomplishments

• Developed a Monitoring Program for Tracking the Conduct and Behaviour of Police in South Western Uganda.

• NAFODU organized a baseline survey to ask people whether they had actually paid Police a bribe in the past 6 months or know of any one who paid a bribe.

• NAFODU established district based Offices in Kisoro, Kanungu, Rukungiri and Ntungamo with each district having its coordinator appointed by NAFODU.
Police Officers in Kisoro District with NAFODU Staff after the meeting
Accomplishments continued

- Organized first ever Police Commanders meeting
- 180 Police officers were trained
- Fostering dialogue and promoting police accountability through radio programs
Conclusion

• As Activists, we must admit that the work of the police in our society today is dangerous. Everyday police officers risk their lives for our sake. They expose themselves to a lot of harm and death. In the past few months, several police officers have been shot dead at banks and on the highways. So the work of the police is such that nobody should expect them to do it with little or no motivation from their respective governments.
Conclusion continued

• Governments should note that commissioning police officers at very little pay is doing a great disservice to nations. It is like giving them a license to go and rob civilians. It is like providing them with a justification for their criminalities, illegalities and atrocities. However, Its important to note that the low pay Police Officers receive should not be a reason why they should become arm robbers in uniform, and convert the police stations into extortion and exploitation grounds.
Some of the Police Officers in Kanungu after the training