

The existing programmes have demonstrated successful results where IST has worked with disadvantaged women by strengthening their voices to negotiate for their demands with local authorities and beyond. IST operates a community vocational training center where young women and men enroll to gain skills to facilitate them to economic independence. These are mainly school drop outs some who are young mothers. The center is registered with the government body Directorate of Industrial Training which is the examining body at the Ministry of



Education and Sports. We offer skills programs including, mechanics, hair dressing, horticulture, catering, and phone repair with life skills soft ware as a plus. Since 2012 the school has graduated over 300 young women and men most of who are making a living with their gained skills(picture).

Partnerships

To find a way to promote social and political will to address the issue of SGBV, the Institute, together with ISIS-WICCE, organized a Peace Exposition, to generate public commitment to end violence in their communities and in their homes. Busia Peace Exposition attracted over 4000 change makers and stakeholders to discuss women's rights, Gender Based Violence and civic duty of accountability in district leadership. As a result, women are beginning to report



a reduction in SGBV as men now see that they have to be accountable or accept liability before the law. A district wide strategy to end SGBV in Busia district emerged based on suggestions and output from conversation circles held during the Peace Expo.

IST has partnered with other two local organizations, FOWODE, Isis-WICCE, and the Angie Brooks Foundation to establish the Uganda Women's Situation room (WSR), which is a tool that allows women and youth to contribute to a peaceful process before, during and after elections. It was launched on 21st January 2016.



IST has established itself at different levels of policy making where they knock and enter with ease. At the regional level with the East African Community, the African Union, and at the national and local levels. IST has taken women farmers and market women to the African Union where their presentations have caused change in seminal development policies such as The African Union Agenda 2063: The Future we want for Africa.



Institute for Social Transformation

Plot 390, kaduyu close, Kiwatule P.o.box 24620 Kampala-Uganda
Email: isocialtransformation32@gmail.com, Tel: +256-414 665 496/703165553
Website: www.ist-tft.org, Face book: Institute for Social Transformation



"When the CATERPILLAR thought that the world was over, it became a BUTTERFLY"



Who we are

The Institute for Social Transformation (IST) is a non-governmental organization that promotes a more just and inclusive approach to development in Eastern Africa. The organization registered with the NGO Board in 2006.

IST's thematic focus areas are transformational learning, transformational leadership and transformational gender relations. The Institute conducts training of individuals, institutions, and communities to enable them initiate, and sustain change processes. Local knowledge and experience on the root causes of poverty, gender inequality and poor leadership play a key role in providing information on actions to be undertaken. Our work is based on the philosophy of Paulo Freire and uses the world's renowned Training for Transformation methodology as a key tool to energize a new quality of leadership that is committed to the people, their rights and the transformation of their conditions. Since working with Oxfam, IST has added the powerful Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodology to its repertoire of tools to help families analyze and plan their future through a process of visioning.

IST has supported 36 women from Uganda to do the Advanced Training for Transformation Diploma course in South Africa. These women are now applying this methodology in the many organizations where they work.

VISION: A world where women and men value and enjoy socio-economic justice.

MISSION: To strengthen the capacity of men and women to critically analyze their socio-economic situation and strategize towards its transformation.

VALUES: IST cherishes the following values; Integrity, Teamwork, Creativity, Equality, human dignity.

Where we work

Since its establishment IST has initiated and supported various efforts to women empowerment and equality in Eastern Africa; Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, South Sudan, Rwanda and Burundi.

Our work

IST co facilitated over 25 Ugandan women for Training for Transformation in South Africa and these were awarded a Diploma in Community Development Education from Kimmage Development Centre in Ireland.

The Institute has trained over 40,000 in leadership, voice, rights and power, business skills, human and women's rights. Majority of who have taken on leadership in local government, religious institutions and other platforms. IST boasts of having 3 women in the current parliament of Uganda who they groomed and other 4 are contesting to represent their respective areas in this category of leadership.



2012 to date IST has built the capacity of 27 civil society organizations in gender mainstreaming, leadership, gender budgeting and gender analysis. These included 17 Oxfam Novib and 10 Trocaire partner organizations working in areas of; governance and social accountability, education, agriculture and livelihoods, health, microfinance, animal health, peace and security, climate change, Information Communication Technology, Finance and Budget accountability. 5276 change agents received this training and went on to train more people in their communities. **Emphasis was placed on individual commitment, joint reflection, and action with others in order to transform small groups, institutions, communities, and the wider society.**

In 2012/13 IST provided value addition equipment to seven groups of women in Pader and Kitgum districts. The equipment included, oxen and Ox ploughs, Maize mills, maize huller and Sheller, peanut butter processing machines, and sun flower extractor. Currently IST is implementing a women's rights project in Busia District in the six sub counties of Bulumbi, Masafu, Masinya, Dabani, Buteba and Busia Municipality. IST has trained 80 women councilors, provided legal advisory services to over 500 women and reached over 2000 people in Busia district.



IST has also initiated a market women program in Uganda to address the plight of the Invisible market women whose voice and power has been ignored and suffocated. So far over 800 market women in the ages of 15-40 have been directly reached. These have been through leadership training, organizing interface with the media, and other market stakeholders like City and municipal councils, having them go to radio talk shows to speak out and demand for their rights. Through IST work about six other Non government organizations have so far been interested to work with market women in Uganda. Three women vendors' market associations have been registered with the National Registration Bureau services in Uganda and have credible leadership.



