



SHELTER NEWSLETTER

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Municipal Development Forum meetings

August 18-25 SSA met with Municipal Development Forum (MDF) members in three of the Women's Spaces Project districts; Entebbe, Mityana, and Kamuli.

MDF'S are platforms at the municipal level that engage various urban sector stakeholders to engage and discuss pertinent urban issues. Discussions were on our Women's Spaces Project, MDF capacity gaps and how SSA can best support the forums in achieving its goals in sustainable urban development.

Land Awareness Week

The 7th annual Land Awareness Week (LAW) took place from August 28-September 1 in Lango Sub Region, under the theme "Promoting Inclusive Land Rights for Productive and Sustainable Development". LAW's objective is to strengthen the capacity of farming communities (inclusive of all men, women and other vulnerable peoples) and their organizations; local governments, civil society, land administration (etc.).

Seeking to increase engagement, LAW shared policy frameworks on land and environment, as well as discussions/education on land rights and environmental management.



Entebbe MDF members



LAW meeting

Women's Spaces Project: stories from the paralegals

Oliver is a paralegal from Kayunga, Namikembe ward and a member of the Tuwulirize women's group. After receiving paralegal training from SSA, she has become the first point of contact for all legal information in her community. Some of the most common cases she handles pertain to land disputes. When reflecting on her training and work, she has noted the value of sensitization on land rights.

"Many women in my community suffer land violations out of ignorance and misinformation" Oliver notes. "I now lead sensitizations on land rights, land titles and how to go about acquiring them".

Since the training from SSA, Oliver and paralegals like her continue to work to support these fundamental rights of community members, especially women.



Oliver Nansanja (first from right) seated with other Kayunga paralegals

Upcoming Events:



→ The SSA annual general meeting will take place the end of September 2023, where a new board of directors will be instituted

→ SSA will soon begin training on STDM (social tenure domain mapping), a data collection tool to be used for verifying and documenting legal land claims of individuals in Kamuli district

→ Planning is underway for World Habitat Day on October 2, a UN Habitat designated day for commemoration on the right to adequate housing internationally

→ SSA members will attend The Uganda Housing Symposium, taking place on October 5 in which experts gather to exchange ideas on addressing the housing needs in Uganda. This years theme: **Affordable Housing in Urban Informal Settlements as a Driver for Economic Growth**