



Findings of FENU feedback questionnaire 2014 -

Number of participants - 73

General

- **Who are you working with?**
International NGOs- 27
A community based organisation - 11
local/ National NGOs - 31
Other - 7
- **Do you or someone from your organisation attend one of FENU's thematic groups?**
No- 03
Yes :
Access and quality - 39
Gender - 15
Education in Emergencies - 26
Lifelong Learning - 20
Refugee Children's Education - 13
Early Childhood Education - 22
- **Is your organisation a paid up member of FENU?**
No - 25
Yes - 18
Don't know - 12

FENU's advocacy work

- **I think FENU's work is:**
Good - 63
Ok - 9
Bad - 00
Don't know - 01
- **Over the last year I think FENU's work has been:**
Getting better- 53
Staying the same - 2
Getting worse - 00
Don't know - 07
- **Do you think FENU has influence with government and decision makers?**
FENU has a lot of influence- 19

FENU has some influence - 48

FENU has little or no influence - 03

Don't know - 03

- **What do you think is good about FENU's advocacy work?**

- Consolidating the works of other NGOs and focussing them into the same direction
- Influence of policy change aimed at promotion of quality of education in public schools
- It is quite transparent
- Bringing organisation together for a common voice
- Engaging and inclusive
- FENU is doing everything it can to see that the quality education for all is achieved in Uganda which pivots and underpins a country's development.
- Engaging with the right duty bearers
- It caters for all important issues on education
- Mobilising and bringing together all educational NGOs
- Influencing the government to support the work done by the various NGOs
- It should work hard to see that all members are together
- It will help to build a strong advocacy team for the ECD and form a strong network
- To ensure that we are part of the resource utilisation in the education sector
- Today more members are represented / attended the ESSR
- Consultative approach adopted by FENU ensures genuine reflection at stakeholder opinion
- Training the education actors in various ways, lobbying and influencing policies to see that quality education is given to every child
- Involvement of all the stakeholders; international, NGOs, community organisations
- The good relationship with Government and Ministry of Education and Sports
- Linking us with different organisations and having a bigger voice for policy change
- Sending regular updates about ongoing activities
- It is precise and practical
- The interactive process
- It is open to everybody who wants to contribute
- Mobilization, information and dissemination
- Joint work and collaboration with different organisations
- FENU has been able to create a link with Ministry of Education and Parliament which is very good
- This year there was influence/ contributed to increased funding for teachers' enumeration
- FENU is very hardworking and very influential when it comes to government and decision making
- It is focused and effective and brings together different NGOs to improve access to education for all
- Meeting other educational practitioners

- It's worth encouraging and so far so good
- Involves the views from many members to reach consensus
- It is done jointly with member organisations
- Information sharing
- Collective voice and ideas
- The coordination
- It was good to think about refugee children education and the certification equation of Congo
- The meetings
- It helps Government to improve its work
- It alerts government on issues that need attention
- By sharing of experiences many organisations are helped to improve or to get aware of the challenges and strategies on how to deal with the challenges
- It reaches Government and NGOs
- Bringing groups together to share ideas
- Things are moving on well and at a certain extent the impact is being seen. The exchange is also important, and empowers organisations
- Engaging various discussion on how to advocate and standardise FENU work
- It is good because it wants to awake the government in education sector and implement policies in place
- FENU advocates for the policy of all categories of education
- Focussed on key areas
- Analysing education policies and generating evidence to use for mobilisation and advocacy
- Excellent communication with sufficient attention to current affairs concerning education and the efforts to improve education
- Provides a forum for all education NGOs to discuss issues of common interest in education, and to share good practices
- Encourages and imposes some changes for the government on different education levels
- Great communication
- It is good to work with different stake holders at all levels and find solutions together about any kind of problematic situation.
- Their advocacy has improved the education system through increasing teachers' salaries and it is also bridging the disparity that exists between girl child and boy child education
- Bringing the organizations on education together is a powerful aspect
- FENU's position to the ESSR provides excellent avenue for its advocacy efforts
- FENU is a great platform for policy change. It is a voice/ platform where we can influence decisions made by government.
- FENU provides a conducive atmosphere for organisations to speak to government about pertinent issues that concern the innocent and vulnerable population. In this way members (FENU) has been able to influence government through teaching her the proper doing certain things for example the planning process in the MES.
- The lobbying is good but can still do better

- Engaging Policy makers at all levels including Parliament of Uganda
- It takes up the stakeholders participation and involvement and gives freedom to share information.
- FENU tries to manage a good balance between listening to members' concerns and desires, which can be very varied, and then still coming up with a consolidated voice. Working on the issue of the ESSR relative to the budgeting process was also a very good choice of advocacy topic. Perhaps FENU could develop members' understanding of why this is so important so that members could be leveraged more to support this objective.
- It very good for FENU when it is used to find out about the reality of the priority needed from the base which is the meeting with different organizations working with kids.

● **How could FENU's advocacy work be improved?**

- Through continuous publicity of their works (inform more people about FENU's work)
- Organise meetings with individual NGOs at least annually or quarterly to share ideas on the implementation, challenges and successes
- Sending us emails so that we can work under one roof
- Put more pressure on government through various campaigns
- We need to expand on our advocacy modes to widen our scope
- Integrate ICT
- Have an impact every once in a while from the target groups on what they think of FENU
- Linking grass root organisations with National (big) organisations
- Work with members to get research so as to have a basis for advocacy
- There is need for FENU to blow harder their trumpet to organisations both local and international to come on board for this cause, send letters of invitation if necessary
- Maintain the current momentum
- Communicating the outcomes of everything discussed issues so that the members can be able to know the forward
- By influencing the government to intervene in terms of financial support in order to reach a big coverage in Uganda than depending on donors only
- Strengthening the stakeholders participation
- The general public / local views should be considered
- Regular meetings
- Bring together all members to have one goal otherwise everything is okay
- Through mobilisation of people
- Include more groups
- The advocacy is already better
- Through working hand by hand with their organisation and share enhance capacity building
- Create regional networks (zonal)
- They should include other parts of the country and also involve active individual interested people
- Increase membership by animation (participation)
- To reach out to other organisations country wide

- Advertiser
- Involve major stakeholders in education
- Talk shows on radio and TV
- Involve policy makers
- Organising learning exchange visits among different NGOs
- Members should join so that one big voice is heard
- Continuous networking electronically, through media, etc
- Identify and bring new members
- More interaction with the media houses as these get to the different stake holders easily
- Map out strategic government offices to work with
- Improve coordination/ engagement of CSOs/ planning for joint advocacy activities with members pooling resources
- Working closely with partners and having a good working relationship with the government
- Development of a resource mobilisation plan so that we are able to raise adequate funds to run FENU work
- Continue to increase the membership to gather strength for greater lobby efforts
- More finance
- Publicity indicating the purpose / roles in newspapers
- Radio talk shows with community FM stations etc
- Should work directly with the government and other relevant stakeholders like social media so as to attain progress
- Increase membership and participation
- More use of the media in possible local languages
- By member contributions
- We need to keep the ministry committees informed of what we do achievements, challenges
- Recommendations to government through sending them minutes of our regular meetings and making a follow up on their reaction or recommendations made
- Include research institutions next to the prevailing field and government actors
- Share more detailed information between thematic groups. i.e access and quality education information might be relevant to ECD group.
- Reach out to the community
- Continuous working with members
- Increase on the time for meetings
- Hold workshops
- More engagement and sharing
- Try as much as possible to involve a duty bearer in thematic meetings
- By having a larger audience i.e , in, around, and outside Kampala
- Inclusion of all stakeholders i.e churches and all stakeholders
- Sharing data and mobilising members for lobbying and advocacy
- It should bring the facts of its impact in being involved in education sector and share with Ministry of education
- FENU should remain a network but not an implementing agency in order to monitor the partners effectively and linking them to funders.

- What needs to be improved is the follow-up on government actions to improve on education in the country and the various vulnerable regions like Karamoja.
- Increase the number of members who actively participate in thematic group meetings.
- Is it possible in 2015 to have responsible decision makers attend our thematic group meetings? We could invite them.
- The publicity of FENU is not yet at its best therefore needs to be worked on. Understandably every organisation working with children is directly affected by policies in the education sector. FENU needs to find a way of creating such awareness to such organisations who are not even aware that FENU's work is for the good off us all and the entire country and therefore deserves support or a joint effort.
- We need to see FENU more engaged and pushing for review of reforms and government asks. I also think that FENU needs to go beyond just holding meetings and updating partners on activities of other partners to conducting joint advocacy campaigns.
- To work very hard in 2015 in advocacy to their members so they can be in good condition. To train also the member of FENU about how to run with success an NGO.
- It could improve in time of taking in consideration other partners' initiative and creativities.

● **What could your organisation do to make FENU's work more effective?**

- Provide the technical support needed for competence based education and training
- Physical participation in the FENU activities
- Having meetings with you and analysis where necessary
- I don't know yet because it is my first time to hear about it
- Support and implement what is being advocated for
- We would like to carry FENU presences in our communities by organising regional CSO meetings in two district and training teachers and other stakeholders
- Support by taking lead or aiming some of the advocacy themes /areas
- Working hand in hand to solve the challenge that is in existence by ensuring that there is proper communication
- Give regular updates
- Influence MoES to always plan and budget for ECD activities
- Through working hand in hand together to promote basic quality education, since we also focus on improving the basic quality of education in Uganda
- Support financially where applicable
- It should partner with FENU and engage each other in activity planning
- Membership and subscription fees to FENU
- Continued participation in the network
- Make field visits to ECD centres especially in the rural communities
- Organise activities and get FENU's involvement
- Disseminate the information tapped from different thematic forums to the communities we work with and encourage them to put them into actions
- Implement more of FENU's ideas into practical in organisation activities
- Sharing information and resources
- Input into different ideas
- First by paying up and secondly being more pro-active in FENU

- Can collaborate on ongoing advocacy at national level and district level through our area development programmes on education
- Working together as partners to improve the education of our beneficiaries
- Pay up membership and also attend and contribute ideas in the meetings and also sometimes provide space to host the meetings
- Inform FENU about lessons learnt from our activities. Participate in FENU activities, and inform our partners about FENU
- Support some activities (financial support, hosting meetings, etc)
- Contribute
- Make sure there is our officer to attend the meetings
- Advise on the challenges discussed in FENU reports
- Contribute to more than one thematic group
- Send regular updates about the organisation's progress
- Become aware and involved
- Showing experiences around sport and play – linking it to enhancing education quality
- Sharing success stories and challenges
- Share data and researches with FENU
- Continue working in partnership with FENU
- Integrate FENU's work in our organisation's work

Thematic groups

- **I find FENU's thematic group work:**

Useful - 57

OK - 07

Not useful - 00

Don't know - 02

- **What do you think the main role of FENU's thematic groups should be?**

- Bring together particular member in particular thematic groups to go further and address critically their concerns
- To identify areas that fall under respective groups and advocate for them without fear
- Identify areas to advocate for and create awareness
- Identify advocacy themes
- Advocate for national policy influence on ECD policy
- Developing strategies for joint advocacy
- Articulate thematic issues and make recommendations that FENU should use in influencing policies and funding
- Advocacy and lobbying
- FENU should support and promote partnership and collaboration in activities
- Influence policy and promote adoption of relevant skills in Uganda training institutes not limited to vocational schools.
- Identify an advocacy validated by quality research

- Communicating knowledge and information to the communities they work with in order to connect to the whole nation to the grid of education
 - To identify critical areas for concrete actions
 - Drive strategic issues and feedback
 - Advocating for proper quality access to education in Uganda
 - Develop more strategies for member organisations
 - Bring together different NGOs that have the same mission, vision and values to work as a team
 - Gender
 - Planning for the future
 - Communications
 - Foster good quality education for all in Uganda
 - Mobilising and coordinating members, sharing study reports and being one stop centre for information sharing
 - Coordinate CSOs to influence policy and other issues in the education sector
 - To create a platform where members can meet and learn and share the issues that affect their work
 - To work towards the promotion of competency based and long life education and advocate for increased government role and supporting it.
 - Bring in all the relevant stakeholders into their activities
 - Advocacy and learning platforms
 - They should have the same aim and goals
 - Enhancing and supporting the advocacy work
 - Coordination of partners
 - Work on salient issues that affect education
 - Alert government on its role in solving the challenges committees face
 - To address issues related to specific educational needs and bring forward solutions and put in place concrete actions general support
 - To build capacity of members
- **What do you think is good about FENU's thematic groups?**
 - They give an opportunity to individuals give in their opinions
 - Help FENU to get feedback from members
 - The rotational hosting arrangement is very commendable
 - Keep it up
 - Addressing specific issues of different subsectors/ groups
 - Very active and vibrant
 - The groups sharpen the issues and look for the inter relationships and linkages with each other hence defining the boarder to minimise overlaps in policies, planning and budgeting
 - The meetings

- Forum for learning from each other and developing a common approach to addressing challenges. As well as to have a single voice in requesting for intervention from the ministry or government
- The groups are an opportunity to contribute
- Networking connecting groups to different t experts who always educate the members new methods of implementing policies approved in their communities/ place of work
- Communication and transparency
- They discuss issues of major concerns
- Involves various development partners
- Looks for relevant informative information to make decisions and push for change
- Good working relationships with the ministry and other relevant bodies
- Each group gets to know what is taking place within the government and specific related ministries that benefits that particular group
- They expose weaknesses and strength of organisations which can be of positive influence
- Better understanding of skills development environment in Uganda
- Access to relevant information
- Networking
- Formulate strategies for improving our thematic groups
- Bringing people of like minds to contribute and learn to better their work
- Periodic updates on education ECD, trainings on learning frameworks. Influencing governments on policy change
- Bringing together different partners
- Elaborate
- It places member in the areas they feel they can discuss and contribute on how to better the respective concerns/ areas effectively
- We share information and updates on what is happening around
- Members are responsive
- It offers a good platform for partners to interact. This is what has been lacking in Uganda
- Provides good platform for learning/ working together/ influencing issues
- The fact that people from different organisations come together and bring out issues that affect their beneficiaries and come up with a solution
- They are relevant to the current educational needs
- To engage in discussions of all key players especially government officials at all levels
- They are pushing for the government efforts in improving the quality of education.
- Makes it easy to tackle issues because of specifications in thematic groups
- Interactive and learning platforms
- Focussed
- There is sharing of good practices and experiences thus laying strategies for expansion and increasing access to quality ECD services
- Sharing experiences among the different members or stakeholders

- Diversify in areas of discussion or advocacy
- Sensitisation of children's rights in different schools
- They are specialised
- The increasing variety of members contributing with diverse input
- The groups are interested and are active and free to share ideas and experiences
- When you work in thematic groups you can analyze issues better than when you are in big numbers
- It promotes right targeting, appropriate deliberations and correct information sharing for advocacy efforts.
- Information sharing, distribution of advocacy tasks among group members.
- We can achieve a lot through the thematic group work e.g. the strategic plan is out and soon the theory of change will too be out.
- The groups are time saving as they provide a platform for one to choose his or her area of priority basing on operations. Personally I attend more than one group and I have found myself very enriched with information and friends. Also groups are more of families to members who belong to them yet they eventually form a community which is concerned about its people. The support given to members through these groups can't be underrated.
- The networking is wonderful. Sharing of experiences is the way to go.
- Specifying and tacking each issue by specifically interested parties
- It captures very relevant fields of life connected to education and good practices
- The opportunity for member organisations to share research and contacts.
- Meeting with it closer members (partner) for sharing ideas and trying to find out how to come out as team-work with a collective suggestion which FENU also has to consider as a real authenticity or source of the truth.

● **How could FENU's thematic groups be improved?**

- Bring more members on board
- Have representatives from the ministry and relevant bodies and authorities as regular members of the forum
- Continuous feedback from members should be sought
- They should have resources for capacity building
- Continuous and regular follow up on actions set
- Good communication skills to advertise FENU
- Beef up their specialist memberships
- Strengthen coordination and seek additional support from partners
- Be more specific in each meeting and focus on a specific issue until the end of the meeting
- By continuing with the same programme of networking with other stakeholders next year and other years as per the demand of the technical assistance from group members
- Set objectives or annual plans for the year
- Recognise the groups for their participation if an idea of the group gets national recognition
- Develop targets for the thematic groups to be saved in the meetings and ministry
- There is need of workshops and strategic planning for each group

- Each group should have a committee which will be responsible for coordinating its activities and links the members to FENU
- If all members are fully registered and recognised
- If all members have an active hand so that their objectives are heard
- Trainings should be planned and also visit among the groups
- Have more discussions that they have been having through the year
- Publicity of FENU activities through different media houses
- Joint meeting and share various key education from the different thematic group, so that members are at par
- Regular meetings
- Cooperate with members
- Work with civil society in empowering communities with capacities for policy influence
- Give more trainings so that they can improve on the skills of different thematic groups in that they can be able to execute different tasks with ease
- Having periodic feedback and updates with bigger organisations e.g UNICEF
- Put the group work or discussions into schools
- Increased information sharing
- Could be good to develop a face book page for FENU and also join twitter, why not?
- Coordinating advocacy activities/ through members pooling resources on an ongoing basis
- Make sure that we invite influential people in the government. i.e if its gender parity, we should involve the minister of Gender, religious leaders e.t.c. and they should attend in person
- Continue to lobby for bigger membership. Continue with reminders for members to pay up membership fees.
- Having practical experiences by visiting each other to learn
- Groups should be updated about policy issues that concern particular thematic groups
- Invite key address speakers to some meetings i.e. people from curriculum departments
- The groups should visit each other to learn more
- Include research institutions next to the prevailing field and government actors
- Currently okay
- I think for now things are going very well
- Increase number of meetings
- FENU should facilitate it's members in needs in one way or another to help them get funding from other financial institutions or organizations. let all members subscribe to the network such that the network gets money to run the secretariat
- Can we start visiting those thematic group area e.g. rural ECDs and get more exposed and find alternative solutions. We really need to make field visits.
- Can we push more for joint partnership activities, at least hold one once a year, for example plan for joint activity for the International day of the girl child.
- Having policy makers from government in every group discussion will help a great deal if it is possible. Creating environment of sharing best practices and leanings
- Closer relationship with government institutions is needed
- To my party I think it will be better to share ideas in groups. To improve our work next year.

- Perhaps FENU could help themselves by being stricter about not inviting non-paying members until they have paid their annual registration fee.
- Keep increasing the number of partners until you will discover more hidden reality about African children advocacy and lobbying

FENU communication

- **I think FENU's communication with its members is:**

Good - 54
 OK - 14
 Bad - 00
 Don't know - 02

- Have you seen the FENU website

No - 17
 Yes - 29

If yes what do you think of it?

- Good -11
- Great-
- Informative -04
- It lacks overview and it's not very visual
- Daily updates
- Educative and informative to both members and International community
- Continue to keep pictorial reporting and regular updates
- It has pictorial report and regular updates
- Needs more information of FENU members
- Okay-
- Very resourceful
- Nice- 03
- It would be great to have a summary of educational standards (Global and national)
- It's easy to access
- Good start
- Perfect
- A little wordy
- Needs every time updates
- It has all the information we need about FENU

And finally...

- **Do you have any further comments or suggestions you would like to share with us?
 FENU secretariat officials should move to different ECD centres and popularise its activities and planned programmes**

- Sincere thanks and appreciation to FENU management for coming up with the idea of thematic grouping, it has added value to our work and put us extra miles, if possible extend the programme next year.
- I would suggest that FENU gets the contacts for the managers/directors of each organisations so that in case of any activity they communicate through them rather than communicating directly to the employer
- Please bring a new VSO to replace the person leaving
- Thank you for always keeping us up to date and sending through some important documents/links
- Great forum, keep it up with the great work especially in communication and follow up of action points within the meetings
- I need to know more about FENU and what it does
- Improved communication although earlier reminders are necessary for preparations
- FENU secretariat officials should move to different ECD partners and popularise its activities and planned programmes
- We would like to have stronger collaborations with FENU in our education programmes especially at district level (improve on representations from districts)
- Thank you for the good work you are doing and for always giving us information from different stakeholders activities
- Never give up, continue you are doing a good job
- Organise visits for exposure
- FENU communications are effective, keep it up
- Always find a big and enough space for such good advocacy meetings
- As new members we appreciate the contributing FENU is doing, it is a really voice
- Try and conduct visits to FENU members for them to have a feel of being FENU members
- Request feedback from stakeholders
- Engage members of the public, religious leaders, cultural leaders and other local citizens in whatever they are planning to do.
- I have not yet seen the FENU website
- Lets utilise the media and use the different local languages- i.e. encourage members to use the regional FM stations, papers etc
- Questionnaires were served so late
- Thank you for the good work and the initiative of improving education and quality in Uganda and for all your efforts
- For us who deal with traumatised people, how can you motivate such a person to engage in the education system, because sometimes we find these people hesitant to join education because a lot of issues are on their mind.
- We should all have access to information at once
- FENU should facilitate its members in need for example RGN (Refugee Grass Roots Network) through Refugee Children's Education to rotate their meetings at different organizations' offices or have meetings at FENU's offices or at Refugee Community Centre instead of continuing favouring certain big organizations only.

- Let FENU also tackle the issue of acting education officers beyond the period of acting .
- The routine updates are wonderful for members' consumption and advance preparations. Keep it up!
- Thank you for the great work you are doing
- Thanks FENU for the great work and for every change in whatever area in this country pertaining education. For this FENU will forever be credited. Thanks for always keeping me posted on what is happening and reminding me of dates when meetings will take place. I think that we (FENU members) need to organise a get together one day and just get to know and appreciate one another. Great work FENU!!
- My suggestion is to see next year FENU can fund donors who can support the members of our forum, so the NGO which are bad condition can go up financial.
Thanks
- Good Work
- Long live and happy Christmas. Remain strong and keep the network growing
- I wanted you to sometimes visiting your partners by making sure that the reports given by these network members match with the same reality on the ground.