

I find it very honourable for the United Nations to have an agenda for sustainable development. I agree to say that many of the points mentioned are valid. However once on the field, it is a different story and I got to realize that unfortunately, a lot of it is somehow unrealistic. I work at Arise And Shine Uganda , non-profit organization which provides emergency care and education for vulnerable children. AAUS also assists vulnerable men and women in receiving a consistent and sustainable income through different community outreach programs. While working at AASU I thought about three goals: *Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education and Decent Work and Economic Growth.*

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development. Most of the babies at AASU have been admitted, because their mothers passed away during child birth. Also, the mothers are for the majority under 18 years old. According to the caregivers, it is a common phenomenon for women to be pregnant at a very young age and to not survive labor. In addition, in most of cases the father cannot take care of the new born. Sometimes it can happen that the father has multiple wives and when one of them dies and leaves a new born the father is afraid of what his other wives will do to the baby. I propose workshops and interventions addressing the issue of early pregnancies and a presentation on contraception methods. These should be given in high schools, villages, towns and to both men and women. It should also be advertised as much as possible. Family planning should be mentioned. The goal would not be to tell boys and girls how many children to have, but to advertise the fact that they can have as many children as they want but they need to be able to take care of all of them.

Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to improving people's lives and sustainable development. I work with a population that is too young to attend school. However AASU has a pre-school program, where children have their first taste of education. The majority of them are no older than 3 years old and already they demonstrate a lot of potential and interest in learning. Therefore, education or first exposition to education should be encouraged by the Ugandan government; it should at least be implemented in NGOs that care for young children. Being too young should not be a reason for them not to attend school. Quality education also includes providing appropriate training for staff to promote sustainable development. So far at AASU we have got one training session concerning foster care. The training was mostly for the aunties, who are the reason why the babies' home continues to work. The babies are doing well, because the aunties are working well. Therefore training can only make their work better. The Ugandan government should make trainings mandatory for all caregivers working with children.

I have realized that in too many places, having a job doesn't guarantee the ability to escape from poverty. At AASU the staff works very hard to give the babies a healthy and stable environment before their resettlements. Normally the employees are supposed to receive their salary every month. However due to little funds, they can be paid 3 or 4 months later. Some aunties have revealed that when they do not receive their salary on time, they are less motivated to come to work. In a perfect world, AASU should be able to pay its employees on time; however it is not the case. To sustain itself, AASU to fundraise and organize charity events as one way to raise money and make sure the workers are motivated to do their work correctly and to ensure the money comes in in a sustainable way.

