

## CITIZEN INITIATIVE FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT UGANDA (CIDD-UG)

### NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Dear colleagues,

To the chosen of God, a grand prize of one year has been added unto their lives. To qualify for this very special gift means your walk of faith is dully recognized by the heavenly father but needs not only to be upheld but also sustained so that you earn credence to enjoy blessed ventures, celebrate another Christmas and gain entry into yet another year.

CITIZEN INITIATIVE FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT (CIDD-UG) welcomes you all to a New Year 2020. Special salutations for your endeavors of 2019

As we were preparing this message we kept wondering about the kind of text that would appeal to all of us. We subsequently agreed to reflect on the year 2019 which was full of successes and challenges. Most importantly we adopted a position to call upon CSOs to recommit themselves to crusade towards building a strong civic agency in the sub region.

Suffice to say another year coupled with yet another round of new challenges coming with a bang. What you need is be steadfast with the formula of hard work for achievement of good results. Let's continue to innovate, work hard and persevere to achieve desired success.

However, we need to know the new trends and development in our line of work. This is where CIDD-UG comes in. For the year 2020, we call upon all CSOs to comply with the current NGO legal regime. We also need to invigorate networking, partnership and collaboration, documentation of CSO work, knowledge sharing and learning as a step to increase our effectiveness and relevance in service of our constituents.

## SOME INTERNAL CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN 2019

**W**e would like to highlight some of the positive developments for 2019 that as CSOs in Bukedi sub region we ought to celebrate. These include but not limited to;

- ❖ Support for consolidation of CSO policy engagements by TAC and Action aid Pallisa.
- ❖ Incorporation of CIDD-UG into the Pallisa District NGO monitoring committee
- ❖ Joint CSO engagement (new partnerships)
- ❖ Advent of a team of social researchers from TAC who have supported in generating evidence for CSO policy engagements

The above developments have resulted into increased exposure and expanded collaboration amongst us over the past year, an achievement we should uphold this year.

## EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

Space for CSO operations has continued to narrow through strict implementation of the NGO Act 2016

### KEY CHALLENGES AHEAD

Compliance with the NGO legal regime  
Continued question on CSO credibility  
Confronting the challenge of pre and post-election conflicts  
Corruption as a sustained obstacle to development  
Rampant Human rights abuses  
Confronting the challenge of climate change

CIDD-UG therefore pledge commitment to work with CSOs, Government and all other stakeholders in the sub region to ensure citizens take full responsibility for the development and transformation of their areas and the country.

Happy New Year and blessed engagements are wished you.

**EJAUTENE FRED-ED CIDD-UG**

**For God and my country**