

SUSTAINABILITY OF CBHC IN UGANDA

to promote appropriate policy direction and the capacity to direct and plan effective services in response to demonstrated needs.

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The issue of sustainability is crucial when conceiving and planning a CBHC Programme Project. Yet often times it is left out in a number of CBHC Projects. The reasons for this tendency are probably several, but perhaps the commonest one is, lack of knowledge about what sustainability is or what its significance is in the life of a Project whether related to health or development. The Association has been aware of the need to plan for it as a special component since its inception in 1986, and has developed strategies from time to time to address it in concrete terms.

What is Sustainability?

As sustainability becomes a salient issue in development interventions, different people have come up with different understandings of the concept. Suffice to cite a few.

“A PHC System must be, sustained not as an isolated entity, but as an intergral part of an overall strategy for social economic development.. This is measured not only by the absence of disease but by evidence of improvements in access to health care, the quality of life and the availability of opportunities for all members of society “ (CPHA Position Paper, 1990)

UCBHCA secretariat's view

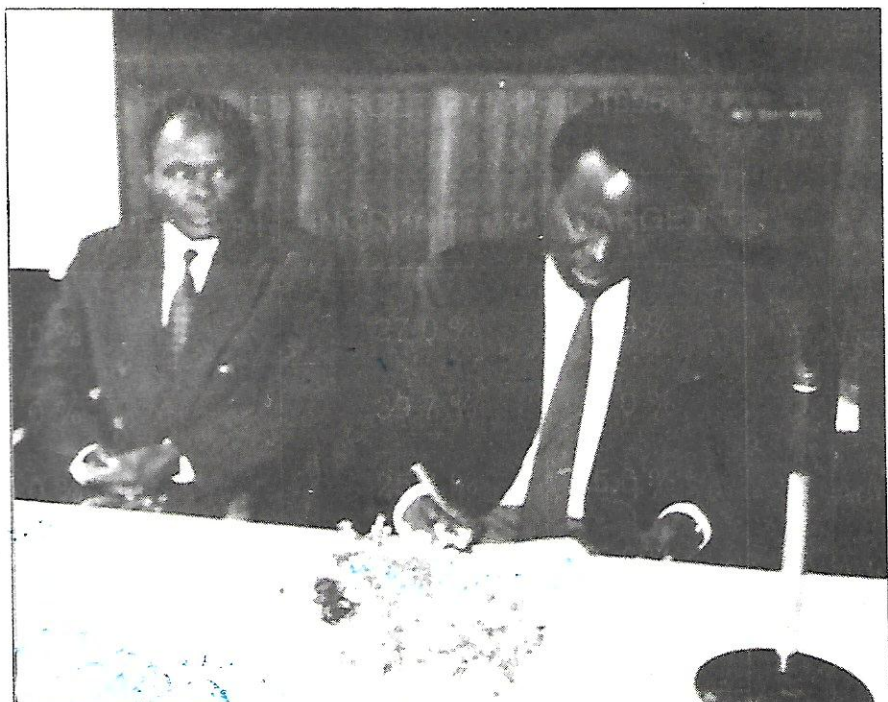
“Sustainability of an intervention (Program,Project) is the willingness and ability of all actors to jointly determine needs, prioritize, mobilize and control use of resources for continuing even when resources diminish or are withdrawn by external supporters.”

Hence sustainability calls for the development and maintainance of the necessary cadre of appropriately trained people (Capacity Building), Community Support and Capacity to play an effective role in the programme (Ownership), the political will necessary

We reiterate that sustainability should be in-built as a major consideration from the outset. If sustainability has been planned, it ensures that as one type of resource is withdrawn or diminishes, replacements or substitutes need to be available as phasing out is inevitable. In this paper, we discuss the experiences and challenges of the Association.

How UCBHCA Secretariat Has Addressed The Issue Of Sustainability

The philosophy of the Association has always been and continues to be, empowering or enabling the people (communities) to develop knowledge and skills as well as positive attitude and



Messrs A. M. Kyeyune (left) and Ben Osuga (right) at the Annual General Meeting of UCBHCA