



ISER ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

2023

Introduction

2023 marked the first year in the Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER's) second decade of existence, having celebrated 10 years last year. It is a new beginning! We transitioned with our founding Executive Director, Salima Namusobyá stepping down this year and Angella Kasule Nabwowe taking the helm.

We spent the last ten years getting people to understand that social economic rights are rights. In the next decade we are growing a movement to demand for public services, which we believe is a collective embodiment of the state's commitment to its people. We are at a critical juncture as the world faces the poly crises of Climate change, high cost of living, pandemics like covid 19 and growing inequality amidst rising debt.

This year, ISER continued to build on its extensive work at the local, national, regional and international levels, with a specific focus on building a movement for quality public services throughout the African Continent. Both at the local and national levels, ISER has continued to mobilise communities and engage government on Reclaiming Public Services. For instance, this year's Annual National Conference on Economic Social and Cultural Right focused on the raising cost of education. Also the first ever Peoples' SDGs Festival, organized in collaboration with other CSOs, government officials & other partners, featured discussions on the need to reclaim public services. The organisation has also continued with its work around access to justice for social and economic against any violations and abuses. Through a collaborative process with key stakeholders at regional and international levels, the African Manifesto on Public Services was adopted. The Manifesto is being utilized as an advocacy tool for reforms in the global institutional and fiscal framework.

All these steps are progressively galvanizing efforts towards strengthening the mechanisms for the realisation for economic and social rights at the local, national, regional and international levels.

Please see below our major highlights for 2023.

Reclaiming Public Social Services

AFRICA MOBILISES TO DEMAND FOR QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES

In August, we hosted a wide range of stakeholders to reflect and strategize on the state of public services in Africa at the inaugural Reclaiming Public Services Regional Conference in Kampala. These included judges, Civil Society Organizations, academics, Members of Parliament including the East Africa Legislative Assembly, a member of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the UN Special Rapporteur on Debt, and communities members. The Coalition consisting of diverse members across the Continent was solidified and a roadmap developed with key demands formulated in the Africa Manifesto on Public Services.

The [Africa Manifesto on Public Services](#) - “**The Africa We Want**”, developed from this convening, was launched at the sidelines of the 77th session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights by Commissioner Mwandenga, chairperson of the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights working group of the African Commission. It has served as a rallying call to get financing of public services in Africa on the agenda at the World Bank annual meetings, African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights and even in discussions on the UN Tax Convention.



LETTING THE YOUTH LEAD ADVOCACY AROUND RECLAIMING PUBLIC SERVICES

Centering the youth is key for us because young people bear the brunt of governments' failure to provide quality public services and they will have to pay back the debt many of our countries are rapidly accumulating. We continue to enable young people to take lead in this advocacy and we provided platforms for them such as a Twitter space on reclaiming public services as well as a dialogue during the Peoples' SDGs Festival entitled **Reclaiming Public Services as a Catalyst to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. This dialogue featured speakers including government officials, CSOs and youth and who used poetry, songs and statistics to make the case for investing in quality public services.



Left to Right: Akram Wangubo, student, Makerere University, Jamada Kalinda, student Makerere University, Commissioner Bernard Mujuni - Ministry of Gender, Modern Karema - Country director Stir Education, Prima Birungi - student, Makerere University, Nicter Namara Kawesa - student, Makerere University.





KAMPALA PEOPLES' SDG FESTIVAL

Which #SDG
ARE YOU COMMITTING TO?
#ReclaimPublicServices



join us on a

TWITTER SPACE THEMED:

A YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVE

ON RECLAIMING PUBLIC SERVICES IN UGANDA



BIRUNGI P. ELIZABETH
Moderator



KALINDA JAMADA MUSA
Panelist



NAMATA NICTER KAWESI
Panelist



DHAKARA AKRAM WANGUBO
Panelist



KAGUTA SUSANNA
Panelist

 **9TH AUGUST 2023**
Wednesday

 **VENUE**
@ISERUganda

 **07:00PM**

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

#ReclaimPublicServices
#TheAfricaWeWant
#TheFutureIsPublic
#AfricaYetu



Chief Guest:
Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
Robinah Nabbanja

Economic Justice and Social Protection

REFORMS TO TAXATION GLOBALLY AND NATIONALLY THAT WILL INCREASE RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC SOCIAL RIGHTS

We witnessed a landmark victory when the resolution for a UN Tax Convention advanced by the Africa group was passed opening the door for negotiations to begin on the first ever U.N Convention on Tax. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which excludes 80% of countries worldwide, has been the forum where rules on tax are made. Rethinking this broken and non-inclusive financial architecture is something ISER has repeatedly called for in prior reports and is a key demand in the Africa Manifesto on Public Services. This demand was also presented in the joint CSO statement by the Africa Coalition on Public Services. **The U.N Tax Convention is key because rights require resources. Read [here](#) why it matters for Africa.**

ISER'S ADVOCACY SEES PARLIAMENT APPROVE NEW PROGRESSIVE TAX MEASURES WITHIN THE 2023-24 BUDGET

ISER's diligent [research](#) and engagement with Parliament for the 2023/24 tax bills resulted in the approval of progressive measures, including a digital service tax for large online multinationals, restrictions on carrying forward losses for companies, and the elimination of tax incentives for manufacturing plants outside Kampala. These influential changes, aimed at enhancing revenue collections, signify ISER's effective advocacy in shaping tax policies for a more equitable and sustainable economic landscape. As noted in an earlier publication, [Leveraging Progressive Taxation to Fund Public Services](#), the wealthy and multinationals should pay their fair share of tax to enable government to sustainably fund public services.



ISER, together with partners from the Tax Justice Alliance Uganda presented before Parliament a [position paper on the 2023/24 tax bills](#).

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISER Calls on Countries to Support the 2023 UN Tax Resolution on Promotion of Inclusive and Effective International Tax Cooperation.

Kampala, Uganda - October 26, 2023 - The Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER), welcomes and supports the 2023 UN Tax resolution submitted by the Africa Group since the 4th General Assembly's Second Committee. It commends the leadership and initiative of the Africa Group in advancing the resolution and calls on all UN member states to support its adoption and implementation.

Africa Coalition on Public Services

The Africa Coalition on Public Services calls on the USA and EU to Support the 2023 UN Tax Resolution

Are We Heading Towards a More Progressive Tax System?

ISER's Position on the 2023 Income Tax Amendment Bill

THERE IS A GROWING PUSHBACK AGAINST IMF AND WORLD BANK LIBERAL POLICIES

ISER's advocacy during the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank annual meetings prompted acknowledgment of policy failures, leading to [World Bank officials expressing concerns](#) about the indiscriminate application of the private sector and the IMF recognizing flaws in its social spending floor policies. ISER's impactful sessions in the Civil Society Policy Forum cover critical topics like [development finance in private healthcare, social security during debt and austerity](#), and the right to social security in the digital age. At the national level, ISER continued engaging in discussions with the IMF team, expressing concerns about detrimental budget cuts in health, education.



ISER's Ausi Kibowa and Allana Kembabazi at the Annual Meetings of the World Bank and the IMF held in Marrakesh, Morocco.

DIGITAL ID AND HUMAN RIGHTS: EXPAND ACCESS TO NATIONAL ID

Following ISER's advocacy and court case filed challenging the exclusionary effects of mandatory use of digital ID, the government is working with the World Food Program to profile older persons excluded from the Social Assistance Grants for Empowerment (SAGE) program in the country.

Through platforms like dialogues, ISER fortified collaborative efforts with government ministries, departments, civil society organizations, and development partners to ensure that digital identity does not impede access to essential social services like social protection.

DIALOGUE

THEME: LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: ASSESSING UGANDA'S READINESS FOR THE NEW NDAGA MUNTU (NATIONAL ID)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023 | TIME 2PM - 4PM

Panelists:

Hon Silas Aogon
MP Kumi Municipality and Board Member of Uganda Parliamentary Forum for Social Protection

Atori Elizabeth
Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER)

Dr. Nansubuga Elizabeth
Lecturer Makerere University & IUSSP Population, Ethics & Human Rights Fellow

Join the conversation on our social media platforms and on **#NdagaMuntuUG**

LIVE ON NTV

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ISER Facilitating Social Justice
INITIATIVE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

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ENHANCED ADVOCACY AROUND THE NEED FOR ACCESS TO SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Amidst the poly crises, it is more important than ever for governments to invest in social protection. Together with over 29 other partners, we launched a campaign on the right to social security calling on governments and international financial institutions to ensure the right to social security. See Video of [campaign launch event](#).

ISER documented experiences of older persons' access to social protection in Uganda and spoke at high level events on financing social protection and ensuring non discrimination calling on government to scrap the requirement of a national ID as a pre requisite to receiving social protection.

YOU DO NOT QUALIFY!

December 2023

Experiences of older persons access to social protection in Uganda

SPEAKER:
James Mugisha, Commissioner, Guidance and Enforcement, Equal Opportunities Commission

PANELISTS:
Flavia Kabuhenda Ewuhoro (GAP), Chairperson Committee on Gender, Labour and Social Development
Bernard Mujuni, Commissioner Equity and Rights, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
Angella Kasule Nsubwaa, Executive Director, Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER)

Register to attend for this webinar:
<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/791516x5buWKN07pA>

Logos: EDC, Sverige, World Food Programme, unicef, ISER

Right to Education

REGULATION OF THE COST OF EDUCATION IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

A significant milestone this year; ISER commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Annual National Conference on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, organized in collaboration with the Public Interest Clinic (PILAC) at the School of Law, Makerere University, the Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA), and the Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL) under the theme: **Human Capital Development: The Cost of Education in the Era of the National Development Plan (NDP III)**. This flagship annual conference has over the years become a unique organising space that brings together communities, young people especially students and policy makers to reflect and strategise on how to strengthen economic, social and cultural rights.



ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR PREGNANT GIRLS AND ADOLESCENT MOTHERS

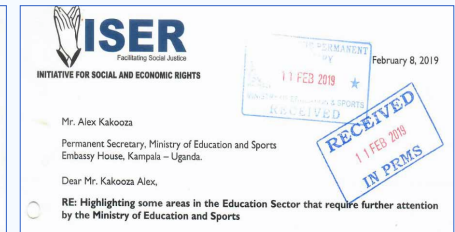
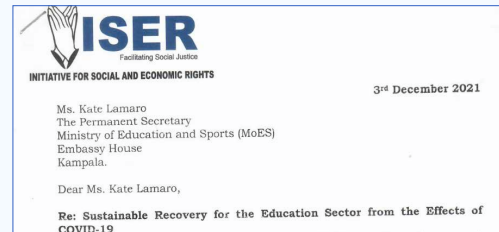
ISER's work on access to education for Pregnant Girls and Adolescent Mothers (PGAMs) has addressed negative social, cultural, and religious norms, ISER is progressively dismantling barriers hindering the education of pregnant girls and adolescent mothers.



Nankinga Florence a teenage mother who returned to school at St Cornelius Senior Secondary School Kalagala.

INCREASED FINANCING FOR PUBLIC BASIC EDUCATION

ISER has engaged in advocacy to improve the quality of basic public education. There are reports of the Cabinet approving additional funding of UGX 1.4tn to enable recruitment of 78, 888 teachers to attain pupil-teacher ratio of 40:1 by FY2024/25 in 12,433 UPE schools in the country. The government has also committed to recruiting 3,000 teachers in USE schools in FY2023/24.




“During FY2023/24, the government will recruit about 3,000 teachers to boost the education sector,” Minister Henry Musasizi who doubles as the Member of Parliament for Rubanda East constituency and the NRM party chairman for Rubanda District said on Saturday before he spoke out on the iron sheets saga.



Right to Health

INFLUENCED NATIONAL HEALTH BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR THE FY 2023/2024 AND MEDICAL INTERN RECRUITMENT

As a result of our advocacy efforts comprising of budget analysis, news paper op-ed contributions, and appearances on television shows, the Ministry of Health recognized the importance of medical interns in addressing the health worker shortage and revisited its earlier decision not to deploy the interns. This shift in position is a positive step toward strengthening the public health system.

Telephone: General Lines: 256 - 417-712260		Ministry of Health P. O. Box 7272 Plot 6, Lourdel Road KAMPALA UGANDA
Permanent Secretary's Office: 256-417-712221		
Toll Free 0500100066		
E-mail : ps@health.go.ug		
Website: www.health.go.ug		
IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON		
THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE NO. ADM:145/01		
28 th July, 2023		
All Internship Training Centers		
MEDICAL INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT - AUGUST 2023- JULY 2024		
The Uganda Medical Internship Committee has concluded selection and placement of medical interns for the period of one (1) year w.e.f. 3 rd August 2023 to 31 st July 2024.		



Business and Human Rights

ISER POPULARIZES THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN (NAP) ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS GALVANISING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE ACTION

ISER's impactful collaboration with the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development significantly enhanced local governments' responsiveness to business and human rights concerns. In the course of the year, capacity building was done for over 30 local governments in key regions, including Albertine, Karamoja, and Busoga, empowered crucial duty bearers, fostering a collective commitment to the implementation of Uganda's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.



Inset: Commissioner Bernard Mujuni, MoGLSD taking local government officials through the NAP on Business and Human Rights.

MORE AFRICAN COUNTRIES ENGAGE IN THE LEGALLY BINDING TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

African nations, led by Cameroon and Ghana, actively engaged in the 9th negotiation sessions for a Legally Binding Treaty on Transnational Corporations in International Human Rights Law.

Supported by countries like Chile, Bolivia, and Colombia, this positive development is attributed to the increased advocacy efforts of ISER and Civil Society partners, emphasizing the urgent need for a treaty as citizens from the global south bear the brunt of corporate human rights abuses.

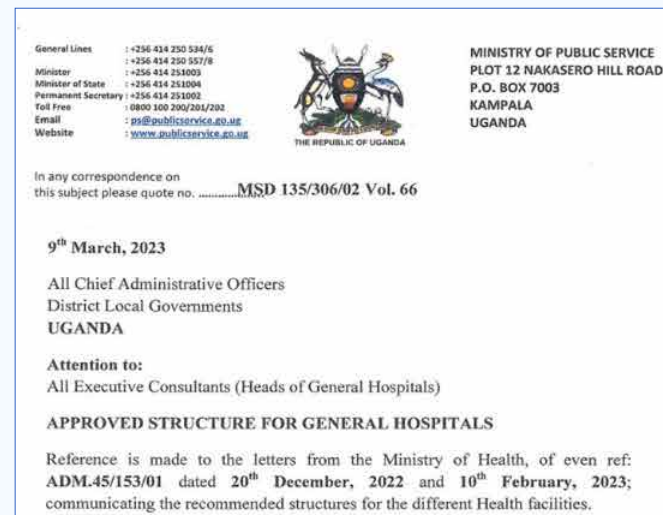


Inset: Joseph Byomuhangi makes a presentation during the Binding Treaty Negotiations calling for enhanced legal frameworks on the regulation of Transnational Corporations.

Strategic litigation

GOVERNMENT STRENGTHENS SIGN LANGUAGE INTEGRATION IN PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

In March 2023, following ISER's concerted advocacy and strategic litigation vide Constitutional Petition no 29/2017 which demanded for the recruitment of sign language interpreters at public health facilities, the Ministry of Public Services allocated resources for the deployment of sign language interpreters at all general and regional referral hospitals to improve healthcare service delivery.



ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SERVICES			
1	Senior Assistant Secretary	U3	1
2	Information Technology Officer	U4SC	1
3	Biostatistician	U4SC	-
4	Assistant Secretary	U4	1
5	Customer Care Officer	U4	-
6	Stenographer Secretary	U5	-
7	Sign Language Interpreter	U5	-
8	Office Typist	U7	-
9	Receptionist	U7	-
10	Records Assistant	U7	2

Community mobilization and participation

ISER'S COMMUNITY ADVOCATES CONTRIBUTE TO ACCESS TO PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Advocates (CA) continued to raising awareness about local issues, and advocating for improvements in public social service delivery and through their advocacy efforts their communities at large as well as individual community members were able to get access to public social services. Following a CA's efforts, Ms. Geretuda Amoding, an 89-year-old crippled woman living in Kumi, was eventually visited at her home by NIRA officials to recapture her data. Geretuda, despite registering for a national ID in September 2022, was yet to receive her ID 10 months later due to errors in the NIRA system. Consequently, she was not receiving her SAGE benefits due to the requirement of presenting a national ID.



A NIRA officer captures Ms. Geretuda Amoding's details for her national ID.

Regional and International Mechanisms

GOVERNMENT DOUBLES EFFORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ECONOMIC SOCIAL RIGHTS RECOMMENDATIONS

ISER in collaboration with government and other CSOs developed an implementation matrix for economic, social and cultural rights recommendations from the 3rd cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and a roadmap for implementation.



Government officials from diverse ministries, civil society developing Uganda's ESCR Implementation Matrix

Following advocacy efforts by ISER, Uganda ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Older Persons. It also publicly committed before the 77th session of the African Commission to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security.

Enhanced focus on ESCR during Uganda's review due to ISER's joint report on ESCRS and advocacy before the commission e.g questions on patient detention, national ID exclusion, education, public services and ESCR financing.



ISER's Allana Kembabazi at the 77th Ordinary Session of the ACHPR.



Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability

INTERNATIONAL RECOURSE MECHANISM (IRM) RECOGNISES OUR UGANDA CONSORTIUM ON CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY

The Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA), which ISER hosts has gained recognition from International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as the African Development Bank's IRM as a civil society partner that is popularizing the redress mechanisms of the IFIs. This recognition stems from the increased capacity building and community awareness about IFI redress mechanisms in Uganda as a key component of seeking access to justice.



Thank you @UccaUg for helping to raise awareness of Independent Accountability Mechanisms like the IRM.

UCCA_Ug @UccaUg · 1h
#GreaterMasakaRECAP23
We are conducting a capacity building for CBOs in Greater Masaka on accessing remedy through International Financial Institutions Redress Mechanisms. @ISERUganda @COTFONE @4accountability @afdb_irm @KIOSFoundation



UCCA COORDINATES GLOBAL SOUTH PARTICIPATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY DUE DILIGENCE DIRECTIVE

The Consortium and its partners engaged EU policymakers, both in the EU Parliament and EU Commission, and the importance of the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and addressing corporate human rights abuses.



Joseph Byomuhangyi presents to the European Union Commission the UCCA position paper on the European Union Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive and Forced Labour Regulation.

Expanding Partnerships

In addition to movement building, we are expanding partnerships. ISER renewed its partnership with the French embassy in Uganda to further advance business and human rights. We have partnered with the Research and Action for Income Security (RAISE) on work around social protection and social security, and a collaboration with the Centre for Reproductive Rights (CRR) on advancing women's right to health and push back against patient detention is in the pipeline.

Left to Right: Mr. Yves Mercier, Head of Cooperation at the French Embassy in Uganda, ISER's Angella Nabwowe and Joseph Byomuhangyi following the signing of a renewal agreement with the French Embassy.



Knowledge creation around Economic and Social Rights

This year, ISER has published a number of reports and material on economic and social rights issues.

Below are some of ISER's 2023 publications available on our website: <https://iser-uganda.org/>

An Applied Political Economy Analysis (APEA) on girls' access to education in Uganda: A case study of Ngogwe and Najja sub-counties in Bulkwé district, Uganda

FEBRUARY 2023

THE POLICY AND BEHAVIORAL DETERMINANTS AFFECTING THE CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION: AN ANALYSIS OF THE BARRIERS PREGNANT GIRLS AND ADOLESCENT MOTHERS FACE TO ACCESS EDUCATION

July 2023

YOU DO NOT QUALIFY!

December 2023

Experiences of older persons access to social protection in Uganda

ISER INITIATIVE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

RAISE Research & Action for Income Security

Are We Heading Towards a More Progressive Tax System?

ISER's Position on the 2023 Income Tax Amendment Bill

Cost of Education in Uganda

Policy Brief by: Initiative for Social and Economic Rights (ISER)

October 2023

ISER INITIATIVE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

Using Community Structures to Improve Public Social Service Delivery at the Local Government Level

A FALSE PROMISE!

THE LUBOWA INTERNATIONAL SPECIALIZED PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) HOSPITAL WILL NOT DELIVER UNIVERSAL HEALTH IN UGANDA

ISER's Position on the 2023 Social Protection Budget

April 2023

THE AFRICA WE WANT: Reclaim Public Services

Africa Coalition on Public Services Coordinated by

ISER INITIATIVE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

ISER's work in the media

- Hospital Detentions for New Mothers Challenged in Ugandan Court, THE GUARDIAN, <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/aug/22/hospital-detentions-for-new-mothers-challenged-in-ugandan-court>
- UBC TV: Access to public services: Reduce illicit financial flow. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQFG9oogaME>
- BBS TV. Ensonga za bbanka tezinaba kuggwa abaklumbeze balaze obweralikirivu ku by'enfuna bye ggwanga. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNQ3ZUvqcNI>
- <https://nilepost.co.ug/2023/08/30/pan-africanists-take-swipe-at-african-countries-for-failure-to-learn-from-colonial-past/>
- NTV's Talk of the Nation discussing recently passed national budget and public services. <https://www.ntv.co.ug/ug/features/will-the-budget-look-out-for-the-common-citizen-talk-of-the-nation-4274112>
- Rights organisations challenge Govt, Labour Ministry on Minimum Wage, <https://www.independent.co.ug/rights-organisations-challenge-govt-labour-ministry-on-minimum-wage/>
- Labour day: CSOs insist on demanding minimum wage for Ugandan workers, <https://nilepost.co.ug/2023/05/01/labour-day-csos-insist-on-demanding-minimum-wage-for-ugandan-workers/>
- Government to Spend shs 900 on drugs per citizen, THE MONITOR, <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/finance/govt-to-spend-shs900-on-drugs-a-month-per-citizen-4272156>
- Activists Urge Government to regulate school fees to foster human capital development, THE OBSERVER, <https://www.independent.co.ug/activists-urge-govt-to-regulate-school-fees-to-foster-human-capital-development/>
- Government has Mandate to Regulate School Fees, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ogy07deTrwg>
- **Why government should regulate tuition fees in school | NTV TALK**

OF THE NATION, <https://www.ntv.co.ug/ug/features/why-government-should-regulate-tuition-fees-in-school-talk-of-the-nation-4363938>

A number of op eds have been written and published in Uganda's leading dailies

- Allana Kembabazi in the Daily Monitor, urged the Government of Uganda to adequately invest in quality public services, otherwise, inequality will continue to deepen. See: <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/oped/commentary/we-must-invest-in-public-services-4164694>
- Labila Musoke, Tax and Debt Injustice Threaten Global Aids Response, <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/oped/letters/tax-debt-injustice-threaten-global-aids-response-4452778>
- Saphina Nakulima, Government has Legal Mandate to Regulate School Fees, THE OBSERVER, <https://observer.ug/viewpoint/76702-govt-has-legal-mandate-to-regulate-school-fees>
- Joseph Byomuhangi, There is Need for Regulation of Private Provision of Public Services, THE OBSERVER, <https://observer.ug/viewpoint/78469-there-s-need-for-regulation-of-private-provision-of-public-social-services>
- Allana Kembabazi, Africa Should Invest in Public Services, THE DAILY MONITOR <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/oped/commentary/africa-should-invest-in-public-services-4357142>
- Prima Birungi, Government Must Address Uganda's Inevitable Healthcare Crisis, THE OBSERVER <https://observer.ug/viewpoint/78794-govt-must-address-uganda-s-inevitable-healthcare-crisis>
- Jamada Kalinda, Debt Raises Concern Over Public Services, THE MONITOR, <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/oped/commentary/debt-raises-concern-over-public-services-4329052>
- Labila Musoke, highlighted the need for government to recognize the pivotal role of medical interns in strengthening the public health sector. THE OBSERVER See: <https://observer.ug/viewpoint/78639-uganda-s-health-facilities-struggle-amidst-urgent-need-for-medical-interns>

ISER's work influences key reports

ISER was featured in the [U.S International Trade Commission report](#) where it testified on global equitable access to COVID 19 vaccines and therapies, following which the Commission found “the disparity among countries of different income groups in terms of access to and availability of COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics is wide, with key factors affecting demand and availability including access to intellectual property.” Ms. Ashwimi, the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, at the committee’s Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedures stressed that Global North States’ persistent refusal to agree to a waiver of COVID-19 vaccine intellectual property rights raises concerns regarding the obligation of states to guarantee non-discrimination. The same was reported by the [OHCHR](#) and the [UN News](#).

ISER's significant work in challenging Uganda's Digital ID exclusion was featured in the [Report of the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human right' report](#) A/HRC/50/38 “The ‘Non-take-up of Rights in the Context of Social Protection”; which featured our report Chased Away and Left to Die published collaboratively with the Unwanted Witness and the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice.

Prominent global media houses like [the Guardian](#) published articles that further spotlighted our research and case on patient detention and our research on debt, illicit financial flows was spotlighted by the Africa European Foundation.



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 [ISER Uganda](https://www.youtube.com/ISERUganda)