

## Women in Northern Uganda Form Poverty Fighting Groups called “Unity is Strength”

by Judith Murungi

As an outcome of the CBCT training, women in Adilang sub county, Agago district have started a campaign to improve household income in their families. The program that was started by New Covenant church in Adilang brings together a group of 37 women from different villages in a fight against poverty.



Mrs. Hellen Apoko a church member in the New Covenant Church who Chairs this group told Transforming Nations Alliance (TNA) that the campaign aims at promoting household hygiene, and sanitation, sensitizing household on work, caring about the sick as well as starting up income generating activities through saving clubs like (Unity is Strength).

*“The campaign brings together both Christian and non Christians in a fight against poverty”*

The women have two days in a week where they jointly look for commercial work in the Village and each is paid \$1 that is collected. Every Saturday on a market day two members voted for in turns are escorted by the group

leaders to purchase their most crucial household items. They are also planning once the buying of household items is done how they will embark on income generating activities.



Mrs. Helen Apoko (in green shirt) leading group home from market

Mrs. Hellen Apoko explains that women from the church go out and mobilize fellow women in the community to join the group so that they can work to promote financial development.

This has reduced domestic violence in the community (husbands are happy that their wife have a great contribution in the home hence respect them), promoted food security and enhanced the unity between the Christian and nonChristians.

Mrs. Justine Teyero supports Mrs. Apoko's account adding that the womens group at times move out to jointly cultivate each others gardens. This group is admired in the community to the extent that the men allow their women without complaining to fully participate. It has also attracted other women to form a similar group and when they meet each other every market day they dance rejoice with the purchased items.

Helen believes great things will happen in their community as the women are united for a purpose.



Dancing home from the market



