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# **TOOL FOR MONITORING PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES IN UGANDA**

**2022**



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## **DISCLAIMER**

This tool on monitoring public assemblies was made possible with the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of JAP and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	<b>3</b>
FOREWORD	<b>5</b>
INTRODUCTION	<b>6</b>
SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENT	<b>6</b>
SECTION 2: PUBLIC ASSEMBLY	<b>7</b>
SECTION 3: POLICING ASSEMBLY	<b>12</b>
SECTION 4: POLICING COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION	<b>15</b>
SECTION 5: OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT	<b>17</b>
REFERENCES	<b>19</b>

## FOREWORD

Justice Access Point (JAP) is exceedingly delighted to be part of this most crucial effort under the aegis of USAID/CSSA. The tool has been designed as to support the different stakeholders to capture data on public assemblies in Uganda. The tool can potentially be utilized by commissioned monitors on freedom of assembly as a self-administered questionnaire, and additionally administered to other stakeholders with vital information on monitored public assemblies such as the organizers, participants, law enforcement officers, by-standers and responders. We hope this tool will be a valuable resource and a useful aid in the furtherance of freedom of assembly and right to protest in Uganda.

**Mohammed Ndifuna,**  
Executive Director  
Justice Access Point (JAP).

## INTRODUCTION

This tool is for the purpose of monitoring public assemblies in Uganda. It seeks to determine the extent to which freedom of assembly as espoused in the Uganda constitution 1995, the Regional and international human instruments are realized in Uganda. The tool can potentially be utilized by commissioned monitors of public assemblies, organizers, participants, by-standers, respondents at public assemblies and law enforcement officers policing the public assemblies. The tool is divided into five (5) sections including section 1 on demographic characteristics, section 2 on the assembly, section 3 on Policing the Assembly, section 4 on counter-demonstrations, and section 5 on general assessment of public assembly .

In the collection of data using this tool, anonymity of the respondent has to be preserved or consent obtained.

### SECTION 1:DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENT

1.0 Demographic Characteristics of the respondent	Descriptive details
1.1 Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Others
1.2 Age	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36-55 <input type="checkbox"/> 56 and above
1.3 Role of respondent/s in the event	<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioned monitor <input type="checkbox"/> Organizer <input type="checkbox"/> Participant <input type="checkbox"/> Legal enforcement officer <input type="checkbox"/> By-stander <input type="checkbox"/> Responder



**SECTION 2: PUBLIC ASSEMBLY**

2.0 Public Assembly	Descriptive details
2.1 Date (DD/MM/YY)	
2.2 Start time of the assembly	
2.3 End time of the assembly	
2.4 Location (specify district, country, sub country/ division & indicate where exactly the event is taking place. eg St Mary's primary school)	
2.5 Destination of the assembly (If the gathering is in transition)	
2.6 Organizer	<input type="checkbox"/> Known <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Specify if known
2.7 Purpose	
2.8 Type of assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Political rally <input type="checkbox"/> Processions <input type="checkbox"/> Religious event <input type="checkbox"/> Sports event <input type="checkbox"/> Music show <input type="checkbox"/> Any other (Please specify)
2.9 Nature of the assembly (mobilization)	<input type="checkbox"/> Planned <input type="checkbox"/> Spontaneous

2.0 Public Assembly	Descriptive details
2.10 Nature of the Public Assembly (Initial Assembly or response to counter Initial Public Assembly).	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Public Assembly <input type="checkbox"/> Counter-assembly
2.11 Notification.	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice <input type="checkbox"/> No notice
2.12 Stage of the Assembly or Public event monitored.	<input type="checkbox"/> Before the assembly/ planning phase <input type="checkbox"/> During the assembly phase <input type="checkbox"/> After the assembly phase <input type="checkbox"/> All the three phases
2.13 Presence of Police Personnel.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
2.14 Estimated number of Police Officers.	<input type="checkbox"/> (0 – 50.) <input type="checkbox"/> (51 – 100.) <input type="checkbox"/> (101 – 150) <input type="checkbox"/> (151 – 200) <input type="checkbox"/> 200 and above
2.15 Estimated number of participants in the public assembly.	<input type="checkbox"/> (0 – 50.) <input type="checkbox"/> (51 – 100.) <input type="checkbox"/> (101 – 150) <input type="checkbox"/> (151 – 200) <input type="checkbox"/> 200 and above

2.0 Public Assembly	Descriptive details
2.16 Female participants predominance in the Public Assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Majority <input type="checkbox"/> A few <input type="checkbox"/> Minority <input type="checkbox"/> None
2.17 Male participants predominance in the Public Assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Majority <input type="checkbox"/> A few <input type="checkbox"/> Minority <input type="checkbox"/> None
2.18 People with Disabilities participants predominance in the Public Assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Majority <input type="checkbox"/> A few <input type="checkbox"/> Minority <input type="checkbox"/> None
2.19 Presence of Children in the public assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
2.20 Were there any visual displays?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No
2.21 Nature of visual displays	<input type="checkbox"/> Posters <input type="checkbox"/> Video display <input type="checkbox"/> Screens <input type="checkbox"/> Flags <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
2.22 Was there any form of chanting/singing/shouting/ululation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No

2.0 Public Assembly	Descriptive details
2.23 Nature of chanting/singing or shouting.	<input type="checkbox"/> Rowdy <input type="checkbox"/> Insulting <input type="checkbox"/> Hateful <input type="checkbox"/> Joyful <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, Please specify
2.24 Nature of any weapons used by the participants.	<input type="checkbox"/> Stones <input type="checkbox"/> Arrows <input type="checkbox"/> Pangas <input type="checkbox"/> Sticks <input type="checkbox"/> Car tyres <input type="checkbox"/> Using bottles with petrol (makeshift fire bombs) <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, Please specify
2.25 Were the masses/organizers and participants involved aggressive?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No
2.26 Nature of any aggressive actions by the masses.	<input type="checkbox"/> Blocking Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Burning Car tyres <input type="checkbox"/> Fighting <input type="checkbox"/> Beating <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing stones <input type="checkbox"/> Shoplifting <input type="checkbox"/> Looting <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, Please specify

2.0 Public Assembly	Descriptive details
2.27 How was the mass' attitude towards the police	<input type="checkbox"/> Very aggressive <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat aggressive <input type="checkbox"/> Neither aggressive nor Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Very friendly
2.28 How was the mass' attitude to opponents/by-standers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very aggressive <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat aggressive <input type="checkbox"/> Neither aggressive nor Friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat friendly <input type="checkbox"/> Very friendly
2.29 Did you notice any road blocks, barricades, that stopped people from moving from one area to another? Etc	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. <input type="checkbox"/> No
2.30 State the type of barricades raised by the participants in the public assembly	<input type="checkbox"/> Car tyres <input type="checkbox"/> Logs <input type="checkbox"/> Pitfall dig-ups <input type="checkbox"/> Human barrier of demonstrators

**SECTION 3: POLICING ASSEMBLY**

3.0 Policing Assembly	Descriptive details
3.1 Describe the security agency policing the assembly.	<input type="checkbox"/> UPF <input type="checkbox"/> UPDF <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Police <input type="checkbox"/> Counter Terrorism Unit <input type="checkbox"/> Field Force Unit <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
3.2 Describe the location of police units at the public assembly.	<input type="checkbox"/> At the Edge <input type="checkbox"/> In the middle
3.3 Describe the color of the police uniforms, (e.g., normal, riot gear, plainclothes).	<input type="checkbox"/> Olive Green Uniform <input type="checkbox"/> White Uniform <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Camouflage <input type="checkbox"/> Navy Blue Uniform <input type="checkbox"/> Black Uniform <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
3.4 Police equipment available/visible at the public assembly (e.g., guns, tear gas, water cannons, dogs, other).	<input type="checkbox"/> Guns <input type="checkbox"/> Tear gas <input type="checkbox"/> Water cannons <input type="checkbox"/> Dogs <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
3.5 State the type of barricades raised by the police officer in the public assembly.	<input type="checkbox"/> Metallic Barricades <input type="checkbox"/> Billboard Barricades <input type="checkbox"/> Wooden Barriers <input type="checkbox"/> String barrier <input type="checkbox"/> Barricade fence panels
3.6 Location and number of any barriers erected.	

3.0 Policing Assembly	Descriptive details
3.7 State locations, numbers, equipment used by the organizers.	<input type="checkbox"/> Podiums <input type="checkbox"/> P A systems <input type="checkbox"/> Tents <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
3.8 Describe any communication between Police and Organizers.	<input type="checkbox"/> Civil language <input type="checkbox"/> Neither civil nor uncivil language <input type="checkbox"/> Uncivil language
3.9 How did the Police respond to participants in the public assembly?	<input type="checkbox"/> Stopped the public assembly <input type="checkbox"/> Regulated traffic flow <input type="checkbox"/> Protected the organizers and participants <input type="checkbox"/> Arrested participants & organizers <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied the public space
3.10 Rate the conduct of police officers in responding to the public assembly event?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very unprofessional <input type="checkbox"/> Un professional <input type="checkbox"/> Neither professional nor unprofessional <input type="checkbox"/> Professional <input type="checkbox"/> Very professional
3.11 Did Police try to disperse the assembly? If so, why?	
3.12 Did the Police give audible warnings? If so, how long did the police wait before acting?	

3.0 Policing Assembly	Descriptive details
3.13 What actions did the police take to disperse the assembly?	<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal command <input type="checkbox"/> Empty hands control <input type="checkbox"/> Pepper spray, baton, Taser <input type="checkbox"/> Deadly force
3.14 Describe any force used by the police towards participants in the assembly.	
3.15 How did the participants in the assembly react?	
3.16 Did the police arrest/ detain any people in the assembly?	
3.17 Were any participants in the assembly visibly injured?	
3.18 Did the police arrest any other people (spectators, journalists, etc.) at the assembly?	
3.19 Were any other people (spectators, journalists, etc.) present at the assembly visibly injured?	
3.20 Were any police officers visibly injured by actions of the assembly participants?	



**SECTION 4: POLICING COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION**

4.0 Policing Counter-demonstration (Additional information if the event is a counter-demonstration)	Descriptive details
4.1 Describe any communication between police and the organizers of the counter-demonstration.	<input type="checkbox"/> Civil language <input type="checkbox"/> Neither civil nor uncivil language <input type="checkbox"/> Uncivil language
4.2 How did the Police respond to participants in the counter-demonstration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Stopped the public assembly <input type="checkbox"/> Regulated traffic flow <input type="checkbox"/> Protected the organizers and participants <input type="checkbox"/> Arrested participants & organizers <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied the public space
4.3 Rate the conduct of Police officers in responding to the Counter-demonstration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Very unprofessional <input type="checkbox"/> Un professional <input type="checkbox"/> Neither professional nor unprofessional <input type="checkbox"/> Professional <input type="checkbox"/> Very professional
4.4 Did the police try to disperse the counterdemonstration? If so, why?	

4.0 Policing Counter-demonstration (Additional information if the event is a counter-demonstration)	Descriptive details
4.5 Did the police give any audible warnings?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
4.6 If so, how long did the police wait before acting?	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediately <input type="checkbox"/> 30 minutes <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 hours
4.7 What actions did the police take to disperse the counter-demonstration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Use of tear gas <input type="checkbox"/> Bullets fired in the air <input type="checkbox"/> Any other, please specify
4.8 Describe any force used by the police towards participants in the counter-demonstration?	
4.9 How did the participants in the counterdemonstration react?	
4.10 Did the police arrest any people in the counter-demonstration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
4.11 Were any participants in the counterdemonstration visibly injured?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know
4.12 Were any police officers visibly injured by the counter-demonstrators?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know

**SECTION 5: OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT**

5.0 Overall assessment of Public Assembly event	Descriptive details
5.1 The manner in which the Police have discharged their role in policing the public assembly is satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree
5.2 The manner in which the event organizers have discharged their role in policing the public assembly is satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree
5.3 The manner in which the participants behaved during the public assembly is satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree
5.4 The public assembly has been conducted in accordance with the law	<input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree

5.0 Overall assessment of Public Assembly event	Descriptive details
<p>5.5 The public assembly has been conducted in accordance with the regional and international human rights standards.</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree  <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree  <input type="checkbox"/> Neither agree nor disagree  <input type="checkbox"/> Agree  <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree         </p>
<p>5.6 How do you rate freedom of assembly based on how the public assembly has been managed, how do you rate the enjoyment of freedom of assembly on a scale of 0 (closed) to 10 (open) .</p>	

## REFERENCES

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