



REPORT ON VIOLENCE AND VIOLATIONS BASED ON REAL OR PRESUMED SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2024

14th February 2024

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1. Introduction

The Anti Homosexuality Act has, as at the end of January 2024, been in force for a period of 8 months. Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum has continued to monitor the human rights situation and lived realities of LGBTIQ persons in the wake of the passing of the AHA and its subsequent enforcement, and to document cases of violence and human rights violations based on real or presumed sexual orientation or gender identity, particularly in those cases reported to and handled by HRAPF's legal aid clinic, and has published monthly reports on this data for every month. This is the report of the 8th month of the AHA's enforcement, exploring

cases reported in the month of January 2024, in which known or suspected LGBTIQ persons were targeted for violence and violations purely on the basis of their SOGIE.

This report builds on the reports produced earlier in this series and therefore seeks to build on the data available about the enforcement of the AHA 2023 from 30th May 2023 to date.

2. Methodology

As with previous reports in this series, the report provides an overview of reported cases of violence and human rights violations on the basis of SOGIE that were reported to and handled by the HRAPF legal aid clinic in the month of January 2024. The report employs both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection to collect and analyse the data shared in this report.

Quantitative data was obtained from a review of case files to ascertain the number of cases handled and the cases in which the particular incidents of violence and violations reported herein occurred. This data was then subjected to a further in-depth qualitative analysis to ascertain the circumstances under which the incidents occurred. Only cases in which there is reason to believe that the actions in the incidents deliberately targeted LGBTIQ persons primarily or wholly on the basis of their real or presumed sexuality are included in the report.

A recurring limitation of this report is that it contains only cases that have been reported to HRAPF through our countrywide network of community paralegals, regional legal aid centres, specialised legal aid desks and the central legal aid clinic. This network is spread out enough to cover the majority of the districts in the country and all regions, but it is worth noting that there may indeed be areas where cases are not reported at all, thus limiting the data available for this report. HRAPF also recognises that not all cases that occurred in the month of January 2024, were reported to the HRAPF legal aid clinic. This report therefore presents a fair picture of the situation for LGBTIQ persons as reported to HRAPF, but may not necessarily be representative of the lives of all LGBTIQ persons across the country.

3. Nature and number of cases reported

HRAPF handled a total of 121 cases in the month of January 2024, an increase of 45.7% from the 83 cases handled in December 2023. Out of the 121 cases handled, 59 cases involved actions that directly targeted people for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE, representing 48.7% of all the cases handled during the month of January 2024. The number of cases in which individuals were targeted for negative treatment on the basis of their SOGIE increased from 52 cases during the month of December 2023 to 59 cases during the month of January 2024, although it is worth noting that, as a percentage of the total number of cases handled, there has been a general reduction in incidents where people are targeted specifically basing on their SOGIE compared to December 2023. Out of the 59 cases in which LGBTIQ people were specifically targeted for detrimental treatment during the month of January 2024, 30 were cases of evictions from rented properties, 25 were cases of violence and threats of violence while 4 were arrests for sexuality-related reasons. These actions affected a total of 73 individuals. This section of the report provides detailed data on these cases.

3.1. Evictions from rented property

In January 2024, there were 30 cases of unlawful evictions from rented property that were reported to HRAPF's legal aid clinic, affecting 35 individuals. The cases were reported from the districts of Wakiso (18), Kampala (4), Arua (3), Mbale (2), Mbarara (1), Masaka (1) and Jinja (1). The evictions were perpetrated primarily by the property owners/ landlords (21), followed by local council authorities working with property owners (4), family members (3) and local council leaders acting independently (2). In many of these cases, the neighbors expressed suspicion and discomfort about the victims' sexuality, prompting the landlords to evict the victims.

The table below discusses these cases in detail:

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Perpetrator	Brief facts	Number of victims
1.	HRAPF/PA /328/2024	2/01/24	Kampala	Landlord	The client's neighbours reported to the landlord that the client appeared to be a homosexual based on his appearance. The landlord accordingly gave him notice at the end of December to vacate the premises by 15 th January, and threatened to involve the local area leadership and police if he did not comply.	1
2.	HRAPF/PA /329/2024	2/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord, Community leaders	The client was asked to vacate his rented house in Nsangi by the LC1 chairperson because of being gay. This was after his landlord lodged a complaint that his tenant (the client) was a homosexual and that he needed the assistance of the local area leaders to get him out of his premises. He was also banished from the village.	1
3.	HRAPF/PA /330/2024	3/02/24	Kampala	Family	The client's grandmother learnt about the client's sexuality after his ex-partner outed him to the family. The client's grandmother, on confirming that her grandson was indeed gay, chased him out of her home, where he used to live, and rejected all attempts to mediate the issue.	1
4.	HRAPF/PA /331/2024	3/01/24	Arua	Landlord, Community leaders	The client's neighbours became suspicious of his sexuality after noticing and interacting with his friends, many of whom are transgender women. They reported to the landlord and demanded that he evict the client because of his sexuality, which the landlord did. When	1

					he had not vacated the house by the end of the notice period, the landlord came to the house with the local area leaders, who informed the client that he was to leave the house immediately, and that he was not allowed to get a house anywhere in their village.	
5.	HRAPF/PA /332/2024	3/01/24	Arua	Landlord	The client's landlord issued him with an eviction notice when he learnt that the client was a homosexual and that he works with a KP-led organisation, stating that the organisation is well known for promoting homosexuality in Arua, and that all employees of the organisation are homosexuals. The client was given up to 15th January 2024 to vacate the premises.	1
6.	HRAPF/PA /333/2024	3/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client and her partner were evicted by the landlord after the neighbours complained that the client, her partner and their friends who were always visiting them were homosexuals. The landlord informed them that he could not tolerate homosexuals, and demanded that they move out immediately.	2
7.	HRAPF/PA /334/2023	3/01/24	Wakiso	Family	The client's partner came home to visit him and, while the two were together, the client's mother, with whom he lives, walked into the room and found them. She grew very angry and bitter on learning that her son was gay, and demanded that he leave the house immediately.	1
8.	HRAPF/PA /335/2024	4/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client's landlord's son informed his father that the client and a visitor of his were homosexuals, and that they were attempting to make him gay as well. The landlord angrily demanded that they leave the place immediately or he would call the police to have them arrested for homosexuality.	2
9.	HRAPF/PA /336/2024	4/01/24	Masaka	Community leaders	The client's ex-partner outed him to the village, spreading rumours that the client is a homosexual and that he was recruiting others into homosexuality. These rumours reached the area local council chairperson, who	1

					summoned the client and issued him with an eviction notice to vacate their village due to his 'bad behaviors'.	
10.	HRAPF/PA /337/2024	4/01/24	Mbale	Family	The client, a visually impaired lesbian woman, was evicted from the family home after the parents heard rumours that she was a homosexual, and that her guide was in fact a sexual partner.	1
11.	HRAPF/PA /338/2024	4/01/24	Mbale	Landlord	The client was involved with a person who was arrested in a highly publicized event in 2019 and remanded to prison on homosexuality-related charges, which forced him to flee Mbale temporarily. When he returned in 2023, he was once again recognized as the friend of the 'homosexual', and his neighbors at the rental accommodation he had secured appealed to their landlord to evict the client, claiming that he would teach their children to be gay as well. The client's landlord acquiesced to this request and evicted him without notice.	1
12.	HRAPF/PA /339/2024	4/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client's neighbours reported to the landlord that she is a homosexual, and requested that the landlord evict her to protect the children. This was because, according to the neighbours, she was rather feminine presenting, and often had males visiting her, which made them believe she must be having sexual relations with them.	1
13.	HRAPF/PA /340/2024	4/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client, while trying to pay his rent for January, was informed by his landlord that he (the landlord) had found out the client was a homosexual, and that he did not want any 'homosexual money', and instead merely wanted him to vacate the premises by 20 th January 2024. The landlord also specifically informed the client that the law in Uganda is very clear that anyone who harbours a homosexual without reporting would also go to jail, and that he did not want to take that risk.	1
14.	HRAPF/PA /341/2024	4/01/24	Mbarara	Landlord	The client reported theft of some property to the police but, when the suspect was summoned to the police	1

					station, he outed the client to the police, who confiscated her phone, forcefully went through her personal communications and found text messages and photos that indicated that the client is a transgender woman. The police then summoned her landlord, showed her the messages and photos and asked if he knew the client was a homosexual, after which they released the client. The landlord immediately issued an eviction notice to the client upon leaving the station.	
15.	HRAPF/PA /342/2024	4/01/24	Kampala	Landlord, community leaders	The chairperson in the area where the clients lived asked them several times to vacate the area because they and their friends are homosexuals, and the clients refused because they had nowhere to go. The chairperson then had the two arrested on allegations that they threatened to attack him, and they were remanded for three weeks before being released on bail. Upon their return, they found that the chairperson had prevailed upon the landlord to evict them, and the landlord accordingly gave them a week to vacate the area, stating that he could not abide homosexuals.	2
16.	HRAPF/PA /343/2024	4/01/24	Arua	Landlord	The client in this case was constructively evicted when his landlord increased his rent by 60%, demanded that he pay his rent by the 20 th day of each new month and also asked that he not invite any male persons into the house without the landlord's prior authorization. None of the other tenants were given similar conditions, and their rent was not increased. The landlord told the client he was free to vacate the house if he did not wish to abide by the new conditions.	1
17.	HRAPF/PA /344/24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client held a party at his place for a few friends and, when some of them got drunk, they became rowdy. Two of them were found kissing by a neighbor, who made an alarm and alerted the other neighbours that he had found homosexuals having sex in the bathroom. The	1

					following morning, the neighbours informed the landlord, who consequently evicted the client on the grounds that he was associating with homosexuals to the extent of even bringing them to the house.	
18.	HRAPF/PA /345/24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client's landlord, who is also the LC chairperson of the area where the houses are located, found out that the client was gay and asked him to vacate his houses.	1
19.	HRAPF/PA /346/2024	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The clients were living together as a couple and on one occasion, they had a fight which outed them as a couple to the neighbours. The clients' neighbors reported them to their landlord who subsequently evicted them, stating that he could not let out his premises to homosexuals. He asked them to leave his houses by 19/1/24.	2
20.	HRAPF/PA /347/24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client stated that her neighbors reported to their landlord that they did not understand her ways, because she behaves like a woman, and many of the client's friends routinely called her "madam" in their hearing. They put pressure on their landlord to evict her, and he eventually gave in to the pressure from the client's neighbours.	1
21.	HRAPF/PA /348/24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The clients' neighbors reported them to their landlord that they are homosexuals and that they host so many friends of theirs whose sexuality is also suspicious. Based on the information their landlord got about their sexuality, he issued them with an eviction notice and ordered them to vacate his premises by 31 st January 2024.	2
22.	HRAPF/PA /349/24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client lost his job at the end of 2023 after his employer questioned his sexuality, asking him why he looks and behaves like a homosexual. Following this incident, the neighbours started to ask him the same questions. The caretaker of the premises heard the rumours and gave the client notice to vacate the	1

					premises by 31 st January 2024.	
23.	HRAPF/PA /350/24	5/01/24	Kampala	Landlord	Sometime in October 2023, the client was arrested on allegations of homosexuality and detained at Kabalaga Police Station for over a week. While conducting investigations over the alleged charges, the police went up to his home and inquired from the client's neighbors and landlord as to whether the client was a homosexual. Rumors then started spreading that the client was gay and upon his release from police custody, his landlord asked him to leave his house.	1
24.	HRAPF/PA /351/24	5/01/24	Jinja	Community leader	The client's neighbors suspected the client of being a homosexual. They reported to the LC chairperson and a meeting was held, during which the client's neighbors were given a chance to explain the reasons as to why they suspected the client to be a homosexual. However, the client was never given an opportunity to defend himself, but the chairperson made a resolution that the client should vacate their village.	1
25.	HRAPF/PA /352/24	6/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client's neighbours complained to the landlord that the client was a homosexual, and that she should be evicted. The landlord ignored this until one of the neighbours, who was the mother of teenage boys, took them to the village, and specifically informed the landlord that she was removing them because she was afraid that the client, a transgender woman, would recruit them into homosexuality. She also threatened to move out if the client was not evicted, and the landlord accordingly evicted her to keep his other tenants happy.	1
26.	HRAPF/PA /353/24	10/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client was evicted by her landlord after one of her neighbors went and reported her to their landlord that she is a homosexual. The issue arose when the neighbour's child, whom she often babysat, came into the house without knocking and saw her and her partner kissing, which she reported to her mother.	1

27.	HRAPF/PA /354/24	11/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client was evicted by his landlord after his neighbors reported him to his landlord that he is a homosexual and that he hosts and associates with known homosexuals around the area. The landlord stated that the neighbours reported having made several pleas to the client to stop hosting homosexuals, but he refused. He therefore ordered the client to vacate his premises by 31 st January 2024.	1
28.	HRAPF/PA /355/24	11/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client was attacked by a mob and beaten brutally while being accused of promoting homosexuality in the village. The incident was relayed to the landlord by the neighbours, who also reported that the client routinely dresses like a woman yet she is a male person. The landlord got angry and came to the house to demand that the client move out, during which interaction he also beat the client. He later issued a formal notice requiring the client to move out by 31 st January.	1
29.	HRAPF/PA /356/24	11/01/24	Wakiso	Landlord	The client neighbours of the client, a transgender woman, complained about her to the landlord, stating that she routinely brings men to the neighbourhood, which makes it unsafe for the other tenants, and that she often dresses like a woman yet she is clearly male, which they were uncomfortable with. The landlord reacted by evicting her.	1
30.	HRAPF/PA /357/24	11/01/24	Wakiso	Land lord, community leaders	The client's brother found him and his partner in an intimate embrace in the client's house, and he went and reported the incident to the area LC1 chairperson. The chairperson convened a meeting to which the landlord was summoned, and in that meeting the landlord was ordered to evict the client. The chairperson also advised the client not to bother finding another house in the same area.	1

3.2. Cases of violence

There has been a drastic increase in the number of cases of actual violence and threats of violence against individuals on the basis of their real or/ presumed SOGIE. In January 2024, 25 cases were registered affecting 32 persons, as compared to December 2023, during which 15 cases were registered affecting 19 persons and November 2023, in which 9 cases involving violence and threats against individuals on the basis of their SOGIE were registered. The increase in the number of cases of actual violence and threats of violence against individuals on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE was majorly attributed to an apparent increase in homophobic violence in the Nakivale refugee settlement in Isingiro District.

i) Cases of actual violence on the basis of sexual orientation/ gender identity

There were 12 cases of actual violence against persons on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE in January 2024, affecting 17 persons. This violence was perpetrated by unknown persons in 10 cases and in 2 cases, the perpetrators were known family members. In all the 12 cases, physical assaults were involved and the victims sustained serious bodily injuries.

Out of the 12 cases, 4 cases happened in Wakiso, 3 cases in Isingiro (Nakivale Refugee Settlement), 2 cases in Kampala and 1 case each in Arua, Bushenyi and Hoima districts.

The details of these cases are discussed in the table below:

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Nature of violence	Perpetrator	Brief facts	Number of Victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/371/2024	17/01/24	Wakiso	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The client was attacked by unknown men who beat him up and as a result he sustained serious bodily injuries especially on his head. They also took his phone, and warned him to stop being a homosexual or the next incident would result in his death.	1
2.	HRAPF/PA/372/2024	19/01/24	Arua	Physical Assault	Unknown persons	The clients in this case were in a bar drinking and when the two got intoxicated, they kissed each other, which the other patrons took offence at. They were attacked and beaten by several people, resulting in serious bodily injury before they were able to run away.	2
3.	HRAPF/PA/373/2024	8/01/24	Hoima	Physical assault	Bouncers at a bar	The client, a transgender woman, was groped at a bar by one of the patrons, and when she turned to see who had done it, the bottle she	1

						was holding slipped out of her hands and broke. The bouncers intervened at this point, and in the process of asking her to leave, they assaulted and manhandled her, telling her that homosexuals like her are not allowed in their bar. They then took her to Hoima Police Station and reported that she had assaulted them.	
4.	HRAPF/PA/3 74/2024	9/01/24	Wakiso	Physical assault	Unknown people	The client was attacked by a group of youths who were unknown to him. During the attack, they kept on telling him that they did not want homosexuals in their village, and that they would kill them all. He managed to run away from them and escaped.	1
5.	HRAPF/PA/3 75/24	19/01/24	Wakiso	Physical Assault	Family	The client was beaten by her brother and mother on 27/12/23 when they learnt that she was a lesbian. After assaulting her, they chased her away from their home.	1
6.	HRAPF/PA/3 76/24	19/01/24	Wakiso	Physical Assault	Family	The client's brother, who was her primary guardian since she was a child, found out that she was a transgender woman. He beat her up, chased her away from home (where she was still living) and stopped paying her tuition.	1
7.	HRAPF/PA/3 77/24	19/01/24	Bushenyi	Physical Assault	Unknown persons	The client was at a guest house with her partner when she was attacked by unknown men and beaten badly. She ran away from Bushenyi to seek refuge at her sister's home, but when her father heard where she was, he called her sister's husband, told him she was a homosexual and demanded that he evict her.	1
8.	HRAPF/PA/3 78/24	18/01/24	Isingiro	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The clients were at a party when the guests attacked one of them, accusing her of being a lesbian. The second tried to intervene to stop the beating and she was beaten as well, and her arm dislocated. Afterwards, the crowd found	3

						another friend of theirs and beat her up as well, stating that she must also be a lesbian since she was hanging out with them.	
9.	HRAPF/PA/379/24	18/01/24	Isingiro	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The client was assaulted by unknown persons at her residence in the Nakivale Refugee settlement because they suspected her of being a homosexual. As a result of the homophobic attack, the client sustained serious bodily injuries.	1
10	HRAPF/PA/380/24	18/01/24	Isingiro	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The clients were attacked by unknown persons while they were attending their friends' birthday. The people who attacked them told them that they did not want gay people in the camp anymore, and that they would kill them if they did not leave. They all sustained serious injuries as a result.	3
11	HRAPF/PA/381/24	3/01/24	Kampala	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The client was attacked by unknown persons while he was going to work. During the attack, the client was stabbed in the stomach and his right arm was also cut. The client sustained serious bodily injuries.	1
12	HRAPF/PA/382/24	26/01/24	Kampala	Physical assault	Unknown persons	The client was assaulted while he was getting out of a well-known gay-friendly bar at around 3:00am. The unknown assailants told him that they did not want homosexuals to take over their bar, and asked him to tell all his fellow homosexuals never to come to their bar again	1

ii) Cases involving threats of violence based on sexual orientation and/or gender identity

A total of 13 cases involving threats of violence against persons on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE were reported in January 2024, affecting 15 persons. All these were threats of physical violence.

The threats were perpetrated by the general community against the clients in 5 cases, intimate partners/ former intimate partners in 3 cases, unknown persons in 3 cases, friends in 1 case and the general community with the support of local authorities in 1 case.

11 of these cases happened in Wakiso, 2 cases happened in Gulu while 1 case happened in Kampala.

This table provides a detailed breakdown of the threats:

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Nature of threat	Perpetrator	Brief facts	Number of Victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/358/24	15/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical harm	General community; local area leaders	The client, who had always been suspected of being a homosexual by his neighbours, was visited by a male friend at home in January 2024. The neighbours immediately went and asked the chairperson to come and 'catch them in the act'. The chairperson came with a big group of people, demanded that the two come out and threatened that the community would lynch them if they did not immediately leave. The two managed to run away while the crowd was still shouting hysterically and variously expressing anti-gay sentiments.	2
2.	HRAPF/PA/359/24	15/01/24	Kampala	Threat of physical violence	General community	The client, a transgender woman, was repeatedly threatened with physical harm by her neighbours and the boda boda riders at the stage next to her home. They repeatedly commented on her mannerisms, noting that she behaved more like a woman than a man, and threatened to hurt her if she did not start behaving like a man.	1
3.	HRAPF/PA/360/24	15/01/24	Gulu	Threat of physical violence	Friends	The client's friends learnt about his sexuality and confronted him about it. They then started threatening to hurt him if he refused to change his ways, and to report him to the police.	2
4.	HRAPF/PA/361/24'	15/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical harm	Unknown persons	The client received several messages on his phone from unknown numbers. The messages all contained threats to harm him/ kill him if he did not stop being gay.	1

5.	HRAPF/ PA/362/ 24	7/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	Unknown persons	The client received text messages on his phone threatening to harm him for being a homosexual. This followed an incident in which a close friend and work colleague was attacked and badly hurt, and the client stayed with him in the hospital and took care of him until he was discharged. One of the messages specifically stated that, since he worked so hard to save the other homosexual, he would be the next victim.	1
6.	HRAPF/ PA/363/ 24	8/01/24	Gulu	Threat of physical violence	Ex-lover	The client's ex-boyfriend and father of her children recently found out that she is a lesbian. He forcefully took the children from her and threatened to harm her or kill her. Since he is a soldier in Gulu, she felt forced to run away to a distant district for her safety.	1
7.	HRAPF/ PA/364/ 24	9/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	General community	The client, a community paralegal, intervened in an arrest of LGBTQ persons at Nansana Police Station in December 2023. During the intervention, he was seen by a man who was also in custody and who lives in the same village as the client. That man, upon coming out of custody, started spreading rumors around the village that the client works with homosexuals and that the client is also a homosexual. Several people have since started threatening him that if he does not vacate their village, then they shall harm him.	1
8.	HRAPF/ PA/365/ 24	5/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	General community	The client's home was broken into by unidentified men, whom she later found out were friends of her partner. She immediately broke up with her partner, but shortly after they broke up, the client started receiving threats from men in the neighbourhood, some	1

						of whom she recognized as the ones who broke into her house, threatening to come to her home and beat her if she did not leave the area and stop spreading her bad manners in their area.	
9.	HRAPF/ PA/366/ 24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	Unknown persons	The client who resides at a crisis shelter for LGBTQ persons in Wakiso district, started to experience threats of physical harm from people in the neighbourhood who repeatedly asked her why she walks and behaves like a woman yet she is male. She also reports direct confrontations with people who have asked her if she is a homosexual, and threatened to harm her if they find out that she is indeed a homosexual.	1
10.	HRAPF/ PA/367/ 24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	Intimate partner	The client's boyfriend found out that she was bisexual and chased her out of their home, which forced her to move into a crisis shelter for LBQ women. However, he has continued to threaten to find and hurt her if she does not stop sleeping with fellow women, even after she moved out.	1
11.	HRAPF/ PA/368/ 24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	General community	The client was with her partner at her home when they were attacked by a group of people who were threatening to hurt them both for being homosexuals. She ran away and went to a crisis shelter, where she has remained since.	1
12.	HRAPF/ PA/369/ 24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	General community	The client, a masculine presenting woman, has been repeatedly told by boda boda riders in the village where she lives to leave the village because they do not condone homosexuality. Recently, the men started threatening to hurt her, telling her that the law passed months ago but she had still refused to leave.	1

13.	HRAPF/PA/370/24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Threat of physical violence	Ex-lover	The client's ex-boyfriend broke up with her and chased her out of their shared home after he found out that she was a bisexual. However, since then, he has continued to call and send her text messages threatening to find and hurt her if she continues to have sexual relations with fellow women.	1
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3.3 Cases of arrest

In January 2024, HRAPF handled a total of 4 cases in which individuals were arrested on sexuality related charges. All persons arrested were charged with offences under the AHA. Out of the 4 cases handled, only one case has been closed. All the persons who were arrested were released on police bond, although their files are still under investigations/ awaiting guidance from the office of the Directorate of Public Prosecution.

The arrests registered during January 2024 affected 6 persons. 2 cases were registered from Wakiso district, 1 case from Mukono district and 1 case from Kabalore district.

This table provides a detailed breakdown of the arrests:

No.	Case code	Date of reporting	District	Charge	Brief facts	Number of Victims
1.	HRAPF/PA/384/24	17/01/24	Wakiso	Homosexuality	One of the two clients was arrested after his parents checked his phone and found a photo where he was posing semi-nude with his partner. The parents reported to the police, who arrested the client before searching for and arresting his partner as well. The two were released on police bond as the police await guidance from the DPP's office on the preferred charge of homosexuality.	2
2.	HRAPF/PA/385/24	15/01/24	Mukono	Homosexuality	The client was arrested by police officers from UCU police station after a man made a complaint that the client was trying to recruit him into homosexuality.	1

3.	HRAPF/PA /386/24	15/01/24	Wakiso	Homosexuality	The client had invited his boyfriend over at his place and while they were sleeping at night, the police came and knocked on their door and arrested them both. They were subsequently charged with homosexuality, and then the client was evicted from the place where he was staying by the LC chairperson.	2
4.	HRAPF/PA /387/24	31 st /01/24	Kabarole	Attempted homosexuality	The client had been having an online flirtation with a man for 6 months, and on 30 th January 2024, they agreed to meet at a hotel. Shortly after he got there, a woman who identified herself as the other man's girlfriend came in with some people, demanded 13 million shillings or the client's car in exchange for their silence, and when the client refused, they took him to Booma Police Station where he was charged with attempted homosexuality.	1

5. Comparison with December 2023

There has been an increase in the number of cases reported overall as well as the number of cases involving actions that deliberately targeted persons for negative treatment on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE. In December 2023, a total of 83 cases involving LGBTQ persons were reported across our networks while in January 2024, 121 cases were reported, representing an increase of 45.7%. In terms of cases that specifically targeted individuals on the basis of their SOGIE, there was an increase from 52 cases affecting 57 persons in December 2023 to 59 cases affecting 73 persons in January 2024.

In both months, the highest number of cases registered were evictions, with 28 evictions affecting 34 persons in December 2023 and 30 evictions affecting 35 persons in January 2024. The cases of violence and threats of violence increased from 15 cases affecting 19 persons in December 2023 to 25 cases affecting 32 persons in January 2024. It is also important to note that cases of arrests on sexuality related charges reduced from 6 in December 2023, affecting 9 persons to 4 in January 2024 affecting 6 persons.

6. Comparison with the period from 1st January 2023 to 31st January 2024

In January 2023, a total of 35 cases were handled involving LGBTIQ persons, of which 8 cases involved actions that directly targeted persons on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE. The actions in these cases affected a total of 46 people and included 4 cases of evictions and 3 cases of real or threatened violence. There was only 1 arrest. By staggering contrast, 121 cases involving LGBTQ persons were handled in January 2024, of which 59 involved actions of targeted/ deliberate homophobia.

7. The first eight months of the AHA 2023 in Uganda

In the first eight months of the AHA 2023, a total of 643 cases involving LGBTQ persons have been handled across the legal aid network, of which 404 (62.8%) targeted LGBTIQ people on the basis of their sexuality, affecting a total of 516 persons. The breakdown of cases so far is as follows:

Nature of violation	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024	Total number of cases
Evictions	19	26	22	22	28	20	27	30	194
Violence	23	21	19	24	27	9	14	25	162
Arrests	4	6	6	3	6	7	6	4	42
Other forms of discrimination	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	6
Total	46	53	47	49	64	39	47	59	404

The victims in these cases are:

Nature of violation	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023	December 2023	January 2024	Total number of victims
Evictions	20	33	26	31	37	24	33	35	237
Violence	23	24	22	37	35	10	20	32	204
Arrests	7	10	11	5	10	7	9	6	68
Other forms of discrimination	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	7
Total	50	67	59	73	85	44	62	73	513

It is thus reasonable to conclude that the enactment and enforcement of the AHA 2022 has led to an increase in the general levels of homophobia and intolerance, as well as in incidents of actual violence and violations of human rights on the basis of sexual orientation/ gender identity and expression.

8. Conclusion

While the number of cases involving actions that targeted LGBTQ persons deliberately for detrimental treatment on the basis of their real or presumed SOGIE appeared to have dropped significantly in November 2023 from 64 in the previous month to 39, the months of December 2023 (47 cases) and January 2024 (59 cases) belie this trend, and instead suggest that cases of violence and violations on the basis of real or presumed SOGIE are in fact on the rise.