African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV) in partnership with CARITAS Kotido received funding from the European Commission to implement a two year project titled “Accountability for Torture and Rights Enhancement (ATRE) Project in the Karamoja Sub Region”. The project which commenced in January, 2018 is being implemented in Uganda.

Objectives of the Project
The Overall objective of the project is to contribute to torture prevention and accountability, with a focus on gender-based violence, for enhanced democratic governance in the Karamoja sub-region; and the specific objectives include:

• To provide holistic rehabilitation to 1000 survivors of torture in the Karamoja sub-region.
• To strengthen the capacities of at least 700 CSO representatives, local government officials, health workers to mitigate and advocate against torture and violent conflict.
• To enhance the knowledge and skills of 6,000 citizens including children to demand for accountability from duty bearers
• To enhance the capacity of partners to provide sustainable services to ensure protection of rights of women and children affected by violent conflict by 2019.

Project Strategy
The project is employing a three pronged approach through;
1. The provision of holistic rehabilitative services to women and children affected by torture and survivors of torture.
2. Empowering the citizens to demand for accountability for their rights from duty bearers.
3. Building capacity of other Stakeholders to prevent, mitigate and advocate against torture.

Expected results
• 1,000 survivors of torture supported with medical treatment, legal assistance, mental health services and social services.
• Enhanced capacity of 700 CSO representatives, local government officials, criminal justice actors and media to mitigate and advocate against torture and violent conflict.
• Increased ability of 6,000 citizens to demand for accountability from duty bearers on their civil, and political rights.
• Capacities of implementing partners to effectively and efficiently deliver on the project strengthened.

Key Project activities
1. Provision of medical treatment /authoring medical-legal reports, legal advice, psychological counselling and psychosocial services.
2. Capacity development activities
3. Training of national actors in the criminal justice system
4. Training of doctors and lawyers on the Istanbul protocol guidelines
5. Training of counsellors
6. Training of civil society organisations’ representatives
7. Training of opinion and cultural leaders in the Karamoja sub-region
8. Visiting places of detention
9. Commemoration of the UN Day in support of Torture Victims (June 26th)
10. Media campaigns through talk shows, IEC materials, documentary
11. Meetings and dialogues among others.

We believe that this project will contribute to enhanced access to holistic rehabilitation for survivors of torture and their affected families; Increased knowledge among the people in the Karamoja sub-region to demand for observance of their right to freedom from torture among others and this will align national laws, policies and institutions with the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT) principles and guidelines and; improve the capacity of national actors to prevent and respond to torture.