



## OVERVIEW OF

# Uganda

## Overview of Uganda



YEAR OF  
**1962**  
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION  
**35,918,915**  
MILLION

**25%**  
Population  
**BELOW**  
poverty line

## Languages

English and over 40 Ethnic languages.

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 69 per 1,000 live births. Uganda ranks 39 in the world.

**Human Development Index (HDI)** for 2013: 0.484 (ranked 164 out of 187, indicating low human development).

## Brief History of ChildFund in Uganda

ChildFund came to Uganda: 1980

Number of states/provinces, etc.: 112 districts

Number of enrolled children FY14: 34,572

Participant Reach FY14: 402,452

ChildFund International has operated in Uganda since 1980. In the last 34 years, we have expanded our reach to 34 districts, covering 52 communities through 9 Local Partners, with support from over 1,500 community-based volunteers and 700 home-based caregivers. We have supported over 1,200,000 deprived, excluded and vulnerable children and 750,000 families. At the end of FY14, we had 34,929 enrolled children and a total of 473,820 participants.

# Brief Program Overview



**Healthy and Secure infants:** ChildFund supports interventions for child health including constructing and equipping health centers and providing community education and support in water and sanitation, child nutrition, immunization, safe motherhood, malaria prevention and positive living for HIV/Aids affected families.

**Educated and Confident Children:** ChildFund supports student initiatives such as school clubs in extra curricula activities, including counseling desks, talking compounds, sports, music, dance and drama; construction of class room blocks, teacher's houses and ventilated improved pit latrines; improvement in school governance; and continuous assessment of children's performance in schools.

**Skilled and Involved Youth:** ChildFund supports training of out-of-school youth in life and vocational skills such as welding, motor vehicle mechanics, carpentry, tailoring, catering, and assists them with business start-up capital and kits. We provide support to child and youth leadership forums and address youth participation issues through policy advocacy.

## 2014 Program Achievement

### Healthy and Secure Infants

In FY14, a total of 30,920 children were reached with interventions under the Infant and Maternal Childhood Illness prevention. These interventions were aimed at reducing the number of children suffering from common childhood illnesses. As a result, children benefited from medical examination and treatment, immunization, HIV/AIDS testing and referral, while those that had life threatening health problems were taken care of through emergency support and treatment.

Improving maternal health is one of ChildFund's priorities. A total of 14,786 pregnant mothers were sensitized on the importance of antenatal care (ANC), while 6,540 others were supported to attend ANC visits. Further, the organization facilitated refresher training for health workers to enable them to deliver quality ANC services. This enabled more women to access quality antenatal, delivery and postnatal services.



ECD attendance improved from 28% in FY10/FY11 to 37% in FY13/FY14. This is largely because we constructed and equipped more community based ECD centres, and sensitized the communities on the importance of early childhood learning. More parents are therefore sending their children to the ECD centers.

# 2014 Program Achievement (continued)



## Educated and Confident Children

ChildFund reached and improved access to basic education for a total of 20,227 children in 133 schools across Uganda. This was achieved through providing orientation to teachers on primary school curriculum, refresher training in child centered learning, classroom and libraries construction, and supplying learning materials.

To improve social and life skills of primary school children, ChildFund supported participation in sports, debating clubs, music, dance, drama, and psychosocial skills training, to enable children to identify their goals and obstacles that might prevent them from attaining their dreams. As a result, children are more open assuming leadership roles and are better equipped to face the challenges that come with growing up.

## Skilled and Involved Youth

ChildFund Uganda trained 980 youth in various skills. Of these, 234 (24%) received start-up kits and 155 (16%) managed to start income generating activities and are now engaged in gainful and non-exploitative employment. The training enhanced skills in group dynamics, leadership, record keeping, social dynamics and conflict resolution.

In FY14, ChildFund supported a number of youth groups and youth leaders with improving their leadership skills through supporting their participation in youth activities. This has improved the capacity of youth to have meaningful dialogues with local governments as far as addressing their interests is concerned. The various initiatives empowered youth to participate and assume leadership roles in local government and civil society organizations, hence improving their opportunities to advocate for their rights. FY14 achievements included:

	FY14 Achievement
Number of Youth trained in leadership skills	364
Number of Youth trained in sexual reproductive health	8,446
Number of Youth facilitated to engage in events that champion advocacy, aimed at engaging youth and increasing their participation	1,980
Number of Advocacy events	13

# 2014 Program Achievement (continued)



## Civil Society

ChildFund Uganda provided leadership in mobilizing other child focused organizations under the Child Rights NGO Network, to develop a common position for children on the post-2015 development agenda. The process brought together over 50 organizations that worked together to develop the Uganda CSO position on children.

During the year, ChildFund Uganda conducted a number of capacity building training sessions for Local Partner staff to engage in strategic initiatives and partnerships for resource acquisition and organizational growth. The training covered grants acquisition and management (GAM), Human Resource Management, Procurement, Enterprise Risk Management, the Whistleblower policy, Conflict of Interest, Code of Business Ethics and Fraud.

## Disability Inclusion

All through our programming, disabled children are purposefully targeted to ensure that they are included in all activities, as all other children. Through the Community Caring for Children Project, we have identified children with special needs and supported them to obtain care and treatment from specialized institutions. This is very important for such children especially since some communities and sometimes their own parents often consider them outcasts.

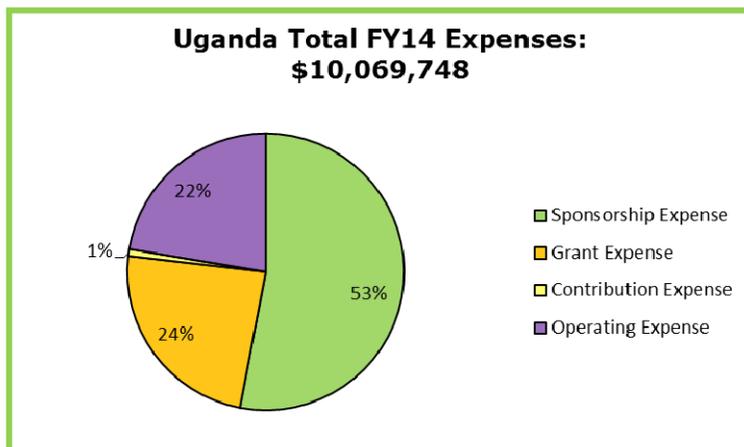
## Mobile Technology

ChildFund Uganda piloted the use of mobile technology to support the linkage between the informal and formal child protection systems. We provided mobile phones to child protection focal persons who are community members identified by the communities as people they trust.

## Programs—Agriculture

Through numerous livelihoods interventions, households have been supported to improve their yields and acreage. ChildFund Uganda provides farmers with improved, fast growing seeds, farm equipment, and facilitates peer-to-peer support and learning. As a result, many households have formed groups through which they cultivate their lands, grow crops and harvest higher yields than was the case before. Families now have more food to eat and to sell.

# Financial Report



## Uganda FY14

Sponsorship Expense	5,337,562	53%
Grant Expense	2,398,247	24%
Contribution Expense	81,198	1%
Operating Expense	2,252,741	22%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>10,069,748</b>	<b>100%</b>

## ChildFund Alliance

**Sponsorship:** At the end of FY14, ChildFund Uganda had 24,689 active sponsorships from the following Alliance members: (1) ChildFund International—11,604; (2) ChildFund Australia – 4,977; (3) ChildFund Korea - 3,874; (4) Taiwan Fund for Children & Families – 1,948; (5) Barnfonden - 1,380; (6) ChildFund New Zealand - 618; (7) ChildFund Deutschland – 576; (8) BORNEfonden – 406; (9) ChildFund Ireland – 301; and (10) Un Enfant par la Main – 2.

**Grants:** ChildFund Uganda received a \$74,414 USD grant from Barnfonden. The objective of this grant is to increase access to safe drinking water and improve environmental sanitation for urban slum households in Kampala. Slum areas in Kamala are very congested and have very poor drainage systems. The slum dwellers have minimal income and therefore cannot afford charcoal to boil their drinking water and as a result are prone to water borne diseases. Through this grant, 1,450 households and 10 primary schools received bio-sand water purification buckets. In addition, we procured tools which were used to clean household environs during hygiene and sanitation campaign days. As a result, the slums are cleaner and their dwellers have safe drinking water.

ChildFund Uganda also received a \$529,880 USD grant from ChildFund Australia. The Household Economic Empowerment Project (HEEP) which is a three-year grant aimed at caring for infants and promoting youth livelihoods in Northern Uganda. Progress toward this goal has been made through providing entrepreneurial and vocational skills, promoting agriculture and livelihood practices, and promoting the village savings and loans association methodology. We believe this will lead to improved household income security for child wellbeing by 2016..

**Contributions:** During FY14, ChildFund Uganda received \$130,387 in contributions for its projects and programs from Barnfonden (\$110,122), ChildFund Australia (\$14,132) and ChildFund Korea (\$6,133).

# Challenges



While significant progress has been made to increase access to primary education in Uganda, there is a big challenge with the quality of education, resulting in school dropout rates exceeding 50%. The high rates are largely attributed to insufficient school infrastructure (e.g., furniture, classrooms), lack of girl-child friendly facilities at school, teenage pregnancies, lack of meals at school and poor motivation of teachers.

In Uganda, youth unemployment is high, labor productivity is low and the labor market is fraught with tremendous inequalities. Although efforts have been made to implement the national youth employment policy, strengthen labor market information systems, establish non-formal skills development targeted at women and youth and to improve access to finance, the progress is very slow.

Uganda suffers from a poor policy and legislative framework for children and thus, ChildFund has established a working relationship with the Uganda Parliamentary Forum for Children (a group of members of parliament whose primary objective is to support advocacy efforts aimed at improving the policy and legislative framework for children), to advocate for the amendment of the Children's Act, cognizant of the evolving circumstances which have increased children's vulnerability. Other advocacy areas include increase of budgeting for child protection and improvement in the Early Childhood Development policy, among others. In FY14, we updated Members of Parliament on the post-2015 development process, asking for their full participation in the process.

In urban areas such as Kampala and Jinja, most of the families live in rented houses, and are often times indebted to microfinance institutions. So, it is not uncommon that they get evicted from the houses due to failure to pay their rent, or they might relocate to new unknown locations in an effort to escape the pressure from microfinance institutions for their unpaid loans.

The Soroti Area experiences alternating droughts and storms which lead to flooding and water logging. This is catastrophic for many vulnerable communities since they cannot engage in meaningful agriculture for food security during such periods and this negatively impacts on children's nutrition.

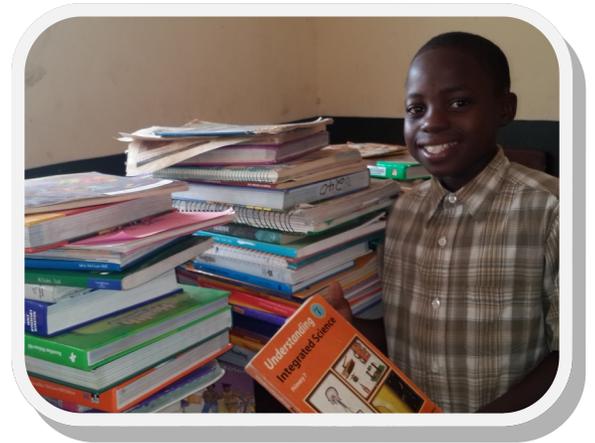
# Why Sponsorship is Important

"I read my books, attended school every day, paid attention in class and spent most of my free time in the library," says 12 year old David Wesonga who emerged as the best in the Busia district in last year's National Primary Leaving Examinations.

David scored 5 aggregates in English, Science and Mathematics. He attended Buyengo Primary School, one of the ChildFund supported schools in the district.

The school has grown to be the best performing in the Busia district and according to Mr. Fred Mayende the Deputy Head Master, this tremendous success is highly attributed to ChildFund's support. "ChildFund has built for us class rooms, teachers' houses, pit latrines and a library. They have supported us with desks, paper, uniforms for co-curricular activities, refresher trainings for teachers and sensitization of parents on their role in their children's education," he says.

David joined a secondary school in Kampala. He is mostly grateful to his sponsor whose support he believes will help him become the engineer that he dreams to be. "When I receive a letter from my sponsor, I am very excited because he writes very good messages to me. He encourages me to read and that makes me work very hard at school."



**David emerged the best in his district in the 2013 National Primary Leaving Examinations. He shares how ChildFund has contributed to his academic excellence. He wants to become an Engineer.**