



## OVERVIEW OF

# Uganda

## Overview of Uganda



YEAR OF  
**1962**  
INDEPENDENCE

POPULATION  
**35,873,253**  
MILLION

**35%**  
Population  
**BELOW**  
poverty line

## Languages

English and over 40 Ethnic languages.

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 99 per 1,000 live births. Uganda ranks 27 in the world.

**Human Development Index (HDI)** for 2011: 0.446 (ranked 161 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 (FY12): 33,959

Number of beneficiaries (FY12): 585,992

ChildFund International has operated in Uganda since 1980. In the last 32 years, we have expanded our reach to 36 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. We currently have 34,664 enrolled children and a total of 591,445 beneficiaries.

# 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 such as counseling desks, talking compounds, sports, music, dance and drama; construction of classroom 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 facilitates them with business start-up capital and kits. We give support to child and youth leadership forums and address youth participation issues through policy advocacy.

## 2011 Program Achievement

**Healthy and Secure Infants:** Immunized 29,580 children under five years and 2,432 expectant mothers; distributed 1,560 mama kits; distributed 30,000 mosquito nets to expectant mothers and children under five years; constructed 17 ECD centers; and equipped ECD Centers with child play materials.

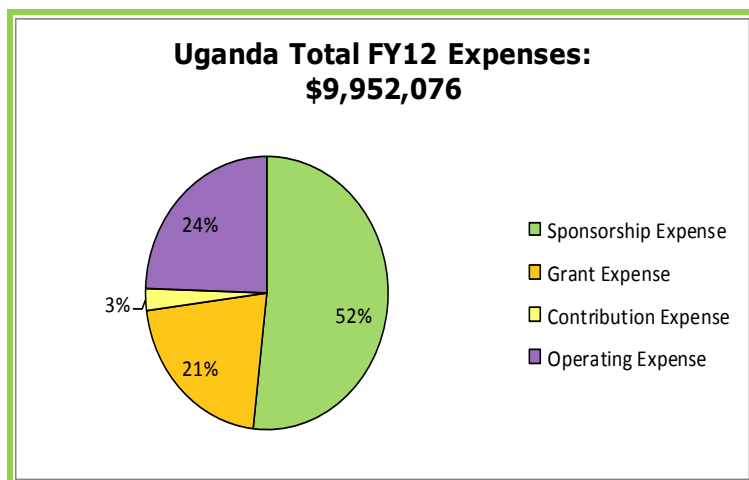
**Educated and Confident Children:** Distributed 500 broiler chicks in various schools and established an examination center where 10,200 children from 12 supported schools sat for national exams from the center.

**Skilled and Involved Youth:** Provided vocational training and startup capital to 749 out of school youth and distributed 180 piglets, 1,233 layer chicks, 874 broiler and 2,400 banana corms among youth.

**Societies:** Treated 1,300 patients during a three day health camp; drilled 5 boreholes and protected 4 spring wells; and constructed 764 ventilated improved pit latrines and 30 refuse pits.



# Financial Report



<b>Uganda FY12</b>		
Sponsorship Expense	5,155,319	52%
Grant Expense	2,103,197	21%
Contribution Expense	257,914	3%
Operating Expense	2,435,646	24%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,952,076</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Challenges

The Soroti Area experiences 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.

The Mbale Area suffers land and mudslides which have claimed many lives while the survivors are resettled in camps. This gravely affects the livelihood of the communities as homes, livestock and plantation are lost.

Acholi and Lango and parts of Teso have suffered the effects of insecurity caused by rebel activities. Lives and property were lost and many people internally displaced.

As the affected communities are left with little coping capacity to survive, ChildFund works toward addressing both short term issues like human rights of the survivors as well as the long term needs which include restoration of the affected communities.

## Why Sponsorship is Important

Success in ChildFund Uganda's Sponsorship Program is achieved when the cycle of poverty is broken and the former enrolled children are able to obtain jobs. For many generations, their families have struggled to survive. They were day laborers, fishermen or had no job at all. Often, they were barely able to make ends meet, and, because of a lack of education, they had no chance for a better life. They were caught in a cycle that did not allow an escape. It was child sponsorship that made the difference. Children who had a sponsor were able to attend school, including high school, which qualified them for good employment.

The program works. Thanks to all the sponsors who faithfully pay the monthly fees so that their child can be rescued from hopeless poverty and given the chance for a better life!



## Why Sponsorship is Important (continued)

Here is an example of a child in Uganda who succeeded:

Just because a man lacks the use of his eyes does not mean he lacks vision. Julius Kamya, a Board member at ChildFund Uganda and the Executive Secretary of the Uganda National Council for Disability has not let his impairment stand in the way of his dreams and success. Born 43 years ago, Julius lost both his eyes to Retinal blastoma: one at six years and the other at nine.

Julius was sponsored by ChildFund all through Primary and Secondary school. He scored good grades which automatically got him to Makerere University on merit where he chose to study Mass Communication. *"I wanted to study Law but my friends at the University advised me against the idea. They said many disabled students had attempted the course but they ended up in frustration because the conditions and policies of the Faculty did not favor them. So, to avoid the same frustration, I decided to venture into a new area. It was difficult for the department to accept me, and indeed it was an issue of concern to the whole university but I insisted and became the first blind student studying Mass communication."*

Asked about what he has to say to children with disabilities, these are the words of the father of six, *"Your impairment is not the end of the world, in the inside of you lies a lot of potential. Have ambition and the willingness to make it in life..."*