

ChildFund Uganda

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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Four-year-old Joseph playing at Idiwa Child-Friendly Space (CFS) in Parolinya Refugee Settlement. Idiwa CFS is one of the 3 centres run by ChildFund in Palorinya and serves as classrooms for ECD learners following a request from Obongi District government. Previously, the children were studying in makeshift shelters and under trees, which was not conducive for learning.

The Child-Friendly Spaces established by ChildFund provide children with safe environments where they engage in organized activities of playing, socializing, learning, and expressing themselves as they continue adapting to the environment and rebuilding their lives.

ChildFund runs 3 child-friendly spaces within the settlement serving over 11 villages comprised of refugees and host communities. Palorinya Refugee Settlement was established in 2016 following a massive influx of South Sudanese refugees to Uganda because of the war. Palorinya is one of the 13 Refugee Settlements in Uganda and has an estimated population of over 125,000 refugees.

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Acronyms

BTVET	Business Technical Vocational Education and Training
CBCP	Community-Based Child Protection
CCTs	Center Coordinating Tutor
CFA	Child-Friendly Accountability
CFPU	Child and Family Protection Unit
CPC	Child Protection Committee
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
DAC	Day of the African Child
DEI	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
DIT	Directorate of Industrial Training
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
ECD	Early Childhood Development
HUMC	Health Unit Management Committee
IYC	Infants and Young Children
LPs	Local Partners
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development
NACS	Nutrition Assessment Counselling and Support
NIECD	National Integrated Early Childhood and Development
PLE	Primary Leaving Examinations
PoC	People of Concern
PSEA	Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
RPP	Responsive and Protecting Parenting
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SMC	School Management Committees
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
TOTs	Trainer of Trainees
VAS	Vitamin A Supplementation
VHTs	Village Health Teams
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization



Country Director's Note

Dear Readers,

This report highlights ChildFund's programs and impact in FY22 (July 2021 to June 2022). This period was characterized by continued program adaptations in response to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. This entailed continuing to use a blend of remote working and working from office until April 2022, when there was full return to office. With an annual budget of 7,703,392 US dollars during this period, we continued to implement our COVID-19 emergency response with a focus on supporting continued learning for children, supporting risk communications, and implementation of SOPs to reduce COVID-19 transmission to children and their families.



At the national level, in partnership with AfriChild Center, we conducted a budget analysis study on the trends of the government of Uganda's budget allocation to the child protection sector. Results were disseminated in a meeting comprising of several key government ministries and departments, Members of Parliament, the academia, and Civil Society actors. Recommendations were made on actions required to integrate and prioritize the sector during the government planning tools and cycles. During the year, ChildFund working with the nine implementing partners, and government ministries, reached over 6 million children and their families directly and indirectly.

During the year there were intensified efforts in resource mobilizing through increasing networks and collaborations with other non-government actors, closely working with ChildFund Alliance offices, Regional and International Office. As a result, three new projects were awarded to ChildFund Uganda; the Vitamin A Supplementation project funded by Nutrition International, Come Play With Me (focusing on children's learning through Play), funded by The Lego Foundation, and a KOICA-funded humanitarian project in Parolinya refugee settlement focusing on child protection and reduction of gender-based violence.

Furthermore, we launched our Country Strategic Plan (2022 to 2026) seeking to deepen our programs interventions within the current geographical focus, expand grant funded program work to other parts of the country, and expand our focus on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

The key challenge remains the need for program adaptations, and more resources to support the families and communities' recovery and resilience from the impacts of COVID-19 on their well-being. To overcome these challenges, we seek to expand its scope of partnerships and modify program delivery approaches.

We are grateful to all our stakeholders; internal and external, who have supported our contributions to the well-being of children. We look forward to an even more exciting and rewarding FY 23.

MOSES OTAI

We launched our Country Strategic Plan (2022 to 2026) seeking to deepen our programs within the current geographical focus, expand grant-funded program work to other parts of the country, and expand our focus on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

Our Country Strategic Plan (2022 -2026)

TARGETING
4 million
CHILDREN AND
THEIR CAREGIVERS

WORKING WITH
9 local partners

USD 40.1 M
FUNDRAISING TARGET OVER
THE NEXT 5 YEARS (2022-2026)

OPERATING IN
34 districts

PRIORITY AREAS

- CHILD PROTECTION
- EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
- BASIC EDUCATION
- YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND SKILLING
- EMERGENCY RESPONSE
- WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE
- HEALTH AND NUTRITION
- HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING.

GROWING CONNECTIONS

ChildFund®

About ChildFund

ChildFund International is a child-focused international development organization that works throughout Asia, Africa, and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources, and institutions they need to grow up safe, healthy, educated, and skilled, wherever they are.

Our programs are delivered through over 250 local implementing partner organizations addressing the underlying conditions that prevent children and youth from achieving their potential. ChildFund puts a special emphasis on child protection throughout our approach because violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect can reverse developmental gains in an instant. In our new strategy named Growing Connections we aim at reaching 100 million children and their family members annually by 2030.

ChildFund has operated in Uganda since 1980. Our programs support a wide range of child-centered development work in Northern, Eastern and Central regions of the country. Currently, our programs focus on Child Protection; Education, Early Childhood Development, Advocacy, Emergency Response, Health and Nutrition, Food Security, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), Household Economic Strengthening and Youth Development. Today, the Country Office (CO) is implementing fully-fledged long term development programs supported by our sponsors and donors around the world. Our programs are implemented by nine Local Partners covering 32 districts.

Furthermore, ChildFund directly supports the implementation of grant-funded projects covering different sub-regions and districts in Uganda.

Local Partner	No of Program Districts	Program Districts
Acholi Child and Family Program (ACFP)	3	Gulu, Kitgum, Agago
Community Development Federation (LACCODEF)	3	Dokolo, Kole, Kwania
Partners for Children Worldwide (PfCW)	6	Soroti, Katakwi, Amuria, Serere, Kaberamaido, Kapelebyong
Mbale Area Federation of Communities (MAFOC)	8	Mbale, Sironko, Bulambuli. Butebo Butaleja, Budaka, Kibuku, Pallisa,
Busia Area Community Federation (BUACOFE)	1	Busia
Jinja Area Communities Federation (JIACOFE).	3	Jinja, Kamuli, Mayuge
Kampala Area Federation of Communities (KAFOC)	2	Kampala, Wakiso
Community Efforts for Child Empowerment (CECE)	3	Kyankwanzi, Wakiso, Luwero
Masindi Child Development Federation (MACDEF)	2	Masindi, Kiryandongo
Direct implementation	1	Obongi
9 Local Partners	**31**	

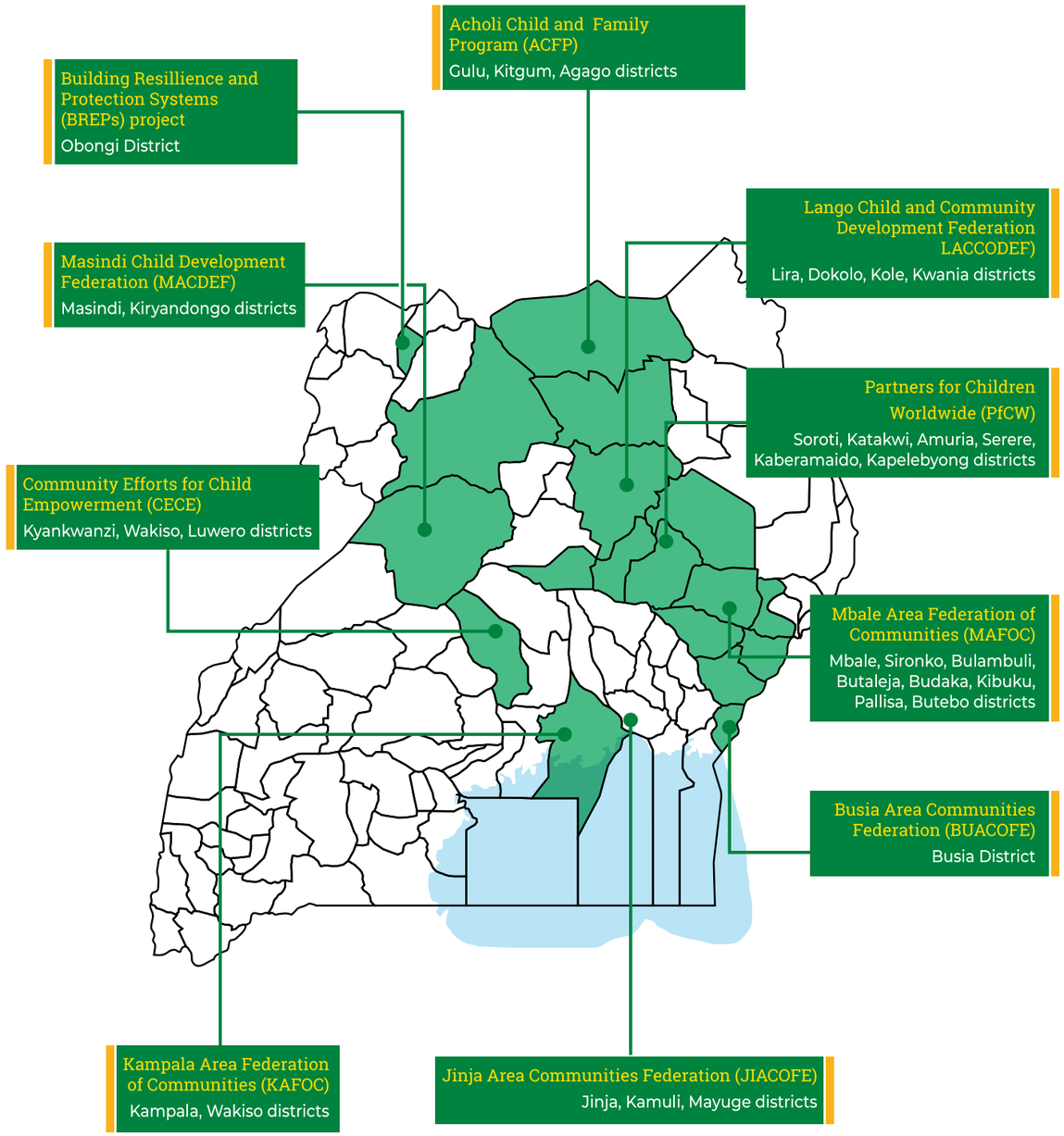
4M

No. of children and their family members we aim at reaching annually by 2030 in our new strategy.

ChildFund puts a special emphasis on child protection throughout our approach because violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect can reverse developmental gains in an instant.



Areas of Operation



Key Achievements

Over 6M

Children reached with different Early Childhood Development interventions ranging from early learning, health, nutrition and WASH.

12,461

Children supported to access basic education.

4,285

Youths empowered with different tailored services, including sexual reproductive health, life skills and vocational skills training.

13,675

Children and community members reached through child protection and advocacy interventions.

7,190

Households supported family strengthening and caregiver empowerment initiatives.

37,597

Children, youths and caregivers supported through emergency response and disaster risk reduction programs.

30,273

Children enrolled in sponsorship program, with 24,694 having individual sponsors.



Program Achievements



Early Childhood Development

Promoting access to quality early learning opportunities at home and in early learning centers

To contribute to a stimulating, protective and safe environment for children, ChildFund supported interventions within families and in early learning centers to address both access and quality to early childhood development and learning. These included:

Responsive and protective parenting

Our programs aim to increase access to quality home-based care and stimulation program for children of 0-3 years. ChildFund's Responsive and Protective Parenting (RPP) Program Model supports infants and young children 0-5 years of age to realize age-appropriate holistic development milestones across the components of the Nurturing Care Framework. A total of 120 community-based facilitators in Serere, Kitgum, Kiryandongo, and Busia districts were trained on the RPP curriculum and how to conduct parenting sessions. These community facilitators are now regularly interfacing with the parents to deliver the parenting sessions. So far, the community facilitators have conducted parenting sessions with 441 parents. These parents are now applying the knowledge acquired to support their children to grow up healthy and safe.

ChildFund's Responsive and Protective Parenting (RPP) Program Model supports infants and young children 0-5 years of age to realize age-appropriate holistic development milestones across the components of the Nurturing Care Framework.



Increasing access to center-based early childhood learning

Training caregivers on ECD

A total of 45 caregivers from 15 ECD centers in Busia District underwent refresher trainings on the ECD Learning Framework (the official government ECD curriculum for children 3 to 5 years). These caregivers are now reaching out to 1,620 children attending the early learning centers.

In Busia district, in Buyengo, Buhasaba and Buhenye communities, we made efforts to make schools ready for children and children ready for schools. A total of 718 caregivers and lower primary teachers were trained in transition management. When teachers are prepared to receive children from the ECD centres, and when children are equally prepared to join the next level of education, they will stay in school and complete the primary level education and pass with better grades.

ECD infrastructure development

ChildFund constructed a three-stance drainable ventilated pit latrine in Wigweng ECD in Kwania district were 82 children aged 3-5 years. One classroom block was constricted at Goii ECD center in Kwania district and currently serving 148 children enrolled in this center. Working with Partners for Children Worldwide, we constructed and equipped Wone ECD center in Kapelebyong district. To prepare early learning centers for re-opening after the COVID-19 school closures, ChildFund through worked with Acholi Child and Family Program renovated two toilet facilities in Punena and Ibakara ECD centers and equipped them with handwashing facilities.

Community engagements on ECD

Using radios and megaphones, ChildFund mobilized parents in Gulu and Kitgum districts to take children back to school after the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 263 children were enrolled in ECD centres. Through continuous sensitization of parents to embrace ECD and ensure sustainability, 718 parents were mobilized to support feeding in ECD centres.

Community contributions have sustained the operations of 17 ECD centers in Soroti, Kaberamaido, Amuria, Katakwi and Serere districts. To test the effect of cash infusion on parents' ability to address ECD requirements, caregivers of Akworo ECD centre were supported with microgrants of 200,000 shillings ($52) each to enable them to start small businesses of selling fish, second hand clothes, and agricultural produce. This has contributed to their ability to continue supporting their children with basic needs.

Health and Nutrition

Stopping transmission of COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we implanted multiple approaches for community mobilization and sensitization, involving use of mass media through 8 radio talks shows, 125 radio spots messages, 8 drama series as well as community campaigns in areas where people congregate. The volunteers (Village Health Team and Child Protection Committees members) distributed 2,822 assorted prevention supplies such as face masks, hand sanitizers and 6,880 IEC materials (job aids booklets, metallic poster) for distribution in hotspots. They were equipped with 22 megaphones to disseminate messages on observing standard operation procedures and going for vaccination.

During the awareness raising campaigns, 4,773 community members were identified as either infected and affected by COVID-19 and were given psychosocial support and helped to access treatment. Through our COVID-19 victims prevention and support interventions, we reached and impacted 17,961 people across the country.

Improving Family Healthcare Practices

ChildFund prioritized accelerating interventions that increase adoption of recommended family health care practices targeting children and households. Thus, 1441 households were supported by 303 Village Health Teams (VHTs) members to conduct Nutritional Assessment Counselling and Support (NACS). Through NACS, 500 children were identified to be malnourished and supported with therapeutic foods, while 75 children who were identified to have Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) were referred for rehabilitation at regional and district hospitals.

ChildFund worked with health facilities to conduct quarterly mentorship meetings with 303 Village Health Team members enhancing their skills in NACS. Through mentorship meetings, in MAFOC, 40 TOTs were equipped with knowledge and skills on delivering messages on key family practices such as promotion of exclusive breastfeeding, complementary feeding using locally available foods, family planning, hygiene and sanitation. As a result, 2,551 were reached.

Community Health Outreaches

Through outreaches conducted by primary health care providers a total of 31,919 children, youth and caregivers were reached. Services offered included HIV Testing services, family planning, distribution of SRHR commodities, immunization, management of childhood illnesses, antenatal care, nutrition counselling and support and health education.



17,961

People reached through COVID-19 response interventions.

2,551

Children reached through family healthcare and nutrition interventions.

31,919

Children, youth and caregivers received healthcare services during community health outreach programs.



Over
6 M
children countrywide received vitamin A supplementation and deworming.

2,920,080
water purification sachets distributed to 8,000 households and 27 primary schools in Kyankwanzi District.

31,919
children, youth and caregivers reached through community outreaches.

Vitamin A Supplementation

Between November 2021 and June 2022, ChildFund acquired funding from Nutrition International to support the Ministry of Health to implement mop-up campaigns for Vitamin A Supplementation (VAS) to raise the coverage from 47% to 80%. ChildFund played the role of funds management. The project reached over 6 million children countrywide with vitamin A and deworming.

Boosting health facility infrastructure

ChildFund equipped Apwori Health Center III in Kwania District with a delivery bed and two sets of delivery kits. This is improving the uptake of maternal health services to enable expectant mothers to deliver in a clean and safe environment at the facility.

Increasing access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

ChildFund working with its partners scaled up interventions to promote access to safe and clean water, and improved hygiene and sanitation. With funding from Proctor and Gamble (P&G), 250 VHTs were trained in WASH and Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) of early childhood illnesses, and they were able to monitor household hygiene, sanitation and advised the community on child nutrition and well-being.

ChildFund distributed at total of 2,920,080 water purification sachets to 8,000 households and 27 primary schools in Kyankwanzi district, reaching 37,000 community members and 9,000 pupils.

In commemoration of the World Water Day and to encourage positive hygiene and sanitation practices, ChildFund held community and household level hygiene and sanitation competitions. Consequently, winning households in each village were rewarded with a 5,000-litre capacity water tank for rainwater harvesting and runners up given bicycles.

To ensure sustainability, water user committees and four hand pump mechanics were trained on maintenance of safe water sources and repair of broken-down boreholes, respectively. The water sources are serving approximately 11,200 pupils from 14 schools.

Seven boreholes were constructed at severely constrained facilities; two boreholes were constructed at health centres. two in schools and three in communities. Additionally, 24 schools were supported with hand washing facilities to promote desired hygiene practices in schools.

Community participation in health care delivery

ChildFund conducted health education and medical examination interventions in all its areas of operation. A total of 6,595 children were medically examined. From the assessment, 735 children were found to be in need of specialized health care services, and were referred for medical attention. All 735 children who were referred improved and are now well, living a happier life. To strengthen community participation in health care delivery, the Local Partners worked closely with VHTs to conduct community-based health education sessions and home-based follow up visits where 26,213 households were reached.

The capacity of Health Unit Management Committees (HUMCs) to drive improved community participation in healthcare delivery was strengthened: The HUMCs conducted 48 performance review meetings with VHTs in health facilities to strengthen linkages between the health facilities and the community reaching 21,425 people. Community actions plans for improving service delivery were developed and are being followed up.







Children and caregivers participating in community health outreaches organized by ChildFund in Katakwi District.







Basic Education

Our programs for children aged 6 to 14 years ensure that children access school, are retained at schools, and are able to achieve the intended learning outcomes. Despite the high enrolments in primary schools, a report by UWEZO (2016) revealed that on average, 8 out of 10 primary 3 pupils and 2 out of 10 primary 7 pupils are unable to read a primary 2-level story. The situation is believed to have been worsened by COVID-19 school closures for almost two years. To address this issue, ChildFund implemented the following interventions aimed at increasing children's access to quality basic education included:

Home study materials

Since virtual learning sessions on TV and radio could not be accessed by majority of the children due to lack of internet, computers and smart phones, we distributed 16,717 home study materials, instructional and learning materials to 12,461 children.

In Mayuge, Kamuli and Jinja districts, 1,307 children received PASS PLE and annual sets of home study materials to keep them abreast with key competencies, knowledge of their grades and life skills during and post COVID-19 period.

On average, 8 out of 10 primary 3 pupils and 2 out of 10 primary 7 pupils are unable to read a primary 2-level story. The situation is believed to have worsened during COVID-19 disruption for almost two years.

To ensure ensure access and proper utilization of home study learning materials, ChildFund sensitized communities on the use of these materials. This was done through megaphones and radio talk shows featuring senior education officers and program officers. A total of 9,102 children were supported to learn while at home during the lockdown.

A total of 17 community learning centres were opened in Masindi, Pakanyi, Tecwaa, Kitwara, Yelekeni, Diika and Bedmot communities. Twenty-one teachers were engaged to guide primary 3 children on how to use the learning materials in the community learning centres. During assessments, 80% of the children who attended the sessions were able to read and comprehend a story.

Teacher capacity strengthening

ChildFund supported schools to improve children's competency in communication and oral language through reading and writing competitions, quizzes and debates.

Twenty-two language competitions were organized involving 25 schools in Teso and Kampala reaching 3,729 children. Each class was given age-appropriate activities on reading, drawing, debating, spelling and solving math problems. Teachers were supported by CCTs to develop various activities. Gifts were awarded to the top 4 children per class.

In Katakwi district, 5 examiners engaged to mentor 48 teachers from 9 schools on the current trends of teaching, curriculum coverage, marking and setting of examinations. To enable learners cope with the stressful COVID-19 situation, Psychological First Aid interventions were rolled out. A total of 34 LP staff were trained and cascaded the program to 154 community volunteers and teachers.

Stakeholder engagement in children learning

A total of 17 education forums were conducted with the participation of 546 stakeholders, including district inspectors of schools, centre coordinating tutors, SMC/PTAs teachers, pupils and parents. The meetings generated solutions to improve children's academic performance. Some schools also developed quality improvement plans to address the gaps, reconstituted teacher academic committees to oversee the quality of teaching and learning, reviewed teacher schemes of work and lesson plans. ChildFund also orientated 92 SMC/PTA members and pupils on their roles in participatory school governance and providing accountability to stakeholders.

Infrastructure support

ChildFund constructed a three-stance pit latrine at Abuli Modern Primary School in Apyen-nyang community. In Katakwi and Serere districts two libraries were renovated in Aakum and Ogangai Primary schools with 1,224 children and stocked with readers donated by Longhorn Publishers. This was done to promote reading and improve literacy among among learners.



9,102

Children were supported to learn while at home during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

1,224

Children read books donated by Longhorn Publishers in partnership with ChildFund to primary school libraries in Katakwi and Serere districts.



Kamiyatih (16) receives vocational training as a seamstress at a ChildFund-supported vocational training center in Kyankwanzi District.

Youth Entrepreneurship and Skilling

Access to sustainable livelihoods and economic self-reliance for households is an important factor in enhancing economic development of adolescents and youth. The complex vulnerability amongst adolescent girls and young women exacerbates their risks of sexual exploitation for economic and material gain. The youth are either unemployed or exploitatively employed. This situation has been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. To address the situation, ChildFund implemented the following interventions:

Vocational and technical skills training

ChildFund invested resources towards youth employability and entrepreneurship skills. This was done using both institutional and artisan models, while engaging with BTVET and DIT to ensure that a substantive curriculum and certification is delivered. In total, 1,898 youths were directly reached with counselling and guidance on career choices in relation to non-exploitative labor.

> The complex vulnerability amongst adolescent girls and young women exacerbates their risks of sexual exploitation for economic and material gain. The youth are either unemployed or exploitatively employed.

In-school youths were engaged in self-help initiatives to raise income for their education as well as basic needs. 688 youths received startup capital after their training. Using the skills acquired through entrepreneurship training, they were able to start and manage their business, thus improving their income and standards of living.

Another 556 youths were enrolled for vocational skills training after assessment and training in career choices. All successfully completed their skills in agribusiness, motor vehicle mechanics, hair dressing, fashion design and hairdressing, tailoring and fashion design, metal fabrication and crafts making, among others. 211 of the youth apprentices were given startup tools before being ushered into the competitive market while 125 were placed for internship with reputable proprietors and institutions so as to further their practical experience.

To create linkages and opportunities for knowledge sharing, ChildFund organized 29 experience sharing forums for 74 young entrepreneurs, courtesy of Skilling Uganda - a national private sector actor.

Approximately 42% of the 556 youths who completed their training are already gainfully employed and earning income to sustain themselves and their families.

Promoting youth social skills

ChildFund reached both in-school and out-of-school youth with several interventions, aimed at improving their social skills, including sexual reproductive health services.

School and community-based clubs

A total of 607 young people in 8 school and community clubs were equipped with skills and equipment to facilitate social skills development through sports, music, dance and drama. The young people used their club activities to pass information to their peers and to appeal to adults and local governments for educational support.

Among these young people, 32 were trained as trainers of trainees in adolescent sexual reproductive health education, life skills, and peer counselling.

Peer education

ChildFund supported the use of schools as avenues for communication with youth by engaging 24 teachers and peer educators and facilitating them to reach out to 3,275 young people in need of sexual reproductive health information and counselling through 23 outreaches.

Nine quarterly peer educators' reflection meetings involving 125 health workers were facilitated enabling joint sharing of experiences on their progress and the best tactics to engage positively with youths.



3,275

youths reached with sexual reproductive health information and counselling services through school outreaches.

1,898

youths directly reached with counselling and guidance on career choices in relation to non-exploitative labor.

556

youths enrolled for vocational skills training.

688

youths received capital for start-ups.

Youth Sexual Reproductive Health

Following the outcry about scarcity of commodities and unfriendly health workers in health centers III and IV, ChildFund worked in partnership with government health officers at the linked health facilities. To contribute to the Youth and Adolescent Health strategy 2021/2022- 2025/2026, ChildFund working through its 9 local partners designed and implemented interventions aimed at strengthening the social skills in SRH for in and out of school adolescents and youth facing vulnerabilities relating to sexuality and reproductive health issues. LPs worked with peer educators and school matrons to offer psychosocial support, coaching on life skills, counselling, mentorship aimed at enabling the youth to become resilient against SRHR challenges. A total of 66 TOTs who were trained in life skills in SRH reached out to 1,949 participants.

Seven outreaches and awareness sessions were conducted with young people through radio talk shows, megaphones, SMS, within the supported communities. The awareness focused on life skills with focus on adolescent SRH services. The sessions improved the social relationship between young people and health workers. Consequently 2,590 individuals fully participated and accessed SRH services. In addition, ChildFund through its partners distributed reusable sanitary pads to 3,077 girls.

Access to Youth Friendly SRH services

Despite the availability of services and commodities for SRHR in public health facilities, access to them by the youth remains a challenge due to several barriers including negative attitudes of health workers and age difference of the health service providers at the health facilities. The youth peer educators conducted integrated outreaches targeting fellow youth in the community where youth congregate to enable them to access SRHR commodities and services. Forty-one (41) outreaches were conducted reaching out to 3,759 youth.

To improve menstrual hygiene and hygiene management among teenage girls, 690 female youths were trained on how to make re-usable sanitary pads. The girls whose parents could not easily afford to provide them with pads were given re-usable sanitary pads and start up materials for making pads. This initiative will reduce the vulnerability of teenage girls to sexual abuse by perpetrators in exchange of the much-needed sanitary pads.



Youth Community Civic Engagement and Leadership

Voice Now! initiative

To amplify the voices and elevate the level of participation of young people, 36 Voice Now! groups constituting 4,285 participants were supported to identify their own challenges, analyze the root causes, identify resources, and develop project prototypes geared towards uprooting the root causes of their challenges.

They were introduced to the UN Youth centered development approach, trained in group dynamics, child-friendly accountability, and leadership. The **Voice Now!** program helps young people to give voice to the problems they face and actively innovate solutions for change.

Two of the pioneer groups have since been rolled into advocacy platforms, championing for the rights and protection of children and youths. They are key stakeholders who are involved and are giving feedback on ChildFund interventions in their communities. Resultantly, among the active young people were 1,293 individuals aged 25+ years, 1,640 of age 15 to 24 and 1,352 of age 6-14 years. The intervention helped to rebuild youth resilience and meaningful participation.

Children and Youth-Adult Partnership

The Voice Now initiative was enhanced by the Children and Youth-Adults Partnership (CYAP) initiative, which aims at improving participation of young people and building a harmonious relationship between them and adults for a collective community development using a child-friendly partnership approach.

A total of 2,200 young people were trained in Children and Youth-Adult partnership. Quarterly dialogues with parents on parenting relationships and safe home environment were held attracting the participation of 265 individuals; 78 (36M:42F) were adults, and 187 (89M:98F) were young people.

Other dialogues conducted on issues affecting youth development including disclosure of intimate information among adults and young people attracted participation of 543 individuals - 274 adults, and 269 young people.

> The **Voice Now!** program helps young people to give voice to the problems they face and actively innovate solutions for change.



4,285

youth participated in Voice Now! program which helps them to give voice to the problems they face and actively innovate solutions for change.

2,200

youth trained in Children and Youth-Adult partnership.

3,759

youth received sexual reproductive health services through outreach programs.

3,077

girls received reusable sanitary pads, while 690 were trained on how to make them.

Child Protection and Advocacy

To deepen the Child Protection and Advocacy work to achieve the positive outcomes for Children, ChildFund continued to work with the 9 LPs directly and through grants in collaboration with external partners to implement child protection interventions. The interventions focused on, strengthening Community Based Child Protection (CBCP) Systems, strengthening linkages between child protection structures, and the Community, Promoting Child Protection Behavior Change, and engaging in advocacy.

Strengthening Community Based Child Protection (CBCP) System

Four Local Partner organizations (LACCODEF, ACFP, BUACOFE and KAFOC) were supported to conduct the Community Based Child Protection Mechanism (CBCPM)assessment and dissemination in Dokolo Gulu, Agago, Kitgum, Busia and Kampala districts with key stakeholders and duty bearers. Key community systems in the respective areas and challenges affecting the implementation of CBCPM in programming were identified and key action points were developed for prioritization in the subsequent financial years.

The coordination meetings provided a platform for experience sharing of good practices on case management and other emerging child protection concerns which strengthened linkages and referral of child abuse cases. The meetings increased commitment and accountability among actors towards child protection initiatives.

In addition, 36 Child Protection Committee (CPC) coordination meetings were conducted reaching out to 245 committee members. A total of 16 quarterly wellbeing committee meetings were held across the two supervision areas. CPCs were supported to lead organization of 61 community dialogue meetings to increase awareness on children's rights and responsibilities reaching 4,764 parents/caregivers, Teachers, local political, religious and opinion leaders and teachers. Action points were developed to address the identified child protection concerns discussed.

4,737

Reported cases of child abuse addressed in collaboration with Probation and Social Welfare Offices, Community Development Officers, Para-social workers, Sauti 116, Police Child and Family Protection Units.

36

Child Protection Committee (CPC) coordination meetings were conducted involving 245 committee members.

4,764

Parents / caregivers participated in community dialogue meetings to increase awareness on child rights.

Ending physical violence against children

As part of Social Behavioral Change campaign dubbed Hands for Good 206 children and 159 adults were reached with messages aiming at ending physical violence against children by encouraging parents to use their hands for good. Additionally, various media platforms like TV, radio and social media, and posters, were used for mass sensitization.

A total of 665 reported cases of violence against children ranging from defilement, child marriage, child torture, child neglect school dropout, teenage pregnancy, SGBV and child labor were supported through psychosocial support, medical treatment, access to justice, food and referral among other services. Through financial support to the Probation and Social Welfare Offices, Community Development Officers, Para-social workers, Sauti 116, Police Child and Family Protection Units, the project directly supported management of reported child abuse cases totaling to 4,737 across the supervision areas.















Child Participation

7,103

Children enrolled and completed the 24 TEAM UP sessions.

247

Child rights clubs members engaged in child abuse awareness creation within their communities to prevent child abuse practices.

325

Children participated in activities to promote positive discipline.

ChildFund worked with MACDEF and ACFP to facilitate child-led child protection initiatives in Masindi District.

The topics discussed include teenage pregnancies, physical violence, neglect and forced marriages and early marriages. Parents greatly appreciated such initiatives and promised to refrain from such harmful practices.

A total of 7,103 children were enrolled and completed the 24 TEAM UP sessions in 12 supported schools in Kampala and Wakiso districts. To support the roll out of this approach within schools, 75 teachers, mainly physical education were trained on the methodology. A total of 87 teachers, youths and children in Patongo community were trained on child friendly accountability (CFA), child protection, child participation/VAC. This empowered child to hold their parents and duty bearers accountable in decision making and children's involvement in matters that affect them. In Patongo, two children presented issues that affect them to the stakeholders during the commemoration of International Day of Girl child.

ChildFund also supported Acholi Child and Family Program (ACFP) and CECE to implement Child-Friendly Accountability. In ACFP, 48 children and staff were trained on CFA for 3 days and held 1 day-orientation for stakeholders on CFA. The training equipped children and youth with knowledge and skills for effective implementation of CFA activities and supported participants to have a holistic understanding and monitoring mechanism of the child protection system. Community Efforts for Child Empowerment (CECE) oriented 22 stakeholders and staff on Child-Friendly Accountability. The orientation introduced the CFA concept and sought buy-in to allow smooth platform for dialogue with children.

Eight child rights clubs created conducted eight sessions to awareness on reducing violence against children, and on child rights and responsibilities. A total of 1,808 children, and adults in Gulu, Agago, and Kitgum were reached.

To enhance good discipline and child protection in schools, 4 Good School Committees conducted reflection meetings targeting 67 school stakeholders. The most disciplined children per class were given awards as part of the good school initiatives. This rejuvenated the Good School activities after two years of lockdown. A total of 325 children participated in positive discipline activities.

ChildFund conducted two radio talk shows to create awareness on child protection, child participation and violence against children. This has reduced the knowledge gap that had existed and hence reducing the dangers of violence against children in Masindi and Kiyandongo districts, Consequently, more child abuse cases have been reported and the local authorities are supporting to accord justices to the victims.

> The Good School Model is very practical and has helped a lot in restoring behavior among children after the two years' lockdown. **- Teacher Jane from Katine Tirir PS.**











Children must be heard. Child participation is one of the core principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which asserts that children and young people have the right to freely express their views and that there is an obligation to listen to children's views and to facilitate their participation in all matters affecting them within their families, schools, local communities, public services, institutions and government policies.



Advocacy

Budget Analysis of Child Protection in Uganda

In partnership with AfriChild Centre, ChildFund commissioned a Budget Analysis of Child Protection in Uganda which focused on the Government's national and sub-district level budget allocation trends i.e., disbursements and expenditure for the 5 Fiscal Years (FY2017/18 – FY2021/22).

The study further highlighted the budget processes at national and sub-national levels, examined levels of participation of key stakeholders in child protection accountability and feedback on the budget. The findings of the report & policy briefs were shared in the national dissemination event which was held in Kampala and graced by key government officials CSOs, Donors, UN agencies and members of Parliament, among others. The findings will inform ChildFund Uganda's advocacy strategy whose overall goal is to increase budgetary allocation to the child protection sector at national and district levels.

Day of the African Child

ChildFund joined the rest of the world to commemorate the Day of African Child (DAC) with the theme" Eliminating Harmful Practices Affecting Children: Progress on Policy and Practice since 2013'. The commemoration of DAC provided a platform to create awareness on child protection and reflect on the progress made towards children's rights. A total of 649 people participated in the event. and aired the harmful practices that affect them in their schools and communities. Children also participated in the commemorations of other events like Women's Day celebrations, World AIDS day and International Day of Girl child.

National policy dialogue on ending violence against

ChildFund supported the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to hold the National Policy dialogue on ending violence against (EVAC) and affiliated events that took place on 18th November 2021 and the Para Social Workers dialogue on Violence Against Children held in November 2021. The engagements generated views that were incorporated in the Government of Uganda statement of commitment on ending VAC to be presented at the 2022 Solutions Summit. A total of 32 Para Social Workers from Rubaga and Kawempe Divisions of Kampala participated in the dialogue.

Roll out of the Simplified Version of the Children Act 2016

ChildFund together with AfriChild worked with the MGLSD and rolled out of the Simplified Version of the Children Act 2016 (Amended), launch and dissemination of the National Child Policy and Implementation plan 2020/2021-2024/2025 and established the District Child Wellbeing Committees in Kiryandongo, Kyankwanzi, and Wakiso Districts. The National Child Policy approved by Cabinet on 22nd June 2020 and subsequently launched by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports as a comprehensive framework on children. This policy also repealed the National Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children Policy (2004).

Orientation of newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) on child protection

Together with other partners like AfriChild, ChildFund supported the orientation of newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) on child protection and supported the development of the children's agenda for the newly elected. It is anticipated that the members of parliament who were oriented in child protection will be able to advocate for children's issues in parliament.















ChildFund in partnership with research institution The AfriChild Centre of Makerere University disseminated the findings of the Budget Analysis on Child Protection report on August 16. The analysis examined the Government's budget allocation trends i.e., disbursements and expenditure for the past five fiscal years (FY2017/18 – FY2021/22) to generate evidence for advocacy. The analysis revealed that the allocation has been low and characterized by a fluctuating trend and hence affecting the government's commitment to implement child protection interventions. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development Hon. Amos Lugoloobi graced this event that was well attended by members of parliament, district leaders, police, probation officers, civil society organizations, and representatives from other actors working with children.

ChildFund has prioritized budget advocacy for child protection as a strategic intervention that will contribute to the well-being of all children in the country. This includes advocating for increased budgetary allocation to the child protection sector at the national and district levels for effective policy and legislative implementation

Joining Forces for Africa (JOFA)

Protecting children from violence during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond

Joining Forces for All Children (JOFA) Project was designed to respond rapidly to the global COVID 19 pandemic emergency and beyond. It seeks to address the most marginalized and vulnerable children in targeted countries of Uganda, Mali, Senegal, Kenya and Ethiopia. Underlying the project is a recognition that children are hidden victims, facing threats to their wellbeing and in particular their protection because of the increased risk of violence, neglect, exploitation, and abuse exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, the infection prevention control measures by government took to minimize the spread of the pandemic had a direct impact on the lives of the children and their increased exposure to violence. The project also recognizes that at the global level, COVID 19 will continue and evolve, both in terms of disease prevalence as well as social and economic impacts.

During the year, the project supported:

Roll out of the Child Friendly Accountability approach in 12 schools in Kampala and Wakiso districts. This entailed creating an understanding of the methodology, how they can support children in advocating for policies and matters that affect them. A total of 97 children and 24 senior teachers were oriented and they supported children to develop school based weekly workplans. This has contributed to reducing physical punishment and psychological aggression by caregivers through continuous strengthening of the child protection and referral systems from community to national level.

The project together with Ministry of Gender Labour and Social development team, disseminated the National Child Policy 2020 in Wakiso District. A total of 94 Para social workers, Community Development Officers and Probation and Social Welfare Officers were oriented in the new case management tools by Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development.

A total 99 community structures comprising of local councils, religious / traditional leaders, women representatives were oriented on children protection, their roles, existing referral mechanisms and how to integrate child protection in their day-to-day work.

97

Children and 24 teachers oriented on the Child-Friendly Accountability approach.

94

Para-Social workers, Community Development Officers and Probation and Social Welfare Officers oriented in the new case management tools.

99

Community structures comprising of local councils, religious / traditional leaders, women representatives oriented on child protection.

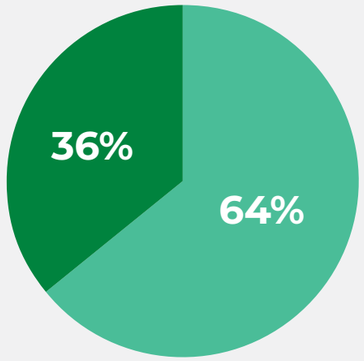


Building Secure Livelihoods

To address inadequate income at the household level as a key cause of many of the vulnerabilities being experienced by children and their families, ChildFund implemented several initiatives at individual and family levels that comprised of:

Extended social assistance to caregivers and youths

ChildFund's livelihood programs focus on increasing household incomes since low income is an underlying factor increasing vulnerabilities faced by children and their caregivers. This situation had been compounded by restrictions imposed by the government as part of the COVID-19 prevention and control measures.



Cash transfer to support families experiencing socio-economic vulnerabilities

- **Conditional** cash transfers to **4150 households**. This included 2,639 households of children aged 0-5 years, 571 households of 6-14 years, 940 households of youths aged 15-24 years.
- **Unconditional** cash transfers to **2,366 households**. This included 282 households of children aged 0-5 years, 1643 households of 6-14 years, 441 households of youths aged 15-24 years. The intervention enabled these households to acquire basic items that they needed to sustain the post COVID-19 life.

Access to saving and credit among caregivers / young adults

ChildFund supported 140 VSLA groups constituting 5,491 members, 33.5 % of whom were male and 66.5% female, across the nine Local Partners. Adults constituted 96% of the total number while youth were only 4%. Key activities are included in the table below.

Activity	Groups	Participants reached					
			Adults		Youths		Children
		Total	M	F	M	F	
Groups formed and trained in VSLA Associates methodology	35	**701**	174	446	42	39	0
Village agents trained and given non-monetary incentives	NA	**103**	47	56	0	0	0
Caregivers trained in financial literacy	39	**566**	161	405	0	0	0
VSLA kits distributed to groups at 50% cost	87	**421**	68	112	41	69	131
VSLA groups trained in parenting and GBV prevention/m1tigation	140	**3,571**	993	2,501	27	50	0

★ ***90 VSLA groups were supported to register with local government, and one group linked to a microfinance institution.***

Collective group savings	700,250,450	189,257
Amount in loans	407,519,780	110,141

The loans facility has saved the project participants from exorbitant interest rates levied by commercial banks and individual money lenders. Caregivers and individual youths were able to obtain loans to improve their small enterprises, buy food, meet their medical needs, as well as keep their children in school.

Microgrants

ChildFund through the 9 Local Partners supported 69 caregivers and youth groups reaching 1,808 individuals distributed as follows:

Target Age group	Male	Female	Total
0-5 years	90	79	169
6 to 14 years	184	219	403
15 to 24 years and above	523	713	1236
Total	**797**	**1,011**	**1,808**

7,190

Households trained in in micro-enterprise and business development skills.

3,157

Farmers (2,870 adults and 287 youths) trained in farming as a business and given agricultural inputs as start-up capital.

452

Households including 146 youths supported through market linkages.



Entrepreneurship and Business Development

To sustainably improve household income, ChildFund through the 9 local partners trained 20 Trainers of Trainees sessions in microenterprise and business development skills. These ToTs then cascaded the training to 679 caregiver and youth groups constituting membership from 7,190 households. Complementary training packages such as financial literacy and group dynamics were also conducted. Since majority of the program participants took on agricultural-based income generating activities, ChildFund facilitated farmers' linkages to local government extension services reaching 3,961 households.

ChildFund with funding from BMZ supported households in North and North-Eastern part of Uganda to improve the farming practices so as to improve crop yields for income and food security. Emphasis was on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA), including disaster risk management. Consequently, 3,157 farmers comprising of 2,870 adults and 287 young people were trained in farming as a business and given improved agricultural inputs as start-up capital.

In Soroti District, where livestock farming is a booming economic activity, ChildFund supported 34 members of the cattle dispersal committee in revolving livestock management. Consequently, the committee were able to pass over 190 heifers to other households, constituting 159 infants, 14 teenagers and 17 youths. These households were trained on livestock management and besides enjoying milk for nutrition and for income, they too will pass on their first offspring, thus maintaining the livestock distribution cycle. 356 goats were distributed to 178 households in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts.

ChildFund also supported value addition and market linkage initiatives ranging from market assessment, training in value addition and marketing and branding reaching 452 households including 146 youths.



Disaster Risk Reduction

Strengthening the capacity of Disaster Risk Management structures

ChildFund strengthened the capacity of 43 LP staff and board members from Acholi Child, and Family program (ACFP), Community Efforts for Child Empowerment (CECE) and Partnership for Children Worldwide (PFCW) in disaster risk reduction. These LPS are now more prepared in planning and responding to disasters emanating from natural disasters and manmade conflict having developed contingency plans and action plans to cascade within their areas of operation.

With grants from BMZ, ChildFund in partnership with Partners for Children Worldwide (PFCW) conducted a 3-day training on disaster risk management involving 45 sub- County and district disaster management committees' members. Katakwi, Amuria, and Serere districts were selected for the training because of their continued exposure to drought, flooding, and water logging, which have increased the vulnerabilities of the children and the general population. After the training, the trained district officials agreed to integrate disaster risk management and reduction into the district plans and develop with a contingency plan to address emerging issues within the districts.

Disaster Response

ChildFund responded to the Kisoro Emergency Influx of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Political instability in the DRC had forced over 20,000 people to cross into Uganda. Through partnership with CAFOMI, ChildFund reach out to 21,863 displaced children, adolescents, and their caregivers in Kisoro District with different interventions. The targeted participants received Mental Health Psychosocial support (MHPSS) services. This included training of government officials and NGO workers, group counselling, in-kind material support, peer-to-peer training, and play therapy. This greatly improved on their lives, restored hope and a gave them a feeling of love and affection, thereby promoting a sense of belonging.

The project support timeline has been short and there is still a huge need for further intervention.

During the year, ChildFund responded to the natural disaster which blew off the roof top of a health facility and a house of a family in Northern Uganda where two of our local partners (LACCODEF and ACFP) operate. These buildings were repaired to restore their function.

21,863

Through partnership with CAFOMI, ChildFund supported to 21,863 displaced children, adolescents, and their caregivers in Kisoro District with Mental Health Psychosocial support (MHPSS) services.



Palorinya Refugee Settlement Humanitarian Response

With funding from KOICA, ChildFund is implementing the project "Building Resilience and Protection Systems for the Well-being of Children in Palolinya Refugee settlement, Obongi District. The project addresses key child protection concerns and risks that child in the refugee settlement and host community through strengthening effective and safe community-based child protection mechanisms to prevent and respond to child protection risks.

Over 142 community service providers were reoriented on child protection, reporting, referral, risk identification, and mitigation as well as prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Through this initiative, over 12,503 community members were reached with messages on child protection and prevention and response to GBV.

Over 30 facilitators who operate the three child-friendly spaces run by ChildFund in Zone 3 Palorinya Refugee settlement, were trained on Psychological First Aid, Adolescent Reproductive Health and Rights, and how to engage with children at the child-friendly spaces.

Three child clubs from the three Child-Friendly Spaces comprising of 45 members were trained on how to prevent and respond to violence against children among peers, identification, and reporting of cases, laws, and policies in the country as well as life skills on how to deal with life challenges as they grow into adulthood.

A total of 3,089 children participated in organized activities to play, socialize, learn, and express themselves as a way of improving their psychosocial well-being and nurturing their cognitive, emotional, and social development. Using the door-to-door approach due to COVID -19 lockdown, 1,156 children participated in outreach recreational/creative and or sport activities.



A total of 3,089 children in Palorinya Refugee Settlement participated in organized activities to play, socialize, learn and express themselves as a way of improving their psychosocial well being and nurturing their cognitive, emotional, and social development.



30,273

Number of children enrolled in sponsorship program.

Child Sponsorship

ChildFund Uganda continued to play a vital role in mobilizing resources through child sponsorship for facilitating its programs. A total of 30,273 children were enrolled in the sponsorship program with 81.6% (24,694) of them having sponsors attached to them as of 30th June 2022.

To strengthen the connections between the children and their sponsors, a total of **25,867** communications were shared between the sponsored children and their sponsors. The Country Office registered 2,167 new sponsors.

To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of sponsorship processes, several digital initiatives were piloted or expanded across different communities in the operation areas. This is also making the processes more enjoyable and meaningful to the children and sponsors there by enriching their experience and leading to sponsor retention. Such initiatives included Magic adventure App, child file digitalization, live sponsor video calls and child and family visitation using tablets. These initiatives have gone on to improve our sponsorship experience and efficiency.



Magic Adventure Application

This aimed at leveraging technology in improving child communications to the sponsor. Through the Magic Adventure App, installed on tablets children were able to tell the story of their development in our programs, the changes in behaviors, practices, and knowledge that they acquired with our interventions and the positive impact the programs have on their lives. A total of 14,277 correspondences were processed through the Magic Adventure App platform by the children spread across the 9 LP communities and sent to their respective sponsors. This has enhanced established links between sponsored children and their sponsors, built a strong bond and is creating respect and a culture of mutual understanding, diversity, and inclusion in the different contexts.

Sponsor and Child Live Video Connection

Sponsor and child live video calls through enabled children and sponsors have a magic moment of face-to-face interaction and share without having sponsors to travel to the country to meet their children. This strengthened the connection between the children and their sponsors as they had the opportunity of seeing each other for the first tme. A total of 4 video calls were held between different sponsors and their children.

Digitalizing Child Files

This initiative aimed at solving the problem related to custodianship of children's files, making it easy to access a file at all locations any time without having to travel to the LP office.

It entailed a shift from physical child files to cloud stored files to improve access of child files, quality, and timely completion of the work, promote the maintenance of data in digital platform and data back-up resulting in the reduction of costs, time, and environment. It also allows ChildFund to have easy access to children's files in case of any need. This pilot saw a total of 1,642 child files out of the 30,273 enrolled children digitalized. Scaling up will be done in FY 23.

Digitalized Child Monitoring

ChildFund and the Local Partners have over time been using paper-based child monitoring information systems that are time consuming, cumbersome to analyze, and do not allow access to real time data. ChildFund conducted a pilot in three communities under Partners for Children Worldwide, a local Partner in Soroti. The pilot involved using tablets and Kobo Collect for routine data collection on child and family visitation to establish presence and participation in program activities.

A total of 1,919 children within these communities had their data collected using tablets. From the observation, there was efficiency in data collection and therefore PfCW staff were able to make timely decisions concerning children based on real time data. It also enabled better engagement and follow up of enrolled children within PfCW and the Country Office due to multiple and real time access to the collected data. Samuel, one of the volunteers Samuel from Acowa community had this to say: -,

"I used to complete 2-3 forms/child visits a day, use a lot of paper to write yet the questionnaire was lengthy, and a lot of paper carried from place to place, sometimes I could even forget some of the papers at the children's homes he recounted. But now, work has been made easier and interesting, I use a TAB, carry it all over the village which is pride in a way. Children are now aware that uncle will be coming after two months from now to ask them about them and the project office using the TAB. To Samuel, he regarded this as a motivating factor for the children to be present at home at the time of their visit.

Total time taken to collect data is shorter using Kobo Collect or digital platform as compared to paperwork which requires to again enter data in excel after data collection.

On a day, given that several volunteers share tablets, he said that he can visit 12 children but averagely visits 7 if they are distant from each other, spends approximately 30 minutes in a family, with meaningful visit.



Working with Partners

To deepen the capacity of our Local Partner organizations to implement quality programs as well as broaden the scope of our partnerships, ChildFund conducted the following activities:

Strengthened risk mitigation and performance enhancement among the nine Local Partners

To strengthen risk mitigation for business continuity, the Country Office conducted meetings with the nine Local Partners to discuss risk tracking, performance-based funding, reporting requirements and timelines, and the plan to support them improve legal and governance compliance through a consultancy. The discussions also included the COVID 19 work experience; where work was mostly done virtually and the need to adhere to the prevention and control measures as well as encouraging staff and stakeholders to take the vaccines to reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death due to COVID-19. The Country Office continued socializing the updated Performance Based Funding tool to increase the understanding of the local partners. This promoted healthy competition in program delivery since effectiveness and efficiency is rewarded.

Collaboration and partnership in humanitarian settings

During the FY 22 ChildFund Uganda exhibited demonstratable achievement in partnership and collaboration by attending six National interagency meetings organized by the UN refugee agency and the Office of the Prime Minister. Among the issues discussed were settlement transformation agenda, the challenges faced by persons of concern, and the lack of an adequate resource envelope despite the Congolese influx in southwestern Uganda. Thus, these meetings aimed to strengthen coordination and relationship among partners for quality service delivery to the persons of concern (PoC). Partners noted livelihood challenges affecting refugees in Uganda; thus, NGOs were urged to direct resources to build the resilience of the refugees. During these meetings, ChildFund shared the organizations FY 2022 priorities within the national Refugee response framework committee with a view to deepen resource mobilization.



In addition, ChildFund Uganda also shared her priorities in several forums that include Dine and dream, Cash working group meetings, Cash voucher assistance training, and the National child protection and case management forum to strengthen collaboration and partnerships.

To boost the partnership portfolio, both technical and for resource mobilization ChildFund engaged with and sought collaboration and partnership with the Office of the Prime Minister, Norwegian royal embassy, Uganda Red Cross, Refugee for prosperity, CAFOMI, PRM, UNICEF, UNHCR, USAID, Oxfam, Stromme Foundation, FinChurch Aid, the Swedish embassy, and Jesuit's Refugee Council.

ChildFund also participated in a global event that focused on initiatives for reducing environmental impact in humanitarian action in protracted crisis, setting child-friendly spaces in an emergency, Global Reduction of GBV in conflict-affected areas, National Cash Voucher assistance, national Comprehensive refugee response framework, The meetings improved the window of collaboration and partnership with major donors like WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, UNHCR, EU, Red cross among others.

Technical Monitoring and support to implementing partners

The Country Office team conducted quarterly support visits to the implementing partners which aimed at providing technical assistance them geared toward program delivery improvement through mentorships.

Actions towards embracing the localization agenda

To leverage the localization agenda, the Country Office deliberately supported the implementing partners to respond to relevant calls for proposal. For example, in December 2021, the Country Office team provided technical support to Acholi Child and Family Program (ACFP), a Local Partner in their bid to USAID TB HIV/AIDS through TASO the prime recipient. The project's objective is to support the achievement of the Government of Uganda and PEPFAR goals of reaching and maintaining HIV epidemic control through attainment of 95-95-95 UNAIDS targets and ending AIDS by 2030. The bid was successful, and the Local Partner is currently implementing the TB.HIV/AIDS TB Acholi sub region in Northern Uganda.

ChildFund had progressive engagements with Street Business School (SBS) to explore possible strategic partnership in the area of business development to enable community members living in poverty to start and run successful businesses. SBS sponsored two ChildFund staff to join the eight-day SBS Immersion Workshop held in Kampala between 28th May to 5th June 2022 to better understand their business development curriculum for people living in poverty. Following the training that the ChildFund staff found to be life changing, ChildFund has had further engagements with SBS. There are plans to have selected ChildFund and LP staff trained to lead the Implementation of the curriculum first on a pilot basis before a scaling up in the near future.

Coordination events with Implementing partners

ChildFund organized different coordination platforms with all the 9 partners that included physical and virtual meetings to conduct partnership reviews, performance reviews and capacity building initiatives. In February, the ChildFund held a very successful virtual event dubbed "Creating a Lasting Social Impact Through Technology" to share the promising results of the digital solution for our child monitoring that has been piloted in one of the LPs (PfCW). The tool was developed in collaboration with Venture 2 Impact. The event which is held as part of the commemoration of the International Development week was used to show case the promising story of our partnership initiative of developing a digital solution for improving social impact programming.

In June 2022, ChildFund held a partnership review meeting with all the 9 LPs. Discussions focused on LP capacity, performance, and the health of the relationship between the LPs and ChildFund.

In the meeting, different data sets from Balanced Score Card, LP assessment reports, Child Verification Surveys, and Performance-Based Funding results were presented and jointly reviewed. Key areas of strength that emerged during the meeting included: mutual understanding and Letter of Agreement implementation as a key binding document for the healthy relationship, performance-based funding with continued flow of funds to support LP work, technical support by Country Office teams, and satisfactory absorption of funds by LPs. The meeting came up with individual and/or joint actions which the parties can take to further enhance relationships.

The key areas for improvement included: increasing participant reach, and frequency of engagement with communities by LPs for stronger impact, activity execution according to plan and budget, and strengthening mobilization of additional funding outside ChildFund.

To foster knowledge sharing and learning, ChildFund organised an Annual Program Quality Reflection and review meeting where both Country Office and Partner staff shared experience and achievements towards the set Annual targets which created an opportunity for strategizing and prioritizing for the subsequent Annual Operation Plan (FY23). Key successes, promising practices and lessons learned realised from a range of interventions; sponsorship, model and grants implementation were shared.

Business Development

The fundraising strategy for the Financial Year 2022 aimed at maintaining and, wherever possible, increase the support of traditional donors; identify new donors and broaden the donor base. Thus, in FY22 several initiatives, and activities were implemented to make ChildFund Uganda business better. These included increasing revenues, growth in terms of business expansion, building strategic partnerships, and making strategic business decisions.

ChildFund Uganda achieved the fundraising target of US$ 2,200,000 and was exceeded it about US$ 400,000 by raising approximately US$ 2,600,000 for FY 2022. The sources of funding were from Nutrition International who supported the country-wide Vitamin A Supplementation (VAS Project) with US$1,263,372. ChildFund specifically provided financial management & oversight of funds to Uganda Ministry of Health for this project. A grant worth US$ 329,724 from KOICA through ChildFund Korea was awarded to support the Building Resilience and Protection Systems (BRePs). ChildFund Korea provided an additional US$ 65,000 as additional funding for two years. The LEGO Foundation is supporting a program on Parenting through Play with funds worth US$ 637,373 for one year. Lastly, Procter & Gamble supported us with funds worth US$ 320,000 for implementing the Safe Drinking Water Project.

While progress was made in this regard, more needs to be done as the organization remains very dependent on too few donors. Moving forward, ChildFund will intensify its efforts to increase the donor base through targeted interventions to identify and solicit support from new and emerging governmental donors.

During the reporting period, ChildFund Uganda launched the Country Strategic Plan (2022-26) during the Day of African Child Celebrations under the theme “Eliminating harmful practices affecting children: Progress on policy and practice since 2013”. The strategic priorities were shared with different stakeholders as part of the accountability mechanism part also to allow for meaning participation.









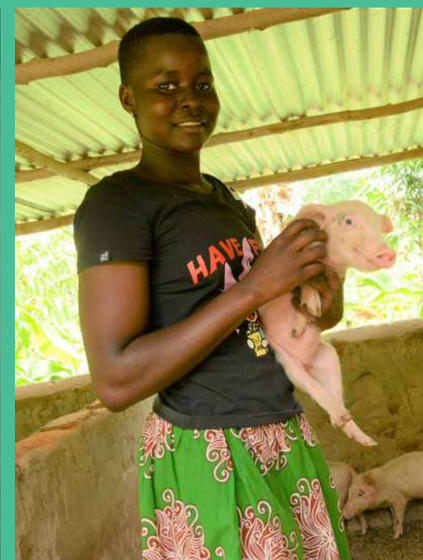




Children posing with animals they received from ChildFund.







Human Resources

ChildFund Uganda employs highly engaged technical staff headed by the Country Director with support from the Programs and Sponsorship Director, Senior Human Resource Manager, Finance Director, Global Auditor, Business Development Manager, Partnership Portfolio Specialist, Sponsorship Manager together with Technical Specialists, among others.

ChildFund has continued to implement strategies that enhance and design an experience that creates an innovative culture where staff are passionate about observing and protecting children. Over this period, staff participated in a pulse survey to determine engagement levels while at the workplace and the overall percentage of staff engaged was at 96% which indicates high engagement levels of staff that indicate, they freely and fully apply their hearts, spirits, minds and hands in all they do at ChildFund.

In context of the joint staff management "Respectful Workplace Initiative", which promotes a respectful workplace that encourages trust, responsibility, accountability, mutual respect and open communication and embraces the dignity and diversity of individuals, we had a training on Leading at the Speed of Trust. In addition to this, we had a session on Diversity, Equity and inclusion (DEI)at the workplace and this was followed up with a survey to all staff how they feel in terms of DEI at the workplace, and they were able to score at 92% Country wide and 94% globally.

Global Human Resources continues automating manual processes in the WeConnect system which has enabled the automation of staff performance management, recruitment, enhanced employee onboarding and training opportunities, enhanced data integrity, and enhanced customer/employee experience with HR.

> To promote a respectful workplace that encourages trust, responsibility, accountability, mutual respect and open communication and embraces the dignity and diversity of individuals, we trained staff on Leading at the Speed of Trust.







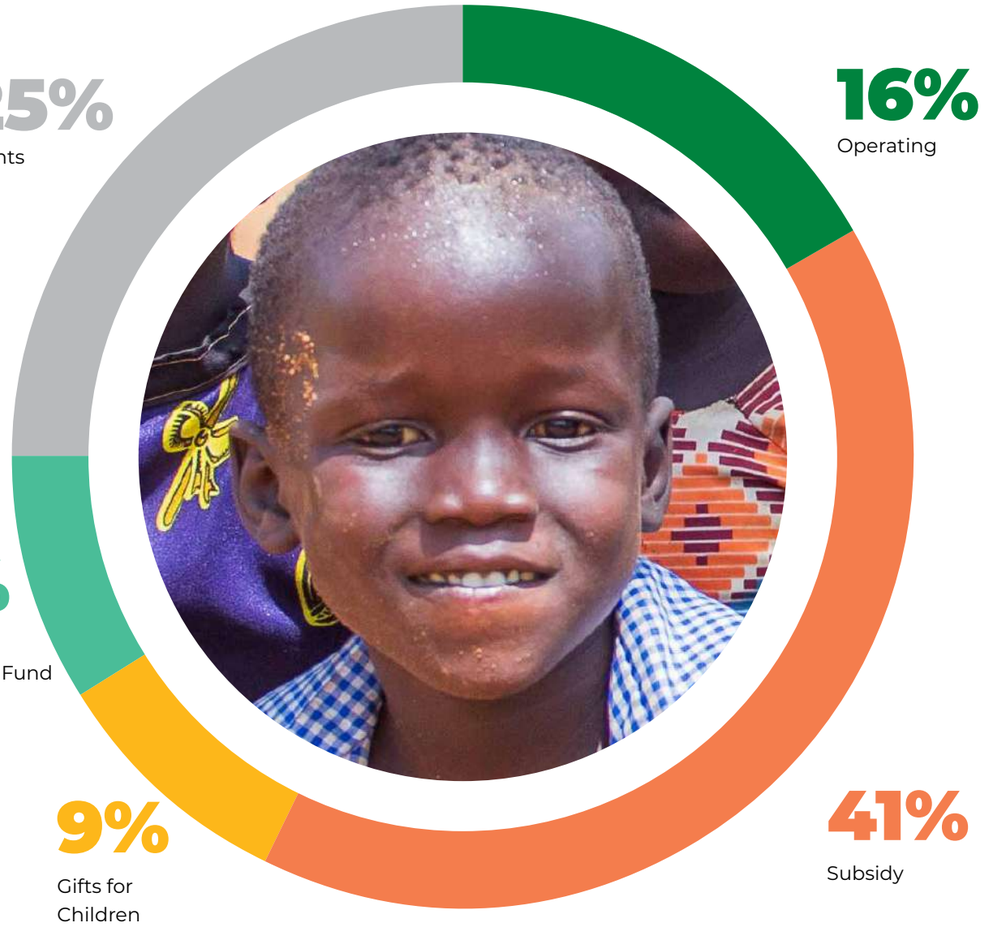






Financials

FY22 Income by Source



Total Income in Millions (US$)

Operating	1,272,891
Subsidy	3,174,972
Gifts for children	701,200
Partnership Effectiveness Fund	663,030
Grants	1,891,298
TOTAL INCOME	**7,703,392**

How it was Spent (US$)

Operating expenses	1,272,891
Subsidy disbursed to community organisations	3,174,972
Gifts for children dispersed	701,200
Partnership effectiveness Expenditure	663,030
Grant expenses	1,891,298
TOTAL INCOME	**7,703,392**

Eleven-year-old Grade 3 student Caroline learns in a school constructed by ChildFund in Katakwi District.



ChildFund®
Because we need each other.

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