ChildFund Uganda

CAPACITY STATEMENT

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



www.childfund.org

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. Delivered through over 250 local implementing partner organizations, our programs address the underlying conditions that prevent any child or youth from achieving their full potential. We place a special emphasis on child protection throughout our approach because violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect can reverse developmental gains in an instant.

ChildFund has had a presence in Uganda since 1960. Through our local partner organizations, we implement holistic



development programs supported by our sponsors and donors around the world.

Currently, our programs focus on Child Protection, Education, Early Childhood Development, Advocacy, Emergency Response, Health and Nutrition, Food Security, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), household Economic Strengthening, Youth Development and Sponsorship.

Our Programming Approach

ChildFund contributes to the well-being of adolescents and youth aged 15 to 24 years by ensuring an:

- **increase in the number of youths who are gainfully employed and earning income from entrepreneurship and vocational skills training;**
- **increase in the number of youths reporting improved access to and utilization of adolescent sexual reproductive health services and life skills; and**
- **increase in the number of youths actively engaged in community life (civic and development) in a safe environment.**

Youth Development

To effect this, ChildFund applies a four (4) pronged integrated approach which includes:

The Artisan Model

Where community-based artisans are mapped, assessed, and if selected, their capacity gaps are addressed through tailored training and supervision by accredited institutions and competent individuals. Youth who qualify for non-formal training are identified through participatory approaches, taken through career guidance, and attached to local artisans, who train and mentor them in various skills for 9 months, including an industrial placement.

The Institutional Model

Youth who qualify for formal training at certificate and diploma levels are supported to acquire training from accredited institutions.

The Space, Skills, and Voice (SSV) Model

Young people are trained to identify barriers to their development, test and develop solutions (project prototypes) to fix their challenges. In line with the slogan “Nothing for us without us,” this approach enables them to engage with duty-bearers on issues affecting them and connects them with the platforms they need to amplify their voices.

The Youth-Adult Partnership (YAP) Model

This focuses on building positive relationships between young people and adults, and bringing them together to foster community development. As young people contribute new ideas, zeal and energy, adults shape their actions through wisdom and experience. As a result, adults see young people as development partners and not just objects for manipulation- thus creating a mutual development synergy that values the worth of young people and promotes their meaningful participation in community life.

Program Elements

The key elements that inform our youth programming are:

- Vocational Skills Training
- Micro Enterprise Development
- Financial Inclusion
- Adolescent and Youth Participation
- Public and Private Sector Partnerships
- Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Services



Projects Portfolio

100

teenage mothers and youth increase their annual income through vocational skills.

100

youth increase their annual income through

240

women aged 20-60 years increase their income from agribusiness skills.

400

youth trained in basic and technical skills for enhanced employability.

Women and Youth Economic Empowerment Project (WYEP) 2022-2023

In partnership with The Coca-Cola Foundation (TCCF), ChildFund is implementing a skills development, environmental sustainability, and economic diversification project worth $150,000 in Amuria, Katakwi, Serere and Dokolo districts. The project's goal is to improve the wellbeing of youth and women through sustainable livelihoods opportunities for wealth creation by working towards the following objectives:

- 100 teenage mothers and youth increase their annual income through vocational skills from $101 to $ 162 (60% increase) after training;
- 100 youth will increase their annual income through microenterprise development skills from $101 to $ 162 (60% increase);
- 240 women aged 20-60 years increase their income from agribusiness skills.

Building economic resilience for farmers and young people in northeastern Uganda (Dec 2020 – Nov 2023)

This BMZ-funded (€666,000) project focuses on skilling 800 farming households in Serere, Katakwi, Amuria and Dokolo districts on sustainable climate-smart farming methods and training 400 youth in basic and technical skills for enhanced employability.

Youth participating in the project also receive market-driven training and after graduation, they are supported to search for employment or on their way to self-employment. The project also builds the capacity of the District Disaster Risk Management (DRM) structures to effectively engage communities at all levels (community, subcounty, district and national) in the implementation of DRM preparedness activities.

Household Resilience - HHR Project (2018-2020)

This $374,400 project was implemented in Kitgum District. A total of 150 youths completed vocational skills training and were equipped with start-up tools. A follow-up assessment indicated up to 91% of the youth were in gainful employment, another 300 who were trained in micro enterprise development had stable incomes, 66% reported a fair increase in their incomes and 20% reported an exponential rise in income because of the skills training and employment. Fifteen livelihood youth groups constituted from the 509 youth were equipped with crop and livestock husbandry skills, provided with inputs, and trained in VSLA methodology. The groups are reaping big from agricultural returns and accessing credit from their savings for development.

Economic Strengthening to Keep and Reintegrate Children into Families (ESFAM) (2015 - 2018)

This $1,339,924 project, implemented in Gulu, Kamuli and Luwero districts, was funded by USAID's Displaced Children and Orphans Fund (DCOF) through FHI 360's Accelerating Strategies for Practical Innovation and Research in Economic Strengthening (ASPIRES).

Key achievements:

- Project reached 700 children, among which 58% classified as destitute at project inception were reduced to 7%.
- 89 children placed in care institutions were reintegrated with their families.
- 80% of children and youth reported positive adaptive capacity and resilience at the end of the project compared to 50% at inception.
- 97% of households identified as high risk when the project commenced had reduced risk of family-child separation
- Households at medium risk reduced from 61% to 9% while 8% of households completely moved out of any risk of family-child separation.
- 155 caregivers and family heads received matched savings
- 137 caregivers organized in saving and loan associations
- 408 caregivers received cash transfers.
- 225 children and youth were organized in child-led savings groups.

509

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Enhancing Provision of Adolescent-Friendly Sexual and Reproductive Services (Oct. 2014 - Mar. 2016)

This project funded ($196,362) by Music Aid (Musikhialpen) was implemented

in Kiryandongo district in 6 health facilities and 9 schools to improve access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services.

Key achievements:

- **12,234** adolescents were reached through peer-to-peer interactions
- **715** expectant mothers received mama kits for clean and safe delivery
- **1,457** community members were engaged in community dialogue sessions on adolescent parenting and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention
- **105** school club patrons were trained in SRH
- **3,989** young people received HIV/AIDS counselling and testing, dialogue and management of STIs
- **3,198** pupils were trained on SRH and rights.
- **86%** of the participants were made aware of the availability of SRH services. 14% decrease in shyness about asking for SRH services.
- **47%** decrease in non-availability of SRH information.
- **14%** increase in the number of parents sharing SRH information.
- **76%** of participants received better quality SRH treatment after the project
- **75%** of the participants learned about the dangers of GBV.
- **36%** community members were able to support colleagues who survived GBV.
- **93%** of girls from targeted schools were able to make sanitary pads using locally available materials.

Household Economic Empowerment project (July 2013 - June 2016)

This project was implemented in Agago and Kitgum districts, with $529,880 in funding from Australian AID/ChildFund Australia. The project contributed to improved household income security for child wellbeing and achieved the following results:

- **300** youth trained in and practicing vocational skills;
- **1,311** caregiver and youth groups trained in agriculture and equipped with inputs
- **2,151** caregivers registered in Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA)
- **1,311** caregivers and youths trained in Disaster Risk Reduction
- **2,151** youth and caregivers trained in micro-enterprise development and earning from their enterprises.

Consequently, 80% of the supported youth and caregivers ably accessed credit from VSLAs; 99% of youth and caregivers engaged in crop farming and 89% in livestock farming reported increased productivity and sales up to 115% and 83% of businesses initiated by youths and caregivers survived after initiation beyond one year.

Donors and Partners







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