

**UGANDA SOCIETY FOR  
DISABLED CHILDREN**

**Annual  
Review  
2001-2002**



**USDC**

*Bringing out the potential  
in disabled children*

**Translating Policy into Action**



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*Front cover photo: Ebede Samuel Baker a boy of 16 years from Arua. He has cerebral palsy and has difficulty writing and speaking. Here, a Special Needs Education teacher from Arua demonstration school, Jude Afena visits him at home to continue his training at home.*

## USDC Vision & Mission

**USDC's long-term vision is a society where children with disabilities are fully integrated within their local communities; their rights respected and needs adequately provided for, so that they have the opportunity to gain independence and control of their own lives.**

**Our mission is to provide resources and opportunities for children with disabilities to achieve their potential and lead fulfilling lives.**



*Jackson Atria and Sue Farmer (centre) with the Soweto String Quartet at their recent fundraising concert for USDC in Kampala*

2001 - 2002



## From the Trustees

It has been very satisfying to see the development of the USDC operation in Uganda and the impact it has been having on so many children. The support from our donors and friends in Africa and Europe has enabled USDC to change the lives of many children and their families, and for this we are very grateful.

USDC's broadening funding base has given us confidence that we can continue to extend our services to more children and in particular their families, who are frequently overlooked in the planning that goes into assisting their children. Spreading the word that there is hope for the future has been done through radio programmes, newspaper articles and by example. A child whose life has been improved and enhanced, and who is accepted within a community, gives hope and encouragement to other families.

After a slow start to the year caused by the presidential, parliamentary and local government elections, USDC became very active in lobbying the new officials about the importance of providing for children with disabilities. To meet government officials in USDC's focus districts who now recognise the need to include services for children with disabilities into their planning and budgeting is a sure sign that USDC's lobbying has not been in vain.

USDC hit the headlines in Uganda following the very successful second visit by the Soweto String Quartet from South Africa, whose concert generated much publicity and focused attention on disabled children. Their professionalism and enthusiasm proved irresistible, and many children have benefited from remedial treatment funded as a direct result of their sell-out concert. It is this kind of steadfast support that motivates and enthuses the staff in Uganda.

The close links between the two sister organisations, USDC UK and USDC Uganda have continued to flourish and demonstrate the teamwork that is at the heart of our approach. Each has an important role to play. The community volunteer cycling between her local villages, encouraging families to seek assistance. The field staff who lobby, organise, and persist. The managers who write up the project proposals and oversee their successful implementation. The donors who fund and visit us. The parents who struggle to provide the medication for an epileptic child, and the medical staff who care for the child when he falls in the fire. The Trustees who guide and monitor. Together we can make a real difference, and, with the support and help of so many, we will be successful.

**Sue Farmer, Council of Management member**

## Executive Director's Review

USDC continued its work with disabled children and young people during the last year with the long term aim of empowering them to exercise their rights to education, health services and vocational training. An important element of the work was in changing the attitudes of 'people in power' through lobbying and advocacy to integrate services for disabled children into mainstream planning and development.



For us within USDC, lobbying and advocacy means both influencing policy and assisting individual children and youth directly. The individual children reached by the programme provide legitimacy for USDC to lobby for increased support (to disabled young people) from government, by creating useful examples of what works well and what the children want.

Importantly however, USDC has adopted a 'do it yourself' approach to lobbying and advocacy, which is an empowering process for people with disabilities and their families. It is the disabled people themselves, especially disabled children and their parents, who are trained and given tips to lobby government themselves.

Besides lobbying work, there is also the need to empower and build capacities at district and lower (especially family) levels for the disabled children to access mainstream services. This has been another vital area of programme focus. Through our activities we have helped to translate many government policies into action for children and young people with disabilities. But most importantly we have helped to change the lives of individual children, as the examples in this annual review will show.

USDC is aware that there are still many children who remain outside mainstream health and education services especially those with hearing, learning and communication, visual and severe physical disabilities. To address the needs of these children more appropriately, USDC will increase the participation of communities, especially young people themselves; and learn more from their participation in the coming period. We will improve our working relationship with other organisations, especially Disabled People's Organisations and increase organisational learning through these improved partnerships. Finally we will continue to work more closely with government for a sustainable future for disabled children and their families, especially the very poor in rural areas.

**Jackson Atria**

2001 - 2002





*Rashid with his Braille machine in the newly built classroom at Moyo.*



# Visual impairment no barrier at Moyo

## *The story of Rashid Aliga, at Moyo Girls Primary School*

*Rashid Aliga is one of the happiest pupils in the West Nile region - and not just because he is one of the few boys in a mainly girls' school. Like many of the other pupils, Rashid has a visual impairment, but he has not let this stand in the way of academic success.*

*Moyo Girl's Primary School is one of the few schools in the area offering an opportunity for blind children to learn. The school is situated in Moyo district, within Moyo Catholic Church premises. The Uganda Government established it in 1970 as a boarding school for the blind. Since then, the school has integrated both blind and non-blind pupils in mainstream classrooms from Primary one to Primary seven.*

*Rashid and his family were ignorant about the existence of a school for the blind until USDC and EARS (the government's Educational Assessment & Resource Service) informed them, during sensitisation seminars organised for the Pakelle subcounty community in 1997 and 1998. As a result, Rashid joined the school's Annexe in 1999 when he was enrolled in Primary One.*

*Rashid is now one of the outstanding pupils in the school. He has a unique character and has demonstrated high intellectual excellence in class and extra-curricular activities, despite being blind. His teacher, Mr. Opeli comments, "Rashid is a very clever child indeed. He has come top in his class in the end-of-year exams. He has learnt how to use a Braille machine very easily and he can type using it by himself. I am very proud and confident of Rashid's performance."*

*Rashid uses his free time fruitfully by repairing shoes and mending sandals. He is also skilled in working with iron and handicrafts. He has produced spoons out of scrap aluminium materials, and the matron is using them to serve meals for his group. He has also crafted a toy helicopter, bus and motorcars out of wire mesh.*

*Rashid sometimes sells his products to the public locally. When asked what he does with the proceeds he says, "I sometimes buy some necessities like books, pens, and soap. Look! I bought these shoes I'm wearing myself!" And who taught him how to do all this? "I learned from my colleagues and playmates at home." Rashid says he would like to be a teacher in future.*

*In the school, Rashid was confronted with a lot of problems amongst which were: poor accommodation, inadequate teaching and learning materials, few Special Needs Education (SNE) teachers and low support for the school. However, those conditions are now being tackled one by one.*

*During this year, 2001/02, USDC has constructed a new classroom and dormitory block. With a new block in place, accommodation is no longer a problem. More SNE teachers have been deployed in the school, and they are all continually being trained through short courses offered by USDC in conjunction with the EARS inspectorate. This has helped to reduce the pupil/teacher ratio by 20%.*

*In addition to that, USDC has supplied the school with educational materials, which have greatly facilitated teaching and improved the standard of learning in the school. The result is high retention due to minimal dropout. The subcounty and district authorities have been lobbied to contribute money towards the running of the school, and have responded by contributing 30,000 shillings for each child in the school per term. This has eased life for the pupils. It is hoped the school will produce better results as many things are being improved.*

*When asked about what makes him happy in school, Rashid says, "Now I no longer suffer from cold as I used to before transferring from the old block to the new one. I also have good teachers and enough learning aids. Moreover, I like games and we play with sports equipment during our leisure times."*

*In some ways, Rashid is fortunate in that the government's policy on Universal Primary Education (UPE), and other pro-disability legislation all came at the right time, otherwise he would not be in school at all. However, credit is also due to the efforts of his parents and teachers who have worked hard on his behalf. The school has provided better educational opportunities than most for blind children like Rashid, and we hope it continues to grow from strength to strength.*





*Bosco, who no longer suffers from epileptic fits, collecting water from a nearby borehole*



# How Bosco Tumwesige's epilepsy was controlled

Over the last 15 years, the Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC) has established a strong track record of outreach clinics and home visits, designed to bring services closer to the communities. Outreach clinics are organised by the USDC Field Co-ordinator in conjunction with rehabilitation professionals (such as the physiotherapist, occupational therapist, community rehabilitation officer, and so on). During the outreach clinics, children are assessed, registered and referred, and parents receive counselling and advice, among other things.

Follow-ups at home are then made in some cases - mainly for children with severe disabilities or those that have undergone corrective surgery. Children are reviewed during the visits and parents trained on how to manage the particular disabilities of their children.

One child who has benefited from the outreach clinics and follow-ups organised by USDC is Bosco Tumwesige, aged 13.

Bosco is the son of Solomon Tibeziinda and Elizabeth Barungi. He has six sisters and one brother. They live in Pakanyi village, Pakanyi sub-county about 20 kilometres from Masindi town. Bosco's father is a Health Assistant while his mother is a farmer. She grows maize, groundnuts, cassava, and sweet potatoes mainly for home consumption while a little surplus is sold to meet basic needs. According to Elizabeth, Bosco was born normal, but at the age of one and a half years he developed fits, which originated from a high fever.

In 1993 USDC organised an outreach clinic at Pakanyi health centre and Bosco's mother brought him. Two days before the outreach, Bosco had a fit while in the kitchen and got severely scalded by the boiling soup. Therefore

during the outreach Bosco was diagnosed for epilepsy and his mother was advised about corrective surgery. In November 1993, the plastic surgeons at Nsambya hospital operated on Bosco. Transport, food and medical care were all paid for by USDC. Bosco was also given anti-epileptic drugs. His mother says, "I was very worried about my son because many people said that once a person with epilepsy falls in the fire they never get cured. It was a very difficult time for us because nobody ate or drunk water from our home [while Bosco was having epileptic fits]. However, I persisted in giving him drugs. Also, the constant visits by the Field Co-ordinator and Physiotherapist encouraged me."

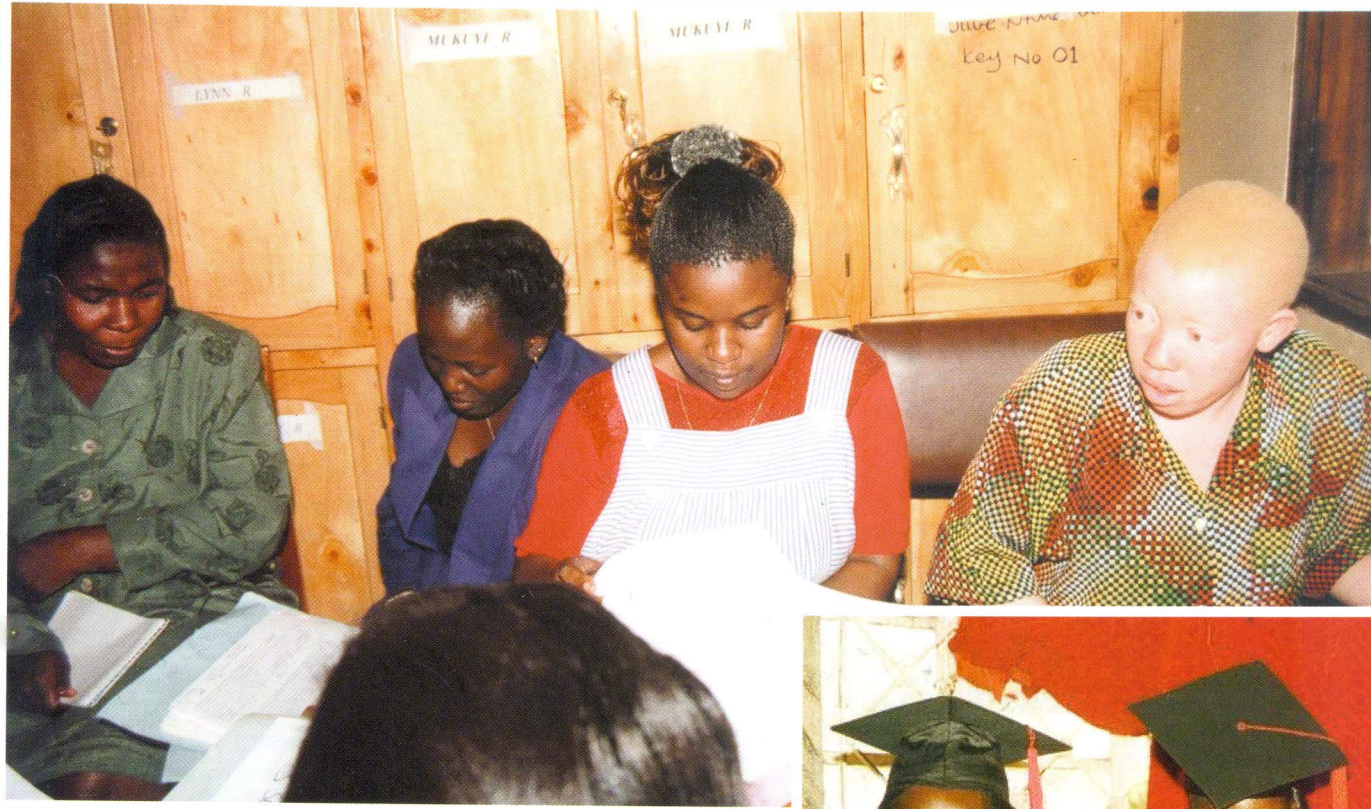
***"It was a very difficult time for us because nobody would eat with us or drink water from our home while Bosco was having epileptic fits"***

She adds that one day, a miracle happened and Bosco did not have a fit that day. "It was almost unbelievable. A week passed, then a month, and then eventually another month. For six years now Bosco has not had any fit! But I still give him medication every three months. I also treat him as soon as he gets any fever."

Bosco is well integrated in school. He is in Primary Five (Year 5) at Waiga Primary School. Last term he was the first out of 80 children. He would like to be a teacher upon completion of school.

At home Bosco tethers goats, digs, makes bricks and fetches water. According to Bosco's mother, the family is no longer stigmatised. She even advises parents on how to care for their children with epilepsy, and refers them to USDC. Besides this, Bosco's father is a member of the executive committee of the Masindi Epilepsy Support Association.





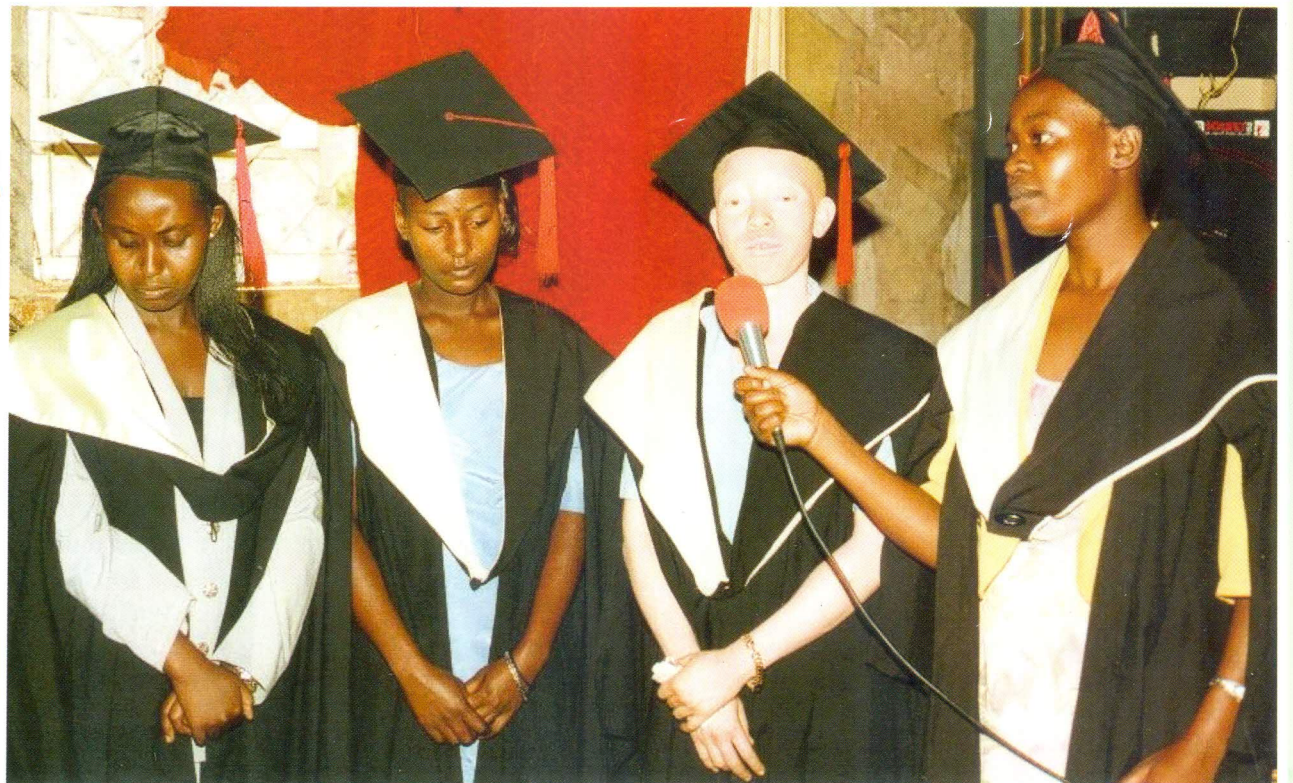
*Oliver Namutebi attending to clients at the Micro Finance Institution office in Bwaise, Kampala*

**"I come from a humble background"**

*Oliver Namutebi and her friends at their graduation party.*



*Oliver at 8 months with her mother.*





# Makerere graduate: "albinism is only skin deep"

*The story of Oliver Namutebi*

Oliver Namutebi is employed as an accountant with a micro finance institution in Kampala. She is a graduate of Bachelor of Commerce of Makerere University. That is of course normal for many students. But in the case of Oliver this came after a long struggle. Oliver is an albino, a condition caused by lack of melanin - the pigment in the body responsible for skin colour. Presently she lives with her mother and their other children in Matuuga about 15 kilometres along the Gulu-Kampala road.

"My disability is just a mere difference in skin colour", Oliver asserts. "There are few like me and many have different views to it", she observes. Born to black parents, Oliver's life has not been an easy one. The difference in her skin colour from that of her kin caused her lots of suffering. The stigma started when her biological father rejected her soon after birth saying that there was no way he could have fathered such a baby!

"I come from a humble background, born to a lady with a heart of gratitude, thanksgiving and strong willed. This was not the case with my father", Oliver laments. Oliver grew up without experiencing his love and support. The people around her whom she says loved, protected, supported and encouraged her all the time were her mother and her grandmother. She describes them as 'women of great heart, thanksgiving and strong will'. "Both struggled to ensure that I enjoyed the same benefits as other children", Oliver proudly says of them.

Oliver's journey through education was not an easy one. But she was determined to brave through at whatever cost. In her own words: "My education started as a normal journey but with fear and a lot of teasing at school especially in my lower primary. School fees were a problem due to the

fact that my mother is a low-income earner. However, God brought a Good Samaritan from USDC to give a hand in this area. I was quite good in class not because I was bright but wanted to please mother knowing how hard she struggled to earn the money.

"The challenges I faced were first of all to build my self-esteem. My teachers helped in this area with their strong words and hope they had in me. My mother was a great support and encouragement throughout my education. Then, the other problem was my sight. Naturally I have a short-sight problem.

I had to sit in front to see clearly. This was not easy in all classes. Some teachers would not accept this", Oliver says, describing her ordeal.

**"I am a graduate through USDC's help"**

USDC started supporting Oliver from the age of ten when she was in Primary Five (Year 5) until she completed her secondary education. Oliver recently graduated from Makerere University ("I am a graduate through USDC's help", she says) and because of her excellent performance immediately got a job with a micro-finance institution in Kampala city, where she is currently working.

"This story is a perfect example of what timely interventions can do in the lives of disabled children. It also helped that Oliver's mother and grandmother were supportive and committed to see her succeed", Susan Kisitu, USDC's Field Co-ordinator for Luwero remarks.



# Financial Summary: USDC Uganda

## Income Statement for the year ended 31 March 2002

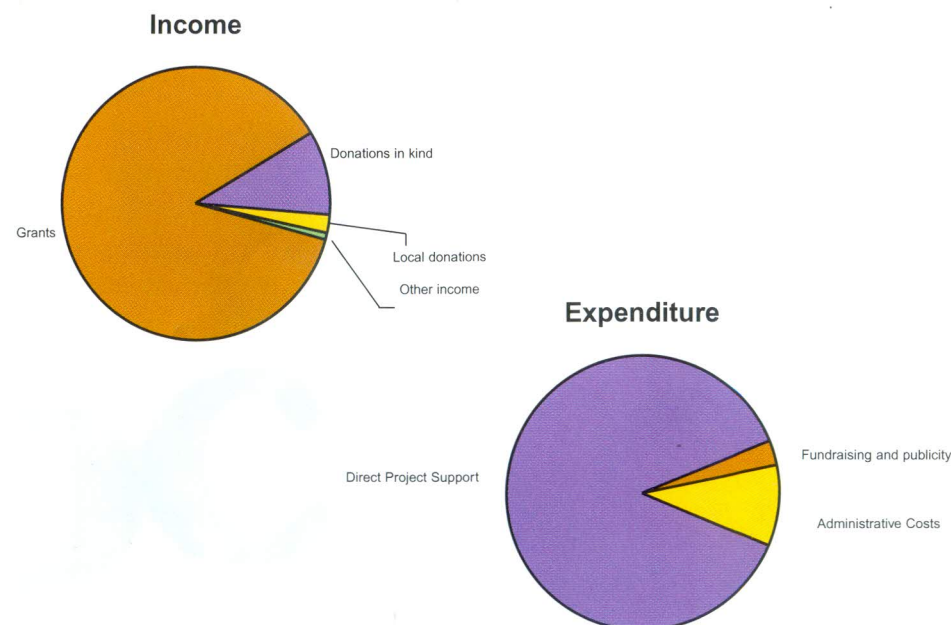
Income	2001-02		2000-01	
	Ushs. '000	£	Ushs. '000	£
Grants	1,647,876	651,334	687,839	275,136
Local donations	16,943	6,697	7,623	3,049
Donations in Kind	189,332	74,835	19,540	7,816
Gains on exchange	0	0	24,228	9,691
Other income	7,718	3,050	1,054	421
	<b>1,861,869</b>	<b>735,916</b>	<b>740,283</b>	<b>296,113</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Direct Project support	1,070,777	423,232	450,143	180,057
Fundraising & publicity	32,286	12,761	13,933	5,573
Administrative costs	114,687	45,331	236,001	94,400
	<b>1,217,750</b>	<b>481,324</b>	<b>700,076</b>	<b>280,030</b>
Income less expenditure	644,118	254,592	40,206	16,083
Accumulated funds at 1 April	468,864	187,546	428,658	171,463
Accumulated funds at 31 March	1,112,983	442,138	468,864	187,546

## Balance Sheet at 31 March 2002

Fixed Assets	2001-02		2000-01	
	Ushs. '000	£	Ushs. '000	£
Tangible Assets	499,387	197,386	151,659	60,664
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors and prepayments	77,857	30,774	3,751	1,500
Cash at bank and in hand	650,003	256,918	361,728	144,691
	<b>727,860</b>	<b>287,692</b>	<b>365,478</b>	<b>146,191</b>
<b>Creditors:</b>				
Amount falling due within one year	-13,375	-5,287	-48,273	-19,309
Amount falling due after one year	-100,890	-39,878	0	0
Net Current Assets	613,595	242,528	317,205	126,882
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,112,983</b>	<b>439,914</b>	<b>468,864</b>	<b>187,546</b>
<b>Financed By:</b>				
Capital fund	499,387	197,386	151,659	60,664
Restricted funds	621,177	245,525	241,082	96,433
General fund	-7,582	-2,997	76,123	30,449
	<b>1,112,983</b>	<b>439,914</b>	<b>468,864</b>	<b>187,546</b>

This is a summary financial account for USDC Uganda for the year ended 31st March 2002, whose funds have been completely independent of USDC UK since April 2000. The latest year's accounts show a substantial increase in revenue compared with 2000/01, which was a difficult year for the organisation. The figures for 2001/02 indicate that USDC Uganda has largely pulled through that challenging period, but this is not to say that all financial difficulties are a thing of the past. The vast majority (99%) of USDC Uganda's income is in the form of restricted funds, either grants or donations in kind for specific projects. This gives the organisation much less freedom to experiment with new ideas or restructuring, or make improvements to the infrastructure (such as new office equipment) except within the tight parameters set by the donors. This financial straitjacket is reflected in the analysis of the Net Current Assets on the Balance Sheet, which shows that the assets are represented entirely by restricted funds for designated programmes, and the general fund is actually slightly in deficit.

There is some good news, however. The Accounts show that locally-raised income has more than doubled since last year, which is a sign that USDC Uganda is beginning to establish a presence as an organisation worthy of support from within the country itself. The rise in income meant that expenditure on projects also nearly doubled, while administrative costs have fallen since last year. A fuller understanding of USDC's financial affairs is likely to be gained by requesting a full set of Accounts, including the Auditor's unqualified report thereon, from the Kampala office. Copies are also available from the UK office.





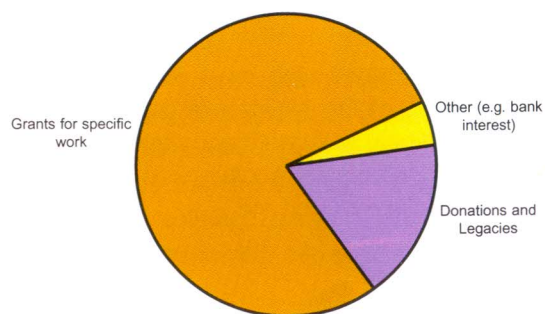
# Financial Summary: USDC UK

The following is a brief summary of USDC UK's Accounts, which have been separate from those of USDC Uganda since April 2000. The figures show a rise in income (raised solely to support USDC Uganda) of approximately one third since the previous year, which has enabled a number of new projects to get underway in Uganda during the year. Most of the increase was therefore in the form of restricted grants for specific projects, but there was also a small rise in the unrestricted funds, generally contributed by supporters in the UK including some who take part in the London Marathon in aid of USDC. Unrestricted funds are passed over to USDC Uganda upon request, usually for capital items or small projects which are hard to fund from other sources.

Towards the end of the financial year, USDC UK transferred ownership of its last remaining significant asset, the office building in Kampala, to USDC Uganda. The latter have also taken over the mortgage repayments which should be clear within three years or less, whereupon ownership will provide USDC Uganda with considerable stability in future years, as well as the possibility of a small rental income from tenants. Plans are already being drawn up for subdividing the building and maximising its use.

The brief summary of USDC UK's Accounts shown here may not be sufficiently detailed to allow for a full understanding of the charity's financial affairs. For further information, the full Accounts, the Auditor's unqualified report thereon and the Trustees' Annual Report should be consulted. These documents, approved by the UK Board at the Annual General Meeting on 25th June 2002, are freely available from the UK office. Copies are also available from the Kampala office.

Income



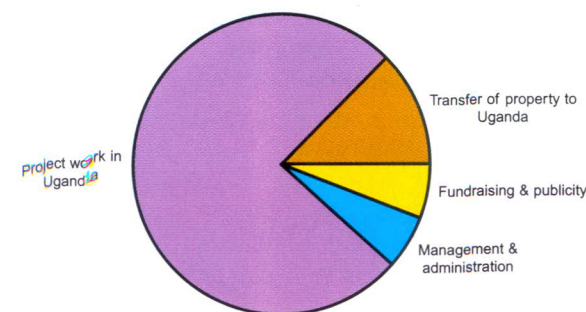
Income Statement for the year ended 31 March 2002

	2001-02		2000-01	
	Ushs. '000	£	Ushs. '000	£
<b>Income</b>	198,605	78,500	119,233	47,693
Donations and legacies	845,938	334,363	643,215	257,286
Grants for specific work	50,762	20,064	40,075	16,030
Other (e.g. bank interest)	1,095,305	432,927	802,523	321,009
<b>Expenditure</b>	907,443	358,673	197,573	79,029
Project work in Uganda	155,094	61,302	-	-
Transfer of property to Uganda	66,987	26,477	68,295	27,318
Fundraising & publicity	61,494	24,306	62,358	24,943
Management & administration	1,191,018	470,758	328,226	131,290

Balance Sheet Summary as at 31 March 2002

	2001-02		2000-01	
	Ushs. '000	£	Ushs. '000	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	395	156	283,433	113,373
Tangible Assets				
<b>Current Assets</b>	508,947	201,165	488,363	195,345
Debtors & cash at bank				
<b>Creditors:</b>	-8,091	-3,198	-181,910	-72,764
Amount owed to others	501,251	198,123	589,886	235,954
<b>Net Assets:</b>				
<b>Financed By:</b>				
Capital fund	399,768	158,011	441,793	176,717
Restricted funds	101,483	40,112	20,640	8,256
General fund	-	-	127,453	50,981
	501,251	198,123	589,886	235,954

Expenditure



2001 - 2002



# Disability and Poverty - a councillor's perspective

My name is Ssali Edward a resident of Saza in Masaka Municipality. I am 32 years old, married and have two children. Currently I represent persons with disability on Local Council 3 in Katwe and Butengo, in Masaka municipality (central division).

My left leg was paralysed by polio in childhood. My parents did not know the cause at the time and were terribly disturbed. Some people in our community tried to convince them to take me to traditional healers but they were adamant. I grew up and learnt to walk with a stave but each time I found difficulty walking long distances.

I joined school and my performance was excellent. My parents struggled with my fees up to secondary level; beyond that, they could not afford. I dropped out, frustrated and feeling completely let down. My hopes started to re-appear again after I met Basil Kandyomunda who was then the Field Co-ordinator for USDC Masaka, and Annet Namulindwa, the Masaka Hospital physiotherapist. These two people visited our home and talked to my parents; counselling them on my disability and how they could best help me. Annet recommended that I replace the stave with a pair of elbow crutches. Basil then arranged and facilitated me to acquire these. I did not take long to learn using them; very quickly movement became much easier.

After that Basil and Annet referred me to the Masaka Social Rehabilitation Centre (now called Masaka Vocational Rehabilitation Centre) to learn some vocational skill. I chose to learn a 2-year course in screen printing and designing from 1987-1988. While at the centre, I started to develop a positive attitude towards myself and other persons with disability. I mobilised my colleagues at

the centre so that we could have a common voice about our plight. We engaged in activities like music, dance and drama through which we were united and also spoke out to people at functions. I started to gain popularity among persons with disability and the community. When I completed the screen-printing course, the

Centre retained me to head the screen-printing workshop. Through the experience I gained more skills and decided to open my own workshop in Masaka Town. In 1996 when the Centre was being restructured, all staff were laid off and I happened to be among them. I then concentrated more on my workshop from which I gained quite a lot.

Later in 1997, I joined politics. I campaigned and was elected councillor for persons with disability for Katwe and Butengo in Masaka. My outspokenness further gained me popularity within the council; other councillors elected me as Speaker. I was also elected treasurer of the district Union for persons with disability, and chairperson of the Masaka Municipal Association for persons with disability. Today everybody

appreciates my contribution despite my disability. I have discovered that in society, if you are poor nobody wants to associate with you. The reason people have negative attitude towards persons with disability is that they are poor.

I owe my successes to USDC for giving me a kick-start, through counselling, walking aids, and the training at the Masaka Vocational Rehabilitation Centre. Their support enabled me to gain self-confidence and a more positive attitude to life. My life has improved economically, socially and politically. I can frankly say am fully integrated in the society around me.



*Ssali Edward in his screen printing workshop*



# Fundraising and Acknowledgements

During the year under review we continued to receive valuable support from funding partners who showed a commitment towards meeting the needs of children with disabilities in Uganda through us.

New funding commitments were made by **CORDAID** who granted U. Shs 32 million (£12,650) towards a three-month project to research into the challenges faced by children with mental health difficulties in 3 districts in Eastern Uganda.

**Bread for the World** made a three-year commitment totalling U. Shs 320 million (£126,000) towards co-funding community based rehabilitation activities in Hoima, the newest district in which we have started operations and which had already received part funding from the **PPP Foundation** in the UK (U. Shs 451 million or £178,600 over three years).

**The Canada Fund for Local Initiatives** granted Ushs 16,400,000 (£6,400) towards the training and equipping of ENT clinical officers in Luwero district. These funds enabled us to train twenty of these officers who are based in the community health units around the district. They are now able to address any primary ear problems at community level thus contributing greatly to the prevention of hearing difficulties in many children.

**Barclays Bank of Uganda** through its Africa grants programme continued its partnership with USDC through making a grant of U. Shs 9,595,000 (£3,800) towards the construction and equipment of a special unit for children with learning difficulties at Butenga Primary School in Masaka. Currently 25 children with disabilities are benefiting from the facilities at the unit, which serves as a demonstration centre for many other schools in the district.

**Roko Construction Company** donated 19,000 roofing tiles towards the construction of a conference facility at Ocoko Vocational Rehabilitation Centre in Arua. This has significantly reduced the cost of construction thus freeing up much needed funds to support the training element of the centre's activities. Other renovation and vocational training costs at Ocoko are being met by the **Community Fund** in the UK, who contributed U. Shs 97 million (£38,685) during the financial year.

**CBM** has had a long-standing commitment to USDC, supporting activities with children and their families as well as the education of children with disabilities. Over U. Shs 52 million (£20,500) was committed this year both in terms of finances and equipment and materials to aid the education of children with disabilities in Uganda.

In the UK, **Comic Relief** and the **Ajahma Charitable Trust** together contributed nearly U. Shs 177 million (£70,000) towards a new 3-year project to reduce the exclusion of disabled children from schools in Uganda, by a process of awareness-raising, teacher training and lobbying government.

**The Lilliane Foundation** expanded its support to assist over 100 children with disabilities in four districts of Uganda. The support is to enable them to lead self-supporting lives through earning their own income or supporting them to access medical and educational services.

**ICCO Netherlands** has continued to support activities in the districts of Lira and Apac where over 500 children have been assisted.

We continue to be grateful to regular donors like the **States of Jersey and Guernsey**, the **Methodist Relief & Development Fund**, and the **Department for International Development (DfID)** who have supported USDC almost since its inception in 1987 and who have enabled us to achieve so much in the lives of children and families in Uganda. Despite DfID's change in policy which means that they cannot continue to fund us, we are looking forward to developing further relationships with them in other aspects of our work especially concerning lobbying and advocacy activities which have become central to our programme.

Finally, we are grateful to the **Soweto String Quartet** and the local and expatriate communities in Uganda who enable us to support over 100 children with disabilities through corrective surgery and the provision of rehabilitation aids and appliances. The Quartet were again in Uganda at the end of the year under review and we will be reporting on this concert series in the next Annual Review.



# Future plans

We are now two years into our current 5-year strategic plan (2000 - 2005). Undoubtedly we have learnt many lessons and we are improving day by day towards achieving our goal. In the coming year, we want to focus more on children with hearing impairments, and those with mental health problems and intellectual disabilities. This is because we believe they have not benefited significantly to date from our programme, and we are pleased to have received the offer of a grant to pilot this kind of work in Masaka and Sembabule in 2002/03, for two years.

## **We shall remain focused on our strategic objectives, namely:**

- Increasing knowledge on disability issues within the community among policy makers
- Increasing capacity within the family, communities, government and USDC to target the needs of disabled children better
- Intensifying our lobbying and advocacy activities aimed at integrating disability issues in mainstream planning and development; and
- Improving disability information.



*USDC staff during a Retreat held at the Masaka Vocational Training Centre, June 2001.*

We are also devoting the year to improving our monitoring processes to help us move faster towards our goals. A strategic thinking workshop involving all staff helped us to see some areas that need to be strengthened if we are to become a leading agency in childhood disability issues. In line with the conclusions of this workshop, as a first step we have introduced a participatory monitoring and review process, to help USDC learn from the programme as it is implemented. We want to continue sharpening the processes and procedures for better results in the future.

We are also looking at prospects of expanding into new districts, especially in the Eastern region of Uganda. This will of course be subject to obtaining the necessary funding, and may necessitate some restructuring in our other, more established districts, and is currently under discussion.



## Who's Who in USDC

### UGANDA

#### KAMPALA

Executive Director **Jackson Atria**  
 Finance & Administration Manager **Wilford Cerendu**  
 Programme Manager **Basil Kandyomunda**  
 Programme Officer Monitoring  
 & Evaluation **Bright Ocokdhogu**  
 Programme Officer Policy  
 Advocacy & Lobbying **Solome Kimbugwe**  
 Finance Officer **Jeremiah Nyende**  
 Office Manager **Irene Ndagire**  
 Secretary **Eva Kirumira**  
 Logistics Assistant **Atanansi Katongole**  
 Office Assistant **Martin Leti**  
 Night Watchman **Valente Awua**

#### DISTRICTS

Apac: Field Co-ordinator **Charles Okello**  
 Apac: Programme Assistant **Geoffrey Omollo**  
 Arua: Field Co-ordinator **James Aliama**  
 Hoima: Field Co-ordinator **Dolorence Were**  
 Hoima: Programme Assistant **John Mary Nsimbi**  
 Lira: Field Co-ordinator **James Aryam**  
 Lira: Programme Assistant **Agnes Atim**  
 Luwero: Field Co-ordinator **Susan N. Kisitu**  
 Luwero: Programme Assistant **James Kalumba**  
 Masaka: Field Co-ordinator **Tadeo Balisanga**  
 Masaka: Programme Assistant **Teddy Nema**  
 Masindi: Field Co-ordinator **Florence Byansi**  
 Masindi: Programme Assistant **Martin Ogwang**  
 Moyo: Field Co-ordinator **Jos Perino Eriga**  
 Moyo: Programme Assistant **Sarah Namusoke**  
 Nebbi: Field Co-ordinator **Francis Abedkane**  
 Nebbi: Programme Assistant **Maureen Anecho**

#### TRUSTEES

Chairman **Aloysius Bakkidde**  
 Abhay Agarwal  
 Mrs. Sue Farmer  
 Mrs. Anne Philips  
 Dr. Edward Turitwenka  
 Dr. Francis F. Tusibira

### UK

UK Representative **Stuart Craig**

#### PATRONS

Rt. Hon The Earl of Snowdon GCVO  
 Rt. Hon Lord Ashley of Stoke CH  
 Evelyn Glennie OBE  
 Sir James Hennessy KBE CMG  
 Prof. George Kirya  
 Rt. Rev Michael Scott-Joynt  
 Terry Waite CBE

#### TRUSTEES

Chairman **Keith JR Nethercot**  
 Mrs. **Leana Arain**  
**Aloysius Bakkidde**  
**W. Norman Hillier-Fry CMG**  
**Dr. Hugh WL Oliver MBE**  
**James H. Olobo-Lalobo**  
**Robert JT Vass**  
**Mrs. Nita A. Wendover**

## Useful Addresses

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 Kampala Road Branch  
 P.O. Box 7101, Kampala

Auditors: Carr Stanyer Sims & Co  
 P.O. Box 6293, Kampala

Lawyers: Kasirye, Byaruhanga & Co  
 (Advocates) P.O. Box 10946, Kampala

### IN THE UK

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Auditors: Myers Clark  
 Woodford House, Woodford Road  
 Watford WD17 1DL

Reg. Charity No. (UK) 326859  
 Company limited by guarantee (UK) No. 1861434





## HOW YOU CAN HELP USDC

### ...in Uganda

- You can send a donation to the Kampala office (see overleaf for address) or buy your Christmas cards from there
- Several sponsorship opportunities exist for private and public companies - please contact the Executive Director if you would like to see your company's name in our publications, or on certain of our buildings

### ...in the UK

- You can send a donation to the UK office (address overleaf) by cheque, CAF voucher or card
- Credit card donations can be accepted over the telephone 24 hours a day

If you are a taxpayer, please specify 'Gift Aid' when making your donation, so that we can claim an extra 28% from the Government. Last year this was worth over £2,000 to USDC!

- You can sponsor a student place at one of our Vocational Training centres for just £12 per month - please contact the UK Representative for details
- Please consider leaving a legacy to USDC in your Will. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that your gift will transform a disabled child's life in future years

## DISTRICTS WHERE WE WORK

