



UGANDA CHANGE AGENT ASSOCIATION (UCAAA)



2025 Annual Report

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Acronyms

AICS	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
BOD	Board of Directors
C&D	Cooperation and Development
CaR	Children at Risk
CBT	Community-Based Training
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CFPU	Child and Family Protection Unit
CFs	Community Facilitators
CLAs	Cluster Level Associations
CRECs	Child Rights Environmental Clubs
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
FAL	Functional Adult Learning
FHN	Feminist Humanitarian Network
FMNR	Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
IGAs	Income-Generating Activities
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
KiA	Kerk in Actie
KNH	KinderNotHilfe
LC	Local Council
LCV	Local Council V
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MP	Member of Parliament
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NCO	National Coordination Office
PDM	Parish Development Model
POs	Project Officers
RDC	Resident District Commissioner
RWC	Refugee Welfare Council
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHG	Self-Help Group
SHGA	Self-Help Group Approach
SMC	School Management Committee
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
UCAA	Uganda Change Agent Association
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNMA	Uganda National Meteorological Authority
VAC	Violence Against Children
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association

Message from the chairperson Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA), I am pleased to present the 2025 Annual Report, which reflects a year of strong performance, strategic growth, and increasing impact.

The Board continued to provide oversight and strategic guidance to ensure that the organization remains aligned with its mission and values. During the year, we prioritized strengthening of governance systems, enhancing resource mobilization, recruitment of new members through Change Agent Training (CAT) courses and supporting management in expanding partnerships and programme reach.

We are encouraged by the organization's achievements through its Strategic Programme areas, particularly in Promotion of rights to sustainable Livelihoods, Child Protection, Education and Life-skills development, Human Rights, Sexual reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and ending violence against women and girls (VAWG), Youth Empowerment, Employment and skilling, Humanitarian Aid and Development, and Institutional development Programme (Mainstreaming Cross-cutting issues and Financing the Strategic Plan) with the integration of climate resilience, rights based approaches and Gender transformation into programming. The progress made in strengthening community structures and promoting self-reliance demonstrates the effectiveness of UCAA's contribution to national development.



The Board also acknowledges the challenges encountered, including inadequate funding delays and operational constraints. However, we commend the management and staff for their resilience, innovation, and commitment to delivering results using the available resources.

I also extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow Board of Directors, UCAA-trained Change Agents, dedicated staff, our valued donors and partners, the Government of Uganda, and all stakeholders we collaborate with for their unwavering commitment, strategic guidance, and collective efforts in advancing UCAA's mission and vision. Going forward, the Board will continue to focus on: Supporting strategic growth and sustainability, enhancing partnerships and resource mobilization, ensuring quality and impact of programs and projects implemented plus Change agents training courses expansion in the country

We remain confident that UCAA is well-positioned to expand its impact and contribute meaningfully to sustainable development in Uganda, we extend our appreciation to our esteemed partners that support UCAA in achieving the vision of: ***An empowered and self-reliant society living in harmony with dignity.***

With best regards,

Miriam Tworekirwe
UCAA BOD Chairperson

Executive Summary

Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA) implemented five major programmes and projects in 2025 across Karamoja, Acholi, West Nile and Refugee-hosting areas-Bunyoro region, plus Change agent training courses in districts of Ntungamo, Mpigi and Oyam with 91 new change agents trained and graduated.

Activities implemented contributed to the UCAA programme thematic areas including: Promotion of rights to sustainable Livelihoods, Child Protection, Education and Life-skills development, Human Rights, Sexual reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and ending violence against women and girls (VAWG), Youth Empowerment, Employment and skilling , Humanitarian Aid and Development, and Institutional development Programme plus alignment with the Uganda National Development Plan, Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Financial summary report in 2025

UCAA sources of income were both internal, with 93% being from external sources of grants from several donors and partners, only 7% was from internal sources including rent from the change agent house, social enterprises of farming and produce as well as hire of the UCAA equipment and materials. Expenditure shows 94% of the external budget and 39% of the internal budget spent.

Chart showing sources of incomes in 2025

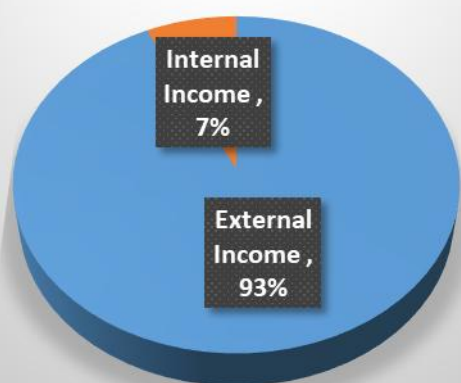
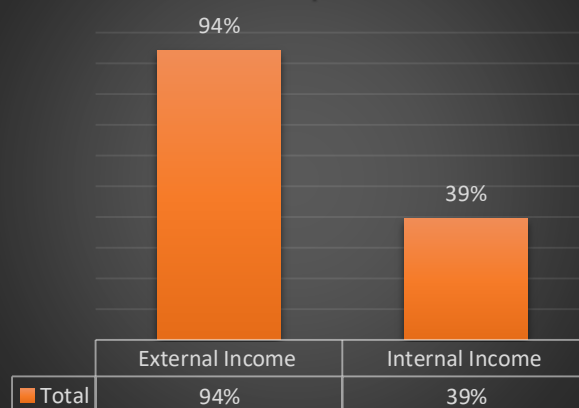


Chart showing percentage of Internal and External income expenditures 2025



Key Achievements

Thematic Area	Key Achievement	Evidence / Results
Promotion of rights to sustainable Livelihoods	Economic Empowerment-Increased women-led businesses and savings	UGX 637M+ savings; 2,899 SHG women running businesses VSLA members 2,882 (1,198 M, 1,684F), 80% established IGAs
Child Protection, Education and Life-skills development	Reduced unsafe migration and improved school retention	249 children protected; 12,000+ children supported
Human Rights, Sexual reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and ending violence against women and girls (VAWG)	GBV Response - Strengthened survivor support systems in both Refugee settings and Host community	Safe spaces established; paralegals trained on GBV response and referral pathways established

Youth empowerment, Employment and skilling	Youth trained on vocational skills, improved Agriculture farming-vegetables grown, block farming, dairy goat farming, environmental conservation practices- tree planting, and energy efficient savings stoves.	Accumulative of 1,535 (M=614, F=921) Youth, skilled, trained and supported in programme areas and Change agent trainings.
Climate Change Resilience integrated	Initiated environmental restoration projects	FMNR and Greening Uganda projects launched

UCAA's program implementation in 2025 was strengthened through strategic partnerships with key national and international actors. These collaborations enhanced technical capacity, resource mobilization, and coordinated implementation across sectors.

Despite notable progress during the year, the organization encountered several constraints that affected implementation including unreliable weather changes, which disrupted planned community activities, funding delays and exchange rate fluctuations constrained timely execution of project interventions and resource allocation. In response, the organization strengthened adaptive planning and scheduling, promoted climate-resilient and enhanced financial management practices including closer budget monitoring and flexible resource reallocation. Key lessons from the year highlighted that integrated programming linking livelihoods, child protection, and climate resilience yields stronger and more sustainable impact.

Building on these insights, UCAA's strategic direction for 2026 focuses on scaling climate resilience interventions, particularly FMNR and the Greening Uganda project, while strengthening child protection systems to further reduce unsafe migration. The organization will also expand economic empowerment initiatives targeting women and youth, deepen partnerships with government and development actors, and enhance monitoring, data systems, and impact measurement to improve accountability, evidence and rights-based programming.

Message from the Executive Director

The year 2025 marked a significant milestone in the growth and transformation of Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA). As an organization, we continued to strengthen our commitment to empowering vulnerable communities through integrated, rights-based programming.



During the year, UCAA successfully expanded its interventions across livelihoods, child protection, gender equality, climate resilience and Change agent training Courses. Through our Self-Help Group Approach, thousands of women strengthened their economic independence, enabling them to better support their families and improve the wellbeing of children. At the same time, our Children at Risk program continued to address the root causes of unsafe child migration, ensuring that children remain safe, protected, and in school.

We are particularly encouraged by the progress made in climate resilience programming. The introduction of the FMNR pilot and the launch of the Greening Uganda project signal a strategic shift towards addressing environmental degradation and climate vulnerability, which remain key drivers of poverty and vulnerability in the communities we serve.

Despite these achievements, we faced challenges including resource constraints, climate variability, and operational disruptions such as the teachers' strike. However, through adaptive management, strong partnerships, and community engagement, we were able to sustain implementation and achieve meaningful results.

As we look ahead, UCAA will continue to strengthen its systems, scale impactful interventions-best practices, and deepen collaboration with partners and communities. Our focus remains on building resilient, self-reliant communities where women, children, and youth can thrive.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our partners, donors, Board of Directors, staff, the government structures and communities we serve for their continued trust and collaboration. I also appreciate the team that put together this annual report and a summarized version will be produced and disseminated among all our partners and stakeholders as well as the UCAA website: www.ucaa.or.ug.

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'L' and 'A'.

Lucy Akello Ayena

UCAA Programme Overview

In 2025, UCAA implemented a diversified portfolio of five (5) programs and projects aligned with the UCAA strategic objectives of:

1. Livelihood enhancement through participation and promotion of viable livelihoods activities for self-reliance and sustainable development.
2. Early childhood development and girl-child protection through SRPD, child protection and education for economic empowerment and self-reliance.
3. Capacity enhancement of vulnerable households to end VAWG, promote SRHR, participate and influence decision making processes which affect their lives through SRPD empowerment processes.
4. Youth empowerment through (self) employment initiatives, skilling and retooling to enhance sustainable economic development and improvement of quality of life of vulnerable households.
5. Livelihoods enhancement, youth employment and women economic empowerment and self-reliance of refugees and host communities.
6. And Institutional capacity development to deliver on UCAA vision, mission and objectives efficiently and effectively.

UCAA's programming directly targeted vulnerable women, youth, and children with indirect involvement of Men & Boys in the communities, cultural and religious leaders, government leaders, and other stakeholders with an integration of the UCAA self-reliance participatory development (SRPD) approach.

Institutional strengthening

Board of Directors Quarterly meeting

Four (4) Quarterly meetings were organized for the BOD, among these key discussed issues in the BOD meetings included: Improved engagement in social enterprise, Resource mobilization, UCAA's sustainability through improved fundraising, partnerships, and income generation initiatives, including collaboration with Banking institutions for redevelopment of the Change Agent House into a modern commercial office structure for local income generation.

There was increased focus on formalizing income-generating structures, that is reinforcing compliance requirements of structured business planning, approvals, and alignment with financial systems. In addition, the Board highlighted the importance of leveraging UCAA's grassroots network (Change Agents) to scale impact through coordinated change Agent course training and standardized implementation processes.

Performance and monitoring review meetings with Partners and project evaluations

The organization actively participated in performance monitoring and evaluation activities with partners and stakeholders, which contributed to improved programme quality and accountability. Staff attended a Monitoring and Evaluation workshop organized by a key donor, which enhanced internal systems and led to the dissemination of knowledge across the organization through internal training sessions.

Engagement in multi-stakeholder coordination meetings, workshops at local government-sub county, and district plus national and international levels strengthened collaboration with government and partner organizations, particularly in areas such as child protection,

livelihoods, governance, climate change adaptation, gender issues and compliance. Field staff also participated in various community-level as well as district review and coordination platforms, ensuring continuous monitoring of project implementation

Capacity building

Capacity building remained a central focus, particularly through the continued rollout of Change Agent Training courses across multiple regions including Oyam, Mpigi, Kapyelebyong, and Ntungamo districts in Uganda. These trainings aimed at equipping participants with practical skills for the SRPD model and community transformation.

Internally, staff capacity was strengthened through participation in external workshops and subsequent internal knowledge-sharing sessions, which helped improve programme implementation and monitoring practices: Kerk in Actie supported the KiA partners with the social media and communications trainings. Monitoring and Evaluation Trainings as well as Impact oriented monitoring workshop organized by NCO-Kinder not Hilfe (KNH), and an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) conducted by CEPAD-WN of the FHN platform in Uganda. UN Women supported through the WPHF peer exchange learning capacity building webinars.

Resource Mobilization

UCAA strengthened its fundraising and networking efforts by engaging with a range of partners and pursuing multiple funding opportunities. A significant achievement was the signing of a new two-year project agreement with Kinder Not Hilfe, and the renewal of the CaR program phase 2025-2027 reflecting continued donor confidence.

Additional funding opportunities were pursued through submissions like responding to calls for proposals to organizations. The organization also secured a short-term project in Adjumani through Cooperation and Development. Strategic networking was enhanced through membership in the Feminist Humanitarian Network, positioning the organization to contribute to national humanitarian discourse and advocacy for women and girls.

Engagements with financial institutions such as Housing Finance Bank provided insights into financing options for infrastructure development, leading to a strategic shift toward exploring partnerships with private developers. Furthermore, discussions with Youth Platform Africa opened potential avenues for social enterprise development, although further analysis was recommended before commitment.

General staff meetings

The UCAA Secretariat strengthened internal coordination and performance tracking by holding four quarterly general staff meetings in 2025, providing a platform for strategic reflection, information sharing, and alignment across departments. In addition, twelve monthly programme meetings were conducted to systematically assess project progress against approved work plans, identify implementation gaps, and agree on corrective actions. These regular review engagements enhanced accountability, improved timely decision-making, and ensured that programme activities remained on track and responsive to emerging challenges.

Change Agent Training (CAT) course

UCAA successfully conducted three (3) change agent training in the districts of Oyam-Northern region, Ntungamo-Southwestern region and Mpigi-South central region. A total of 91(56F, 35M) participants, 80 % of which were youth graduated and joined the change agent membership. Ongoing CAT course training is in Kamwenge district western Uganda with

completion and graduation scheduled for early 2026. In relation to the Self Reliance participatory development (SRPD) model, to contribute to economic development the participants' trainings were packaged with basic accounting, development theory, poverty analysis, gender transformation, savings and credit schemes, farming as a business, climate change adaptations and income generating activities.



The photo above shows youth-change agent on their graduation day after completion of their CAT training in Ntungamo district. And the photo below is the BOD during one of their quarterly programme review and planning meetings at UCAA Head office.



Programme Performance 2025

1) Karamoja Children at Risk Program(CaR)-Napak District and Kampala Capital City Authority

Program overview:

Napak District in Karamoja sub region continues to experience chronic poverty, food insecurity, and limited livelihood opportunities, which directly affect child protection outcomes. Approximately 66% of the population lives below the poverty line, while 75% of households face food poverty, forcing families into negative coping mechanisms such as unsafe child migration.

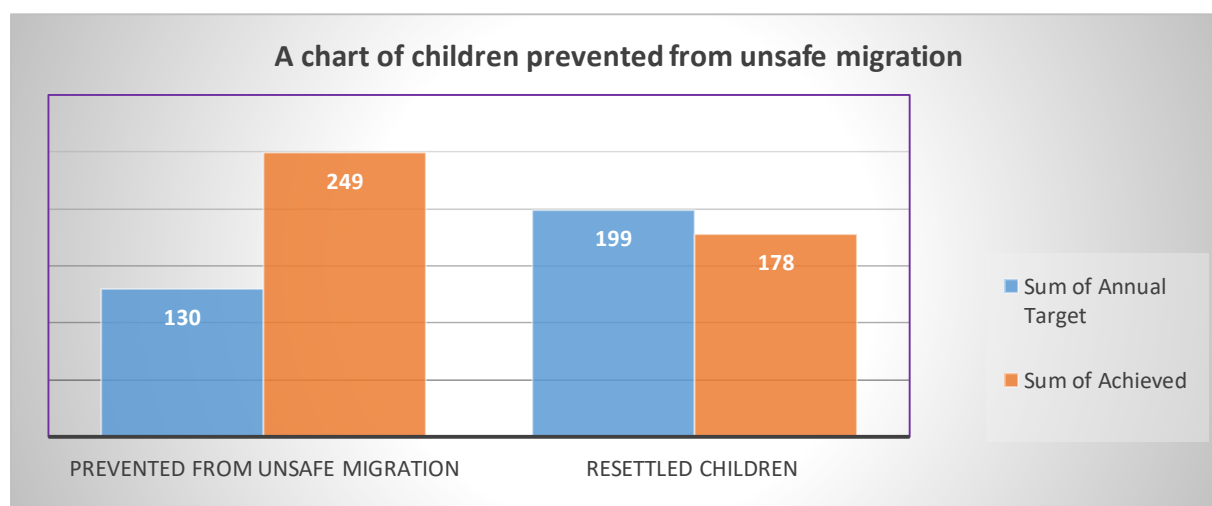
The CaR consortium of 3 partners involving Uganda Change Agent Association –lead, Ddwelling places and Institute for International cooperation for development are implementing the Karamoja Children at Risk program in Napak and KCCA, where 2025 marked the beginning of another 3-year program phase (2025-2027). Implementation is in coordination with MGLSD, KCCA, likeminded CBOs, Napak district local government, Ministry of internal affairs and other CSOs operating in Karamoja region.

Baseline findings from 2025 revealed that: 85% of households live in highly vulnerable conditions, 62% survive on only one meal per day and 35% of households reported children migrating in the past six months. This vulnerability is compounded by: Gender inequality, early marriage, and GBV, Low value placed on education, Climate stress and insecurity plus Weak child protection systems. These factors continue to drive unsafe child outmigration to urban centers like Kampala, exposing children to exploitation, abuse, and family separation.

The CaR Program was designed to enable adolescents, street-connected and other vulnerable children affected by crisis to thrive in communities that protects them from unsafe outmigration from Karamoja by December 2027, using a holistic approach of Gender empowerment activities, implementing all 4 Rs' (Rescue, Rehabilitation, Resettlement & Reintegration), Environment and climate-change Actions through Family Livelihoods Support, Strengthening the existing Child protection structures & initiatives in Napak and finally Results-oriented, Child-focused & Gender-impact-driven joint and coordination activities.

In the reporting period, Key outcome achievements are illustrated below:

Outcome 1: Adolescents, street-connected and other vulnerable children sustainably protected from unsafe outmigration from Napak district



Key Highlights

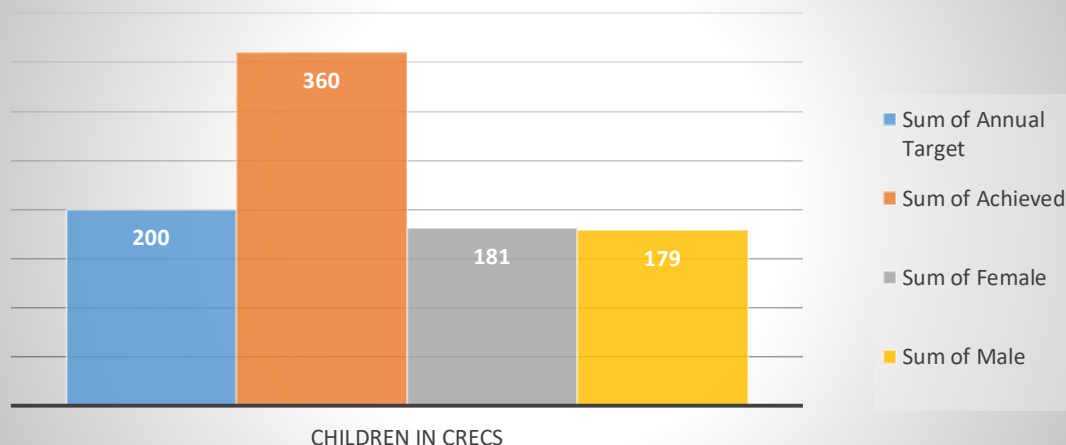
Interceptions were on foot, buses and some during late hours of the night, most of the interceptions were conducted by the child protection structures established and strengthened in the community.

Some children that were not resettled, were detained for community service by authorities in Community courts of Napak district, since some were key players in mobilizing children for unsafe out migration in the communities.

Family tracing was conducted for all the children, although school going children were resettled in schools (Lokodiokodioi, Nakicelet, Lotome girls' Primary schools and Nakicument learning center) and toddlers in homes plus their mothers "mostly child mothers".

Child rights Environmental clubs were aimed at improving on enrollment and retention of children into school, plus advocacy of children on children rights both in schools and communities

A chart of children enrolled in Child Rights Environmental Clubs (CRECs) in school



The photo shows the GBV prevention officer during counseling of intercepted children at Kangole central police Napak District

Outcome 2: Families of rescued and other vulnerable children affected by crisis, are strengthen in resilience and livelihoods in Napak district by December 2027

Chart showing VSLA members in the 25 new groups

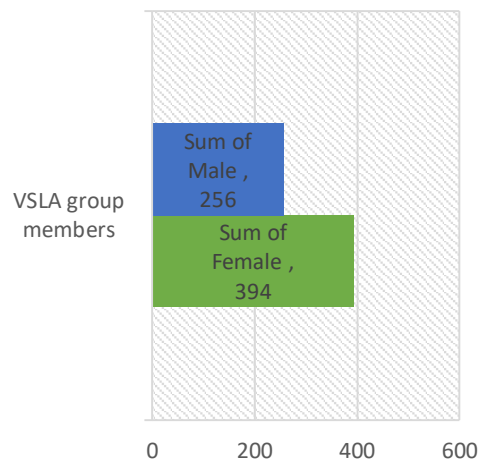
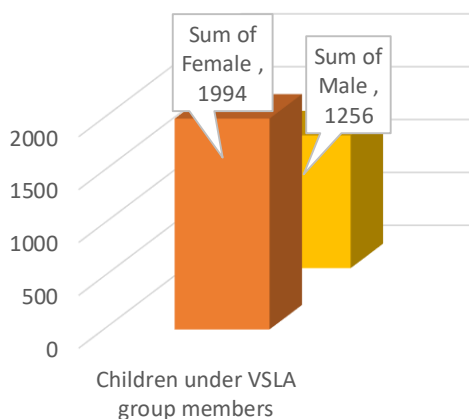


Chart showing Children under the care of members in VSLA groups



The groups accumulated total savings of UGX 53,807,500/= by the end of the year, they had established 414 small income generating activities.

In addition, a total of 12 farmer groups were established from VSLAs, with 210 (150 F, 60M) majorly focusing on female and child headed households, they were supported with agricultural inputs including improved vegetable seeds, root crops, like cassava, watering cans, hoes and jerry cans.

The groups established 90 group vegetable backyard gardens with other members establishing individual ones in their households.

10 farmer groups were trained on sustainable dairy goat farming and 10 households were supported each with two dairy goats (one female and one male) to promote livestock multiplication, improved nutrition and incomes.

40 percent of the farmers reported an increase in food production and also income generation in their homes, where some extra vegetables and milk are sold. Household are able to meet costs of basic needs, education hence child protection and a control to unsafe child out migration in these communities.

The above photos 1: shows farmer group beneficiaries per household receiving their dairy goats.

Photo 2: shows a female headed household mother monitoring her vegetables, where she applies her climate SMART techniques learned.



The 200 (90 males and 110 females) members involving adults, youths were trained in the making of energy savings stoves (Lorena). The farmers were identified from Eight (8) VSLA groups within all the 5 sub-counties.

The picture show: A couple preparing food on thier fuel saving stove (Lorena) at Lopeei sub-county

Observed Results: Reduced firewood consumption and a noticeable decline in tree cutting at household level, contributing to environmental conservation. Improved household food availability, as meals are prepared faster, more consistently, and with less fuel supporting regular feeding of children plus reduced physical burden and time spent collecting firewood, particularly for women and children.

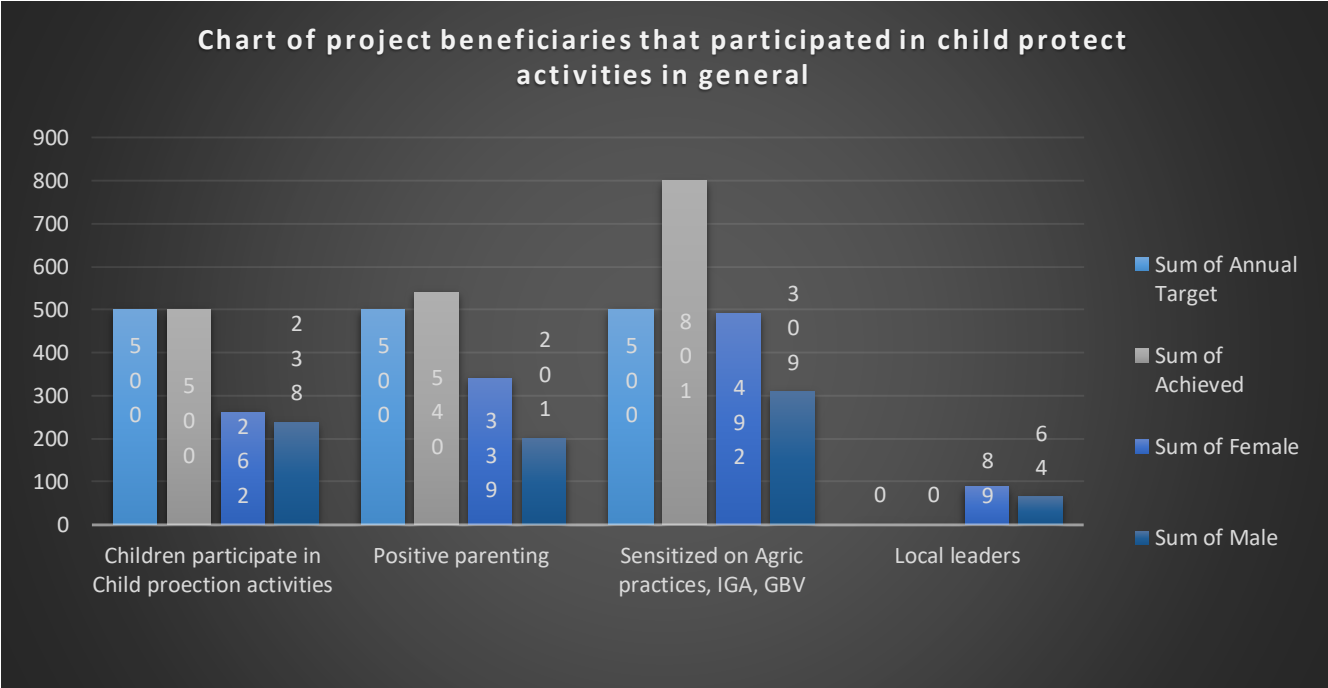
Qualitative feedback highlighted broader social and protection outcomes. One male caregiver reported increased convenience and flexibility, noting that the fixed Lorena stove allows him to comfortably prepare meals for his children, even during the rainy season. This has reduced physical strain, improved shared caregiving roles, and strengthened household cohesion



20 (10F, 10M) youth at Kobulin skilling centre were skilled on improved agricultural practices and trained on the SRPD approach. During and after the training the youth established 20 demo gardens within their community and households in Lokopo Sub County. Forming the community demo farms kept youth connected to each other for better development ideas, with these skills the youth increased their capacity for self-employment and created income generating activities to sustain their living and reduced cases of unsafe out migration in search for employment opportunities and food.

Photo shows youth elaborating on establishment of a nursery bed during the training on improved agricultural skilling.

Outcome 3: Communities and their leaders empowered to actively participate and eliminate outmigration and GBV from Napak district by December 2027



Positive parenting orientation sessions included: roles of local authorities, law enforcement, child protection cases, positive parenting, peer influence, climate change.

All groups that worked with the consortium were regularly sensitized on GBV, Improved agricultural practices for example all the VSLA meetings and Community sensitization of GBV, Here the team further narrowed down to families that need more supports while the rest of the teams guides the community

The campaigns based on cultural norms on parenting styles, parental roles, gender equality, cultural beliefs and practices among other

Outcome 4: Strengthened communication, advocacy, and stakeholder engagement to address child outmigration.

Over 600 children were supported and engaged in school, community, district and national advocacy platforms, amplifying children’s voices on areas of child protection. Advocacy events triggered district actions, including support to resettled learners and law enforcement responses. 13 organizations and 15 duty bearers engaged, strengthening multi-sectoral coordination, and artner capacity strengthened in communication, documentation, and advocacy

Outcome 4 moved beyond awareness creation to influence and systems strengthening. The integration of child participation, advocacy platforms, media engagement, and stakeholder coordination contributed to: Increased visibility of child outmigration risks by all stakeholders, Strengthened policy dialogue and district-level response, Improved community awareness and child agency and enhanced partner capacity for sustained advocacy in the region of Karamoja.

Outcome-Level Changes

Improved Household Resilience

Savings groups generated UGX 3.5 million from agricultural enterprises.
Households diversified income sources and improved nutrition especially for the children.



Photo shows Angolere Debura at her stall, where she earns some incomes for household consumption.

Increased Child Protection and reduced Risks

Increased school enrollment and retention.

Reduced exposure to unsafe migration and exploitation.



The photo shows the children participating during the CSO children Symposium that was organized by UCRNN on theme the girl I am the change I lead.

Enhanced Food Security: Households engaged in vegetable farming and block agriculture and increased access to water (from the previous year boreholes) enabled year-round production of vegetables and improved water and food supply for their animals.



Above photo shows some of the vegetable block gardens established around Chelele borehole, with support of irrigation from the borehole water sources.

Improved Knowledge & Behavior

Communities demonstrated improved awareness of: Child rights, GBV prevention and positive parenting especially the males who had limited contact with their families.

Photo below showing GBV Prevention officer during one of the GBV sensitizations meeting at Namorulem Village Napak district.



CaR Stories of Change

1. Vegetables for Income: Sagal's Story of Growth and Determination

Sagal Simon Peter, a dedicated community member from Kochito Village in Lorengecora Sub-county, has embraced vegetable farming as a path to sustainability and improved livelihood. With three children one of whom is currently in school, Sagal has turned to vegetable cultivation to support his household. The income generated from his garden has enabled him to provide for his family, including paying for scholastic materials, ensuring they have at least two meals a day, and even acquiring a motorcycle on loan, which he is gradually repaying through vegetable sales and loans accessed from his savings group.

Sagal expresses deep appreciation to UCAA for encouraging community members to engage in vegetable farming. He highlights that vegetables are relatively easy to grow and do not require extended periods in the garden, yet they offer a steady source of monthly income. In the photo below, Sagal is seen selling his produce to Nachap Maria, with each bundle priced at just UGX 1,000.

Thanks to vegetable farming, Sagal's story is one of resilience, progress, and hope for a more secure future. Enhancing the capacity of fathers to provide for their children and family well-being.



Above photo is showing Sagal Simon Peter the member in the community of Kochito village picking vegetables for sell.

2. Anna's Recipe for Success: Feeding her family and inspiring a community

Nail Anna, a 52-year-old woman from Matany Town Council, is not only a dedicated grandmother but also a successful entrepreneur and community role model. A proud member of the Ikaapei Mixed Youth Association saving group, Anna is the primary caregiver for her three grandchildren two girls in primary school and one boy in nursery school.

With determination to improve her family's livelihood, Anna accessed a loan of UGX 860,000 from her saving group, which she used to start a restaurant business. Her venture quickly flourished, earning her a daily income of UGX 95,000. Her efforts were further boosted by support from the government's Parish Development Model program, where she received an additional UGX 1,000,000, enabling her to expand and strengthen her business.

Anna credits much of her success to the knowledge and skills she gained from UCAA, including trainings in entrepreneurship, bookkeeping, gender awareness, and savings culture. With this foundation, she has not only improved her household income and stability but has also become a respected role model in her family and community. Her journey has inspired many other women to join saving groups, empowering them to access loans and start small businesses that uplift their families and children.

Through her savings, Anna has also been able to acquire one acre of land, which she has cultivated with beans and sorghum further diversifying her sources of income. Grateful for the encouragement and training she received, Anna expressed her deep appreciation to UCAA for mobilizing her and creating opportunities that have transformed her life and those around her.

Photo below shows Nail Anna in a white T-shirt preparing a meal for her customers and this photo was taken by Faustino Lokee the community mobilizer on 24th June, 2025.



3. Building Stronger Families through Gender Dialogue – The Story of Mark and Sagal

Itae Mark (38) and his wife, Sagal Anna (39), from Cholicol Village, are among families that have benefited from gender sensitization and parenting sessions conducted by the project. Through training on gender equality, shared roles, and positive parenting, the couple gained a deeper understanding of the causes and effects of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the importance of cooperation within the household.

Today, Mark and Sagal actively practice joint decision-making and teamwork in their daily lives. They work together during harvest periods and jointly handle post-harvest activities such as winnowing sunflower to ensure quality before storage. This shared responsibility has reduced household tension, strengthened mutual respect, and improved productivity.

The couple is now better able to support their five children, three of whom are currently attending lower primary school demonstrating how gender-transformative approaches can lead to more stable families, improved livelihoods, and better outcomes for children.



The photo above shows Itae Mark and his wife Sagal Anna embracing role sharing on 17th /10/2025.

2) Self Help Group Approach: Improving livelihoods of women and youth to promote child protection in Agago district

Program overview

In 2025 UCAA started implementing a new SHGA project phase of 2025-2027 titled: Improving livelihoods of women and youth to promote child protection in both Lokole and Adilang sub counties in Agago district through the SHG Approach.

Agago district continues to face high levels of poverty, limited livelihood opportunities, and weak community structures affecting women, youth, and children. Women largely depend on subsistence agriculture with low and unstable incomes, limiting their ability to support household needs such as education and healthcare. Youth unemployment remains high, exposing vulnerable young people to risky livelihoods. Additionally, child protection concerns persist, including school dropouts, teenage pregnancies and inadequate household support systems further constraining sustainable development.

The project contribution to address these challenges is through the Self-Help Group (SHG) approach, Community-Based Training (CBT) for youth, and strengthening Cluster Level Associations (CLAs) to improve livelihoods, resilience, and child wellbeing through community advocacy.



A photo above shows one of the SHGA Women (economically-empowered) at her Onion-business in the market after opening it with a loan from the savings group in Adilang –Agago district.

In May to Dec 2025 the project environment experienced several social, economic, political, and institutional developments that influenced implementation and progress toward the project objectives. Socially and economically, the continued growth and strengthening of 184 Self Help Groups (SHGs) and the 11 Cluster Level Associations (CLAs) has been a significant positive development. These have improved savings practices, collective decision-making, and mutual support among women and youth.

Regular meetings and savings contributions of approximately UGX(637,018,800) for both Lokole and Adilang, this has strengthened financial inclusion and increased women's participation in local economic activities for example 2,899 women own small scale businesses. These developments are consistent with the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), particularly nondiscrimination, substantive equality and state obligations , that is , equality where women are economically empowered, have access to financial resources, and participation in community decision-making. Increased household income and improved financial management through SHGs contribute to better care for children, including improved access to food, education, and basic household needs, which aligns with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), especially the rights of children to survival, development, education and an adequate standard of living.



The photo above shows youth in the Community Based Training class of the skill in Brick laying and concrete practices in Adilang Agago district

The project environment indicates that the youth, SHG, and CLA women are gradually maturing socially in regards to social capital, economically with established businesses, politically while taking up leadership positions, decision making at household and community levels hence becoming more resilient, providing a strong foundation for sustainable livelihoods and child protection outcomes.

Overall Progress Toward Objectives Achievements are illustrated in the table below:

Objective/Outcomes	Indicator	Target	Current Status
Outcome 1: 680 women in Lokole and 4,000 in Adilang have improved livelihoods by April 2027 Women livelihoods	Women earning $\geq$ UGX 80,000/month	4,680	2,973 women are in the SHGA. 2,798 women own small scale businesses and 1,706 (Adilang) earn over UGX 80,000 monthly profits
Outcome 2: 120 youth in Adilang have initiated own jobs and improved livelihoods from their increased income by March 2027	Youth earning $\geq$ UGX 100,000/month	108	60% earning target income
Outcome 3: The women in SHGs are empowered to maintain at least 15,000 school age going children in Lokole and Adilang are in school by April 2027.	% of children in school	90%	93% (Adilang), 78% (Lokole) of school age going children are in school

Self-Help Group Approach (SHGA) Result chain

Intermediate Outcomes

Increased business ownership (Adilang: 94% women with businesses)

Increased income generation (60.9% women earning $\geq$ UGX 80,000/month)

118 youth (79%) practicing) Youth employment and self-reliance

Increased community awareness and engagement in education

Outcome Level (Sub-Objectives)

Sub-objective 1: Women Livelihoods Improved

→ Adilang: 1,706 women earning UGX 80,000/month (60.9%)

Sub-objective 2: Youth Employment Improved

→ 60% of youth earning $\geq$ UGX 100,000/month
→ Youth supporting households and reducing dependency

Sub-objective 3: Education Outcomes Improved

→ Adilang: 93% of school-age children in school
→ Lokole: 78% school attendance

Overall Objective:
Improved livelihoods of women and youth to promote child protection in both Lokole and Adilang sub-

Activities/Outputs

Formed and trained SHGs (Adilang: 2,973 women; Lokole: 574 women)

Business and livelihood skills training:

Youth CBT skills trained (184 trained; 127 completed)

Community sensitization on education and GBV (3 dialogues conducted)

50 SHGs formed and trained in the nine (9) SHG modules

Output and use of output result tracking

Output/Use of outputs	Output Indicators	Target	Current Status
CFs supporting the women in the promotion of SHGA	% of CFs reporting satisfaction with SHG approach	Adilang: 9 CFs Lokole: 3 CFs	Adilang: 77% satisfaction Lokole: 100% satisfaction
At least 80% of the women have established businesses	% of women with established businesses	≥80%	Adilang: 94% (2,798/2,973) Lokole: ~18% (101/574) have established businesses
850 women trained and equipped with business skills	% of women trained in business skills	Adilang: 4,000 Lokole: 680	Adilang: 74% Lokole: 84% Overall: 76% women trained in business skills
108 CBT youth practicing the acquired skills and providing services to the community through established businesses/employment opportunities	% of youth practicing CBT skills	108 youth	79% (43 practicing the skills out of 54 completed training in 2025)
108 vulnerable youth enrolled under CBT program and trained in technical, business and life skills	# of youth trained in skills	108	Accumulative of 127 youth completed the training skills
	% of youth satisfied with training	108 youth	57% satisfied (31/54) of youth enrolled in 2025

Social, Economic and Political changes and achievements

Business promotion and mind-set change on self-reliance

Access to income among women:

3,400 rural women in Lokole and Adilang can easily access income through loans in their groups. This has improved quality of life and access to basic needs for the children. Strong social capital and social support among SHG communities: through social networks, women's support to each other has greatly improved both in times of joy and challenges for both members in Lokole and Adilang communities.



Improved leadership skills and good governance:

976 SHG women in leadership positions in Agago, equally participating in decision making at household and community levels. Recent 2025 national elections campaigns 71 women contested for various positions at Village level, and 10 at parish level.

Access to government programmes
Advocacy at CLA level, (2,472 SHG members in Adilang and Lokole have received PDM and one SHG (Can Coya in Adilang) received UWEP fund worth 8 million this February FY 2025/26 as confirmed by the Senior CDO Agago DLG.



Youth employment and Income:

Accumulative of 154 out of 184 CBT program youth are practicing the skills, and 75 youths are earning a monthly profit of at least UGX 100,000. youth are able to support their vulnerable HHs, sibling in education, providing a service in the community and portraying a positive example for other youth in the community.



Networking and collaboration activities.

Through networking and collaboration, the SHG groups have built strong relationships with politicians such as women MP, LCV, LCIII and other duty bearers/stakeholders. Through this, they have managed to lobby for community needs, and valuable resources for their investments to boost Income for the SHGs.

Improved roads: Through advocacy of the CLAs, a number of community roads were upgraded e.g. road from Adilang to Patongo, Kalongo, Abim and six other access roads in the community.

Access to clean and safe water: 68 boreholes have been rehabilitated and 8 new boreholes have been drilled and installed. Enforcement on 2,000 shillings per household for maintenance have been effective through efforts of the CLAs.

Improved meals for children: There is access to 2-3 meals a day by children in approximately 2,472 and 409 SHG households in Adilang and Lokole respectively.

SHGA Case stories

1. Case Study One: The Power of SHG – Lilly Anying

Lilly Anying, a 31-year-old mother of two biological children aged 12 and 16, lives in Nam Abili Central village in Adilang Sub-county, Agago District. In addition to caring for her own children, Lilly has taken responsibility for four relatives' children whose parents were unable to support them due to poverty and family challenges. Like many households in rural Agago, her family depended mainly on small-scale farming, which often produced little income and left the household struggling to meet basic needs such as school fees, food, and medical care over the years.

Before joining a Self-Help Group (SHG), Lilly describes life as uncertain. *“Sometimes we could harvest food, but money was always a problem. When the children fell sick or needed school requirements, I did not know where to get help from, so I would prioritize feeding the children first with what I get over education which seemed like a luxury we needed but couldn't afford for all the children.”*

In 2019, Lilly was identified during a wealth-ranking exercise as one of the “poorest of the poor” in the community and was supported to join Lacan Kwrite Self-Help Group (SHG). Initially, saving even small amounts felt difficult, but Lilly began by saving UGX 1,000 per week, gradually increasing her contributions to UGX 5,000 per week as her confidence and income improved.

Through the group's savings and loan scheme, Lilly accessed her first loan of UGX 100,000, which she used to start a small grain trading business. The income from this activity allowed her to reinvest in agriculture, planting four acres of sunflower, which produced a successful harvest in September 2024.

In January 2025, Lilly accessed another loan of UGX 1,900,000. After discussing with her husband, the family invested in a community grinding mill, a service that many farmers in the area rely on to process their grains. The grinding mill now generates approximately UGX 30,000 per day, providing a steady income. Over time, Lilly has also invested in oxen and an ox plough for farming and owns a cow producing about two liters of milk daily, improving both household nutrition for all the children and income to adequately afford school.

Today, Lilly's household earns approximately UGX 5,000,000 annually, enabling her to meet family needs such as school fees, healthcare, and better living conditions. Some of the children

under her care are now able to attend boarding school, which was previously a luxury as she said was impossible for them to prioritize.

“Before the group, I felt alone with many responsibilities. Now I know how to save, plan, and invest. The SHG helped me support my children and the other children living with us.”

Lilly’s story demonstrates how Self-Help Groups can transform vulnerable households by strengthening financial discipline, access to credit, and collective support among members hence providing a comfortable life and achieving all children rights that most women think is a luxury.



Photo above is showing Lilly Anying at the centre expressing her happiness in front of her milling machine in Agago

Rose’s Journey in SHG

Location: Okudu Teya Village, Nam Parish, Adilang Sub-county, Agago District

Rose Aciro, a 49-year-old mother of seven children, lives in Okudu Teya village. Four of her children are still in school, while three are married and living independently. For many years, Rose relied mainly on subsistence farming to support her family. However, harvests were often unpredictable due to poor weather conditions and limited financial resources.

“I painfully saw my girls drop out of school into early marriages because I could not support and give them a better education and life. I still had hope to do better for the ones who were still younger and that is why they are all currently in school and I strongly believe SHG played the biggest part in this”

In May 2023, Rose joined Bed Ki Gen Self-Help Group (SHG), established in the community with support from UCAA. She began saving UGX 2,000 every week, gradually building her confidence in managing money and planning for her household’s future. Rose participated in trainings, covering topics such as business skills, savings and loans management, leadership, communication, goal setting, social capital, and self-assessment. These trainings helped her develop the skills needed to manage small businesses and make informed financial decisions.

Rose is highly active within the SHG and dedicates significant time to group meetings and activities. She also participates in the School Management Committee (SMC), where she contributes to discussions on school improvement and encourages parents to prioritize their

children's education. Rose's economic journey began with a UGX 250,000 loan in 2024, which she used to start a small grocery shop. As the business grew, she expanded into goat rearing, poultry keeping, piggery, and crop farming, accessing loans of up to UGX 1,600,000 through the SHG.

To improve her business opportunities, Rose relocated closer to the trading center, where she now rents a small room for her grocery shop. Her household currently earns approximately UGX 90,000 per month (UGX 900,000 annually), helping her support household needs, school expenses, and continued savings. Rose now hopes all her children and grandchildren will go to school and complete, she intends to construct a permanent family house by the end of 2026, a goal she believes is achievable through continued savings and business growth as well as hard work towards achieving a goal.

"Before joining the SHG, I had ideas but no support to start. The group gave me knowledge and confidence. Now I can support my children and plan for the future."

Rose's journey highlights how Self-Help Groups empower women economically while strengthening family welfare and community participation.



Picture above is showing Aciro Rose serving a customer in her grocery shop during a follow up by the project officer in December 2025

3) EMPOWER Women Project: Enhancing Multi-Sectoral Protection, Opportunities, and Women's Empowerment and Resilience in Kyangwali Kikuube District.

Program overview

Kyangwali Refugee Settlement hosts approximately 145,000 refugees, with over 600 new arrivals daily, overwhelming existing services. Women and girls face high risks of gender-based violence (GBV), with many cases underreported due to stigma, fear, and limited survivor-centered services. Only 42% of refugees have access to income-generating opportunities, with women disproportionately excluded due to caregiving roles and GBV-related stigma. Mental health challenges, including trauma and rising suicide cases, are increasing due to limited psychosocial support.

These gaps highlight the urgent need for integrated GBV response systems and economic empowerment interventions targeting both refugee and host community women.

UCAA started the implementation of the EMPOWER Project in October 2025 which has made significant progress in strengthening GBV prevention and response systems for both refugee and host communities in Kyangwali Sub-County. The project applied a survivor-centered, inclusive, and rights-based approach, ensuring confidentiality, safety, and dignity for survivors. Minor challenges such as stigma and fear of disclosure were mitigated through confidentiality assurances and ongoing community engagement. Key lessons learned included the critical role of safe spaces, the effectiveness of well-trained community paralegals, and the importance of stakeholder collaboration for sustained GBV prevention and response.

These interventions contributed to increased community awareness on GBV, strengthened referral pathways, improved access to psychosocial, legal, and SRHR services, and enhanced local capacity to respond to GBV in the project implementation area.



**Launch of the
EMPOWER-
Women project in
Kyangwali Sub
county offices,
November 2025**

Objectives and progress Results

Preliminary Activities focused implementation on Objectives:

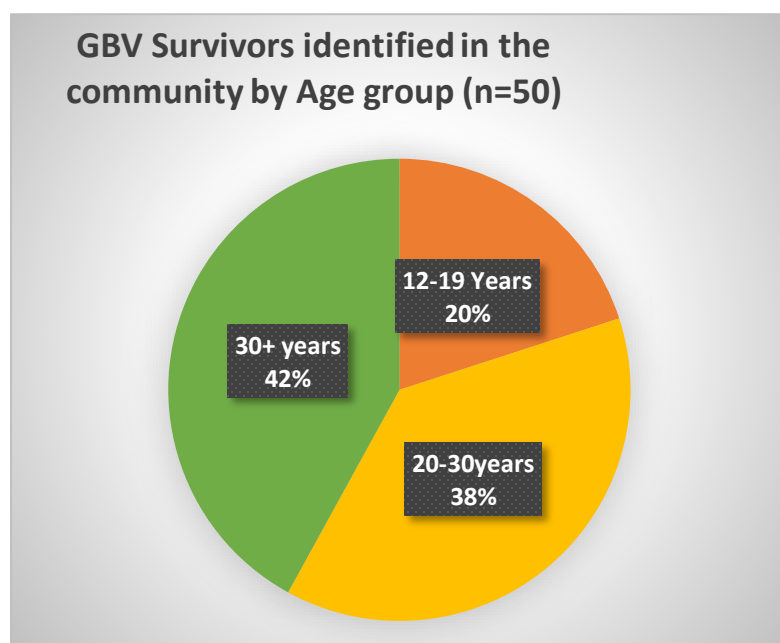
Objective 1: To provide timely psychosocial and legal support services for GBV survivors and
Objective 2: To improve community-level GBV prevention and referral systems through training and coordination.

An entry meeting launching the EMPOWER project was held at Kyangwali sub county headquarters community hall attended by 30 (20 F, 10M) key stakeholders including: District Local Governments (Community Development, Health Departments), Police Child and Family Protection Unit, Representatives from women's groups and youth associations, Community based organizations (CBOs),Refugee Welfare Councils (RWC I–III) and Local Council (LC) leaders from both host communities and the refugee settlement.

Identified and Profiled 50 GBV Survivors for mentorship

During the identification process local leaders (Local Councilors, Chair persons, Block leaders) in the communities joined in the identification exercise in both the refugee settlement and the Kyeya Host community. The approach used aimed at survivor-centered and confidentiality sensitive criteria. Identification was done through referrals from community leaders and trained volunteers. During identification and profiling: individual needs assessments were conducted (psychosocial, legal, SRHR, and protection) and survivors were referred to appropriate services including health facilities, psychosocial support, legal aid, and protection services.

In the interactions, some brave women and girls pointed out the hot spots where most women were assaulted from, *“It is the route as you head to the market; there is an isolated forest along, where we are attacked.”*



Set up and operationalize safe spaces for providing psychosocial support, legal aid and SRHR information to Women and girls. Plus, Training of 10 Community Leaders as Paralegals

Two safe spaces were established and operationalized, these provided integrated services to GBV survivors from refugee and host communities. The safe spaces created psychosocial support (individual and group sessions), legal aid and legal information, including referrals to formal justice mechanisms, sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) information and referrals and the GBV awareness and life-skills sessions.

With facilitation from 30 trained counselors, locally identified and deployed within the target areas, a significant increase in survivor confidence and service uptake in the operation safe space areas was observed. Since GBV survivors consisted of girls and women, for confidentiality and social connections some sessions are divided between girls and women for confidentiality, while some experience sharing sessions are combined for all the victims during the meetings.

Among the preliminary stages, 15 (12F, 3 M) Refugee Welfare Councils (RWC I–III), Local Council (LC) leaders from host communities, were identified and trained as paralegals. The selection intentionally involved 10 from women's groups, and youth associations that had a direct and close contact with the communities.

The training built their capacity on: GBV concepts (causes, and consequences), legal frameworks on GBV and child protection, Survivor-centered and ethical case handling, community sensitization and advocacy, human rights as well as practical skills in client interviewing, documentation, safe referrals, and survivor centered approaches. They therefore provided accurate legal information, and facilitated safe referrals. The paralegals identified like-minded stakeholders and mapped out the highly listed GBV areas in the settlement that needed more support and attention and drew an action plan.

Intermediate Results documented

Improved community trust in GBV response systems: All 50 survivors reported high satisfaction with confidentiality and support services

Strengthened local capacity to handle GBV cases through trained paralegals: Communities expressed increased awareness and willingness to report GBV plus Strong recommendation to expand safe spaces and outreach activities

In the photo GBV Survivor youth expressing Satisfaction of the GBV response systems during feedback data collection.



4) Greening Uganda Project: Greening Uganda-Reforestation, Sustainable Agriculture and Water Resource Management Project

Program overview

The Greening Uganda – Reforestation, Sustainable Agriculture and Water Resource Management Project is a multi-partner initiative funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation through the No One Out consortium. The project is implemented collaboratively by the Uganda Change Agent Association, C&D, National Agricultural Research Organization, and the Uganda National Meteorological Authority.

The project is implemented across the Karamoja sub-region, specifically in the districts of Napak District, Moroto District, Nabilatuk District, and Nakapiripirit District and was launched in October 2025. The project contributes to global development priorities, particularly Sustainable Development Goals 2 (Zero Hunger), 13 (Climate Action), and 15 (Life on Land).

Karamoja continues to face interconnected challenges of climate variability, prolonged droughts, land degradation, and food insecurity, which undermine livelihoods and environmental sustainability. In response, the Greening Uganda project adopts an integrated, systems-based approach and it places strong emphasis on schools and communities as entry points for behavior change, aiming to build long-term environmental stewardship and resilience.

Project Progress and Key Achievements

During the reporting period, the project successfully transitioned from inception to early implementation as illustrated below.

Strengthened Consortium Coordination and Governance: A technical kick-off meeting brought together all consortium partners, aligning them on: Project objectives and expected results Roles, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms. Financial, procurement, and accountability procedures. This process enhanced operational clarity, synergy, and accountability, ensuring effective collaboration over the project lifecycle.

School mapping and targeting for intervention delivery

A total of 25 schools (out of a planned 30) were successfully mapped and confirmed across the four districts. The mapping exercise: Established a clear geographic and institutional coverage framework, enabled targeted planning of training and awareness activities and Strengthened engagement with school leadership and local authorities

Conclusion / Progress Summary

The project is currently in its inception and setup phase, with key foundational activities successfully completed. While no direct environmental or livelihood outcomes have been realized yet, significant progress has been made in institutional alignment, planning, and targeting, positioning the project for effective implementation in subsequent phases.

5) FMNR Project: Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration– Lorengecora, Napak District (Karamoja Region)

Program overview

The Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) project was implemented in Lorengecora sub-county, Napak District, in the semi-arid Karamoja region of Uganda, where prolonged droughts, high poverty (74.2%), and food insecurity (80%) challenge livelihoods (UBOS, 2023). The district also experiences high rates of unsafe out-migration of children and environmental degradation from charcoal burning and overgrazing, compounded by insecurity from cattle rustling.

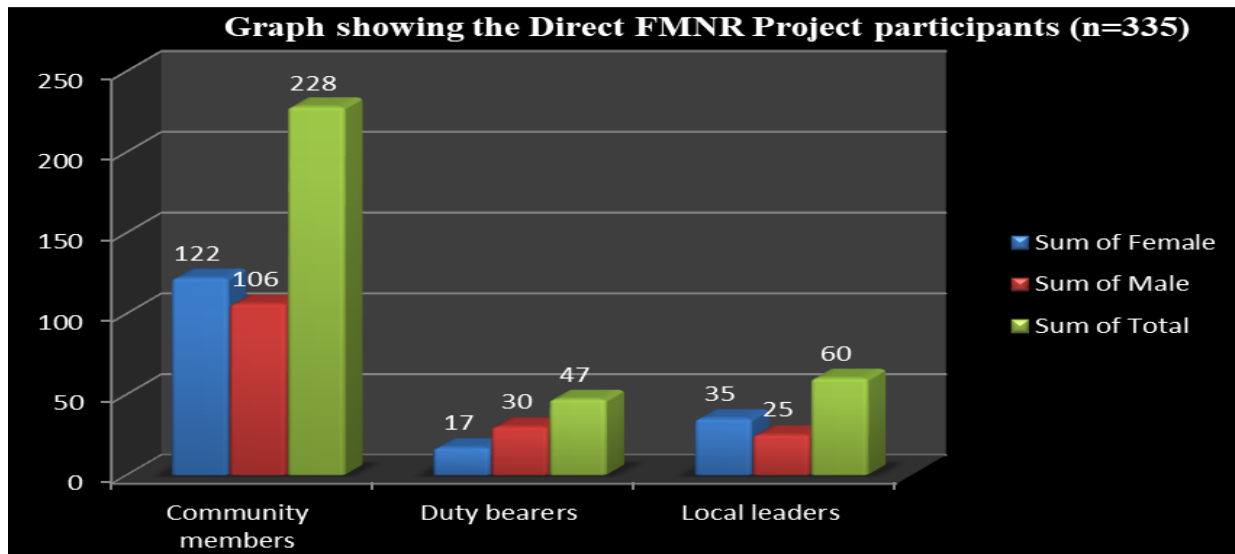
Implemented as a one-year pilot from October 2024 to August 2025, the FMNR project targeted 200 households, small-farmer groups, pastoralists, and backyard agro-forestry practitioners. Activities engaged local leaders, VSLA groups, Child Rights Environmental Clubs, and FAL youth groups. The project aimed to improve food security, enhance climate resilience, and restore degraded landscapes by increasing tree cover and promoting climate-smart agricultural practices. During the project period, seasonal variations and security challenges affected farming, though rains in July enabled healthy crop growth and early harvests. Food security remains tied to garden production, with reduced reliance on hunting and continued use of charcoal and firewood sales. The project's objectives were to ensure adoption of FMNR methods and to expand land under tree cover through restoration, agro-forestry, and gender-responsive by-laws. This report outlines the activities, achievements, and changes observed in Lorengecora during the project period.



The pruning process of the FMNR Site in Kochito Village

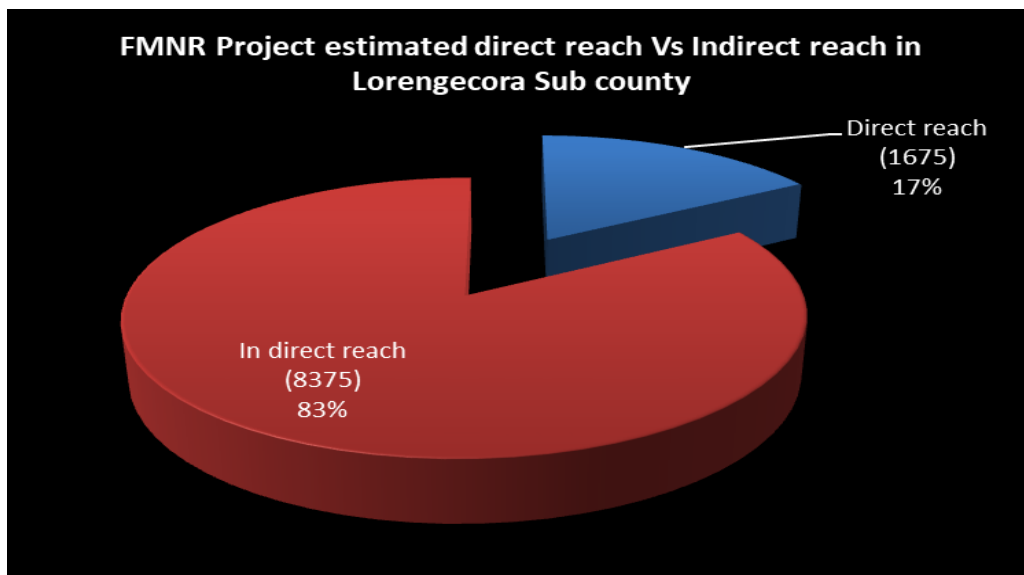
Project total reach

Direct Reach



Note: Estimated FMNR Project direct reach: 335 participants * 5 estimated HH size = 1,675 individuals

Estimated Direct Reach Vs. Indirect reach



FMNR Project reach is approximately 8,375 individuals in Lorengecora Sub county
Note: Direct beneficiaries were the same across activities. Duty bearers (n=47) and local leaders (n=60) were unique individuals. Indirect beneficiaries are estimated contacts (n=5) of the direct beneficiaries both in the community and schools.

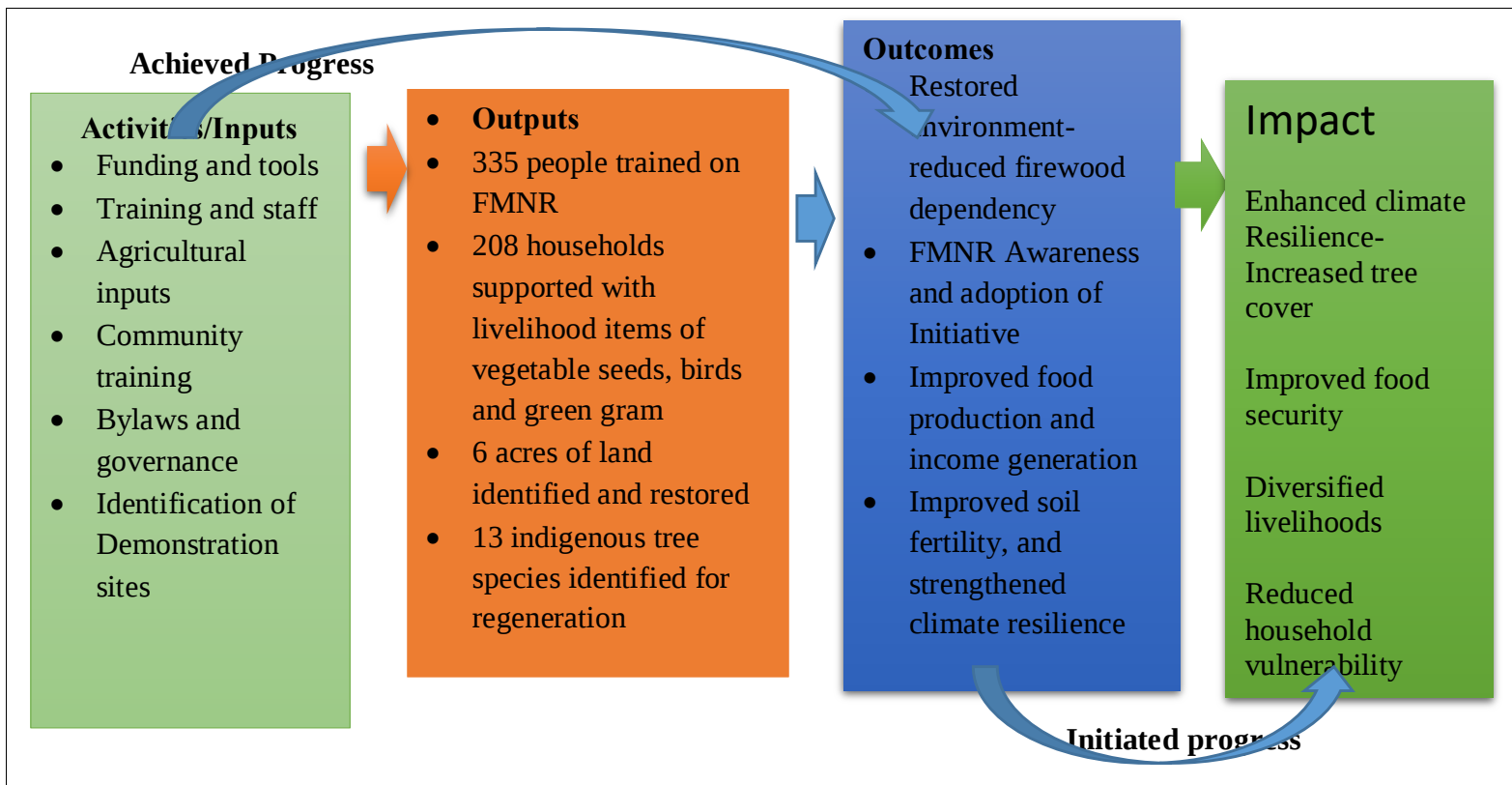
FMNR Immediately impacted population: 1,040 individuals

208 direct beneficiary households, Using the household multiplier (5 members per household):
 $208 \times 5 = 1,040$ people

Immediate population impact (from inputs distributed): The distribution of seeds for conservation agriculture, vegetables/green gram, and poultry directly improved the livelihoods of about 208 households, translating to approximately 1,040 individuals in Lorengecora Sub-county.

FMNR Project Impact Pathway Contribution-Napak District

The project successfully activated the first stages of the impact chain:



The photos above show on the left a group member demonstrating the pruning process in Cholichol village and on the left are pupils of the child rights environmental club doing a demonstration of the pruning process at Cholichol primary school Napak District

6) FMNR Project- Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration Adjumani District

Project overview

Corporation & Development (C&D) and Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA) entered into collaboration to implement Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) project in Ciforo Sub-county, Adjumani District from May to June 2025. The project aimed to restore degraded landscapes, improve food security, and strengthen climate resilience among smallholder farming households.

The intervention targeted 120 households across Onigo (12 hectares) and Forohwo villages (50 hectares), Mugi parish Forest Reserve, in Ciforo sub county Adjumani district. The goal of the project was framed towards helping the communities achieve improved food security and climate resilience in small holder farming system of 120 households & small farmers' groups (men & women) backyard agro-forestry activities in Ciforo sub county, Adjumani district by June 2025.

Key achievements contributed to the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Increased knowledge of sustainable livelihood practices by 20 percent among 120 households of farmer groups in target villages in Ciforo Sub County.

120 farmers (69F, 51M) trained in FMNR and climate-smart agriculture and 40 local leaders (13F, 27M) were sensitized on environmental governance and FMNR practices. This led to improved knowledge on tree regeneration, sustainable harvesting, and the linkage between environmental conservation and livelihoods. As a result, communities demonstrated increased awareness and willingness to adopt environmentally sustainable practices, marking a critical first step toward long-term ecological restoration and resilience.

Outcome 2: Increased area of land managed with restoration methods including FMNR and backyard agro-forestry activities

The project contributed to the restoration of degraded land and increased adoption of FMNR practices at both community and household levels.

A total of 12 acres of land were restored, and 80 out of 120 households (67%) adopted FMNR practices on their farms. Over 30 indigenous tree species were identified and regenerated, contributing to increased vegetation cover and improved biodiversity.

These interventions promoted natural regeneration of trees, reduced indiscriminate tree cutting, and enhanced sustainable land use. The adoption rate reflects strong community acceptance of FMNR as a low-cost and practical approach to land restoration.

Indicator	Value
Total households targeted	120
Households adopting FMNR	80
Adoption rate	67%
Land restored	12 acres
Tree species regenerated	30+

Outcome 3: Community-level gender responsive by-laws which promote FMNR adoption by participating villages in Ciforo sub county.

All 120 (51 M & 69 F) farmers in the 4 groups were sensitized on FMNR gender related issues in Onigo village, Ciforo sub county. Strategies agreed on ensured that all FMNR activities effectively address gender inequalities in homes and communities, empowering women and ensured that the benefits of natural resource management were shared equitably among all members of Mugi parish, Onigo village with intentional inclusivity.

During the development of the strategies and by-laws, 40 (20 M & 20 F) community members and local leaders participated: The local leaders that participated included: LCIs, LCII, & Area council and Chairperson LCIII in Onigo village, Ciforo sub county.

The established supportive policies included: if you cut one tree in a reserved area you are supposed to plant five to replace the one tree, if caught setting fire to destroy the forest you shall be taken to the local council court and fined UGX 300,000, burning of charcoal without permission from local council is illegal and if caught the charcoal shall be confiscated and fined UGX 50,000/= per bag.

At community level: Communities also came up with local enforceable laws that support FMNR practices, such as rules for tree protection, fire management, and access to resources from community FMNR sites. These bylaws were tailored to specific context of the community and ensured community members had access to harvest non-timber forest products.

Emerging Impact: The project successfully established the foundation for long-term environmental restoration and livelihood improvement through:

- Increased adoption of low-cost, sustainable land restoration practices
- Improved community attitudes towards environmental conservation
- Strengthened local governance systems for natural resource management
- Enhanced household resilience to climate change and environmental shocks

In conclusion: The FMNR intervention in Ciforo Sub-county, Adjumani District demonstrates that even within a short implementation period, community-driven natural resource management can deliver meaningful results. With 120 households reached, 80 adopting FMNR practices, and 12 acres of land restored, the project established a strong foundation for environmental recovery and improved livelihoods. The progress achieved highlights the effectiveness of low-cost, scalable approaches in promoting climate resilience, while underscoring the importance of sustained follow-up to consolidate gains and expand impact.



A photo of some of the farmer group members participating actively during the training and pruning exercise in Onigo village Adjumani district



A photo of some of the farmer group member harvesting trees for firewood after FMNR training and practice on pruning in Onigo village Adjumani district.

Conclusion

In 2025, the Uganda Change Agent Association (UCAA) demonstrated strong programmatic performance and strategic growth across its key thematic areas. The organization made notable progress in strengthening livelihoods and enhancing economic resilience among vulnerable households, reducing risks associated with unsafe child migration, and improving child protection outcomes. Additionally, UCAA advanced gender equality through targeted women's empowerment and gender-based violence (GBV) response interventions, while integrating climate change resilience and environmental sustainability into its programming.

Although some programmes remain in the early stages of implementation, they have laid a solid foundation for long-term impact. UCAA's integrated and community-driven approach continues to deliver meaningful and sustainable results.

Looking ahead, the organization is well-positioned to scale up its interventions, deepen its impact, and respond effectively to emerging development challenges through innovation, strengthened partnerships, and robust institutional systems.

UCAA extends its sincere appreciation to all partners, relevant Government of Uganda ministries, local governments, and communities whose collaboration and support contributed to the achievements highlighted in this report.

Uganda Change Agent Association Offices
Plot 30 Rashid Khamis Road Kampala
P.O. Box 2922, Kampala
Website: [www: ucaa.or.ug](http://www.ucaa.or.ug)
Email: admin@ucca.or.ug
Twitter/X: @ugchangeagent1

