

ALBINISM UMBRELLA ANNUAL REPORT 2024





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ANNUAL INTEGRATED REPORT

OUR REPORT OVERVIEW



Message from our Executive Director

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Albinism Umbrella Board, our dedicated staff, partners, and every individual who has stood by our mission. Your belief in our cause fuels our determination to push boundaries and create lasting change.



Olive Namutebi

It is with great honor and deep gratitude that I present the Albinism Umbrella (AU) 2024 Annual Report, a reflection of our collective efforts, milestones, and unwavering commitment to advancing the rights, dignity, and well-being of persons with albinism in Uganda.

This year has been one of resilience, transformation, and impactful collaboration, as we navigated challenges, harnessed opportunities, and strengthened our resolve to create a more inclusive society.

At Albinism Umbrella, we recognize that the journey toward equity and inclusion for persons with albinism requires not only advocacy but also tangible action, action that empowers, protects, and elevates the voices of those often marginalized. Through strategic partnerships, innovative programs, and dedicated community engagement, we have expanded access to critical healthcare services, enhanced awareness through education and advocacy, and fostered a stronger support network for persons with albinism.

Despite facing challenges such as the unexpected loss of a dedicated team member, we have emerged stronger. These experiences have reinforced the importance of resilience, adaptability, and the need for sustainable funding mechanisms to ensure continuity in serving our communities. We have learned that collaboration is key, and we are grateful for the unwavering support of our partners, donors, government stakeholders, and the community at large, whose contributions have been instrumental in shaping our success.

Looking ahead, we are more determined than ever to build on these achievements, expand our reach, and deepen our impact. Our vision remains clear to create a society in which persons with albinism are dignified and realize their full potential. As we step into the next phase of our journey, we reaffirm our commitment to amplifying the voices of persons with albinism, influencing policies for systemic change, and ensuring that no one is left behind.



Olive Namutebi
Executive Director

Message from our Chairman



Simon Peter Okwi

The year 2024 was a transformative period for Albinism Umbrella (AU), marked by both achievements and lessons that reinforced the importance of resilience, partnerships, and inclusive programming.

As Board Chairperson, I am proud of the strides made in promoting the rights and wellbeing of persons with albinism across Uganda. AU continued to demonstrate strong leadership, navigating funding challenges and staff transitions with determination and clarity of vision.

Through our collaborative work, AU expanded access to healthcare, promoted inclusive education, and built capacity in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), while amplifying the voices of persons with albinism in national and regional policy processes. The commitment of our Executive Director, staff, partners, and board members was instrumental in ensuring that our mission stayed on course despite external disruptions.

Looking forward, the Board remains committed to strengthening institutional governance, enhancing sustainability through diversified funding, and ensuring AU's strategic goals reflect the lived experiences of persons with albinism. Together, we will build on the momentum of 2024 to advance dignity, equity, and justice for all.

Simon Peter Okwii
Chairman, Board



List of Acronyms

Acronyms	Descriptions
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AU	Albinism Umbrella
IAAD	International Albinism Awareness Day
ICT	Information Communications Technology
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
SASA	Self-Awareness and Self-Acceptance/Advocacy
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIELEH	Sustainable Inclusive Economic, Livelihood & Eye Health
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
UCI	Uganda Cancer Institute
UNCCP	Uganda National Cancer Control Plan
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

OUR REPORT OVERVIEW

ABOUT US

Company Profile

Albinism Umbrella (AU) is a Non-Governmental organization founded in 2015 and officially incorporated in 2017. Its primary purpose is to unify and amplify the voices of persons with albinism in Uganda. Inspired by the United Nations' declaration of International Albinism Awareness Day, Albinism Umbrella was formed to address the pressing need for greater recognition and support for this community. It aims to empower persons with albinism to fully participate in socio-economic activities that directly enhance their quality of life, while also promoting and protecting their rights.



OUR VISION

A society in which persons with albinism are dignified and realise their full potential.



OUR MISSION

To promote and protect the rights of persons with albinism in Uganda, through research, partnership and advocacy for their improved wellbeing.



OUR CORE VALUES

We are guided by 4 key values in making a positive impact on the communities that we support;

Teamwork

We work together to achieve our goals, valuing everyone's unique contributions to make a greater impact.

Integrity

We are honest, transparent, and hold ourselves and our partners to high ethical standards in everything we do.

Resilience

We strive to make a real difference in the lives of those we serve, no matter the obstacles.

Dignity and Compassion

We believe every person deserves respect and kindness, and we focus on restoring dignity to those who have been treated unfairly.



Our Approach

Albinism Umbrella employs a multi-faceted, inclusive, and sustainable approach to improve the lives of persons with albinism, ensuring their health, social protection, economic empowerment, and education while advocating for their rights at both community and policy levels.

Partnership and Collaboration

Albinism Umbrella recognizes that tackling the complex challenges faced by persons with albinism requires a collective, multi-sectoral approach. As such, partnership and collaboration form a core pillar of our strategy, enabling the organization to leverage expertise, resources, and networks to drive sustainable change. By working closely with government agencies, medical institutions, disability organizations, civil society groups, private sector actors, and international development partners, Albinism Umbrella enhances service delivery, advocacy efforts, and economic opportunities for persons with albinism.

Preventive Healthcare and Accessibility

Albinism Umbrella prioritizes preventive healthcare by ensuring that persons with albinism have access to essential medical supplies, including sunscreen lotions, sunglasses, wide-brimmed hats, and visual aid devices. These interventions protect persons with albinism from harmful UV rays, reducing the risk of skin damage and vision impairment.

The organization partners with medical institutions to conduct health camps, school outreaches, and specialized treatment programs, delivering preventive and curative healthcare services, including skin care, eye care, and general medical support.

Additionally, Albinism Umbrella integrates Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) interventions, particularly for women and girls with albinism, ensuring access to essential reproductive healthcare services. By embedding health education programs into its initiatives, the organization equips health workers and caregivers with the necessary skills to provide inclusive and disability-friendly healthcare services, ultimately enhancing the overall well-being of persons with albinism.

Research and Advocacy

Albinism Umbrella utilizes research and data-driven advocacy to influence long-term policy change and address systemic inequalities faced by persons with albinism. Through data collection and studies, the organization identifies barriers to healthcare, education, employment, and social inclusion, translating research findings into policy recommendations that guide government bodies, lawmakers, and development partners in shaping inclusive policies.



Strategic media campaigns leveraging radio, television, and digital platforms amplify the voices of persons with albinism, fostering public discourse that challenges harmful stereotypes and promotes positive representation. Additionally, through partnerships with academic institutions, disability rights organizations, and advocacy coalitions, Albinism Umbrella ensures that policy decisions are informed by real-life experiences and that persons with albinism are actively represented in national and regional decision-making processes.

Economic Empowerment

Albinism Umbrella also prioritizes Economic Empowerment, recognizing that financial independence is key to dignity and self-reliance for persons with albinism. The organization implements livelihood support programs, vocational training, and entrepreneurship development initiatives to provide persons with albinism with marketable skills in areas such as tailoring, ICT, crafts-making, and small business management.

By linking individuals to microfinance institutions and income-generating opportunities, Albinism Umbrella fosters sustainable livelihoods while advocating for disability-friendly workplaces and inclusive employment policies. The economic empowerment strategy not only reduces dependency and poverty but also enhances self-confidence and social integration among persons with albinism, reinforcing their active participation in economic activities.

Awareness & Education

is at the heart of Albinism Umbrella's approach to changing mindsets and promoting inclusion. The organization actively engages schools, communities, and the media to raise awareness about albinism, debunk myths, and advocate for inclusive education. School outreach programs ensure that learners with albinism receive scholastic materials and educational support, while teachers are trained on inclusive teaching methods to cater for students with low vision or special learning needs.

Through TV and radio talk shows, brochures, and community sensitization campaigns, Albinism Umbrella challenges misconceptions and negative attitudes, fostering a society where persons with albinism are valued and respected. Additionally, support groups and mentorship programs provide psychosocial support and peer learning opportunities, ensuring that PWA grow up in an encouraging, informed, and accepting environment.



Rights-Based approach

Albinism Umbrella adopts a rights-based approach to social justice, advocating for legal protection, psychosocial support, and policy enforcement to combat stigma, discrimination, and violence against persons with albinism. The organization works with government agencies, legal institutions, and community structures to drive policy advocacy and legal aid services, ensuring the recognition and protection of the rights of persons with albinism.

At the grassroots level, Albinism Umbrella collaborates with local leaders, law enforcement, and civil society actors to strengthen community-based protection mechanisms, ensuring that cases of abuse, exclusion, and rights violations are effectively addressed. Additionally, through human rights awareness programs, the organization empowers persons with albinism and their families with the knowledge and confidence to challenge injustices, seek legal redress, and demand equal treatment.

This comprehensive social protection model fosters a more inclusive and supportive environment where persons with albinism can thrive without fear of discrimination.

Key Statistics

39

Assistive devices (including wheel-chairs, crutches, and walkers) were distributed to 39 children with disabilities following assessments at Rukunyu General Hospital.

367

received **200** bottles of sunscreen, **100** visual aid devices, and **200** wide-brimmed hats during school outreach programs to promote safety and accessibility in learning environments.

23

schools in Buikwe District were reached through outreach activities, benefiting 50 learners with albinism, who also received scholastic materials.



191 participants (124 females, 67 males) accessed services during a medical camp at Wakisi Health Centre:

99%

Received eye care services

85%

accessed skin care

85%

received general medical attention

23 SPECIAL CASES

(4 females, 6 males) were referred to Mengo Hospital for advanced treatment, including surgeries

In Kampala & Wakiso

138

bottles of sunscreen were distributed to 69 individuals (47 females, 22 males) to enhance skin and eye protection.

During International Albinism Awareness Day (June 13, 2024),

123 beneficiaries

(68 females, 55 males) received: 192 bottles of sunscreen, 88 wide-brimmed hats, Eye care medication and 100 pairs of sunglasses

7 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

were established with: St. Benedictine Eye Hospital, Mengo Hospital, Uganda Cancer Society, and World Vision - Kamwenge Office.

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OUR IMPACT & ACHIEVEMENT





Our Impact & Achievement

In 2024, Albinism Umbrella made meaningful progress in transforming lives, breaking barriers, and building inclusive systems for persons with albinism across Uganda. Notable highlights include:

Education and Health	Social and Economic	Policy and Advocacy
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhanced education inclusion by equipping vulnerable learners with scholastic materials and training educators to create safer, more inclusive school learning environments. <p>Strengthened access to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">healthcare by forming strategic partnerships with institutions like Uganda Cancer Institute, Benedictine Eye Hospital, and World Vision, ensuring consistent support for persons with albinism and other disabilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trained healthcare workers in albinism awareness and inclusive care practices, promoting stigma-free service delivery across the health sector.	Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none">Empowered Communities and Individuals by conducting psychosocial trainings on self-awareness and acceptance, sensitized healthcare workers, and promoted rights-based education to strengthen the voice and agencies of persons with albinism. <ul style="list-style-type: none">In strengthening our institutional growth, we held a successful Annual General Meeting and ushered in a dynamic new board of seven members reinforcing leadership and organizational governance <ul style="list-style-type: none">Challenged stigma through advocacy by distributing over 500 awareness materials and holding community dialogues and dissemination meetings to counter harmful myths and promote inclusion.	Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meaningfully engaged policy and decision-makers at both district and national levels, advocating for stronger disability-inclusive policies and service delivery which elevated albinism in national health frameworks such as the Uganda National Cancer Control Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Participated in national platforms, such as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, elevating the visibility of persons with albinism and reaffirmed the need for economic empowerment and equal rights in corridors of power and amongst other stakeholders.

ANNUAL INTEGRATED REPORT
OUR KEY PROGRAMS & REPORTS





Our Key Impact & Achievement

In 2024, Albinism Umbrella implemented a range of initiatives grounded in five strategic focus areas: Health, Social Protection, Research & Advocacy, Awareness & Education, and Economic Empowerment. These programs addressed the distinct barriers faced by persons with albinism, advancing their rights, inclusion, and quality of life. Through an integrated and people-centered approach, the organization contributed to building a more just and inclusive society where persons with albinism are recognized, supported, and empowered.

Project Name:

Inclusive Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) for persons with albinism/ disabilities.

Project scope: Kawempe Division, Kampala.

Objective: To promote inclusive access to SRHR services and linkages to social protection for young persons with albinism and other disabilities in Kawempe Division.

Development and Distribution of IEC Materials

Albinism Umbrella developed and distributed Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials including banners, wide-brimmed hats, wristbands, and branded T-shirts to promote awareness on inclusive Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and enhance the visibility of the project. These materials reached 113 individuals including persons with albinism, other disabilities, and caregivers, contributing not only to improved public engagement but also to better skin protection for persons with albinism



Figure 1: Some of the IEC's Procured by Albinism Umbrella



Stakeholder Engagement and Project Kick-off Meeting on SRHR

AU hosted a project launch meeting with 20 key stakeholders including division leaders, disability rights groups, and SRHR-focused organizations. The session introduced the project, clarified roles, and produced a collaborative action plan. This engagement strengthened collaboration and secured stakeholder commitment to advancing inclusive SRHR access in Kawempe Division



Figure 2: Group Photo of Stakeholders after the Project Kick off Meeting at Kawempe District Offices

Topical Educational Learning Workshop on SRHR for Persons with Albinism

AU held an interactive educational workshop for 26 youth with albinism at its offices equipping participants with knowledge on sexual and reproductive health, addressing stigma, fostering self-acceptance, addressing mental health, service access challenges and fostering open dialogue, which resulted in improved understanding and increased confidence in asserting their SRHR.



Figure 3: Participants posing for a group photo after undergoing a training on SRHR at Albinism Umbrella offices in Kampala



Project Name:

Sustainable Inclusive Economic Livelihood and Eye Health (SIELEH)

Project scope: Kyegegwa and Kamwenge.

Objective: To improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities through improved community participation, access to social services, health and inclusive livelihoods.

Enhancing Mobility and Independence Through Assistive Devices

As part of the SIELEH Project, Albinism Umbrella, in collaboration with World Vision-Kamwenge, distributed 39 assistive devices to children with disabilities in Kamwenge District including wheelchairs, white canes, artificial limbs, and crutches. These devices were provided based on individual assessments conducted during a health outreach at Rukunyu General Hospital on December 8th, 2023. By equipping the children with mobility aids suited to their specific needs, the intervention significantly enhanced their independence and enabled greater participation in school and community life, thus contributing to their social inclusion and improved quality of life.



Figure 4: Children with different assistive devices that were given to them by Albinism Umbrella, supported by World Vision.

Promoting Skin and Eye Health for Persons with Albinism

Albinism Umbrella improved the skin and eye health of persons with albinism by distributing bottles of sunscreen to rightsholders in Kampala and Wakiso, offering essential protection against harmful UV rays. Further support was provided during a medical camp organized in partnership with St. Benedictine Eye Hospital on International Albinism Awareness Day (June 13th, 2024), where 123 individuals received wide-brimmed hats, bottles of sunscreen, eye care medication, and sunglasses.



These interventions not only reduced the health risks associated with prolonged sun exposure but also enhanced the rightsholders' ability to engage in daily activities with confidence, thereby improving their overall well-being and social inclusion



Figure 5: Rightsholders putting on wide brimmed hats that were distributed by Albinism Umbrella during the International Albinism Awareness Day-2024



Figure 6: Rightsholders holding the sun screens that were given to them during the medical camp

Strengthening Financial Resilience through ISAVE groups

Albinism Umbrella mobilized and supported the formation of 72 ISAVE groups across Kamwenge and Kyegegwa districts in 2023. By 2024, 64 groups had successfully completed their first savings cycle and shared out accumulated funds, with the highest-performing group distributing UGX 14 million. This milestone marked significant progress in boosting the socio-economic status of persons with disabilities, as members demonstrated improved saving habits, increased investment capacity, and resilience in managing income-generating activities, ultimately fostering greater financial independence and sustainable livelihoods



Figure 7: One of the ISAVE groups sharing out their total savings, upon completion of their first cycle in Kyegegwa district.



Figure 8: A rabbit project established by members of Mpasaana Barema Tweyambe ISAVE group in Kyegegwa District

Project Name: The Unknown about Albinism

Project scope: Kayunga and Mukono districts.

Objective: To enhance the holistic well-being and socio-economic inclusion of persons with albinism in mainstream development processes..



Figure 9: One of the rightsholders undergoing a treatment during the medical camp at Wakisi Health Centre III in Buikwe District.

Expanding Access to Health and Education for Persons with Albinism

Albinism Umbrella, in partnership with Mengo Hospital and Murchison Bay Hospital, held a medical camp at Wakisi Health Centre III in Buikwe District, delivering critical health services to 191 persons with albinism. The camp provided specialized eye check-ups, skin screenings, general health services, and tailored health education, significantly increasing awareness and access to care.

Based on medical assessments, participants received assistive items such as sunscreens, wide-brimmed hats, binoculars, magnifying lenses, and sunglasses, which improved their protection from UV exposure and supported their visual needs. Ten complex cases were also referred for advanced treatment at Mengo Hospital, with Albinism Umbrella facilitating follow-up and access to specialized care. This intervention strengthened the right to quality healthcare for persons with albinism and promoted their inclusion in essential health and education services.



Figure 10: A dermatologist conducting a skin care sensitization session at a medical camp at Wakisi Health Centre III in Buikwe District.



Figure 11: Health care providers attending to patients during the Medical Camp at Wakisi Health Centre III in Buikwe District.



Raising Awareness and Promoting Inclusion on International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD)

Albinism Umbrella commemorated International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) under the theme “10 Years of IAAD: A Decade of Collective Progress,” with the aim of raising awareness, addressing misconceptions, and advocating for the rights of persons with albinism. The event brought together 178 participants including government officials, Tororo district leaders, donors, civil society organizations, development partners, disability groups, and caregivers. Graced by Dr. Joseph Okware, Director of Health Services, Governance and Regulations, the celebration featured educational talks, cultural performances, and advocacy messages that highlighted the lived experiences and challenges faced by persons with albinism. This engagement fostered stronger advocacy networks, reinforced public awareness, and inspired renewed stakeholder commitment to inclusive policies and programs that support the rights and dignity of persons with albinism.



Figure 12: Rights holders educating the guests during the commemoration of IAAD in Tororo district

Evaluating Health Service Delivery through a Community Score Card in Mukono District.

Albinism Umbrella facilitated a Community Score Card exercise at Mukono General Hospital to evaluate the quality and accessibility of health services for persons with albinism. The session convened 39 participants (29 females, 10 males), including persons with albinism, their caregivers, healthcare providers, and AU staff. Through guided discussions, participants highlighted service gaps, challenges, and opportunities for improvement, resulting in a jointly developed action plan to strengthen collaboration between healthcare workers and the albinism community. Albinism Umbrella pledged to share the findings with the Ministry of Health to advocate for targeted interventions. This process fostered greater accountability in health service delivery, improved dialogue between rights holders and providers, and laid the foundation for more inclusive and responsive healthcare for persons with albinism in Mukono.



Figure 13: Some of the Medical officers taking part in the Assessment at Mukono General Hospital in Mukono district.

Enhancing Healthcare Workers' Knowledge on Inclusive SRHR Services

Albinism Umbrella conducted a series of SRHR trainings for healthcare providers in Mukono and Kayunga Districts, hosted at City Side Hotel and Mingo Hotel respectively. The sessions brought together 63 participants with the objective of building their capacity to offer inclusive SRHR services for persons with albinism. Through interactive discussions and practical learning, the training addressed albinism-specific SRHR needs, challenged existing myths and misconceptions, and fostered more positive attitudes among healthcare workers. As a result, the initiative enhanced provider knowledge, reduced stigma, and contributed to the delivery of more inclusive and respectful SRHR services for persons with albinism in both districts.



Figure 14: Health care providers and rights holders taking part in a training on SRHR at City Side Hotel in Mukono District

Project Name: **My Skin My Right**

Project scope: Isingiro and Bushenyi

Objective: To raise awareness about the rights and health needs of persons with albinism, specifically focusing on skin care and cancer prevention.

Inception Meeting With Uganda Cancer Institute

Albinism Umbrella held an inception meeting with the Uganda Cancer Institute to initiate collaboration in the implementation of the Uganda National Cancer Control Plan (UNCCP). The meeting, which convened 15 participants including rights holders, representatives from the Uganda Cancer Institute, and disability organizations, resulted in Albinism Umbrella being recognized as a key stakeholder in public sensitization efforts on cancer, particularly skin cancer among persons with albinism. This recognition not only positioned the organization to influence cancer awareness campaigns but also led to the formal inclusion of persons with albinism as a priority group within the UNCCP. This milestone ensured that their specific health needs were acknowledged at the national level, with a budget allocation proposal submitted for cabinet approval. The meeting marked a critical step toward institutionalizing inclusive healthcare policies and securing long-term access to cancer prevention and care for persons with albinism.



Figure 15: Some of the AU Board Members and Staff During the Meeting with UNCCP Members.



School Community Awareness Training on Albinism Inclusion

Albinism Umbrella conducted school community awareness trainings in Bushenyi and Isingiro districts, targeting school directors, teaching and non-teaching staff, as well as learners. The sessions, focused on increasing understanding of albinism and equipping participants with practical strategies to support learners with albinism in academic settings. As a result, school staff gained the knowledge and skills needed to foster inclusive and safe learning environments, leading to increased teacher responsiveness, reduced stigma, and greater educational inclusion for learners with albinism.



Figure 16: AU Executive Director, Ms. Olive Namutebi addressing students during one of the School Awareness Campaign at St. Mary's Secondary School-Kyoga in Isingiro District.

Dissemination Meetings on the Uganda National Cancer Control Plan

Albinism Umbrella conducted dissemination meetings in Bushenyi and Isingiro districts to increase awareness of the Uganda National Cancer Control Plan (UNCCP) and its relevance to persons with disabilities, including those with albinism. A total of 68 participants comprising rights holders, disability representatives, health workers, and local leaders, took part in the sessions. These engagements not only deepened stakeholder understanding of the UNCCP but also highlighted the urgent need for disability-inclusive cancer prevention and treatment services. As a result, the meetings fostered stronger stakeholder commitment, enhanced advocacy efforts for better healthcare policies.



Finance and Administration

Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Organizational Governance Strengthening

Albinism Umbrella convened its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at Hotel Africana in Kampala, in line with its constitutional mandate to review programmatic and financial achievements for 2023. The meeting brought together 58 participants (25F, 33M) from all four regions of Uganda, creating a dynamic platform for inclusive stakeholder dialogue, accountability, and strategic reflection. Key outcomes included the election of seven new board members (2F, 5M), which revitalized the organization's leadership and reinforced governance structures. The AGM strengthened internal accountability, deepened stakeholder trust, and charted a renewed strategic direction to drive Albinism Umbrella's mission forward.



Figure 17: The AU General Assembly Members During the AGM

Institutional Legitimacy and Representation.

To strengthen Albinism Umbrella's institutional presence and advocacy efforts, different AU Staff members represented the organization at various international conferences and high-level meetings. These engagements enhanced the organization's credibility, fostered strategic partnerships, and positioned Albinism Umbrella as a key stakeholder in advancing the rights, health, and inclusion of persons with albinism. Through active participation, the organization strengthened its visibility, contributed to global discussions, exchanged best practices, influenced policy dialogues aimed at improving the well-being of persons with albinism and gained insights to enhance its programs and advocacy efforts at the national and international levels. Including;



Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID), Imperial Resort Beach Hotel- Uganda

Objective

To facilitate understanding of inclusive development principles, practices, and practical tools plus techniques to implement inclusive strategies.

Outcome

Strengthened practical skills and knowledge on implementing inclusive development strategies, fostering greater community engagement, accessibility, and sustainable solutions

ACERWC African Union, Lesotho

Objective

Attending the African union committee on the rights of children

Outcome

Guiding notes have been fully submitted to the committee. These will be adopted by full assembly for dissemination

68th CSW, Accelerating the achievement of gender equality & empowerment of women & girls by addressing poverty, New York

Objective

To strengthen institution and financing with a gender perspective

Outcome

Linkages to other organisations like Global fund for women

M&E Capacity Development training, GIZ Kampala Office

Objective

To enhance the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) skills of staff and building capacity to effectively design, implement, and assess M&E frameworks and systems.

Outcome

Improved M&E capacity among participants, leading to more efficient program monitoring, data collection, analysis, and reporting, contributing to informed decision-making and improved program performance.



Finance Summary

Particulars	Note	31-December - 2024 Ushs	31-December - 2023 Ushs
Income			
Grants Income	2.1	360,087,554	738,193,600
Other Income	2.2	601,587,113	95,283,475
Total		961,674,668	833,477,075
Expenditure	2.3		
Program costs	2.4	804,801,121	369,400,891
Staff costs	2.5	169,081,861	195,910,379
Administration costs	2.6	144,654,987	130,384,521
Finance costs		2,590,241	3,545,672
Total		1,121,128,209	699,241,463
Deficit/Surplus for the Year		(159,453,541)	134,235,612



Statement of Financial Position

Particulars	Note	31-December - 2024 Ushs	31-December - 2023 Ushs
Assets			
Non-Current Assets	2.7	239,427,122	201,694,154
Property and Equipment	2.8	1,935,331	2,816,091
Intangible Assets			
Total Non-Current Assets		241,362,454	204,510,245
Current Assets			
Advances	2.9	11,052,435	6,634,330
Cash & cash equivalents	2.10	152,013,963	362,219,316
Total Current Assets		163,066,398	368,853,646
Total Assets		404,428,852	573,363,891
Reserves & Liabilities			
Reserves			
Accumulated Fund		386,403,819	545,857,360
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	2.11	18,025,033	27,506,531
Total Reserves and liabilities		404,428,852	573,363,891

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on/...../2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Chairperson

Treasurer



Challenges & Lessons Learned

Challenges

The untimely passing of the Project Officer for the Kyegegwa Field Office in a fatal motor accident significantly affected project operations. Her expertise, guidance, and established relationships with the community were invaluable, and her absence posed challenges in maintaining momentum and ensuring seamless project implementation.

The sudden withdrawal of donor funding led to the premature termination of some project activities. This not only disrupted implementation but also negatively impacted the morale of ISAVE members and hindered Albinism Umbrella's ability to fulfill planned commitments to beneficiaries. Consequently, the overall effectiveness and impact of the project were diminished.

Lessons Learned

Collaborations with organizations like World Vision and local hospitals improved access to healthcare and assistive devices, strengthening support systems and enhancing sustainability.

The sudden donor withdrawal underscored the need to diversify funding. Albinism Umbrella is now prioritizing resource mobilization and conducting early exit meetings to maintain transparency and long-term project viability.

Kick-off meetings with local leaders and service providers secured their commitment, fostering shared responsibility and long-term support for inclusive SRHR services.

Joint sessions between health workers and persons with disabilities enhanced mutual understanding, resulting in more inclusive and responsive healthcare services.

Targeted training increased awareness and advocacy skills among participants, helping reduce stigma and promote inclusive SRHR services for persons with disabilities.

Taking health services closer to communities led to increased uptake. For example, after a sensitization session, Mengo Hospital recorded a rise in early eye care visits for children with albinism.



Future Outlook & Goals

As Albinism Umbrella (AU) continues to champion the rights, health, and well-being of persons with albinism and disabilities, the organization envisions a future marked by sustainability, expanded reach, and stronger partnerships. Moving forward, AU is committed to:

1. **Strengthening Financial Sustainability** by diversifying funding sources through donor engagement, local partnerships, and social enterprise models to ensure long-term project viability. And establishing income-generating activities to reduce reliance on external donors.
2. **Enhancing Advocacy and Policy Influence** through engaging policymakers to push for the implementation of disability-inclusive policies, particularly in healthcare, education, and employment. And strengthening collaboration with national and international advocacy networks to amplify the voice of persons with albinism.
3. **Scaling up health interventions**, including dermatological and eye care services, to reach more persons with albinism across Uganda.
4. **Developing and distributing more Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials** to combat stigma and misinformation.
5. **Increasing support for learners with albinism** through scholastic material provision and safe learning environments.
6. **Expanding vocational training and entrepreneurship programs** to enhance self-reliance and economic empowerment among persons with albinism.
7. **Leveraging Technology for Greater Impact** by strengthening AU's digital presence by expanding social media engagement, online advocacy, and e-learning platforms as well as utilizing data-driven approaches to track project impact and inform decision-making.
8. **Enhancing staff capacity** through continuous training in program management, advocacy, Monitoring and Evaluation and disability inclusion.
9. **Strengthening monitoring and evaluation mechanisms** to improve program effectiveness



Acknowledgements & Partnerships

Albinism Umbrella (AU) acknowledges with deep gratitude the unwavering support and collaboration of our partners, stakeholders, and donors such as Civ Fund, Christian Blind Mission, Disability Rights Fund, UNFPA, and VOICE who played a pivotal role in the successful implementation of our programs in 2024. The strides made in advancing the rights, health, and inclusion of persons with albinism would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of organizations, institutions, and individuals committed to our cause.

This year, AU made strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations, government agencies, and healthcare institutions, significantly enhancing our capacity to deliver impactful interventions. These collaborations facilitated increased access to essential health services, improved policy advocacy, and strengthened community support systems for persons with albinism.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Uganda Cancer Institute (UCI), World Vision, Ruharo Mission Hospital, Benedictine Eye Hospital, and Mengo Hospital for their invaluable contributions in ensuring improved healthcare access. Additionally, we recognize the commitment of district leaders, civil society organizations, and media houses in amplifying awareness and advocating for the rights of persons with albinism.

As we look ahead, Albinism Umbrella remains committed to fostering sustainable partnerships that drive meaningful change. We believe that through collective action, we can continue to dismantle barriers, dispel myths, and create an inclusive society where persons with albinism thrive with dignity, equal opportunities, and access to essential services.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who have stood with us on this journey your support fuels our mission and strengthens our impact. Together, we are building a future where “My Skin, My Right” is not just a slogan, but a reality.



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