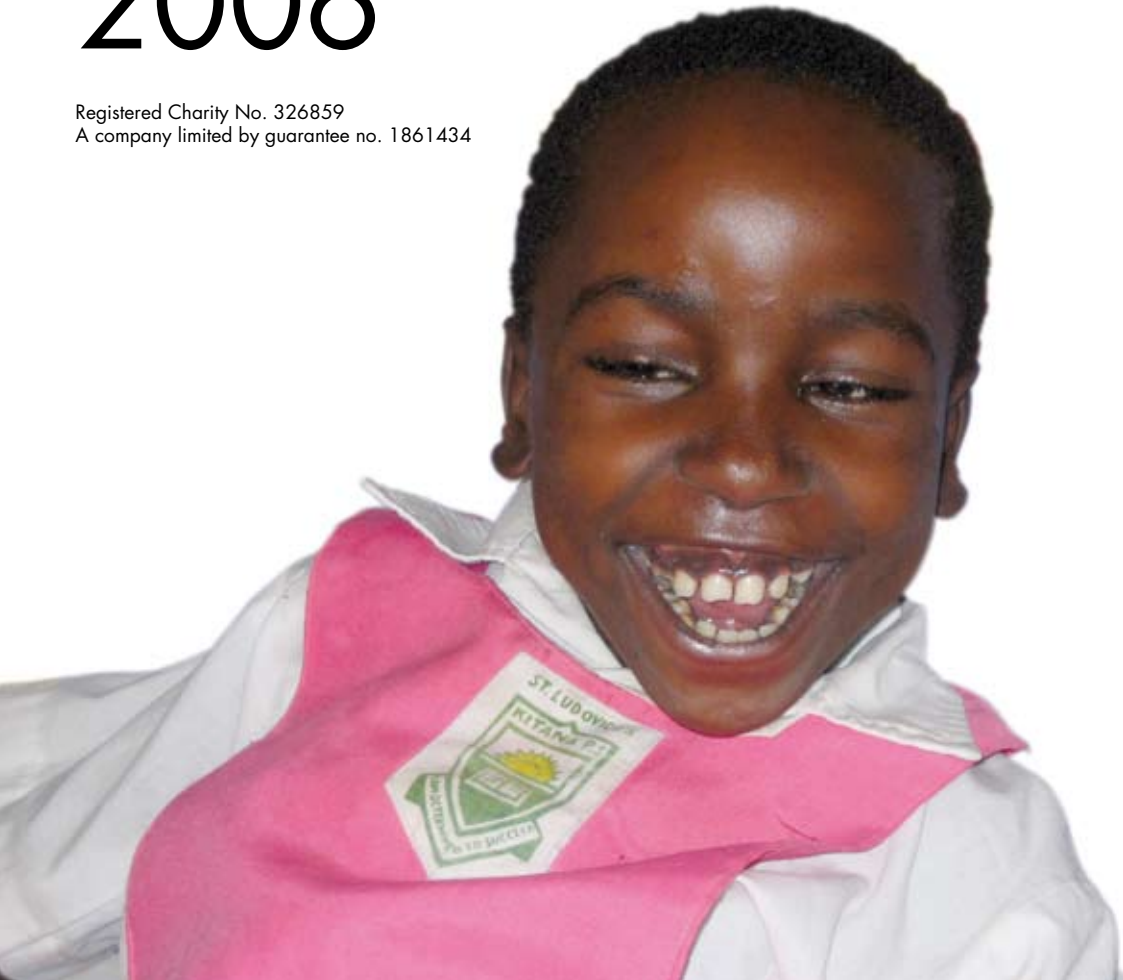




Uganda Society for  
Disabled Children UK

# Annual Review 2006

Registered Charity No. 326859  
A company limited by guarantee no. 1861434



# About USDC UK

The Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC) is a Registered Charity founded in 1985. Its aim is to help children with disabilities in Uganda to achieve their full potential and lead fulfilling lives. In 2000 the Uganda office of USDC became an independent local NGO in Uganda with its own Management Committee. USDC UK now runs a small office in the UK which supports the work of USDC Uganda. We endeavour to keep our UK costs to a minimum and transfer the maximum possible resources to Uganda each year.

## UK News

This year a new member of staff has joined USDC UK. We welcomed MacDuff Phiri as our Assistant Director, in June 2006.

## Visits to Uganda

One of the UK Trustees, Sally Turnbull, went to Uganda in November 2005 to take part in the Strategic Review. She also visited projects in Jinja and Soroti. Another Trustee, Ting Plaskett recently attended the 20th anniversary celebrations in Uganda. She also spent time in Hoima, Moyo, Adjumani and Masindi districts. Mary Ann Mhina, the Executive Director visited Uganda three times during the year to provide support and carry out monitoring and evaluation of the work being funded by USDC UK. MacDuff Phiri recently returned from an induction visit to learn about the work of USDC in Uganda.



*Hugh Masekela, South African jazz legend, performing at USDC's 20th anniversary at Serena Hotel, Kampala, Uganda in September 2006.*

# 20th Anniversary event

In June 2006 we held a dinner to commemorate our 20th Anniversary; the event included delicious Ugandan food and East African Music and was attended by almost 200 people. It raised £3,500 for our work in Uganda and we are very grateful to everyone who took part.

USDC Uganda also celebrated USDC's 20th anniversary this September. Celebrations opened with a concert by the South African jazz legend Hugh Masekela. After the concert he launched a campaign asking everyone in Uganda to sacrifice 100 shillings for a disabled child. During the month a number of events were held to raise awareness and funds. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who has been involved in this wonderful initiative.

## USDC UK

Suite 317, Southbank House  
Black Prince Road, London, SE1 7SJ  
Tel: 0845 226 1015

Fax: 0845 226 7874  
E-Mail: [maryann@usdcuk.org](mailto:maryann@usdcuk.org)  
Web-Site: [www.usdc.or.ug](http://www.usdc.or.ug)

## We would like to Thank...

Comic Relief, The Health Foundation, Jersey Overseas Aid Committee, The States of Guernsey Overseas Aid Committee, and all of our friends and supporters. A special mention should be made of the 25 brave volunteers

who ran the London Marathon for USDC in April 2006! Together they raised over £32,000. We are also grateful to the 15 cyclists (plus two support crew) who rode from London to Paris recently and raised almost £3,000.



*A group of cyclists who rode from London to France to raise money for USDC*

## Trustees of USDC UK

Leana Arain  
Wendy Ford  
Keith Nethercot (Chair)  
Dr Hugh WL Oliver  
Peter Oliver

Ting Plaskett  
Vimal Shah (Treasurer)  
Sally Turnbull  
Francis Tusubira

## "A chance to be"

We estimate that over 250,000 disabled children in different parts of Uganda have been provided with support because of the work of USDC over the past 20 years. Some of these children (now adults) have been given a chance to become a politician, an administrator, small scale business owner while others aspire to become engineers.

## Deborah Nalubega is a politician

Deborah, now 32 years old, is a role model for people with disabilities. She was identified by USDC in the early 90s after she had dropped out of secondary education due to financial constraints. She has post polio paralysis in both lower limbs and currently lives in Katikamu, Luwero district.

*Deborah Nalubega, a councillor for persons with disabilities in Luwero district*



USDC supported Deborah to undergo tailoring training at Kireka Vocational Training Centre. She successfully completed the course and was given a sewing machine to set up a retail shop in Wobulenzi.

After saving some money in her tailoring project, she took up politics as a councillor for persons with disabilities in Luwero district, a job she has been doing to the best of her abilities. She owns a big plot of land upon which she grows crops to supply to the local graining mills. The proceeds have helped her build her own house.

Deborah has also initiated a school for the deaf in her community. She has volunteer sign language teachers who support the children to learn. In future, she would like to have permanent paid teachers. She attributes all her success to USDC who were able to identify her potential and gave her the right start in life.

## Joan Wobusobozi is a business woman

Joan is 23 years old and lives in Kabalye, Masindi district. She was born with cleft lip and palate and later contracted polio which left her limbs paralysed. She could only crawl. Activities of daily living were a dream to her.

Her mother first approached USDC field office in Masindi in 1993 for support after hearing about the programme activities through the sensitisation sessions that were conducted in her community. Joan was eventually referred to the Masindi Centre for the Handicapped to benefit from educational and vocational training.

In 1995 USDC sponsored Joan to undergo plastic surgery to correct the cleft lip and palate. She also had orthopaedic surgery to release the tendons in her limbs in order to increase mobility. She was later able to walk using crutches and braces provided by USDC.



*Joan playing a long drum during the commemoration of Masindi Children's Day in November 2005. Music dance and drama were amongst the competitive activities for disabled and non disabled children. Joan's school emerged as winners.*

Joan sat for Primary Leaving Examination and subsequently enrolled in vocational training in the same school. She graduated in 2005 having acquired skills in tailoring, knitting crafts and poultry keeping. The school gave her a grant to enable her to start her own business. Joan said, "I hope to set up a small scale enterprise to earn a living and later continue with vocational studies."

The head of the vocational class, Jeruth Tinka, is full of praise for Joan. "Joan was a member of the school choir and a dramatist. She was a leader. She used to counsel other pupils, which showed she has high self esteem".

# Fredrick Dickens Odongo is an administrator

Fredrick Dickens Odongo has a physical disability and uses a wheel chair. USDC identified Fredrick in 1989 when he dropped out of school due to problems with school fees. USDC gave Fredrick a grant to cover his fees and learning materials. He was able to continue with his education and eventually graduated from Makerere University, Kampala with a Bachelor Degree in Commerce. He is now employed by DETREC, a research organisation in Lira district, as Administrative Manager and is also one of the founding members of Rural Disabled Persons Organisation Lira (RUDIPO) and he is married.

Fredrick greatly appreciates the valuable support he received from USDC which enabled him to fulfil his full potential. He says, "I am now able to participate favourably in the development of my country Uganda and continue to contribute towards building a national framework that will improve the lives of disabled persons and reduce social injustice in the community".

*Fredrick Dickens Odongo, an administrator with DETREC*



## ...and Julius Ezama aspires to become an engineer



*Julius Ezama a student at Kamurasi demonstration primary school.*

Julius was born in 1984 in Kabwama village, Buruli county, Masindi district. He has mild cerebral palsy. Mobility was a dream to Julius until 1989 when Abraham Kasijja, a physiotherapist facilitated by USDC identified and assessed him. Julius benefited from physiotherapy and was able to regain function of his lower limbs with the help of a pair of crutches.

In 1996, he enrolled in Kamurasi Demonstration Primary School. 'I am so grateful that I was among the very first beneficiaries

of inclusion especially after USDC facilitated the training of Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) facilitators and Special Needs Education (SNE) teachers,' said Julius.

"Besides where we could provide remedial learning sessions to Julius, we had to train him in activities of daily living so that he would lead an independent life in future. This would also allow the parents to cater for other economic needs of his family," said Julius's teacher.

"I would like to thank my parents, USDC, Abraham and my teachers for not denying me the right to education and other social needs. I have acquired skills in crafts and shoe repair. I repair radios during my leisure time using skills I have acquired in physics," said Julius. Julius aims to become an engineer one day.

# Financial Summary for USDC UK 2005/6

## Statement of Financial Activities for the Year ended March 2006

### Income

Donations and legacies	30,082
Activities for generating funds	37,361
Grants received for specific activities	347,774
Investment income	9,530

**Total Income** **424,747**

### Expenditure

Project support in Uganda	430,911
Fundraising and publicity	26,388
Management and administration	12,556

**Total Expenditure** **469,855**

## Balance Sheet as at March 2006

**Fixed assets** 13,042

### Current assets

Debtors	66,600
Cash at bank and in hand	259,493
Less Creditors	(12,029)

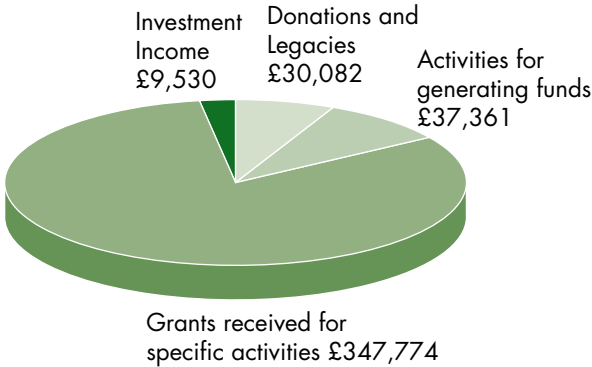
**Total assets less current liabilities** **327,106**

### Represented by

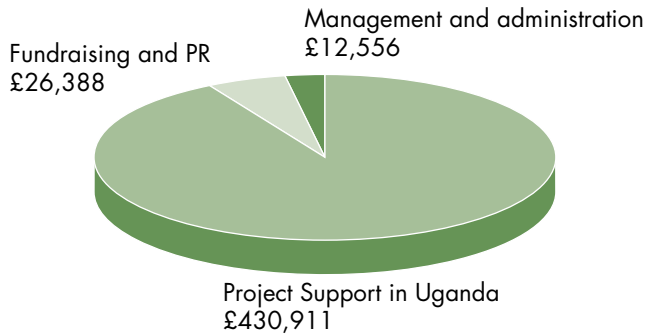
Restricted funds	238,273
Designated funds	14,550
Unrestricted funds	74,283

**Total assets** **327,106**

# Income



# Expenditure



## The Financial Year 2005/6 in Review

The largest part of USDC's income continues to be in the form of restricted grants from Comic Relief, the Health Foundation and the Jersey Overseas Aid Committee. These grants are given for activities in Uganda but a small amount (less than 5% overall) is set aside to ensure that we effectively support and monitor implementation. This year these funds also supported the procurement of the new fundraising database and training the Uganda Fundraising Officer to

use the database. During the year we received a total of £310,274 in restricted grants for work in Uganda. Restricted expenditure totalled £385,756, which included income received in the previous financial year. We made grants of £20,618 of unrestricted funds to USDC Uganda, which supported surgical camps and vocational training activities.

During the year we evaluated the pilot mental health project, funded by the Health Foundation and the extension of the project in five new districts continued. A baseline survey and strategic review took place in Uganda and following these activities a new strategic plan for 2006-11 has been developed by USDC Uganda with our support. The Comic Relief Investment Grant continues to support the strengthening of USDC Uganda. During the year Comic Relief also supported a review of USDC's work in the field of education and provided support for key activities in Special Needs Education (SNE).

## Plans for the Future

Over the past 20 years USDC has established itself as a key player in Uganda championing the rights of children with disabilities. Increasingly USDC Uganda is accessing support directly in Uganda and is currently carrying out a significant local fundraising initiative to tie in with the 20th anniversary celebrations there. Whilst we continue to support USDC Uganda to become more self-sustaining, we also believe that the lessons learnt in Uganda over the past 20 years are so valuable they should be used to help others to develop ways of ensuring that the estimated 34 million children with disabilities in Africa achieve their rights.

As the largest NGO focusing exclusively on childhood disability in Africa, we believe we could support organisations elsewhere on the continent through the expertise and experience accumulated in Uganda. We are now reviewing the aims and objectives of USDC and developing a strategic plan which will guide us over the next five years. This is likely to include support for a range of partners and a continuing relationship with USDC Uganda.

### **Contributors:**

Tommie Okiror (USDC Programme Assistant, Masindi), Samalie Kizito (Field Coordinator, Luwero), Grace Musoke (Information & Documentation Officer, USDC Uganda), Jackson Atria (Executive Director, USDC Uganda).



*Above: Kyesiga Child Rights Club, Hoima district.*

*Front cover: Barbara Gumisiriza, 7 years old, a pupil at  
St. Ludovico's Kitana Primary School, Unit for the Deaf.*



U S D C

UDSC UK

Suite 317

Southbank House, Black Prince Road

London, SE1 7SJ

[maryann@usdcuk.org](mailto:maryann@usdcuk.org)

[www.usdc.or.ug](http://www.usdc.or.ug)

Tel: 0845 226 1015 Fax: 0845 226 7874

There are a number of ways in which you can support the work of USDC.  
Donations can be accepted by cheque or credit card via post, telephone  
or at [www.usdc.or.ug](http://www.usdc.or.ug).