



**First African Bicycle
Information Organisation**

FABIO

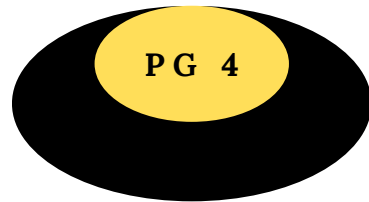
ANNUAL REPORT 2024



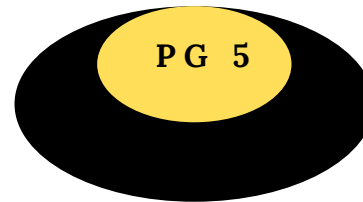
**Moving slowly but
reaching far**

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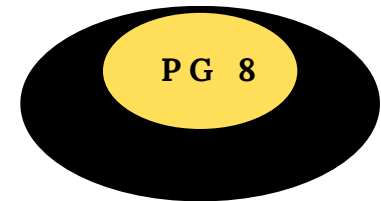
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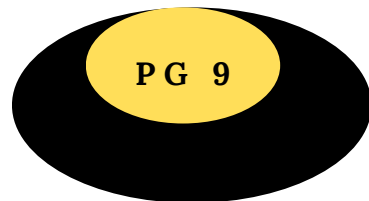
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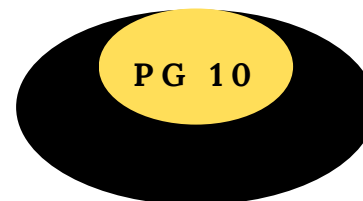
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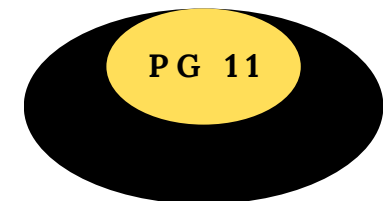
FABIO a change agent



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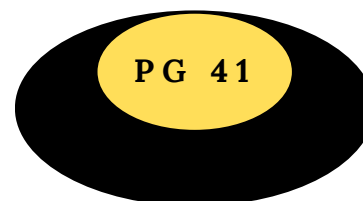
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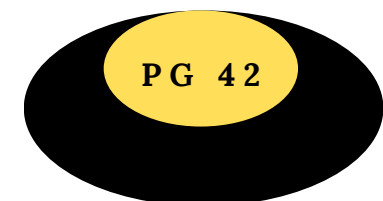
Learnings



Financial highlights.



Partnerships



1.

ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AWC All We Can

CAO Chief Administrative Officer

NMT Non Motorized Transport

DCDO District Community Development Officer

EC Electoral Commission

EURIST European Institute for Sustainable Transport

FABIO First African Bicycle Information Organization

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

NIRA National Identification and Registration Authority

PWD People With Disabilities

RCC Resident City Commissioner

RDC Resident District Commissioner

SCENE Strengthening Citizens' Engagement in Elections

SHG Self Help Group

UK United Kingdom

UNNGOF Ugandan National NGO Forum

VHT Village Health Team

2.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON



As we reflect on another year of growth and progress, it is with great pride that I present to you this annual report, which highlights the achievements, challenges, and milestones that defined our organization's journey in the past year.

Our commitment to excellence has been unwavering, and we continue to prioritize innovation, sustainability, and the advancement of our mission. This year has been one of resilience and adaptability, as we navigated both expected and unforeseen challenges, all while staying true to the values that guide us.

The dedication of our leadership team, staff, and partners has been instrumental in achieving key goals, including laying our 2024-2029 strategic plan, organization capacity building, networking among others. Together, we have continued to build on a solid foundation, positioning us for long-term success.

As we look forward, we remain focused on the future and the opportunities that lie ahead. The coming year will bring new challenges, but also new avenues for growth, collaboration, and impact. I am confident that with the ongoing support from our stakeholders, and the collective strength of our team, we will continue to thrive and deliver on our mission.

Justin Ojambo

On behalf of the board, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our success. We are deeply grateful for your continued trust and support. Thank you for being a part of our journey.



**Mrs. Kawanguzi
Joy.**





3.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

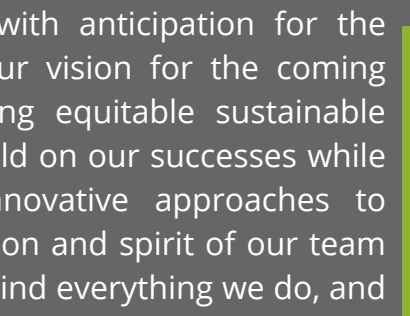
Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

As we close another remarkable year, it is with deep gratitude and reflection that I share this end-of-year report with you. This year has been one of both remarkable achievement and transformation, and it is because of your continued support, dedication, and collaboration that we are able to celebrate our shared successes.

Throughout the year, we remained steadfast in our commitment to our mission, and the results speak to the strength of our collective efforts. We've made significant strides in areas such as community engagement, program development, capacity building, partnerships and it is with great pride that we share these highlights with you.

However, this year has not been without its challenges. We have faced unexpected resource constraints, economic shifts, but time and time again, we've demonstrated resilience and adaptability.

I am proud of the way our team has come together to find creative solutions, overcome obstacles, and continue moving forward with purpose and passion.



Looking ahead, we are filled with anticipation for the opportunities that await us. Our vision for the coming year is clear: a society enjoying equitable sustainable services. We will continue to build on our successes while embracing new ideas and innovative approaches to further our impact. The dedication and spirit of our team will remain the driving force behind everything we do, and we are more excited than ever about the future.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to all of you—our staff, volunteers, donors, partners, and stakeholders. Your unwavering commitment to our work has been instrumental in our achievements, and together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being part of this incredible journey. We look forward to what we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

4.

FABIO AS A CHANGE AGENT

FABIO is a local independent Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) that operates in Busoga sub-region eastern Uganda. Since FABIO's inception in 1997, we have focused on using a bicycle as a tool of social transformation. While in Uganda, the image of the bicycle has not been given a significant rank, FABIO with its various innovations has gone ahead to improve its image both locally and internationally. FABIO not only pioneered the first ever Pan-African Bicycle conference (PABIC) but also played a key role in advocating and formulation of the NMT Policy in Uganda which was officially signed off by then Minister of Works and Transport in 2014. In an effort to promote and advocate for Sustainable Transport in Uganda, FABIO teamed up with ITDP Europe and EURIST and initiated a campaign for improving public transport which triggered off the BRT debate for Kampala. FABIO also initiated community pressure groups, among which were the Walukuba-Masese Pressure-From-Below-Group.

FABIO supports vulnerable communities in categories of poor men and women, persons with disabilities, teenage parents and youths with bicycles to enhance access to socio-economic services.



Mission

FABIO exists to empower vulnerable and poor people/communities in Busoga sub-region through community mobilization, capacity building, provision of bicycles, participatory civic engagements advocacy and networking leading to a sustainable health livelihood.



5.

OUR PROGRAMS

FABIO's work focuses on three key thematic areas; Livelihood, environment and governance.



Governance.

This program focuses on increasing citizens' participation in electoral processes, accountability and responsiveness of duty bearers and other civil servants.



Livelihood

This thematic area focuses on supporting communities with bicycles to access health services, education, markets, water services etc.



Environment

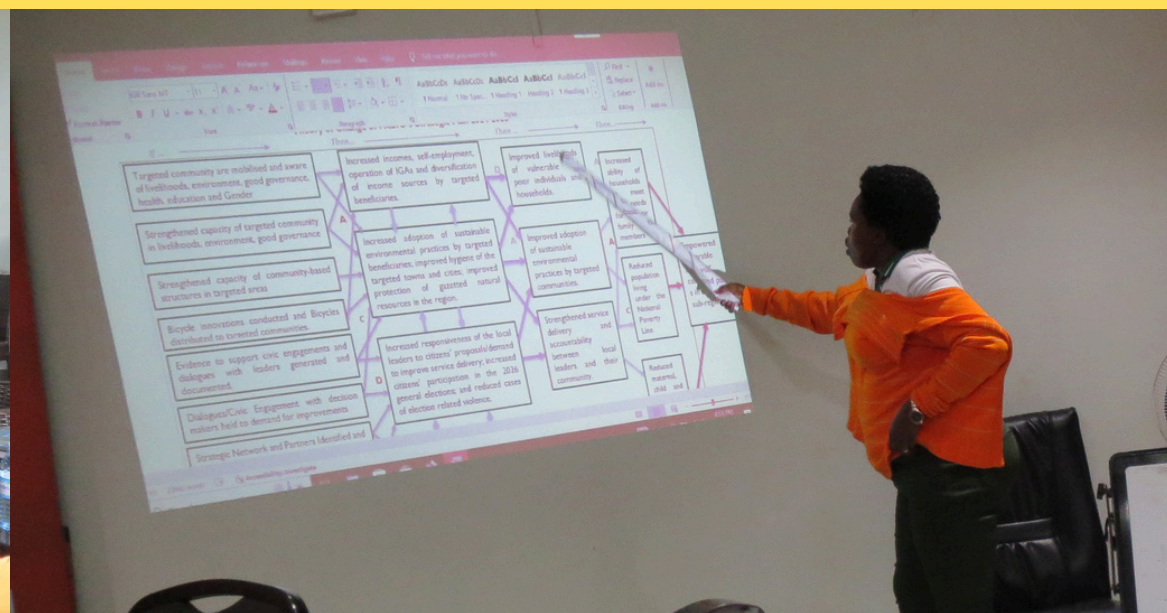
The main function of this programme component to promote sustainable environmental practices in targeted communities.

6.

KEY MISLESTONES

Organization Development.

Strategic plan



FABIO, through close collaboration with beneficiaries, community coordinators, and stakeholders, FABIO successfully developed a new five-year strategic plan (2024–2028). Building on insights gained from the previous plan, FABIO aims to enhance the impact of its programs by leveraging Participatory Rural Appraisal tools techniques to increase relevance and impact of program interventions, strengthen interlinkages of all program areas and activate community ownership and feedback generation.

Planning, reflection and learning

Consistent planning and reflection enabled FABIO's staff and board to develop a shared understanding of the various program components. This clarity of purpose significantly improved the quality of implementation across all levels of the organization.

On the other hand, regular reflection meetings provided a safe space to critically assess strategies while fostering a culture of continuous learning among staff and board members. By prioritizing this approach throughout the implementation cycle, both internally and externally, FABIO significantly enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of its operations.

Policies, systems and structures.

FABIO has been able to closely work with in their policies, systems and structures. Some of the policies were revised and updated. The human resource policy greatly guided management in coordinating organization operation which enabled organization efficiency and effectiveness.



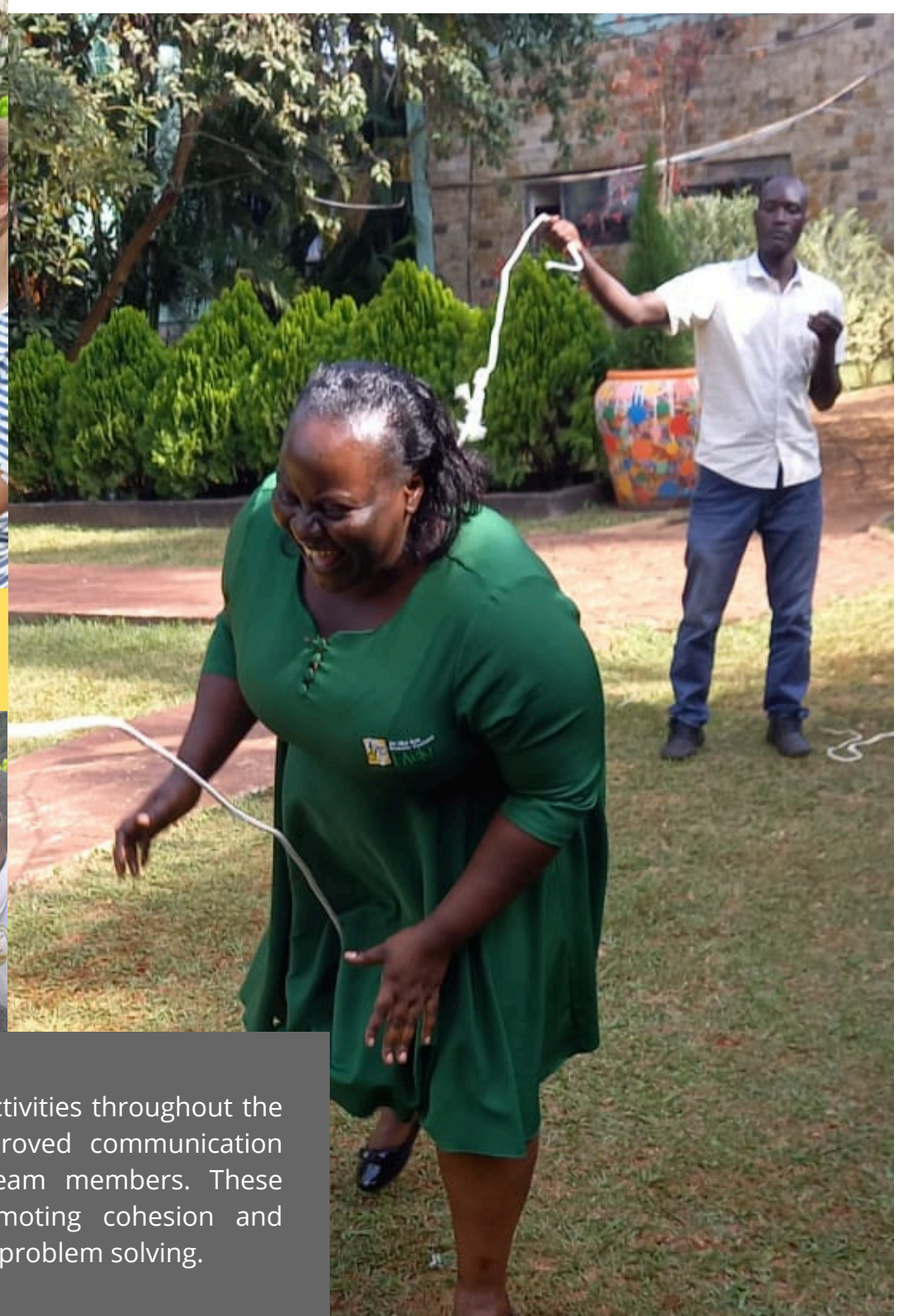
During the staff and board annual reflection meeting.



The Executive Director of FABIO awarding a certificate to Carol-volunteer from Germany upon her indelible cooperation and support during her time as a volunteer in the organisation.



FABIO consistently conducted team building activities throughout the year. These strengthened collaboration, improved communication understanding and fostered trust among team members. These activities also played a great role in promoting cohesion and productivity but also encouraged collaborative problem solving.



Organisation capacity

As a learning organization, FABIO has fostered a culture of continuous growth and skill development among its staff. Half of the team (5 out of 10) have enrolled in relevant courses to enhance their expertise, while all staff members (10 out of 10) have gained valuable on-the-job skills through collaboration with individuals across departments. This commitment to learning has led to a significant increase in productivity and overall organizational effectiveness.

- FABIO participated in a data protection training in Jinja City, gaining valuable insights into strengthening data security practices. The training highlighted key areas for improvement, provided a platform for networking, and introduced best practices that FABIO aims to gradually adopt to enhance its operations.



Annet Were- FABIO MEL Officer represented FABIO in the data protection training.

- Additionally, one of FABIO's technical staff went to Tanzania to train e-bike users on key aspects of repair and maintenance of the novel technology.



- Two of our staff attended a fold exercise on organisation development and programming
- One of our staff attended a training on story telling and documentation in Kampala, organised by Uganda National NGO Forum.





Visibility

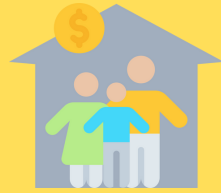
FABIO has gained significant media recognition, appearing multiple times on Bukedde, NTV, and Germany TV, highlighting its consistent progress and profound impact on vulnerable communities. The organization's social media department actively maintained its presence across LinkedIn, Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, YouTube, and its website. As a result of this engagement, FABIO garnered 1.2 thousand likes for its bicycle ambulance initiative. Additionally, Media Challenge produced a documentary showcasing the transformative impact of the bicycle ambulance on communities.

New partnerships and positions.

Considering the strong reputation FABIO has built over time, new partnerships have emerged in its favor. Notably, FABIO secured a working contract with GIZ, which funded the Eastern Region Civil Society Conference hosted by FABIO in Mbale. Having been graced by Rt.Hon Rebbecca Kadaga as the guest of honour, this conference not only enhanced FABIO's visibility but also created valuable opportunities for collaboration and advocacy. Additionally, FABIO was appointed Vice Chairperson of the Jinja NGO Forum and now plays a key role in the Eastern Region Planning Committee, further strengthening its influence in regional development initiatives.



LIVELIHOOD



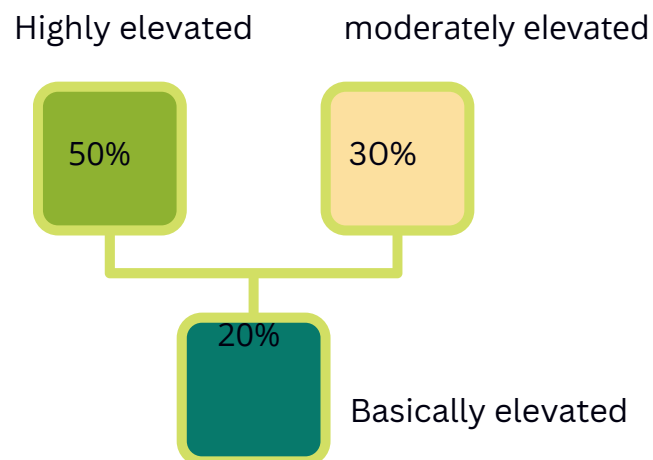
During a visitation from All We Can, several beneficiaries were visited, including Lumili Restored Hope SHG and Bubugo SHG. Individuals such as Mukoda Slima, an SHG beneficiary from Buwenge, Nabirye Fatuma from Bubugo, and Abakawaya Betty from Lumili were among those who shared their progress. Additionally, under the Cycle to School program, visits were made to Namuwanga Nadia in Lubani and Isamba Eddy from Bubugo. These beneficiaries expressed their gratitude for the support they received and promised to use the resources provided not only to sustain their households but also to expand their initiatives for long-term sustainability.

One of the Self Help Groups interacting with our partner-All We Can when they came to Uganda to assess the impact of the beneficiaries under the economic empowerment project- Self Help Groups and Cycle to School.

★ Economic empowerment

FABIO conducted monitoring across its 16 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and found that 80% of the members have successfully established and enhanced income-generating activities, along with other notable developments. These initiatives include piggery, poultry farming, house construction, and fish selling, among others. Additionally, group members now benefit from using FABIO donated bicycle to access their businesses, water sources, health services and further improving their well being.

Fig6.2.1 Percentage representation of elevated individuals in the self help groups



Beneficiaries whose lives have been transformed greatly motivate community members through their breath taking testimonies



“Although we had a bicycle from FABIO, that we were using for various purposes like fetching water, transporting firewood from the well, accessing health services among other things, we felt it necessary to buy a motorcycle and increase our earnings. However, after using the motorcycle for about 6 months, we got an emergency that required us to support our daughter who wanted to go and work in Dubai. This required us to sell the motorcycle. At the end of the second cycle, in 2023, I was able to save 1.5 million and my wife saved shs 500,000. We combined the money and opened up a garage where I now offer bicycle mechanical services.

TEZIKYE'S BREAKTHROUGH

Tezikya Willy is a 44 year old gentleman, a resident of Nabukosi A in Butagaya sub county, Jinja District and a member of Nabukosi SHG. Willy is a married man whose wife Nabirye Florence is also a member of the Self Help Group.

"Before joining Nabukosi Self Help Group, I wasn't in any saving group and so every time that I got an emergency I would find it hard to borrow money from anyone since individuals would make you go through lengthy processes.

Willy shared that before joining the Self-Help Group, life was challenging as he struggled to meet his family's needs as the head of the household. His wife, Nabirye Florence, supported him by selling pancakes, which helped sustain the family. Willy, with his background as a mechanic, worked at a local shop, but he faced challenges with his boss,

"I used to work at someone's shop but my boss was notorious that I always lost my mind. If he wasn't on good terms with anyone, he would close the shop and on such occasions, I wouldn't expect any penny yet my remuneration was remitted on a daily basis.

The first cycle of the saving earned me shs640,000 and my wife shs 400,000. However, having been insighted on the possible developmental initiatives that we can start up, we decided to combine money to buy a second hand motorcycle at shs 1000,000

Willy explained that although they had a bicycle from FABIO, which they used for fetching water, transporting firewood, and accessing health services, they decided to buy a motorcycle to increase their earnings. However, after six months, an emergency arose when their daughter wanted to go work in Dubai, and they had to sell the motorcycle to support her. By the end of the second cycle in 2023, Willy had saved 1.5 million, and his wife, Nabirye Florence, saved 500,000. Together, they opened a garage where Willy now offers bicycle mechanical services, marking his shift from working for his difficult boss to running his own business. Florence shared that her pancake business also grew, with her capital increasing from 7,000 to 200,000, enabling her to save 10,000 each week.



"Being a member of the savings group has brought me more customers than before and I attribute this to the group that has exposed me to more people in the area. " expressed Florence

Together with my wife, we brainstormed on how to increase our savings. I therefore borrowed shs 500,000 and purchased a motorcycle from an individual in the village on a loan, which will require my wife and I to credit the lenders' account with shs 70, 000 every week for a period of 2 years.

Tezikya emphasized that although he would have achieved this milestone alone, he acknowledges that his wife played a significant role in ensuring that they get where they are now. "Two heads are indeed better than one" Tezikya quoted.

Tezikya and Nabirye expressed that their next initiative is to purchase a huge plot of land where they can plant sugarcane on a large scale, specifically for sale in order to further increase their household income.

FATUMA THROUGH THE SELF HELP GROUPS ATTAINS A DRASTIC CHANGE IN HER LIFE.



Fatuma, an SHG beneficiary noted that in a period of 3 years, her life has showed off tremendous shifts by starting up a fish business whose capital increased from shs 50,000 in 2021 to shs. 800,000 in 2023. She is now able to cater for her children's necessities as a single mother.

BEING A PARENT AT MATUUMU SECONDARY SCHOOL GOT AGNES AN OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN A LIFE TRANSFORMING GROUP



Talivaawo Agnes is a 43-year-old and a member of Matuumu Self Help Group.

Agnes joined the group in 2023 when it was first formed. Prior to that, she wasn't involved in any group, and borrowing money was challenging due to the lengthy process. To make ends meet, she would dig in the morning and evening, with her husband selling the harvest at the market and giving her a small tip. Two of her children couldn't attend school due to financial struggles, as her husband could only afford to pay fees for one child. Fortunately, a friend informed her about the new group forming at Matuumu Primary School. As a resident of Matuumu and a parent of a child at Matuumu Secondary School, she became an eligible beneficiary.

When I joined the Self-Help Group, I didn't think that I would manage all I was able to raise was shs 2000 every week. In the due course of being a member of the group, I got an idea of benefiting from one of the programs introduced in our area, which was tailoring. So I borrowed shs 30000 to buy material and upon commencing my classes, it didn't take me much time to get on board.

Agnes shared that, in no time, she was able to make clothes, bags, shoes, and other items. At the end of her first cycle, she was amazed to have saved 140,000, having initially saved only 40,000. This motivated her to appreciate being part of the group. With the money, she bought new materials and negotiated with a shop owner to use her sewing machine in exchange for a small fee. Agnes has since made items like bags, "gomesis" (Kiganda cultural wear), purses, and dresses, which she sells to save money and contribute to her children's school fees.

Now, she saves 4,000 every week and uses the FABIO bicycle to access the market for sewing materials. Agnes hopes to buy her own sewing machine and start making her own items for sale, believing that this will improve her life and her family's future. "I'm sure that once I start doing this, my life and that of my family will not remain the same," she said.



Teenage mothers.

Following last years' monitoring, FABIO identified a significant gap in addressing the needs of teenage mothers—an oversight that previously hindered our mission to create a society where everyone is healthy, active, and has access to social and economic services. While our projects, such as Cycle to School and economic empowerment initiatives, benefited school-age children, men, and women, the unique needs of young mothers required additional attention. Community demand underscored this need, with many young mothers enrolling in our courses, eager to improve their lives.

In response, FABIO introduced a program for teenage mothers who became parents early in life. This program offered a four-month course in tailoring to thirty-six youths, including 34 females and 2 males, followed by six months of practical experience. The program was specifically designed to equip them with marketable skills such that the young mothers can gain economic independence and provide for their children.



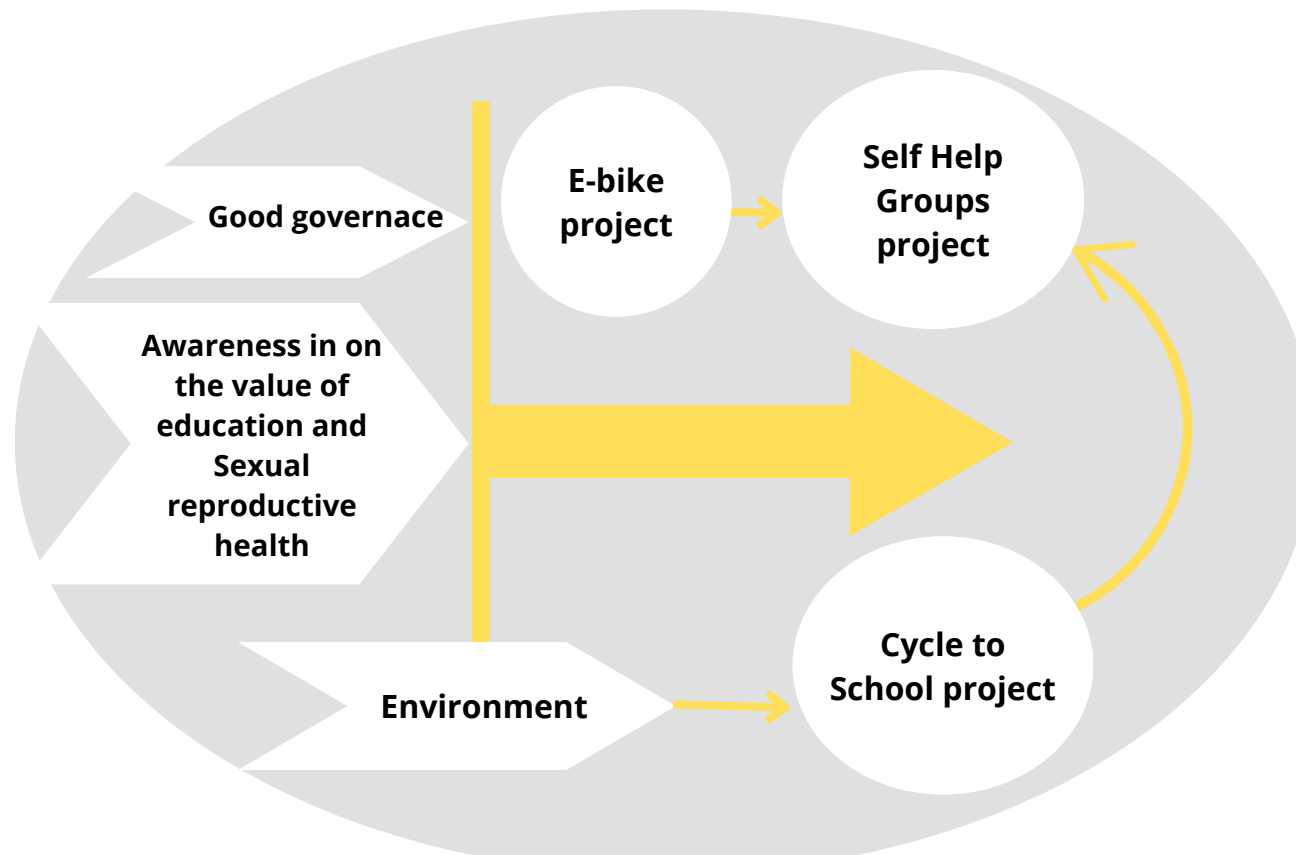
Sustainability of Self Help Groups.

In close collaboration with the Jinja District local government, FABIO successfully secured funding for two of its Self-Help Groups (SHGs): Nawanguma A in Namagera Town Council and Buwuma East in Butagaya Sub-county. Each group received UGX 5 million to boost their income-generating activities. Nawanguma A invested in four cows for dairy farming, while Buwuma East launched an innovative business venture aimed at improving community livelihoods. These initiatives are strengthening economic resilience and self-sufficiency within the groups.

Interlinkage across programs

FABIO has also endeavored to create inter linkages across projects and programs specifically to ensure concentration of impact ensuring that beneficiaries acquire support through different avenues all geared towards socio-economic empowerment.

Project interlinkage.





Education



FABIO continues to support vulnerable students facing challenges in accessing education. Many of these students travel long distances—8 to 10 km—to school, leading to high dropout rates. The long commute also exposes young girls to risks such as defilement, rape, and unwanted pregnancies. To address these challenges, FABIO provides bicycles to ease mobility, ensuring students remain in school and have a safer, more reliable means of transport

Providing bicycles has significantly improved school accessibility, increased student retention, and encouraged parents to support their children beyond O-level. Additionally, students with standard grades have better opportunities to connect with institutions for further education, secure scholarships, or find productive engagements after school, setting a foundation for a brighter future.

Hisamba, FABIO's former beneficiary narrates his journey. He was connected by FABIO to a medical institute where he got a scholarship to pursue a course in pharmacy.

"I received a bicycle from FABIO in 2020 while in S.1.

I used the bicycle for 3 years. Each day, I appreciated having got the bicycle because it not only enabled me to reach school in time, but also supported my family at home."

Hisamba asserts that on his journey as a student, he encountered school fees challenges and despite the fact that he had gotten a solution to the long distance, school fees turned out to be his biggest problem. It was in this period that the country encountered a Covid 19 outbreak which led to closure of schools. He embarked on brick laying and with this bicycle, I transported water and firewood.



Hisamba was able to successfully complete his ordinary level and because of his wonderful performance, he was able to get a scholarship from a medical institute. Recently, when we visited Hisamba's family, he revealed that faith and having goals have kept him going even when life has not been that easy for him.



“

“We are three children, and I’m the eldest. Our father abandoned us because he has other wives and children,” shared Hisamba. “Seeing my mother struggle every day to pay our school fees by selling cabbages inspired me to study hard. She later bought goats and continued farming to earn a living. The bicycle has been a great support, helping her access the market to sell her produce and provide for us.”

“

"My children are my priority. I have always worked hard to ensure they get good education," said Hisamba's mother. "After years of struggling, I developed diabetes, which made it difficult for me to move around selling goods. I then decided to manage a salon, which is now running successfully and provides school fees for my two children.

The bicycle has been a great support to my family, helping us earn income, transport animal feeds, and access hospitals when needed."


Handover of electric bikes

FABIO distributed 72 electric bicycles to Self-Help Groups to improve accessibility for target communities. Many of these communities have faced challenges in accessing healthcare or responding to emergencies due to transportation difficulties or the lack of immediate funds. The distribution of these bicycles is aimed at addressing these barriers, ensuring better mobility and timely access to essential services.



Although the Self Help Groups had already benefited from the multi resilience project where they had received 6 bicycles per group, FABIO consciously intervened with the Gisli project hence providing more 6 bicycles to each group of 30 members.

Specifically, the Self-Help Groups were provided with water carriers to support their daily activities. Recognizing the versatile uses of the bicycles, FABIO encouraged the groups to expand their use beyond just fetching water. The bikes were to be utilized to access health centers, gardens, and markets, offering greater convenience and efficiency in various aspects of their lives.



Since the handover of the e-bikes, they have been a solution to communities in that many of them have found it easy to access socio-economic services. They revealed that they are able to travel long distances of about 20 km and their confidence is that the bike is flexible since its rechargeable, strong enough to trail through the terrain. In addition, its on rare occasions that they incur costs since they dont have to fuel the bike or do consistent maintenance.



The bike is being used to transport various commodities from one place to another.



The bike is being used to transport water from wells which is located between 10- 8 km away from their homesteads



Some of the beneficiaries noted that they are able to sell off their poultry because customers are drawn to them due to the uniqueness of the bike. They are also able to access their gardens. using the e-bike.



Health

Recognizing the challenges communities face in accessing health services, FABIO developed a more suitable model of bicycle ambulances to better meet their needs. Initially, the community received manual bicycle ambulances (manyigakifuba), but these proved ineffective due to the physical effort required to transport sick individuals. Based on this insight, FABIO designed a new, more efficient model, a hybrid of electric bicycles with a trailer to ensure patient safety. These new bicycle ambulances can reach speeds of up to 30 km per hour and carry a load of up to 120 kg, improving both functionality and the overall image of the bicycle ambulance.



20 electric bicycle ambulances were distributed to health centers in Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, Mayuge and Kamuli districts.

They were specifically placed in the management of Village Health Teams (VHTs) and supervision of in charge officers.



The Resident District Commissioner (district presidential representative) of Kamuli District appreciated the efforts that FABIO exhibited especially in the selection because Kagumba Sub-county is a hard to reach area in that communities find it hard to reach the health centers. In addition, she noted that although they have the ambulance, there will be need to work on Kibuye road because communities complain that it inconveniences them. She therefore, requested the LC5 Chairperson and other leaders to work on Kibuye road.

Luuka	Mayuge	Iganga	Kamuli
Ikumbya Sub-county Ntayingirwa H/C11 Ikumbya Sub-county Nawanyago H/C 11/ Bunafu parish Ikumbya Sub-county Bugambo H/C 11 Ikumbya Sub-county Inula H/C 11	Kigandaalo sub-county/ Bugondo parish. Namalege H/C 11 Kigandaalo sub-county/ Isenda parish Bwalula H/C 11 Kigandaalo sub-county/ Kigulu Parish Bugulu H/C 11 Kigandaalo sub-county/ Kyoga Parish Kyoga H/C 11	Nakigo Sub-county/ Bunama Parish Bukwaya H/C11 Nawaningi subcounty/ Magogo parish Magogo H/C 11 Bulamagi sub-county/ Bukoyo parish Nawansinge H/C 11	Kagumba Sub-county Kibuye H/C 11 Balawoli subcounty PUFU H/C11-Kawaga Parish- Butalage 1 Kagumba Sub-county Kasolwe H/C 11 Kagumba Sub-county Kige H/C 11



Impact of the ambulances

FABIO conducted monitoring in the four districts where bicycle ambulances were distributed. The assessments revealed that the ambulances have had a significant impact on the lives of recipients. Key findings include:

Reduced Operational Costs

The use of bicycle ambulances has eliminated the monthly cost of transporting drugs and vaccines from Health Centre IIIs and IVs to the communities, which previously ranged from UGX 16,000 to UGX 40,000 per month. The e-bikes are now fully utilized for mobilization, outreach programs, and logistics, achieving a zero operational cost for transportation

Increased Child Vaccination and Deworming

There has been a marked improvement in childhood vaccination and deworming coverage. Previously, 60 out of 100 children missed these services; this has now decreased to 40 out of 100 children.

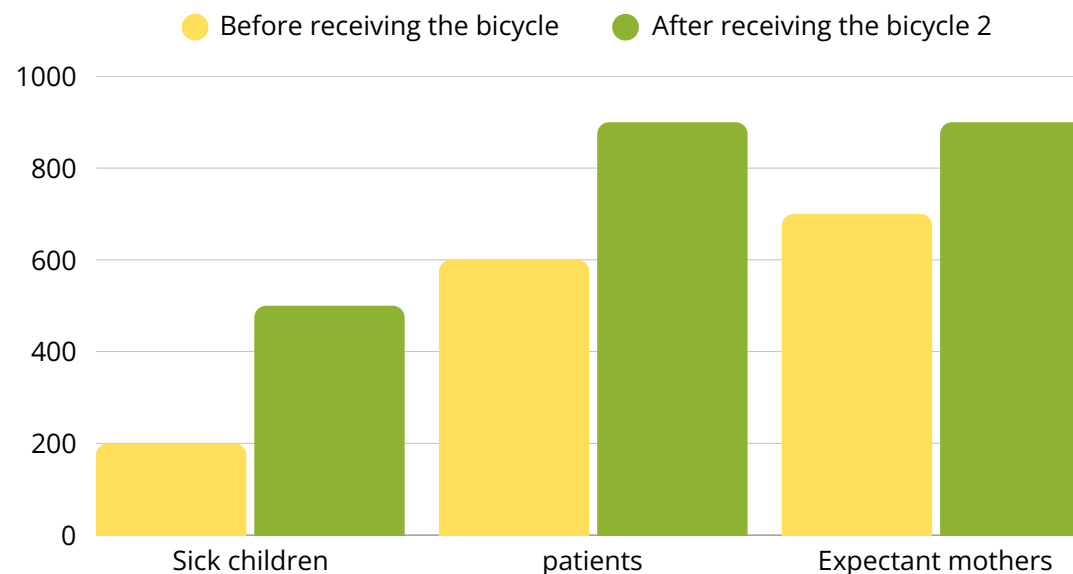
The introduction of bicycle ambulances has proven instrumental in enhancing healthcare access and delivery in the targeted communities.

Improved Maternal Health

The number of deliveries conducted by untrained local birth attendants has significantly reduced. Previously, 6 out of 10 pregnant mothers gave birth under local birth attendants. This has now decreased to only 1 in 10, with the majority delivering in health facilities.

Three categories of beneficiaries were ranked to be the biggest users of the ambulance; expectant mothers, sick patients and children.

The graph below is showing the monthly rate of beneficiaries who are able to access health services after receiving the ambulance visavie befor reciving it.





The VHT was able to use the bike to access the community to conduct immunisation, vaccination, sensitisation etc.

Testimonies from Village Health Teams and patients

Naisanga Ruth, the VHT of Bugambo Health centerII in Luuka district noted that before the intervention, a total of 250 mothers used to access the health center in a month, now a total of 500 expectant mothers are able to access health services. *“Some of them come for medication knowing there will be someone to help take them back without them having to spend on transport costs.”* She expressed. This is because their challenge of accessibility was mitigated by the e-ambulance.

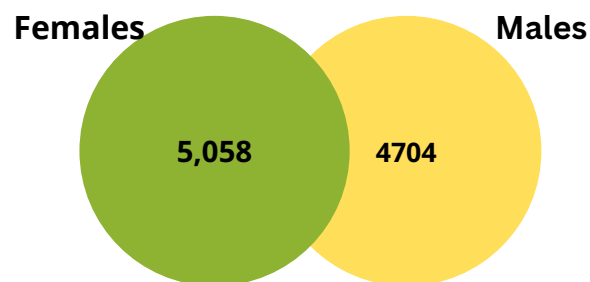
When we interacted with one of the beneficiaries, she noted that the bicycle saved her life, she was due but didn't even have a penny to access the health center, but because she had the contact of the VHT, he was just a call away, which enabled her to access the health center in time. *“The VHT is just a call away, it is also an added advantage for us who stay in the same village with him, because we can access the services even at night in times of emergency.”* She explained.

GOVERNANCE

★ Strengthening Citizens' Engagement in Elections. (SCENE)

In the bid to increase citizens' participation in elections and enhance responsiveness and accountability of leaders. FABIO in partnership with Uganda National NGO Forum conducted a Strengthening Citizens' Engagement in Elections (SCENE) program.

Various activities including 144 Topowa and Ekyoto conversations, 30 Barraza's, and 3 District interface meetings, one regional stakeholder engagement, one CSO strategy, radio talk shows were conducted amongst community members and leaders across Iganga, Jinja and Kamuli Districts, reaching out to over **9,724,000** community members and leaders;



As a result of FABIO/UNNGOF was able to register notable achievements but also commitments from leaders some of which were fulfilled.



Increased voter education.

Working with Electoral Commission of Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, we were able to offer voter education during the baraza meeting.

Increased appreciation of community meetings.

Communities now attach value to community meetings. Some of the groups said that they were able to go through the LC1 Chairperson and summon meetings to discuss various issues.


Increased responsiveness of leaders.

Leaders were able to acknowledge their gaps and committed to take action.

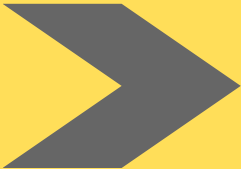


This shift in mindset has fostered a culture of transparency and responsibility, as evidenced by leaders who are now positive about giving accountability and taking action to improve service delivery


Some of the notable actions after the accountability forums include;




In Bulubandi village, Nakigo subcounty, Iganga District. Following a baraza meeting community members voiced their concerns, the local council 5 chairperson drastically responded by rehabilitating kyafu road in Bulunadi parish



During the baraza meeting in Kamuli District, community members raised concerns about commercial officers who had collected their money in pretext of supporting them to access Parish Development Model but never returned it. In response, the leaders swiftly took action, summoning the officers and ensuring the funds were returned.



In Nawanyingi Subcounty, during the baraza meeting, community members raised concerns about the poor condition of medical beds at Bunyiro Health Center III. In response, the LC5 Chairperson of Iganga District pledged to provide a new bed. By the end of last year, a bed was purchased—not only improving patient care but also being designed to accommodate Persons With Disabilities.



In Buwenge Town Council, Jinja City, community members raised concerns about garbage management during a Baraza meeting held in Buwenge Market Zone. The issue was swiftly addressed after the mayor, during the baraza, ordered immediate garbage collection, significantly improving sanitation in the area.





Strengthening Citizens' Engagement and Public accountability. (SCEPA)

Considering the impact registered after conducting accountability forums in Iganga, Jinja Kamuli, that greatly led to some notable changes in service delivery, FABIO in partnership with Uganda National NGO Forum, Royal Danish embassy, introduced a novel project dubbed SCEPA in Iganga District.

SCEPA was initiated in response to the prevailing apathy among citizens regarding governance issues, which has led to a loss of trust in public institutions.

The project aims to rekindle the spirit of active citizenship, foster accountability, and strengthen civil society.

10 groups were identified and mapped across 8 villages: Mawagala, Walugumo, Bunyiro, Buwolomela, Nagadudula, Lwelela, Nawanyingi Trading Centre, and Magogo, all located in Nawanyingi Subcounty, Iganga District. These groups are categorized as follows: people with disabilities (PWDs), women entrepreneurs, youth groups farmers groups, saving and credit among others.

The group leaders went through a training to equip them with knowledge and skills to run the conversations.



Photo of group leaders during the training in Mbale District.

The Esatern region CSO conference

FABIO, in partnership with GIZ, conducted a three-day Eastern Region CSO Conference in Mbale, attracting diverse civil society organizations and key stake holders from the Karamoja, Teso, Sebei, Bugisu, Bukedi, and Busoga sub-regions. The conference aimed to provide a platform for CSOs to discuss challenges within their operating environment and formulate actionable recommendations.

Key issues discussed included compliance burdens and taxation, which are particularly challenging as NGOs must meet all requirements despite the NGO Bureau offices being accessible only in Kampala. Participants highlighted that the current NGO Act is not favourable and requires revision to better support the sector.



The First Deputy Prime Minister, Rebecca Kadaga, served as the guest speaker. She advised CSOs to adopt innovative approaches, identify existing gaps, and create more avenues to address pressing issues such as teenage pregnancies. She encouraged organizations to move away from donor dependency and focus on fostering organizational sustainability. She also stressed the importance of compliance, urging CSOs to adhere to regulatory requirements regardless of their size, and to pursue strategic partnerships with the private sector to enhance their impact.

Additionally, she underscored the indispensable role of CSOs in achieving Uganda's National Development Plan III (NDP III) and Vision 2040 (NDP V). She pledged to advocate for CSOs by presenting their concerns to the Cabinet and amplifying their voices at the national level.



ENVIRONMENT



Car Free Day

Uganda has long struggled with high levels of air pollution caused by traffic congestion and poorly maintained vehicles. While a few individuals have embraced non-motorized transport, its role in reducing emissions is often underestimated.

Car-Free Days are globally recognized initiatives designed to promote inclusive transport and smart city concepts, contributing to improved air quality and healthier urban environments. By reducing the number of vehicles on the road, these initiatives also lower the risk of accidents, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists.

On September 22, 2024, First African Bicycle Information Organization (FABIO) celebrated International Car-Free Day, an event dedicated to promoting Non-Motorized Transport and smart city initiatives.

The day featured the launch of two bicycle stands at Jinja Central Market, offering safe parking for cyclists. FABIO led a city-wide procession that engaged the community in street cleaning and raised awareness about sustainable transport and smart urban planning. Key stakeholders, including the environment officer, city planner, deputy CAO, speaker of Jinja District Council, and local community members—such as students from St. Noah Mawagali, children from the Child Restoration Organization, and members of the Jinja Tour Guides Association Girls for Climate Action—attended the event.




All participants preparing for the band procession.



Motivation mobility alminis from st.Noa and their teacher Mr Massazi drawing their model city.



Jinja City duty bearers; City planner, CAO, District speaker, Natural resource officer, launching the bicycle stand in Jinja central market.



“Car-Free Days highlight the need for better infrastructure, such as dedicated bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly streets, and improved public transit, pushing governments to invest in sustainable urban development.

Government officials demonstrated their model city. : In the photo is the city planner drawing a model city.



The bicycle department- Innovation center



The department has continued to be a sustainable source of income to support the different organization operations. This has been through the consistent rental services that it has offered to the various clients including the tourists who were offered additional tour guide services.

On the other hand, trainings in repair and maintenance, assembling and constructions have continued to exist in the department. This has complemented the work of the programs department hence enhancing flexible implementation.



7.

LEARNINGS

As FABIO advanced through 2024, key insights were gained to inform decision-making and improve organizational operations, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness.

Branding of organizational products enhances our visibility and distinguishes us in the market.

Proper and consistent documentation, along with the sharing of FABIO's success stories with stakeholders at local, national, and international levels, enhances opportunities for resource mobilization and the development of strategic partnerships.

Strategic partnerships and networks with stakeholders at local, national, and international levels are essential for amplifying impact, enhancing security, and supporting resource mobilization.

Given the shrinking donor space, social enterprises play a crucial role in enhancing the organization's sustainability.

The organization's internal practices of conducting continuous staff reflection, learning, and planning sessions enhance staff capacities during project implementation, encourage team work, minimise conflicts and enable strategic decision making

Continuous media engagement and regular updates on FABIO's social media platforms enhance the organization's visibility, strengthen partnerships, and support advocacy efforts

8.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Financial statements for The First African Bicycle Information Organization January - December 2024

Source	Incomes	Expenditure.
1. All We Can	UGX. 172.675.707	UGX. 166.721.140
2. GIZ	UGX. 106.463.700	UGX. 95.936.845
3. UNNGOF	UGX.269.466.183	UGX. 269.492.785
4. EURIST	UGX. 69.689.980	UGX. 69.432.803
5. FABIO general funds	UGX. 8376.500	UGX. 7.926.500
6. Nijland cycling B	UGX. 8.034.836	UGX.7,144,830
Total	UGX. 634.706.906	UGX. 619.219.393

Executive Director.



Board Chair person.



9.

PARTNERS

FABIO believes that;" If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."- African proverb. We have benched on partnerships to be able to operate and attain sustainability. This year FABIO registered some new partners and the existing ones have been strengthened.



In partnership with



ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY
Kampala



Ambasáid na hÉireann
Embassy of Ireland



Sweden
Sverige



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Every
person's
potential
fulfilled



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