Uganda Community Libraries Association

2007-2021

Compiled by Kate Parry

kateparry@earthlink.net

UGANDA COMMUNITY LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
(UgCLA)
September 2021

Introduction

The Uganda Community Libraries Association (UgCLA) is a networking organization for community libraries in Uganda. It was registered as a national NGO in 2007 and since then has been joined by well over 100 member libraries, more than 20 of which were founded as a result of UgCLA's existence and encouragement. Other libraries that were established before joining UgCLA have had their capacity increased as a result of their membership of the organization. UgCLA holds conferences and workshops for librarians, solicits and administers grants from donors, and places volunteers in libraries according to the volunteers' interests and the libraries' needs.

Mission

UgCLA's mission is to complement the education system of Uganda and promote the development of productive literacy practices by encouraging and supporting the growth of community libraries. It aims to establish and maintain a network of such libraries throughout the country and cooperates for this purpose with other national organizations with similar interests, as well as with international organizations that are concerned with the promotion of literacy for development.

Governance

The Association has a Board of Trustees, which is elected every three years at the Annual General Meeting. The present Board members, elected in July 2017, are:

Name	Position in UgCLA	Professional position(s)
Justin Kiyimba	Chairperson	Director, Nambi Sseppuuya Community Resource Centre, former Head Librarian, Kyambogo University
Enoch Magala	Deputy Chairperson	Director, CFYDDI (Centre For Youth-Driven Development Initiatives)
Esther Kyazike	Treasurer	Director, Kawempe Youth Centre
Dan Ahimbisibwe	Secretary	Head Librarian, Kitengesa Community Library; Director, Tekera Resource Centre
Jane Kawalya	Member	Lecturer, East African School of Library and Information Science
Ivan Kaibo	Member	Librarian, Busolwe Public Library
Olivia Mugabirwe	Member	Director, Peerlink Initiative, Nyarushanje Community Library
Kate Parry	Past Chairperson Adviser	Professor Emeritus, Hunter College, City University of New York; Director for East Africa, Friends of African Village Libraries (FAVL);

UgCLA employs a coordinator, Mr. Emmanuel Anguyo, who works full time and serves UgCLA's member libraries, administers UgCLA projects, and takes care of records and publicity. He serves on the Board as a non-voting member.

UgCLA's Board develops general policies and makes recommendations on constitutional issues to the Annual General Meeting. The issues are then decided by vote. A Steering Committee comprising the Chair, the Treasurer, and the coordinator makes day to day operating decisions.

Members

When UgCLA was launched in 2007 it had only 14 member libraries. Over the following five years it experienced astonishing growth, to 92 members by 2011. In 2019 it has a total of 144 members registered altogether and it continues to be joined by new members. UgCLA's registered members are not all, or not always, active, but at present about fifty of them are, which means that UgCLA knows them to be libraries or information centers that are serving local Ugandan communities, mostly in rural areas. They are independent institutions, and their participation in UgCLA's activities is entirely voluntary. They are responsible to UgCLA only for such funding as comes to them through UgCLA's agency.

The libraries vary greatly in resources and capacity. Some enjoy regular support that has enabled them to build up substantial collections of several thousand books and to develop a variety of programs. Others can offer their users few books and may have to conduct library activities under a tree. The majority have a few hundred books and a modest room or building where people can meet and read. Many have close ties to one or more neighboring schools, and a considerable number have adult literacy programs. As from 2014, thirteen of them have internet access, four as a result of a project funded by EIFL (Electronic Information For Libraries) and organized by UgCLA in 2014. Several member libraries are extensions of local NGOs that work towards development more generally. Even those that are not part of a development NGO may run craft groups, demonstration gardens, and public health activities, for as community libraries they believe they should support the whole community and not just its literate members.

Most of UgCLA's member libraries were founded through local Ugandan initiatives and have deep roots in their communities. Some have enjoyed foreign support as well, the chief benefit of which is that they can afford a salary for a librarian. Those that have no such support must depend on voluntary labour and donations, or else on income generating activities such as charging telephones or running an internet cafe, which are generally dependent on their having electricity.

The libraries are considered institutional members, but UgCLA has individual members as well, who have joined because they appreciate the importance of the work the association is doing. Some of these individuals then go on to found libraries themselves.

Activities

National conferences and workshops

For the first three years of its existence UgCLA organized workshops twice a year to which every member library was entitled to send a representative (members were allowed to send two representatives to the first one). Then, as the Association became too big to work in a workshop format, an annual conference was instituted instead. Seven such conferences

have been held to date. Workshops are also organized for select groups of members in association with particular projects.

Workshops and conferences that are for the Association as a whole are usually organized round a particular theme. This theme is usually related to one or more projects to be carried out in the following months, as shown in the table below:

Date	Place	Attendance	Theme	Related project(s)
Jan. 2008	Pope Paul Memorial Hotel Rubaga	30 (17 CLs)	Project development and proposal writing	Competition for US Embassy grants
July 2008	Shine Hotel Kansanga	18	Initiating community libraries	US Embassy grants
Feb. 2009	Green Valley Hotel Gaba	35	Libraries as centres for education and development	Attendance of select representatives at Community
July 2009	Green Valley Hotel Gaba	30	Library Management	Libraries Conference at Kwekitui, Lushoto, and at Pan African Conference on Reading for All, Dar es Salaam
Jan. 2010	Kabubbu Resort	44	Reading programmes for children	Children's Book Project
July 2010	Kabubbu Resort	56	Working with children	Children's Picture Books
Jan. 2011	Masaka Social Centre	70	Libraries for health	Health Reading Camps AfriPads distribution
Jan. 2012	Masaka Social Centre	70	Libraries for the environment	Environmental activities in libraries, e.g. tree planting
Jan. 2013	Olive Leaf Hotel, Mbale	c. 50	Libraries for languages	Writing projects in libraries in partnership with African Storybook
Jan 2014	Nambi Sseppuuya Memorial Resource Centre	48	Developing an international profile	
Jan 2015	Kitengesa Community Library	49	Community engagement: Libraries for community empowerment	

Jan 2016	Uganda Development Services Library, Kamuli	> 40	Sustainability for libraries	• Partnership with Yunus Social Business • Office space and library in Kampala
July 2017	Kawempe Youth Centre, Kampala	> 50 (32 CLs)	New technologies: Implications for libraries	• Development of libraries' use of ICTs • African Storybook
July 2019	Centre for Youth Driven Development Initiatives (CFYDDI)	36 (26 CLs)	Community Libraries Enhancing Development Through Educational Innovation.	

In 2018 the Association held no conference since it was undergoing reorganization and was unable to raise the necessary funds.

Regional workshops

In 2011 the Association organized its members into regional clusters: Mbale (8 libraries), Jinja (10 libraries), Mukono (8 libraries), West Nile (11 libraries), Western (10 libraries), Masaka (7 libraries), and Kampala (15 libraries, including those that are not in Kampala but are far away from any other member library). The composition of these clusters shifts as more libraries join UgCLA and as others become inactive. In 2011 UgCLA was able to provide a small budget to each cluster for holding a workshop on a topic of the cluster's own choice and hosted by a library selected by the cluster's members. The Association was not able to provide such a budget in 2012 though discussion of environmental issues at the 2012 annual conference was organized on a regional basis and was followed up by a tree-planting project in a few libraries. UgCLA did organize a workshop for the Mbale cluster in January 2013 and held two for the Jinja cluster in September and November 2013. The Mbale workshop was funded by LitWorld, a nonprofit organization based in New York, and led to the establishment of LitClubs (i.e. reading clubs for children and teenagers) in each participating library. The Jinja workshops were funded by the African Storybook Project, and the participants focused on activities through which they could generate stories in their own libraries using Lusoga or another local language as the medium. Even without workshops, the managers of libraries in each region get to know one another at the annual conference, and it is quite common for them to visit one another's libraries.

Grants administered

UgCLA has administered a number of grants for different donors. The libraries to receive these grants are sometimes selected by UgCLA's Steering Committee on the basis of its knowledge of the strengths and needs of particular member institutions, but more often they are chosen through a competitive process; all interested libraries write proposals that are then assessed either by members of the Board or by the donors themselves.

The following table shows the grants administered so far. Amounts are in US dollars unless otherwise specified.

Date	Donor	Purpose	Amount	Beneficiaries
2008-9	US Embassy, Kampala	Develop capacity in project planning and implementation (competition)	$1000 for 6 libraries and funds for three workshops, $15000 total	1. Adult Education Centre Njeru, Mukon District 2. Inforall Community Library Kagoma, Kampala 3. Kabubbu Community Library, Wakiso District 4. Nambi Sseppuuya Community RC, Igombe, Jinja District 5. Uganda Development Services Kamuli 6. URLCODA Community Library Lokotoro Arua District
2009	Fountain Publishers, MK Publishers, Mr. Alan Shonubi, Mukono Bookshop	Enable librarians to attend the Pan African Conference on Reading for All in Dar es Salaam and a small conference on community libraries in Lushoto (competition)	$500 for 4 libraries, $2000 total	1. Caezaria Public Library Complex, Buikwe District 2. Mpolyabigere Community Library, Nsinze, Namutumba District 3. Nambi Sseppuuya Community RC, Igombe, Jinja District 4. URLCODA Community Library, Lokotoro, Arua District
2009	Douglas College with Coquitlam Public Library, through Libraries Without Borders Vancouver, BC	Enable a library to operate effectively by supporting the salary of a librarian (UgCLA's recommendation)	$3985.68CDN for 1 library	1. Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District

Date	Donor	Purpose	Amount	Beneficiaries
2010	Pockets of Change New York	Children's Book Project: supply locally purchased children's books and encourage programmes for children (competition)	$200 for 10 libraries, $2000 total	1. Bugiri Community Library 2. Bushikori Christian Centre, Mbale District 3. Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District 4. Busongora Rural Information Centre, Kasese District 5. Gayaza Family Learning Resource Centre, Wakiso District 6. Kitengesa CL, Masaka District 7. Kyabutaika CL, Nakasongola District 8. Mpolyabigere CL, Nsinze, Namutuba District 9. Queen of Heaven Yumbe 10. Suubi CL, Masaka District
2010	Hawk Children's Fund, University of Maryland Eastern Shore	Rural Solar Demonstration Project: develop library capacity by providing solar electricity (selection by Board)	c. $7500 for 2 libraries, $15000 total	1. URLCODA Community Library Lokotoro, Arua District 2. Mpolyabigere CL Nisinze, Namutumba District
2011	Pockets of Change New York	Children's Book Project: supply locally purchased children's books and encourage programmes for children (competition)	$300 for 6 libraries, $1800 total	1. Bunalwenhi CL, Mayuge District 2. Christian Community Foundation, Bududa 3. Ewadri Primary School Arua Sida Tuku CL, Arua District 4. The 6 Community Library Services, Busia 5. Zinunula Omunaku Educational Centre, Matugga, Wakiso District
2011	Pockets of Change New York	Innovative Libraries Project—mobile library (competition)	$1000 for 1 library	Bushikori Christian Centre, Mbale District

Date	*Donor*	*Purpose*	*Amount*	*Beneficiaries*
2011	Hawk Children's Fund	Health Reading Camps: use library resources to teach teenagers about HIV-AIDS and other health issues (selection by Board)	$ 1178 for 4 libraries, $4712 total	1. Caezaria Public Library, Ajija-Malongwe, Buikwe District 2. Kitengesa CL, Masaka District 3. Mpolyabigere CL, Nsinze, Namutumba District 4. URLCODA CL, Lokotoro, Arua District
2011	Douglas College with Coquitlam Public Library, Vancouver, BC	Enable a library to operate effectively by supporting the salary of a librarian	$2952.33 for 1 library	Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District
2011-12	Hawk Children's Fund	Children's Picture Books: UgCLA published 4 books especially designed for rural Ugandan children	$1000 for UgCLA	All member libraries received a set of the books produced
2011-12	Global Goodness	Family Literacy Project (selection by Board)	$1200 total for 2 programme units at 2 libraries	1. Gayaza Family Learning Resource Centre, Wakiso District 2. Bunalwenhi Community Library, Iganga District

Date	Donor	Purpose	Amount	Beneficiaries
2012	Book Aid International	Transforming Libraries: provide books and funds for refurbishment of libraries (competition)	£1000 pounds sterling & 700 books for 10 libraries, £10,000 total	1. Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District 2. Christian Community Foundation Bududa 3. Gayaza Family Learning Resource Centre, Wakiso District 4. Good Shepherd CL Hoima 5. Kawempe Youth Centre, Kampala 6. Koboko Community Information Centre 7. Mingoro Primary School, Arua District 8. Network for African Youth Leadership and Development, Kitetika, Wakiso District 9. Ragem Primary School, Arua 10. Randa Farmers' Library (now Hands of Action Community Library), Bududa District
2013	Book Aid International	Transforming Libraries: provide books and funds for refurbishment of libraries (competition)	£1000 & 700 books for 10 libraries, £10,000 total	1. Access Knowledge, Buiga, Mukono District 2. Blessed Foster Family Foundation, Lwanyi, Masaka District 3. Bushikori Christian Centre 4. Busongora Rural Information Centre 5. Bwera Information Centre 6. Kitengesa Community Library 7. Masese Child Development Centre 8. Mpolyabigere Kidiki 9. Sepi Mukombe Mpambara Public Library 10. The Six Community Library

Date	Donor	Purpose	Amount	Beneficiaries
2013	LitWorld	LitClubs in seven libraries around Mbale	$4334	1. Bunabumali Good Samaritan Orphan and Needy Project, Bududa District 2. Bushikori Christian Centre, Mbale District 3. Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District 4. Christian Community Foundation Bududua 5. Hadassah Primary School Community Library (later named Sarah Horowitz Memorial Library), Mbale 6. Joyce Memorial Community Library, Busoba, Mbale District 7. Randa Farmers Library (Hands of Action Community Library) Bududa District
2013	Hawk Children's Fund Ugandan Water Project Anonymous donor	Water for Libraries 10,000-litre water tanks provided to three libraries Contribution to cost of water tanks Contribution to cost of water tanks	$7000 $500 $3000	1. Caezaria Public Library, Ajija-Malongwe, Buikwe District 2. Nambi Sseppuuya RC, Igombe, Jinja District 3. Zigoti Community Library, Mityana District

Year	Organization	Project	Amount	Libraries
2014	Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL)	Funding, books, and equipment for 5 libraries to hold Health Reading and Computer Training Camps for school children, 11-15 August	$ 19030.65	1. Access Knowledge, Buiga, Mukono District 2. Busolwe Public Library, Butalejja District 3. Centre for Youth Driven Development Initiatives (CFYDDI), Gayaza, Wakiso District 4. Nambi Sseppuuya RC, Igombe, Jinja District 5. Organization for the Diffusion of Information on Society, Economy, and Finance (ORDISEF)
2014	Book Aid International	Children's corners for 3 public and 2 community libraries		1. Bonna Bana Community Library, Bukalabi, Luwero District 2. Zigoti Community Library, Mityana District
2018-2019	Book Aid International	Book Havens Project: children's corners in 5 community libraries in slum and rural areas.	Books and refurbishments grants for each library	1. M-LISADA (Music, Life Skills, & Destitution Alleviation), Nsambya, Kampala 2. The Mummy Foundation, Katwe, Kampala 3. The Amka Foundation, Community Library, Kasubi, Kampala

10

				4. Condominium Library, Bugolobi, Kampala 5. Art of a Child—Literacy Centre, Matuga, Wakiso District
2021-2022	Book Aid International	Community Reading Awards	£1400 per library to create greater access to books and establish new reading and learning opportunities for communities	1. Marko Lukooya Community Library 2. The Mummy Foundation, Katwe, Kampala 3. Katakwi Community Library 4. Mpolyabigere Community Library

Volunteers

UgCLA recruits volunteers to work in libraries from the United States, Canada, and Europe. These volunteers raise money for UgCLA or their sponsoring organization pays honoraria on their behalf. The Association in turn places them in libraries appropriate to their interests, provides for their accommodation and feeding, arranges from them to be met and escorted to their placements, and is available to help in case of an emergency.

The volunteers recruited so far are listed below:

Year	*Name*	*Country of origin*	*Host library*
2008, 2011	Espen Stranger-Johannessen	Norway	Caezaria Public Library, Busolwe Public Library, UgCLA central office
2009	Rebecca & Harriet Thorley	England	Inforall, Kagoma
2010	Jamila Lyiscott Nicole Winn	USA	Mpolybigere Community Library
2010-11	Andrea Dyck Jocelyn Preece	Canada	Bunalwenhi Community Library
2010-11	Brent Harris Kristopher Schmitz	Canada	Nambi Sseppuuya Community Resource Centre

2011	Mark Rausch	USA	Zinunula Omunaku Educational Centre
2011	Wariuru Mbura	Kenya (recruited in USA)	Bunabumali Good Samaritan Orphan and Needy Project
2012	Melanie Shim	Canada	Maendeleo Foundation
2013	Sonia Khabra	Canada	UgCLA central office
2014	Megan Mullally Alison Chadwick	Canada	UgCLA central office Kawempe Youth Centre
2014	Christine Madore	Canada	UgCLA central office
2015	Bilha Njuguna	Kenya (recruited in USA)	Kitengesa Community Library
2015-16	Kristen Myers Courtney Vaughan	Canada	Centre for Youth Driven Development Initiatives
2015-16	Renee Naidu Neima Ahmed	Canada	Caezaria Public Library
2015-16	Devon Bruce Ean McPhee	Canada	Nyarushanje Community Library Empowerment Centre
2015-16	Nicole Ternoway Katie McEvoy	Canada	Nambi Sseppuuya Resource Centre
2016	Alyssa Verre	Canada	UgCLA central office Kawempe Youth Centre
2016-17	Laura McEwan Melissa Baldock	Canada	Busolwe Public Library
2016-17	Amanda Wilson Hanna Weisdorf	Canada	Caezaria Public library
2016-17	Kelly McQuade Christina Zha	Canada	Centre for Youth Driven Development Initiatives
2016-17	Brandy Yagelinski Diya Basil	Canada	Nambi Sseppuuya Community Resource Centre
2016-17	Megan Potasse Susana Loewen	Canada	The 6 Community Library Busia

UgCLA has an agreement with Insight Global (formerly Youth in Development), based on Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada, to host student volunteers to Uganda on a regular basis. It has a similar agreement with Douglas College, also in Vancouver. Such volunteers are usually placed with member libraries, though the first Youth in Development ones worked for UgCLA itself.

The University of British Columbia's study abroad programme also sends volunteers on a regular basis to the Kitengesa Community Library and the Busolwe Public Library.

Impact

Since it was founded UgCLA has had considerable impact:

1. More than 144 libraries have joined it, and more than 50 have sustained their membership. These libraries represent all the major regions of Uganda so that the idea of supplementing schooling with less formal education at the community level is spreading throughout the country.
2. More than 20 libraries have been founded as a result of the founders' hearing about UgCLA. The Association cannot give them direct financial support, but it does provide advice and inspiration through the example of its established members.

3. At least 40 libraries have been transformed through their association with UgCLA, whether through receiving grants or through the influence of UgCLA-recruited volunteers, or both.

4. Even those libraries that have not yet received grants or volunteers have had their capacity increased through the training that UgCLA provides in its conferences and workshops. In particular, community librarians have become better at programme planning, proposal writing, record-keeping, and financial accounting, as has been evidenced by their active participation in conference discussions, the information they provide on UgCLA library profile forms, the quality of the proposals they produce, and the accounting that they provide for moneys received. The local prestige of libraries has also been enhanced through visits from members of UgCLA's Board, who are always welcomed with enthusiasm.

5. Educational provision in the communities served by libraries is improved both economically and effectively. Libraries are efficient because they serve a number of different schools at different educational levels. They also provide education to those who are not in school, such as young children, school dropouts, and adults who have never had the opportunity of schooling. In particular, libraries enable people to teach themselves. No quantitative study has yet been done to demonstrate the academic benefits of community libraries, but anecdotes such as the following illustrate the point.

    a. A boy who had been borrowing novels regularly from the Kitengesa Community Library came top in the A level exams of 2007 in Kampala. He claimed it was his score in General Paper that made him better than other candidates, and it was the novels that he had been reading that gave him the necessary language skills and general knowledge.

    b. The librarian at the Kitengesa library completed A level exams as an independent candidate and a Bachelor's degree through distance learning by working with the books and computer facilities that the library made available. He then completed a Master's degree in Development Studies.

    c. At Bushikori Community Library the girl who received a library prize for reading the most books in 2010 then came top in the PLE exams in 2011.

    d. Also at Bushikori, the neighbouring primary school, with which the library works, never before 2011 had more than two or three childen achieving distinctions in the Primary Leaving Exam in English. That year, however, which was the year following the library's participation in the Children's Book Project and its consequent setting up of activities to encourage children to read by themselves, 24 children achieved distinctions in the exam, while in 2012 26 children did.

    e. At the Christian Community Foundation in Bududa two girls who had performed best in the essay-writing activities that the library had based on the Children's Book Project books, got a grade of D[istinction] 2 in English in the Primary Leaving Exam of 2011. It should be noted that Bududa District schools generally have poor primary leaving results.

    f. P7 students at the Good Samaritan School for the Deaf all passed the Primary Leaving Exam at Level D 2 in 2016 after coming to the library on a regular basis throughout the year.

6. Across the country, the number of people who read of their own volition has undoubtedly increased. It has not yet been possible to do a survey of all UgCLA member libraries, but the 15 that UgCLA board members visited in 2012 reported an average of more than 330 people coming into the library every month. If these

15 libraries are representative of them all, the total number of visits to community libraries per month must be well over 30,000.

7. The existence of a community library may encourage other forms of social and economic development. The Kitengesa Community Library, for instance, has attracted both a forestry and a tailoring project which between them employ well over 200 local people. The Gayaza Family Learning Resource Centre has successfully introduced new farming methods, which enabled its clients to produce a maize harvest in the exceptionally dry season of 2013. The Caezaria, Nambi Sseppuuya, and Zigoti libraries are now in a position to provide water to their communities.

Research

UgCLA provides unrivalled opportunities for academic research, especially on the nature and growth of African literacy and on the relationship between literacy and social and economic development. The Kitengesa Community Library, in particular, has served as a research centre from its inception. The following is a select list of studies that have come out of this research:

Dent, V. 2007. Local Economic Development in Uganda and the Connection to Rural Community Libraries and Literacy. *New Library World 108* (5/6): 203-217 http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?issn=0307-4803

Dent, V. 2006. Modelling the Rural Community Library: Characteristics of the Kitengesa Library in Uganda, *New Library World, 107* (1/2): 16-30 http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?issn=0307-4803

Dent, V. 2006. Observations of School Library Impact at Two Rural Ugandan Schools, *New Library World, 107* (9/10), 403-421 http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?issn=0307-4803

Dent, V. and Yannotta, L. 2005. A Rural Community Library in Uganda: A Study of its Use and Users. *Libri*, 55, 1:39-55 http://www.librijournal.org/issues.html

Jones, S. 2011. Girls' secondary education in Uganda: Assessing policy within the women's empowerment framework. *Gender and Education* 23(4): 385-413.

Kendrick, M., and S. Jones. 2008. Girls' visual representations of literacy in a rural Ugandan community. *Canadian Journal of Education* 31(2): 371-404.

Norton, B., S. Jones, and D. Ahimbisibwe. 2011. Learning about HIV/AIDS in Uganda: Digital resources and language learner identities. *The Canadian Modern Language Review* 67(4): 569-90.

Parry, K. 2013. Borrowing patterns at the Kitengesa Community Library. Guest contribution in Valeda F. Dent, Geoff Goodman, and Michael Kevane, *Rural Community Libraries in Africa: Challenges and Impacts.* IGI Global.

Parry, K. 2011. Libraries in Uganda: Not just linguistic imperialism. *Libri* 61: 328-37. http://www.degruyter.com/dg/viewarticle/j$002flibri.2011.61.issue-4$002flibr.2011.027$002flibr.2011.027.xml;jsessionid=AFB32B2DEFE8E285E5524E3D2A2565EF

Parry, K. 2009. The story of a library in Uganda: Research and development in an African village. *Teachers College Record* 111(9): 2127-47.

Parry, K. 2008. It takes a village -- and a library: Developing a reading culture in Uganda. *Edutopia Magazine Online*. http://www.edutopia.org/global-education-uganda-community-library

Parry, K. 2007. A library for learning: experiences of students in Uganda. Presented at ELITS Conference Shepstone, South Africa, August 9, 2007.

http://www.kzneducation.gov.za/Portals/0/ELITS%20website%20Homepage/Conferences/ELITSkeynote0707.pdf

Parry, K. 2004. Opportunities for girls: A community library project in Uganda. In B. Norton and A. Pavlenko (eds.) *Gender and English language learners*. Alexandria, VA: TESOL.

Parry, K. 2002. Literacy for development? A community library project in Uganda. *Language Matters* 33(1): 142-68.

Parry, K., E. Kirabo, and G. Nakyato. 2014. Working with parents to promote children's literacy: a family literacy project in Uganda. *Multilingual Education*, **4**:13 http://www.multilingual-education.com/content/4/1/13

Stranger-Johannessen, E. 2009. *Student Learning through a Rural Community Library: A case study from Uganda.* Unpublished master's thesis, University of Oslo http://eprints.rclis.org/bitstream/10760/13127/1/Espen%27s_thesis_finished_1.pdf

Stranger-Johannessen, E. & Norton, B. 2017. The African Storybook and language teacher identity in digital times. *Modern Language Journal, 101*:S1

Partner organizations

UgCLA could not operate without the support of a number of generous partners. These partners are listed in the table below:

Organization	Geographical base	Role in relation to UgCLA
African Storybook	Johannesburg, South Africa	Through its website and app makes stories available to libraries in several Ugandan languages. Supports projects for the use of its stories and the production of new ones in UgCLA member libraries.
AfriPads Uganda Limited	Uganda	Distributes its products through UgCLA's network and employs former Library Scholars from the Kitengesa Community Library.
Anabel Resource Centre	Uganda	Helps member libraries make more productive use of ICTs.
Book Aid International	London, UK	Has funded and overseen Transforming Libraries Project Phases I and II. Helped establish children's book corners in two libraries. Is supporting a project for libraries serving children in urban slum areas in 2018-19.
Douglas College	Vancouver, Canada	Sends interns on a regular basis. Has helped to raise funds for the Busolwe Public Library.
Coquitlam Public Library	Vancouver, Canada	Collaborated with Douglas College in raising funds for the Busolwe Public Library.
Friends of African Village Libraries	California, USA	Helps raise and account for funds; advises on policy;

		provides training materials and ideas.
Global Goodness	New York, USA	Funded Family Literacy Projects at two libraries.
Hawk Children's Fund, UMES	Maryland, USA	Provided grants for several specific projects.
Insight Global (formerly Youth in Development)	Vancouver, Canada	Provides volunteers on a regular basis.
Ka Tutandike	Uganda	Provided office space from 2008 to 2012.
LitWorld	New York	Supported LitClubs in 2013 as an educational activity in one regional cluster of libraries.
Maendeleo Foundation	Uganda	Contributes expertise in computers and ICTs; hosted website.
National Library of Uganda	Uganda	Has allowed UgCLA to use its postal address since 2007 and provided office and meeting space from 2014 to 2015. Helps in the storage and distribution of donated books.
Pockets of Change	New York, USA	Provided grants for several specific projects.
Under the Reading Tree	Vancouver, Canada	Covered the running costs of five libraries for five years; paid the salary of an additional UgCLA coordinator for five years.
United Nations 1% for Development Fund	New York, USA	Provided funds for furniture and buildings for a couple of libraries; channels funds raised by personal contacts in the UN.
University of British Columbia	Vancouver, Canada	Provides volunteers on a regular basis.

Funding

UgCLA depends on the following sources of revenue:

- Member payments. As from 2013 each member library is asked to pay an annual subscription of 50,000 Uganda shillings. From 2017, those who send a representative to the conference are asked to pay 25,000 shillings towards the conference costs. In 2019 this contribution has been raised to 50,000 shillings.
- Payments for donated books. UgCLA covers the transport and clearing costs for the books it receives from Book Aid International. It recoups these costs from the libraries that receive the books, at a rate of 30,000 shillings per box.
- Volunteer contributions. Each independent volunteer is asked to raise $1000 for the Association. Volunteer sponsoring organizations pay $250-$300 per month for each volunteer.

- Grants from organizations. Such funding is generally designated for projects in particular libraries.
- Contributions from private donors. Those who wish to support the Association's work send their contributions to Friends of African Village Libraries who forward the funds to UgCLA as needed.
- Contributions in kind. Ka Tutandike generously provided UgCLA with office space from 2007 to 2012, Professor A. B. K. Kasozi provided the same between 2012 and 2014, and the National Library did from 2014 to 2015. Each of these donors also provided wireless internet access. UgCLA paid no rent for these facilities. From June 2018 Kawempe Youth Centre has provided office space for which UgCLA pays a small contribution to rent and utility costs. UgCLA's Board members are also generous with their time, carrying out tasks for the Association without payment.

UgCLA is a frugal organization, operating with a minimal administrative base. The vast majority of its revenue goes to its member libraries, whether in the form of direct grants or in the form of training and encouragement provided through conferences, workshops, and visits.

Sustainability

UgCLA has done well so far in expanding its membership and building its members' capacity, and it is confident that it will continue for the foreseeable future to be able to raise funds for special projects. As it grows and undertakes more projects, however, it will need to expand its administrative structure, and it has already experienced difficulty in raising funds for administration. To continue and expand its operations, therefore, UgCLA proposes to pursue the following strategies:

1. Make a concerted effort to obtain grant funding for developing its capacity so that it can improve its office facilities and employ an assistant for the coordinator.

2. Include in the budgets for grant-funded projects carried out in individual libraries sufficient funds for related workshops (including the annual conference) and for UgCLA staff's related travel, communication, and office expenses.

3. Require member libraries to pay subscriptions high enough to support UgCLA. A step was taken in this direction at the Annual General Meeting in January 2012 when members agreed to increase their payments from a 30,000 shilling annual subscription to a 50,000 shilling subscription together with a conference contribution. The conference alone, however, costs at least 100,000 shillings for each representative, and it is extremely difficult for most member libraries to raise so much money. To be able to pay a realistic subscription that will cover the Association's administrative costs, member libraries need considerably raised revenues. UgCLA aims to help them achieve such revenues by:
   a. Soliciting funds from donors for capital projects that can generate income for individual libraries. Examples are provision of solar electricity, erection of buildings that can be rented, purchase of computer and ICT equipment, and provision of water tanks.
   b. Forming partnerships between libraries and foreign institutions such as libraries, schools, or churches, which would be willing to support their partner libraries' running costs, including UgCLA subscriptions and contributions.

      c. Asking local governments to institute a line in their budgets to cover salaries for librarians so that any other revenue that the libraries raise can be used for purchasing books, developing programmes, and supporting UgCLA.

      d. Encouraging libraries to form partnerships with local schools under which the schools pay subscriptions in return for regular delivery of books.

4. Build up more relationships with institutions in North America that are interested in placing interns in libraries.