

UNITING GIRLS AGAINST POVERTY(UGAP)

ANNUAL REPORT **2024**



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INTRODUCTION: **UGAP** IS GETTING BETTER QUICKLY, WHILE MANY TRENDS ARE WORRYING

We hereby present the annual report of the year 2024 of UGAP Organization in Kenya. This is always a moment for me personally to thank everyone who contributed to the work of UGAP in 2024.

The data of the last year reflects that we have achieved results to be proud of, despite some major challenges. Overlapping crises are threatening to reverse a lot of progress made in the past years. Long term trends such as climate change and population growth are clearly visible in Kenya and have an undeniable effect. Shorter term crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic show the interconnectivity of the world as a whole. While interconnectivity is often a good thing, when circumstances deteriorate, the most vulnerable people in Kenya pull the shortest straw. This suffering around us leaves us with no other option than to remain ambitious. This is why we aim to double our impact over the time window 2024-2025 .

In 2024 alone, we have reached over 25,000 girls and young mothers. Our dashboards show that our holistic approach works, and in the coming years we will be doubling down on this needs-based personalized approach. UGAP was started to create impact, guided by a strong focus on data & evidence, maximizing the social return on investment. We are deeply grateful for all the support we have received and we look at the future with confidence: exciting opportunities are manifesting themselves. Whether you are employed by UGAP, contributed as a volunteer in Kenya or overseas, donated funds, advocated for UGAP's cause or partnered with us in any other way: we sincerely thank you!

We hope we can count on you again in our efforts to empower the most vulnerable people and to give them hope of a better future.

1: LOOKING BACK ON 2024

2024 has been another very remarkable year.

The beginning of the year was still much characterized by the COVID-19 pandemic, of which the measures taken by the Kenyan Government had a massive impact on children's education possibilities and gave families economic hardships as a result of the declining economy. The re-opening of the schools in January was a big factor in a slow return to "normalcy".

As UGAP we have continued to assist people as much as we could. The cash transfers used during the lockdown have now been incorporated into our regular way of working and are added to our "toolbox" of instruments to apply, if deemed useful and suitable.

In 2024 UGAP has laid the groundwork for further professionalization, especially in fundraising and monitoring & evaluation. Our extra efforts in fundraising have led to many new exciting partnerships, which bring new ideas and push us in new directions. Outstanding growth has been realized in UGAP's monitoring & evaluation department, all the time increasing our understanding of what works, for who, in which situations and - in combination with our finance department - against which costs!

At time of writing, we know that these efforts in 2024 have changed the future of UGAP, enabling us to help many more children than ever before.



Girls' development is multi-dimensional, we believe our solutions should be too, that is why we take a holistic approach.



2: THE UGAP METHOD

As UGAP we are driven not only by the desire to do good and to level the "lottery of life", we are driven by the desire to do as much good as we can. We owe this to the children and families who depend on us. Doing good is not good enough, we have to do good better. For this purpose we have developed the UGAP method.

**WE TAKE AN ADAPTIVE AND EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH,
INFORMED BY DATA, EXPERIENCE AND EVIDENCE,
DRIVEN BY LOVE,
FUELLED BY ANGER ABOUT THE INJUSTICE OF THE "LOTTERY OF LIFE".**

I Needs assessment

We make evidence-based assessments, based on the Child Status Index (CSI), and prioritize the children for whom our intervention will have the highest impact in terms of well-being. In case we discover emergency situations during the initial identification phase, we refer these children for emergency relief, either executed by Macheo or by relevant Government functions. Once we have identified those in most need, we investigate their strengths, development needs and the root causes of these needs. Based on this investigation, we work together with them on a plan to support and empower them and their families.

II Service delivery

Based on this plan, we use our experience and the expertise of our locally embedded social workers, to select the most effective and appropriate intervention(s) and to address the root causes where possible. We continuously check how our interventions affect the needs and adjust our strategy where needed.

III Evaluation

After all services have been provided, we return to the children and families and repeat the needs assessment process. The difference in CSI-score between the intake and evaluation is the impact we made. To make sure the progress is sustainable we follow up after 6 months and after 18 months.

IV System improvement

The lessons learned are implemented back into the next needs assessments and service delivery. The data and lessons learned are a constant driver for further innovation and optimization.

3: THE SERVICES WE PROVIDED



1 children's home:

1a temporary residential care **83 GIRLS**

1b family reintegration **218 CHILDREN**

1c baby house **21 BABIES**

2 facilitate emergency family support: **961 FAMILIES**



3 individual school support:

3a payment of school fees **169 CHILDREN**

3b direct school support for individuals (uniform) **2,808 CHILDREN**

3c direct school support for individuals (desk) **260 DESKS, 780 CHILDREN**

4 facilitate age appropriate school access: **31 CHILDREN**



5 individual health support: **884 CHILDREN OR CAREGIVERS**

6 household economic strengthening: **1,051 CAREGIVERS**



7 malnourishment interventions: **276 CHILDREN**

8 child protection & alternative family care:

8a child protection - rescue **206 NEGLECTED OR ABUSED CHILDREN**

8b child protection – seminars **2,494 YOUNG MOTHERS**



9 counselling:

9a individual counselling & parenting guidance **776 GIRLS**

9b group counselling **253 CHILDREN**

10 assist teenage mothers: **256 TEENAGE MOTHERS**



11 infrastructure:

11a improve household physical living conditions **954 GIRLS**

11b improve school infrastructure **2 CLASSROOMS**

12 school feeding:

12a lunch **6,518 CHILDREN**

12b porridge **8,500 CHILDREN**



13 provide deworming: **21,584 CHILDREN**

14 sports & games in schools: **6,500 GIRLS**



15 adolescents' reproductive health, hygiene and life skills: **8,000 GIRLS**



4: THE DIFFERENCE WE MADE

UGAP is passionate about creating fairer living circumstances and chances for children, and we aim to achieve this through applying the different interventions selectively. Since the challenges these children face are multi-dimensional, our solutions have to be adapted to different complex situations as well.

We know whether the individual interventions achieve their targets (measured through intervention-specific Key Performance Indicators), but how do we know all these interventions do lead to change in children's well-being? As explained under the UGAP method page, we do this through the Child Status Index, which we fill out on intake and on exit.

Below is the impact we created on average (!) for the 2,580 children in 2021 that followed this whole process. This impact was achieved through applying multiple interventions, sometimes assisting the caregiver, sometimes relief is needed before development can take place, sometimes our interventions impact the children directly.

Child Status Index Outcome January - December 2024



The average positive change in 6 out of the 7 domains is impressive. Most difficult domain is Food & Nutrition, where we have reached our target on average, but are still not as successful as we want to be with a considerable percentage of children. We are encouraged by these results and will continue our journey to understand better what works in which situation and against which costs, so that we can use our limited resources in the manner which generates most impact.

5: THE STORY OF VALERIE...

We would like to share the story of Valerie* here, one of the children UGAP helped in 2024.

Valerie is the last born child in a family of 3 children. Her father is a casual labourer that does odd jobs to feed his family while her mother has a small embroidery business. We met Valerie during the covid 19 pandemic period when casual jobs were inaccessible and her mother's business had vastly deteriorated. During the assessment, Valerie was 18 months old, weighing 8.2 kgs and her height was 78.5 centimeters with a Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) of 12.5 centimeters, which showed us Valerie was suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. Valerie's parents could barely afford food for their household. Her mother, June*, had no knowledge on nutrition and was discouraged to see her daughter unhealthy. When we first visited her, Valerie was very irritable and would cry a lot. She had no appetite and would eat little to no food. She was taken to the hospital where she was diagnosed with malnutrition.



When we talk about relief versus development, this is a clear example of how the acute challenges made it impossible for the otherwise very willing and caring parents, to think and work towards the longer-term well-being of their family.

Her parents first received a cash transfer that enabled them to purchase all the dietary supplements required as well as food for their household. June also received nutrition education to help her better care for Valerie and her siblings. She ensured that Valerie started eating healthy nutritious food as well as taking her dietary supplements. Valerie began to recover as continuous follow-ups and home visits were done by UGAP staff, at every visit encouraging the parents and closely monitoring the situation.

Due to the improving situation, the assistance and the encouragement, the parents began to see new opportunities and started working towards a better situation for their family.

Presently, Valerie has fully recovered and is feeding well. She loves to play with her siblings and enjoys walking around her compound with her neighbouring friends. Through further support and guidance, June was able to restore the embroidery business that is helping her to care for her family's needs. Her husband also helps out with family expenses as he is no longer in lack of casual jobs.

They are empowered through the support they received through UGAP, and are especially happy seeing their daughter Valerie healthy and thriving.

* = to protect their privacy, these are not the real names and the picture is illustrative

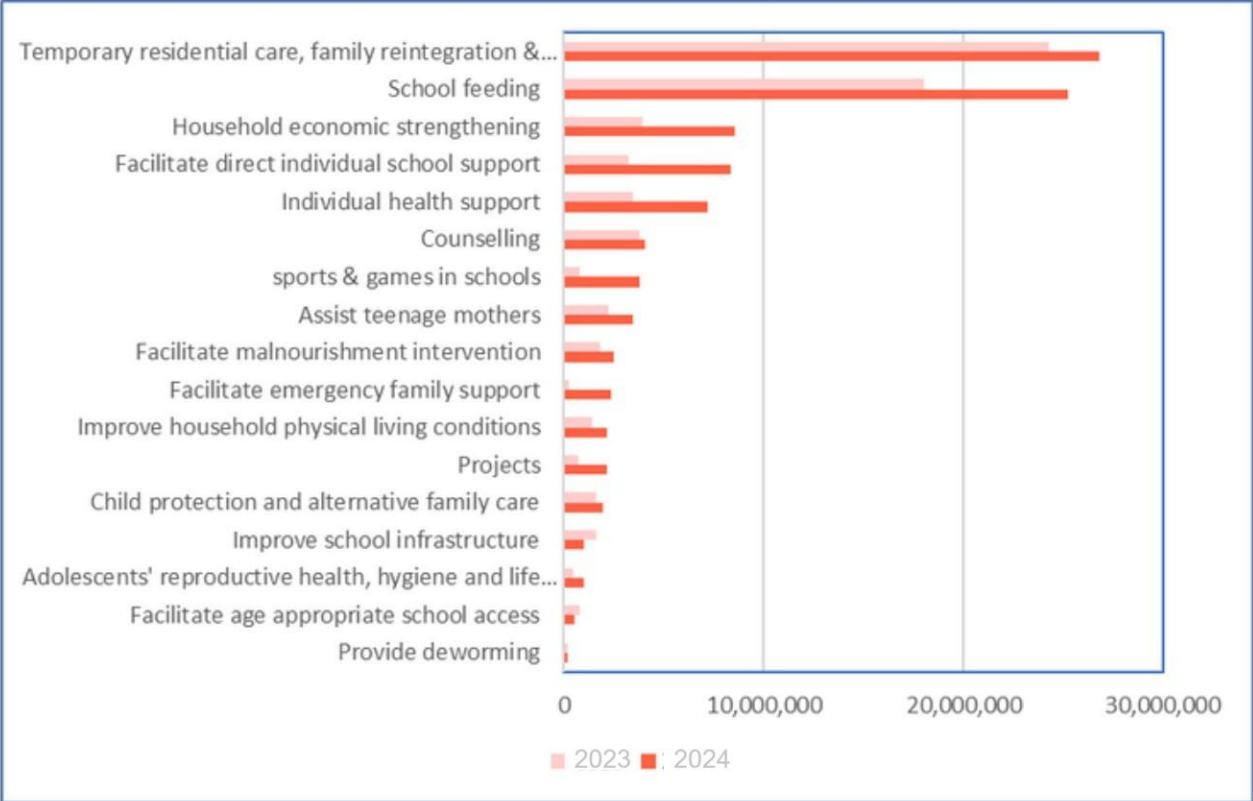
6: FINANCES

The financial records of UGAP Organization NGO in Kenya are audited by an independent auditor, who is selected and appointed by the board. In 2024 this was done by Mbiyu Muhia and Associates (CPA). Full audited accounts are available on request (finance@ugapafrica.org), here we choose to present the main overview. UGAP's program expenses grew with 26% in 2024, while keeping our non-program expenses at 2.7%

Statement of comprehensive income	2024 (KSHs)	2023 (KSHs)
Revenue	102,600,654	81,653,108
Total revenue	102,600,654	81,653,108
Program expenses	101,131,065	79,966,764
Administrative expenses	1,250,807	992,113
Supporting expenses	402,542	158,384
Other operative expenses	1,193,999	1,331,787
Total expenditure	103,978,413	82,449,048
Surplus (deficit) for the year	(1,377,759)	(795,940)

Statement of financial position	2024 (KSHs)	2023 (KSHs)
Non-current assets:		
Property, plant and equipment	28,489,305	31,267,256
Current assets:		
Trade and other receivables	934,622	23,999
Cash and cash equivalents	13,911,611	13,277,522
Total assets	43,335,538	44,568,777
Current liabilities:		
Trade and other payables	1,706,977	1,210,968
Funds:		
Property & Equipment / Capital fund	28,489,305	31,267,256
Accumulated / general fund	2,215,875	740,784
Restricted funds	10,923,380	11,349,769
Total funds & liabilities	43,335,538	44,568,77

Below are the expenditures for UGAP for each of the different interventions. We have seen an increase in all interventions, except for "Improve school infrastructure" and "Facilitate age appropriate school access" and "deworming". Largest absolute increase was in "School feeding" (from 18 to 25 M KSHs).



7: CONTACT DETAILS

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*"Empowering Girls
and Young Mothers
to Lead Resilient
Lives"*