

ANNUAL REPORT

20
23



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Foreword

Dear PCF Family,

We are delighted to present to you our annual report for the year 2023.

This report showcases the remarkable work that we have done together to transform the lives of children in Uganda and beyond.

The past year was one of the most challenging and uncertain for millions of children around the world. They faced unprecedented threats from climate change, violent conflict, and the post covid-19 pandemic impacts which disrupted their access to basic rights and safety.

Despite these difficulties, we did not lose hope or give up on our mission. Thanks to your generous support, we were able to overcome many obstacles and achieve amazing results. We implemented projects that reached thousands of children, communities and young people who play an integral role in advancement of our work

We also expanded our network and partnered with new organisations and individuals who share our vision and values.

We are immensely grateful for your unwavering support and commitment to the Phoenix Children Foundation.

You are the reason why we can continue to make a difference in the lives of children. You are the reason why we can dream of a brighter future for them.

We invite you to read this report and learn more about our impact and stories. We hope that you will be inspired by our work and join us in our journey to create a world where every child has a fair chance in life.

Thank you for being part of our community. We look forward to working with you in the coming year.



And if you can do it, let it be for a child!

**Darren Namatovu,
PCF Founding Executive Director.**

Who we are?

Phoenix Children Foundation (PCF) is a youth-centric non-profit organization founded in 2020 with a steadfast commitment to transform the lives of children in Uganda by advancing their fundamental rights.

Uganda, is home to a multitude of children grappling with entrenched systemic challenges. These obstacles encompass the harsh realities of poverty, malnutrition, limited access to education and healthcare, the looming specter of climate change, child labor, and an array of other pressing concerns.

PCF stands as a beacon of hope and action, strategically crafted to confront and alleviate these challenges. Our primary mission is to create a secure and nurturing haven for the children within our community, providing them with the opportunities and support they deserve.

"Just like the phoenix, we are determined to raise millions of children from the ashes of systemic challenges and give them a new hope."

Central to our mission is a dedicated team of passionate staff and volunteers who tirelessly strive to make a tangible difference in the lives of these children. United by a shared vision, we labor earnestly, knowing that every effort contributes to the brighter, more promising future we envision for the children of Uganda.



Statement of mission and vision



Mission

To see every child in Uganda thriving in a safe and nurturing environment, with their rights protected, valued, and respected

Vision

To transform Children's Lives in Uganda by advancing their Rights. We believe that every child has the right to live a happy and healthy life, and we are committed to making that a reality

Our Impact and Achievements

Phoenix Children Foundation has achieved remarkable success since its inception in 2020. Over the past three years, the foundation has made significant strides in its mission to improve the lives of children and communities.

The year 2023 was our most impactful yet challenging year. We were able to implement and partner with different youth organizations on projects that aligned with our goals, objectives, and thematic areas.

These initiatives transformed thousands of children’s lives and confirmed the need and urgency of our work and how much we can achieve as a collective.

Stories and testimonials from different partners, projects and beneficiaries.

350 350org

350

Renewable energy projects like this that are needs-led and community-centered will bring us closer to climate justice.

We already have the solutions, now we just need the money to make them a reality.

CLIMATE FRESK

Phoenix Children Founda... · 09/06/2023

Phoenix Children Foundation Host

The Role of Decentralized Energy Systems in community empowerment.

▶ 9 Jun 2023 · 2h 11m · 215 tuned in

Play recording

Phoenix Children Foundat... · 09/05/2023

Host

Phoenix Children Foundation Host ...

Socializing Energy Democracy; the Power of Youth Voices on Social Media

▶ 9 May 2023 · 1h 49m · 190 tuned in

Play recording

UNDERSTAND CLIMATE CHANGE

I RUN CLIMATE FRESK WORKSHOPS!

Fare 100

Handwritten testimonials:

- It was able to engage with community. I feel great to be part of this. Am also humbled to be part of the team.
- Feel great to be part of climate change. I have learned a lot from climate change. I feel I have gained more knowledge about how the public can access energy (not oil & gas). They also have a right to clean access to renewables. I have learnt how to pitch energy on climate change and how to engage the public.
- I learned about energy democracy. I learned about energy democracy. I learned about energy democracy. I learned about energy democracy. I learned about energy democracy.
- I feel I have been informed and educated about climate change.
- Deeper reflection on the issues concerning their families on the aspect of climate change to aim looking forward to learning more from this as well.
- There has been no development in all places. I think with the increasing rate of climate change, how can we advocate for an ad development of renewable energy? Thank you.
- It has been informed more on energy democracy on the topics to date in writing about. I have also known the challenge that might occur and the better way to handle it, in writing about it.
- It was a great experience and I expect to be discussed concerning climate change and energy democracy. I have also known the challenge that might occur and the better way to handle it, in writing about it.

Impact Summary

We are proud of the impact that our organization has had on the lives of children and individuals in our community. We are committed to continuing our work and expanding our reach to help even more people in the future. Thank you for your support!

Projects

01

Implemented five successful projects across the country with two incoming programs

Over 3000 children and communities have been impacted and supported by our initiatives

02

Beneficiaries

Partnerships

03

10 partnerships with different local and international organizations.

130 volunteers have joined our community in the past year from all over the global south, providing valuable support and expertise.

04

Volunteers

Donors

05

Since establishment, we have gained three donors who have generously supported our work.

Climate Education

One of our big projects in 2023 was the **“Energy Democracy and Climate Fresh (Literacy)”project**, which aimed to educate and empower, children ,youth,students and environmental journalists on the topics of energy democracy and climate literacy and how they can use the new knowledge to better support their work

This project was implemented from April to June 2023, in collaboration with youth organisations and CSOs who supported in many different ways .The project involved a series of interactive workshops, educational sessions, climate fresh game and creative initiatives that sparked a passion for environmental preservation among over 1,500 beneficiaries. It also fostered environmental consciousness, curiosity, and dialogue around smart climate actions for a greener, sustainable future.

In the sections below , we will share the highlights and outcomes of this remarkable project.

Youth Participation

The project was primarily focused on equipping youth activists and environmental journalists with the best tools they need to actively participate in addressing environmental challenges.

Through training programs, workshops, and capacity-building initiatives, we provided them with the necessary knowledge, skills, and resources to engage effectively in environmental advocacy and activism. We fostered their leadership abilities, encouraged critical thinking, and promoted collaboration among youth from diverse backgrounds.



Environmental Journalists during our inaguaral capacity building training on energy democracy at Eureka Place Hotel - Ms. Darren Namatovu sharing overview of PCF

The Climate Fresk Capacity Building Workshops

Considering most environmental students, CSOs and youth activists had never heard of the climate fresk game, we were able to engage in a useful and enjoyable experience as we played.

Our primary objective was to increase climate knowledge and how they can use the game to point out the causes and effects of climate change among young people, provide them with the resources and skills they need to build a systemic understanding of these issues, and show them how to utilise the 42 cards at their disposal to recognise these problems and come up with solutions.

The purpose of the game was to inspire curiosity and creativity as well equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to drive systemic climate action initiatives in these young minds.

About 100 participants engaged in the game over the course of two weeks, and we had young climate activists and environmental from diverse backgrounds actively participate.

As we moved forward, it was time for the environmental students at Kyambogo University to take the stage, and boy, were they curious! Although our focus was on the environmental class initially, the turnout was even better than we expected. It wasn't just the environmental enthusiasts; students from different fields like biology, math, and education jumped right in, making the workshop more valuable

Our amazing facilitators, Mr. Mark Kayizi from Reach A Hand Uganda and Ms. Darren Namatovu from PCF, shared their thoughts. They emphasised how much the game expanded participants' knowledge and hoped that they'd use it to make a positive impact.



Youth activists and environmental students of Kyambogo University immersing themselves in the climate fresk game facilitated by Mr. Mark Kayizi, Fresk Facilitator with Reach A Hand Uganda



Energy Democracy Workshops

It is a fact that energy democracy is happening, and it is imperative that communities and the people are able to have oversight of these systems .

The public ownership of renewable energy is the blueprints intended to provide necessary guidance for the removal of barriers and inform the just transition and policies that are going to positively affect people and children

Though there has been some progress on awareness creation, it is imperative to acknowledge the information gap that requires much work to be done. It is a shared responsibility to ensure that the policies enshrined in ED(Energy Democracy) and Just Transition are properly disseminated to all grassroots communities and the most affected people and areas, and to ensure that all are shared equally. Stakeholders such as local and international governments, youth organisations, development partners,youth nonprofit organisations, and media companies need to collaborate and work together.

The commitments of the Paris Agreement are a tool that should be used to change the narrative on how to ensure the climate crisis does not escalate further but rather finds ways of carrying on with business as usual and protecting the children and the people as well.

The workshops brought together approximately 30 journalists hailing from diverse media houses and radio stations across Uganda and about 60 students and CSOs.

The objective was twofold: to foster comprehension of the dynamics surrounding the redistribution of power through renewable energy and to empower these journalists and stakeholders with a deeper understanding of their pivotal role in shaping public discourse regarding the concept of public ownership of renewable energy.

By comprehending and effectively reporting on these themes, these journalists were positioned as influential rhetoricians within society, capable of steering conversations and policy considerations.



Left; Mr. Edgar Mutungisa- Environmentalist facilitating the energy democracy workshop to journalists
Right; Dr. Bakyayita Grace Kizito -Head of Environmental Department- Kyambogo University

Collaborations and Activities

Power Up Communities with Renewable Energy for Climate Solutions - A Global Campaign by 350.International



On the 3rd of November we partnered with 350,Fridays for Future Uganda, Laudato SI Movement,CECIC,CERAI,YGC and Afrika Vuka on a power up activity in Kijumba Village, Hoima District, Uganda educating them about renewable renewable, how to use solar and what roles and rights are in ensuring a just transition that impacted over 100 families

The fossil fuel industry continues to amass colossal profits, perpetuating environmental degradation and social inequality and its imperative that communities have oversight for children's future

East African Tree Growing Caravan



We partnered with The Australian High Commission Kenya in partnership with Green Africa Foundation, Tree Adoption Uganda, and the Ugandan Australian Alumni Association, which will be planting trees at Bethany Land Institute in Luwero.

This project's background was cultivating a culture of tree growing for climate action. The project was been dubbed "Plant your Age" and participants will be encouraged to plant a sizable number of trees to mark their age or more

Run 4 Climate - Protect Restore,Conserve



The Run4climate is an annual mini-marathon event organized by **Tree Adoption Uganda** to raise climate awareness, foster multi-sectoral participation for climate action and raise funds to boost its landscape restoration activities.

We had our founder join by running a 5km race with other climate champions .

More Partner-activities and children/ youth events in infographics.



COP28

- Children & Youth Pavillion

Here our founder with other children rights advocates from across the world with Ms. Yasmein Sherrif - The Executive Director of Education Cannot Wait



Africa Climate Summit 2023

We had representation at the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi Kenya In picture are partners from 350.Africa and Fridays for Future Uganda.

Women In Climate Change Conference

Our female staff represented at the Women in Climate Change Conference

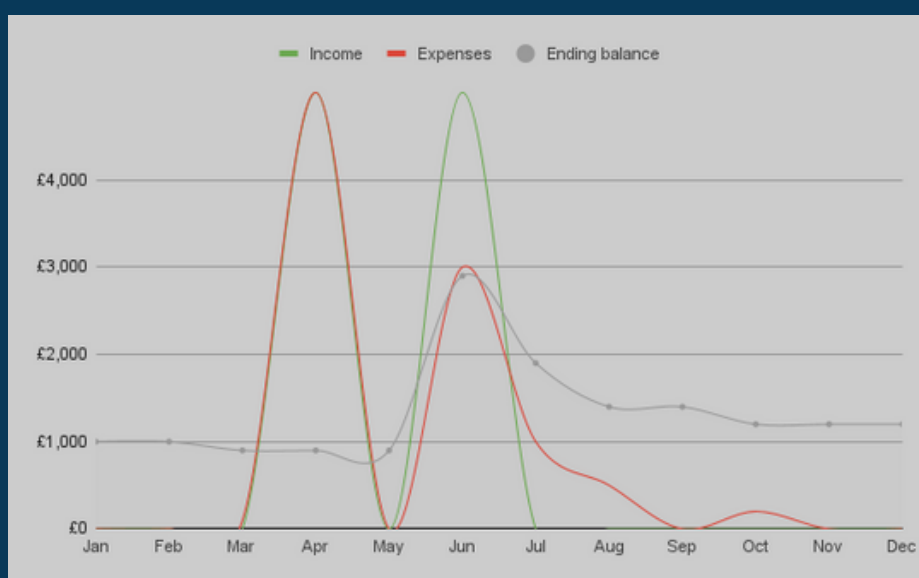


Growing Together - Empowering Children With Special Needs Through Inclusive Tree Planting

Angel's Center, Bulabakulu Banda Parish, Wakiso District, Hoima Road,

Financial Statement

In the face of challenging fundraising barriers, 2023 was a breakthrough year for Phoenix Children Foundation. We rallied support and raised a remarkable \$15,000 from various sources individual donors, corporate sponsors, grants, and events. This stands as a testament to the organisation’s relentless determination, marking a phenomenal 50% increase since inception in 2020 and stands as the highest achievement to date.



Despite these limitations, we channeled every dollar strategically, ensuring it made a tangible difference. A lion’s share, 70% to be precise, was dedicated to projects and partner initiatives, fueling our core activities in child health, education, climate change, peace and security in children and community empowerment.

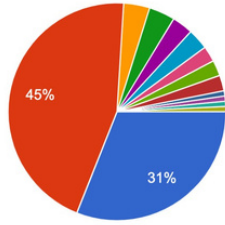
The impact of this allocation reverberated, touching the lives of countless children and communities.

A further 20% was invested in our invaluable team—providing per diems for the dedicated staff and volunteers who bring the organisation’s vision to life daily.

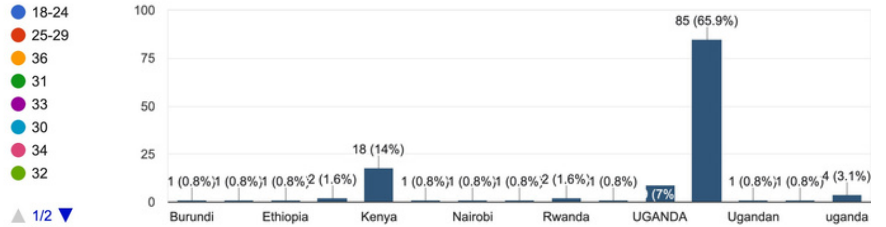
The remaining portion ensured operational efficiency—a vital 10% fortified operations, enabling us to maintain high standards of transparency, accountability, and stewardship.

Global Community of Volunteers

Age
129 responses



Country
129 responses



We are immensely proud to introduce our global community of Goal Keepers and Volunteers, comprising 130 dedicated individuals from diverse countries across the Global South.

Their unwavering commitment became evident as they joined our family in September, responding passionately to our open call in August 2023. These remarkable individuals are the backbone of our mission, offering invaluable support in propelling our vision forward.

However, beyond their instrumental role in supporting our cause, our primary focus lies in nurturing and empowering them. We recognize their potential as future advocates for child rights and envision their growth and development as pivotal components of our broader impact.

Our goal is not only to leverage their support but to foster an environment that encourages their personal and professional growth, enabling them to evolve into stronger and more effective advocates for the rights and welfare of children worldwide.



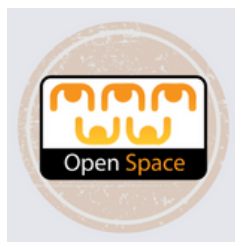
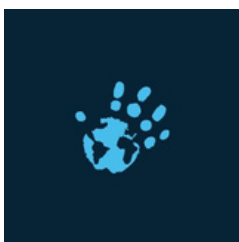
Pictorial; some of the volunteer students of kyambogo university during the capacity building workshop on energy democracy and climate fresh games

Our Partners

We are proud to present the list of partners, who have collaborated with us in various ways to advance our mission and vision.

Their support and contribution are invaluable to us, and we appreciate their trust and commitment. We thank them for being part of our journey and making a positive impact in the world.

Our partners include organisations, individuals, and communities that share our values and goals, and have helped us in different aspects such as funding, research, advocacy, and outreach. We are grateful for their generosity and solidarity, and we look forward to continuing this transformative partnership.





Get in touch with us



phoenixchildrenfdn@gmail.com



+256 772246538



www.phoenixchildrenfoundation.org



P.O.Box 119560, Kampala Bukonya Zone A, Bukoto II,
Kampala