

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



*"Inclusion in Action:
Building Opportunities for
All"*



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Message from Our Executive Director

The year 2025 has been one of growth, resilience, and meaningful impact for Tunaweza Foundation. Throughout the year, we remained steadfast in our mission to empower persons with disabilities to realize their full potential and actively participate in society, ensuring that no one is left behind regardless of background or circumstance. This Annual Report presents our progress from January to December 2025 and highlights the key milestones that have strengthened our work and expanded our reach across communities in Uganda.

One of our most notable achievements was the continued expansion of our empowerment programmes, which equipped persons with disabilities with practical skills, confidence, and opportunities for self-reliance. While we proudly celebrated the graduation of trainees from our skills development initiatives an important symbol of progress and possibility our commitment extended far beyond these milestones. We prioritized sustained support through mentorship, guidance, and the creation of pathways toward sustainable livelihoods, ensuring that beneficiaries continue to thrive beyond training.

In 2025, we intentionally broadened our outreach to underserved and marginalized populations, particularly refugees with disabilities and youth with disabilities living in informal settlements. These groups often face multiple and intersecting challenges, including poverty, stigma, limited access to education, and restricted employment opportunities. Through targeted community engagement, awareness initiatives, and inclusive training programmes, we brought services closer to those who need them most. Our approach emphasized participation, empowerment, and practical support, enabling beneficiaries to take an active role in shaping their futures.

On behalf of the Board, staff, volunteers, partners, and beneficiaries, I extend my sincere appreciation to all who contributed to our achievements this year. Your commitment, collaboration, and trust remain the foundation of our impact.

As we look ahead, we are inspired to build on this momentum by expanding our programmes, strengthening partnerships, and reaching even more persons with disabilities who deserve opportunity, recognition, and respect. Together, we can create a society where inclusion is the norm and every individual has the opportunity to realize their full potential.

Victo Nalule
Executive Director



ABOUT US:

Who we Are:

Tunaweza Foundation is a Ugandan non-governmental organization established in 2012 and registered with the NGO Bureau in 2019, working to advance "Inclusion in Action: Building Opportunities for All." We partner with communities to remove barriers and create practical opportunities for persons with disabilities in education, healthcare, employment, and access to technology. Through inclusive programmes, skills development, and advocacy, we empower individuals to achieve self-reliance and actively participate in society. Guided by the UN Vision 2030 principle of "Leaving No One Behind," we are committed to building an inclusive Uganda where persons with disabilities can realize their full potential and thrive.

VISION

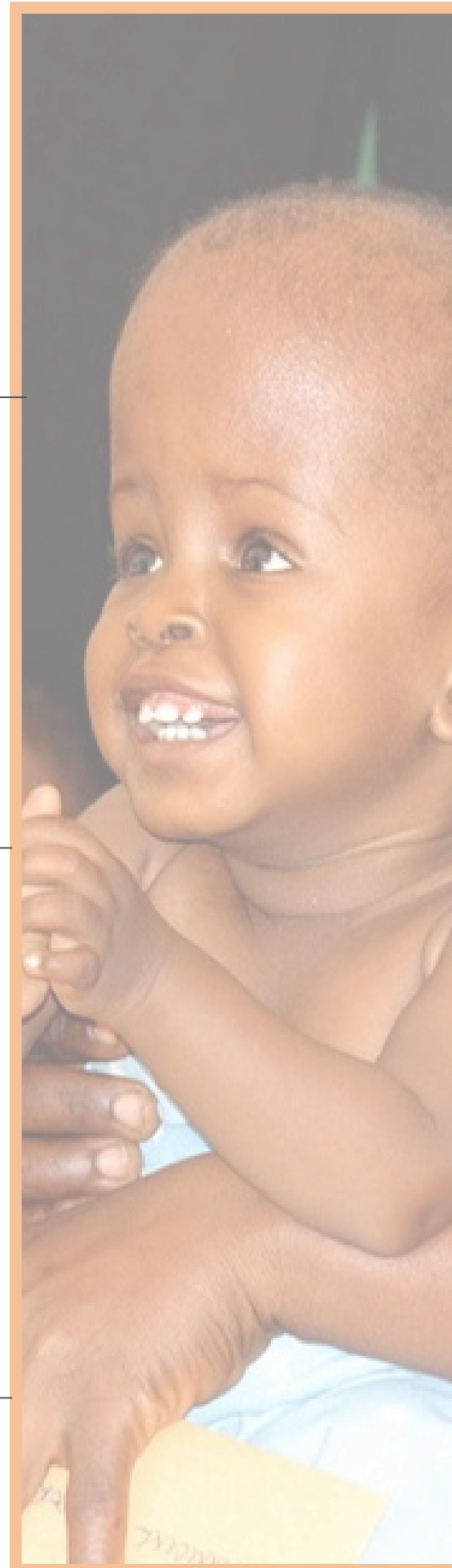
An inclusive society where PWDs realize their full potential to effectively contribute to the society

MISSION

To enable PWDs realise their abilities and aspiration and actively participate in all development initiatives in society

GOAL

Ensuring inclusiveness of persons with disabilities and guaranteeing their equal treatment



Priority Thematic Areas

Tunaweza Foundation's programming is anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and focuses on advancing the rights, inclusion, and socio-economic empowerment of persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Uganda. The Foundation prioritizes the following thematic areas:



Inclusive Quality Education

Tunaweza Foundation promotes equitable access to inclusive, safe, and quality education for children, youth, and adults with disabilities. The Foundation works to remove physical, social, and institutional barriers that limit the participation of PWDs in education systems.



Inclusive Health and Well-Being

Tunaweza Foundation works to enhance access to inclusive, affordable, and quality health services for persons with disabilities, recognizing health as a critical foundation for dignity, productivity, and social inclusion.



Decent Work and Economic Empowerment

Tunaweza Foundation promotes inclusive economic participation and sustainable livelihoods for persons with disabilities by addressing barriers to employment, entrepreneurship, and financial inclusion.

Meet Our Team

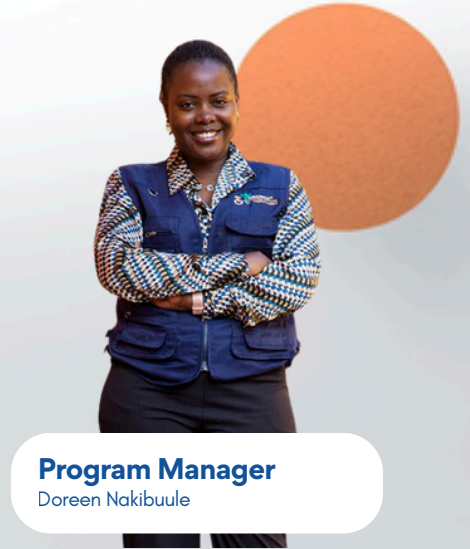
Innovation thrives when bold ideas
meet fearless execution.



Executive Director
Victo Nalule



Finance Expert
Naboth Nahabwe



Program Manager
Doreen Nakibuule



Counselor, HR Support
Mylean Kyomuhendo



Functional Behavior Therapist
Nulu Nabawanuka



Project Coordinator
Aisha Namugga



MEAL Officer
Calvin Chemutai



Program Coordinator - i-Hub
Kakooza Paul



Communication Officer
Kasozi Kulaisi

TUNAWEZA FOUNDATION NATIONAL COVERAGE



National Review

Tunaweza Foundation operates in selected urban, rural, and humanitarian settings across Uganda, including Katanga and Bwaise in Kampala, Tororo and Busia districts in Eastern Uganda, and Yumbe and Kyegegwa refugee settlements. The Foundation focuses on reaching persons with disabilities in underserved communities, informal settlements, and refugee contexts, delivering inclusive interventions that promote access to education, health services, and sustainable livelihood opportunities across both development and humanitarian settings.



Financial Performance Overview

Total funding received

\$90,000

UGX 340M

**UGX
250 M**

Inclusive
Emergency
Response in
Refugee Camps

**UGX
50 M**

Access to
Inclusive SRHR

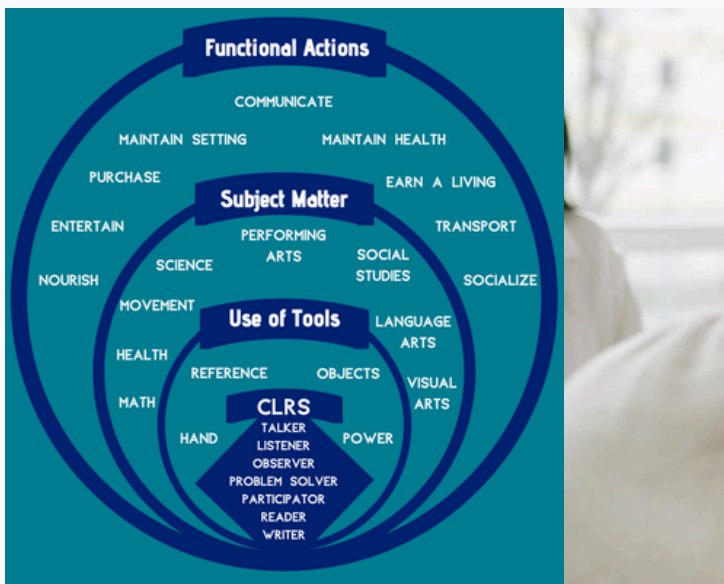
**UGX
40 M**

Inclusive Digital
technology
support

PROGRAMMES OVERVIEW

A Brief Story About The Programmes

In 2025, Tunaweza Foundation deepened its commitment to empowering persons with disabilities and underserved communities by advancing inclusive education, innovation, and digital transformation. The Foundation's core programmes are anchored in two flagship initiatives **the Competent Learner Model (CLM)** and the **Tunaweza I-Hub Program** which operate as complementary pillars to address both foundational learning and sustainable livelihood outcomes.



Competent Learner Model (CLM)

The Competent Learner Model (CLM) is Tunaweza Foundation's inclusive education approach designed to support children with disabilities particularly those with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and related learning challenges to develop foundational cognitive, communication, and life skills. Implemented through the CLM Centre, the model emphasizes individualized learning, parental engagement, and community-based support systems to enhance learning outcomes and social inclusion.



Tunaweza I-Hub Program

The Tunaweza I-Hub Program focuses on digital inclusion, innovation, and employability for adolescents and young adults with disabilities. Through targeted digital skilling, entrepreneurship training, and innovation support, the I-Hub equips participants with market-relevant skills that enhance their access to decent work, self-employment, and income-generating opportunities.

PROGRAMME FEATURE: INCLUSIVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROJECT (IERP), FUNDED BY CBM UGANDA

In humanitarian settings, persons with disabilities are often among the most affected yet least reached. Barriers related to mobility, communication, stigma, and inaccessible services frequently exclude them from life-saving assistance. In 2025, Tunaweza Foundation took deliberate steps to address this gap through the Inclusive Emergency Response Project (IERP), implemented in Bidibidi Refugee Settlement, Yumbe District, with support from CBM. The project was designed to respond to the urgent needs of refugees and host community persons with disabilities who face persistent barriers in accessing WASH services, cash assistance, and assistive devices. By adopting a disability-inclusive humanitarian approach, the project aimed to enhance health, dignity, and independence, while ensuring that persons with disabilities are not left behind during emergencies.

The project commenced in September 2025 with structured inception and stakeholder engagement meetings involving district authorities, Refugee Welfare Councils (RWCs), Village Health Teams (VHTs), and other humanitarian actors within Bidibidi Refugee Settlement. These engagements strengthened coordination, reinforced accountability, and embedded disability inclusion within existing emergency response mechanisms. To ensure that assistance reached those most in need, Tunaweza Foundation conducted field-based data collection, verification, and registration of persons with disabilities across selected zones of the settlement. This process established a reliable and inclusive beneficiary database, enabling targeted service delivery and reducing the risk of exclusion.

Recognising the critical role of community structures in humanitarian response, the project invested in capacity strengthening of Village Health Teams (VHTs). Through targeted training on disability-inclusive emergency response, referral pathways, and safeguarding, VHTs were better equipped to identify, support, and refer persons with disabilities within their communities. In parallel, community sensitisation and beneficiary engagement meetings were held with refugees and host community members with disabilities. These forums promoted awareness of project objectives, eligibility criteria, accountability mechanisms, and feedback channels, fostering transparency, trust, and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the response process.

Delivering Dignified and Inclusive Support

A key milestone of the project was the first round of inclusive cash assistance, which enabled beneficiaries to prioritise and address their most urgent needs with dignity and choice. The cash support was complemented by Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) to assess utilisation, relevance, and immediate outcomes, ensuring learning and accountability informed ongoing implementation. In addition, the project initiated the provision of inclusive WASH support and assistive devices, addressing critical gaps in access to basic services. This support contributed to improved hygiene, reduced vulnerability, and increased independence among persons with disabilities within the refugee and host communities.



STRENGTHENING SKILLING AND ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PATHWAYS FOR ADOLESCENTS, FUNDED BY WAR CHILD CANADA

Youth with disabilities living in informal settlements face persistent barriers to education, employment, and economic independence. In response, Tunaweza Foundation implemented the Strengthening Skilling and Alternative Education Pathways for Adolescents Project in Katanga slum, with funding from Canada, to equip vulnerable youth with practical, market-relevant skills. The project aimed to empower adolescents and youth with disabilities by providing alternative education pathways that enhance self-reliance, confidence, and income-generation opportunities within their communities.

The project successfully trained 100 youth from Katanga slum in hands-on skills, including liquid soap making, bar soap making, and bottle decoration. The training was highly participatory and focused on skills that require low start-up capital and have immediate market potential. This intervention enabled participants to acquire practical knowledge and tools to start small-scale businesses, marking an important step towards economic inclusion and independence.

Through this project, Tunaweza Foundation demonstrated the power of skills-based, alternative education pathways in empowering adolescents and youth with disabilities living in urban informal settlements. By combining practical training with follow-up support and linkages to livelihood opportunities, the project contributed to improved confidence, economic participation, and social inclusion of vulnerable youth in Katanga slum.

To reinforce sustainability and track progress beyond training, a team from Tunaweza Foundation conducted a follow-up visit on 6 March 2025 to youth groups in Katanga slum, Wandegeya, under the War Child program. The visit focused on monitoring active groups, assessing progress made after the training, and providing guidance on business tracking, group organisation, and pathways for requesting seed funding. This engagement strengthened mentorship, encouraged accountability among youth groups, and supported participants to translate skills acquired into viable livelihood activities



THE WE LEAD PROJECT, FUNDED BY HIVOS

Young women with disabilities face intersecting forms of exclusion that limit their access to information, services, and leadership opportunities—particularly in the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Social stigma, limited accessible information, and weak community support systems often leave them vulnerable and unheard. In 2025, Tunaweza Foundation advanced inclusive advocacy and empowerment through the WE LEAD Project, ensuring that the voices, rights, and leadership of young women with disabilities were recognised and strengthened. The WE LEAD Project focused on advocating for SRHR, leadership development, and community engagement for young women with disabilities, positioning them as active agents of change within their communities rather than passive recipients of support.

Through the project, Tunaweza Foundation worked closely with community structures, caregivers, and local leaders to promote understanding of the SRHR needs and rights of young women with disabilities. Community engagements and advocacy forums created safe spaces for dialogue, learning, and collective action, contributing to reduced stigma and increased awareness of disability-inclusive SRHR services.



AMPLIFYING VOICES AND PROMOTING INCLUSION

A key outcome of the WE LEAD Project was the amplification of the voices of young women with disabilities in advocacy spaces. By strengthening their knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills, the project supported meaningful participation in community decision-making processes related to health, rights, and inclusion. Through targeted advocacy, the project contributed to improved recognition of the SRHR needs of young women with disabilities among duty bearers and service providers, reinforcing the importance of inclusive policies and practices

DRIVING INCLUSIVE CHANGE

The WE LEAD Project reaffirmed Tunaweza Foundation's commitment to gender equality, disability inclusion, and rights-based development. By centring young women with disabilities as leaders and advocates, the project contributed to more inclusive communities where rights, dignity, and participation are upheld.





2025 at a Glance

In 2025, Tunaweza Foundation strengthened disability-inclusive development across Uganda by expanding inclusive education and early intervention, scaling digital skilling and livelihoods for youth and adults with disabilities, and delivering inclusive humanitarian support in refugee and vulnerable communities. The Foundation also advanced advocacy for the rights of women and adolescents with disabilities and convened national and regional stakeholders through the Inclusive Africa Conference to promote equitable and inclusive development.



KEY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

In 2025, Tunaweza Foundation advanced its mission of empowering vulnerable communities through integrated programs focused on education, youth development, livelihoods, and community wellbeing. The Foundation concentrated on strengthening local capacities, promoting self-reliance, and expanding access to opportunities for children, youth, and women in underserved communities.

GRADUATION CEREMONY AND COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The I-Hub Program enrolled 70 students with disabilities, with 50 completing digital skills training in areas like Basic Computer Studies and Web Development. Partnering with Light for the World, 10 graduates obtained internships with various organizations.



WE LEAD PROGRAM NATIONAL CLOSE OUT EVENT

The We Lead Project concluded on July 16 after five years of promoting leadership and advocacy for young women, particularly those marginalized in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), including women with disabilities and those affected by HIV and displacement. Tunaweza Foundation, a key partner in Busia and Tororo Districts, empowered these young women through initiatives like a legal empowerment session on "Access to Justice for Women with Disabilities in SRHR Violations." The project's closing event featured panel discussions with rights holders, community leaders, and stakeholders, celebrating its impact and launching the book "Overcoming Disability Myths."



2025 INCLUSIVE AFRICA CONFERENCE

In partnership with Inable, Tunaweza Foundation hosted the 2025 Inclusive Africa Conference virtually in Uganda, engaging 300 in-person participants and over 2,000 virtual attendees from 20 African countries. Tunaweza mobilized 52 youth with disabilities, including university students and community youth, to participate virtually from its offices. The conference amplified the voices of African youth with disabilities in digital accessibility and inclusive design, providing a continental platform to advance inclusive digital transformation.





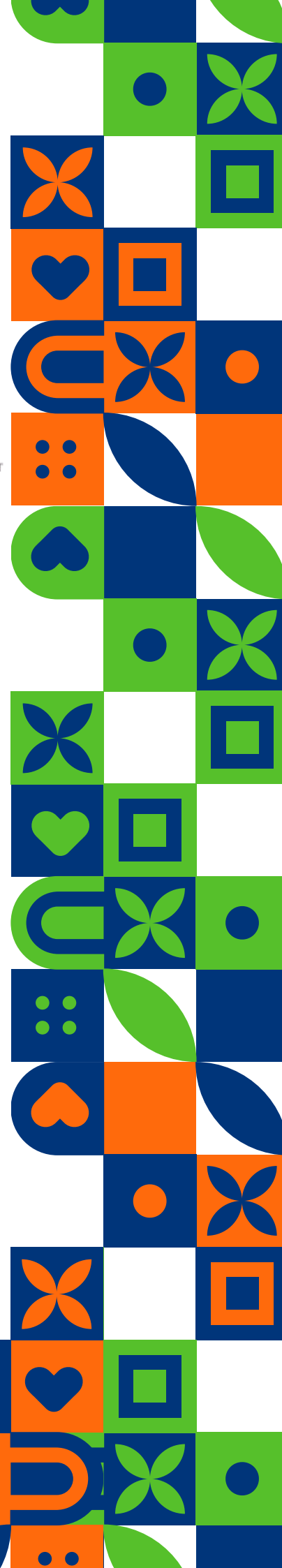
OUR PARTNERS



**MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION
AND SPORTS**



AFRICAN
CHILD
PROJECTS





THANK YOU

Your trust and support drive our growth and inspire us to achieve more each year.

Need more information, contact us:

+256 760 193 310

@TunawezaO

info@tunawezafoundation.org

+256 759 069 620

@tunawezafoundation

Nyanama Rd, Najjanankumbi

+61 478 713 010

14826 Pepper Tree Dr. Bowie,

www.tunawezafoundation.org

MD 20721 - Maryland US