Able Child Africa
(trading as Able Child)
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Annual Report and Audited Accounts



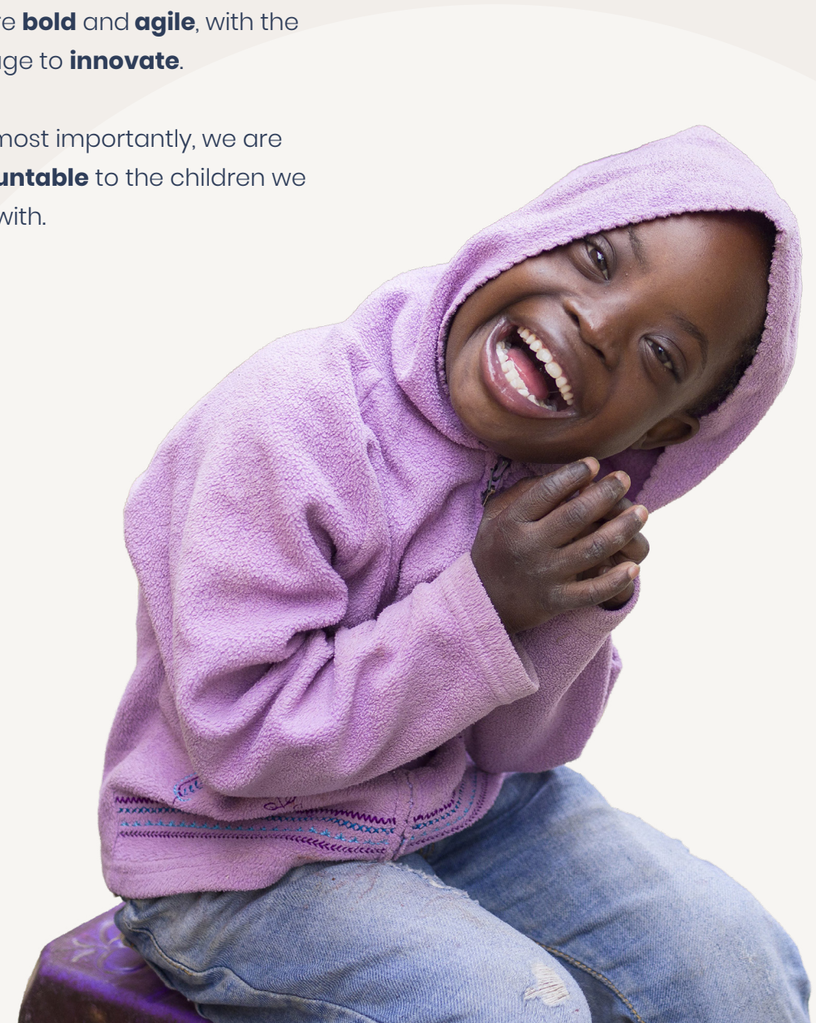
We are Able Child

We work towards a world in which no child with a disability is left behind.

We do this by supporting a network of organisations to **protect,** **educate** and **amplify** the voices of children and young people with disabilities.

Together, we work across Africa, breaking down barriers to inclusion so that children and young people with disabilities are able to thrive.

- We believe our greatest strength lies in working **together**.
- We are **bold** and **agile**, with the courage to **innovate**.
- And, most importantly, we are **accountable** to the children we work with.



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Welcome from our Chair



Mitul Shah
Chair

The international development sector has faced a testing year. Continued reductions in aid, geopolitical uncertainty and shifting donor priorities have created an even more constrained environment, with profound implications for organisations working to address inequality and exclusion. Able Child has felt these pressures directly, including through a reduction in restricted income.

While the challenges facing the sector are significant, they serve as a reminder of why our work remains so important.

This year marked the second year of our **2030 Strategy, *Safe, Thriving, Heard***. As we approach the end of its first phase, we are increasingly confident in the choices at the heart of that strategy — particularly our commitment to becoming locally led and putting African civil society at the centre of change.

The Able Child Africa Network is central to this ambition. They have become a collaborative network of African organisations with a shared vision and an increasingly powerful collective voice for children with disabilities. Over the past year, Network members have continued to build their shared strength, develop their own 2026–2030 strategy and take important steps towards establishing the Network as an independent registered entity.

The potential of this model is already clear. Members delivered 17 projects, reaching thousands of children and families, while generating evidence on climate resilience and disability, capturing the experiences of more than 1,100 children with disabilities across seven countries. This locally generated evidence will give African disability organisations greater influence to shape policy, challenge exclusion and ensure children with disabilities are heard in decisions about their futures.

Our influence has also extended beyond the Network. Through our partnership with FCDO and leading international organisations, Able Child has played a role in the global movement for children's care reform, helping to ensure that children and young people with disabilities have a direct voice in international discussions about every child's right to grow up in a safe and loving family.

These achievements matter because when funding becomes more constrained, there is a real danger that those facing the greatest barriers are deprioritised. Our commitment to ensuring that children with disabilities are safe, thriving and heard is therefore not only central to our mission; it is increasingly urgent.

The year has also brought significant change within Able Child. Following a successful period of shared leadership, we completed our planned transition from a dual CEO structure. As part of an ongoing governance refresh, we welcomed new Trustees to the Board who bring fresh perspectives, skills and experience that will help guide the organisation into its next chapter.

The years ahead will require resilience and imagination. We cannot assume that pre-existing models, funding structures or partnerships will be sufficient or appropriate for the future. Instead, we have an opportunity to refocus our role: to use our position, expertise and relationships to amplify locally led leadership, strengthen African civil society and build a network capable of creating lasting change for children with disabilities.

As we enter the next phase of our 2030 Strategy, I am confident that Able Child has a strong foundation from which to move forward. This would not have been possible without the dedication of our staff team, who have worked tirelessly. I would like to thank our trustees, Network members, supporters, donors, ambassadors and patrons for the expertise, commitment and belief they continue to bring to our shared vision of a world where children with disabilities are safe, thriving and heard.

Mitul Shah
Chair of Trustees

Why we exist

Across Eastern and Southern Africa, nearly **29 million children** are living with a disability.

This represents around one in every ten children.

Yet disability remains one of the strongest predictors of exclusion. Children with disabilities are more likely to experience poverty, less likely to attend school and disproportionately vulnerable to violence and abuse. Many children with disabilities continue to spend much or all of their lives in institutions, away from their families.

Children with disabilities are:

1. Twice as likely to **never attend school**.
2. Four times more likely to experience **physical violence**.
3. Three times more likely to be **sexually assaulted**.
4. 17 times more likely to be **institutionalised**.



For girls with disabilities, the barriers are often even greater. They are at a much higher risk of violence, abuse and discrimination because they face the combined barriers of both gender and disability.'

They are 10 times more likely to experience gender-based violence than those without disabilities, and an estimated 70% of girls with intellectual disabilities will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. They are being forgotten, hidden and left behind.

But more than three decades after the Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted, too many children with disabilities continue to encounter barriers that limit their opportunities, silence their voices and prevent them from reaching their full potential.

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As climate shocks intensify across Africa, the consequences of exclusion are becoming increasingly severe. Children with disabilities face disproportionate risks, from disrupted education and healthcare to heightened food insecurity. Yet they remain largely absent from climate policies and programmes, while continuing to be overlooked in the planning, financing and decision-making that drive climate action.

At the same time, many of the local organisations best placed to address these challenges are facing growing pressure. **Shrinking international development budgets and shifting donor priorities** are creating an increasingly difficult operating environment for African organisations working for children with disabilities.

These organisations bring deep community roots, trusted relationships and invaluable expertise. Yet many continue to face barriers to accessing the funding, partnerships and influence needed to scale effective programmes, shape policy and drive lasting change. When local organisations are excluded from funding and decision-making spaces, the voices, experiences and rights of children with disabilities risk being overlooked.

This is why Able Child exists. We believe local organisations are best placed to drive lasting change for children with disabilities and should be supported to lead that change. Through the Able Child Africa Network, we strengthen local leadership, amplify collective voices and support African organisations to increase their impact. **Together, we are working towards a world in which no child with a disability is left behind.**



What we do

For **41 years** we have been working with African-registered organisations to improve the lives of children and young people with disabilities.

Our mission is to support a network of organisations in Africa to **protect,** **educate** and **amplify** the voices of children and young people with disabilities, so they are able to thrive.

We work across **six key thematic** areas of support:

Protecting
children with disabilities so they are **safe**.

1. Building inclusive child protection systems.
2. Demanding inclusive sexual and reproductive health and rights for girls and young women.

Educating
children with disabilities so they can **thrive**.

3. Strengthening inclusive Early Childhood Development.
4. Advancing inclusive education.

Amplifying
the voices of children and young people with disabilities so they are **heard**.

5. Promoting inclusive mental health and wellbeing.
6. Raising the voices of children and young people with disabilities.



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Safe.



We stand up for the rights of children and young people with disabilities to ensure they are protected and included in their communities.

Children with disabilities are among the most vulnerable members of society, yet child protection systems are often not equipped to meet their needs. Stigma, discrimination, and inaccessible services can leave them at greater risk of abuse, neglect, exclusion, and poor mental health.

Together with the Able Child Africa Network, we work to strengthen safeguarding and child protection systems, improve disability inclusion, and ensure children and young people with disabilities know their rights and can access safe support when they need it.

In Rwanda, we have worked alongside our Network member **Uwezo Youth Empowerment (UWEZO)** to make child protection services more disability inclusive. Young people with disabilities have played a leading role as mentors and **child protection champions**, supporting children to stay safe, build confidence, and understand their rights, while helping parents create safer and more supportive home environments.

Keeping Naomi safe and included

Naomi is 15 and lives in Rwanda. She has Down syndrome and experienced stigma and exclusion throughout her childhood, which affected her confidence and wellbeing.

Through our work with **UWEZO**, Naomi was matched with a mentor with lived experience of disability, who provided guidance, encouragement and a safe space to talk about the challenges she had faced. This relationship helped Naomi understand her rights, build resilience and grow in confidence.

Today, Naomi is more connected, self-assured and optimistic about her future. By ensuring children with disabilities have **trusted support networks and stronger protection around them**, we are helping children like Naomi stay safe, thrive and reach their full potential.



Thriving.

We ensure that children and young people with disabilities have access to an education and the services they need to succeed.

Across the countries where we work, children with disabilities continue to face significant barriers to education and support services. Low levels of early identification, inaccessible learning environments, and limited specialist support often prevent children from reaching their full potential and transitioning successfully into further education, training, or employment.

Together with the Able Child Africa Network, we work to improve the early identification of children with disabilities, strengthen inclusive education systems, support educators and caregivers, and equip young people with disabilities with the skills and opportunities they need to thrive.

In Uganda, we have worked with **Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)** to develop an innovative **digital Early Childhood Development toolkit**. Combining child functioning assessments with individualised education planning tools, the platform helps teachers identify and respond to children's needs earlier, ensuring children with disabilities can access the right support at the right time.



Helping children with disabilities thrive through inclusive play

Together with **Zambia Association of Parents for Children with Disabilities (ZAPCD)** in Zambia, we worked with **teachers, government officials, and local stakeholders** to create more inclusive schools through an innovative play-based learning programme.

Teachers received practical training and resources to help children with disabilities learn, play, and participate alongside their peers. As their confidence grew, many became advocates for inclusion, sharing their learning with colleagues across neighbouring schools.

As a result, more children with disabilities have been able to access supportive learning environments, build friendships, develop confidence, and participate fully in school life.

By creating opportunities **to learn and play together**, the programme is helping children who may once have been excluded to thrive.

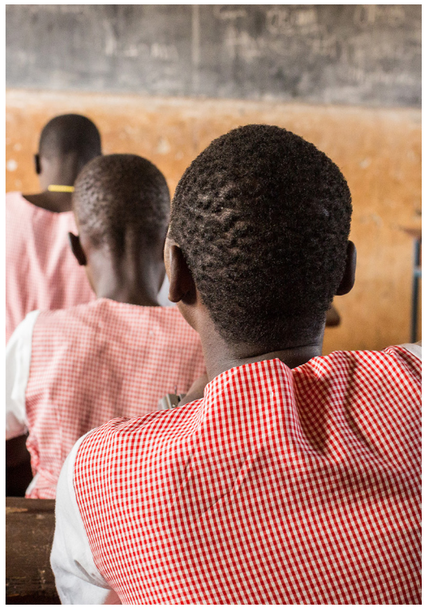
Heard.

We work with children and young people with disabilities to be confident and resilient, amplifying their voice to demand their own inclusion.

Children and young people with disabilities are too often denied a meaningful voice in decisions that affect their lives. Without knowledge of their rights or opportunities to participate, they can struggle to challenge barriers, demand inclusion and access the support and opportunities they need to thrive.

Together with the Able Child Africa Network, we support children and young people with disabilities to build confidence, strengthen resilience, understand their rights, and become advocates for change. By amplifying their voices, we support them to challenge discrimination, influence decision-makers, and drive their own inclusion.

In Rwanda, we have worked with our Network member **Uwezo Youth Empowerment (UWEZO)** to ensure young people with disabilities are at the forefront of improving mental health services. Through research, advocacy, and engagement with government stakeholders, young advocates have highlighted the need for more disability-inclusive mental health support and contributed to influencing policy and practice.



Peer to peer mentorship creates lasting change

Through the **Young People with Disabilities Revolutionise Disability-Inclusive Mental Health Provision** project, delivered with UWEZO in Rwanda, **Keza and her family** were connected with a young people mentor with a disability.

Keza was born with Down syndrome. Her family had limited understanding of disability and differing views about her future. Her father believed she would be better off staying at home than attending school, creating tension within the family and leaving her mother uncertain about how best to support her.

Through regular visits, the mentor built a trusted relationship with Keza and her family. Drawing on their own lived experience and project training, they provided guidance, encouragement and practical support. Over time, the mentor helped the family better understand disability, recognise Keza's potential and identify the support she needed to thrive.

Recognising the family's need for additional support, the mentor also helped them access counselling, disability awareness sessions and parent support groups.

As a result, **family relationships strengthened, understanding of disability increased, and support for Keza's education and development improved**.

Keza's story demonstrates the power of peer mentorship to build confidence, challenge harmful attitudes and create lasting change for children with disabilities and their families.

Meet 15-year-old Sandrine – **gaining confidence** everyday

Sandrine's story

Sandrine is 15 years old and lives in Rwanda.

She has a developmental disability that affects her speech, making it difficult for her to communicate clearly. When Sandrine was younger, her father left the family because of her disability, placing even greater pressure on her mother and making the journey into education much harder.





That all changed when Able Child, together with UWEZO, stepped in.

Through our joint mentorship programme with our member, **Uwezo Youth Empowerment (UWEZO), she was paired with a young mentor with a disability** — someone who recognised the barriers she faced and could offer not only practical guidance, but friendship, encouragement and a sense of being seen. Over time, that relationship became a source of confidence and belonging for Sandrine, helping her feel less alone and more able to imagine a future shaped by her own choices. Led by young people with disabilities, the project responds directly to the mental health service gaps affecting children with disabilities, while also strengthening child protection systems so they better recognise and respond to the needs of girls with disabilities, who face a heightened risk of abuse and violence.

Her mentor had once received similar support herself, giving her a personal understanding of Sandrine's experiences. Their relationship created a safe and trusted space where Sandrine could share, learn and begin to see what might be possible for her future.

With this support, **Sandrine has now enrolled in school and is thriving**. Several years on, she is in P4 — learning, growing in confidence and, most importantly, staying in the classroom where she belongs.

Note: The names of children in all case stories have been changed to protect their identity.

The Able Child Africa Network

Working together to support children with disabilities across Africa.

The Able Child Africa Network (the Network) is a coalition of African-founded and African-registered organisations dedicated to improving the lives of children with disabilities across the continent. Established in 2023, the Network operates under a shared vision of a world where no child with a disability is left behind. It brings together nine organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) across seven countries in Eastern and Southern Africa to collaborate, share expertise and advocate collectively for the rights and inclusion of children with disabilities.

Together, we share a common vision of a world in which no child with a disability is left behind.

The Network has continued to strengthen its governance and leadership structures.

Executive Council

An **Executive Council**, comprising Directors from Network member organisations, provides strategic leadership and decides the Network's priorities and direction.

Steering Group

A **Steering Group**, made up of Executive Council members and Trustees from Able Child's UK Board, strengthens mutual accountability and shared decision-making between the Network and Able Child, providing a meaningful mechanism for the Network to shape the support it receives.

Network Leads

Network Leads selected from across member organisations are driving key areas of work, coordinating activities, sharing learning and strengthening collaboration between members. Together, these structures are helping to build a sustainable, increasingly locally led Network.

The Network members



The Network member organisations are founded and led by local experts. Many are led by persons with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities, bringing valuable lived experience to their work. All are deeply rooted in the communities they serve and responsive to local cultural, social and economic contexts.

Together, they bring extensive experience in disability inclusion, programme delivery, advocacy and systems change, working collectively to advance the rights of children and young people with disabilities across Africa.

The eight member organisations are:

Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC) is a parent-led organisation that supports children with disabilities and their families to access education, healthcare and community services. Through Parent Support Groups, Child Rights Clubs and Community-Based Rehabilitation programmes, they help children with disabilities achieve their full potential while strengthening inclusive systems at community and national level.

Action Network for the Disabled (ANDY) works to advance the rights and inclusion of children and young people with disabilities through education, health, economic empowerment and advocacy. With a strong grassroots presence in Kenya, ANDY is particularly recognised for using sports and play-based approaches to promote inclusion and participation.

Child Support Tanzania (CST) delivers inclusive education and rehabilitation services for children with disabilities through its specialist school in Mbeya. Alongside direct support for children and families, CST works with communities, Parent Support Groups and government stakeholders to strengthen inclusive education across the region.

Uwezo Youth Empowerment (UWEZO) is a young people-led organisation that promotes the rights, wellbeing and inclusion of children and young people with disabilities. Through mentoring, peer support, education and advocacy programmes, UWEZO helps children in Rwanda build confidence, develop skills and participate fully in society.



Zambia Association of Parents of Children with Disabilities (ZAPCD) is a membership organisation of parents advocating for the rights and inclusion of children and young people with disabilities. Through education, awareness raising and community-based initiatives, it works to ensure children with disabilities can access the opportunities and support they need to thrive.

Parents of Disabled Children Association of Malawi (PODCAM) works to improve the lives of children with disabilities by supporting parents, strengthening communities and promoting inclusion. Its work focusses on early childhood development, parental empowerment, awareness raising and improving access to education and protection services.

The Action Foundation (TAF) works to create an inclusive society where children, young people and women with disabilities can realise their full potential. Through programmes spanning education, health, protection and economic empowerment, TAF strengthens both individual opportunities and wider systems of support within Kenya.





Zimbabwe Parents of Handicapped Children Association (ZPHCA) is a parent-led organisation that champions the rights and wellbeing of children with disabilities. Through Parent Support Groups, advocacy and community-based initiatives, it helps families access information, support services and opportunities while promoting the full inclusion of children with disabilities in society.

The Network also consists of one affiliate member:

Federation of Disabled Organisations of Malawi (FEDOMA) is Malawi's national umbrella body for Organisations of Persons with Disabilities. Representing 12 member organisations, it combines national advocacy with community-level action and plays a leading role in influencing disability policy, programmes and public investment.

How the Network delivers impact

The Able Child Africa Network is one of the few networks in East and Southern Africa focussed specifically on advancing the rights of children with disabilities. By acting collectively, members carry greater influence than any one organisation alone, creating a powerful platform in the region to champion children with disabilities.

The Network operates in three main ways:

1

By combining resources and expertise, Network members are able to **deliver high-quality programmes** for children with disabilities. Through collaboration, they generate evidence of what works, share learning and build best practice in inclusive programming collectively, strengthening outcomes for children and young people across the region.

2

The Network **stands up for the rights of children with disabilities,** amplifying their voices and creating opportunities for them to share their experiences. By bringing their collective lived experience into policy and advocacy spaces, members influence governments and other key stakeholders to advance inclusion and drive meaningful change for children with disabilities.

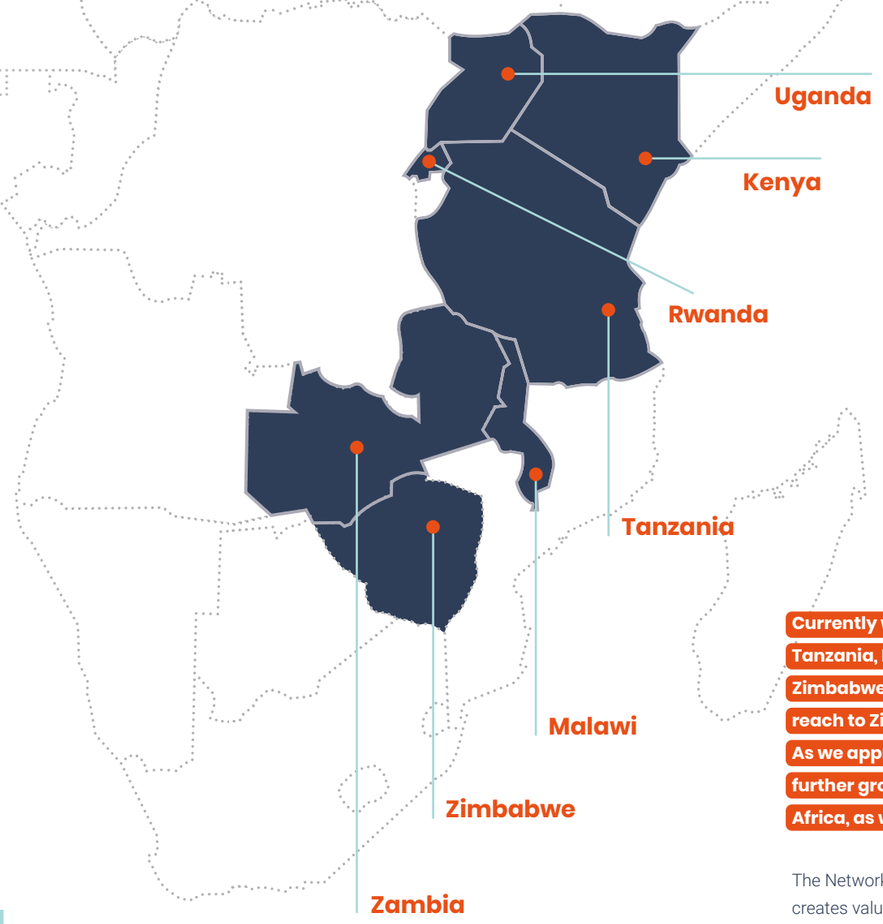
3

Evidence underpins everything the Network does. Members work together to **collect data** on the barriers children with disabilities face and **generate evidence** for what works in inclusive programming. This evidence strengthens programme quality, while providing a powerful foundation for advocacy.

By bringing together data, lived experience and collective expertise, the Network is better able to influence governments and other key stakeholders and drive meaningful change for children with disabilities. And doing so, it is helping to fill critical evidence gaps, generating insights that have historically been unavailable and strengthening the case for greater inclusion and investment in children with disabilities.

Where the Network operates

The Network currently operates across Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



Currently working across Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, the Network has already expanded its reach to Zimbabwe during Phase 1 of the strategy. As we approach 2027 and Phase 2, we expect further growth across Eastern and Southern Africa, as well as expansion into West Africa.

The Network's presence across multiple countries creates valuable opportunities for cross-border learning and collaboration. Approaches developed in one context can be adapted and tested in another, helping successful ideas spread across the region and reach more children with disabilities.

What the Network has achieved

Over the past year, members have strengthened the Network's governance through the Executive Council and Network Leads, ensuring strategic decisions are increasingly led by member organisations. Through two General Assemblies, held in Rwanda and Uganda, members have come together to reflect on progress, share learning, strengthen relationships, and shape the Network's future direction.



A major milestone this year was the development of the **Network's first five-year strategy**, setting out a shared vision and priorities for 2026-2030. As the strategy moves through its final stages of consultation and approval, it provides a clear framework for how members will work together to improve outcomes for children and young people with disabilities across Africa and sets out Able Child's role in supporting this growth.

The Network is now entering its next phase of formalisation, with members formally agreeing to pursue **registration as a local organisation**. Building on the progress and achievements of recent years, this step will strengthen the Network's sustainability and leadership, while enabling it to attract and manage funding directly.

Alongside this organisational growth, the Network has continued to amplify the voices of children and young people with disabilities. Two reports have already been published, with a third due later in 2026 focusing on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and menstrual health management. Together, these studies have meaningfully **captured the experiences of more than 3,000 children with disabilities across the region,** which are already helping to shape future programming and influence decision-makers on issues that matter most to children with disabilities.

As the Network continues to grow, **Able Child's role is to support its development and long-term sustainability**.

Collaborate and share learning	**Improved knowledge and skills to deliver lasting change**
Innovate and deliver programmes	**Greater impact, with recognition as experts**
Generate and collate data	**Better evidence to identify gaps and demonstrate what works**
Advocate and raise awareness	**A united voice to demand rights for children with disabilities**

Combined, this creates a strong, resilient and resourced civil society in Africa working together to support children and young people with disabilities.



Collaborate and share learning

Network members collaborate, strengthen capacity and share evidence, tools and expertise to **deliver lasting change.**

Building collective strength

The Able Child Africa Network is built on the belief that **organisations are stronger when they work together**. While each member brings unique expertise, experiences and approaches from its own country context, the Network provides a platform for this knowledge to be shared, tested and strengthened collectively.

> By creating opportunities for collaboration, peer learning and mutual support, Network members are able to access a wider pool of expertise, tools and resources than could be achieved individually. This not only strengthens the organisations themselves, but also improves the quality, reach and sustainability of the programmes they deliver for children and young people with disabilities.

A key tool supporting this approach is the organisational health assessment, completed by all **nine Network members across seven countries.** The assessments provide valuable insight into organisational strengths, challenges and priorities, helping to ensure support is driven by evidence and member needs. More importantly, the assessments help identify where expertise already exists within the Network. By highlighting areas of strength and development across governance, fundraising, communications, finance, operations and programme delivery, they create opportunities for members to share knowledge, mentor one another and build collective capacity.



The 2024 assessments highlighted fundraising and communications as common areas for development, while also demonstrating significant strengths in programme delivery, impact measurement and inclusive programming.

> These findings have continued to **inform a tailored programme of capacity building and peer-to-peer learning** delivered throughout the past year.

In response to the priorities identified by members through the organisational health surveys, Able Child worked throughout the year to facilitate a programme of learning, mentoring and knowledge exchange designed to strengthen organisational sustainability and maximise impact.

During 2025, all Network members participated in a series of workshops on **unrestricted fundraising**, designed to strengthen organisational sustainability and reduce reliance on project-restricted funding. The sessions supported members to develop practical fundraising tools and strategies, with three organisations producing draft cases for support with guidance from the Able Child team.

> The practical value of this learning is already evident, with Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC) adapting the training to develop and launch its own fundraising campaign focussed on generating unrestricted income for its disability inclusion programmes.

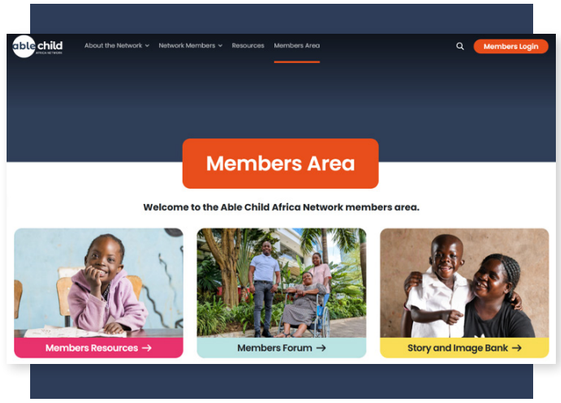
Alongside fundraising, Network members also participated in a **Monitoring, Evaluation, Adaptation and Learning (MEAL)** session focussed on strengthening their ability to gather, analyse and utilise evidence of change.

Reflecting the ethos of the Network, capacity building is increasingly informed not only by external expertise but by the strengths that already exist within member organisations, with members increasingly sharing their own tools, systems and experiences.

> Through this approach, knowledge is not held by any one organisation but continuously exchanged across the Network, ensuring that learning generated in one country can benefit children and young people with disabilities across the continent.

Deepening and scaling collaboration

The collaborative culture that continues to develop across the Network is rooted in the success of the **Comic Relief-funded Deepening and Scaling project**, which concluded this year. The project was designed to strengthen the technical and storytelling capacities of Network members while creating opportunities to convene and share expertise across the Network. It recognised that disability-focussed organisations are often rich in technical knowledge and lived experience, yet can face barriers in accessing resources, sharing learning and strengthening the systems required for long-term sustainability.



Through the project, Network members worked together to review and consolidate existing resources, contribute to a shared **inclusive education toolbox**, develop the **Network Knowledge Hub, which is accessed through a members-only area of the Network website**, and **strengthen systems** for collaboration and collective learning.

Equally important were the opportunities it created for members to come together in person through Annual Conferences and General Assemblies, establishing relationships and ways of working that continue to underpin the Network today.

> By investing in shared resources, peer learning and member-led leadership structures, the project helped move the Network from its early formation towards a more mature and collaborative model. Increasingly, members are not only sharing knowledge and expertise with each other, but also leading capacity building, influencing the Network's future direction and identifying new opportunities for collective action across East and Southern Africa.

Innovate and deliver programmes

At the heart of the Network's mission is the concept of **"delivering together"**.

Network members design, test, improve and scale programmes that improve children's lives.

This strategic objective focusses on high-quality inclusive programming for children with disabilities across the seven countries the Network operates in. It moves beyond delivering programmes in isolation, with multiple organisations collaborating to develop, innovate, and then scale impactful programmes. It involves creating evidence-based models that demonstrate success before building best practices for inclusive education that can be replicated globally.

> By participating in joint-funded projects and consortium-based initiatives, the Network members can amplify their collective impact.

Through these collaborations, the Network not only strengthens its expertise but positions itself as a leader for inclusive programming for children with disabilities. These coordinated efforts will further allow the Network to engage with powerful global allies, such as donors, governments, and international organisations, advocating for systemic changes in disability inclusion policies and practices.

Delivering together to create lasting change

Over the past year, Network members continued to demonstrate what can be achieved when organisations work together. Projects tackled barriers to inclusion in **education, mental health, livelihoods, care reform** and **early intervention,** generating evidence and practical learning that can be shared and adapted across the Network.



> Working together enabled members to combine local expertise with shared tools, technical support and collective learning through the delivery of 17 projects.

From developing digital assessment tools in Uganda and strengthening inclusive early childhood education in Malawi and Zambia, to advancing disability-inclusive mental health services in Rwanda and supporting family-centred care reform globally, Network members continued to innovate in response to the challenges children with disabilities face.

> Beyond individual project outcomes, these initiatives helped strengthen systems, influence policy and demonstrate approaches that can be replicated and scaled. Through collaboration, the Network is building a growing portfolio of evidence-based models that improve outcomes for children with disabilities while contributing to wider change.

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Advancing inclusive education and early intervention

Access to quality, inclusive education remained a central focus across the Network this year. Network members continued to develop and test practical approaches that help identify children with disabilities earlier, remove barriers to learning, and strengthen the capacity of teachers, schools and communities to support every child to thrive.



> Across programmes in Uganda, Malawi and Zambia, hundreds of children with disabilities accessed assessments, assistive devices and more inclusive learning environments. In Malawi alone, **158 children with disabilities were enrolled in Community Based Childcare Centres**, while in Zambia **133 children received specialist assessments** and **35 children accessed individualised support**.

Alongside direct support to children, Network members worked closely with teachers, government officials and communities to strengthen systems that can be sustained and scaled. This included developing a digital assessment and Individualised Education Plan (IEP) tool in Uganda through the **Unlocking potential** project, strengthening inclusive early childhood education services across Malawi and Zambia through the **ECD For Me Too**, **Onse Ana apunzile** and other projects, while supporting greater government engagement through inclusive education approaches. Together, these initiatives are helping to demonstrate practical, evidence-based models that can be adapted and scaled to reach more children with disabilities.



Creating a more inclusive school environment

As part of the **Zambia Inclusive Early Learning Programme (ZIELP)**, delivered with **ZAPCD**, teachers, community volunteers and parents received training on disability inclusion, safeguarding and the rights of children with disabilities. The wider programme supported **133 children with disabilities** to access medical assessments, provided assistive devices and **individualised support to 35 children**, and strengthened inclusion across **six Early Childhood Education centres**, helping create more accessible learning environments for young children with disabilities.

One Parent Teacher Association (PTA) member was inspired to put this learning into practice after noticing young children carrying hot porridge across the school grounds at mealtimes. Recognising the safety risks, particularly for children with disabilities, the PTA brought together staff and community members to take action.

Together, they constructed dedicated feeding benches that provide children with disabilities with a safe space to eat and included sufficient space for wheelchair users. What began as a training session evolved into a practical, community-led solution that improved safety, accessibility and inclusion for all learners.

The initiative demonstrates how **knowledge and practical tools can create lasting change**. By strengthening understanding of disability rights and inclusion, the project improved access to education for children with disabilities while empowering communities to create more inclusive learning environments.

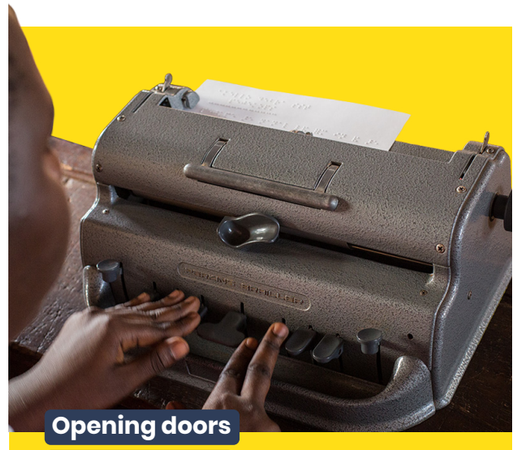


Network members continued to develop innovative programmes that support children and young people with disabilities to improve their wellbeing and build confidence. By combining family engagement, community awareness and system strengthening, these initiatives are helping children with disabilities overcome barriers that can limit their potential.

In Rwanda, the **Young People with Disabilities Revolutionise Disability-Inclusive Mental Health Provision** project trained **12 young people with disabilities** as mentors, advocates and leaders, who went on to support **100 children with disabilities**, exceeding the project's first-year target. Through mentoring sessions, home visits, school activities, psychosocial support and awareness raising, the project strengthened children's mental health and wellbeing while helping families, schools and service providers better understand and respond to their needs.

The project also engaged more than **200 community members**, reached over **3,000 people through awareness raising activities**, and facilitated government commitments to strengthen disability-inclusive mental health support.

Alongside this work, the completion of ZAPCD's **Disability-Inclusive Livelihoods Hub** in Zambia created new opportunities for young people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities to access skills development, livelihoods training and future employment opportunities, supporting greater confidence, independence and inclusion within their communities.



Opening doors to opportunity

Beatrice, a 16-year-old girl with a visual impairment, was preparing to sit her national primary school examinations when it became clear that no arrangements had been made for the braille exam papers and additional time she required. Without these adjustments, her opportunities for further education and future aspirations were at risk.

Through the project, Beatrice was connected to a young mentor with a disability who helped her understand her rights and build the confidence to advocate for the support she needed. Working alongside school staff, the mentor helped raise the issue with the relevant authorities and push for a solution. Following engagement with the National Examination and School Inspection Authority, Beatrice was provided with braille examination materials and additional time to complete her exams.

With the necessary support in place, Beatrice was able to sit her examinations alongside her classmates. The experience not only enabled her to pursue her ambitions with confidence, but also demonstrated how **peer mentoring can empower young people with disabilities to understand their rights, speak up for themselves and access the opportunities they deserve**.

The case has since contributed to wider discussions about how learners with disabilities are identified and accommodated within national examinations in Rwanda, helping to create opportunities for other young people in the future.

Note: The names of children in all case stories have been changed to protect their identity.

Strengthening families

Families and communities play a crucial role in ensuring children with disabilities can thrive.

This year, Network members invested in approaches that strengthened caregiver welfare, improved household resilience and created supportive environments where children could participate more fully in community life and education.
In Kenya, the **Future Bora Initiative** project supported **336 parents** of children with disabilities through entrepreneurship, financial literacy and mental health training, alongside peer-led Parent Support Groups and savings schemes.

In Malawi, more than **300 parents** participated in Village Savings and Loans Associations through Parent Support Groups, strengthening both economic resilience and social support networks. In Rwanda, parents received psychosocial support and positive parenting training through a disability-inclusive mental health programme, helping to strengthen family relationships and wellbeing.

Across these initiatives, families gained practical skills, peer support and greater confidence to support their children's development.



Improving outcomes for the whole family

The Parents Living with Children with Disabilities Parent Support Group in Nairobi, Kenya brought together **30 caregivers** of children with disabilities through the Future Bora Initiative. Combining mental health support, business training, savings opportunities and peer learning, the group created a space where caregivers could strengthen both their wellbeing and livelihoods.

For many participants, the mental health training provided practical strategies for coping with stress and supporting others. As Mercy* explained:

> "The mental health training has helped me to overcome stress personally and also how I can support fellow caregivers to overcome stress."

Judy described how the training helped improve her relationship with her children:

> "Before, I did not know what mental health was. I was going through many challenges at home and was often angry, which affected my children. After the training, I know how to manage and control myself."

The business training also helped caregivers strengthen their financial resilience. Lilian, who runs a hairdressing business, explained:

> "After the training I have learnt how to save from the little amount I get and I have managed to purchase some salon equipment."

The Parent Support Group demonstrated the value of combining psychosocial support, economic empowerment and peer learning. Participants reported improved wellbeing, stronger support networks and greater confidence in supporting children with disabilities, highlighting how investing in caregivers can improve outcomes for the whole family.

Note: Names have been changed throughout this report to protect the identities of individuals.

Generate and collate data

The Network builds evidence on the realities facing children with disabilities and uses it to **drive change.**

Historically, children with disabilities have been underrepresented in the data used to shape policies, programmes and funding decisions. Building a stronger evidence base is essential to understanding their experiences, identifying gaps and driving more inclusive investment.

Because of this, building data on children with disabilities is a core objective of the Network. This year, we delivered our second large scale data report on the insights of children with disabilities in East and Southern Africa.

Amplifying the voices of children with disabilities on climate resilience and adaptability

Network members undertook new research this year to take a deeper look into one of the areas children themselves identified as a growing concern: climate resilience and adaptability.

With climate related shocks increasing across East and Southern Africa, children with disabilities are disproportionately affected, yet their experiences remain largely overlooked in policy and programme design.

In 2025, the Network conducted a survey with **1,112 children** with disabilities across seven countries in the region. The study explores how extreme weather, access to early warning systems, community preparedness, and individual coping strategies intersect with disability to influence children's safety, inclusion, and wellbeing.



The findings revealed significant gaps in awareness and access to information. While children with disabilities are among those most affected by climate change, **only 50% had heard of the term "climate change"** and just **40% had learned about it in school**. Children with disabilities who attended school were nearly **three times more likely to understand climate change than those out of school**, highlighting how exclusion from education can also result in exclusion from information.

Yet climate change is far from a distant concern for children with disabilities. The research found it is already affecting many aspects of daily life, from missed school days and poor health to inaccessible evacuation routes and increased feelings of exclusion. Climate risks are not only environmental challenges but barriers that can deepen existing inequalities.

By centring the voices of children with disabilities, the research provides important evidence to inform more disability-inclusive climate policies and programmes. It also strengthens the case for ensuring children with disabilities are included in the decisions, investments and actions shaping climate resilience across the region.

The full survey is available **here**.



Driving change through evidence

In February 2026, the Able Child Africa Network officially launched the Amplifying the voices of children with disabilities on climate resilience and adaptability survey report through a webinar attended by 50 participants. The purpose of the webinar was to bridge a significant knowledge gap, ensuring the unique experiences of children with disabilities are included in climate policy and programming. The report addresses a critical evidence gap, ensuring the experiences of children with disabilities are better reflected in climate policy and programming. Shared through Network members, partners and local communities, the findings are already helping to inform more inclusive approaches to climate resilience and adaptation.

The significance of this work was also recognised externally. In 2025, Comic Relief invited Able Child to contribute to a sector-wide survey exploring innovative approaches to climate resilience among its funded organisations. Drawing on evidence generated across the Network, including findings from the climate survey, Able Child's response was subsequently selected as one of eight organisations invited to join a climate-focussed learning and collaboration group convened by Southern Africa Trust as part of the 'deepening climate engagement' project.

This recognition positioned the Network alongside leading organisations working on climate resilience across Africa, reflecting its growing credibility as a source of evidence and expertise on disability-inclusive climate action. It also created new opportunities to influence wider sector conversations and amplify the voices of children with disabilities.

In February 2026, the Network Manager and Able Child's Programmes Officer attended the group's convening in Nairobi, Kenya, where they shared evidence from across the Network and co-led a session on Inclusive Climate Resilience alongside the Pastoral Women's Council. Drawing on findings from the Network's climate survey, the session highlighted the disproportionate impact of climate change on children and people with disabilities and explored practical approaches to more inclusive climate action.

What's next: In 2026/27, the Network will undertake a new survey exploring sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and menstrual health management among children and young people with disabilities. The findings are expected to be published later in 2026.

Advocate and raise awareness

We believe that **the Network's collective advocacy is crucial for lasting change.**

There is a clear need for strong, collective advocacy to ensure the voices of children with disabilities are heard in local, national and global conversations. The Network's strength lies in its many voices, bringing together diverse experiences and expertise to drive greater impact for children with disabilities than any organisation could achieve alone.

Data underpins all our advocacy work, ensuring that our efforts are **evidence-based and effective.**

Raising the profile of the Network

Able Child's UK team champions the Network's voice internationally, ensuring members and children with disabilities themselves lead advocacy efforts. We prioritise creating space for Network representatives, never speaking on their behalf unless asked.

The Network's growing influence is built on a combination of evidence, advocacy and lived experience, equipping them to become global leaders.



We have achieved this through three key strategies:

- Publishing and sharing resources, knowledge, and expertise to strengthen the wider sector's capacity to include children with disabilities.
- Securing a platform for the Network's voice to be heard internationally through participation in global forums and partnerships.
- Supporting members to advocate locally by providing resources and data.

Stronger together

Working alongside members of the Able Child Africa Network, we continued to amplify the voices of children with disabilities and their families.

Through programmes delivered together with Network members, children with disabilities, caregivers and communities were able to engage with decision-makers and contribute to changes that promote greater inclusion.

In **Uganda**, USDC contributed to the development of an **Inclusive Schools Policy** and training manual, helping to ensure that the experiences of children with disabilities, their caregivers and other marginalised groups were reflected in policy discussions and planning processes.

In **Kenya** and **Zambia**, Network members engaged with government stakeholders to strengthen inclusive education systems. This included advocating for **improved use of inclusive education data** and working with ministries of education to identify and address barriers preventing children with disabilities from accessing quality education.

In **Malawi**, Parent Support Groups supported through our joint programmes successfully advocated for investment from the **National Economic Empowerment Fund**, enabling caregivers of children with disabilities to strengthen their livelihoods and better support their children's education.



Network members also used **National Early Childhood Development Week** to promote disability inclusion, sharing success stories, evidence and key messages through social media, community events and engagement with local stakeholders.

These achievements demonstrate the power of collective advocacy. By bringing together evidence, lived experience and local expertise, the Network is strengthening the voice of children with disabilities, influencing decision-makers and driving change in the systems that affect children with disabilities lives.

Influencing systems and shaping global change

The Network's programmes are designed not only to improve individual lives, but also to influence the systems that shape opportunities for children with disabilities.

At a global level, Able Child was selected as the lead partner to manage the **Children and Young People's Global Taskforce on Care Reform** project, funded by FCDO.



Together with Lumos, Hope and Homes for Children, Save the Children and World Vision, we've worked closely with FCDO to ensure children and young people with lived experience help shape the Global Campaign on Children's Care Reform. The Taskforce is made up of 17 care-experienced young people from 14 countries, 40% of whom have disabilities, to engage directly with policymakers and influence international discussions on children's right to grow up in safe and loving family environments.

For two young people connected to the Able Child Africa Network through **FEDOMA** and **ZAPCD**, joining the **FCDO-funded Global Children's Taskforce** has opened opportunities to contribute to conversations **far beyond their local communities.**

Since its inception, members have contributed to international advocacy initiatives, including the development of the 10-Point Plan and participation in the Global Partnerships Conference. Through direct engagement with government representatives, donors and global stakeholders, children and young people helped shape conversations on inclusion, accountability and meaningful participation in care reform efforts.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate how learning, evidence and lived experience generated through the Network's programmes can drive change beyond individual projects, ensuring the voices of children and young people with disabilities contribute to policies.

Able Child's role

Able Child also continues to play an active leadership role within the **International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC)**. This year, Able Child's CEO, as Secretary of the IDDC Board, and Head of Programmes, Quality and Impact, as Co-Chair of the IDDC Child Rights Task Group, attended the 2026 Annual General Assembly in Brussels.

Through these leadership positions, Able Child helps influence the strategic direction of one of the world's most important disability and development networks, while ensuring children with disabilities remain visible in global conversations on inclusion, rights and development. It also provides an important platform for bringing the experiences, evidence and expertise of the Able Child Africa Network into international policy and advocacy spaces.

Our impact

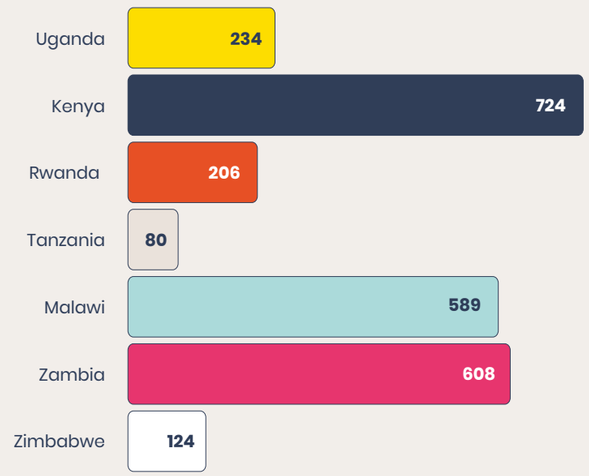
In 2025/26, we worked alongside **nine Network members** across **seven countries** to deliver **four consortium** projects and **13 partner-led** projects.

Together, these initiatives helped protect, educate and amplify the voices of children and young people with disabilities, reaching more children, families and communities than ever before.

Children and **young people** with disabilities directly supported:

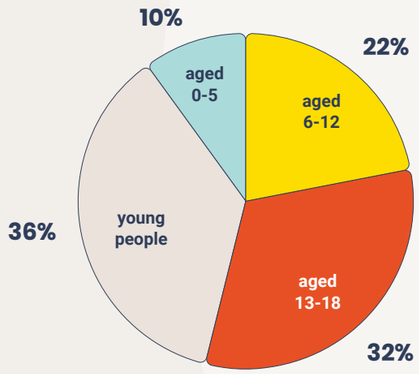
Total **2,565**





We directly support children and young people with disabilities by implementing early identification tools, enrolling out-of-school children into schools, making school environments more accessible, establishing peer-to-peer mentorship schemes and supporting young people with disabilities to access employment.

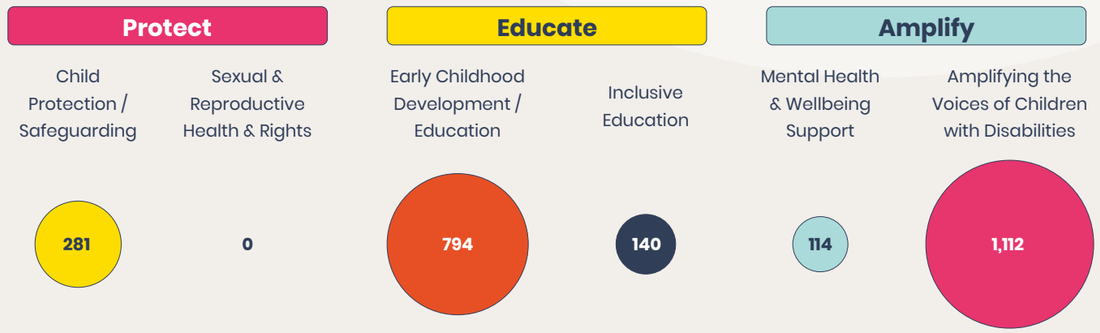
Children and young people with disabilities directly supported **according to age**:





The age profile of children supported this year reflects the increasing breadth of the Network's work. While early childhood development and inclusive education remain a significant focus, **programmes supporting child participation, advocacy and research** have enabled us to engage more older children and young people this year.

Number of **children and young people with disabilities** worked with:

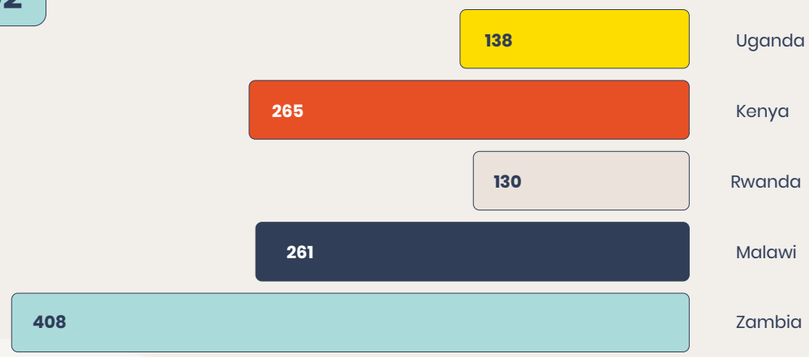


This year, we **strengthened our focus on child protection and mental health**. Through targeted programmes we supported more children to be safe, while continuing to lay the foundations for inclusion through Early Childhood Development.

This year, **we enrolled 808 children with disabilities who were not in school**, into the school environment, so they can continue their education.

Parents of children and young people with disabilities directly supported:

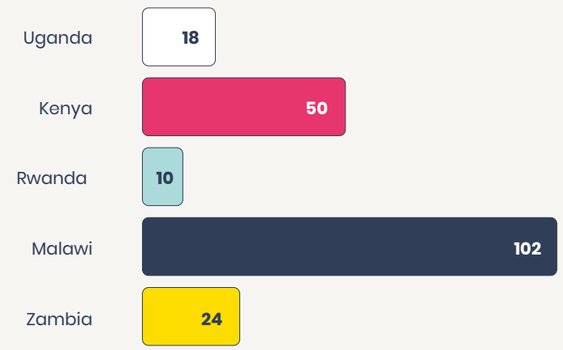
Total **1,202**



We support parents of children with disabilities through the establishment of Parent Support Groups and the facilitation of community events, giving parents the opportunity to discuss the challenges they face, support each other and work together to advocate for their children's inclusion.

Number of **teachers** trained:

Total **204**

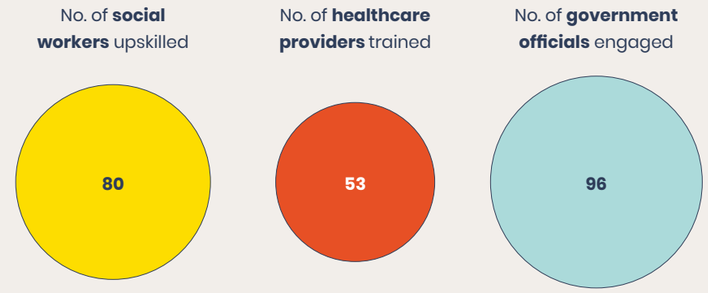


We train teachers in inclusive teaching methods, providing information and tools to help teachers support all children in the classroom, and ensuring children with disabilities can participate effectively in lessons and play activities alongside their peers.

We reached 37% more teachers than last year, reflecting a growing emphasis on strengthening the systems around children with disabilities. By integrating teacher training across multiple programmes and thematic areas, we are helping to create more inclusive learning environments where children with disabilities can thrive.

Number of **other stakeholders** engaged:

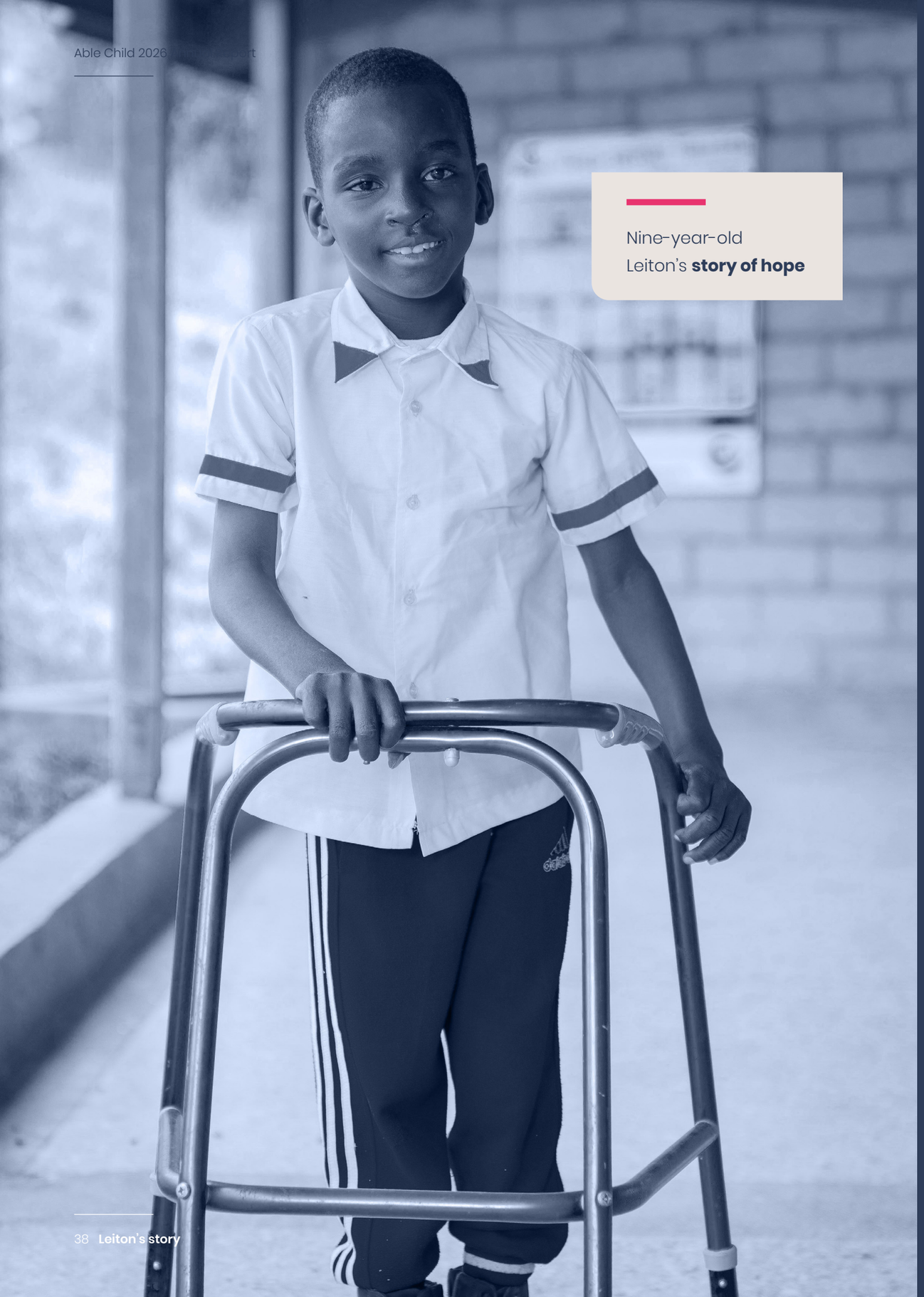
Total **229**



This year, our work has strengthened links between social workers, healthcare providers and education services. Activities have intentionally led to increased involvement of community psychologists and other professionals in schools and communities, improving access to psychosocial and other support for children with disabilities and their families.



Through awareness raising, community outreach and advocacy activities, we **engaged more than 14,000 community members** this year. By challenging stigma, increasing understanding of disability and promoting inclusion, these activities are helping create communities where children with disabilities are recognised, valued and supported to thrive.



Nine-year-old Leiton's **story of hope**

Leiton's story

Leiton is nine years old and lives in Tanzania with his mother.

Although young, Leiton had already faced many challenges in his life due to his disabilities. He has physical and intellectual impairments which means that he could not walk independently or use his hands effectively. Leiton also found it difficult to talk and was unable to express himself freely.

As a result, Leiton was not going to school – a common occurrence in Tanzania where 85% of children with disabilities are outside the education system. Without the support and medical care, he needed, Leiton was in danger of falling behind.



This is where Able Child came in.

Working alongside our Network Member **Child Support Tanzania (CST)**, Leiton was identified as a child with a disability who was out of school and was gently encouraged to enrol at CST's Inclusive School. The school immediately arranged for Leiton to receive physiotherapy and speech therapy sessions.

Through dedicated support from trained physiotherapists working alongside CST's teachers, **Leiton gradually gained the ability to walk** – at first with a walking frame and then completely unaided as his teachers around him rejoiced at his progress.

The school also provided Leiton with occupational therapy that focussed on improving his fine motor skills. As his hands gained strength, he was able to accomplish tasks that were thought to be far beyond his reach including eating independently and carrying out simple tasks within the classroom.

Leiton's progress amazed everyone around him. His consistent efforts, combined with the unwavering support of his mother enabled him to surpass expectations.

Leiton's story became an inspiration for everyone at the school. His journey was not just his own; it was a story of hope, resilience, and the limitless possibilities that lie within us all.

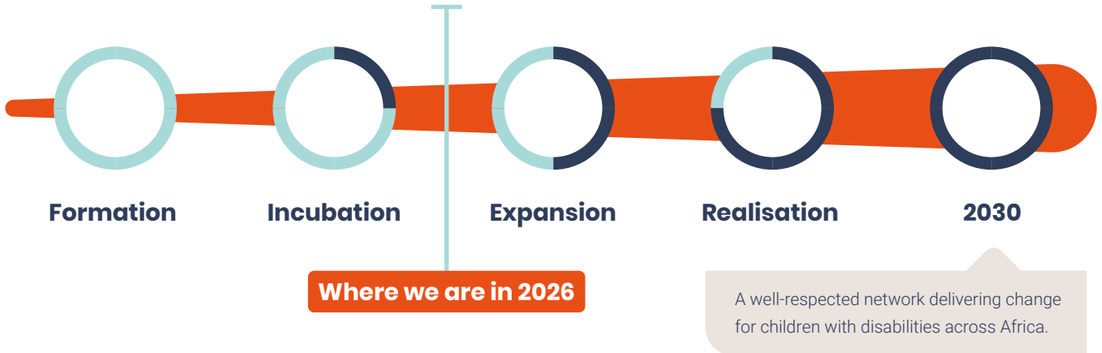
Note: The names of children in all case stories have been changed to protect their identity.

Our strategy: safe, thriving, heard – looking forward

2026 marks the second year of our **Safe, Thriving, Heard Strategy**, which runs until 2030.

We believe that lasting change for children with disabilities will be driven by strong, locally led organisations with the resources, influence and evidence needed to shape their own futures.

As the Network moves into **Phase 2 of its strategy**, the focus will increasingly turn to deepening African leadership, strengthening sustainability and amplifying the Network's collective influence. Building on the strong foundations established during Phase 1, members will take on a greater role in shaping the Network's priorities, governance and future direction.



A well-respected network delivering change for children with disabilities across Africa.

Towards a locally registered African Network

Before entering its Expansion phase, Network members have agreed to pursue registration as a locally registered African organisation. This is an important step towards strengthening the Network's long-term sustainability, African leadership and ability to attract and manage funding directly.

Over the next year, members will determine where and how the Network should register and begin the registration process. This will include assessing governance arrangements, potential risks and the legal and operational implications of different options. Alongside this, members will map existing regional networks and partnerships to identify opportunities for collaboration and ensure future expansion builds on, rather than duplicates, existing efforts.



Evolving together

Able Child has served as a platform for the Able Child Africa Network, supporting members to access funding, build expertise and advocate for meaningful change. As the Network moves towards local registration, this relationship will continue to evolve.

While the future model will be shaped by Network members themselves, our ambition is to see leadership, decision-making and influence increasingly driven by African organisations. Able Child will continue to provide the support, connections and opportunities needed to help the Network thrive in a changing development landscape.

Over time, we expect to play a more focused role in areas such as fundraising, advocacy, technical support and partnership brokering, helping to connect the Network to resources, expertise and international platforms while creating space for members to shape their own priorities and future direction. This is a journey we will continue to navigate together.





A major priority over the coming years will be sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and menstrual health management. In 2026/27, the Network will undertake a large-scale survey across seven countries, exploring the barriers girls and young women with disabilities face in accessing information, services and support, as well as identifying practical solutions. The findings will help ensure the voices and experiences of children and young people with disabilities are reflected in an area where they have historically been underrepresented.

Over the coming year, we will seek to increase the number of consortium-based projects delivered across the Network, bringing multiple organisations together to test, adapt and scale promising approaches. By delivering more collectively and generating stronger evidence, we aim to grow the Network's influence while improving outcomes for children with disabilities across Africa.

As the international development landscape continues to evolve, Able Child will continue to adapt alongside it. We will continue to diversify income and explore new opportunities that support both the sustainability of Able Child and the long-term growth of the Network.

At the same time, we recognise that lasting change cannot be achieved alone. We will continue to deepen partnerships across the disability, child rights and international development sectors, identifying opportunities to collaborate, share expertise and amplify collective influence. By working alongside others who share our commitment to inclusion, we can help ensure that children with disabilities are not left behind.

Delivering our strategy

Overview

Able Child's total income this year was £713,172 which represents a decrease of 24% from the previous financial year. This is comprised of £239,936 in restricted funding (including grants) and £473,236 in unrestricted flexible funding.

Total expenditure this year was £886,062 which is a 12% decrease from the previous financial year.

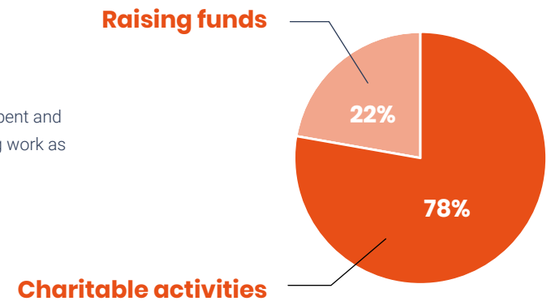
Income and expenditure

Income and expenditure	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
Income	£239,936	£473,236	£713,172
Expenditure	£389,478	£496,584	£886,062
Net income / Expenditure	(£149,542)	(£23,348)	(£172,890)

Income and expenditure

Expenditure Split	Charitable Activities	Raising Funds	Total Expenditure
	£692,023	£194,039	£886,062

Expenditure on charitable activities amounts to **78p for every pound** spent and comprises costs of our projects in Africa, our advocacy and influencing work as well as related support and governance costs.



Our fundraising costs (**22p in every pound spent**) are kept as low as possible while still allowing us to raise sufficient funds to deliver against our mission. This year the cost of raising funds is slightly higher than previous years as the costs of goods and services have risen due to inflation, and we have faced increased staff costs to retain our talented team.

The complete Audited Accounts and Financial Statements can be found in this document from page 54.

Celebrating you

Nothing we do would be possible without the many people who support or fund us, complete challenges for us or provide in-kind support. So, to all of you, a massive thank you!

Our patrons

We are fortunate to have a fantastic group of patrons who continue to champion our work and raise awareness of the issues facing children with disabilities. We want to thank Anne Wafula-Strike, Ellie Robinson, Keith Nethercot and Marsha De Cordova MP, for their ongoing support, commitment and belief in our mission. We are proud to have you alongside us as we continue working towards a world where no child with a disability is left behind.

Our Ambassadors

Our ambassadors are a valued part of the Able Child family. Through their dedication, generosity and personal commitment to our cause, they help make our work possible. We would like to say a huge thank you to Azad Ayub, Clare Persey, Paul Harrison, Baz Mehta and Stephen Trowell for your continued support. It is never taken for granted, and we are proud to have you as part of the Able Child family.



Our corporate supporters

We are incredibly fortunate to have the support of a fantastic group of corporate partners whose ongoing loyalty and support over recent years have been invaluable.

A special thank you to Exile, particularly Dan Sheriff, Dom Kloiber, Katy Rose, Hesham Zakai and the wider team. Time and again, Exile has been a trusted and faithful partner, consistently going above and beyond in its support of Able Child. From generously providing office space free of charge to championing our mission, your support helps ensure more of our resources can be directed towards children with disabilities.

To Findlay Park, thank you for investing in our mission and continuing your journey with us. A particular thanks goes to Sello Lekalakala for his ongoing support, and to Jacqui Shilling, Hywel Evans from the SRC team.

To Cargill and Juwon Sofola for your significant annual donation towards our work. You've been supporting for 8 years and counting, and we couldn't be more grateful to have such stalwart support.

To Hassell Inclusion, to Rosnah and Jonathan Hassell for quietly providing an incredibly generous and long-term commitment to the charity and buying in to what we do. Your support is invaluable, and it is great to have you with us on this journey.

And to our newest supporter, the HandSpark Charitable Foundation, we are excited to build a partnership with you that will hopefully go from strength to strength.

We would also like to thank everyone that donates their services free of charge or at reduced rates to help us keep our costs down and ensure as much money as possible goes to where it is needed most.

And finally, a big thanks to Michèle Renée Creative for your beautiful design support.

Celebrating you

Nothing we do would be possible without the many people who support or fund us, complete challenges for us or provide in-kind support. So, to all of you, a massive thank you!

Our challenge takers

Every year we are lucky to have an amazing group of fundraisers who take on the challenge of the London Marathon and raise funds for our work. This year, we had an incredible team of 23 runners who raised crucial funds for our work. We want to thank every one of you. As always, your commitment to fundraise for our cause throughout your journeys is hugely appreciated.
We also would like to say a special thank you to several runners who went above and beyond further this year. Firstly, to Dan Sheriff who raised just over £4,700, to Sisan Dorsu who raised £3,500 and Lucy Frames and James Shirley who both raised just over £3,000. And to Azeem Pervez, Josh Brandon, Amber Bamford and Tamsin Pulfrey who all ran for Able Child for the first time and exceeded targets. Thank you, one and all.



Our individual supporters

Every year, individuals help make our work possible, whether through regular donations, fundraising, sharing our story or championing our mission. Your commitment helps ensure that children and young people with disabilities can access the support, opportunities and inclusion they deserve. A special thank you goes to our Champion donors Cath Ford and Tony Shubrook, Heather Barr, Jim Sellars, John Ingram and Richard Trillo for their continued generosity and belief in our work. We are also deeply grateful to our many long-term supporters who have stood alongside Able Child for years, and in some cases decades. Your loyalty and commitment have played an important role in helping us adapt and continue supporting children with disabilities across Africa.

Our Trustees

As a small charity, we are fortunate to have a highly engaged and supportive Board of Trustees who generously give their time, expertise and energy to Able Child. Throughout the year, they have provided wisdom, encouragement and challenge, helping us navigate an increasingly complex environment while staying true to our mission. A special thank you to Mitul Shah, our Chair, and Abigail Viljoen, our Vice Chair, for their leadership and support.
We are also grateful to Martin Hill, Jim Sellars, Maria Omare, Miiro Michael, Dhiran Tanna, Hannah Loryman, Thomas Edwards and our newest Trustee, Jonathan Dunne. Your commitment, insight and willingness to go above and beyond are invaluable to Able Child.

Our staff

Finally, we want to recognise our incredible staff team. This year has brought challenges, yet the team has continued to show remarkable resilience and commitment to Able Child and the children with disabilities we serve. What makes Able Child special is the people. The team consistently supports one another, approaches challenges with positivity and never loses sight of why we do this work. They bring passion to everything they do, while continually pushing us to be a more dynamic, responsive and brave organisation. Thank you for all your hard work.

Able Child 2026 Annual Report

Celebrating you

Nothing we do would be possible without the many people who support or fund us, complete challenges for us or provide in-kind support. So, to all of you, a massive thank you!

We would like to thank the following donors for their support in the last year

Allan and Nesta Ferguson Trust
American Century Investments
Ashla Charitable Trust
Austin Bailey Foundation
Azad Ayub Ltd
Bartlett Foundation
Belacqua Trust
Bryan Guinness Trust
Cargill
Chalk Cliff Trust
Cheruby Trust
Christadelphian Samaritan fund
Coles-Medlock Foundation
Comic Relief
Dorfred Trust
EA Foundation
Ernest Ingham Trust
Exile Group
Findlay Park
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)
HandSpark Charitable Trust
Hassell Inclusion
James Tudor Foundation
K.M Harbinson Trust
Leggatt Trust
Lewin Trust
Marr-Munning Trust
Mercers Company
Morel Trust
Sir Halley Stewart Trust
Southern Africa Trust
Souter Charitable Trust
States of Guernsey
Sustainable Future Foundation
Tula Trust
Vitol Foundation



Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026. The financial statements have been prepared based on the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with Able Child Africa's Memorandum and Articles of Association, applicable law, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).



1. Structure, governance and management

1.1 Legal status

Able Child is the trading name of Able Child Africa, a company limited by guarantee registered in England, not having a share capital, incorporated under the Companies Act 2006 (company number 01861434). The company is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (charity number 326859). Able Child Africa was previously known as the Uganda Society for Children with Disabilities. Able Child became the official trading name of Able Child Africa in 2024, and Able Child and Able Child Africa may be used interchangeably through this report. This report constitutes the directors' annual report for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Trustees

The Trustees (who are also Directors for the purposes of Company law) who held office during the financial year are set out in this document. They represent a diverse skill set with experience in finance, law and the third sector, including programme delivery, legal expertise and advocacy. The Board of Trustees is led by the Chair, Mitul Shah and Vice Chair Abigail Viljoen. The Trustees delegate the day-to-day operation of the charity to the staff team, managed by the co-CEOs, Karl Hankinson and Lauren Watters, although we moved to a single CEO structure in June 2026. The CEO acts as the Company Secretary. During the year one new Trustee was appointed in November 2025, while two Trustees also left the Board.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the provisions in the Articles of Association, which allow for appointment at any time. New trustees are nominated by current members of the Board of Trustees, following an open and competitive recruitment process, and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Once appointed, Trustees undergo a thorough induction process. Trustees do not receive any remuneration but may claim for incidental expenses, such as travel to board meetings.

The full Board meets on a quarterly basis. We also have one sub-committee, the Resources Sub-Committee that meets quarterly to oversee finance, unrestricted fundraising and give recommendations to the Board. The Resources Sub-Committee has its own identified terms of reference, nominated chair and reports to the full board. The chair of the Resources Sub-committee is currently Martin Hill, appointed in March 2020.

The Board of Trustees is primarily responsible for setting and maintaining the strategic direction of the organisation, setting policies and managing resources, risk and staffing. Trustees ensure appropriate procedures and safeguards are in place and take reasonable steps to ensure that these are followed, and they review the Articles of Association, which was last revised in July 2023, to ensure they remain fit for purpose. They carefully monitor finances to ensure viability and sustainability of existing commitments and future plans; they oversee decisions relating to non-budgeted commitments in excess of £1,000; and budgeted commitments in excess of £5,000. Trustees also oversee and ensure compliance of statutory and legal requirements, both internally within the organisation as well as to our beneficiaries and donors.

The Board oversees staff remuneration and sets the pay scales and any benefits package, currently limited only to pension payments, for the organisation. Salary scales are benchmarked using the Croner Charity Rewards Report, which provides the most comprehensive set of data on salary and benefit packages for the Charity Sector in the UK. The last pay scale review was completed in 2017 and amended in 2020. The next full pay scale review will be completed in January 2027.

1.3 Staffing

Able Child maintains a small staff team in the UK. During the financial year, the organisation employed twelve UK-based staff members; however, due to maternity leave and staff turnover, the average staffing level was approximately ten employees throughout the year. The team comprised two Co-Chief Executive Officers, a Head of Fundraising & Communications, a Head of Programmes Quality & Impact, a Senior Programme Officer, a Programme Officer, a Finance & Operations Manager, a Finance & Operations Executive, a Programmes Funding Officer, a Senior Fundraising & Communications Officer, a Fundraising & Communications Executive, and a part-time Advocacy & Communications Executive. In addition, Able Child engaged a Network Manager based in Kenya on a consultancy basis.

Able Child is an equal opportunities employer, committed to equality of opportunities regardless of gender, disability, race, religion, or sexual orientation. We are also proud to be a registered 'disability confident' committed employer. In our recruitment processes we particularly encourage applications from people with disabilities and people with direct experience of living or working with children with disabilities; those meeting essential criteria are guaranteed an interview.

1.4 Fundraising performance

Able Child generated £473k of unrestricted income during 2025/26—our second strongest year on record. While down from the exceptional £516k achieved in 2024/25, unrestricted fundraising remained exceptionally strong demonstrating resilience amid a challenging sector backdrop. Our portfolio remained well diversified: Trusts and Foundations exceeded target, securing almost £90k, and mid-major donors contributed over £42k. Individual giving naturally reduced without a repeating BBC Radio 4 Appeal but held steady. Event income reduced by approximately £14k year-on-year, reflecting a less successful Annual Gala and slower marathon income; however, the London Marathon remains highly profitable, with the dip largely reflecting the timing of when income falls across financial years.

Total income reached £713k, driven down by a sharp drop in restricted funding. Restricted income fell from £423k in 2024/25 to £240k in 2025/26 due to increased competition and a tougher grant environment. Entering 2026/27 with just £35k in secured restricted funding, the Board has approved restructuring plans to reassess our targets. Moving forward, we are exploring using a greater proportion of unrestricted income for programme delivery, creating a more sustainable, independent funding model for the future.

1.5 Public benefit statement

Able Child works for the public benefit through its international development and advocacy work, in support of children with disabilities in Africa.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and aims and in planning future activities for this year and those contained in the next Strategic Plan.

Our charitable object as outlined in the Articles of Association is:

To relieve charitable need, promote health, advance education and promote the social integration of disabled children for the public benefit, with a focus on (but without limitation) promoting such disabled children achieving their human, social, cultural and economic rights (as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child ("UNCRC"), Universal Declaration of Human Rights ("UDHR") and subsequent United Nations conventions and declarations and in regional codes of human rights which incorporate the rights contained in the UNCRC, the UDHR and those subsequent conventions and declarations) by any means the Trustees in their absolute discretion choose and in particular by raising awareness as to the needs of disabled children and advocacy as to how those needs can best be met.

2. Financial Review

We remain committed to maximising value for money, with expenditure on charitable activities accounting for 78.1% of our total spend this year.

While we always aim to maximise the proportion directed straight to delivery, several external pressures have impacted our cost split this year. Sector-wide legislative and economic changes—such as rising Employer National Insurance contributions and broader employment costs—mean our staff expenditure increases year-on-year without a corresponding increase in operational capacity. Furthermore, a sharp, sector-wide decline in international development grant funding reduced our restricted income, naturally skewing the overall ratio between fundraising/support costs and charitable output.

In response, the Board has taken decisive action. Through our strategic restructuring, we are trimming operational costs and shifting toward using unrestricted funds to support core delivery. These proactive steps will safeguard our financial sustainability, adapt our model to a tough funding landscape, and importantly return our charitable spend ratio to an optimal level.

2.1 Income

Our total income this year was £713,172, which represents a decrease of 24% from the previous financial year (£938,833). This is comprised of £239,936 in restricted funding (including grants) and £473,236 in unrestricted flexible funding. Unrestricted funding accounted for 66% of total income, reflecting a significant shift in balance due to a tough sector-wide grant environment. Restricted Donors: Our institutional, trust, and foundation restricted partners included the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Sir Halley Stewart Trust, the Lewin Trust, Comic Relief and the EA Foundation (see note 4 for more details).

Unrestricted income was generated from individual supporters (including mid-major donors, regular givers, and the Big Give Christmas Challenge), Trusts and Foundations such as the Ashla Trust and Marr Munning, corporate partners including Exile Group, Claire Persey Recruitment, The Bartlett Foundation, Cargill Financial Services Europe Ltd, Findlay Park, and Hassell Inclusion, and fundraising events including our Annual Gala Dinner, London Marathon, Charity Golf Day, and Children's Charity Walk.

2.2 Expenditure

Total expenditure this year was £886,062, a 12% decrease from the previous financial year (£1,005,852). Restricted expenditure totalled £389,478, which was spent delivering projects to benefit children with disabilities in Africa; these are detailed in Note 15.

Expenditure on charitable activities amounts to 78p for every pound spent, and comprises costs of our projects in Africa, our advocacy and influencing work, as well as related support and governance costs. Our fundraising costs, 22p for every pound spent, are kept as low as possible whilst still allowing us to raise sufficient funds to deliver against our mission.

2.3 Reserves

It is our policy to retain sufficient reserves to safeguard ongoing commitments and operations. Trustees regularly review our reserves policy alongside organisational plans, budgets, and cash flow forecasts.

The policy states that we should hold a minimum of 3 months' unrestricted expenditure at all times, aiming to maintain reserves equivalent to 6 months. This decision is overseen by the Resources Sub-Committee.

Based on the 2025/26 expenditure, our six-month reserves target was £232k. Having carried forward £229k of unrestricted reserves, we ended March 2026 with £206k, representing a drawdown of £23k during the year. This follows a second consecutive year of reserve reductions, reflecting the challenging grant funding environment and reduced levels of restricted income.

As a result, unrestricted reserves are £26k below the Board's six-month target. However, reserves remain comfortably above the charity's minimum three-month requirement and continue to provide a strong financial foundation for an organisation of our size.

To protect reserves and prevent further drawdowns, the Board has approved an organisational restructuring plan designed to reduce costs and align expenditure more closely with reduced restricted income. These measures are expected to improve financial sustainability and support a return towards the six-month reserves target over the next one to two years.

2.4 Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes that the charity will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

During the year, the charity recorded a net deficit of £172,890, including a deficit on unrestricted funds of £23,348. This deficit was primarily driven by a 43% reduction in restricted income, which fell from £422,501 in the prior year to £239,936. The reduction reflects a challenging external funding environment, including increased competition for grant funding and changes in donor priorities.

The charity continues to hold £205,898 in unrestricted reserves. While this is approximately £26,000 below the charity's reserves target of £232,000, the trustees consider this to be a healthy reserves level that provides sufficient liquidity to manage short-term pressures.

To address the deficit and the reduction in restricted funding, the trustees are implementing a restructuring programme to reduce operating costs, transition toward a more efficient network-based operating model, and reduce core cost reliance on restricted grants. The restructure is expected to substantially reduce this forecast drawdown and support the charity's progress towards a broadly break-even position in 2027/28. Alongside these cost reductions, the charity is actively pursuing alternative funding opportunities to diversify income.

The trustees have reviewed cash flow forecasts covering a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. Based on these projections, the anticipated savings from the restructuring, and our strong reserves position, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements and have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to going concern.

2.5 Gifts in Kind

We would like to thank all our generous volunteers and supporters for their work throughout the year. We are particularly grateful to Exile Group for their continued in-kind support, most notably through the provision of our office space and associated facilities. We would also like to thank the many individuals and organisations who donated prizes and experiences for our fundraising events, including Azad Ayub for donating Ascot tickets and Arsenal FC box tickets for both our Golf Day and Annual Gala auctions, TickHicks for donating tickets to see Coldplay and Oasis, and Manchester United Football Club for donating a signed shirt and every other person and company that donated a prize or service for our events throughout the year.

2.6 Investment powers

The Trustees have the power to invest in such assets as they see fit. At the present time we do not have any funds invested but may review this position in future should resources allow.

Able Child 2026 Annual Report

3. Principal risk and uncertainties

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring the organisation has the appropriate systems of control in place, financial and otherwise. Through the implementation of the Strategic Risk Register, the Trustees interrogate and proactively seek to reduce, eliminate or mitigate risks. The major risks to which the organisation is exposed to are identified by the senior management team and nominated board members and reviewed by all Trustees at each quarterly board meeting. The Trustees remain satisfied that current internal systems provide reasonable assurance that the organisation operates efficiently and effectively, safeguards its assets, maintains proper records and complies with relevant laws and regulations.

At present, the Trustees consider the most significant risks facing the charity to be financial sustainability in the changing external funding environment, staffing capacity and retention, and safeguarding. These principal risks, together with the measures in place to mitigate them, are summarised below.

Risk of insufficient funding and economic instability preventing us from delivering against our mission

In the current climate, the risk to income—particularly restricted grant funding—remains high. The international development sector faces severe, ongoing funding pressures as radical shifts in global priorities, including steep contractions in UK and international aid budgets, have fundamentally reduced available grant opportunities, intensified competition, and created persistent uncertainty. While the charity maintains a resilient and diversified unrestricted income portfolio, this sector-wide reduction in restricted funding poses a direct challenge to the scale and reach of our programme delivery.

To manage these risks, the Board of Trustees maintain rigorous financial oversight through, continuous pipeline monitoring, and robust cash flow management. The Treasurer and Resources Sub-Committee scrutinise performance against budgets, reserves, and long-term projections quarterly, ensuring early risk identification and speedy decision-making.

Recognising that these structural shifts in global aid require more than temporary workarounds, the Board is actively adapting the charity's operating model. As a central part of our long-term restructuring and sustainability plans, we are streamlining operations to become a leaner organisation. Crucially, we are shifting strategic focus toward strengthening unrestricted revenue streams and building greater delivery flexibility, reducing our reliance on traditional restricted grant funding and ensuring our mission remains sustainable in a changing world.

Risk of loss of business continuity through unexpected sudden departure of key members of the team

As a small team, our impact depends heavily on key staff, making sudden departures a significant operational risk. Small charities face a tough dilemma: we invest in training high-calibre people, only to lose them to larger organisations offering higher salaries that we cannot match while maintaining responsible charitable expenditure ratios. Despite these pressures, our workforce remained stable last year, losing only one key team member. To boost retention, we prioritise staff wellbeing and a supportive culture. Additionally, because institutional knowledge is heavily concentrated in senior roles—specifically our CEO, Head of Programmes, and longest-standing staff—protecting operational memory is critical. We are embedding processes into our CRM to document knowledge system-wide while actively working to retain our Operations and Finance Manager to ensure institutional continuity. Backed by a comprehensive Business Continuity Policy, these steps keep us resilient in a challenging environment.

Risk of safeguarding incident causing harm to one or more of the vulnerable people we work with

As an organisation working with some of the world's most vulnerable children and young people, we recognise the importance of our safeguarding responsibilities and the potential risk of incidents involving our staff, volunteers, Trustees or partner organisations. Due to the nature of our work, there is an increased likelihood that concerns may be witnessed or reported through our delivery. We are committed to

managing this risk in a transparent and accountable manner, always placing the child or vulnerable adult at the centre of our response. We maintain robust safeguarding policies and procedures, safer recruitment practices including DBS checks where appropriate, and mandatory safeguarding training for staff and Trustees. We also undertake safeguarding due diligence and capacity-building with our network members and partners to strengthen safeguarding practice across the organisations we support. The Board includes a designated safeguarding lead, and safeguarding remains a standing Board agenda item. Regular policy reviews help ensure our safeguarding systems remain effective, proportionate and aligned with best practice.

Other medium-rated risks highlighted within the Strategic Risk Register include:

Risk that our strategy and delivery model does not prove successful

As the funding environment continues to evolve, there is a risk that our delivery model does not achieve the intended outcomes or remains overly reliant on traditional sources of restricted income. However, the charity's shift towards a network-led approach is not a reactive response to recent funding challenges. Since the launch of our strategy in 2024, Able Child has been intentionally transitioning towards a model focused on strengthening African-led organisations, advocacy, evidence generation, capacity strengthening and systems change, in line with localisation principles. This strategic direction places the charity in a strong position to adapt more quickly to changing funding conditions while maintaining impact. Progress against the strategy is reviewed regularly by management and the Board, with ongoing engagement from network members helping to shape implementation and ensure the model remains effective and responsive.

Risk of ineffective governance

Effective governance is essential to the charity's success, particularly during periods of organisational change. This risk is mitigated through an active and engaged Board, specialist sub-committees, regular performance scrutiny, ongoing trustee recruitment and succession planning, and close collaboration between Trustees and the senior management team. In April 2025, the charity undertook a comprehensive governance review as part of its commitment to continuous improvement and alignment with the Charity Governance Code. This review informed a Governance Improvement Action Plan, progress against which is reviewed regularly by the Board to strengthen governance effectiveness, compliance and long-term organisational sustainability.

Risk of ineffective management of personal data and cyber security threats

The charity holds personal information relating to supporters, staff and beneficiaries and therefore faces ongoing data protection and cyber security risks. These are mitigated through GDPR-compliant policies and procedures, regular staff training, secure systems with multi-factor authentication, and ongoing reviews of data management practices. During 2025, we conducted an organisation-wide data cleanse and updated our Data Protection Policy, with all Privacy Notices and data protection practices undergoing external review to ensure compliance and identify any potential areas of risk.

Risk of reputational damage arising from operational incidents

As a charity working with vulnerable groups and dependent on public trust, any significant operational, safeguarding or compliance incident could adversely affect our reputation and fundraising. While the Trustees consider the likelihood of such an incident to be relatively low, they recognise that the impact of a serious incident could be significant. This risk is mitigated through strong governance, robust safeguarding and data protection policies, regular Board oversight, staff training, clear incident reporting procedures and transparent communication with stakeholders.

Risk of a major event leading to a lack of business continuity

As a small organisation, any significant disruption has the potential to affect our operations. This risk is mitigated through cloud-based systems, robust IT infrastructure, documented business continuity procedures, and systems that enable staff to work effectively from multiple locations if required.

4. Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the applicable Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities SORP have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all reasonable steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charitable company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of it being wound up. The total number of such guarantees at 31 March 2026 was nine. The Trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The Trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Ltd were appointed as the charitable company's auditors in 2017 and have indicated their willingness to continue in office.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 04 November 2026:

Mitul Shah
Chair of Trustees

Able Child Africa
(trading as Able Child)
Company no. 01861434
Charity no. 326859

Year end 31 March 2026

Able Child
Report and Audited Financial Statements
31 March 2026

Able Child Africa

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Company number	01861434	
Charity number	326859	
Trading name	Able Child	
Registered office and operational address	Unit 6 Madeira Tower 34 Ponton Road London SW11 7BA	
Trustees	Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:	
	Jonathan Dunne	Appointed 11 November 2025
	Thomas Edwards	
	Martin Hill	
	Hannah Loryman	
	Bharat Mehta	Resigned 23 July 2025
	Miiro Michael	
	Maria Omare	Resigned 28 January 2026
	James Sellars	
	Mitul Shah	Chair
	Dhiran Tanna	
	Abigail Viljoen	Vice-Chair
Company secretary and Co-CEOs	Karl Hankinson	Resigned 18 June 2026
	Lauren Watters	
Bankers	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling ME19 4JQ	Barclays Bank 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP
Solicitors	Bates Wells & Braithwaite 2-6 Cannon Street London EC4M 6YH	
Auditors	Godfrey Wilson Limited 2nd Floor - South One Castle Park Tower Hill Bristol BS2 0JA	

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

Able Child Africa

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Able Child Africa (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2026 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:
- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2026 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 8 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern
In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information
The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

Able Child Africa

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006
In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:
- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

Able Child Africa

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The procedures we carried out and the extent to which they are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed below:

(1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.

(2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:
- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.

(3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.

(4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:
- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Able Child 2026 Annual Report

Independent auditors' report

To the members of

Able Child Africa

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Date: 4 November 2026

William Guy Blake ACA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of:
GODFREY WILSON LIMITED
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
2nd Floor - South
One Castle Park
Tower Hill
Bristol
BS2 0JA

Able Child Africa

Statement of financial activities *(incorporating an income and expenditure account)*

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2026 Total £**	2025 Total £
Income from:					
Donations	3	-	355,056	**355,056**	393,285
Charitable activities	4	239,936	89,825	**329,761**	517,478
Other trading income	5	-	23,295	**23,295**	17,611
Investments		-	5,060	**5,060**	10,459
Total income		239,936	473,236	**713,172**	938,833
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	194,039	**194,039**	218,531
Charitable activities		389,478	302,545	**692,023**	787,321
Total expenditure	6	389,478	496,584	**886,062**	1,005,852
Net expenditure and net movement in funds	8	(149,542)	(23,348)	**(172,890)**	(67,019)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		261,783	229,246	**491,029**	558,048
Total funds carried forward		112,241	205,898	**318,139**	491,029

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the accounts.

Able Child Africa

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2026

	Note	£	**2026 £**	2025 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	11		**4,268**	5,312
Current assets				
Debtors	12	**66,892**		100,556
Cash at bank and in hand		**273,075**		404,979
		339,967		505,535
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	13	**(26,096)**		(19,818)
Net current assets			**313,871**	485,717
Net assets	14		**318,139**	491,029
Funds	15			
Restricted funds			**112,241**	261,783
Unrestricted funds				
General funds			**205,898**	229,246
Total charity funds			**318,139**	491,029

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the trustees on 4 November 2026 and signed on their behalf by

Mitul Shah - Chair

Able Child Africa

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	**(172,890)**	(67,019)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**2,134**	2,655
Dividends and interest from investments	**(5,060)**	(10,459)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	**33,664**	(51,282)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	**6,278**	(13,642)
Net cash used in operating activities	**(135,874)**	(139,747)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(1,090)**	(4,668)
Dividends and interest from investments	**5,060**	10,459
Net cash provided by investing activities	**3,970**	5,791
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(131,904)**	(133,956)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**404,979**	538,935
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**273,075**	404,979

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long term financing arrangements.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting policies

a) General information and basis of preparation

Able Child Africa is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is Unit 6 Madeira Tower, 34 Ponton Road, London, SW11 7BA.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Able Child Africa meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves. There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Income received in advance of provision of earned income, sales, and consultancy is deferred until criteria for income recognition are met.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting policies (continued)

j) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on the basis of staff numbers, as follows:

	2026	2025
Raising funds	**26%**	26%
Charitable activities	**74%**	74%

k) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Computers, database and website	33% reducing balance
Furniture and fittings	33% reducing balance

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

n) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

o) Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

p) Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting policies (continued)

q) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Balances denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the year end.

r) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are depreciation as described in note 1(k).

2. Statement of financial activities: prior period comparatives

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £
Income from:			
Donations	-	393,285	393,285
Charitable activities	422,501	94,977	517,478
Other trading income	-	17,611	17,611
Investments	-	10,459	10,459
Total income	422,501	516,332	938,833
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	-	218,531	218,531
Charitable activities	493,229	294,092	787,321
Total expenditure	493,229	512,623	1,005,852
Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds	(70,728)	3,709	(67,019)

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

3. Income from donations

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Sponsored challenge events	**96,874**	99,086
Fundraising events and community	**24,346**	36,007
Individual donors	**71,104**	84,555
Corporate donors	**109,613**	122,867
Gifts in kind*	**51,869**	49,770
Legacy income	**1,250**	1,000
Total	**355,056**	393,285

All donation income in the current and prior year was unrestricted.

*Gifts in kind relate to the following goods and services provided free of charge:

	2026 £	2025 £
Rent	**45,360**	41,040
Auction and event prizes	**6,509**	8,730
Gifts in kind	**51,869**	49,770

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	**2026 Total £**
Grants > £10,000:			
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office	94,354	-	**94,354**
The Bartlett Foundation	-	30,000	**30,000**
Sir Halley Stewart	29,995	-	**29,995**
The Lewin Trust	25,000	-	**25,000**
Comic Relief	23,000	-	**23,000**
EA Foundation	22,088	-	**22,088**
Marr-Munning Trust	-	20,000	**20,000**
The Leggatt Trust	15,000	-	**15,000**
The Coles-Medlock Foundation	15,000	-	**15,000**
Sustainable Future Foundation	10,000	-	**10,000**
Ashla Charitable Trust	-	10,000	**10,000**
Smaller grants < £10,000	5,499	29,825	**35,324**
Total	239,936	89,825	**329,761**

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £
Grants > £10,000:			
Vitol Foundation	129,355	-	129,355
States of Guernsey	49,492	-	49,492
Marr-Munning Trust	-	40,000	40,000
Comic Relief	38,000	-	38,000
Euromoney	35,000	-	35,000
The Bartlett Foundation	-	30,000	30,000
The Allen & Nesta Ferguson Trust	30,000	-	30,000
Sir Halley Stewart	29,994	-	29,994
Educational Opportunity Foundation	29,968	-	29,968
EA Foundation	24,542	-	24,542
Leggatt Trust	15,000	-	15,000
The Lewin Trust	15,000	-	15,000
The Coles-Medlock Foundation	10,000	-	10,000
Sisters of Mercy	-	10,000	10,000
Smaller grants < £10,000	16,150	14,977	31,127
Total	422,501	94,977	517,478

Government grants

The charitable company receives government grants, defined as funding from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 31 March 2026 was £94,354 (2025: £nil). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the year.

5. Other trading income

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Auction sales	**22,509**	16,882
Sales income	**786**	729
	23,295	17,611

All other trading income in the current and prior year was unrestricted.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

6. Total expenditure

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	**2026 Total £**
Grants payable (note 7)	-	243,789	-	**243,789**
Staff costs (note 9)	102,476	286,803	38,347	**427,626**
Non-salaried personnel	-	20,465	9,299	**29,764**
Running costs	-	-	66,689	**66,689**
Fundraising and events	58,520	-	-	**58,520**
Governance	-	-	11,187	**11,187**
Programmes and operations	-	48,487	-	**48,487**
Sub-total	160,996	599,544	125,522	**886,062**
Allocation of support and governance costs	33,043	92,479	(125,522)	**-**
Total	194,039	692,023	-	**886,062**

Prior period comparative

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Support and governance costs £	2025 Total £
Grants payable (note 7)	-	246,958	-	246,958
Staff costs (note 9)	112,983	321,683	50,501	485,167
Non-salaried personnel	-	10,014	32,394	42,408
Running costs	-	-	67,169	67,169
Fundraising and events	61,684	-	-	61,684
Governance	-	-	18,689	18,689
Programmes and operations	-	83,777	-	83,777
Sub-total	174,667	662,432	168,753	1,005,852
Allocation of support and governance costs	43,864	124,889	(168,753)	-
Total	218,531	787,321	-	1,005,852

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

7. Grants payable to institutions

Grants were paid to the following overseas partner organisations in pursuit of the charity's objects:

	2026 £	2025 £
Action Network for Disabled Youth (ANDY)	**24,730**	35,441
Zambia Association of Parents for Children with Disabilities (ZAPCD)	**45,348**	108,756
Uganda Society for Disabled Children (USDC)	**23,640**	31,782
Child Support Tanzania (CST)	**4,427**	4,445
UWEZO Youth Empowerment	**26,385**	33,620
Parents of Disabled Children Association of Malawi (PODCAM)	**54,435**	32,914
Hope and Homes for Children	**23,200**	-
Lumos Foundation	**27,670**	-
The Action Foundation	**4,456**	-
FEDOMA	**5,100**	-
Zimbabwe Parents Of Handicapped Children Association	**4,398**	-
Total	**243,789**	246,958

8. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation	**2,134**	2,655
Trustees' remuneration	**Nil**	Nil
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	**Nil**	523
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Statutory audit	**7,450**	5,900

Trustee reimbursed expenses in the prior year relate to travel expenses for one trustee.

In common with other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements and to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities.

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

9. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Salaries and wages	**359,645**	427,642
Social security costs	**34,093**	37,843
Pension costs	**15,086**	16,503
Other staff costs	**18,801**	3,179
Total	**427,626**	485,167

In the prior year salaries and wages included redundancy and termination costs totalling £7,500, comprising settlement payments. Redundancy and termination costs have been funded from unrestricted general funds.

No employees earned over £60,000 in the year (2025: one employee earned between £60,001 and £70,000 and one employee earned between £70,001 and £80,000).

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Trustees and the co-CEOs. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel, including gross salary, employer national insurance contributions and employer pension contributions were £126,817 (2025: £155,501).

	2026	2025
	No.	No.
Average head count	**12.00**	11.00

10. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Total
	£
Cost	
At 1 April 2025	**25,564**
Additions	**1,090**
At 31 March 2026	**26,654**
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2025	**20,252**
Charge for the year	**2,134**
At 31 March 2026	**22,386**
Net book value	
At 31 March 2026	**4,268**
At 31 March 2025	5,312

12. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	**6,374**	10,174
Accrued income	**31,013**	65,038
Prepayments	**28,442**	25,344
Other debtors	**1,063**	-
Total	**66,892**	100,556

Included with prepayments are £7,200 (2025: £nil) of prepayments relating to more than one year in the future.

13. Creditors: amounts due within 1 year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Trade creditors	**1,002**	-
Accruals	**11,362**	9,351
Other taxation and social security	**8,732**	9,879
Other creditors	**5,000**	588
Total	**26,096**	19,818

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	**Total funds £**
Tangible fixed assets	-	4,268	**4,268**
Current assets	112,241	227,726	**339,967**
Current liabilities	-	(26,096)	**(26,096)**
Net assets at 31 March 2026	**112,241**	**205,898**	**318,139**

Prior period comparative

	Restricted funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,312	5,312
Current assets	261,783	243,752	505,535
Current liabilities	-	(19,818)	(19,818)
Net assets at 31 March 2025	261,783	229,246	491,029

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Movements in funds

	At 1 April 2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	**At 31 March 2026 £**
Restricted funds				
EA Foundation - ANDY	5,408	22,088	(22,287)	**5,209**
Vitol Foundation - PODCAM	67,486	-	(66,254)	**1,232**
Allan and Nesta Ferguson Trust - PODCAM	18,587	-	(18,587)	**-**
The Mercers Company - USDC	5	-	(5)	**-**
The Lewin Trust - USDC	14,375	25,000	(24,192)	**15,183**
The Coles-Medlock Foundation - USDC	-	15,000	(6,250)	**8,750**
Euromoney Institutional Investors – UWEZO	2,850	-	-	**2,850**
Sir Halley Stewart Trust - UWEZO	22,762	29,995	(26,682)	**26,075**
Vitol Foundation - ZAPCD	69,203	-	(62,718)	**6,485**
The Leggatt Trust - ZAPCD	-	15,000	(15,000)	**-**
Sustainable Future Foundation - ZAPCD	-	10,000	(10,000)	**-**
States of Guernsey – ZAPCD	14,695	5,499	(20,194)	**-**
Southern Africa Trust - Able Child	-	13,500	(2,527)	**10,973**
Comic Relief - Able Child	46,412	9,500	(55,912)	**-**
FCDO - Able Child	-	94,354	(58,870)	**35,484**
Total restricted funds	261,783	239,936	(389,478)	**112,241**
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	229,246	473,236	(496,584)	**205,898**
Total unrestricted funds	229,246	473,236	(496,584)	**205,898**
Total funds	491,029	713,172	(886,062)	**318,139**

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Movements in funds (continued)
Prior period comparative

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
Restricted funds				
EA Foundation - ANDY	-	24,542	(19,134)	5,408
Vitol Foundation - PODCAM	79,225	38,679	(50,418)	67,486
Allan and Nesta Ferguson Trust - PODCAM	-	30,000	(11,413)	18,587
The Mercers Company - USDC	-	5,000	(4,995)	5
The Lewin Trust - USDC	-	15,000	(625)	14,375
The Coles-Medlock Foundation - USDC	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
Euromoney Institutional Investors – UWEZO	7,124	35,000	(39,274)	2,850
Sir Halley Stewart Trust - UWEZO	-	29,994	(7,232)	22,762
Vitol Foundation - ZAPCD	77,716	90,676	(99,189)	69,203
The Leggatt Trust - ZAPCD	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
James Tudor Foundation - ZAPCD	-	8,650	(8,650)	-
States of Guernsey – ZAPCD	-	49,492	(34,797)	14,695
Comic Relief - Able Child	81,387	38,000	(72,975)	46,412
Comic Relief – Ready, Steady, Go - ANDY	1,000	-	(1,000)	
Faroe Islands - ZAPCD	44,089	-	(44,089)	-
The British and Foreign School Society - ANDY	12,789	14,984	(27,773)	-
The British and Foreign School Society - USDC	14,763	14,984	(29,747)	-
Child Support Tanzania (CST) – Other	60	-	(60)	
The Marr-Munning Trust - USDC	6,523	-	(6,523)	-
Network for Social Change - UWEZO	3,819	-	(3,819)	-
Rangoonwala Foundation – CST	4,016	2,500	(6,516)	-
Total restricted funds	332,511	422,501	(493,229)	261,783
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	225,537	516,332	(512,623)	229,246
Total unrestricted funds	225,537	516,332	(512,623)	229,246
Total funds	558,048	938,833	(1,005,852)	491,029

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Movements in funds (continued)
Purposes of restricted funds

EA Foundation – ANDY
This project will draw on our collective experience to understand how best to effectively and sustainably address the poverty and exclusion experienced by parents of children with disabilities in Nairobi. Activities will address barriers associated with having children with disabilities, generate concrete evidence of what works and inform the production of a specialist guide for organisations across the sector to replicate success.

Vitol Foundation – PODCAM
This three-year project seeks to scale up the FEDOMA Vitol Foundation project by supporting more children with disabilities to equitably access Early Childhood Development in Malawi. FEDOMA will support PODCAM to adopt the approaches used previously, working in both the same and in new ECE centres to create greater impact for children with disabilities.

Allan and Nesta Ferguson Trust – PODCAM
This one-year project provides top-up funding for the PODCAM Vitol Foundation project. This project will further improve children with disabilities' access to Early Childhood Development (ECD) through innovative, inclusive, caregiver-run play schemes and the capacity building of actors responsible for early years development including government, (in)formal ECD service providers, communities, parents, and children with disabilities themselves.

The Mercers Company – USDC
This project will support the inclusive education of displaced children and youth with disabilities in Northern Uganda. Key activities will include the identification and enrolment of out-of-schools children with disabilities, mentoring of children to keep them in education, training for teachers on inclusive methodologies and advocacy with local and national government officials.

The Lewin Trust – USDC
This project will contribute towards a more inclusive and equitable Early Childhood Education system in Uganda, with a primary aim of creating a stronger foundation for children with disabilities' lifelong learning. This will be achieved through a participatory approach to developing and training 18 teachers on a digitalised tool, which improves children with disabilities' access to quality inclusive education. The tool builds on the paper-based version developed as part of the Marr-Munning Trust- funded project.

The Coles-Medlock Foundation – USDC
This project aims to strengthen foundational learning for young girls with disabilities in Uganda, addressing critical gaps in Early Childhood and Primary Education at key stages in their development. Activities here are designed to bolster the impact of the Lewin Trust project, responding to the unique needs of girls with disabilities.

Euromoney Institutional Investors – UWEZO
This three-year project seeks to make Rwandan child protection systems more disability-inclusive for children with disabilities. The project adopts a community-based inclusive development approach to target child protection systems in Gasabo, Rwanda and looks to ensure that children with disabilities can equitably access child protection systems.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Sir Halley Stewart Trust – UWEZO

This project will strengthen mental health provision for children and youth with disabilities in Rwanda by building the capacity of youth with disabilities to advocate for more gender-sensitive and disability-inclusive mental health services. Youth with disabilities will be empowered to become inclusive mental health champions, conducting research and mapping exercises, assessing existing mental health services, suggesting ways to improve their accessibility, and engaging with government to ensure long-term changes to mental health provision and policy.

Vitol Foundation - ZAPCD

The 'Onse Ana Apunzile' project seeks to ensure children with disabilities aged three to six equitably access inclusive Early Childhood Education (IECE) in Chadiza, Zambia. The project's innovative inclusive ECE methodology will tackle the complex barriers children with disabilities face in accessing IECE through targeted interventions with different stakeholders.

The Leggatt Trust – ZAPCD

This project seeks to further support the delivery of the 'Onse Ana Apunzile' project, where children with disabilities aged three to six years old are supported to access inclusive Early Childhood Education (IECE) in Chadiza, Zambia. Activities will tackle the complex barriers children with disabilities face, such as through the development of an inclusive play programme guide.

Sustainable Future Foundation - ZAPCD

This project seeks to further support the delivery of an inclusive Early Childhood Education programme in Chadiza, Zambia. Activities will specifically focus on a final review of an assessment tool and guide and an inclusive play scheme guide, and the design and delivery of trainings for teachers and health workers.

States of Guernsey – ZAPCD

This project will support unemployed parents of children with disabilities and youth with disabilities to access a new Inclusive Livelihoods Hub. This project will provide youth with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities with space and resources so they can sustainably lift themselves out of poverty. The newly constructed Hub will be accessible, community-owned and fully equipped to cater for different businesses, with bespoke livelihoods training, and access to rotating loan schemes and business management support.

Southern Africa Trust - Able Child

This project will convene Comic Relief's funded partners demonstrating strong expertise in their approach to integrating climate resilience in their work. The project will create opportunities for these partners to learn, share and strategise together to deepen cross-sector climate engagement across Comic Relief's portfolio. Key activities include initial discovery work with partners, an in-person convening event and ongoing cross-pillar collaboration.

Able Child Africa

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

15. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds

Comic Relief - Able Child

The deepening and strengthening project consists of three overarching phases of activities to review and consolidate, adapt and deepen and strengthen and scale the inclusive education programmes delivered by Able Child Africa Network members. The project seeks to produce an inclusive education toolbox while supporting Able Child's role in building the capacity of Network members.

FCDO - Able Child

To help implement the principle of meaningful participation as part of the Global Campaign on Children's Care Reform, launched in January 2025, the UK Government worked with a group of child rights organisations (Able Child, as lead partner, Hope and Homes for Children, Lumos, Save the Children and World Vision) to establish an international Taskforce of children and young people aged 14 to 25. The Children and Young People's Taskforce provides a direct and consistent mechanism for children and young people with lived experience of care to shape policy and contribute their expertise to the Global Campaign.

16. Related party transactions

During the year, 6 Trustees made donations to the charity totalling £6,622 (2025: £9,850 from 6 Trustees). No conditions were attached to these donations.



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Able Child is a registered charity (no. 326859) and a company limited by guarantee (no. 1861434) in England and Wales under the name Able Child Africa.