



LEGAL AID PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT 2012



20 Years of Legal Aid
Service Provision

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ASF	Advocats Sans Frontieres
CBA	Canadian Bar Association
CBO	Community Based Organization
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CLE	Continuing Legal Education
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility.
DPP	Director of Public Prosecution
FHRI	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
FIDA-U	Federation of Women Lawyers in Uganda
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
JLOS	Justice, Law & Order Sector
LABF	Legal Aid Basket Fund
LAP	Legal Aid Project
LAPSNET	Legal Aid Service Provider's Network
NBA	Norwegian Bar Association
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NORAD	Norwegian Development Agency
NWG	National Working Group
O.C	Officer in Charge
PAS	Paralegal Advisory Services
RAG	Regional Advisory Group
UBC	Uganda Broadcasting Corporation
ULS	Uganda Law Society
UNWG	Uganda National Working Group
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defence Forces
UHRC	Uganda Human Rights Commission

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRPERSON LAP



I once again have the pleasure of presenting to you the report of the Legal Aid Project (LAP) of the Uganda Law Society (ULS) for the year ended 31st December 2012.

This is a special landmark year as we celebrate 20 years of the establishment of LAP in the provision of free legal services to poor, vulnerable and marginalised members of the public. We are forever indebted to the pioneer trustees of LAP who had the foresight to establish an organisation that is the leading provider of free legal services in Uganda and the East African Community. We appreciate the invaluable support of NORAD/NBA for the entire 20 years; whose generous financial support has provided the resources to sustain LAP. This report gives a detailed account of the achievements, opportunities and challenges faced during the second year of implementation of the ULS/LAP Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

With an ever present demand for free legal services, I am delighted to report that we have opened up new regional clinics in Soroti, Arua and Mbarara making access to justice a reality to the people in these regions. Our now 10 clinics in Gulu, Masindi, Kabarole, Kabale, Jinja, Luzira, Mbarara, Arua, Soroti and Head Office have enabled us serve clients in more than 30 districts .

LAP continues to provide a countrywide and diverse range of legal aid services to indigent men, women and children, including legal counsel, legal representation in courts of law, legal outreach and human rights awareness sessions. The awareness programmes have increased people's knowledge of their legal and human rights and enhanced their capacity and willingness to demand for the observance of these rights from both the state and other perpetrators of human rights abuse.

Key highlights of the achievements registered in the year under review include:

- A) **Establishment of new clinics:** In our Strategic Plan 2011-2015, we had planned to extend our services to other parts of the country by at least establishing one new clinic. This was achieved through the establishment of the 3 new clinics in Arua, Mbarara and Soroti with support from DGF and JLOS .
- B) **LAP Clients' Charter.** This year ULS/LAP successfully developed and distributed a Clients' Charter; a quality assurance tool to inform clients of the services offered by LAP and hold the project accountable on the set standards.
- C) **A great increase in the number of clients served.** This year was a remarkable success as we registered a significant increase in the number of clients served in all the programs that we are running. A total number of **15,552** clients

benefitted from our services as compared to **9500** targeted. Out of the total number of cases registered, **1467** cases were successfully concluded with **1084** cases concluded in courts and **383** concluded using ADR.

- D) Community outreach remained key to the project as this has enhanced the capacity of various communities reached to demand for the observance of Rule of Law, respect for human rights and accountability. Through this activity the project was able to sensitize over **2,824** people. The project also built the capacity of community based paralegals in Mukono and Mbarara; where **160** community paralegals were trained in the application of domestic violence laws, land rights, children rights, succession, marriage and divorce issues.
- E) The Pro Bono Project of ULS continued to enroll members of the legal profession into the Pro Bono scheme and has also registered tremendous success in the year under review. The project successfully enrolled **242** Advocates, bringing its portfolio of registered Advocates to **878**. Additionally, it registered **442** new cases compared to the previous year's **259** cases and the same were allocated and are being handled by advocates. With **1107** cases pending case this year, **115** cases were concluded in court and through ADR. The project's services continue to grow alongside LAP with new coordinating desks at the newly established LAP clinics of Soroti, Arua and Mbarara.
- F) This year LAP entered into a working partnership with Avocats Sans Frontieres under a project titled *Mobilizing Lawyers for the Rights of Ugandans* with the specific objective of strengthening the capacity of Ugandan lawyers to protect the legal and human rights of vulnerable people on a sustainable basis.

The above achievements were made possible by the existing partnership with and invaluable support from our major donor - NORAD/NBA for which we are forever grateful. We are also grateful to DGF, ASF and JLOS for the tremendous support they have offered towards the running of the Pro Bono program, and LAP clinics in Mbarara, Arua and Soroti.

The above however are not without challenges for example the demand for our services is growing higher exceeding our human and financial capacity and as such there is need not only to open up new clinics, but also to fully facilitate the existing ones to meet this challenge.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank NORAD and the Norwegian Bar Association (NBA), Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) as well as JLOS for the tremendous support they have continued to render to the people of Uganda through the Legal Aid Project.

I also thank members of the Executive Council, LAP Committee, Management and staff of ULS/LAP whose tireless efforts ensured the attainment of our set objectives. Further gratitude goes to our stakeholders in the Justice Sector and CSOs who have continued to partner and network with us throughout the year.

Stephen Musisi
Chairperson

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK



This annual report covers a year of further significant success of the Legal Aid Project (LAP) which continued to provide legal services to low income Ugandans. LAP is Uganda's largest systematic Legal Aid service provider with 10 regional offices in Uganda. Through a wide variety of activities we have created and pursued more ambitious and productive projects and consequently reached more people across Uganda than ever before. As we commemorate 20 years of legal aid service provision, we have significantly increased our projects and activities and strengthened our ability to enable thousands access justice.

With pleasure, I now take this opportunity on behalf of management and staff of the ULS/LAP, to present to you the Annual report for the year 2012 which encompasses the overall performance of the project.

Our goal remains constant, to be the leading legal aid service provider in the East African region. In 2012, in order to effectively fulfil our core objectives, LAP extended its operations to other parts of the country by establishing three new regional clinics in Mbarara, Arua and Soroti. This was a direct result of the hard work and commitment of everybody involved.

The year registered the highest number of clients attended to since the inception of the project with program implementation surpassing planned targets for most of the activities conducted within the period.

Further success was registered in our decongestion program in the clinics of Luzira, Kabale and Masindi. A total of 432 prison visits were conducted benefiting over 2481 inmates. Considerable amounts of work were also done in juvenile remand homes of Naguru, Gulu, Fortportal and Kabale. Mention should be made that this group continues to be a vulnerable and deserving group for legal aid and emphasis will be made to this group in the coming year.

The overall performance is not only attributed to the commitment and efforts of the technical and support staff of the project and the policy guidance of the LAP Committee but the unwavering support from the Norwegian Bar Association. Further financial and technical support during this reporting period was provided by DGF, JLOS and ASF.

I unreservedly thank all our staff and development partners who have contributed to the implementation and success of the project. Extensive thanks to NORAD, the NBA, DGF and JLOS for the support provided during the year. I am confident that we have delivered effectively on our mandate.

This Annual Report demonstrates how much has been achieved over the past year. LAP has a lot to be proud of and will continue to build on this solid foundation to raise the stakes even higher.

Grace Babihuga. Nuwagaba
Executive Director

ABOUT THE LEGAL AID PROJECT

The Legal Aid Project is a Non Government Organization which was established in 1992 by the Uganda Law Society. It is a leading legal aid service provider in Uganda with 10 regional offices. LAP operates regional offices in Kampala, Mbarara, Kabale, Kabarole, Masindi, Arua, Gulu, Soroti, Jinja and Luzira.

The project is overseen by the LAP Committee which is its policy making body. Members of the Committee are appointed by the ULS Executive Council following every Annual General Assembly. During the period of reporting, members of the LAP Committee were:-

- Stephen Musisi Chairperson LAP Committee & ULS VP
- James Sebugenyi President, ULS/LAP, Member
- Harriet Magala Treasurer, ULS/LAP, Member
- Musa Mudoi Advocate & Committee Member
- Grace B. Nuwagaba Executive Director LAP / ULS
- Besigye Aaron Head LAP and Secretary to the Committee

The Committee reports to the ULS Executive Council and oversees a multi-disciplinary management and technical staff; numbering 70 out of which 66 are fulltime staff and 4 are volunteers.

1. LAP Vision

The project aspires to have a Ugandan society where all human rights are respected, promoted and defended to ensure that access to justice for all is a reality irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, and religion or socio-economic status.

2. LAP Mission

Its mission is to become a leading provider of quality legal aid services in order to ensure access to justice for the poor and vulnerable people so as to promote the socio-economic development of Uganda.

3. LAP Goal

To contribute to the Rule of Law and good governance in order to achieve social development.

4. LAP Values

- ★ Respect for human dignity
- ★ Passion for justice
- ★ Equality for all persons before the law
- ★ Accountability
- ★ Excellence in service
- ★ Efficiency and effectiveness
- ★ Integrity

5. LAP Strategic Objectives

- a) To provide high quality legal aid service to indigent men, women and children;
- b) To promote respect for human rights and the Rule of Law in Uganda;
- c) To lobby and advocate for legislation and policies in favour of the poor at national, district and lower levels;
- d) To develop and strengthen management systems as well as general organizational development of LAP;
- e) To strengthen the governance of LAP in order to ensure strategic leadership and direction by the Legal Aid Committee;
- f) To build mechanisms and mobilise resources to ensure sustainability of legal aid services in Uganda.

PROGRESS TOWARDS FULFILLMENT OF THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Report is crafted along the following thematic areas of the project focus as laid down in the ULS/LAP Strategic Plan 2011-2015:

- P1: Provide legal aid through the Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services Project.
- P2: Encourage and promote alternative dispute resolution (ADR)
- P3: Promote rights awareness through information sharing and publications
- P8: Contribute to law making and law reform processes
- P9: Conduct public interest interventions
- P10: Conduct legal research, documentation and generate publications
- P12: Improve institutional sustainability
- P13: Improve financial sustainability
- P14: Enhance the image of ULS/LAP and its programmes
- P15: Integrate cross cutting issues in ULS/LAP programming and activities

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT

The project has continued to grow and has expanded from the original seven to ten regional branches. These include; Kampala, Luzira, Masindi, Gulu, Kabarole, Jinja, Kabale, and three new ones in Mbarara, Arua and Soroti. LAP remained committed to providing legal aid and advisory services to its clients, specifically indigent men, women and children.

The overall direction and management of the Project was provided by the Executive Director, while the Head - Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services remained the Administrative/Program head of the Project. Other departments of ULS continued to offer their support in one way or another.

Project Performance

a. *Provision of Legal Aid and Advisory Support Services*

In pursuance of its mandate and in line with its strategic objectives and

with emphasis to quality service provision, the Project handled a variety of cases to include; land and property disputes; employment/labour claims; administration of estates; domestic/marital problems; maintenance/custody matters and those that fall under the ambit of general civil or criminal claims. These remained core to the project.

b. Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services

In the reporting period the Project reached out to a total of **15,552** clients. This was a remarkable achievement as our initial target was to reach out to at least **10,000** in all our activities. Of these, **11,500** were male clients and **4,052** were female, **4,959** cases were filed in courts against a project target of at least **4,000** indigent persons receiving legal representation in the courts of law and at least **500** cases being resolved in 2012. Out of **4,959** cases filed in court, **1,084** cases were concluded. We had **2,692** cases handled in office; out of which **383** cases were successfully resolved through ADR against our planned initial target of at least **300** cases.

Legal and advisory support remained the core activity of the Project, utilizing the higher percentage of its resources in terms of time and finances as litigation is costly and requires retention of skilled advocates. The mitigating alternative, where applicable, has been ADR, as it is much quicker and tailor-made by the contending parties, and promotes reconciliation and peaceful post-conflict resolution between the parties.

LAP advocate on locus visit with victims of a land eviction in Mubende District





LAP advocate evaluating the damage caused by the said illegal eviction

c. *Prison Decongestion Program*

Prisoners are a vulnerable and deserving group for legal aid, and yet are unable to actually seek the services of the Project or practicing Advocates. The prisons outreach programme therefore continued to be a source of hope to the prisoners and was undertaken by the clinics of Luzira, Masindi and Kabale through the paralegals. The outreach programme entailed;

- Daily visits to the prisons;
- Information and counselling on prisoner's rights and legal defence techniques;
- Establishing linkages between the prisoners and their relatives for purposes of bail applications;
- Legal representation in court by Advocates and private lawyers on Pro Bono basis under LAP.

Further, under this programme, sensitization sessions on criminal trials in magistrate's court and defense techniques; right to bail and the procedure for a bail application, appeal process were conducted during the year through prison visits.

In all, **432** Prison visits were conducted by the clinics of Luzira, Masindi and Kabale through Clinic paralegals which consequently benefited **2,481** prisoners through Court representations and offering of legal advice through sensitization. Through court representation of the prisoners, a

total of **198** prisoners were able to access bail.

In addition to the above, the project undertook one public interest litigation for the benefit of residents forcefully evicted by KCCA in Luzira.

LAP staff evaluating the damage caused by illegal demolition by KCCA in Luzira



d. Community Empowerment Programs

i) Information, Education and Communication

Another key activity undertaken was a programme to inform and educate the public on substantive and procedural human and legal rights issues with the intention of empowering them to demand respect for and accountability for their rights. This involved media campaigns, community sensitization workshops; community based paralegal trainings; as well as production and distribution of simplified information materials on human and legal rights in form of fliers and booklets.

ii) Community sensitizations and training

During the reporting period, 8 community outreach meetings were conducted above our initial target of at least **6**; benefiting **2,824** persons beyond our planned target of at least **1,200** persons. **4** mobile clinics were planned on a whole however, we managed to conduct **8** mobile clinics. These mobile clinics were intended to benefit **600** persons however, **1,120** persons benefited from this program.

The topics covered during these sessions included; human rights issues, children's rights, land rights and procedures in land transactions, criminal justice systems, marriage and divorce, making of a Will, the Rule of Law in Uganda, administration of estates of deceased persons, domestic and gender based violence and general basics of the law and conflict resolution.

iii) Media Campaigns

49 radio talk shows were held mainly in Kampala on UBC, Mbarara and Kabale on Radio Maria and Radio West, in Arua on Pacis FM and Radio Voice of life, Soroti on radio Voice of Teso, Etop Radio and Delta FM in Jinja on Kiira FM and Gulu on Mega FM. These talk shows were conducted

through partnership with other organisations especially other Legal Aid Service providers and facilitated by LAP staff. The talk shows basically addressed issues on; land rights, children's rights, corruption, the Rule of Law, making of the Will, testate and intestate succession, domestic violence laws as well as LAP activities and services. Whereas the project has planned to hold **15** talk shows in the reporting period, **49** were held and this was due to our good working relations with other stakeholders and the quality of the legal Aid services offered to the community.

iv) Refresher Training of Community Paralegals

Whereas **1** refresher course for community-based paralegals had been planned targeting **40** paralegals, **3** trainings were conducted in Mukono, Gulu and Mbarara Districts where **160** paralegals were trained in ADR, Domestic Violence laws, land laws, children rights and marriage and divorce.



Probation Officers training workshop for Acholi sub-region



Community-based Paralegals Training in Gulu

Community based paralegals training in Mbarara



e. Research And Publication

i) Research

Following a project in partnership with Plan Uganda in 2011, in which research was done on the legal and policy framework protecting children against abuse in schools in Uganda, the findings of this project were discussed and disseminated to key stakeholders.

ii) Production and dissemination of Information, Education and Communication materials

The project had a target of developing, printing and disseminating at least **5,000** simplified version of booklets on the topics of land rights, domestic violence, children rights and succession laws for the **3** new Clinics. A total of **19,500** booklets on the above topics were developed and printed with **15,000** booklets in English and **4,500** booklets in the local languages of Runyakitara, Ateso and Lugbara. In addition, **1,000** brochures were also printed. It is our hope that these materials will assist LAP to capture a great number of indigent persons in the local communities who will be empowered in the areas of law cited and will be able to demand and defend their rights accordingly.

f. Pro Bono Services:

In a move to increase access to justice in Uganda, the ULS Pro Bono project which has been in existence for 5 years was extended to August 2014.

In 2012, the project handled **1,170** cases; of which **310** cases were resolved in courts and through ADR, while **913** cases are pending conclusion in courts and **115** pending conclusion by ADR and **242** advocates enrolled onto the Pro Bono scheme.

Community sensitisation programs were conducted by the scheme in the

Western, Eastern and Northern regions of Uganda covering topics like sexual and gender based violence, land rights, children rights and the general court process.

The Pro Bono scheme held the first ever national Pro Bono day where over **600** advocates attended to over **900** clients in the districts where LAP has offices.



Best Pro Bono Advocates being recognised at the ULS AGM



A founder member of LAP, Hon. Justice Remmy Kasule of the Court of Appeal during the Pro Bono day

Some of the Advocates with invited guests during the Pro Bono day



Project Management

This was done both at institutional and project level. At institutional level, the project had planned to present a minimum of two proposals during 2012. By close of the reporting period the project had successfully signed off three projects with ASF, DGF, and JLOS. Further more the project had planned to open one more clinic during the year, but closed with three new clinics. An extension proposal for the Legal Aid Project was also submitted and approved by the NBA and we currently await feedback from NORAD.

The project also acquired three motorcycles and 12 computers that enhanced project performance.

a) Staff Capacity Building

All project Legal Officers and Assistant Legal Officers who possess practicing certificates were facilitated to attend continuous legal education throughout the year and **49** project staff received training in Monitoring and Evaluation and psycho-social support services. This initiative was well received by all the project staff and will continue in the coming year.

b) Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Project

Monitoring and evaluation of the project work and performance continued throughout the year. Monitoring tools like monthly and quarterly reports were emphasized, just as were daily operational professional meeting by all clinics and maintenance of staff attendance registers. Follow-up and monitoring is also done through regular telephone calls to the clinics. The feedback method through client's complaints and appreciation of the nature of service was also adopted. The project also found the need to and retained the services of a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist who works closely with the project; measuring and guiding its outputs as against its target.

c) Inspection Visits

In addition, to the above monitoring tools, 4 inspection and monitoring visits to the upcountry clinics were undertaken by management on a quarterly basis to interface with staff at the regional offices, validate reports through physical evaluation of files, documents and other records; inspect clinics with the donors to enable them appreciate the progress performance of the upcountry clinics among others.



Some management team members with staff at Arua clinic during a monitoring and inspection visit

d) Legal Aid Committee meetings

The LAP Committee held six meetings to monitor performance and progress of the Project as well as to give general policy guidance to enrich the project goals and objective.

e) Networking and Partnerships

The ULS and its Legal Aid Project profile have grown among the public and stakeholders in the justice sector. This is evidenced by the numerous meetings and workshop to which the Project staff are invited or delegated by the management to represent the organizations. In the year under review, 96 networking meetings and workshops were attended by staff at regional, international and national level. The majority of workshops attended were on promotion of Human Rights and Constitutionalism, Access to Justice and Rule of Law.

One of the networking meeting during the Transitional Justice mechanism consultation workshop in Kitgum



Among the key stakeholders were the Legal Aid Service Providers under their umbrella body LASPNET, JLOS, HURINET, CBOs, Judiciary, Police, Prisons, University Bodies , Local Government Institutions, and the Media.

f. Internship Programmes

LAP has continued to provide training opportunities for young graduates from law schools especially from Makerere University, Uganda Christian University Mukono and the Law Development Center (LDC). 8 students from LDC and 22 from the universities were interned at the Secretariat and upcountry clinics.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

The Norwegian Bar Association/Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NBA/NORAD)

LAP has enjoyed a committed partnership with the Norwegian Bar Association through funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation. This support has enabled thousands of Ugandans to enjoy and enforce their legal and human rights in the absence of a government policy on legal aid service provision.

Democratic Governance Facility (DGF)

In addition to their continued funding of the ULS Pro Bono project, DGF supported LAP to establish three more clinics in Mbarara, Arua and Soroti. Furthermore DGF has also supported the extension of Pro Bono services in these new areas. With this support, the project has been in position to roll out legal and advisory services to the communities where there were no so single legal aid service providers.

Canadian Bar Association (CBA)

In addition to offering support to the Professional Development and Members Affairs Department of the ULS for the last seven years, CBA

currently supports a project on Strengthening Access to Justice in East Africa (SAJEA) with specific focus on youth and children. The programme in Uganda is housed and coordinated by ULS under the Legal Aid Project.

Impact of LAP

While the Government of Uganda still develops a National Legal Aid Policy, a big percentage of litigants remain unrepresented in courts of law, with and the demand continues to grow. The Project therefore stands in this gap.

The Project has been instrumental in offering redress for the poor vulnerable and marginalized in Uganda. Through LAP interventions many families have been restored; children's constitutional rights have been protected, the landless have found settlement and those that have spent years under incarceration have found redress.

We continue to be the leading legal aid provider in East Africa and the region with countries using the project as a benchmark.



Delegates from Tanganyika Law Society on a study visit to the Legal Aid Project.

Other achievements include;

1. 20 years of quality legal aid service provision.
2. Growth into the biggest legal aid service provider in Uganda.
3. Established networks with state and non state actors in legal aid service provision and the justice system.
4. Presence of LAP in ten regions of the country namely: Gulu, Masindi, Kabarole, Kabale, Jinja, Luzira, Arua, Mbarara, Soroti and Kampala.
5. Services reaching to over 15,000 clients annually.

CHALLENGES, RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Challenges and Recommendations

The above achievements notwithstanding, the project has had a number of challenges, some of which include:-

- The ever increasing demand for our legal aid services amidst limited financial and human resource. This has continued to be a challenge as the clinics are overwhelmed by the number of clients to attend to on a daily basis. To this the project continues to source for funding and to find ingenious ways of meeting the clients' needs. Further we continue a to lobby for additional staff in each clinic to reduce on the advocate-client ratio.
- The prison decongestion program has been hindered by slow judicial processes that contribute to case backlog which affects the entire justice system. We continue to lobby the relevant stakeholders to appoint more judicial officers as we continue to with prison authorities to identify and prioritise inmates that have over stayed on remand.
- A large percentage of clients remain litigious in nature with less appreciation of options like ADR, mediation and negotiation. Sensitisation of the same continues and successful stories are widely shared.
- In addition, ignorance of the law and general lack of information on procedures makes some clients vulnerable to being misled by court support staff like clerks and court bailiffs who draft and execute defective court documents occasioning a miscarriage of justice. Continuous sensitisation of clients on the role of all the actors in the judicial system has been undertaken.
- Poor infrastructure in some areas of operation coupled with absence of private means of transport for some clinics continues to hamper timely and effective services to the Project beneficiaries. The Project has improvised by use of motorcycles in reaching inaccessible areas as we plan to purchase motor vehicles for these hard to reach areas.

Factors that Enhanced Performance

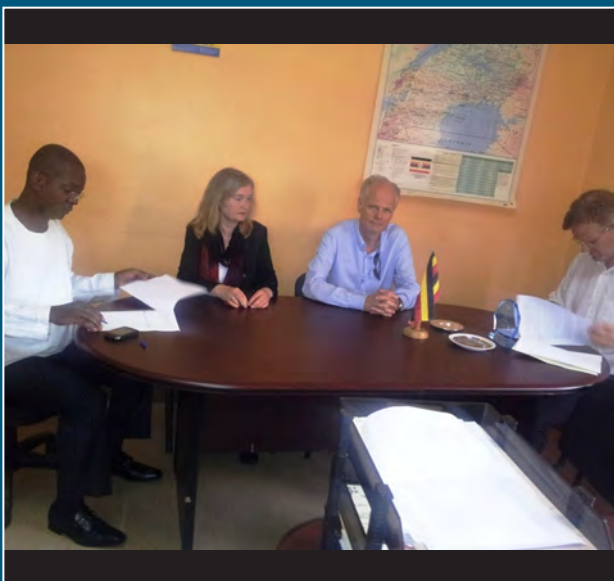
The factors that enhanced the performance of the project activities include:

- Continued support of the Project by the NBA/NORAD was instrumental as it enabled successful implementation of the project activities.
- Additional support received from UNDP, DGF, ASF and JLOS enhanced the project activity implementation by increasing awareness of the program to other communities especially in new areas of Mbarara, Soroti and Arua.
- The commitment of staff and LAP policy makers with the spirit of service to indigent persons was key in the successful implementation of our activities.
- LAP's relevance and visibility, led to increased partnerships with other like minded organizations. This has strengthened institutional linkages and attracted key stakeholders in the Justice Sector to assist the Project in the execution of its mandate.



CLOCK WISE;
NBA Delegation with ULS President
and Vice President meeting the
Norwegian Ambassador to Uganda
H.E Thorbjørn Gaustadsæther,
during the NBA annual visit to
Uganda 2012

Bottom left; NBA Delegation
signing agreed minutes with the
ULS President James Mukasa



Key project staff sit on various national and technical committees as well as some national working groups. This provided a strategic position to enable presentation and advocacy for issues affecting access to justice for all.

- The Pro Bono Pilot Project has opened a new opportunity for LAP in the area of Legal Aid services as well as ensuring sustainability and better service provision especially that the engaging of private practitioners bring a new bread of expertise to handle complicated related cases.

Conclusion

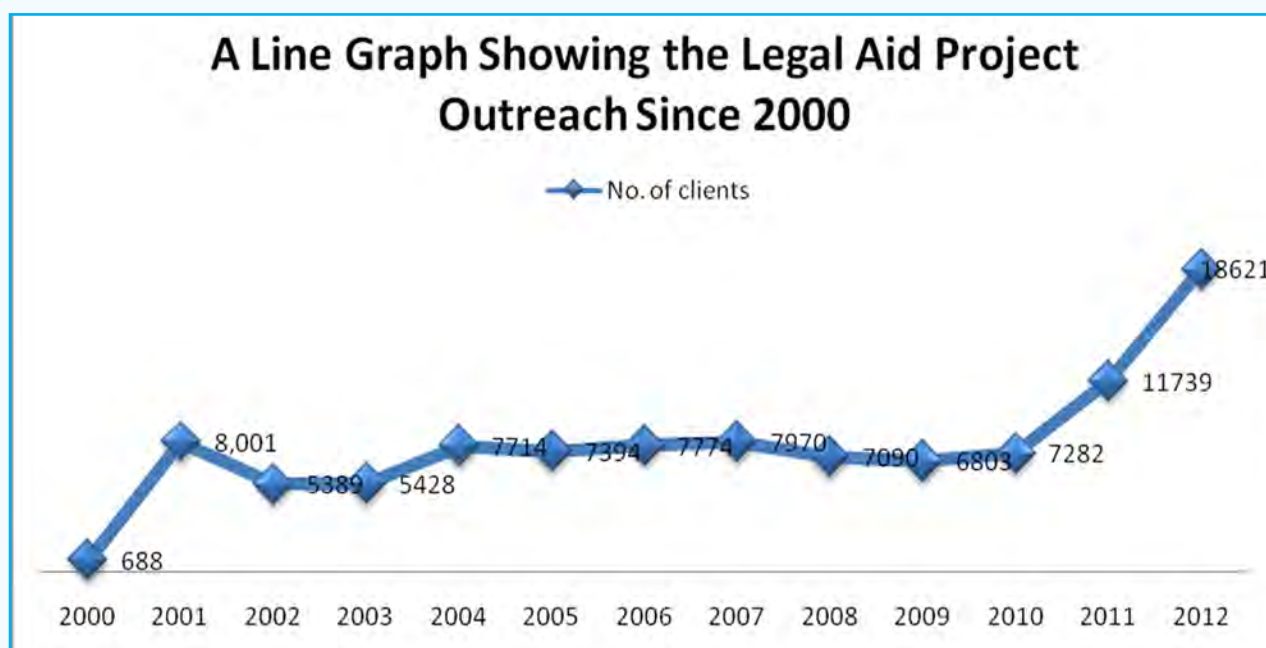
The Legal Aid and Pro Bono project initiatives continue to render services to the deserving categories of persons while upholding the project's objectives and mandate. The Project remains the flagship project of the ULS and is proud to have attained 20 years of consistent legal aid service provision. It has played an important role in bringing justice to the people and we hope that it will continue to be supported to further enhance access to justice. Irrespective of the challenges, LAP has continued to operate at its best with the available resources both human and financial/ material in its quest to be and remain the leading provider of legal aid services in Uganda.

It is an achievement that legal aid is now recognised as an essential public service - what remains is lobbying government to provide long term and stable funding for this service, and the sky is the limit.

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams
- *Eleanor Roosevelt*

The Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society
Making Access to Justice a Reality for All

Table Showing LAP Performance since 2000-2012.



Appendices

Table 1. Nature of Cases handled in 2012

Nature of cases	Kampala	Luzira	Jinja	Gulu	Masindi	Kabarole	Kabale	Mbarara	Arua	Soroti	Total
Land/Property Wrangles	359	25	599	560	572	519	465	42	60	45	3246
Family Matters	70	21	118	25	147	138	67	24	1	10	621
Custody/ Maintenance	75		23	21		49	1	5	1	6	181
Accident Claims	25		12	9	5	13	2	4	2	9	81
Administration Of Estates	40	3	26	15	28	195	20	18	1	6	352
Debt Claims	4	2	28	65	60	26			8	2	195
Employment Claims	35		20	26	24	19			3	2	129
Criminal General	57	1,520	150	178	588	37	1,120	20	35	15	3720
Civil General	190		74	39	54	105	216	24	12	18	732
Legal Advice	54		112	119	122				37	18	462
Total cases	909	1571	1162	1057	1,600	1,101	1,891	137	160	131	9,719

Table 2. Progress of Cases in 2012

Status of cases	Kampala	Luzira	Jinja	Gulu	Masindi	Kabarole	Kabale	Mbarara	Arua	Soroti	Total
Pending In Office	202	379	100	303	399	539	217	72	48	50	2309
Completed In Office	31	10	36	117	60	88	31	2	1	7	383
Pending In Court	425	671	666	412	536	357	686	36	41	45	3875
Completed In Court	20	456	27	46	398	45	71	4	17		1084
Given Legal Advice	216	50	211	50	31	49	882	14	31	29	1563
Cases Referred	12	5	49	68	184	10	4	9	22		363
Files Closed	6		1	61		13					81
Files Withdrawn											
Total	909	1571	1162	1057	1600	1101	1891	137	160	131	9719

Table 3. Nature of clients in 2012

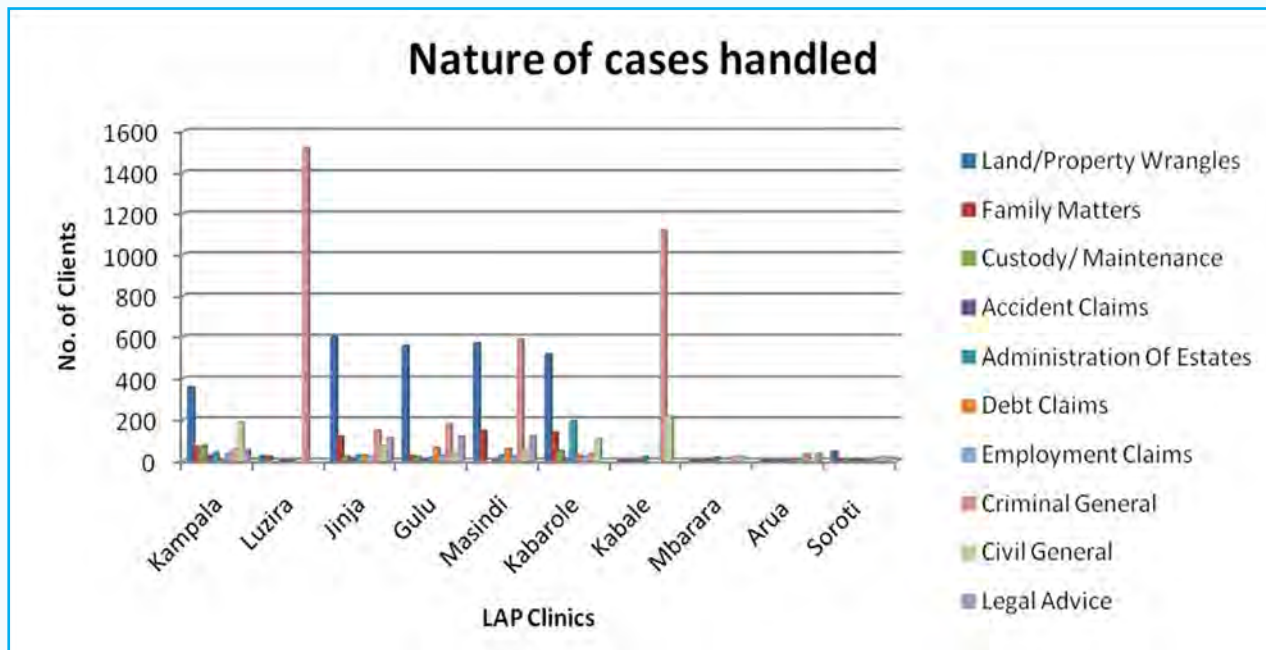
	Kampala	Luzira	Jinja	Gulu	Masindi	Kabarole	Kabale	Mbarara	Arua	Soroti	Total
Male	509	1462	595	762	1063	497	1448	78	89	87	6590
Female	400	109	567	295	537	604	443	59	71	44	3129
Total	909	1571	1162	1057	1600	1101	1891	137	160	131	9719
Old	542	566	558	474	651	685	711	87	43	43	4360
New	367	1005	604	583	949	416	1180	50	117	88	5359
Total	909	1571	1162	1057	1600	1101	1891	137	160	131	9719

Client's attended to and received legal assistance in 2012

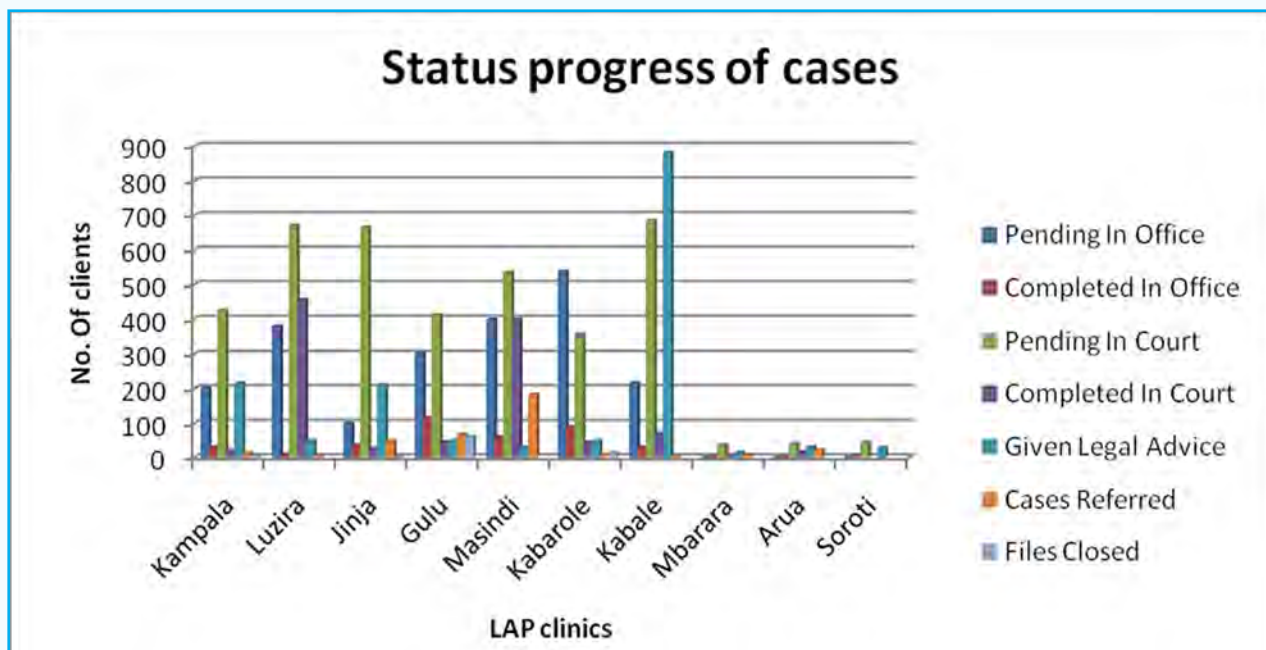
Nature of cases	Kampala	Luzira	Jinja	Gulu	Masindi	Kabarole	Kabale	Mbarara	Arua	Soroti	Total
Land/Property Wrangles	359	25	599	560	572	519	465	42	60	45	3246
Family Matters	70	21	118	25	147	138	67	24	1	10	621
Custody/ Maintenance	75		23	21		49	1	5	1	6	181
Accident Claims	25		12	9	5	13	2	4	2	9	81
Administration Of Estates	40	3	26	15	28	195	20	18	1	6	352
Debt Claims	4	2	28	65	60	26			8	2	195
Employment Claims	35		20	26	24	19			3	2	129
Criminal General	57	1,520	150	178	588	37	1,120	20	35	15	3720
Civil General	190		74	39	54	105	216	24	12	18	732
Legal Advice	54		112	119	122				37	18	462
Community sensitisation	660			683	721		760				2824
Prison sensitisations		2034					2666				4700
Paralegal trainings	70							50			120
Mobile clinics	780			340							1120
Total cases	1639	3605	1162	2080	2321	1,101	5317	187	160	131	15,941

Graphical illustration of cases handled, their progress and nature of clients attended to in 2012

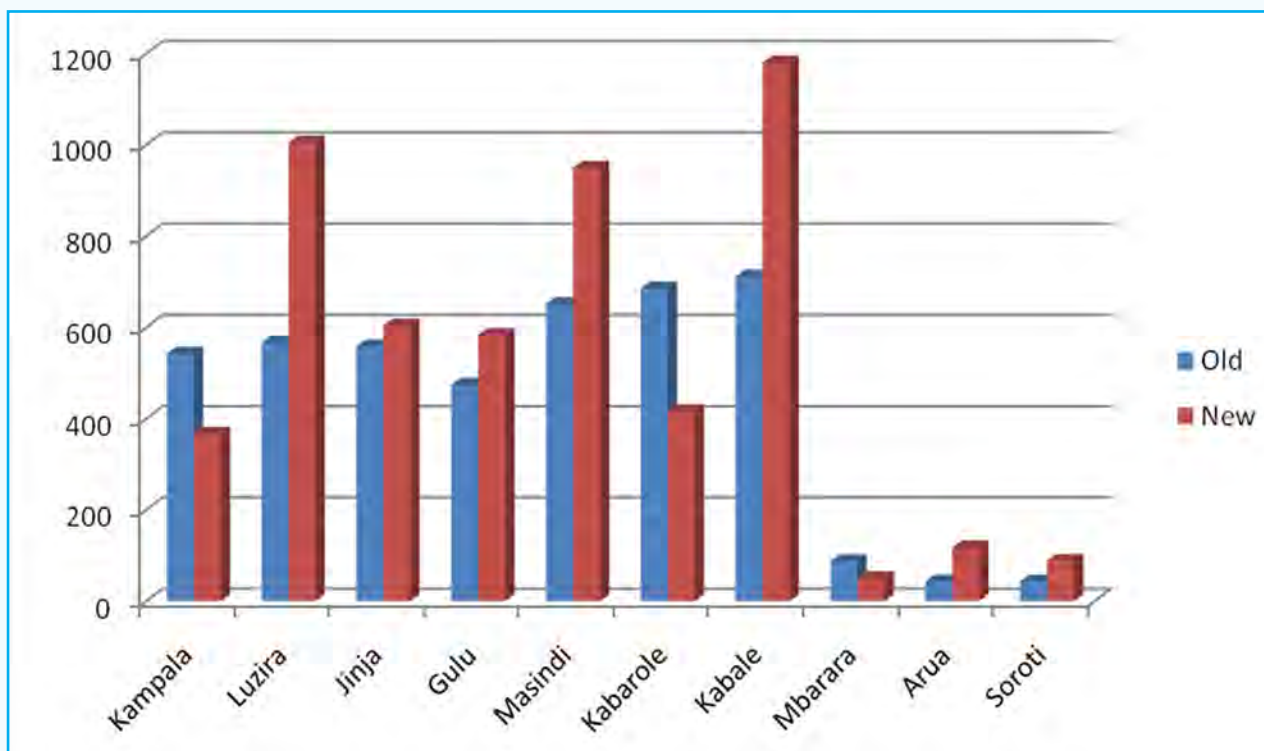
Graph I: Nature of Cases handled



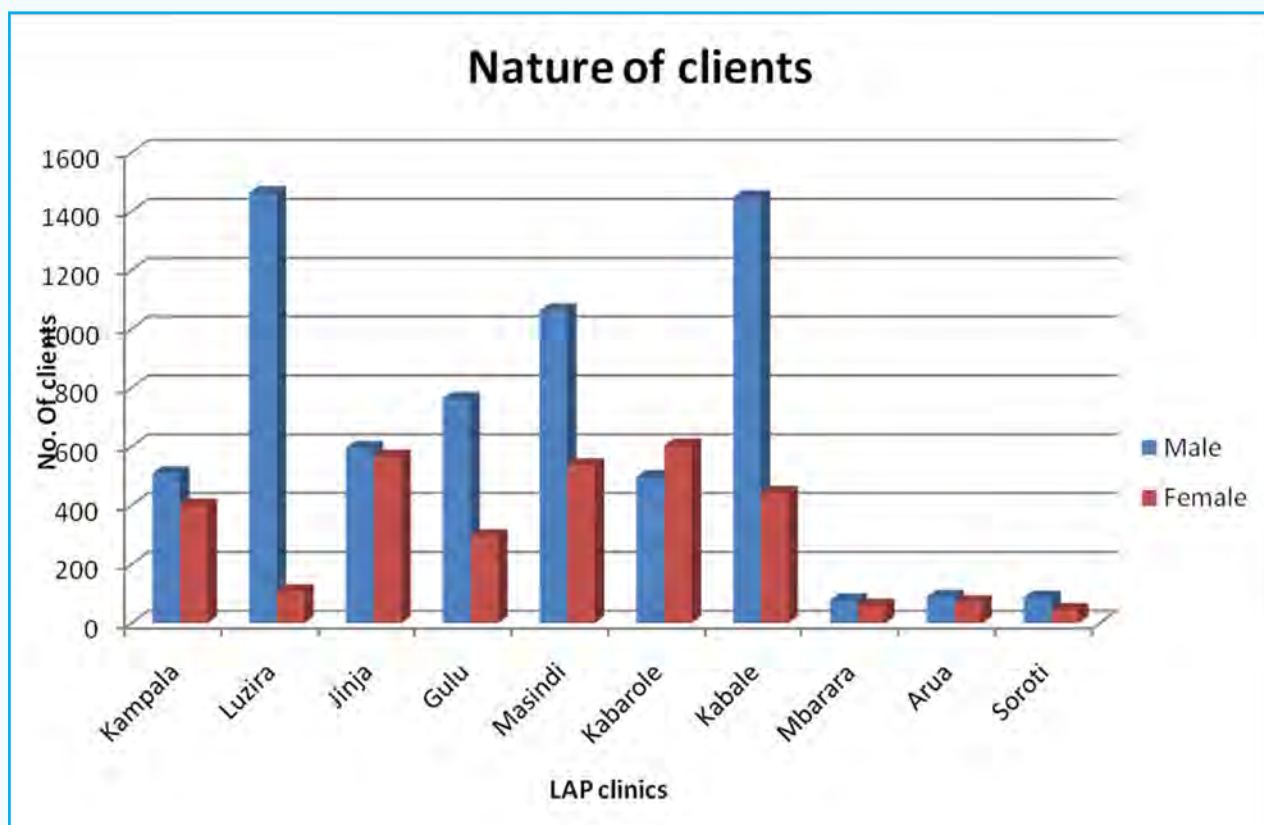
Graph 2: Progress of Cases



Graph 3: Nature of clients handled



Graph 4: Gender of clients handled



Pro Bono
Appendix 2
Statistical data of cases handled on Pro Bono
Table 1: Nature of cases handled

Nature of Case	Kampala	Gulu	Kabale	Masindi	Kabarole	Jinja	Sototi	Arua	Mbarara	Total
Land and Property claim	210	125	16	33	23	52	35	15	16	526
Family/Divorce & Separation	48	5	3	6	1	2			2	67
Custody & Maintenance	11									11
Accident claim	32	2					2			36
Administration of Estates	65	1	3	5	4	2	2		3	85
Debt Claims	00	2		3		2				7
Employment Claim/Labour	36	2		2		3				43
Criminal General	85	05	8	14	17	4	2	3	6	144
Civil General e.g. Breach of Contract, Compensation etc	125	21	6	1	8	17	4	1	5	188
Others specify	00									
Total	613	163	36	64	53	82	45	19	32	1107

Table 2: Progress of cases handled

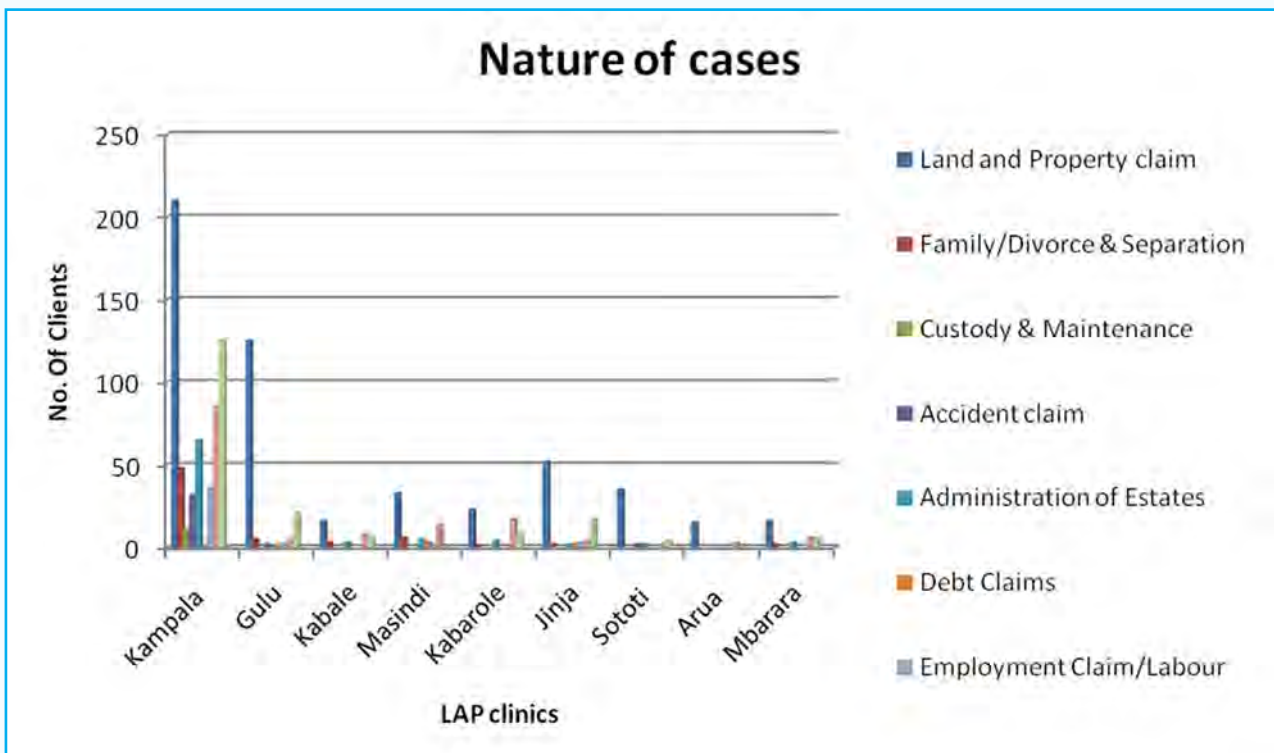
Status of Cases	Kampala	Kabale	Kabarole	Masindi	Gulu	Jinja	Arua	Soroti	Mbarara	Total
Pending	458	30	43	57	159	70	19	45	32	913
Completed in Office	23	2	1	1						27
Completed in Court	60	4	9	3	4	8				88
Files Closed	72			3		2				77
Files withdrawn						1				1
Files recalled						1				1
Total	613	36	53	64	163	82	19	45	32	1107

No.		
SEX		
1.	Female	411
2.	Male	695
3.	Organization	1
	Total	1107

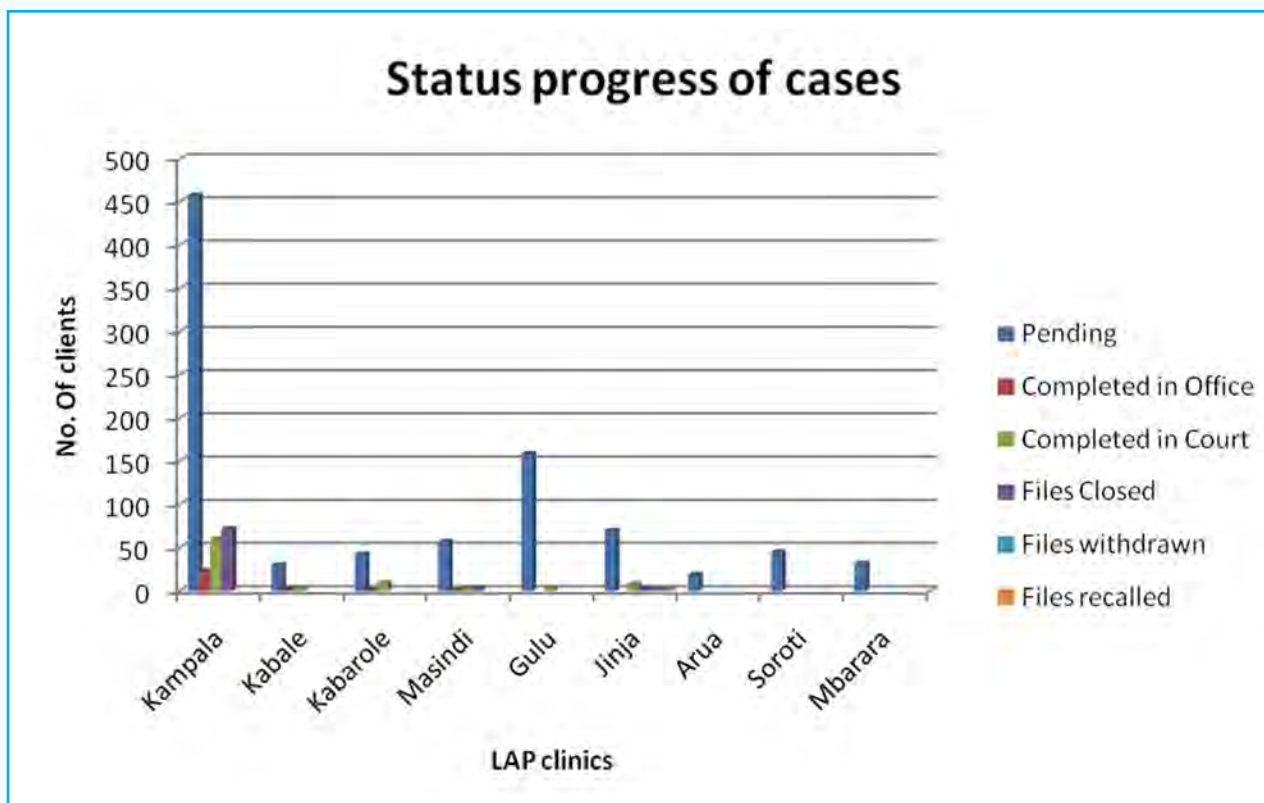
No.		
	Nature of client	
1.	Old	665
2.	New	442
	Total	1107

Graphical illustration of cases handled under Pro Bono Graphs.

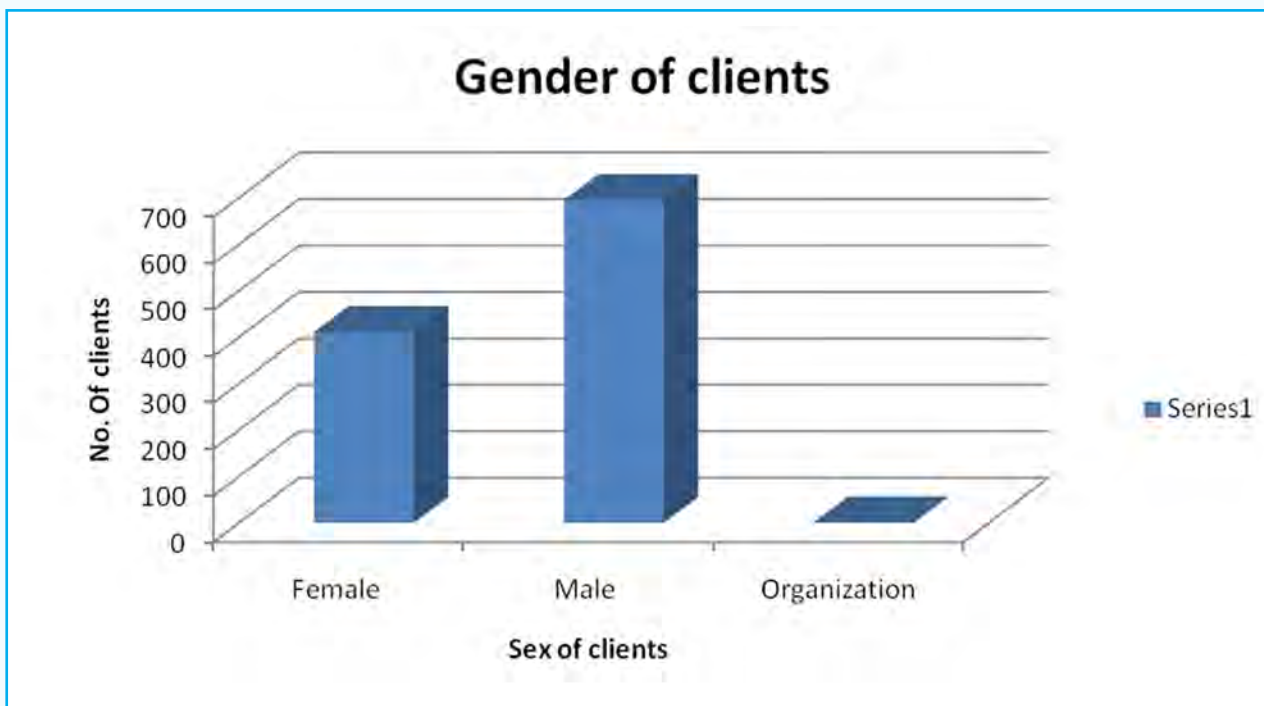
Graph 1: Nature of cases handled



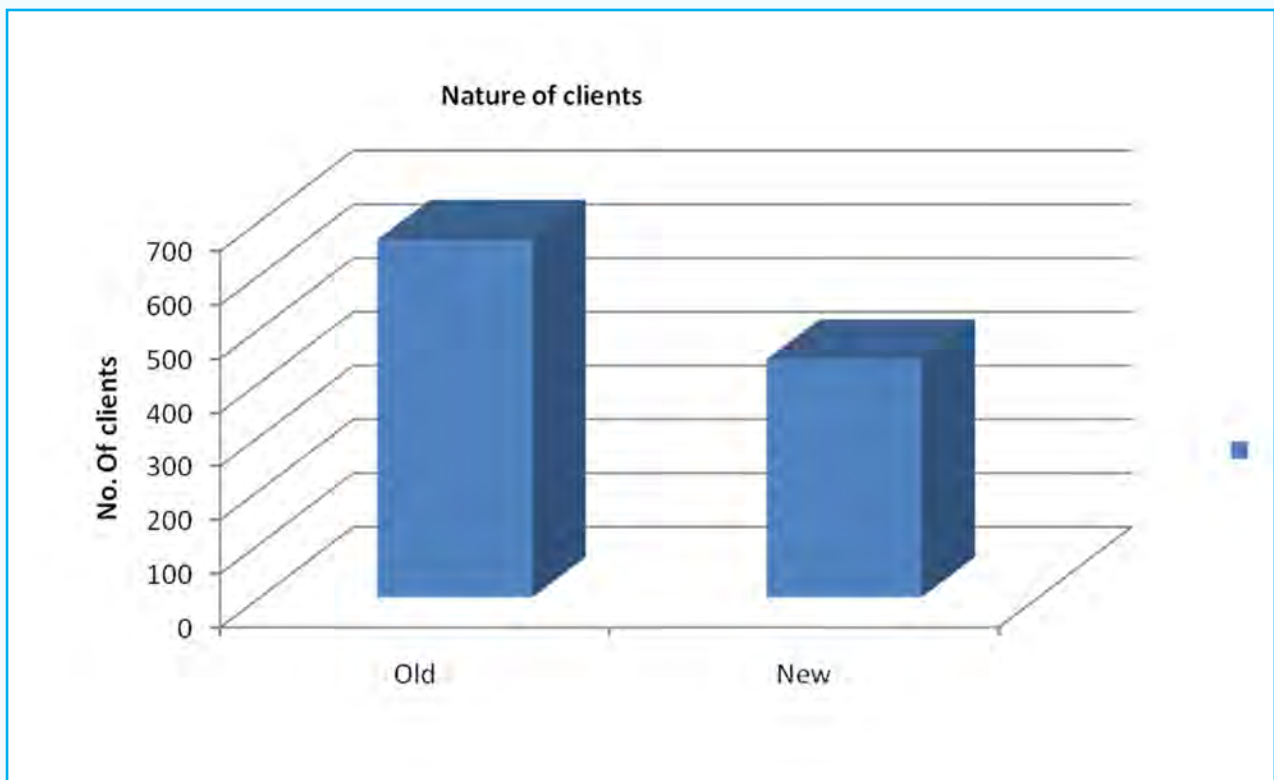
Graph 2: Status progress of cases handled

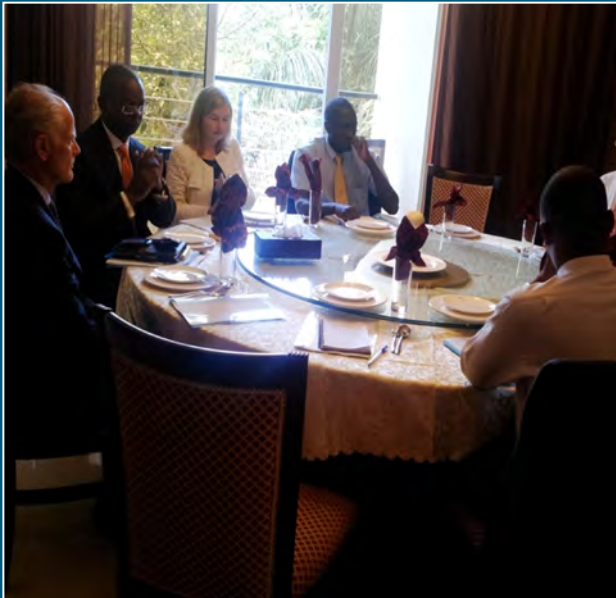


Graph3: Gender of clients



Graph 4: Nature of clients







LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012**

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

P.O. Box 6293

Kampala, Uganda

E-mail: carrstan@carrstanyersims.com

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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Management Report

for the year ended 31 December 2012

ABOUT THE LEGAL AID PROJECT

The Legal Aid Project is a Non Government Organisation which was established in 1992 by the Uganda Law Society. It is a leading legal aid service provider in Uganda with 10 regional presences. It operates regional offices of Kampala, Mbarara, Kabale, Kabarole, Masindi, Arua, Gulu, Soroti, Jinja and Luzira.

LAP is governed by the LAP Committee which is the Policy making body of the organisation. Members of the Committee are elected by the Law Society Council following every Annual General Assembly. During the period of reporting, the members of the Legal Aid and Pro Bono committee were the following:

Mr. Stephen Musisi	: Chairperson LAP Committee and ULS VP
Mr. James Sebugenyi	: President, ULS/LAP, Member
Ms. Harriet Magala	: Treasurer, ULS/LAP, Member
Mr. Musa Mudoi	: Advocate and Committee Member
Mrs. Grace B. Nuwagaba	: Executive Director LAP / ULS
Mr. Aaron Besigye	: Head LAP and Secretary to the Committee

The Legal Aid and Pro Bono Committee reports to the Executive Council of the Uganda Law Society, and oversees a multi-disciplinary management and technical staff numbering **70** out of which **66** are fulltime staff and **4** are volunteers.

LAP Vision

The project aspires to see a Ugandan society where all human rights are respected, promoted and defended to ensure that access to justice for all is a reality irrespective of gender, age, ethnicity, religion or socio-economic status.

LAP Mission

To become a leading provider of legal services of choice in order to ensure access to justice for the poor and vulnerable people so as to promote the socio-economic development of Uganda.

LAP Goal

To contribute to the rule of law and good governance, in order to achieve social development.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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for the year ended 31 December 2012

LAP Values

- Equality of all persons before the law
- Passion for justice
- Respect for human dignity
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Service excellence
- Efficiency and effectiveness

LAP Strategic Objectives

- a) To provide high quality legal aid and pro bono services to indigent men, women and children.
- b) To promote the respect for rights and the rule of law in Uganda.
- c) To lobby and advocate for legislation and policies which act in favour of the poor at national, district and lower levels.
- d) Conduct legal research, documentation and generate publications
- e) Promote rights awareness through information sharing and Publications
- f) To develop and strengthen management systems as well as the general organisational development of LAP.
- g) To strengthen the governance of LAP in order to ensure good strategic leadership and direction by the LAP Committee of the Legal Aid Project.
- h) To build mechanisms and aggressively mobilise resources to ensure financial sustainability of Legal Aid services in Uganda.
- i) Integrate cross cutting issues in LAP programming and activities

PROGRESS TOWARDS FULFILMENT OF THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Report is crafted along the thematic areas of the project focus as laid down in the Uganda Law Society Strategic Plan 2011-2015

- P1: Provide legal aid through the Legal Aid Project and pro bono services.
- P2: Encourage and promote Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- P3: Promote rights awareness through information sharing and Publications
- P8: Contribute to law making and law reform processes
- P9: Conduct public interest interventions

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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for the year ended 31 December 2012

- P10: Conduct legal research, documentation and generate publications
- P12: Improve institutional sustainability
- P13: Improve financial sustainability
- P14: Enhance the image of ULS and its programmes
- P15: Integrate cross cutting issues in ULS programming and activities

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Project has continued to grow this year. It has expanded from the seven regional branches to ten. These branches are; Kampala, Luzira, Masindi, Gulu, Kabarole, Jinja, Kabale, and the new ones of Mbarara, Arua and Soroti. LAP remained committed to providing legal aid and advisory services to its clients, specifically indigent men, women and children.

The overall direction and management of the Project was provided by the Executive Director, while the Head Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services remained the Administrative / Program Head of the Project. Other departments of ULS continued to give support in one way or the other.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE

Provision of Legal Aid and Advisory Support Services

In pursuance of its mandate and in line with its strategic objectives and with emphasis to quality service provision, the Project handled a variety of cases to include; land and property disputes; employment/labour claims; administration of estates; domestic/marital problems; maintenance/custody matters and those that fall under the ambit of general civil or criminal claims. These remained core to the project.

Legal Aid and Probono Services

In the year under review the Project reached out to a total of **15,552** clients. This was a remarkable achievement as our target was to reach out to at least **10,000** in all our activities. Of these, **11,500** were male clients and **4,052** were female, **4,959** cases were filed in courts against a project target of at least **4,000** indigent people receiving legal representation in the courts of law and at least **500** cases being resolved. Out of **4,959** cases filed in court, **1,084** cases were concluded. We had **2,692** cases handled in office and out of which **383** cases were successfully resolved through ADR against our planned target of at least **300** cases being concluded through ADR methods.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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for the year ended 31 December 2012

Legal and advisory support remained the core activity of the Project, utilizing the higher percentage of its resources in terms of time and finances as litigation is costly and requires retention of skilled advocates. The mitigating alternative, where applicable, has been ADR, as it is much quicker and tailor-made by the contending parties, and promotes reconciliation and peaceful post-conflict resolution between the parties.

Decongestion Programme

Prisoners for long had been identified as a vulnerable and deserving group for legal aid, and yet are unable to physically seek the services of the Project or practicing Advocates. The prisons outreach programme therefore continued to be a source of hope to such persons and was undertaken by the Project in mainly the legal aid clinics of Luzira, Masindi and Kabale through the paralegals. The outreach included daily visits from the clinics in these areas; information and counselling on prisoner's rights and legal defence techniques; establishing linkages between the prisoners and their relatives for purposes of bail applications, as well as legal representations in court by Project Advocates and private lawyers on Pro Bono basis.

Further, under this programme, sensitisation sessions on criminal trials in magistrate's court and defense techniques; right to bail and the procedure for a bail application, appeal process were conducted during the year through prison visits.

In all, **432** Prison visits were conducted by the clinics of Luzira, Masindi and Kabale through Clinic paralegals which consequently benefited **2,481** prisoners through Court representations and offering of legal advice through sensitisation. Through court representation of the prisoners, a total of **198** prisoners were able to access bail.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMMES

a) Information, Education and Communication

Another key activity undertaken was a programme to inform and educate the public on substantive and procedural human and legal rights issues with an intention of empowering them to demand respect for and accountability for their rights. This involved media campaigns, community sensitisation workshops; community based paralegal trainings; as well as production and distribution of simplified information materials on human and legal rights in form of fliers and booklets.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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for the year ended 31 December 2012

b) Community sensitisations and training

During the reporting period, **8** community outreaches were conducted above our target of at least 6 which had been planned benefiting **2,824** persons beyond our planned target of at least **1,200** persons. **4** mobile clinics were planned on a whole however, in the year under review; we managed to conduct **8** mobile clinics. These mobile clinics were intended to benefit **600** persons, however, **1,120** persons benefited from this programme during the reporting period.

The topics covered during these sessions include; human rights issues, children's rights, land rights and procedures in land transactions, criminal justice systems, marriage and divorce, making of a will, the rule of law in Uganda, administration of estates of deceased persons, Domestic and gender based violence and generally basics of the law and conflict resolution.

These trainings benefited participants including; community legal volunteers, teachers and generally local community residents.

c) Media Campaigns

During the reporting period, **49** radio talk shows were held mainly in the Kampala on UBC, Mbarara and Kabale on Radio Maria and Radio West, in Arua on Pacis FM and Radio Voice of life, Soroti on radio Voice of Teso, Etop Radio and Delta FM in Jinja on Kiira FM and Gulu on Mega FM. These talk shows were conducted through partnership organisations and facilitated by LAP staff among other Legal Aid Service providers. They basically addressed topics like; Land rights, Children's rights, Corruption, rule of law, making of the will, Testate and intestate succession, domestic violence laws, LAP activities and services offered. The Radio talk shows in the reporting period went beyond our target of at least 15 talk shows in the reporting year by 30 sessions. This was due to our good working relationships with the service providers and the quality of the legal Aid services reached out to the communities. Over 5,000 persons in the communities were reached through the radio talk shows.

d) Training of Community Paralegals (follow up)

The project conducted **16** trainings in total during the reporting period of which **14** training were conducted in Ndoorwa and Luzira Prisons carried out by LAP Paralegal where over **4,700** inmates were sensitised. Whereas 1 refresher course for community based paralegals was planned targeting **40** paralegals, **2** trainings were conducted in Mukono and Mbarara Districts and **120** paralegals were trained in ADR, Domestic Violence laws, land amendment laws, children rights and marriage and divorce.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

The project had a target of developing, printing and disseminating at least **5,000** simplified version of booklets on the topics of land rights, Domestic Violence, children rights and succession laws for the 3 new Clinics. A total of **19,500** booklets on the above topics were developed and printed with **15,000** booklets in English and **4,500** booklets in the local languages of Runyakitara, Ateso and Lugbara. In addition, **1,000** brochures were also printed. This was a great achievement as it shot beyond the target and we hope that these materials will assist LAP to capture a great number of indigent persons in the local communities who will be empowered in the areas of law cited and will be able to demand for and defend their rights accordingly.

In addition, with the financial support from JLOS, the project was in position to develop and produce the clients' charter which has already been distributed to the Clinics for dissemination to daily clients and other stakeholders.

PROVISION OF PRO BONO SERVICES

In a move to make access to justice a reality in Uganda, the Uganda Law Society through its Legal Aid and Pro Bono services Department established the Pro Bono service scheme. This scheme was intended to widen the scope of provision of free legal services to indigent men, women and children in the local communities through Court representations, ADR and provision of legal advice. This programme is conducted through the Legal Aid clinics country wide. During the reporting period, the scheme derived its activities from two work plans of July 2011 to June 2012 and September 2012 to August 2014 which comprises of 11 months of service delivery.

The project handled **1,170** cases against its target of which at least **310** cases were resolved in courts and through ADR, while **913** cases are pending conclusion in courts and **115** pending conclusion by ADR and **242** advocates enrolled onto the Pro Bono scheme.

Community sensitisation programs were conducted by the scheme conducted in the western, eastern and northern regions of Uganda covering topics like sexual and gender based violence, land rights, children rights and the general court process. The scheme also rolled out to Tororo and Soroti in first quarter of the reporting period to conduct Pro Bono awareness campaign.

Staff Capacity Building

All project Legal officers and assistant legal officers who possess practicing certificate were facilitated to attend continuous legal education throughout the year and 49 project staff received training in Monitoring and Evaluation and psycho-social support services.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Management Report for the year ended 31 December 2012

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation of the Project Performance

Monitoring and evaluation of the project work and performance continued throughout the year. Monitoring tools like monthly and quarterly reports were emphasized, just as were daily operational professional meetings by all clinics and maintenance of staff attendance registers. Follow-up and monitoring is also done through regular telephone calls to the clinics. The feedback method through client's complaints and appreciation of the nature of service was also adopted.

Inspection Visits

In addition, to the above monitoring tools, **4** inspection and monitoring visits to the upcountry clinics was undertaken by management on quarterly basis to interface with staff at the regional offices, validate reports through physical evaluation of files, documents and other records; inspect clinics with the donors to enable them appreciate the progress performance of the upcountry clinics; introduce new staff, among others.

Legal Aid and Pro Bono Committee meetings

The LAP Board/Committee held in total **6 meetings** to monitor performance and progress of the Project as well as to give general policy guidance to enrich the project goals and objective.

Networking and Partnerships

The Uganda Law society and its Legal Aid Project profile have grown among the public and stakeholders in the justice sector. This is evidenced by the numerous meetings and workshop to which the Project staff are invited or delegated by the management to represent the organizations. In the year under review, **96** networking meetings and workshops were attended by staff at regional, international and national levels tripling the planned target of at least **32** meetings.

Majority of workshops attended were on promoting of human rights and constitutionalism, access to justice and rule of law. Among the key stakeholders were the Legal Aid Service Providers under their umbrella body LASPNET, JLOS, HURINET, CBOs, Judiciary, police prisons, university bodies , Local government institutions , media, and quite other related or similar organisations

Internship Programmes

LAP has continued to provide training opportunities for young graduates from law schools. Previously, the project constantly received students for training from the Law Development Centre only; however, in the year under review, the project received students from LDC, Makerere and Mukono University on clerkship and internship programs. In total, **8** students from LDC **16** from Makerere University Law School and **6** were from Mukono University Law School, were hosted at the Secretariat and upcountry clinics for training.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Management Report
for the year ended 31 December 2012

SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES BETWEEN ACTUAL AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Bank charges

Exceeded by 20% because our bankers increased their monthly bank charges during the year under review.

Dues and Subscriptions

Inspection of chambers by Law Council for all LAP clinics was over and above what was budgeted.

NSSF

We paid NSSF arrears and accrued interest for volunteer lawyers and paralegals for the period; September 2006 to February 2009 after NSSF audit report.

Legal Aid (Legal Assistance and Filing Fees)

Increased number of legal cases and long distances to locus and courts.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

THE NORWEGIAN BAR ASSOCIATION/NORAD

LAP has enjoyed a committed partnership with the Norwegian Bar Association through funding from the Norwegian development partners. This kind of support has enabled thousands of Ugandans to enjoy and enforce their legal and human rights in the absence of a government policy on legal aid provision.

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE FACILITY (DGF)

In addition to the continued funding of the pro bono scheme, DGF has helped us to establish three more clinics in Mbarara, Arua and Soroti. DGF has also supported the extension of pro bono services in these new areas. Through this fund, the Pro-bono Project and the three LAP Clinics continues to enjoy the support of DGF. With this support, the project has been in position to extend legal and advisory services to the communities where there were no single legal aid service providers.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Management Report

for the year ended 31 December 2012

CANADIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

In addition to offering support to the Professional Development Department of ULS for the last seven years, in the year in review, the partners added to their other Programme support the aspect of Law Reform. It was under this fund that a research on "Advocacy for the Legal Aid Policy and Legal Aid Bill was conducted under the Legal Aid Project. The research findings are informative of the day to day challenges of women and children access justice. Further, CBA currently supports a project on Strengthening Access to Justice in East Africa (SAJEA). The programme in Uganda will be housed and coordinated by ULS under the Legal Aid Project. The Fund will offer administrative support and overheads to the Project for purposes of effective coordination.

RESULTS

The results for the period are set out in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on Page 15.


AUDITORS

The auditors, Carr Stanyer Sims & Co., have signified their willingness to continue in office and a resolution proposing their re-appointment will be put to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Kampala

By Order of the Executive Council

Dated 15th Feb 2013



**PRESIDENT
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Ground Floor, Kisozi House
8 Kyaggwe Road
P.O. Box 6293, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +256 (0)41 4258458/423 6732
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Independent Auditor's Report **to the Members of Uganda Law Society**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **the Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society** as set out on pages 12 to 22. The financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position at **31 December 2012** and the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Managements' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

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Page 11

Independent Auditor's Report
to the Members of Uganda Law Society

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society at 31 December 2012 and of the surplus and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.


Carr Stanyer Sims & Co.
Certified Public Accountants



15 FEB 2013
Kampala, Uganda

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

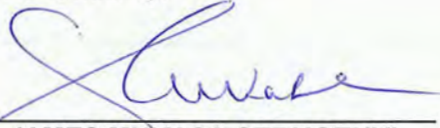
Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2012

	Note	2012 Ushs.	2011 Ushs.
FIXED ASSETS	3	198,617,216	269,154,280
CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables and prepayments	4	66,782,783	69,734,222
Cash at Bank	5	100,157,603	40,528,146
Cash in hand	6	183,500	486,500
		167,123,886	110,748,868
TOTAL ASSETS		365,741,102	379,903,148
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
CAPITAL FUND	7	198,617,216	269,154,280
RESTRICTED FUNDS	8	93,878,354	26,743,026
		292,495,570	295,897,306
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables and accruals	9	73,245,532	84,005,842
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		365,741,102	379,903,148

These financial statements were approved by the Executive Council on 15th Feb2013 and were signed on its behalf by:


 _____ PRESIDENT
 MR. JAMES MUKASA SEBUGENYI


 _____ TREASURER
 MS. HARRIET GRACE MAGALA

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

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NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2012

	Note	2012 Actual Ushs.	2012 Budget Ushs.	2011 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
Grants	10	1,116,035,232	1,154,300,978	1,017,665,002
Other income	11	22,394,158	-	26,890,333
Total Income		1,138,429,390	1,154,300,978	1,044,555,335
Less: Capital Expenditure		-	-	(207,380,000)
Balance Available for Recurrent Expenditure		1,138,429,390	1,154,300,978	837,175,335
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE				
Motor vehicle running expenses		38,581,504	39,120,008	26,881,101
Stationery and printing		28,063,300	30,600,000	18,194,900
Repairs and maintenance		22,840,800	23,580,000	18,049,800
Office expenses		22,218,860	20,720,000	22,201,983
Legal education		21,232,500	27,010,000	65,386,000
Monitoring and evaluation workshops		17,325,000	20,000,000	1,040,000
Utilities		11,301,384	10,824,000	9,221,467
Security		10,936,350	9,960,000	6,404,600
Branch inspection		9,964,900	10,000,000	10,310,100
Practising certificate		7,049,500	7,800,000	6,476,400
Publications		7,000,000	7,500,000	5,537,306
Capacity Building		5,931,000	9,050,000	200,000
Bank charges		5,399,533	3,768,000	4,690,501
Hospitality		4,836,000	6,000,000	4,118,550
Recruitment		3,887,000	4,250,000	-
Insurance		2,190,384	9,255,000	2,936,000
Travel expenses		1,628,900	3,360,000	3,770,100
Dues and Subscriptions		1,336,000	800,000	694,000
Licences and permits		751,000	860,000	-
Bad debts		190,000	-	-
Planning and Monitoring		135,000	700,000	-
Strategic planning		-	20,000,000	36,966,100
Sub-total		222,798,915	265,157,008	243,079,008
Local Personnel				
Salaries and wages		622,132,137	662,472,700	462,323,744
National Social Security Fund		121,157,809	66,247,270	52,659,661
Volunteers		-	-	62,195,000
Sub-total		743,289,946	728,719,970	577,178,405

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

	2012 Actual Ushs.	2012 Budget Ushs.	2011 Actual Ushs.
Staff Meals			
Kampala	15,208,400	14,784,000	12,040,300
Gulu	7,680,000	6,336,000	5,110,500
Masindi	7,180,000	7,392,000	4,533,000
Kabale	7,005,000	7,392,000	4,830,000
Jinja	5,869,000	5,280,000	3,405,000
Kabarole	5,220,000	5,280,000	3,617,000
Luzira	3,975,000	6,336,000	3,936,750
Sub-total	52,137,400	52,800,000	37,472,550
Legal Aid			
Pro Bono Lawyers / Legal assistance	24,714,163	19,300,000	18,822,251
Filing costs, travel, fees and facilitation	7,900,000	7,140,000	5,351,400
Networking	1,860,000	2,000,000	765,000
Sub-total	34,474,163	28,440,000	24,938,651
Office Rent			
Gulu	12,000,000	13,200,000	11,400,000
Kabale	7,200,000	7,200,000	6,000,000
Jinja	5,983,790	6,000,000	2,648,389
Kabarole	5,400,000	7,200,000	5,400,000
Masindi	3,600,000	3,600,000	3,240,000
Sub-total	34,183,790	37,200,000	28,688,389
Communication			
Fax, postage, email	16,164,269	17,640,000	17,478,814
Kampala	6,399,579	6,240,000	6,023,355
Luzira	635,767	684,000	658,151
Gulu	630,000	684,000	645,000
Kabarole	613,958	684,000	609,420
Jinja	550,000	684,000	600,000
Kabale	530,000	684,000	575,000
Masindi	395,000	684,000	308,500
Sub-total	25,918,573	27,984,000	26,898,240
Local Consultancy			
Audit fees	14,000,000	14,000,000	12,744,000
Sub-total	14,000,000	14,000,000	12,744,000

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

	2012 Actual Ushs.	2012 Budget Ushs.	2011 Actual Ushs.
Total Recurrent Expenditure	1,126,802,787	1,154,300,978	950,999,243
Surplus / (Deficit) before Exchange gain	11,626,603	-	(113,823,908)
Exchange gain / (loss)	55,508,725	-	13,393,919
UN / (OVER) SPENT FUNDS FOR THE YEAR (To Restricted Funds)	67,135,328	-	(100,429,989)

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

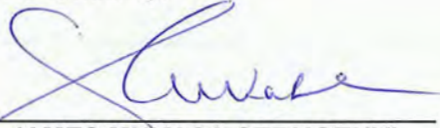
Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Financial Position at 31 December 2012

	Note	2012 Ushs.	2011 Ushs.
FIXED ASSETS	3	198,617,216	269,154,280
CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables and prepayments	4	66,782,783	69,734,222
Cash at Bank	5	100,157,603	40,528,146
Cash in hand	6	183,500	486,500
		167,123,886	110,748,868
TOTAL ASSETS		365,741,102	379,903,148
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
CAPITAL FUND	7	198,617,216	269,154,280
RESTRICTED FUNDS	8	93,878,354	26,743,026
		292,495,570	295,897,306
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables and accruals	9	73,245,532	84,005,842
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		365,741,102	379,903,148

These financial statements were approved by the Executive Council on *15th Feb* 2013 and were signed on its behalf by:


 _____ PRESIDENT
 MR. JAMES MUKASA SEBUGENYI


 _____ TREASURER
 MS. HARRIET GRACE MAGALA

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2012

	Note	2012 Actual Ushs.	2012 Budget Ushs.	2011 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
Grants	10	1,116,035,232	1,154,300,978	1,017,665,002
Other income	11	22,394,158	-	26,890,333
Total Income		1,138,429,390	1,154,300,978	1,044,555,335
Less: Capital Expenditure		-	-	(207,380,000)
Balance Available for Recurrent Expenditure		1,138,429,390	1,154,300,978	837,175,335
RECURRENT EXPENDITURE				
Motor vehicle running expenses		38,581,504	39,120,008	26,881,101
Stationery and printing		28,063,300	30,600,000	18,194,900
Repairs and maintenance		22,840,800	23,580,000	18,049,800
Office expenses		22,218,860	20,720,000	22,201,983
Legal education		21,232,500	27,010,000	65,386,000
Monitoring and evaluation workshops		17,325,000	20,000,000	1,040,000
Utilities		11,301,384	10,824,000	9,221,467
Security		10,936,350	9,960,000	6,404,600
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Capacity Building		5,931,000	9,050,000	200,000
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Hospitality		4,836,000	6,000,000	4,118,550
Recruitment		3,887,000	4,250,000	-
Insurance		2,190,384	9,255,000	2,936,000
Travel expenses		1,628,900	3,360,000	3,770,100
Dues and Subscriptions		1,336,000	800,000	694,000
Licences and permits		751,000	860,000	-
Bad debts		190,000	-	-
Planning and Monitoring		135,000	700,000	-
Strategic planning		-	20,000,000	36,966,100
Sub-total		222,798,915	265,157,008	243,079,008
Local Personnel				
Salaries and wages		622,132,137	662,472,700	462,323,744
National Social Security Fund		121,157,809	66,247,270	52,659,661
Volunteers		-	-	62,195,000
Sub-total		743,289,946	728,719,970	577,178,405

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2012

	2012 Ushs.	2011 Ushs.
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Un / (Over) spent funds for the year	67,135,328	(100,429,989)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	2,951,439	54,290,920
(Decrease) / Increase in creditors	(10,760,310)	(96,180,847)
Capital expenditure	-	207,380,000
	-----	-----
Net cash from operating activities	59,326,457	65,060,084
	-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of fixed assets	-	(207,380,000)
	-----	-----
Net movements during the year	59,326,457	(142,319,916)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	41,014,646	183,334,562
	-----	-----
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 31 December	100,341,103	41,014,646
	=====	=====
Represented by:		
Cash at Bank	100,157,603	40,528,146
Cash in Hand	183,500	486,500
	-----	-----
	100,341,103	41,014,646
	=====	=====

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2012

1. **LEGAL STATUS**

The Legal Aid Project is an activity of the Uganda Law Society. It is governed by a Board of Trustees, a corporate body registered under the Trustees Incorporation Act (Cap. 147, Laws of Uganda).

2. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

2.1 **Basis of Accounting**

The accounts are prepared in accordance with historical cost convention on an accrual basis.

2.2 **Depreciation**

Fixed assets are depreciated over their expected useful lives, using the reducing balance method.

The annual rates used for this purpose are:

Photocopier	33.3% per annum
Computer System	33.3% per annum
Law Literature	25% per annum (previously 33.3%)
Bicycles / Motorcycles	25% per annum
Motor vehicles	25% per annum
Office furniture and Equipment	12.5% per annum

A Capital Fund is maintained, equal to the value of fixed assets. Depreciation is charged to this fund, and not to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

2.3 **Foreign Currencies**

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies during the accounting period (including grants and other donations) are converted to Uganda shillings at market rates ruling at the time of the transaction. Foreign currency account balances are translated into Uganda shillings at the closing rate of exchange.

2.4 **Restricted Funds**

Revenue grants and other income are recognised as income during the period in which they are received. Income not spent at the end of each period is added to the Restricted Fund and carried forward to the next period.

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

3. FIXED ASSETS	3.1 Current Period	Office Furniture and Equipment Ushs.	Photocopiers Ushs.	Computers and Accessories Ushs.	Law Literature Ushs.	Bicycles Ushs.	Motor cycles Ushs.	Total Ushs.
	<u>Cost / Valuation</u>							
	At 1 January 2012	69,041,989	27,090,000	86,622,205	34,520,500	3,936,000	23,800,000	504,421,034
	Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	(75,410,340)
	At 31 December 2012	69,041,989	27,090,000	86,622,205	34,520,500	3,936,000	23,800,000	429,010,694
	<u>Depreciation</u>							
	At 1 January 2012	47,414,445	21,934,090	55,712,323	30,304,191	3,936,000	-	235,266,754
	Charge for the year	2,703,443	1,716,918	10,292,991	1,054,077	-	5,950,000	66,592,429
	Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	(71,465,705)
	At 31 December 2012	50,117,888	23,651,008	66,005,314	31,358,268	3,936,000	5,950,000	230,393,478
	<u>Net Book Value</u>							
	At 31 December 2012	18,924,101	3,438,992	20,616,891	3,162,232	-	17,850,000	198,617,216

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by
NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

3.2 Previous Period	Motor Vehicles Ushs.	Office Furniture and Equipment Ushs.	Photocopiers Ushs.	Computers and Accessories Ushs.	Law Literature Ushs.	Bicycles Ushs.	Motor cycles Ushs.	Total Ushs.
<u>Cost / Valuation</u>								
At 1 January 2011	106,769,090	69,041,989	27,090,000	71,497,205	34,520,500	3,936,000	-	312,854,784
Additions	166,000,000	-	-	17,580,000	-	-	23,800,000	207,380,000
Disposals	(13,358,750)	-	-	(2,455,000)	-	-	-	(15,813,750)
At 31 December 2011	259,410,340	69,041,989	27,090,000	86,622,205	34,520,500	3,936,000	23,800,000	504,421,034
<u>Depreciation</u>								
At 1 January 2011	82,757,296	44,324,796	19,360,000	49,057,375	28,898,754	3,936,000	-	228,334,221
Charge for the year	5,814,879	3,089,649	2,574,090	6,654,948	1,405,437	-	-	19,539,003
Disposals	(12,606,470)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,606,470)
At 31 December 2011	75,965,705	47,414,445	21,934,090	55,712,323	30,304,191	3,936,000	-	235,266,754
<u>Net Book Value</u>								
At 31 December 2011	183,444,635	21,627,544	5,155,910	30,909,882	4,216,309	-	23,800,000	269,154,280

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

4. **RECEIVABLES**

The balance on this account is made up as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Non-trade receivables	55,647,504	61,693,765
Prepayment	11,135,279	8,040,457
TOTAL (To Page 12)	66,782,783	69,734,222

5. **CASH AT BANK**

The balance on this account is made up as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Barclays Bank, Uganda Limited		
Ushs. Account	46,541,978	4,898,007
Ushs. Account	36,201,000	18,030,000
US Dollar Account (US \$ 6,865.23)	17,163,075	16,405,385
US Dollar Account (US \$ 100.62)	251,550	1,194,754
TOTAL (To Page 12)	100,157,603	40,528,146

6. **CASH IN HAND**

The balance on this account is made up as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Jinja	140,000	13,000
Kabale	33,000	61,600
Gulu	4,700	10,800
Masindi	4,500	15,600
Kabarole	1,100	218,300
Kampala Head Office	200	167,200
TOTAL (To Page 12)	183,500	486,500

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

7. CAPITAL FUND

The balance on this account represents amounts expended on fixed assets as reduced by depreciation and disposals as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Balance at 1 January 2012	269,154,280	84,520,563
Additions to fixed assets	-	207,380,000
Net disposals during the year	(3,944,635)	(3,207,280)
	-----	-----
	265,209,645	288,693,283
Depreciation charge for the year	(66,592,429)	(19,539,003)
	-----	-----
Balance at 31 December 2012	198,617,216	269,154,280
	=====	=====

8. RESTRICTED FUNDS

The balance on this account represents accumulated surpluses / (deficits) from donor funds as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Balance at 1 January 2012	26,743,026	127,173,015
Un / (Over) spent funds for the year	67,135,328	(100,429,989)
	-----	-----
Balance at 31 December 2012	93,878,354	26,743,026
	=====	=====

9. PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

The balance on this account is made up as follows:

	2012	2011
	Ushs.	Ushs.
Payables	59,075,532	70,786,842
Accruals	14,170,000	13,219,000
	-----	-----
TOTAL (To Page 12)	73,245,532	84,005,842
	=====	=====

LEGAL AID PROJECT OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Funded by

NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT (NORAD)

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2012 (Continued)

10. **GRANTS**

Date		2012	
		US \$	Ushs.
5 April 2012	Transfer	225,897.01	527,469,518
19 October 2012	Transfer	225,936.65	549,026,060
17 December 2012	Transfer	16,073.03	39,539,654
TOTAL (To Page 13)		467,906.69	1,116,035,232

11. **OTHER INCOME**

Other income includes disposal proceeds of three vehicles and one motorcycle as follows:

	2012 Ushs.	2011 Ushs.
Proceeds on disposal	20,000,000	26,877,740
Other income	2,394,158	-
Bank interest	-	12,593
TOTAL (To Page 13)	22,394,158	26,890,333

12. **EXCHANGE RATES**

Exchange rates used during the period to convert transactions denominated in US Dollars into Uganda shillings ranged from Ushs. 2,687 to Ushs. 2,290. Foreign currency balances at 31 December were translated at the following exchange rate:

	2012 Ushs.	2011 Ushs.
1 US \$ =	2,500	2,345

13. **TAXATION**

Legal Aid Project is a non-profit making organisation and in the opinion of their tax advisors, no tax liability will accrue in respect of these accounts.

LAP Committee Members



Mr. Stephen Musisi
Chairperson LAP and ULS
Vice President



Mr. James Mukasa Ssebugenyi
President ULS and
Committee Member



Ms. Harriet Magala
ULS/LAP Treasurer and
Committee Member



Ms. Grace Babihuga Nuwagaba
Committee Member



Mr. Mudoi Musa
Committee Member



Mr. Aaron Besigye
Head Legal Aid and Pro Bono
service/Committee Secretary



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