LASPNET

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026

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IDEOLOGY

A Centre of Excellence for Legal Aid

OUR IDENTITY

Our Vision

A free and just society.

Our Mission

To Provide Effective Advocacy, Networking and Collaboration for sustainable Legal aid services, Human Rights, Rule of Law and Access to Justice for the most vulnerable and marginalized people.

Our Goal

To improve networking, collaboration and coordination among legal aid service providers in Uganda.

Mandate

To provide strategic linkages and a collaborative platform for legal aid service providers (LASPs) in Uganda and maintain a common front to relevantly interface with Justice Law &
Order (JLOS) on access to Justice and Rule of Law.

Strategic Pillars

- Lobbying and Advocacy
- Networking, Coordination and Partnership
- Research and Knowledge Management
- Institutional Strengthening and Development of LASPNET

Our Values

- Team work
- Integrity
- Transparency and Accountability
- Inclusiveness
- Creativity & Innovativeness
- Excellence

OUR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS 2025 - 2026

UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Austrian Development Agency

Avocats Sans Frontières
ASF

Columbia Law School
Human Rights Institute

List of Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting
A2J	Access to Justice
ASF	Avocats Sans Frontières
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer
CCPCJ	Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
CEC	Community Empowerment Centre
CEPIL	Center for Public Interest Law
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
FHRI	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GoU	Government of Uganda
HiiL	Hague Institute for Innovation of Law
HRCU	Human Rights Centre Uganda
JCU	Justice Centres Uganda
JLOS	Justice Law and Order Sector
KIU	Kampala International University
LAC-LDC	Legal Aid Clinic – Law Development Centre
LASPs	Legal Aid Service Providers
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NETPIL	Network for Public Interest Law
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
NLAB	National Legal Aid Bill
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
PET	Performance Enhancement Tool
PILAC	Public Interest Law Clinic
RNB	Radical New Bar
ULS	Uganda Law Society
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes

1.0 FOREWORD BY BOARD CHAIRPERSON



Esteemed Members,

I greet you all and present to you our Annual Report for the year 2025/2026. I give thanks to God who has been faithful and has kept us alive as a Network. I also extend my sincere sympathies to all colleagues who lost loved ones during the year. May God comfort and strengthen you.

This year has presented a mixed bag of successes and challenges. We rejoice that we have sustained our major development partner, UNODC, with whose support LASPNET continues to make impact across the 20 districts of implementation, especially in strengthening crime prevention and addressing violent extremism and drug and substance abuse.

The evidence of our work under the UNODC programme can be traced in the 2025 Annual Police Crime Report, which revealed a 10.5% drop in crime. This reduction can, among other factors, be attributed to the contribution of LASPNET and its partners including Justice Centres Uganda, the Law Development Centre, Uganda Law Society and Justice Defenders.

Under the Trial Watch project, we continued to enhance the capacity of selected PILAC students in trial monitoring. We also had the privilege of presenting our work at the international level during the Clinical Network Forum held at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece, from 8th to 11th February 2026.

During the reporting period, the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) renewed the Rights Behind Bars project, aimed at safeguarding the rights of pre-trial detainees. The project is implemented by LASPNET in partnership with Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF) and has created opportunities for some of our members, from whom advocates and paralegals were engaged to support implementation.

It was during this year that LASPNET convened its inaugural Access to Justice Run, which attracted over 300 runners from across the justice sector and the general public. Thank you to all who participated and purchased running kits. A major milestone during the Run was the unveiling of the artistic impression of the Legal Aid House valued at UGX 6 billion. While the dream is big, with your continued contributions and support, we are confident it will be realized.

The Board of Directors, which I superintend as Chairperson, was able to discharge its oversight functions. For instance, we approved key institutional policies including the Social Enterprise Strategy and the architectural plan for the construction of the Legal Aid House.

Amidst these milestones, contextual challenges remain. The enactment of the Sovereignty Bill into law remains a thorn in the flesh of NGOs, as NGO funding and activities could be misconstrued as acts of foreign agents and economic saboteurs. The law further creates unnecessary bureaucracies in the approval of NGO funding. I challenge the Network and its respective institutional heads to carefully study this Act to ensure full compliance.

Furthermore, as you may recall, Government suspended more than ten (10) NGOs in the run-up to the 2026 elections, and one of our member organizations, the African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV), was among those affected. We continue to stand in solidarity with ACTV and pray that the suspension is lifted so that it can continue its noble work uninterrupted.

The funding landscape for NGOs remains unstable due to shifting donor priorities and geopolitics. We must therefore adopt cost-effective strategies to ensure continuity of services. Additionally, we need to maximize partnerships and avoid working in silos.

Another key development worth highlighting is the relocation of the Secretariat offices from Balintuma Road, Mengo to Busega, off Dome Road. I have visited the new premises and confirm that they provide a conducive environment for the Network's business and operations. I therefore commend the CEO and her Management team for this initiative.

As I conclude, allow me to inform you that this is my last term of office as Board Chairperson. I have enjoyed serving the Network for the last four years. During my tenure, together with the Secretariat and the entire Network, we achieved several milestones. It has indeed been a pleasure to lead the Network. Today, we are entering a new chapter with new leaders coming on board. We welcome the new Board members, and I pledge to support the transition process.

Lastly, I extend my sincere appreciation to our development partners, including UNODC, Columbia Law School, ASF and ADA, for their financial support. You are the reason we continue to exist.



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Ms. Karen Saidi
Chairperson, Board of Director

2.0 THE ANNUAL STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Dear Partners, Members and Staff of the Network, I am pleased to share with you our Annual Report for the year 2024-2025. This report chronicles our work under the four (4) core objectives of the Network: Research and Knowledge Management; Networking, Coordination and Partnerships; Lobby and Advocacy; and Institutional Building and Capacity Development.

The Network continued to thrive on the international stage, following LASPNET's nomination to present CSO perspectives at the 35th Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) held in Vienna, Austria and the Trial Watch Clinical Network Forum organized by Columbia Law School in Greece. Other key forums where LASPNET featured and made presentations included the National Court Open Day convened by the Judiciary and the JLOS Annual Performance Review. This demonstrates LASPNET's credibility and relevance within the justice ecosystem.

As alluded to by the Chairperson, the UNODC project continued to demonstrate impact, as evidenced by remarks made by the former Head of Mission of UNODC, Ms. Sharon Nyambe, during our Project Management Unit (PMU) meeting, where she stated that LASPNET and its partners had delivered tremendous results under the programme outcome on delivery of quality legal aid services for vulnerable groups, reaching over 33,000 clients. This was re-echoed by the Commissioner General of Prisons, Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, who noted that prison decongestion had been realized due to legal aid interventions under UNODC.

Related to the above, LASPNET received funding from the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) through UNODC to implement a project titled ''Strengthening accountability through enhanced collaboration between state and non-state actors and digitization of justice services in Kampala, Gulu and Moroto districts". Some of the targeted interventions include conducting research on the utilization of digital justice systems and platforms by women in Gulu and Moroto, as well as convening regional and national dialogues between CSOs and justice institutions to foster collaboration for effective service delivery. As at the time of closing the financial year, these activities were still ongoing.

In the same vein, the Trial Watch project has impacted over 15 PILAC students who have been mentored in trial monitoring and documentation of advocacy reports intended to influence policy reforms in the handling of trials, especially in cases involving violations of freedom of expression, association and assembly. We were also glad to receive feedback from Trial Watch Founder, Ms. Amal Clooney, who was impressed by our work under the project.

Under the Rights Behind Bars project, LASPNET and ASF have demonstrated the strength that lies in collaboration between state and non-state actors. The project is being implemented in close partnership with various justice institutions including the Judiciary, the Uganda Police Force, the Uganda Prisons Service and LASPs. Though still at its inception, we are hopeful that it will go a long way in promoting respect for procedural rights of pre-trial detainees.

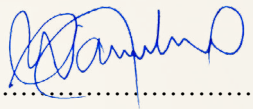
We remain resilient at the institutional level despite funding constraints. As a Network, we continue to explore alternative avenues for ensuring institutional sustainability. While the context remains challenging, I urge our members to prioritize and invest in legal compliance.

At a personal level and as the institutional head, I am glad to report to the membership and our strategic partners that I received dual recognition from the Government of Uganda, where I was awarded the Diamond Jubilee Medal, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Uganda Law Society. These are no mean achievements we should be proud of beyond demonstrating my contribution to access to justice, they enhance LASPNET's visibility.

Special appreciation goes to our donors: UNODC, which recently welcomed a new Head of Mission, Ms. Jeptum Bargoria, following the end of the tour of duty by Ms. Sharon Nyambe. We officially welcomed her at the Secretariat and committed to continuing our partnership with LASPNET. We also thank Columbia Law School and ADA through ASF and ADC for their continued financial and technical support.

To the outgoing Board of Directors under the stewardship of Ms. Karen Saidi, I commend your contribution to the Network, and I welcome the new Board, from whom we have high expectations for growing further the Network. The Membership is highly appreciated for the trust and support, and to the Secretariat staff, I commend your resilience and selflessness in serving the Network despite the operating environment.

Together we can



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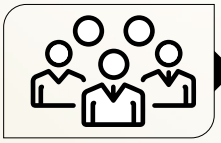
Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa
Chief Executive Officer


LASPNET
PROPOSED LEGAL AID HOUSE
LEGAL AID HOUSE

3.0 THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



777 Cases identified & reported under the RBB Project 3 Capacity Building trainings conducted



99 Community actors received refresher training



8 Districts visited and monitored under UNODC



4 Board meeting & 1 ODSC meeting



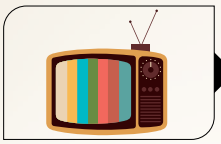
788 cases (584 male & 204 female) 216 and 119 closed under the Call Centre



58 Networking & partnership meetings including 2 International engagements



33 Paralegals & 28 Advocates identified and recruited under RBB



06 Media Engagements (Tv and Radio Talk Shows)



07 Research and Publications on Access to Justice and Rule of Law



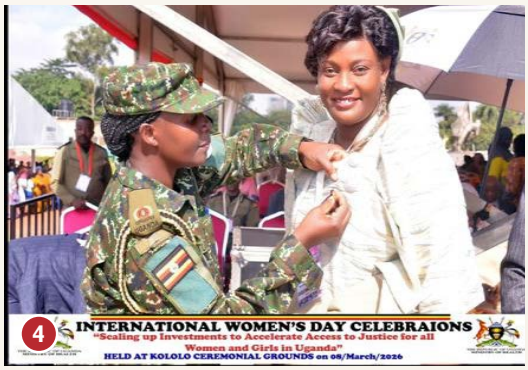
12 PILAC students under Trial Watch 7 cases monitored

4.0 THE YEAR 2025-2026 IN PICTURES













1. *Hon. (Rtd) Justice Remmy Kasule addresses participants after unveiling the artistic impression of the Legal Aid House on 29th November 2025 at the LDC Grounds.*
2. *Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, the Principal Judge of Uganda, commends advocates during the Legal Aid Service Providers (LASPs) Sports Gala on 29th November 2025 at the LDC Grounds.*
3. *Participants embarking on different routes - 5km, 7km and 10km during the Access to Justice Run on 29th November 2025.*
4. *Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa is decorated during the International Women's Day celebrations at Kololo on 8th March 2026.*
5. *Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa poses for a photo with her family members and LASPNET staff after receiving the ULS lifetime achievement award on 12th March 2026.*

5.0 A SNAPSHOT ANALYSIS INTO THE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT OF LASPNET FOR THE YEAR 2025/2026

The operating environment for LASPNET is assessed against three (3) key indicators: membership composition, the funding context for access to justice and legal aid, and the sustainability of LASPNET.

a) Membership Composition

At the 16th AGM, seven (7) inactive and non-subscribing members were presented for deregistration in accordance with Article 5(7)(d) of the LASPNET Constitution as amended and Article 9(d) of the Membership Charter. The members deregistered are Action for Poverty Reduction and Livestock Modernisation in Karamoja (ARELMOK), Centre for Reparation and Rehabilitation (CRR), Micro Justice Uganda (MJU), New Plan Group (NPG), World Voices Uganda (WVU), Youth Legal Relief (YLR) and Uganda Land Alliance (ULA). This reduced the Network's membership from 60 to 53 members. A number of other LASPs remain inactive, largely due to the decline in funding within the NGO sector.

b) Funding Context for Access to Justice and Legal Aid

LASPNET continued to feel the effects of declining funding for legal aid and access to justice initiatives. The majority of LASPs continue to struggle due to geopolitical conflicts, specifically the Russia-Ukraine war and the Middle East/Iran conflict, which have constrained funding, tightened global financial liquidity and diverted international aid away from Sub-Saharan Africa. This shift in donor priorities, with traditional Western donors reallocating substantial financial resources and humanitarian budgets towards Eastern Europe and Middle Eastern security needs, has created a funding shortfall for Sub-Saharan Africa with a significant toll on LASPs.

c) Sustainability of LASPNET

The funding gap remains an unfortunate reality that LASPNET continues to grapple with. Nevertheless, LASPNET has sustained its fundraising efforts for the Legal Aid House and the social enterprise model, which continue to show promise despite the economic challenges faced by members and stakeholders.

6.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

LASPNET's key achievements for the reporting period 2025/2026 are clustered according to its thematic areas, namely: Networking, Coordination and Partnerships; Lobby and Advocacy; Research and Knowledge Management; and Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Development of the Secretariat and Membership. The summary achievements are highlighted below:

6.1 Networking, Coordination and Partnerships

In 2025/2026, LASPNET sustained its collaborative platforms in several ways, including:

- Signing a partnership with Kampala International University (KIU).
- Establishing a coordination office in Kibaale District.
- Launching the UNODC Community Empowerment Centre in Arua District.
- Participating in the Trial Watch Clinical Network Forum organized by Columbia Law School from 8th–11th February 2026 in Greece.
- Conducting seven (7) prison support visits and two (2) community sensitization campaigns in the Northern and Western regions of Uganda from 15th to 19th June 2026.
- Participating in Uganda's key side event during the 35th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) held in Vienna, Austria on 3rd June 2026.
- Hosting Ms. Winnie Jeptum Bargoria, the incoming Head of Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Kampala, at LASPNET on 10th June 2026.
- Supporting Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF) in conducting seven (7) support and monitoring visits to legal aid service providers and justice sector institutions.
- Continued engagement of 33 paralegals and 28 advocates under the Rights Beyond Borders (RBB) Project.

6.2 Research and Knowledge Management

During the reporting period, LASPNET developed and submitted several research materials including translated products and papers aimed at influencing Access to Justice, Rule of Law and Human rights as highlighted below;

- Media briefing notes on caveats in Uganda, presented on Spark TV on 14th August 2025.
- A paper on the overview of juvenile justice in Uganda, presented from 2nd to 3rd October 2025 at the Judiciary
- CSO remarks delivered at the mid-term review of the UNODC project

held on 30th October 2025 at Golf Course Hotel.

- A CSO perspective paper presented by the CEO at the Joint GoU-Development Partners Access to Justice Annual Review Meeting held on 9th December 2025 at Mestil Hotel.

6.3 Lobby and Advocacy Engagements

Under Lobby and Advocacy, LASPNET undertook the following initiatives;

- Participated in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.
- Participated in the 2nd National Court Open Day 2025.
- Prepared and submitted a memorandum to Parliament on 24th April 2026 highlighting the Network's position on the implications of the Sovereignty Bill on legal aid service delivery.

6.4 Institutional Strengthening and development

During the reporting period, LASPNET built the capacity of its members through the following:

- Conducted a two-day Regional Training of Justice Actors in Arua at Dreamland Hotel from 7th–9th July 2025.
- Convened its 9th CEOs' Forum Webinar on 11th September 2026.
- Convened the 16th Annual General Meeting (Hybrid) held at the Secretariat on 31st October 2025.
- Organized the Inaugural Access to Justice Run held on 29th November 2025.
- Coordinated a training session on Trial Watch and Monitoring for 12 PILAC students in January 2026.
- Conducted capacity-building sessions on safeguarding the rights of pre-trial detainees.
- Conducted monitoring and refresher trainings for Community Actors under the UNODC Programme in eight (8) districts from 15th to 30th June 2026.

7.0 THE YEAR 25/26 IN DETAIL

7.1 NETWORKING & PARTNERSHIP

This section highlights various networking and partnership activities undertaken during the reporting period.

7.1.1 Signing a partnership agreement with Kampala International University (KIU)



A group photo of KIU & LASPNET representatives after signing the MOU at KIU Kampala Campus on 3rd July 2025

On Thursday, 3rd July 2025, LASPNET signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kampala International University (KIU) to provide law students at KIU with career and internship opportunities at the LASPNET Call Centre. The signing took place at the KIU Kampala Main Campus in the Vice Chancellor's office. This partnership aims to equip students with hands-on experience, enabling them to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings and become professionals.

The MoU was signed on behalf of LASPNET by Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, the Chief Executive Officer, while KIU was represented by Prof. Regina Idu Ejemot-Nwadiaro, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research, Innovations, Consultancy and Extensions (RICE). In attendance from LASPNET were Mr. Badru Walusansa, Director of Programmes (DoP); Mr. Mutebi Peter M., Networking, Coordination and Partnerships Officer (NCPO); and Mr. Keitirima Duncan, Call Centre Coordinator.

KIU was represented by, among others, Dr. Mundu Mustafa, DVC for Finance and Administration; Ms. Christine Ainebyoona, Deputy University Secretary and Campus Administrator – KIU Main Campus; Mr. Rashid Kwizera, KIU Lawyer and Legal Officer; Dr. Esther Kisubi, Dean of the School of Law (SoL); Assoc. Prof. Adedoyin Olusegun Ankisulure, Associate Dean – Teaching and Learning Coordinator (TLC) and Dr. Olawunmi Obisesan, Head of the Department of Clinical Legal Education (CLE).

This collaboration marked a significant step in extending apprenticeship opportunities to law students and fostering collaborative research and fundraising initiatives between LASPNET and KIU.

7.1.2 Establishing a coordination office in Kibaale District

On 8th August 2025, a team led by the Project Coordinator, Ms. Nambowa Justice, conducted a pre-assessment visit to Kibaale District to inspect the space allocated by the district to host the UNODC project coordination office. Upon completion of refurbishment, LASPNET

equipped the office with a computer, desk and stationery.

In addition, two community paralegals were identified and subsequently trained to manage and support the operations of the coordination office.



Ms. Justice Nambowa, Project Coordinator – UNODC, handing over office equipment to the Kibaale District CAO on 8th August 2025.

Since its establishment, the coordination office has handled 66 clients (39 male and female) were supported through mediation, referrals and legal advice. Commenting on the office, Mr. Ogwayu Peter Emmanuel, the District Deputy CAO, noted that the office is timely and will greatly contribute to supporting clients in the district as well as coordinating project activities.

7.1.3 Inspection of the established coordination office at Kibaale District Local Government

A team led by the LASPNET CEO Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa conducted an inspection and monitoring support visit to the coordination office at Kibaale District Local Government on 11th December 2025, meeting with trained paralegals, Judicial Officers and District Focal Persons.

The Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Katotoroma John, welcomed the team and appreciated LASPNET's work in the district. The team further interfaced with paralegals Kwikiriza Nicholas, Byaruhanga Fabian and Kyotanihire Cornelius, Call Center Coordinator Mr. Duncan Keitirima, Executive Legal Volunteer Ms. Ikanu Winfred and the Volunteer Driver.

Key emerging issues documented included the need to regularly visit prison facilities and courts by the paralegals and focal person, keeping the office open under all circumstances and supporting clients beyond office premises, prioritizing quality of services over numbers, enhanced documentation of success stories, and emphasized use of training manuals during paralegal work.



Mr. Katotoroma John, Chief Administrative Officer second (from left) a paralegal second (from right) together with the LASPNET team pose for a photo in CAO's office.

7.1.4 Launching the Community Empowerment Centre in Arua District

LASPNET established a Community Empowerment Centre (CEC) for youth in Arua District to promote crime prevention and strengthen community justice among

young people. The facility was launched on 16th October 2025 in Odumi, Vurra Town Council, with support from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).



Mr. Badru Walusansa-DOP (White shirt) handing over sports equipment to the district leadership.

Speaking on behalf of the Arua District leadership, Mr. Okuonzi Alfred, the LCV Chairperson, appreciated LASPNET for fulfilling its commitment by establishing the CEC in Arua. He expressed optimism that the CEC would deliver tangible results, such as reducing drug use and enhancing social cohesion among the youth.

In his introductory remarks, Mr. Badru Walusansa, Director of Programmes at LASPNET, who represented the CEO, applauded the district leadership for lobbying for the initiative, noting that Arua was the first among the 20 implementing districts to benefit from the project. Mr. Jawoko Denis, the Deputy RDC of Arua, pledged full government support for the activities of the CEC.

The launch was climaxed with the handover of equipment, which included: a 200-seater heavy-duty tent, 100 white plastic chairs, six (6) sports balls (three footballs and three basketballs), two (2) chessboards, a pool table, a projector, a pull-up banner and a tear-drop banner. The items were received by the LCV Chairperson, and the district leadership expressed gratitude to LASPNET and UNODC, pledging to utilize the equipment for its intended purpose.

7.1.5 Convening the UNODC project review meeting for the implementing partners

LASPNET, under the ongoing UNODC programme, convened its annual Implementing Partners (IPs) Review Meeting to deliberate on the status of programme implementation for 2025 and generate strategies to streamline implementation in 2026.

The meeting was held on 18th December 2025 at Pope Paul Memorial Hotel, Kampala, and brought together 16 participants (9 Male: 7 Female), including Mr. Timothy Etiang, representing the Development Partners, and representatives from Implementing Partners: ULS, LDC, JCU and Justice Defenders.



Participants at the Project Review Meeting for LASPNET and the Implementing Partners during the session

The CEO emphasized the importance of documenting project milestones and success stories, noting how they would shape presentations to the donor. She

encouraged participants to be open-minded and to learn from each other, emphasizing patience, purpose and perspective as they plan for the remaining implementation period.

Ms. Karen Saidi, Chairperson of the Board of Directors – LASPNET, appreciated UNODC for its continued partnership and trust over the last three years of implementation. She noted that since 2022, the programme has reached more than 33,000 people across 20 districts, enhanced access to legal aid and strengthened reintegration.

In conclusion, IPs were encouraged to improve collaboration with key justice actors such as the Judiciary, ODPP, Police and other CSOs to boost crime prevention efforts and enhance awareness of the availability of legal aid services in their areas of operation.

7.1.6 LASPNET & PILAC participating in the Trial Watch Clinical Network Forum in Greece

LASPNET, in partnership with the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC), participated in the Trial Watch Clinical Network Forum organized by Columbia Law School. The forum was held at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in Greece from 8th–11th February 2026.

The forum brought together legal practitioners, academics and Trial Watch partners from across the globe to exchange experiences, identify emerging challenges and develop strategies for trial monitoring and legal advocacy in increasingly restrictive and authoritarian environments. Discussions focused on, among other things, trial monitoring in challenging contexts, the criminalization of journalism and dissent, strengthening collaboration among legal clinics, and advancing strategies for fair trial advocacy.

LASPNET was represented by its In-House Counsel, Mr. Drake Denis Kayanja, while the PILAC delegation was led by Dr. Patricia Atim Odong, Head of Clinical Legal Education at PILAC, who also received a recognition award on behalf of the partners.



A picture showing participants during the meeting in Greece, Denis 3rd (from Right).

7.1.7 Expanding the "Rights Behind Bars" Campaign to Prisons and Schools

As part of the "Rights Behind Bars" campaign, LASPNET, in partnership with ASF, conducted seven (7) prison support visits and two (2) community sensitization campaigns across Gulu, Lamwo, Kitgum, Masindi and Kiryandongo districts from 15th to 19th June 2026.

Among the schools visited was Ematong Primary School in Kiryandongo District, whose pupils benefited from legal empowerment and civic education. By investing in legal awareness among young

people, the campaign aimed to nurture informed, empowered and resilient communities.

Among the schools visited was Ematong Primary School in Kiryandongo District, whose pupils benefited from legal empowerment and civic education.



Mr. Drake Denis Kayanja, Project Coordinator – Rights Behind Bars (RBB), engaging pupils of Ematong Primary School in Kiryandongo District.

7.1.8 Participation in Uganda's Side Event at the 35th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) participated in Uganda's key side event during the 35th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), held in Vienna, Austria, on 3rd June 2026. Held under the theme "Advancing the Rule of Law through Science," the event showcased Uganda's progress in strengthening the administration of justice through the adoption of advanced forensic science and DNA-based criminal investigations.

Speaking on behalf of civil society organisations (CSOs), Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa commended the Government of Uganda and its justice institutions for the strides made in integrating forensic science into criminal investigations and prosecutions, particularly in cases involving gender-based violence (GBV) and other serious crimes.



A group photo of all participants after attending the Uganda's Side Event in Austria

Dr. Namubiru, however, highlighted the limited availability of forensic services across the country, calling for the decentralisation of forensic laboratories through the establishment of regional forensic hubs. She noted that expanding access to forensic services would help reduce case backlogs, improve the timeliness of investigations, and enhance access to justice, especially for survivors of gender-based violence.

7.1.9 Hosting the Incoming UNODC Kampala Head of Office

On 10th June 2026, the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) hosted Ms. Winnie Jeptum Bargoria, the incoming Head of Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at its Secretariat, during a meeting to review progress and strengthen collaboration on access to justice initiatives.

Ms. Bargoria was accompanied by Ms. Diva Mukisa, Programme Management Officer, and Mr. Timothy Etiang, Programme Associate. They were received by the LASPNET Secretariat together with UNODC implementing partners, including the Legal Aid Clinic of the Law Development Centre (LAC-LDC), Justice Defenders (JD), and the Uganda Law Society's Legal Aid Project (LAP-ULS).

During the meeting, the Head of Office commended LASPNET and its partners for the significant progress achieved under the programme. LASPNET, on its part, reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with UNODC and implementing partners to advance the shared goal of expanding access to quality legal aid services, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised communities.



LASPNET team and implementing partners engaging with the new UNODC Head of Office in the boardroom

7.1.10 Engaging Advocates and Paralegals to Advance the Rights Behind Bars Project

Under the existing partnership between LASPNET implementing the Rights Behind Bars (RBB) project, 33 paralegals and 28 advocates were trained on how to conduct prison and police station visits aimed at monitoring compliance with procedural rights and identifying violations affecting pre-trial detainees.

To further strengthen collaboration with key justice institutions, LASPNET supported ASF in conducting stakeholder mapping missions to Luzira Upper Prison, Luzira Women's Prison, Murchison Bay Prison and Kampala Remand Prison on 14th April 2026. The visits provided valuable insights to inform project planning and enhance engagement with correctional facilities.



A group of lawyers and paralegals working under the Rights Behind Bars (RBB) project

In addition, seven (7) support and monitoring visits to selected LASPs and justice sector institutions, including the ODPP, UPS and the Judiciary, were carried out in Wakiso District on 26th May 2026, and across Gulu, Kitgum, Lamwo, Hoima, Masindi and Kiryandongo districts between 16th and 26th June 2026.

7.1.11 Sustained collaborations and partnerships to influence Access to Justice, Rule of Law and Human Rights.

Throughout the reporting period, LASPNET actively participated in various engagements organised by its members,

partners and both state and non-state actors in a bid to enhance service delivery in the justice sector.

A total of 60 external membership and partner meetings were attended by the Board and Secretariat, key among which included:

No.	Meeting
1.	National Civil Society Convention convened by the Uganda National NGO Forum from 30th September to 1st October 2025, attended by the CEO.
2.	National symposium on juvenile justice in Uganda convened by the Judiciary at the Supreme Court Building from 2nd–3rd October 2025, attended by the CEO.
3.	Hybrid high-level event on strengthening justice pathways to end technology-facilitated violence against women and girls convened by the Judiciary on 10th December 2025 at the Supreme Court Building, attended by the CEO.
4.	Launch of the revised prosecutor's handbook on property-grabbing crimes in Uganda 2025 organized by the ODPP at Hotel Africana on 3rd November 2025, attended by the CEO.
5.	State-Funded Legal Representation Implementation Committee meeting convened by the Judiciary on 11th November 2025 at the Supreme Court Building, attended by the CEO.
6.	Human Rights and Accountability Working Group meeting convened by GSP/JLOS at Kabira Country Club on 20th November 2025, attended by the DOP.
7.	International Human Rights Day celebrations organized by the Wakiso Human Rights Committee on 10th December 2025 at Wakiso District Headquarters, attended by the DOP.
8.	High-level dialogue on technology-facilitated violence convened by UWONET at Sheraton Hotel on 11th December 2025, attended by the LAO.
9.	2nd National Court Open Day 2025 organized by the Judiciary on 15th December 2025 at Kololo Independence Grounds, attended by the CEO.
10.	Trial Watch Global Clinical Forum in Greece from 9th–10th February 2026, attended by Mr. Denis Drake Kayanja, In-House Counsel.
11.	Side event organized within the 35th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice convened by UNODC in Vienna on 2nd June 2026, attended by the CEO.
12.	1st working group meeting for the development of Uganda's National Strategy Against Organized Crime convened by UNODC from 23rd–25th June 2026, attended by Mr. Hakim Mawanda.

7.1.12 Provision of legal aid services through the call center

In the period under review, LASPNET continued to coordinate and facilitate call centre agents who provided legal support to both call-in and walk-in clients. A total of 788 cases (584 male, 204 female) were handled.

Most cases received through the call centre included domestic violence, theft, defilement, land disputes and human rights abuses, among others. These were given on-the-spot legal advice and/or referred to the nearest Legal Aid Service Provider.

Below are some quotes as derived from client feedback:

"I am grateful to LASPNET for referring me to Justice Centres Masaka. I was supported and recovered my livestock that had been destroyed by the late Mulindwa of Masaka and former UNRA in 2023," said Kiiza Musa, Masaka District.

"I was referred by LASPNET to LAP-ULS and I am being supported in an execution matter. I am very happy for the legal support," said Samuel Dick Lubowa.

"I was offered on-spot legal support and, with the referral by LASPNET to LDC-LAC, my brother's fraudulent sale of our late father's estate was stopped after a caveat was lodged. My matter is being handled by the lawyers, and I am at peace now," said Nalwanga Hadijja.

"Thank you LASPNET for the referral to Justice Centres Masaka, where I was helped and the encroachment on my late grandfather's land by our neighbors was halted, with boundaries opened, demarcations clearly marked and beneficiaries given their shares," remarked Luwukya Derrick.

7.2 RESEARCH & KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The Network continued to strengthen its evidence-based research and knowledge management thematic component through production of various research initiatives including translated materials, presentations and position papers, as highlighted below;

7.2.1 Research products

In addition to the main major research on going, several action-based researches were made for purposes of presentation to various forums as highlighted in the matrix below;

No.	Research material
1.	Media briefing notes on caveats in Uganda, presented on Spark TV on 14th August 2025.
2.	A paper on the overview of juvenile justice in Uganda, presented from 2nd to 3rd October 2025 at the Judiciary
3.	CSO remarks delivered at the mid-term review of the UNODC project held on 30th October 2025 at Golf Course Hotel.
4.	A CSO perspective paper presented by the CEO at the Joint GoU-Development Partners Access to Justice Annual Review Meeting held on 9th December 2025 at Mestil Hotel.

5.	A presentation on public perspectives on access to justice and judiciary services, delivered by the CEO on 15th December 2025 at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds
6.	A translated handbook and manual on holistic provision of legal aid services for prisoners, ex-prisoners and communities into Runyakitara.
7.	A presentation on CSO perspectives on integrating forensic science into criminal investigations and prosecutions, particularly in cases involving gender-based violence (GBV), delivered by the CEO at the 35th CCPCJ convened by UNODC in Vienna on 2nd June 2026.

7.3 LOBBY AND ADVOCACY

During the reporting period, LASPNET undertook various lobby and advocacy initiatives as highlighted below;

7.3.1 Advocacy for the enactment of the NLAB

In its efforts to revamp advocacy for the enactment of the National Legal Aid Bill (NLAB), LASPNET held a meeting with Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria, the Deputy Inspector General of Government (IGG), on 1st September 2025. Arising from the meeting, the Deputy IGG pledged to engage the Attorney General on the need to expedite the NLAB, which has long been overdue. The law is critical for enhancing access to justice for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized and therefore requires concerted efforts by all stakeholders to ensure its enactment.

Furthermore, LASPNET convened a meeting with the Principal Legislative and Procedural Counsel on 17th February 2026 at Parliament, where guidance was provided on the next steps for the NLAB. Subsequently, the Bill was reintroduced in Parliament on 12th March 2026. However, Parliament, through the Attorney General, moved a motion to have the Bill that lapsed with the 11th Parliament withdrawn, with a view to reintroducing it in the 12th Parliament as a joint Bill by Government and a Private Member.

7.3.2 Participated in the ODPP16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

LASPNET took part in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions' (ODPP) 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), commemorated on 20th November 2025. The event brought together prosecutors, justice actors, development partners and child rights advocates who highlighted the rising complexity of GBV while rallying for stronger and more coordinated responses.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Justice Lino Anguzu, called for greater accountability from all institutions and communities in addressing GBV, stressing that the ODPP cannot tackle the problem alone. He underscored that effective prosecution depends on timely reporting, survivor-centred investigations and sustained cooperation between police, prosecutors, social workers, health workers and local leaders.

Lady Justice Margaret Mutonyi also highlighted how GBV devastates families and communities and urged all stakeholders to treat prevention seriously.



Mr. Duncan Keitirima - Call Centre Coordinator, explains the work of LASPNET to Mr. Lino Anguzu - the DPP & other guests during the Baraza on 20th November 2025.

Finally, the commemoration featured a multi-sector exhibition showcasing tools and services used to prevent GBV and support survivors throughout the justice chain. Exhibitors included the Uganda Police Force, child-focused NGOs, development partners and social service providers, each demonstrating innovations ranging from DNA-based evidence gathering to survivor-friendly interviewing and therapeutic support for children.

7.3.3 LASPNET took part in the 2nd National Court Open day 2025

The Judiciary held its second National Court Open Day on 15th December 2025 at the Kololo Independence Ceremonial Grounds, underscoring its growing commitment to transparency, accountability and people-centred justice.

The day was presided over by the Deputy Chief Justice, Dr. Flavian Zeija, under the theme ***"Enhancing Judicial Accountability and Access to Justice"***. The National Court Open Day aimed at strengthening accountability, scaling up stakeholder engagement, sensitising court users and obtaining feedback on services provided by the Judiciary, as well as offering legal aid support services to members of the public through LASPs.At the invitation of the Judiciary,

LASPNET coordinated five Legal Aid Service Providers (LASPs), including Justice Centres Uganda (JCU), Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society (LAP-ULS), Legal Aid Clinic of the Law Development Centre (LAC-LDC), Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI) and Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF). Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF), one of LASPNET's development partners, also participated in the activity.

Speaking on behalf of CSOs, Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, CEO of LASPNET, highlighted that the good relationship between the Judiciary and CSOs is testament that the Judiciary values the mantra of ***"promoting people-centred justice"*** in Uganda.

In her opening remarks, the Principal Judge, Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, stressed that the Open Day created a safe and open space for meaningful interaction between the public and Judicial Officers, emphasizing that justice must be accessible, understandable and responsive to people's needs.

Dr. Zeija, speaking on behalf of the Chief

Justice, noted that the power exercised by courts comes from the people of Uganda and that Judicial Officers carry a duty to account for their actions. He encouraged citizens to question, critique and engage the justice system so that any shortcomings can be exposed and addressed through



institutional reforms.

Dr. Sylvia Namubiru M.- CEO of LASPNET giving a speech on behalf of LASPs during the 2nd National Court Open Day 2025 at Kololo Grounds.

A total of 30 clients were given legal aid services during the day at the LASPNET stall. Cases handled included land disputes, estate management, applications for bail, fraud, succession, child maintenance, domestic violence and trespass.

7.3.4 Media as a tool for Advocacy

During the reporting period, LASPNET continued to leverage the media to advance its mandate. For instance, a total of six (6) radio and television talk shows were held to educate the public on various access to justice and human rights issues such as GBV, the NLAB, and the A2J Run, among others, as elucidated below:

- Radio talk shows included Radio One, where the CEO discussed the state of access to justice and the A2J Run, and the CBS Kalisoliso programme attended by Mr. Badru Wausansa, DOP which marketed the A2J Run.

- The Access to Justice Run press conference held on 17th November 2025 attracted coverage from over 10 media houses including Daily Monitor, New Vision and BBS TV, among others.

- The CEO featured on Spark TV on 14th August 2025 where she sensitized the public on the typology of caveats in Uganda.

- The CEO, featured on NTV and gave commentary on the controversial topic of judges' wigs.

- The CEO was also hosted on Channel 44 to popularize the Access to Justice Run.

- On 6th March 2026, the CEO recorded a commentary with UBC on the status of realization of women's rights in Uganda.

7.4 INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Secretariat remained committed to strengthening both its own institutional capacity and that of its members through various capacity-building initiatives, including trainings and meetings as highlighted below:

7.4.1 Convening of the 9th CEO's Forum Webinar

On 11th September 2025, LASPNET held the 9th CEOs' Forum Webinar at the

Secretariat under the theme ***"CSO Survival and Sustainability Amidst Dwindling Funding: Harnessing the Social Enterprise Model and Innovations."***



Moderated by Ms. Sheila Muwanga, Deputy Executive Director of FHRI and Member of the LASPNET Board of Trustees, the forum brought together Executive Directors/CEOs from across the Network.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Joyce Tamale, Team Leader at Capital Solutions Limited, enlightened participants on how their organisations can leverage social enterprise as a tool for financial sustainability.

In her welcome remarks, Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa appreciated all participants and guests for taking part in the activities of the Network and encouraged them to use the engagement to learn from one another.

Ms. Karen Saidi, the Board Chairperson, while closing the meeting, implored participants to emulate Network members who have used social enterprise to generate revenue and reduce the current financing gap among NGOs. She concluded by inviting all members to continue supporting the work and activities of the Network.

7.4.2 Hosting the 16th Annual General Meeting

On 31st October 2025, LASPNET convened its 16th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in hybrid format at the Secretariat. The meeting was attended by a total of 64 participants, comprising LASPNET members and Network staff, both physically and virtually.

Ms. Karen Saidi, the Board Chairperson, while presenting her report, highlighted some of LASPNET's achievements, including several evidence-based research presentations and papers delivered at various forums such as the Justice Matters Conference in The Hague, the Conference on Legal Aid in Criminal Justice in Vienna, Austria, and the 13th CCPCJ Side Event in Vienna, among others.

However, despite these achievements, the Chairperson cited some of the challenges faced by the Network, including continued dwindling donor funding, low utilization of the IIMS, and the limited geographical spread of LASPs, among others.

The CEO of LASPNET, Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, noted key milestones including strengthened collaboration between LASPNET and District Local Governments under the UNODC Project, district inception and launch meetings for the UNODC project, development of the Rapid Assessment Report on the rationalization of the NGO Bureau, and provision of legal aid services to 572 clients through the Call Centre, among others.

In conclusion, she re-emphasized the need for sustainability and prioritization of fundraising activities towards the

construction of the Legal Aid House, a home for the Network.

At the function, the Network recognized the Uganda Law Society and the Center for Public Interest Law, which emerged as winner and first runner-up for participation in LASPNET's activities in 2025. On a downsize a total of seven (7) were de-registered including Action for Poverty Reduction and Livestock Modernization in Karamoja (ARELMOK), Centre for Reparation and Rehabilitation (CRR), Micro Justice Uganda (MJU), New Plan Group (NPG), World Voices Uganda (WVU), Youth Legal Relief (YLR) and Uganda Land Alliance (ULA).



Group photo of LASPNET members, Board of Trustees, and Secretariat staff during the 16th AGM held on 31st October 2025.

The 16th AGM was closed by Mr. Vincent Mutonerwa, an Associate Individual Member and former LASPNET Board Member, who appreciated the Network for its continued resilience and invaluable services offered to Network members and the wider community.

7.4.3 Hosting the Inaugural Access to Justice Run 2025

The inaugural Access to Justice (A2J) Run was held on 29th November 2025 at the Law Development Centre (LDC) grounds under the auspices of the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) and the Uganda Law Society (ULS). The first of its kind, the A2J Run aimed at augmenting LASPNET's institutional sustainability efforts centred on fundraising for the construction of the Legal Aid House.

The Run attracted over 300 stakeholders from the justice sector, LASPs, Government MDAs, professional associations, corporate companies and the public, whose participation involved purchase of running kits, sponsorship and acquisition of exhibition stalls.

The Run was flagged off by Owek. David F.K. Mpanga, the Minister of Lands and Properties in the Buganda Kingdom, who also represented the Katikkiro of Buganda. The inaugural Access to Justice Run was held on 29th November 2025 at LDC grounds under the auspices of the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) and Uganda Law Society (ULS).

The first-of-its kind, the A2J Run aimed at augmenting LASPNET's institutional sustainability efforts centralized on fundraising for the construction of the Legal Aid House.

In his remarks, Owek. Mpanga appreciated the runners and underscored the need for greater investment in legal aid service provision. ***"Legal aid is a genuine need for the poor and vulnerable. I invite you to embrace this noble cause,"*** he stated.

He further commended LASPNET for its vision of constructing the Legal Aid House and called upon the public and corporate entities to support this noble cause.



Owek. David F.K. Mpanga, the Chief Runner, flagging off the A2J Run on 29th November 2025 at the LDC grounds.

The A2J Run 2025 winners were announced and awarded by the Chief Runner. These included Mr. Kawa Moses, winner of the 5km race, Mr. Ochieng Gabriel, winner of the 7km race, and Mr. Nuwahereza Abel, winner of the 10km race.



Participants warm up to keep fit for the Run.

Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, the LASPNET Chief Executive Officer, reiterated the purpose of the A2J Run, stating that it was intended to enable LASPNET to fundraise towards the construction of the Legal Aid House for institutional sustainability.

Ms. Sheila Turyasingura, Head of Pro Bono, who represented Mr. Anthony Asiimwe, the ULS Vice President, appreciated LASPNET on the milestone of convening the first-ever A2J Run and committed ULS's full support to ensure its sustainability.

During the same event, LASPNET unveiled a 6 billion architectural impression of the Legal Aid House. The unveiling was presided over by Rtd. Hon. Justice Remmy Kasule, an Honorary Member of LASPNET.

The A2J Run created a platform for participating LASPs, Advocates and other actors to spotlight A2J bottlenecks to influence justice. It also laid the foundation for fundraising for the construction of the Legal Aid House, promoted mental and physical wellbeing through sports activities, and enhanced professional networks among participants. The A2J Run remains one of the most anticipated activities that members look forward to participating in again.

7.3.4.1 Sport Galla, Exhibition and Legal Aid Open day

Other activities were held as a follow-up to the Run. These included the Uganda Law Society Sports Gala, which kicked off immediately after the A2J Run. Coordinated by the Lawyers League, the Gala brought together more than 100 lawyers divided into 11 teams to participate in games such as sack race, volleyball, basketball and football, among others. The Gala facilitated networking amongst lawyers while promoting their physical and mental wellbeing.

Similarly, LASPNET used the day to organise an Exhibition and Legal Aid Open Day. Exhibition stalls were occupied by partners such as the Uganda Human Rights Commission, the Judiciary, Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF), the Institution of Surveyors of Uganda, Uganda Pentecostal

University, Samona Products Limited, Redeem International, as well as LASPs such as FIDA-Uganda, UCLF and CEPIL, among others.

The day was closed by Her Lordship Jane Frances Abodo, who congratulated LASPNET on the idea of constructing its own home and pledged to support the initiative. She underscored the Judiciary's efforts in promoting people-centred justice, highlighting innovations such as the Electronic Court Case Management Information System (ECCMIS), the Small Claims Procedure, Plea Bargaining and the Performance Enhancement Tool (PET).

Relatedly, the Principal Judge cited some of the existing challenges hampering the justice system, including perceived and real corruption, prison congestion, complexities in bail applications, and limited legal aid services amidst the absence of a comprehensive legal aid framework.



Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo delivering her closing remarks during the A2J Run Legal Aid Open Day at the LDC grounds on 29th November 2025.

She pledged her full support towards promoting access to justice. ***"My office is open to you all; I would be happy to receive your advice and feedback on how we can improve the justice system,"*** she noted. She pledged her full support towards promoting access to justice.

7.4.4 Conducting a two day's Regional Training of Justice Actors in Arua at Dreamland Hotel

From 7th to 9th July 2025, LASPNET held a three-day residential Regional Training of Justice Actors on Case Management and Handling victims of Violent Extremism, Drug and Substance Abuse, and Money Laundering in Arua at Dreamland Hotel. The training equipped participants with knowledge on the UNODC project and the utilization of manuals and handbooks for the provision of holistic legal aid services for prisoners and ex-prisoners, money laundering, violent extremism, as well as the reintegration and rehabilitation of ex-prisoners.



A group picture of all participants at Dreamland Hotel in Arua on 7th July 2025

The training was attended by 28 participants, including District Leadership, Judicial Officers, Police, Prisons, Focal Persons and Legal Aid Service Providers such as LAP-ULS and Justice Centres Uganda, among others. The event was graced by Mr. Toko Shuaib, the Resident District Commissioner of Arua District.

7.4.5 Conducting the 2025 Annual staff retreat and planning

The Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) convened a staff retreat and planning meeting to review and assess programme performance and plan for 2026.Held on 18th December 2025 at Pope Paul Memorial Hotel, Kampala, the event provided a platform for staff to evaluate annual performance, take stock of project implementation, and reflect on milestones, challenges and lessons learnt, while charting the way forward for 2026.



Staff during annual retreat and planning meeting at Pope Memorial Hotel, Kampala

7.4.6 Capacity building for PILAC students in trial monitoring

As a follow-up to the earlier training in 2025, additional training was conducted in January 2026, during which 12 Makerere PILAC students received specialized training in trial monitoring. The programme covered objective documentation of court proceedings, analysis of potential human rights violations, international fair trial standards, and practical courtroom observation techniques.

The training involved interactive and practical exercises, enabling participants to develop the requisite skills for objectively monitoring judicial proceedings and identifying procedural shortcomings that may undermine the right to a fair trial.

This collaboration reflects the shared commitment of HRI, PILAC, and LASPNET to strengthen legal education, advancing human rights advocacy, and preparing the next generation of legal professionals to contribute to accountability and access to justice through effective trial monitoring.

7.4.7 Holding Capacity building sessions on how to safeguard the rights of Pre-Trial Detainees

LASPNET, working with ASF, conducted a series of capacity-building trainings under the RBB Project. The sessions focused on strengthening participants' understanding of procedural safeguards for pre-trial detainees, applicable legal standards, and the critical role of legal aid providers in identifying, documenting, and responding to violations of detainees' rights.

Held at Nican Resort, Kampala, from 10–11 June 2026, and at Churchill Courts Hotel, Gulu, from 16–17 June 2026, the session was attended by a total of 51 participants — including project lawyers and paralegals from the Uganda Prisons Service, Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF), Legal Aid Clinic–Law Development Centre (LAC-LDC), Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI), Muslim Centre for Justice and Law, and FIDA Uganda — attended.

The trainings also attracted key partner institutions, including the Judiciary of Uganda, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the National Union of Disabled Persons of Uganda (NUDIPU),

the Refugee Law Project (RLP), Free Child Uganda, and academia.



A group picture of all participants during the training at Churchill Courts Hotel in Gulu.

7.4.8 Conducting Monitoring and Refresher Trainings for Community Actors Under the UNODC Programme

LASPNET conducted 20 monitoring visits and regional refresher trainings for Community Actors (CAs) under the UNODC programme titled "Strengthening Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice." These took place in nine districts — Masindi, Hoima, Kagadi, Kibaale, Kakumiro, Kabale, Mbarara, Kabarole, and Kasanda — between 15th and 26th June 2026.

The monitoring exercise provided an opportunity to assess the progress of the programme while strengthening the capacity of Community Actors to continue supporting crime prevention and access to justice initiatives. District leaders and Community Actors shared success stories demonstrating the programme's positive impact on their communities.



A group photo of participants during the LASPNET regional project monitoring visits under the UNODC-supported project.



A group photo of stakeholders who attended the monitoring visit in Adjumani District. Seated in the centre is the CAO.



A group picture of participants after attending refresher training in Mbarara District.

The monitoring team observed a notable outcome to the programme, with growing trust in Community Actors within their communities. In several districts, Community Actors have been elected or appointed to leadership positions, including Local Council Chairpersons,

Councilors, and Youth Leaders, reflecting public confidence in their commitment to community service and justice.

7.4.9 LASPNET CEO scoops dual recognition with the Diamond Jubilee Medal and ULS Lifetime Achievement Award

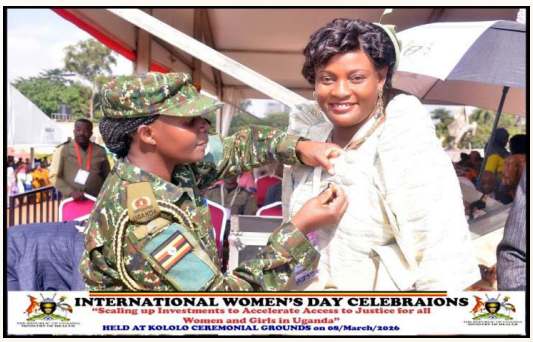
a) National Diamond Jubilee Medal

The Chief Executive Officer of LASPNET, Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa, was recognized with the Diamond Jubilee Medal by the Government of Uganda on 8th March 2026, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to advancing access to justice for women and girls. The award was presented during the International Women's Day celebrations held at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

The Diamond Jubilee Medal is one of Uganda's national honors, awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to the country's development. Dr. Namubiru's recognition reflects more than two decades of dedicated service as a human rights advocate, championing legal empowerment and access to justice for women, children and other vulnerable groups.

Speaking after receiving the award, an elated Dr. Namubiru described the honour as a testament to her lifelong commitment to promoting justice and protecting the rights of the vulnerable. ***"This recognition is no mean feat. It is an attestation of my humble contribution toward enhancing access to justice for women and girls,"*** she said.

She also expressed gratitude to the Government of Uganda, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS), the media, LASPNET and her family for their unwavering support throughout her career.



Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa. being decorated during the International Women's Day at Kololo on 8th March 2026.

Among the other members of the LASPNET network who received the Diamond Jubilee Medal were Ms. Lillian Adriko, Chief Executive Officer of FIDA Uganda, and Dr. Patricia Atim Odong, Head of Clinical Legal Education at the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC).

b) ULS Lifetime Achievement Award

Just four days later, on 12th March 2026, Dr. Namubiru received yet another prestigious honour when the Uganda Law Society (ULS) presented her with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her exceptional contribution to promoting access to justice for underserved and marginalized communities.

She received the award in the company of her mother, family members and selected LASPNET staff during the Uganda Law Society awards ceremony. In her acceptance speech, Dr. Namubiru thanked

the Uganda Law Society Council, led by Senior Counsel Isaac K. Ssemakadde, for the recognition. She said the award had strengthened her resolve to continue advocating for equal access to justice and called upon the Government of Uganda to expedite the enactment of the National Legal Aid Law.

Prior to presenting the citation, Hon. Flavia Kalule Nabagabe, former Woman Member of Parliament for Kassanda District, commended Dr. Namubiru for her exemplary leadership and longstanding commitment to mentoring and empowering women in the legal profession.

The citation described Dr. Namubiru as a distinguished legal professional who has dedicated much of her career to advancing access to justice through advocacy, research, litigation and diplomacy.

Other recipients of the Uganda Law Society Lifetime Achievement Award included Dr. Lina Zedriga and Kenyan legal technology pioneer Linda Bonyo.

These recognitions underscore Dr. Namubiru's enduring contribution to human rights, legal reform and the promotion of access to justice in Uganda. Her leadership continues to inspire the legal aid community and strengthen LASPNET's mission of ensuring that justice is accessible to all, especially the poor and vulnerable.



c) Monthly Fellowship and Thanksgiving Celebration

On 30th March 2026, LASPNET hosted its Monthly Fellowship and Thanksgiving gathering under the theme "You Don't Labour in Vain." The event was held to give thanks for God's continued guidance and blessings upon the Network, including the recent recognitions awarded to its Chief Executive Officer,

During her remarks, Dr. Namubiru expressed gratitude to LASPNET's donors, members and stakeholders for their continued trust and confidence in the Network's leadership and work. She acknowledged that the progress and achievements registered by LASPNET are a result of the collective support, commitment and partnership of all those who continue to advance the cause of access to justice.

The fellowship was attended by fellow award recipients, including Ms. Lillian Adriko, Chief Executive Officer of FIDA Uganda, and Dr. Patricia Atim Odong, Head of Clinical Legal Education at the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC).The gathering was also graced by distinguished guests, including Prof. Anthony Kakooza, President of the Uganda Christian Lawyers

Fraternity (UCLF); Ms. Margaret Sekaggya, Executive Director of the Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU); Mr. Herbert Nsubuga, Chief Executive Officer of ACTV; senior pastors; Dr. Namubiru's mother and family members; as well as LASPNET management and staff.

The fellowship provided an opportunity for spiritual reflection, thanksgiving, and celebration of the Network's journey, while reaffirming the shared commitment of LASPNET and its partners to continue advancing access to justice and legal empowerment for vulnerable communities.

Pastor Innocent Wafula together with the congregation praying for Dr. Sylvia Namubiru and the Institution at large on 30th March 2026.

7.4.10 Recognition of the Best Staff of the Year

During the reporting period, Management,



the Board and Secretariat staff recognized Mr. Dennis Kayanja, the In-house Counsel with an award and monetary contribution for being the outstanding staff of the year 2025. The second runner-up was Ms. Nambowa Justice, the Project Coordinator, UNODC.



Mr. Denis Kayanja receiving a certificate of recognition from a Board member.

7.4.11 LASPNET Board and Committees meetings convened

A total of four (4) Board meetings were held during the reporting period, as detailed below:

- Four (4) Board meetings were held on 27th October 2025, 5th November 2025, 27th March 2026, and 28th May 2026 to discuss and approve various documents, including the Annual Institutional Work Plan and Annual Institutional Budget for 2025, as well as to pass various resolutions.
- • Furthermore, one (1) Organizational Development and Sustainability Committee (ODSC) meeting was held on 8th August 2025.

7.4.12 A Synopsis of activities convened by LASPNET and attended by members

During the reporting period, LASPNET conducted various activities that attracted membership participation. These included capacity-building trainings, launch and inception meetings for the UNODC project, and validation meetings, among others. To this end, the scorecard below ranks members according to their level of participation in the Network's activities.

Membership participation Score Card



CRITERIA FOR MEMBER RECOGNITION AT THE 17TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR THEIR PARTICIPARTION IN LASPNET EVENTS: JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026

No.	LASP	16th Annual General Meeting (31st October 2025)	Two day regional training of justice actors in Arua at Dreamland Hotel (7th-9th July 2025)	Capacity building sessions on safeguarding the rights of pre-trial detainees at Nican Hotel Kampala (11th June 2026)	9th Annual CEO's Forum Webinar (11th September 2025)	Eden Miracle Ministries 14th financial empowernment Conference in Katale Nalumunye on 8th June 2026.	LAC @25 (14th November 2025)	The Judiciary 2nd National Court open day at Kololo Independence grounds (15th December 2025)	LASPNET Monthly fellowship and thanks giving (31st March 2026)	UNODC Project review meeting for implementing partners (18th December 2026)	Prison support visits and sensitization campaigns in Northern & Western Uganda (15th & 19th June 2026	The Inagural LASPNET A2J Run 2025 in partnership with ULS (29th November 2025)	Payment of Membership Subscription	TOTAL	Ranking
1	AAV														unranked
2	ACTV	1					1					1		3	23rd
3	AFCOD	1			1									2	26th
4	AFOD														unranked
5	AHURIO														unranked
6	ARELIMOK														unranked
7	ANARDE	1			1		1					1		4	18th
8	CEDO														unranked
9	CEWOCHR	1	1		1		1	1				1		6	5th
10	CEHURD	1			1		1	1				1	1	6	4th
11	CEPIL	1			1		1	1				1		5	17th
12	CJAF - UG	1										1		2	27th
13	CLA														unranked
14	COLAID	1			1		1	1				1		5	15th
15	CRED	1		1	1		1					1		5	16th
16	CRR														unranked
17	ELOIM	1			1							1		3	24th
18	FAPAD	1										1	1	3	25th
19	FHRI	1		1	1		1					1		5	14th
20	FIDA - U	1		1	1		1	1	1		1	1	1	9	1st
21	HOPE FOR JUSTICE	1												1	38th
22	HRAPF	1					1	1				1	1	5	13th
23	HRCUG	1					1	1				1	1	5	12th
24	HURIFO	1									1			2	37th
25	IRCU	1					1		1			1		4	19th
26	IWILAP											1		1	36th
27	JIAR-UG	1			1									2	28th
28	JURIA														unranked
29	JUSTICE DEFENDERS	1					1	1		1		1	1	6	6th
30	KCOBPA														unranked
31	LAC/LDC	1		1	1	1	1	1		1		1		8	3rd
32	LAP/ULS	1	1	1		1	1	1		1		1	1	9	2nd
33	LAPD											1		1	35th
34	LEMU	1			1		1	1				1		5	11th
35	LHU														unranked
36	MBHU	1												1	34th
37	MCJL	1		1			1	1				1	1	6	7th
38	MIFUMI	1					1	1				1		4	20th
41	NUDIPU	1											1	2	29th
42	PDAU														unranked
43	PILAC							1				1		2	30th
44	PLA	1					1	1				1		4	21st
45	RETRAK														unranked
46	RLP	1					1	1			1	1		5	8th
47	SODANN														unranked
48	SCAL	1												1	33rd
49	STREET LAW														unranked
50	TLAFUG	1					1					1		3	22nd
51	UCLF	1		1			1	1				1		5	9th
52	UGANET	1		1			1	1				1		5	10th
54	UMSC														unranked
55	UPRF														unranked
56	URRP														unranked
57	WCC														unranked
58	WORI	1												1	32nd
60	WWM	1												1	31st
Key to the score colours:					Excellent			Very Good							

Guiding notes:

*Active Participation means being a participant, trainer, presenter or discussant; undertaking research; volunteering to attend meetings on behalf of the Network; or serving as a member of the Board of Directors.

*Feedback means providing timely responses to requests for information and involvement or participation, sharing ideas on how to improve legal aid service provision and the network in particular.

Note: Where a cell is not scored, it means the activity was for selective attendance based on project or invitation, or LASPNET was invited and did not participate.

*A=Attendance (1 mark) *Y=Yes (1 mark)

The highest possible score for General participation in LASPNET activities is 1 for each activity

Highest Scores:

General participation in LASPNET activities: 1. FIDA - 9 pts 2. LAP/ULS - 9 pts 3. LAC/LDC - 8 pts

7.4.13 Board Performance

The Board continued to discharge its mandate during the reporting period, mainly through attending Board meetings, participating in key Network activities, as well as approving critical institutional documents.

Board Scores for the for their participation in LASPNET Board activities for the year July 2025 to June 2026									
Board Activities	Ms. Karen Said	Mr. Okwalinga Moses	Ms. Awelo Sarah	Mr Ddungu Adrian	Mr. Macho Patrick	Ms. Alyano Elizabeth	Ms. Betty Balisalamu	Mr. Eric Namungulu	Ms. Flavia Zalwango
	Chairperson - Board	Vice Chairperson	General Secretary	Treasurer	Western Representative	Northern Representative	Eastern Representative	Central Representative	Member on Merit Board
Board Meetings - (23rd July 2025, 5th November 2025, 27th March 2026 & 28th May 2026	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	2	2
Organisational Development Sustainability Committee (18th July 2025, 8th Aug 2025 & 13th November 2025)	-	0	-	1	0	1	-	-	3
Task force meetings for the 16th AGM	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
– 27th October 2025									
Annual General Meeting– 29th October 2025	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
Review and approval of documents	10	-	5	10	-	-	-	-	3
Participation in LASPNET activities as speakers and or as part of participants	3	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	3
Total	**19**	**5**	**10**	**16**	**3**	**6**	**5**	**7**	**12**

Key

- (-) Dash means a member is not part of the committee or was not expected to participate in the activity.
- (0) Zero means a member was expected to participate in an activity but did not participate.

7.4.14 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025/2026



Ms. Karen Saidi
Chairperson



Mr. Okwalinga Moses
Vice Chairperson



Ms. Awello Sarah
General Secretary



Mr. Adrian Ddungu
Treasurer



Ms. Elizabeth Alyano
Northern Representative



Mr. Eric Namungalu
Central Representative



Mr. Macho Mubaraka
Western Representative



Ms. Balisalamu Betty
Eastern Representative



Ms. Flavia Zalwango
Member on Merit

7.4.15 LASPNET SECRETARIAT TEAM DURING PERIOD UNDER REVIEW (JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026)



Dr. Sylvia Namubiru Mukasa
Chief Executive Officer

She is the overall Senior manager responsible for providing the overall Administrative and Strategic leadership to the secretariat. In addition, she oversaw the day to day running of the Programmes and financial sustainability. She also linked the organization to key stakeholders and board members.



Mr. Badru Walusansa
Director of Programmes

He is a Senior manager responsible for the overall development, programming and functioning of the Programmes department through provision of technical and supervisory support to the programs team.



Mr. Geofrey Lutaaya, Director Finance and Administration

He is a Senior manager who was responsible for overall development and functioning of the finance and administration department where he provided technical and supervisory support to the finance team.



Ms. Justice Nambowa, Project Coordinator – UNODC/LAO

She is responsible for coordination and implementation of the UNODC Project. Additionally, she was assigned the responsibility of Ag. Lobby and Advocacy Officer.



Mr. Mubiru Peter Mutebi
Networking, Partnership & Coordination Officer

He is the Officer responsible for maintaining, developing and coordinating memberships partnerships as well as branding and communication.



Mr. Martin Ojambo
ICT Officer

He is responsible for managing the day-to-day maintenance of the computer systems and other IT related needs within LASPNET.



Mr. Barongo Barnabas
Project Accountant UNODC

He is responsible for administrative and accounting functions of the UNODC project.



Mr. Kayanja Denis
In – House Counsel

He is the Project officer responsible for coordination of the RBB project.



Mr. Keitirima Duncan
Coordinator Call Centre

He is the Project officer providing coordination of the Call center and offered support in the day-to-day implementation of the CSSA Project.



Mr. Kenneth Okao
Membership Officer

He is the officer in charge of managing membership affairs. He further maintains the documentation and archiving of the records and continuously updates the membership directory of the Network.



Mr. Mawanda Hakim
Project Coordinator UNODC

He is responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the UNODC-ADA Project.



Ms. Namitala Lindsey
Case Identification & Coordination Support Officer – RBB Project

She is responsible for the identification of cases for trial monitoring & mentoring of PILAC lawyer students during the trial monitoring.



Ms. Busingye Omuyonjo
Project Support Officer – RBB Project

She provides supportive role to the in-house counsel/ Project Coordinator RBB.



Ms. Celine Anyokot
Project Accountant RBB Project

She is responsible for providing comprehensive financial management for the project.



Ms. Ikanu Winifred
Volunteer Lawyer

She supports with management of Call Centre through provision of legal advice and referrals to clients.



Mr. Ssebaana Kizito
Volunteer Lawyer

He supports with management of Call Centre through provision of legal advice and referrals to clients.



Mr. Gabriel Kasule
Driver

He provides driving services for the organization.



Mr. Rica Byaruhanga
M&E Advisor

He provides advisory support on M&E functions, communicationand Branding of the organization.



Ms. Nnannungi Victoria
Welfare staff

She provides welfare support to staff and general cleanliness of office.

8.0 ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNT, RECOMMENDATIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

8.1 Achievements

During the reporting period, LASPNET registered the following achievements;

- Enhanced visibility of the Network in both local and international access to justice spaces, evidenced by invitations to make presentations at national and international fora.
- Convened the inaugural Access to Justice Run as a fundraising platform for the construction of the UGX 6 billion Legal Aid House. This activity actualized part of LASPNET's sustainability strategy.
- Secured new funding under the ASF-RBB Project and UNODC-ADC. The new funding is expected to strengthen LASPNET and enable it to deliver on its mandate.
- Recognition of the LASPNET CEO through the National Diamond Jubilee Award and the ULS Lifetime Achievement Award, which significantly raised the profile of LASPNET.

8.2 Challenges

LASPNET encountered contextual and operational challenges during the reporting period, which among others include the following;

a. Continued donor funding cuts

The funding landscape for NGOs remains challenging, marked by shifting donor priorities and geopolitics. This has significantly affected LASPs and, more broadly, the vulnerable groups that benefit from legal aid services.

b. Shrinking civic space

The enactment of the Sovereignty Act has reawakened suspicion in the relationship between CSOs and the State. The fact that NGOs are among the targeted entities under this Act creates uncertainty for NGOs, especially those involved in governance and accountability, as they may be labelled as economic saboteurs or agents of foreign interests.

Furthermore, the suspension of 10 NGOs, including ACTV, one of our member organizations, raises critical questions about the future of the sector.

8.3 Lessons Learnt

a. Legal compliance is critical and must be prioritized in the current NGO operating context.
b. The current donor funding landscape calls for institutional rethinking, re-strategizing and innovation to guarantee the continuity of LASPs.

8.4 Opportunities

a. The goodwill that the Network continues to enjoy from key stakeholders, including donors, justice institutions and local government, provides pathways for continued operations.

b. The Secretariat is currently developing its next five-year Strategic Plan (2026–2031). The new Strategic Plan is expected to broaden the Network's strategic focus to include emerging development areas such as gender, climate and digital justice.

8.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite the challenges experienced by the Network as enumerated above, the following recommendations have proposed;

a. Strengthen Legal Compliance and Institutional Resilience. In light of the enactment of the Sovereignty Act and the heightened scrutiny of NGOs, all member organizations should prioritize strict legal compliance, regular filing, and proactive engagement with regulators. The Secretariat will continue to provide compliance support and timely legal advisories to members.

b. Diversify Resource Mobilization Strategies. Given the challenging funding landscape marked by shifting donor priorities and geopolitics, the Network and its members should rethink and innovate around sustainability. This includes diversifying funding sources beyond traditional donors, strengthening local philanthropy, exploring social enterprise models, and enhancing value proposition to attract funding.

c. Invest in Strategic Partnerships.
The goodwill enjoyed by key stakeholders remains a critical asset. The Network should deepen collaboration with justice actors, local governments, donors and private sector actors to secure pathways for continued operations and to amplify access to justice for vulnerable groups.

d. Embrace Emerging Justice Frontiers
We recommend that our members integrate emerging funding areas such as climate justice and digital justice into their programming to remain relevant, responsive and attractive to evolving development priorities.

9.0 CONCLUSION

The past year 2025-2026 has tested the resilience of the legal aid sector, with funding constraints and an increasingly complex regulatory environment impacting LASPs and the vulnerable communities they serve. Despite these challenges, the Network has demonstrated adaptability and continued to deliver on its mandate, anchored by the goodwill of its members, partners and stakeholders.
As we look ahead, we remain cautiously optimistic. The development of our new five-year Strategic Plan (2026-2031) will reposition the Network to navigate current challenges while embracing new frontiers in justice. Through strengthened compliance, innovative sustainability strategies and collective action, we are confident that we will continue to advance access to justice for all.

Pictorial














LASPNET
PROPOSED LEGAL AID HOUSE




ACCESS
TO
JUSTICE












LASPNET
AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Protecting Procedural and Constitutional Rights through
ess to Justice.


United Nations
Office on Drugs


LASPNET
VISION
A Free and Just Society.
MISSION
LASPNET
AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
Protecting Procedural and Constitutional Rights through Access to Justice.



10.0 MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES IN FOCUS

This section highlights some of the interventions implemented by our member organizations based on the information obtained for the period under review July 2025-June 2026. The information about the LASPs not featuring can be accessed on their website or from annual reports.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES IN FOCUS JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026

No.	LASP	Activity detail
1	FIDA-Uganda	• FIDA-UG in partnership with the International Association of Women Judges and with support from IDLO & UNDP convened a Nakawa Market legal empowerment outreach on 16th December 2025 in Nakawa market tailored to extend services to the ordinary person. • FIDA-UG through its workplace safety initiative supported by Enabel in Uganda trained more than 299 employers & 2104 employees on the 2nd December 2025 aimed at strengthening their internal systems for addressing GBV and promoting gender equality. • FIDA-UG organized a Legal Aid open day in Yumbe, Madi Okollo, Nebbi Districts under the theme "Justice at the door step: preventing GBV and protecting Communities" on 28th,27th & 25th November 2025 respectively. • On 26th November 2025, FIDA joined the district leaders & partners in launching the 16 Days of Activism 2025 in Moroto District focusing at ending digital violence against women and girls. • With support from Enamel in Uganda FIDA conducted regional mobile legal clinics across Fort Portal, Kabarole, Kibaale, Kamwenge, Hoima, Bunyangabu and Kikuube Districts on the 19th November 2025 to draw services nearer to the remote communities.

□		• In partnership with Uganda consortium on corporate accountability, conducted a training with stake holders from Kaaboong, Napak and Karamoja with women, district officials and community members about business and human rights on the 26th June 2026. • Conducted a dialogue about Sexual and Gender -Based Violence (SGBV)with education leaders, law enforcement officers and community representative in schools in Kaboong district on the 24th June 2026. • Held a Mobile Legal Aid Clinic in Lyabaana, in Buvuma district which bought closer legal services to underserved communities on 17th June 2026. • FIDA-UG, through the integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Sexual Gender-Based Violence response project engaged schools and communities in open conversations on menstrual health, safe hygiene girls' rights and protection from violence on 28/5/2026.
2	Centre for Health Human Rights & Development (CEHURD)	• CEHURD in partnership with Welt Hunger Hilfe conducted a community dialogue in Karamoja district on the 9th December 2025 as part of the 16 days of activism in the subcounty of Loptuk aimed at creating a safe space for people to voice their concerns, raise the issues affecting them, and demand accountability from their leaders. • CEHURD in partnership with Reproductive Health Uganda (RHU) Uganda Blood Transfusion Service (UBTS) & People's Medical Hospital Gayaza organized an outreach in Kijjabijo Gayaza on the 28th November 2025 on a comprehensive package of free health & legal services aimed at supporting community well-being which among included free legal aid and guidance for survivors, HIV testing and counselling, immunization services for children etc thus breaking barriers and restoring hope and strengthening systems of care and accountability.

		• On the International Day of Action held on 28th May 2026, CEHURD addressed more than 1000 women from the Buganda kingdom about the benefits and problems of technology on sexual reproduction. • CEHURD with support from the Aids Support Organization conducted a dialogue across 20 districts namely Lira, Mbale, Tororo, Dakolo, Busia and Otuke among others these looked at providing critical platforms for District human rights committees to engage directly with duty officers on 1st July 2026.
3	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)	• FHRI conducted a court session in and a court user awareness session in Rubirizi District on 20th April 2026. • On 11/05/2026, FHRI engaged with the people in Bushenyi on the Legal Aid Programme
4	UGANET	• On 22/06/2026, UGANET with partnership with Ministry of health, conducted integration activities across health facilities in Ntoroko and Kasese districts. • On 18/06/2026, UGANET together with consortium partners and the Uganda police force conducted a community legal awareness camp on 18th June 2026 in Moyo District.
5	RLP	• On 13th May 2026, RLP with support from Embassy of the Netherlands, conducted a National Dialogue on Mental Health and psychosocial support for children in displacement with the theme "positioning children's mental health at the Center of service delivery and policy conversations. • Conducted training of 20 journalists & editors in Adjumani & Kampala respectively on Refugee rights on 26th May 2026 strengthening their role as key actors in shaping rights-based reporting and addressing systematic challenges in media practice is critical to amplifying refugee voices & promoting accountability. • On 17th February 2026, RLP built capacity of 15 Sudanese Refugee Leaders of Kawempe & Entebbe in a day session on case management, assessment, documentation, GBV, mental & peace building • RLP trained 20 policy makers on 27th January 2026 in Kiryandongo on sustainable peace building & transitional justice focused on inclusive approaches, accountability & long-term stability..

6	MIFUMI	• Convened an Empowerment program on the 2nd March 2026 for young mothers and survivors of violence in Kalangala District through skilling programs like braiding and tailoring in a bid to boast their income. • Participated in the 16 days of activism to end digital violence against all women and girls on 10th December 2025.

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK (LASPNET)

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

for the year ended 30 June 2026

The Directors of Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET) are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of LASPNET at the end of each financial year and of the operating results for the year then ended. In respect of those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue in operation.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of LASPNET and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with accounting policies and guidelines of LASPNET and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are ultimately responsible for the internal controls. The Directors delegate the responsibility for the internal controls to management. Standards and systems of internal control are designed and implemented by management to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of the financial statements and to adequately safeguard LASPNET's assets.

The Directors accept responsibility for the annual financial statements, which have been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and the requirements of the Companies Act Cap 106. The Directors are of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of LASPNET and of its operating results for the year ended 30 June 2026. The Directors further accept responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records, which may be relied upon in the preparation of the financial statements, as well as adequate systems of internal control.

Nothing has come to the attention of the Directors to indicate that LASPNET will not remain a going concern for at least the next twelve months from the date of this statement.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 26th October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

MS. KAREN SAIDI
CHAIRPERSON

MR. ADRIAN KATENDE
TREASURER

DDAMBA MUGABI AND ASSOCIATES
Certified Public Accountant
Registration No. AF 0319

Bombo Road Mile 6, Maganjo
P.O Box 31411, Kampala
Phone +256 772462350/702462350
Email: cn_ddamba@yahoo.co.uk

Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET)** as set out on pages 11 to 35, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position **as at 30 June 2026**, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Cash flows and Statement of Changes in Funds for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of LASPNET as at 30 June 2026, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Organisation's accounting policies set out on Pages 15 to 17 and donor requirements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). 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 Organisation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Uganda, 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.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that in our professional judgement were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. We have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in our report.

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. Other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

CPA CHRISTINE NAKAWUNDE DDAMBA MUGABI

DDAMBA MUGABI AND ASSOCIATES
Certified Public Accountant
Registration No. AF 0319

Bombo Road Mile 6, Maganjo
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Phone +256 772462350/702462350
Email: cn_ddamba@yahoo.co.uk

Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET)

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, 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.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and for such internal controls as management determines 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 directors are responsible for assessing the Organisation'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 management either intends to liquidate the Organisation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organisation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's 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 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET)

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Organisation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organisation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

The Companies Act, Cap 106 requires that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you the following matters. We confirm that:

i) We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

ii) In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Organisation, so far as appears from our examination of those books; and

iii) The Financial Statements are in agreement with the books of account.

DDAMBA MUGABI AND ASSOCIATES
Certified Public Accountant
Registration No. AF 0319

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Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Legal Aid Service Providers' Network (LASPNET)

Report on other Requirements

The Engagement Practitioner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Christine N. Ddamba Practice Certicate number - P0472.

Christine Ddamba
Christine N. Ddamba.
Engagement Partner

DDAMBA MUGABI AND ASSOCIATES P. O. BOX 31411, KAMPALA

Ddamba Mugabi and Associates
Certified Public Accountant
Kampala, Uganda

28 October 2026
Date

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK (LASPNET)

Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Ushs.	2025 Ushs.
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property and Equipment	3	134,042,969	169,375,000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Bank Balances	4	704,035,197	539,784,317
Other receivables	5	13,500,000	6,000,000
		717,535,197	545,784,317
TOTAL ASSETS		**851,578,166**	**715,159,317**
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
FUNDS			
Capital Fund	6	134,042,969	169,375,000
General Fund	7	34,641,062	6,087,726
Restricted Funds	8	681,304,135	535,038,405
TOTAL FUNDS		849,988,166	710,501,131
LIABILITIES			
Payables	9	1,590,000	4,658,186
		1,590,000	4,658,186
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		**851,578,166**	**715,159,317**

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26th Oct 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS NETWORK
LASPNET
26 OCT 2026
P.O.BOX 8488,KAMPALA
TEL:+256312513733
www.laspnet.org

CHAIRPERSON

TREASURER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK (LASPNET)

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Actual Ushs.	2026 Budget Ushs.	2025 Actual Ushs.
INCOME				
Grants	10	2,566,434,942	2,388,407,644	2,680,809,269
Other Income	11	120,269,984	10,000,000	18,734,815
Total Income		**2,686,704,926**	**2,398,407,644**	**2,699,544,084**
EXPENDITURE				
Programme Costs	12	1,774,433,480	1,705,754,850	2,874,334,623
Staff costs	13	618,386,400	629,489,200	610,025,000
Administration Costs	14	123,724,166	59,163,594	208,946,737
Total Expenditure		**2,516,544,046**	**2,394,407,644**	**3,693,306,360**
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		**170,160,880**	**-**	**(993,762,276)**
Balance as at 1 July		541,126,131	-	1,601,321,114
Payable written back		4,658,186	-	-
Refund to donors		-	-	(66,432,707)
Fund Balance as at 30 June		**715,945,197**	**-**	**541,126,131**

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK (LASPNET)

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026 Ushs.	2025 Ushs.
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
(Deficit) / Surplus for the year	170,160,880	(993,762,276)
Adjustments for:		
Payable written back	4,658,186	-
Net Cash Flows before Working Capital adjustments	174,819,066	(993,762,276)
Decrease / (Increase) in other receivables	(7,500,000)	(6,000,000)
(Decrease) / Increase in payables	(3,068,186)	(103,663,879)
Cash Flows from Operating Activities	**164,250,880**	**(1,103,426,155)**
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Refund to donors	-	(66,432,707)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	164,250,880	(1,169,858,862)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 1 July	539,784,317	1,709,643,179
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 30 June	**704,035,197**	**539,784,317**
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	704,035,197	539,784,317
Cash and Cash Equivalents at 30 June	**704,035,197**	**539,784,317**

LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK (LASPNET)

Statement of Changes in Funds

for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Capital Fund Ushs.	Restricted funds Ushs.	General Funds Ushs.	Total Ushs.
At 1 July 2024	**197,500,000**	**1,563,431,631**	**37,889,483**	**1,798,821,114**
Deficit for the year	-	(961,960,519)	(31,801,757)	**(993,762,276)**
Refund to donors	-	(66,432,707)	-	**(66,432,707)**
Depreciation for the year	(28,125,000)	-	-	**(28,125,000)**
At 30 June 2025	**169,375,000**	**535,038,405**	**6,087,726**	**710,501,131**
At 1 July 2025	**169,375,000**	**535,038,405**	**6,087,726**	**710,501,131**
Surplus for the year	-	142,997,130	27,163,750	**170,160,880**
Payable written back	-	3,268,600	1,389,586	**4,658,186**
Gain on disposal	6,015,625	-	-	**6,015,625**
Disposal	(25,000,000)	-	-	**(25,000,000)**
Depreciation for the year	(16,347,656)	-	-	**(14,843,750)**
At 30 June 2026	**134,042,969**	**681,304,135**	**34,641,062**	**851,492,072**

LASPNET
LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS' NETWORK

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