



JOHN PAUL II JUSTICE AND PEACE CENTRE (JPIJPC)



ANNUAL *Report* 2025





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Message from the Chairman of the Board

Dear Members, Partners, and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of the John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre, I am honoured to address you at this Annual General Meeting and to commend to you the report of our work in 2025.

This past year has been marked by resilience, innovation, and growth. Guided by our mission, the Centre has deepened its commitment to peacebuilding, human rights, good governance, and care for creation. We celebrate significant achievements – from empowering refugee and host communities in Bidibidi and Imvepi, to advancing solar-powered ICT

projects for schools and health facilities, to speaking with a united voice against the scourge of human trafficking.

We also thank God for the completion and blessing of the St. John Paul II Chapel, a symbol of our spiritual foundation and a reminder that our work is rooted in faith and service. These milestones affirm that, even in times of constraint and challenge, our vision remains strong.

As a Board, we are grateful for the dedication of our Director and staff, the steadfast support of our partners, and the courage of the communities we accompany. We remain mindful of the challenges that still confront us – limited resources, infrastructure needs, and the ever-changing social landscape – yet we face the future with confidence.

Our responsibility as a Board is to ensure that JPIIJC remains faithful to its mission while building sustainability for the years ahead. In 2026 and beyond, we shall continue to strengthen governance, expand partnerships, and mobilize resources to sustain and scale this vital work.

I thank each of you for your trust, collaboration, and generosity. Together, let us remain committed to promoting justice, peace, dignity, and care for creation in our society.

With appreciation,

Fr. Olobo Leonard

Chairman, Board of Directors

John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre



Message from the Director

Dear Friends, Partners, and Stakeholders,

It is with deep gratitude and renewed hope that I present to you the Annual Report 2025 of the John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre (JPII-JPC). This report is not merely a record of our activities—it is a testimony to our shared commitment to justice, peace, human dignity, and care for creation.

The past year has been both challenging and inspiring. Through your steadfast support, we empowered over 500 community leaders, youth, and faith actors in conflict transformation and peacebuilding in Bidibidi and Imvepi settlements; extended solar-powered ICT access to three

schools - Koro, Rockland, and Kado primary school - as well as to Okobani Health Centre IV; and advanced advocacy on human trafficking, land justice, and child protection, informed by our research on human trafficking and food security. The findings from our human trafficking study will continue to guide future advocacy, while our food security interventions promote the preservation of indigenous seeds and crops.

In the reporting period, we also joined the global Church in celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Laudato Si', renewing our pledge to protect our common home. Notably, we rescued and supported two survivors of human trafficking from Saudi Arabia and Libya and currently rehabilitating one survivor for full recovery and reintegration. We participated in the 3rd Symposium on Environmental Conservation, spearheaded by the Laudato Si' Centre, Mbuya, where we and partners came up with a declaration which will be used to lobby policy makers and executors against plastic pollution. A major highlight of the year was the completion and dedication of the St. John Paul II Chapel - a spiritual home for reflection, prayer, and unity at our Centre.

Furthermore, the installation of a 25 KW solar power system at our premises has enabled us to operate without interruption during frequent power outages -an important step toward sustainability and energy self-reliance. These achievements were made possible by the unwavering support of our partners, collaborators, and the communities we serve. Together, we continue to witness how the seeds of peace can take root when nurtured by solidarity, compassion, and faith. As we look to the future, we remain committed to strengthening our research, expanding peacebuilding and ecological initiatives, and investing in women's empowerment, youth leadership, and community resilience. With your continued partnership, we will ensure that the light of justice and peace shines ever brighter—in Uganda and beyond. On behalf of the entire JPII-JPC family, I extend heartfelt appreciation to all who have journeyed with us throughout 2025 - our donors, partners, staff, and the communities whose courage inspires our mission every day. May this report renew our shared commitment to building a world rooted in justice, peace, and the love of God. With gratitude and solidarity,

Avuni Alfred

Director

John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre (JPII-JPC)

Board of Governors



Fr. Olobo Leonard, CSC
Board Chairman



Fr. Tony Wach, SJ
Vice Board Chairman



Fr. Peter Mayanja
CSC



Fr. Charles Okata,
MHM



Fr. Vincent Lubega,
MAfr



Sr. Rosemary Nasali
CMS



Sr. Rovocate Kabahuma,
MSOLA



Fr. Anthony Kibira,
MCCJ

Acknowledgements

The **John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre (JPIJPC)** gratefully acknowledges all those whose dedication, generosity, and partnership made the work of 2025 both impactful and transformative.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the **Board of Directors**, whose leadership, guidance, and commitment to mission have continued to strengthen the Centre's vision and strategic direction.

We are deeply thankful to our **partners, donors, and collaborating institutions**; including diocesan structures, religious congregations, humanitarian agencies, academic institutions, civil society organizations, and friends of the Centre both locally and internationally. Your support enabled us to expand peacebuilding, human rights advocacy, ecological initiatives, and research efforts across multiple communities.

We also acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of our **field partners** in Bidibidi, Imvepi, Adjumani, and Karamoja. Your cooperation, openness, and shared commitment to justice and peace enriched the success of our programs.

Special thanks go to the **Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)**, **UNHCR**, local governments, Refugee Welfare Committees, school administrations, parish structures, and community leaders whose collaboration strengthened our interventions in both refugee and host communities.

We appreciate the tireless work of the **JPIJPC staff**, interns, volunteers, and facilitators who carried out our programs with professionalism, dedication, and compassion. Your daily efforts remain the backbone of our mission.

To the **communities we serve**; refugees, host communities, youth, women, teachers, survivors of trafficking, farmers, and faith leader; we express profound gratitude. Your trust, resilience, and active participation inspire our work and give meaning to every initiative we undertake.

Finally, we give thanks to **God**, whose grace guides the mission of the Centre and strengthens our resolve to serve with integrity, hope, and love.

This Annual Report is a collective achievement. To each of you who contributed in any way, we say **thank you**. Together, we remain committed to promoting justice, peace, dignity, and care for creation in our society.

1.0 PEACE AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

1.1 Peacebuilding in Bidibidi and Imvepi Refugee Settlements

1.1.1 Capacity-Building for Community Leaders and Youth

The Centre conducted comprehensive trainings in Imvepi and Bidibidi settlements, reaching 120 community leaders (women, youth, religious, and local leaders) and over 400 young people. These sessions provided refresher and in-depth training on peace, justice, mediation, conflict resolution, interfaith engagement, and effective communication.



One of the Participant Presenting During a Group Presentation in Bidibidi Settlement

Youth dialogues strengthened leadership capacity on mental health, nonviolence, and peacebuilding. Collectively, these efforts empowered grassroots leaders and youth to manage tensions, foster dialogue, and serve as agents of peace in their communities.

Training of Family Heads on Peace and Family Values

In collaboration with **OPM**, **UNHCR**, **RWC3**, and partners, **JPIIJC** trained family heads in Bidibidi (Zone 3) and Imvepi (Zone 1) on stress management, family values, and constructive communication. Participants reported improved skills in conflict resolution, stress management, and forgiveness, pledging to uphold dignity, fairness, and solidarity in their households.

Family heads committed to concrete actions such as shared meals, respectful dialogue, and equitable division of responsibilities, as well as collective initiatives like peace circles, clean-up drives, and tree planting. This affirmed the role of families as foundations of peace and resilience.



The Facilitator Interacting with the Participants During the Training in Imvepi Refugee Settlement

1.1.2 Solar for Peace Project – Bidibidi Refugee Settlement

The Centre expanded clean energy, ICT access, and peace education:

- Established computer labs (20 computers each) at Koro and Kadu Primary Schools.
- Constructed an ICT classroom at Rockland Primary School.



Installed an 8KW solar power system at Okubani Health Centre III.

An internal review at Yangani Secondary School noted improved IT skills and preparedness among students, though challenges remain with equipment shortages and internet costs. Peace clubs and child-friendly rights sessions were launched in four schools, fostering inclusion, dialogue, and mutual respect.



1.1.3 Peace Week Celebration – Koboko District

The Centre participated in the **18th Peace Week celebration of Arua Diocese** in Koboko, led by Archbishop John Baptist Odama. Under the theme “Forgive us our trespasses, grant us peace,” the event featured interfaith prayers, Holy Mass, cultural performances, and community reflections on reconciliation.

JPIIIPC used the platform to advocate for peaceful coexistence and ecological responsibility, reaffirming its mission of justice, peace, and harmony across the Gulu Ecclesiastical Province.

2.0 HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

2.1 Combating Human Trafficking in Uganda

2.1.2 Research on Human Trafficking

In partnership with the Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre (Makerere University), JPIIIPC launched the research report “Human Trafficking: A Threat to Society,” supported by the Secular Institute Alianza en Jesús por María.

The study revealed that **142 Ugandans are trafficked monthly, with 3,259 victims identified by December 2024**. Common exploitations include sexual slavery, organ harvesting, and forced labor. Although reported cases fell by 16.6% in 2023, law enforcement gaps remain evident: only 11 convictions out of 331 court cases. Root causes identified include poverty, broken families, and limited education. The findings continue to inform JPIIIPC’s advocacy, prevention, and survivor support.

2.1.3 National Prayer Day on Human Trafficking

On **12th September 2025**, the Uganda Episcopal Conference, JPIIIPC, ARU, St. Bakhita Network, Mwangale Foundation, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs held the annual **National Prayer Day on Human Trafficking** at Sharing Youth Centre, Nsambya.



Under the theme “Human Trafficking Is Organized Crime – Let’s End the Exploitation,” the event gathered government leaders, faith communities, civil society, and students. Key messages stressed vigilance, interfaith solidarity, and collective action to dismantle trafficking networks.



2.1.4 Karamoja Anti-Trafficking Project

In partnership with Africa Faith and Justice Network, JPIIIPC conducted follow-up activities in Matanyi, Karamoja. These included community dialogues, radio programs, and meetings with local leaders. Progress was noted in community awareness and grassroots participation despite persistent challenges of child exploitation and insecurity.



2.2 Land Justice and Food Security – Adjumani District

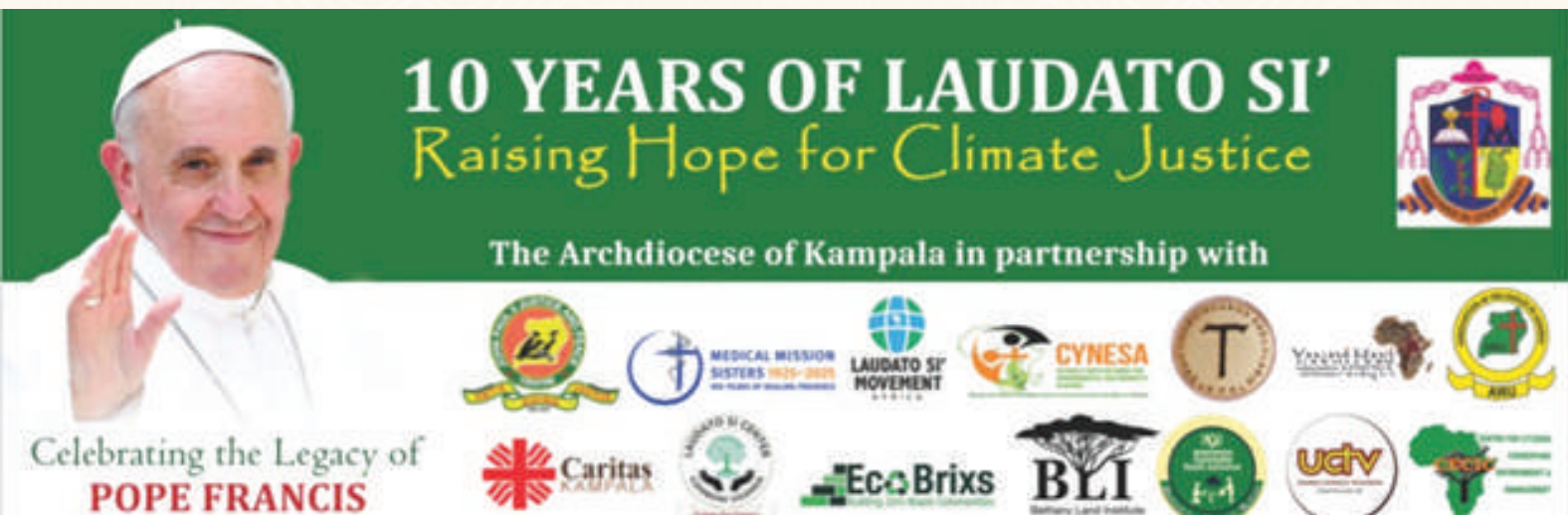
As part of AEFJN Uganda Antenna, JPIIIPC undertook a baseline study with 30 farmers in Pakele and Ukusijoni sub-counties. A local radio talk show amplified awareness on land rights, agroecology, and food sovereignty. An AEFJN partners’ meeting at the Centre also provided space to evaluate progress and define a joint roadmap.

2.3 Uganda’s Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

During Uganda’s 4th UPR cycle, JPIIIPC co-authored a *Joint Stakeholder Submission* to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. The submission addressed access to education and healthcare for children with disabilities, prevention of child marriage, FGM, and trafficking, reinforcing the Centre’s advocacy for children’s rights.

3.0 CARE FOR CREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

3.1 Commemoration of Laudato Si'



In marking the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si', JPIIJC joined 17 faith-based organizations at Uganda Martyrs Shrine, Munyonyo. Commitments included eliminating single-use plastics, adopting reusable alternatives, and integrating ecological awareness in church events. This celebration reinvigorated the Laudato Si' movement and aligned with NEMA's plastic reduction strategy.

4.0 INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND SUSTAINABILITY

4.1 Resource Mobilization and Partnerships

The Centre advanced fundraising and partnerships:

- Submitted proposals to support **100 women in Bidibidi** with life skills.
- Secured partnerships in Spain (Salamanca, Vigo, León) for ICT support in Yumbe.
- Held high-level discussions with the Austrian Development Agency and Ambassador on anti-trafficking.
- Signed MOUs with St. Bakhita Network and Mwangale Foundation for joint programming.
- Leveraged GlobalGiving crowdfunding for the Solar for Peace Program, attracting broader donor support.

Increased demand for **hall rentals** for workshops and events further enhanced visibility and income generation.

4.2 Infrastructure Improvements

1. **Completion of St. John Paul II Chapel** – blessed on 22nd October 2025 by Archbishop Paul Ssemogerere.
2. **Power Stability Upgrade** – replacement of faulty inverters, installation of 16 solar panels, and a new 25KW battery system.
3. **Facility Renovations** – repairs of toilets and ceilings, improving hygiene and safety.

5.0 CHALLENGES

1. Aging infrastructure requiring unplanned repairs.
2. Lack of a field office in Arua Diocese, raising operational costs.
3. Power interruptions prior to solar upgrades.
4. Substandard ICT computers supplied under the Solar for Peace Project.

6.0 PROSPECTS FOR 2026

- Undertake renovations of Centre facilities.
- Expand strategic collaborations with donors and partners.
- Implement Phase III of the Peacebuilding Project in Bidibidi and Imvepi.
- Scale up the Solar for Peace Project to more schools and health centres.
- Disseminate research findings on trafficking, land, and food security for policy influence.
- Register as a **Certified Research** Centre to enhance credibility.
- Launch women-focused initiatives on life skills, income generation, and leadership in Bidibidi and Imvepi.

Executive Summary

Promoting Justice, Peace, Dignity, and Care for Creation – Together.

Key Achievements 2025

- 520 leaders & youth trained in peace, dialogue, and mediation.
- Solar for Peace: ICT labs in 3 schools, 8KW solar system at Okubani Health Centre.
- Human Trafficking Research: launched national awareness campaign on the findings.
- Laudato Si' 10th Anniversary: 17 organizations pledged to phase out single-use plastics.
- Infrastructure Growth: Completion of St. John Paul II Chapel, power upgrades, and renovations.

[Sidebar: Photo Placeholder – Youth peace dialogue in Bidibidi]



1. Peace & Conflict Transformation

Community Empowerment

- Trainings in Bidibidi & Imvepi strengthened grassroots leadership in conflict resolution, interfaith dialogue, and nonviolence.
- Family heads embraced values of dignity, fairness, and solidarity, pledging practical peacebuilding within households.

Land Dialogue

- 200 stakeholders (landlords, local leaders, refugees) tackled land disputes and promoted written agreements.

Solar for Peace Project

- ICT labs in Koro & Kadu Primary Schools; ICT classroom at Rockland PS.
- 8KW solar at Okubani Health Centre.
- Peace clubs launched in 4 schools.

[Graphic: Infographic showing number of schools reached + solar installed]

2. Human Rights & Good Governance

Combating Human Trafficking

- Research report “Human Trafficking: A Threat to Society” launched in May.
- **National Prayer Day** united faith leaders, government, and youth under the theme “Human Trafficking is Organized Crime – Let’s End the Exploitation.”
- **Karamoja Project** used radio and community dialogues to strengthen local resilience.

Land Justice & Food Security

- Baseline study with 30 farmers in Adjumani focused on agroecology and food sovereignty.

Child Rights Advocacy

- Co-authored Uganda’s **UPR submission** to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, highlighting education, disability inclusion, and protection from child

marriage and trafficking.

[Sidebar: Photo Placeholder – National Prayer Day, Nsambya]



3. Care for Creation

- Celebrated **Laudato Si' 10th Anniversary** at Uganda Martyrs Shrine.
- 17 organizations pledged to replace plastic bottles with reusable containers and integrate ecological awareness into church events.



4. Institutional Strengthening & Sustainability Partnerships & Resource Mobilization

- Proposals advanced in Spain, Austria, and Italy.
- MOUs signed with St. Bakhita Network & Mwagale Foundation.
- Expanded crowdfunding through **GlobalGiving**.
- **Infrastructure Milestones**
- **St. John Paul II Chapel** completed and blessed by Msgr. Charles Kasibante repressing the Archbishop, Paul Ssemogerere.
- Solar power upgraded to **25KW capacity**.
- Renovations improved hygiene and safety.



5. Challenges

- Aging infrastructure requiring unplanned repairs.
- Lack of a field office in Arua → high operational costs.
- Power interruptions before solar upgrades.
- Substandard ICT equipment delayed implementation in Bidibidi schools.

6. Prospects for 2026

- Renovate Centre facilities (toilets, ceilings, tiles).
- Expand **Phase III Peacebuilding Project** in Bidibidi & Imvepi.
- Scale **Solar for Peace** to new schools and health centres.
- Disseminate research on trafficking, land justice, and food security.
- Register as a **Certified Research Centre**.
- Launch initiatives for women's life skills, livelihoods, and leadership.



6.0 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR JP11JPC AS AT 31 DEC 2024

Particulars	Note	31-Dec-24 UGX	31-Dec-23 UGX
Assets			
Non-current assets			
PPE	Annex 1	1,426,370,158	1,459,922,150
Investments: Shares in Centenary Bank		63,000,000	0
Current assets			
Account's receivables	10.2	25,691,936	25,737,400
Cash and bank	10.1	450,882,029	276,044,648
Advances	10.3	15,045,599	45,259,634
Total current assets		491,619,564	347,041,682
Total Assets		1,980,989,722	1,806,963,832
Equity and liabilities			
Equity and reserves			
Capital reserves	10.6	1,426,370,158	1,459,922,150
Revenue reserves	10.6	554,619,564	343,610,274
Total		1,980,989,721	1,803,532,424
Current liabilities			
Payables	10.4	-	80,676
Other - ARU		-	733,934
Differed income	10.5	-	2,616,799
		-	3,431,409
Total equity and liabilities		1,980,989,721	1,806,963,833

The financial statements on pages 9 to 10 were approved by the management of JP11JPC on 31/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Board Chairman




Director

The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements


7.0 STATEMENT OF CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Particulars	Notes	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23
		UGX	UGX
Gross income	11.1	1,344,755,497	883,500,917
		1,344,755,497	883,500,917
Less: Expenditure			
Project operating expenses	11.2	641,970,611	304,910,005
Administrative expenses	11.3	58,856,527	69,741,604
Staff expenses	11.4	299,383,325	233,966,470
Operational expenses	11.5	125,470,745	133,783,215
Other expenses	11.6	8,065,000	38,289,993
Total		1,133,746,208	780,691,287
Fund balance		211,009,290	102,809,630

The financial statements on pages 9 to 10 were approved by the management of JP11JPC on and signed on its behalf by:


Board Chairman




Director

The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements

8.0 STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Particulars	31-Dec-24	31-Dec-23
	UGX	UGX
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	211,009,290	102,809,629
Add; Depreciation	100,451,992	163,842,791
	311,461,282	266,652,420
Changes in working capital		
Movement in receivables/Advances	30,259,499	(31,504,962)
Movement in payables	(80,676)	-
Movement in different income	(2,616,799)	(3,995,364)
Other assets	(733,934)	2,153,589
	26,828,090	(33,346,737)
Investing activities		
Movement in fixed assets	(66,900,000)	(165,996,382)
Investment in Shares	(63,000,000)	-
Other movements	(33,551,991)	-
Total	(163,451,991)	(165,996,382)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	174,837,381	67,309,301
Cash at beginning of the year	276,044,648	208,735,347
Cash at end of the year	450,882,029	276,044,648
Net movement	174,837,381	67,309,301

The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements



JOHN PAUL II JUSTICE AND PEACE CENTRE (JPIIJC)

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