

FIDELITAS SCIENTIFIC EXECUTION FACILITY

Where Rigorous Science Meets Community Wisdom

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Building Foundations. Establishing Systems. Ready for Scale.

Annual report on Fidelitas' 2025 achievements, partnerships, and investment case for 2026–2030

Wakiso, Uganda · 2025 · www.fidelitasscientific.org

FIDELITAS SCIENTIFIC EXECUTION FACILITY

Annual Report 2025

A Year Invested in Foundations: Models Developed, Systems Designed, and Partnerships Forged

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AND CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

2025 was not a year of large programme grants or large-scale field rollouts. It was, by deliberate choice, a year of foundations. And foundations, built carefully, are what hold everything that follows.

Fidelitas Scientific Execution Facility received no external programme funding in 2025. We are transparent about this, because we believe that honesty is a condition of the trust that makes genuine partnership possible. What we did receive, instead, was the space to consolidate what we have been building since 2023, to finish what we started, to test what we theorised, and to prepare ourselves for the scale of work that communities in Uganda and across Sub-Saharan Africa need and deserve.

By the end of 2025, Fidelitas had formally constituted its Scientific Advisory Committee, bringing together five distinguished researchers with expertise ranging from cultural anthropology and public health to behavioural science and implementation science, providing the scientific and ethical architecture that institutional donors and academic partners require before they invest. We completed the adaptation of the Responsible, Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide, a 12-module curriculum designed to support fathers, uncles, and father figures with children and young people aged 9 to 19 in Uganda and Sub-Saharan Africa. The guide is ready for field testing.

We provided technical support in the design and participated in a male caregiving learning review on male engagement in Early Childhood Development across 18 organisations in 7 countries across Eastern and Southern Africa. We tested our Social Normative Behaviour Change Communication approach in western Uganda with Bantwana Initiative Uganda, generating data that shows a community-driven scaling pathway capable of reaching over 32,000 parents and community influencers per year with 200 change agents. We formed a new partnership with the Association pour le Développement des Capacités en Genre (ADC-G) in Mozambique. And we deepened our technical collaboration with the Government of Uganda on the Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response System.

Our central point is simple, Fidelitas is now at a point of take-off. The models are developed, internal capacity strengthened, collaborations established and systems set-up. More evidence is being assembled. The partnerships are now active. The systems design for health, parenting, children, data-use, and community capacity have been thought through. What the next phase requires is investment in deployment, in field testing, scaling and spreading outcomes.

We invite you to journey with us.



Ramadhan Kirunda

Director and Co-Principal Investigator, Fidelitas Scientific Execution Facility

WHO WE ARE

Fidelitas Scientific Execution Facility is an independent, not-for-profit implementation science and implementation practice organization, registered in Uganda by Uganda National Bureau for Non-Government Organizations. We are Headquartered in Wakiso District, but have offices in Buikwe and Amuria Districts. Our name Fidelitas, meaning faithfulness expresses our foundational commitment i.e. Faithfulness to communities, impact, donors, evidence-use and to equity.

We exist at the intersection of rigorous science and community wisdom. We translate indigenous knowledge into scientific evidence. We position communities as co-designers, co-producers, and the primary implementers of development programmes. We build implementation capacity that persists after projects end. And we make the benefits of evidence-based programming accessible to the communities that need it most.

2025, A YEAR OF DELIBERATE FOUNDATION-BUILDING

Fidelitas received no external programme funding in 2025. Every achievement documented in this report was built on internal commitment, intellectual investment, and the generosity of our founders. This is not a weakness, it is evidence that what we have built is genuinely owned, not contracted.

The development sector often rewards organisations that are always implementing, always spending, always reporting. Fidelitas made a different choice in 2025 i.e. to use the year to complete what had been started, package what had been theorized, and build the foundations on which the 2026–2030 work period will stand.

The result is an organization that enters 2026 with:

- A formal Scientific Advisory Committee with five distinguished researchers providing methodological oversight and ethical guidance.
- A completed 12-module Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide, adapted from the Responsible, Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers programme, ready for field testing in Uganda and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Documented evidence from a Social-Normative Behavioural Change pilot in western Uganda demonstrating a data-driven pathway to scale.
- Team leader steering the learning review on male engagement in Early Childhood Development across 18 organisations in 7 Eastern and Southern African countries.
- A new formal partnership with ADC-G Mozambique, extending our reach into Francophone Southern Africa.
- Active technical collaboration with the Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Health on the Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response System.
- Conceptual and preliminary work on the application of Artificial Intelligence in community health systems.

For a donor or institutional partner, the strategic significance of 2025 is this: the tools that typically consume 2–3 years of programme funding to develop have already been built. The next investment in Fidelitas is an investment in deployment, not development. That means faster community reach, lower unit costs, and a higher return on investment.

SEVEN KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

01 Establishment of the Scientific Advisory Committee

Fidelitas formally constituted its Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) in 2025, establishing the scientific and ethical governance architecture that underpins all of our research and evidence generation work.

The SAC is chaired by Professor Paul Bukuluki (PhD), an applied cultural and medical anthropologist at Makerere University with over 20 years of experience in implementation science, gender-based violence policy and programming, adolescent sexual and reproductive health, and migration health in humanitarian and development settings. He has served as a consultant to the USAID, DFID, the World Health Organization, UNFPA, UN Women, the World Bank, UNDP, the International Organization for Migration, and UNICEF, among others.

The Deputy Chairperson is Dr Juliet Kiguli (PhD), a Senior Anthropologist, Gender Norms Expert and Behavioural Scientist at Makerere University. The three further members are: Dr Angela Akol (PhD), a specialist in sexual and reproductive health and gender; Dr Elizabeth Costenbader (PhD, Johns Hopkins University), a Senior Social and Behavioural Scientist and gender and social norms researcher formerly with FHI 360 and USAID; and Dr Patrick Walugembe (PhD), a Research and Evaluation Specialist with over 20 years of experience in child protection, adolescent health, and vulnerability programming.

The SAC provides three critical functions. Methodological oversight ensuring all research and programme designs meet the highest scientific standards; ethical guidance ensuring evidence generation is dignified and community-centred; and the scientific credibility required for Fidelitas to pursue peer-reviewed publication and high-quality institutional donor partnerships.

02 Adaptation of the REAL Fathers Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide

Fidelitas completed the adaptation of a 12-module Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide drawing on the Responsible, Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers programme — a curriculum designed to support fathers, uncles, and father figures with daughters, sons, nieces and nephews aged 9 to 19 years.

The original REAL Fathers programme was developed under the Responsible, Engaged and Loving (REAL) Fathers Initiative in Uganda by Lisa Sherburne, Brad Kerner, Dickens Ojamuge, Denis Eluk, and Benon Orach of Save the Children. The Adolescent version was subsequently adapted by Deborah Almond and Cassie Biggs (Save the Children US), and Mercy Phiri, Hellina Mwimba, and Ndanyo Msofi (Save the Children International Malawi) of the Apetsani Mwayi Atsikana Aphunzire (AMAA) programme.

Fidelitas' adaptation led by Ramadhan Kirunda (Fidelitas Scientific Execution Facility) and Professor Paul Bukuluki (Makerere University), contextualises the curriculum for adolescent-focused parenting in Uganda and Sub-Saharan Africa. The guide is designed for delivery in a mentorship format over 6 to 12 months of active mentorship, with 12 to 24 contacts per REAL Father and their spouse, comprising group meetings with REAL Fathers only, joint group meetings with REAL Fathers and spouses, home visits, and a final community celebration.

Module	Focus Area and Content
Module 1	Vision for My Family — supporting fathers and father figures to articulate and commit to a positive family vision.
Module 2	My Daughters and Sons — building equitable, nurturing relationships with children of all genders.
Module 3	Importance of Education — engaging fathers as advocates for children's school enrolment and retention.
Module 4	Overcoming Obstacles to Complete Education — practical strategies for fathers to address educational barriers.
Module 5	Income Generation for Family Dreams — linking family aspirations to sustainable household economic planning.
Module 6	Loving My Family — building positive discipline and nurturing family communication.
Module 7	Parenting Adolescents — developing age-appropriate parenting skills for adolescent wellbeing.
Module 8	Adolescent Mental Health, Healing and Wellness — supporting fathers to recognise and respond to adolescent mental health needs.
Module 9	Loving and Conserving My Environment through Agro-Ecological Practices — integrating climate-smart and agro-ecological approaches into family livelihood.
Module 10	My Family's Digital Literacy, Science and Clean Energy — building family-level digital literacy and clean energy awareness.
Module 11	Our Family's Talents and Skills: Learning for Out-of-School Adolescents — supporting fathers to nurture vocational and learning pathways for adolescents outside formal education.
Module 12	Community Building and Father–Daughter Sports Celebrations — strengthening community solidarity and father-daughter relationships through shared celebration.

The next step for this guide is field-level testing: piloting the adapted curriculum with adolescent fathers and caregivers in Uganda, measuring implementation fidelity, tracking participant outcomes, and generating the evidence base needed for national adoption by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and for replication across Sub-Saharan Africa. This field testing is a priority investment area for 2026.

03

Learning Review: Male Engagement and Early Childhood Development in Eastern and Southern Africa

Fidelitas contributed to and is specifically acknowledged in a regional learning review that assessed post-convening progress among 18 organisations in seven Eastern and Southern African countries on male engagement in child caregiving.

The Integration of Male Engagement and Early Childhood Development (ECD) Learning Review was conducted by the Impact and Innovations Development Centre (IIDC) between July and September 2025, with support from the Hilton Foundation.

The review assessed progress among 18 organisations (95% response rate) across South Africa, Uganda, Eswatini, Mozambique, Rwanda, Kenya, and Tanzania, engaging 40 organisational staff members through interviews and team discussions.

Fidelitas is specifically named in the learning review for the Ateker Fatherhood Movement — an innovation that integrates cultural institutions of the Ateker peoples of North-eastern Uganda with contemporary Early Childhood Development approaches. The review lists the Ateker Fatherhood Movement alongside the Bandedereho programme (Rwanda/RWAMAREC), Sugira Muryango (FXB Rwanda), the Fathers Matter Coach (Heartlines, South Africa), and the REAL Fathers ECD programme (Somero Uganda) as notable innovations in contextualising male engagement.

Key findings from the review that are directly relevant to Fidelitas' work:

- 83% of the 18 organisations reviewed had adapted or tailored male engagement interventions to fit local contexts — validating Fidelitas' contextualization methodology.
- Only one organization (6%) across the region had tested an indigenous male caregiving approach at field level — a gap the field-testing of Fidelitas' adapted REAL Fathers Adolescents model addresses.
- 67% of organisations were generating some form of evidence on male caregiving, but only 22% were generating evidence of effectiveness — reinforcing the need for Fidelitas' implementation science approach.
- Scaling challenges were identified as the most significant barrier across all organisations reviewed, with none having achieved sustained scale of male engagement interventions — a challenge Fidelitas' Wave Sequence Scale and Spread methodology is specifically designed to address.
- Eight priority areas of technical assistance need emerged across the region: research and evidence generation, monitoring and evaluation systems, documentation and knowledge products, scaling and replication, advocacy and policy engagement, adaptation and content development, community engagement and sustainability, and gender-transformative approaches.

04

Social Normative Behavioural Change: Testing the Scaling and Spreading Approach with Bantwana Initiative Uganda

Fidelitas designed, implemented, and documented a Social Normative Behaviour Change Communication (SN-BCC) pilot in partnership with Bantwana Initiative Uganda — generating data-driven evidence that a community change agent model can scale to reach over 32,000 parents and community influencers per year.

Bantwana Initiative Uganda (BIU) implements the Safety At all times for Every child (SAFE) project in Kyenjojo, Kabarole, and Bunyangabu districts in western Uganda, operating in more than 54 schools across the three districts. The SAFE project aims to address sexual and other forms of violence against pre-adolescent and adolescent children aged 9 to 14 by integrating social norms change approaches into prevention and response programming. Fidelitas was engaged to design, test, and document the community-based Social Normative Behaviour Change Communication component.

What Fidelitas Did

Fidelitas conducted a behavioural problem analysis distinguishing social and gender normative behaviours from other behaviour types; facilitated collective community visioning and normative message development; led community change agent mapping, selection, and training; co-developed pictorial communication tools to overcome literacy barriers; and established a tele-monitoring and mentorship system for ongoing agent support. Fidelitas selected and trained 24 community change agents from six school communities — two communities each in Kyenjojo, Kabarole, and Bunyangabu.

What the Four-Week Pilot Demonstrated

- An average of 80% of change agents were reached and supported through weekly tele-monitoring and mentorship.
- An average of 70% of those contacted were actively facilitating social norms deliberation and reflection sessions in their communities each week.
- Change agents reached an average of 267 community members per week, with a peak of 328 in week three.
- From the first week of implementation, 65% of sessions were initial engagements with new groups, and 35% were follow-up sessions — demonstrating early spread beyond the original training cohort.
- Peer-to-peer multiplication began quickly: community members who attended sessions began independently spreading messages and initiating conversations, creating a self-replicating change dynamic.
- Pictorial communication tools proved effective in overcoming literacy barriers in Bunyangabu, enabling change agents to facilitate discussions across Rutooro, Rukiga, and other language groups without text dependence.

The Scaling Model

Using the reach ratio derived from pilot data i.e. 17 active change agents reaching 267 community members per week, equating to approximately 15.71 community members per change agent per week, Fidelitas modelled the potential reach at scale. The modelling is based on the standard Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) requirement for social norms change that is; a 4:1 follow-up to new member contact ratio over time to achieve collective change.

Scale	Time Period	Projected Reach
200 change agents	Per week	785 community members
200 change agents	Per month (with attrition adjustment)	2,826 community members
200 change agents	Per year	32,677 community members

A New Conceptual Framework: The Causal Factor – Depth Continuum

The pilot generated a new conceptual framework — the Causal Factor – Depth Continuum — developed by Fidelitas from field learning. The framework maps the causes of behaviour along a spectrum from surface-level to deep-level factors within individual and collective mental models, directly determining the complexity, intensity, and duration of change interventions required.

- Surface-level factor (knowledge gap): Change is most likely faster and easier. Awareness, information sharing, training, and mentorship approaches are sufficient.
- Moderate depth factor (negative beliefs and attitudes): Change is more complex but achievable through repeated and sustained engagement.
- High depth factor (norms, traditions, and social-cultural values): Change is the most complex and may take a long time, requiring comprehensive strategies involving sustained community engagement and collective norm transformation.

This framework enables programme designers and implementers to diagnose whether a behavioural challenge requires days of awareness or years of cultural transformation — and to calibrate resource allocation and intervention timelines accordingly. BIU has requested that Fidelitas formally profile and document the Causal Factor – Depth Continuum as a replicable technical approach for social normative behaviour change programming.

The BIU pilot is significant not because it is large — it is not. It is significant because it is rigorous. The scaling model is data-driven. The conceptual framework is grounded in observation. The pictorial tools are field-tested. Many organisations struggle to put social norms change scaling into practice. Fidelitas has now shown, with data, a specific pathway for doing so.

05 Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare: Exploratory Work for Community Health Systems

Fidelitas conducted exploratory work in 2025 on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare and Education services delivery for under-served communities, aligned with the Intelligent Community Response Systems (ICRS) focus area.

Fidelitas' Intelligent Community Response Systems focus area is built on the convergence of data science, technology, and community-led programming. In 2025, Fidelitas began systematic exploratory work on how AI tools could be integrated into community health systems in Uganda, with specific attention to three application areas:

- AI-assisted tele-monitoring support for community change agents and community health workers: using machine learning tools to analyse patterns in tele-monitoring data, identify high-performing agents, flag early warning signs of programme slippage, and push refined insights back to field supervisors in near real-time.
- AI-enabled data analysis for community-generated data collected through basic mobile technology — supporting the principle that communities should be users, not just producers, of data collected about them.
- Group-based AI-supported health learning hubs: models in which AI-curated health education content is made accessible to community groups through screen-based technology that does not require individual smartphone ownership or high-bandwidth internet connectivity.

Fidelitas' approach to AI is grounded in a non-negotiable institutional principle: technology must narrow the digital divide, not widen it. Every AI application explored in 2025 was assessed against the question of whether it could work with the technology that community members in Uganda already possess, rather than requiring new infrastructure as a precondition.

This exploratory work will inform Fidelitas' 2026–2030 programming, where specific AI-in-community-health pilots are planned in partnership with academic institutions and the Ministry of Health.

06 New Partnership: Association pour le Développement des Capacités en Genre (ADC-G), Mozambique

In 2025, Fidelitas established a formal partnership with the Association pour le Développement des Capacités en Genre (ADC-G) in Mozambique, extending Fidelitas' reach into Lusophone Southern Africa. The Association pour le Développement des Capacités en Genre (ADC-G) is an organisation working on gender capacity development and gender-transformative programming in Mozambique. ADC-G was among the organisations reviewed in the 2025 Integration of Male Engagement and ECD Learning Review conducted by the Impact and Innovations Development Centre — confirming that Fidelitas and ADC-G are part of the same regional learning community on male engagement and caregiving.

The Fidelitas–ADC-G partnership has three primary dimensions in the 2026–2030 period:

- Methodological exchange: Supporting ADC-G to adapt and contextualise Fidelitas' social norms change and gender-transformative programming tools — including approaches piloted in the BIU SAFE project — to the Mozambican linguistic, cultural, and policy context.
- Capacity strengthening: Providing technical assistance to ADC-G in implementation science frameworks, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system design, and community-led programme implementation.
- Joint evidence generation: Co-designing research questions and learning processes that contribute to the regional evidence base on male engagement and ECD across Eastern and Southern Africa.

07 Collaboration on the Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response System

Fidelitas deepened its technical collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Uganda on the National Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response (TPSR) System, a National mechanism providing district and National authorities with data to inform prevention and response to teenage pregnancy and child marriage. Fidelitas is a member of the TPSR secretariat led by the Ministry of Health.

Teenage pregnancy and child marriage remain among Uganda's most persistent child protection and public health challenges. The Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response System is designed to provide district and national level authorities with data to enable evidence-informed prevention and response at scale. Fidelitas' involvement in the design and implementation of this system is listed among its core track record achievements in the organizational profile.

In 2025, Fidelitas contributed to the technical refinement of community-level data collection protocols for the system and supported the capacity of district health and social service teams in interpreting and acting on surveillance data — bridging the data-to-action gap that is a persistent challenge in public health surveillance systems.

This collaboration is strategically significant for four reasons:

- It positions Fidelitas as a trusted technical partner to the Government of Uganda on a nationally and politically significant public health and child protection challenge.
- It demonstrates Fidelitas' capacity to operate across the full continuum from community-level implementation to national policy systems — a combination that most technical organisations either do from the top down or the bottom up, but rarely both.
- It creates a direct and active pathway for the REAL Fathers Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide to be integrated into government-supported teenage pregnancy prevention programming at national scale.
- It provides a live national data environment in which Fidelitas' Intelligent Community Response Systems approaches can be tested, refined, and demonstrated for broader adoption.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS IN 2025

Fidelitas' impact is multiplied through a purposeful partnership ecosystem spanning academic institutions, national and international non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, and government bodies at district and national level.

Partner Organisation	Nature and Focus of Collaboration
Makerere University School of Public Health	Academic partnership: research design, evidence generation, graduate-level engagement with implementation science.
University of California San Diego (UCSD)	International academic collaboration: research methodology and global evidence linkages.
Child Health and Development Centre (CHDC), Makerere University	Technical collaboration on child health, development, and protection programming.
CARE International Uganda	Programme partnership on gender-transformative and community-led interventions.
Bantwana Initiative Uganda (BIU)	Technical assistance: design, implementation, documentation, and learning for the Social Normative Behaviour Change Communication component of the Safety At all times for Every child (SAFE) project in Kyenjojo, Kabarole, and Bunyangabu districts.
Trans-cultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO Uganda)	Collaboration on psychosocial support integration in community programming.
ADC-G Mozambique	New 2025 partnership: gender capacity development and social norms change programming, Mozambique.
Somero Development Initiatives	Community-based implementation partnership on REAL ECD Fathers and male engagement.
Teso Initiative for Peace (TIP)	Community-based peace, gender, and family development programming in north-eastern Uganda, including the Ateker Fatherhood Movement.
Foundation for AIDS Orphaned Children	Community-based organisation partnership on child protection and wellbeing programming.
Centre for Transformative Parenting	Parenting programme collaboration.
Bantwana Initiative Uganda (OVC programming)	Partnership on Orphans and Vulnerable Children programming.
Ministry of Health, Uganda	Government collaboration on the Teenage Pregnancy Surveillance and Response System and related public health systems.
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda	Government engagement on parenting policy, the REAL Fathers guide, and adolescent wellbeing programming.
Ministry of Education, Uganda	Government collaboration on education-linked parenting and child protection programming.
Impact and Innovations Development Centre (IIDC)	Our team lead conducted the learning review on male engagement and ECD in Eastern and Southern Africa.

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Fidelitas operates through a tri-level governance structure that ensures accountability to communities, donors, and the scientific community simultaneously.

Governance Body	Composition and Role
Board of Trustees	<p>Chair: Ms Eunice Kabahikyeho (HR and organisational development specialist; Chief People Officer, StrongMinds). Members: Mrs Samalie Teera Lutaaya (finance, compliance, and ethics); Dr Frederick Mubiru Kintu (public health and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning); Ms Immaculate Nanfuka (child wellbeing and safeguarding; Head of Quality Assurance, CRANE Uganda); Mr Brian Bongomin (corporate governance and law; Country Manager, Enwealth Financial Services).</p> <p>The Board holds ultimate strategic and fiduciary responsibility and provided governance oversight throughout 2025.</p>
Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)	<p>Chair: Prof Paul Bukuluki (PhD) — cultural and medical anthropologist, Makerere University. Deputy Chair: Dr Juliet Kiguli (PhD) — Behavioural Scientist and Gender Norms Expert, Makerere University. Members: Dr Angela Akol (PhD) — sexual and reproductive health and gender; Dr Elizabeth Costenbader (PhD) — social and behavioural science and gender norms, formerly FHI 360 and USAID; Dr Patrick Walugembe (PhD) — research and evaluation, child protection and adolescent health.</p> <p>The SAC was formally constituted in 2025.</p>
Programme Management Team	<p>Director and Co-PI: Ramadhan Kirunda. Senior Programme Staff: John King Odolon (Head of Strategy; WASH and Climate Change), Ednance Kiiza (Capacity Strengthening Advisor), Nicholas Matsiko (Data Science and Informatics Advisor), Nyadoi Esther (Compliance and Finance Specialist), Rita Kituyi (MEL Specialist), Caroline Kemigisha (Programme Manager — Violence Prevention and Safeguarding). Specialists: Aceng Barbara (Adolescent Health Specialist), Airo Rebecca Pamella (Mental Health Specialist). Programme Associates: Kutosi Patrick (Community Services), Aanyu Janet (Mental Health Field Associate), Atai Sandra (Data and Safeguarding Focal Person).</p>

THE INVESTMENT CASE FOR FIDELITAS: 2026–2030

Fidelitas enters 2026 at a genuine strategic inflection point. The work of 2020 to 2025 has produced a portfolio of tested models, validated tools, active government relationships, and a regional partnership network. The 2026–2030 period is about deploying what has been built, at community scale, at National policy level, and across the region.

What Fidelitas Offers	Why It Matters for Donors and Partners
Tested models ready for deployment — not development	The REAL Fathers Adolescent Parenting Mentorship Guide (12 modules), the SN-BCC scaling model with demonstrated community reach data, and the Causal Factor – Depth Continuum framework are all complete. Investment in Fidelitas in 2026 funds deployment which means faster results at lower unit cost than supporting an organisation starting from scratch.
A Scientific Advisory Committee with international credibility	Donors in evidence-based programming require confidence in the quality of the evidence their investment generates. Fidelitas' SAC, with researchers holding affiliations to USAID, WHO, the World Bank, Johns Hopkins University, and Makerere University, provides that assurance.
Active government relationships creating pathways to national adoption	Fidelitas' collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development on nationally significant programmes creates real pathways for programme models to be adopted at national scale, creating a return on donor investment that extends far beyond the funded programme itself.
A regional footprint with a replication pathway	Active partnerships in Uganda and Mozambique, and relationships across 7 Eastern and Southern African countries through the male engagement network, mean that Fidelitas can support model replication regionally rather than country by country, extending impact geographically without proportional cost increases.
Community systems, not just community projects	Fidelitas' Wave Sequence Scale and Spread methodology creates implementation champions at community level who continue to implement, scale, and spread outcomes independently after grant funding ends. This is the distinction between a project and a system.
Implementation science expertise that makes evidence usable	Most implementing organisations do not have the scientific architecture to understand why their programmes work, under what conditions, and how to replicate them systematically. Fidelitas does, and that makes the evidence generated through Fidelitas-supported programmes usable by donors for policy advocacy and programme design at scale.

We are not asking for investment to find out whether we can do this work. We are asking for investment because we have demonstrated that we can — and because the communities we serve are waiting for the scale that investment makes possible.

FINANCIAL NOTE

Fidelitas Scientific Execution Facility did not receive external programme funding in 2025. All activities documented in this report were conducted on the basis of internal organizational commitment, in-kind contributions from founders, and the pro bono engagement of our Scientific Advisory Committee members and broader network.

Financial management is overseen by the Compliance and Finance Specialist under the supervision of the Director, with Board of Trustees review of all financial matters. In accordance with the Fidelitas Articles of Association, organizational accounts are maintained in the bank, and all transactions above specified thresholds require joint authorization by the Director, the Compliance and Finance Specialist, and another founding Director. Independent external audit arrangements are planned once we start getting funding.

Fidelitas is actively pursuing programme funding for the 2026–2030 strategic period across multiple donor channels. Detailed budget frameworks and financial projections are now available.

TO EXPLORE PARTNERSHIP, FUNDING, OR COLLABORATION

Ramadhan Kirunda — Director and Co-Principal Investigator

rkirunda@fidelitasscientific.org · +256-782-499-071

info@fidelitasscientific.org · +256-414-674746

www.fidelitasscientific.org · P.O. Box 108671, Wakiso, Uganda