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END OF YEAR PROGRSSIVE REPORT (2001)

0.1 INTRODUCTION:

This report covers the period from 1st January to 30th December 2001. It will look at how much has been achieved so far as regards the organisational Work plan for the year 2001, which is part of the five years plan 2001-2005.

The First African Bicycle Information Office (FABIO) is a capacity building and lobby arm of the Bicycle Sponsorship Project and Workshop (BSPW) which is a registered Non – Government Organisation (NGO) with the National NGO Board, Ministry of Internal Affairs.

This organisation was started in 1990 as a Community Based Organisation (CBO) with the aim of creating employment for youths particularly the orphans who were raised at the St. Moses Child Care Centre. However over the years, this organisation has embraced a larger area of operation in a bid to improve the livelihood of people in Uganda by accessing low income groups with bicycles at an affordable cost and skills.

This report will cover the activities of the entire programme during the above mentioned period. During this period, FABIO / BSPW has been involved in the following programme areas:

1. Networking, Advocacy and Lobby
2. Capacity building and sensitisation.
3. Bicycle sponsorship and credit.
4. Appropriate technology Income Generating Activities
5. Programmes administration and Management.

0.2 FUNDING

In this period, the programme has been funded by the following:

- **Jugendhilfe Ostafrika e.V**
- **ADFC – Germany**
- **The German Ministry of Economics – (BMZ) / German Technical Services – (GTZ)**
- **The German Development Service – (DED – Uganda)**
- **Bread for the World**

Other sources of financing the project:

- Contributions from FABIO trainings
- Secretarial Services
- Income Generating Projects: (i.e. Maize & Oil Mills, Metal Works etc.)

0.2.1 Resource Mobilisation.

During the course of the year, a lot of efforts were made to mobilise resources for FABIO / BSPW activities and for the just concluded bicycle conference. This was done through:

- networking with partner organisations
- Income generation initiatives,
- lobbying for funding through project proposals

However special emphasis was put to fundraising for the just concluded Pan African Bicycle Conference. A total of **160,591,451** /= was received for FABIO / BSPW activities.

A peace project was developed to lobby for funding for the expansion of FABIO / BSPW activities to Northern Uganda. This document is currently undergoing scrutiny by the Board of Directors before it can be forwarded for funding to the different potential funding agencies.

0.3 Publicity of FABIO / BSPW activities.

This year has seen a rise in publicity of FABIO / BSPW activities in a variety of media. This has been greatly due to the Pan African Bicycle Conference, with the assistance from DED public relations department.

0.4 Office Equipment

During the course of the year we were able to acquire the following office equipment as donations from Jughendhilfe Ostafrika e.V:

- one hard disk
- one monitor
- One Printer
- One medium size stapler
- One Large capacity punch
- Computer programmes

1.1 Capacity Building and Sensitisation.

There has been some Staff Development at FABIO / BSPW and have benefited from a series of capacity building workshops and seminars organised by Partner organisations and the Municipality of Jinja. In this capacity building programme, emphasis was set on training among the beneficiaries despite the limited budget allocated to the activity.

A. Staff / Volunteer Development

- **Strategic Thinking and Resource Mobilisation:**

This was a five day workshop held on 22nd – 27th June 2001 at the Sunset Hotel in Jinja and organised by the Development Network for Indigenous Organisations (DENIVA) for the Jinja district NGO/CBO Network (JIDNET) members. It helped improve FABIO Staff skills in self understanding, identification of strategies as well as in resource mobilisation.

- **Sensitisation workshop for new Members of DENIVA**

This workshop was attended by 44 non – governmental organisations and community based organisations including FABIO / BSPW. It was held at Lweza Conference Centre in August 2001. This workshop helped improve our networking skills as well as to enlighten us on ways in which we could use DENIVA in achieving our organisational goals.

Under the staff development component the programs Manager, the Coordinator and the Accounts assistant have undergone different training programs in organizational development some of which are long term and aimed at enhancing sustainability of the program activities.

B. Capacity building among beneficiaries

Training and workshops among the beneficiaries was carried out with the following groups / communities:

- **BANDERA Community Project in Kamuli District.**

This is an umbrella group for different small groups of women and youth. Three different groups were trained in savings and credit combined with development awareness.

- **Kyebajja Kobona Womens Group - Bugiri District**
- **Butagaya Bwase Womens Group – Butagaya – Jinja District**
- **Source of Nile Women's Group – Butagaya - Jinja District**
- **Njeru Community - Mukono District.**
- **Buluba Habitat for Humanity - Mayuge District**
- **Bulamagi Sub-county Community based Organizations – Iganga District.**
- **Buwagi Aids Initiative – Iganga District**

- In conjunction with International Anti-Corruption Theatre Movement (IATM) and Transparency International (TI) Uganda Chapter, we were able to carry out joint workshops geared towards building capacities of civil society organizations to demand for accountability, good governance and transparent leadership.

Such workshops were carried out in Jinja and Iganga Districts. Jinja District NGO Network members, Bulamagi CBO and Nawandala benefited in this direction. However, a lot has to be done during the year 2002 under this sector.

C. Sensitization

Bicycle Rallies:

In the bid to popularize bicycle mobility for both women and men in Uganda, in collaboration with a number of NGOs and communities we have been able to co-organize a number of bicycle rallies in the following areas; Jinja Municipal council, Baale

County in Kayunga District, Bulamagi Sub -county Iganga and Kityerera –Mayuge District together with

1.2 Networking, Advocacy and Lobby.

Under this sector a lot was realized during the year 2001. The national bicycle advocacy committee chaired by Dr. Christine Mwebesa was active during the year that government taxes for the different bicycle parts were reduced as a result of our bicycle tax removal campaigns.

Considering that information is power, the information exchange program has been enhanced. Collection, storage and dissemination of relevant information on development issues has been enhanced further.

A mini-resource center has been established at FABIO at Plot 9 Main Street for public use. FABIO is coordinating the District NGO/ CBO Network and with this task FABIO/ BSPW has been able to work with all NGO/ CBOs in the District that are members of the Network.

With assistance from DENIVA we have been able to host a five days strategic thinking and planning workshop at Sunset Hotel. Skills in plan and organizational development were attained by the different lead NGO and CBOs, a copy of the report is appended.

FABIO/ BSPW hosted Rubaga Youth and Women Groups for two days under the exposure and exchange visit program. Different groups that hosted the Rubaga groups were exposed to the different development initiatives.

FABIO has hosted about 30 youth from Trier University for 3 days. They were able to visit the different groups and different ideas were exchanged during the process. Further collaborations with Trier University and individual personalities were initiated. A programme out of this visit is being developed in western and eastern Kenya and Uganda respectively.

FABIO/ BSPW has hosted different volunteers and visitors from the different agencies in Germany. Under this programme, Brigitte Womens Magazine contacted two consultants to document the FABIO/ BSPW Women programmes. A ten days programme was

developed and documentation was done of the different partner groups across the country. We have hosted and held meetings with different initiatives.

1.3 PRE – PABIC WORKSHOP.

In order to successfully organise the above conference, it was necessary for all partners involved in its preparation to work as a team and involve other people in the discussions of strategies for effective implementation of the PABIC.

On May 17th to 18th a preparation workshop was organised and held in Sunset Hotel. The following is what transpired at this workshop:

The workshop was useful in identifying strategies and in discussing critical issues that were important in ensuring that the Pan African Bicycle Conference a success. It was attended by partner organisations, some stakeholders and FABIO / BSPW staff (PABIC team).

1. The main goal was reviewed together with the objectives so as to make them more focussed and also to enrol other members into it, and work out ways of involving other stakeholders.
2. The need for the preparation team to undergo a strategic thinking and planning workshop was identified.

This workshop was attended by different stakeholders like; the Executive Secretary of the Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations (DENIVA), Jinja District NGO Network – JIDNET, Local Authorities, DED and other partners.

3. The strengths and weaknesses in relation to the organisation of the PABIC were identified.
4. We took stock of what had been done so far in relation to PABIC and also came up with a way forward.

5. At this Pre – PABIC Workshop, participants also underwent an internalisation process of the PABIC Theme which was reviewed to “ ***The new image of the bicycle in the 21st Century***”.

6. The social trends and directions that are driving the current focus on PABIC participation were identified. This helped us identify the issues that were critical in the organisation of PABIC. Such issues were;

- How to ensure effective participation of all stakeholders at the conference?
- How we can ensure good collaboration with development agencies and governments?
- Which strategies should be used to overcome such cases?
- Which stakeholders were to be involved through paper presentation and participation?

It was after this workshop that the PABIC initiative was finally launched at Kiyunga in Kamuli District among the beneficiaries. The Guest of Honour at this occasion was Hon. Musumba Isaac (MP).

This occasion was also attended by other guests who included the Local Council V Chairperson - Kamuli District, Mr. Kawugu Mughaino, a representative from DED, Ms. Gitte Britte, and members of the press. At this occasion, 25 sponsored bikes were handed over to beneficiaries of the Bandera Community Project.

1.4 PAN AFRICAN BICYCLE CONFERENCE (PABIC).

The Pan Bicycle African Conference (PABIC) was successfully held at the Crested Crane Hotel – YMCA on the 21st – 25th November 2001. It was attended by 80 Delegates (Details of PABIC have been compiled into a separate report).

1.4.1 Conference Objectives:

The objectives of the conference were:

- (1) To create a forum for sharing the different views on a bicycle use in Africa.

- (2) To exchange and sharing of experiences, information and knowledge of non-motorised mobility issues of the different countries in Africa and elsewhere in the world.
- (3) To identify the problems of transport in relation to the environment and gender.
- (4) To lobby and advocate for review and formulation of sustainable mobility policies at all levels.
- (5) To develop a shared vision for the improvement of bicycle technology in Africa.
- (6) To create awareness of the importance of a bicycle as one of the sustainable means of mobility in Africa and a critical tool of production.
- (7) To create a platform for the empowerment of women and the youth in Africa in finding possible solutions to the culturally and socially acceptable discriminations.
- (8) Establish a Pan-African network of all people, agencies, and institutions with activities related to non-motorised mobility.

1.4.2 Targeted Participants

- Bicycle mobility promotion / advocacy initiative bicycle clubs in Africa, and elsewhere in the World.
- Individual researchers and consultants on issues of mobility particularly in the developing countries.
- Policy makers at different levels in national, regional and international agencies.
- Departments of planning in higher institutions of learning and governments.
- Bicycle manufacturing companies.

- World and regional network NGOs and other stake holders.

1.4.3 Conference Achievements:

We were able to achieve the following as a result:

1. An international network PABIN, made of all organisations that participated and spear headed by FABIO / BSPW Uganda; Afribike South Africa; ITDG Kenya, and AALOCOM Tanzania, was set in place as a stronger forum to lobby for policy issues at the National and international Levels in the various countries.

FABIO / BSPW has widened its networking scope and collaborations with such invaluable contacts are under way, this will enhance the advocacy and lobby work for intermediate rural transport.

Information was obtained about possible sponsorship of recycled bikes by Pedals for Progress (USA) through M/S. Kieth Oberg. Pedals for Progress offered to provide us with free bikes provided:

- That we can take care of the shipping costs from the South African Coast to the East African Coast and clear the 40'containers inland.
- That we present a proposal indicating how these bicycles are to be used.
- That we are recommended by at least 3 other established organisations.

2. Another delegate from the United Kingdom, Mr. Merlin Matthews of RE –CYCLE a bicycle Charity, that collects recycled bikes, refurbishes them and sends them to various organisations, has also offered one 40' Container of recycled bikes .

Merlin Matthews of RECYCLE is now working hand in hand with us to help identify possibilities of shipping the sponsored bikes up the East African Coast at a reduced rate.

As a result of PABIC and participation in the Velo - City Conference, we have been able to establish contacts with the following organisations in the United States and U.K requesting for economic assistance. These organisations include:

- Chapman & Cooke (United Kingdom)
- California Association of Bicycling Organisations (U.S.A)
- Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (U.S.A)

- League of American Bicyclists (U.S.A)
- Major Taylor Cycling Club of Minnesota (U.S.A)
- Autofrei Laben (Germany)
- RE – CYCLE Extra Cycle (United Kingdom)
- The National Health Services (United Kingdom)

3. A pledge has been made by the Mayor of Jinja – Mr. Stephen Bewayo to put up cycle tracks on two streets of Jinja. FABIO / BSPW has already started following up this pledge vigorously. Mr. Roeloff Wittink and other conference delegates have offered to provide technical and consultancy services in setting up cycle tracks on these two streets.

4. A new online network for the PABIN is in place. It is the AfriBikeNet. It was offered by Afribike – a member organisation of the PABIN. We have contacted Emmeram Rasshoffer to help with designing our website.

FABIO / BSPW also received an offer of support in terms of capacity building from Interface for Cycling Expertise (I-CE Netherlands) and Cordaid). Cordaid has offered 2,500 Dutch Guilders in support of capacity building. The areas below have been identified as the critical capacity needs:

- Information technology
- Resource Mobilisation issues
- Advocacy and lobby
- Resource Centre Management issues
- Participatory methodology skills; ie. PRA, MAP, etc.
- Road safety and marking issues

1.4.4 Contributions:

Contributions were received from some organisations and well-wishers. The German Development Service (DED – Uganda) Media Department and DENIVA facilitated much of the media coverage before, during and after the conference.

Uganda Breweries Limited (Pilsner Brand) sponsored some of the drinks during the conference.

GTZ – Germany, Bread for the World (Germany) and Jugendhilfe Ostafrika -Germany) facilitated the running costs for the conference, and ADFC - Germany, Banana communications – Germany supported the FABIO/BSPW Secretariat

1.5 BICYCLE SPONSORSHIP AND CREDIT SCHEME

Under the above programme, FABIO / BSPW is operating two schemes namely; the Bicycle Credit Scheme and the Bicycle Sponsorship scheme. This programme was established with the following objectives:

- To accessing low income individuals and groups in rural and urban Uganda with rod pull bikes at an affordable cost
- To facilitate improved agricultural production and easy access to extension services markets for agriculture produce (especially by women).
- To create jobs among the unemployed youths
- Improve beneficiaries access to basic needs and social facilities
- To encourage a spirit of saving among the beneficiaries
- Improve the livelihood of beneficiaries by using the bike for income generation
- Reduce regional disparities in isolated regions especially in areas where motor access is difficult due to terrain e.g (Kabale and Kotido).

Under the Bicycle Credit Scheme, the beneficiary receives a bike after making an initial deposit of 40,000 /= and pays the balance over a period of one year in monthly instalments. The bike is used by the beneficiary to generate income some of which is kept by the beneficiary as savings. This scheme is in operation in urban, peri – urban and also rural areas and the recovery rate is above 75%.

The training component is critical since the major objective is to not only give out bicycles but also build capacity by imparting useful skill however resource to take care of this sector are yet to be realised.

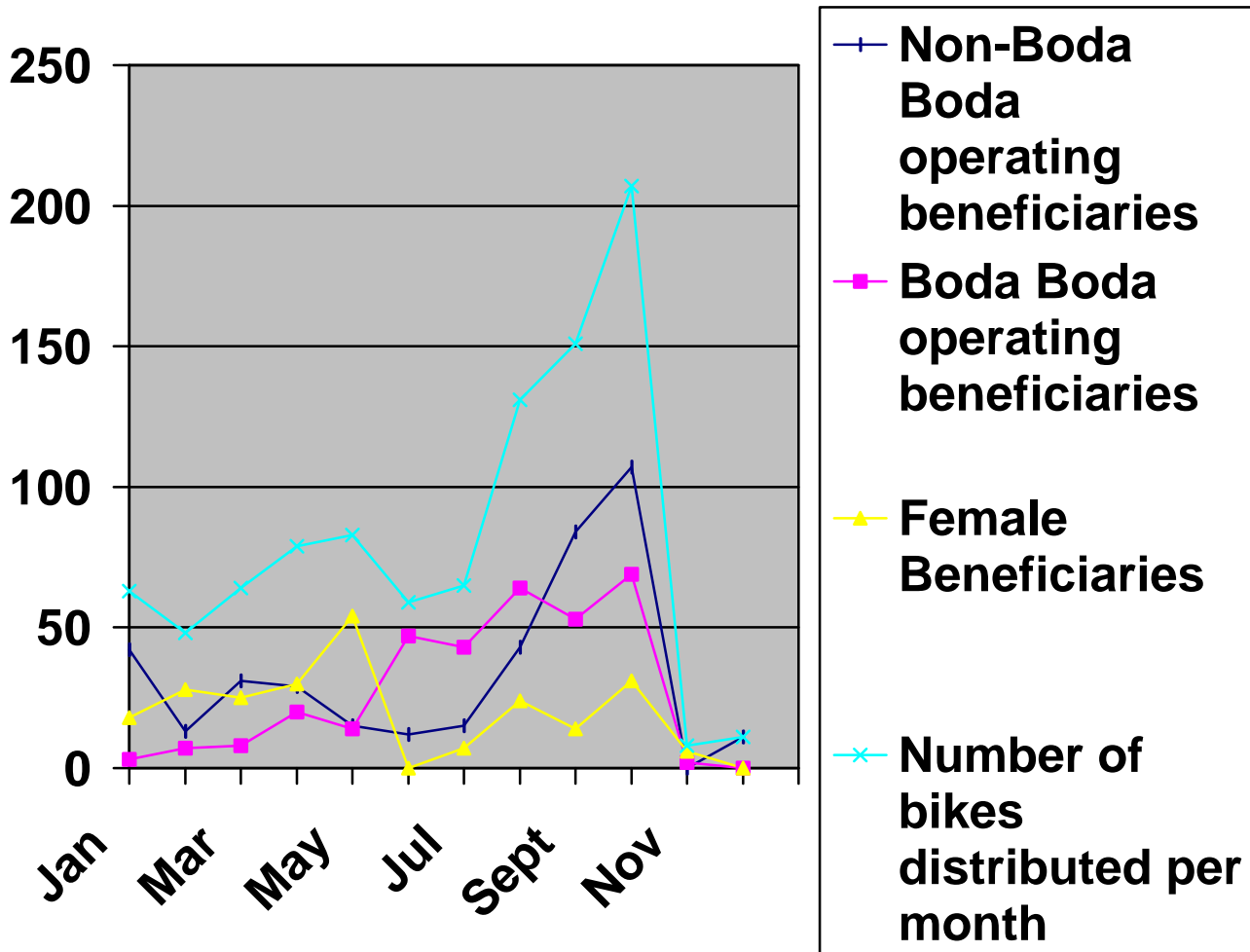
1.5.1 Bicycle Sponsorship Scheme

Under the **Bicycle Sponsorship Scheme** rod – pull bikes are given to beneficiaries at free of charge where the need is great and at half price where the situation is not as dire. This scheme was operational where the following conditions prevail:

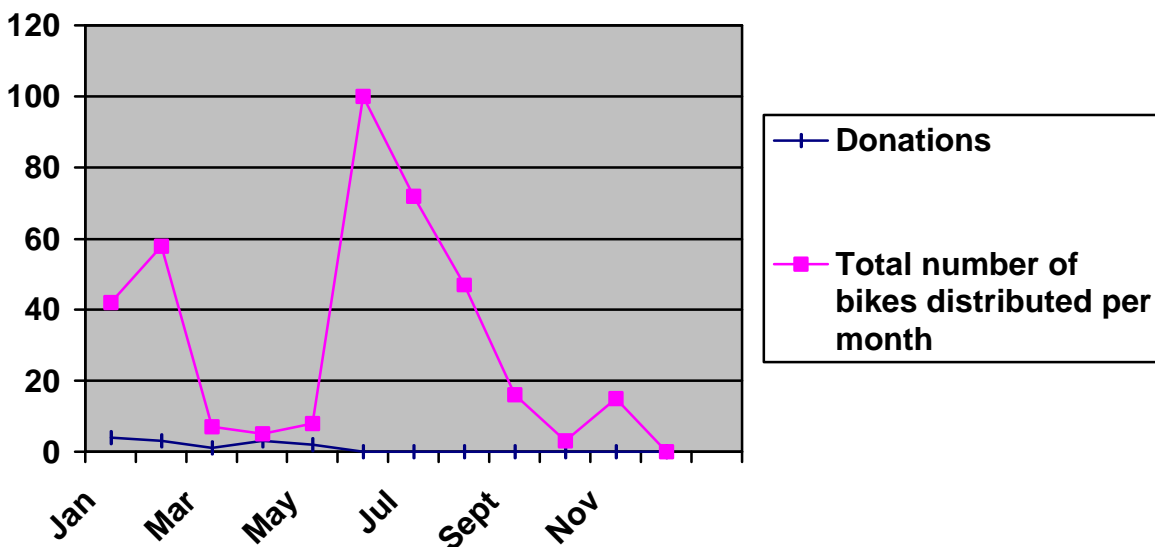
- Where the income levels of the beneficiaries are well below average.
- In remote areas where access to social facilities is encumbered due to the terrain and subsequently a lack of availability of a public transport system which in consequence has had a great impact on the cost of transport to the average individual in the area. Such areas include Kabale and Kotido Districts.
- In rural areas where women and children are the major agricultural producers yet have no control over the incomes that accrue to their produce as a result of limited access to markets and market information leaving room for the men to take over marketing issues and the subsequently control over income from the sale of household agricultural produce.

So far, this year, **387** bikes have been distributed among the beneficiaries under the Bike Sponsorship Scheme and **969** bikes distributed under the Bike Credit Scheme this year. During the month of November and December, both schemes were briefly halted due to the Pan African Bicycle Conference which was taking place at the time and also due to an ongoing stock taking exercise.

1.5.2 Figure 1: NUMBER OF BIKES DISTRIBUTED IN THE CREDIT SCHEME BETWEEN 1ST JANUARY 2001 AND 30TH DECEMBER 2001.



1.5.3 Figure 2: NUMBER OF BIKES DISTRIBUTED IN THE BIKE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME BETWEEN 1ST JANUARY 2001 AND 30TH DECEMBER 2001.



NB: Allocation of sponsored bicycles to the different groups for the year 2001.

▪ Women and youths	210
▪ Orphans	24
▪ Health Workers	20
▪ Teachers	72
▪ Men	63

TOTAL	389
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1.6 Indicators:

- The number of bicycles given out this year is **3.91%** of what was claimed last year in both the bike credit scheme and sponsorship programme. **(347 bikes were claimed in the year 2000, while 1,356 bikes were claimed in the year 2001)**. This is a good indicator of a wider outreach within the project area as seen from the number of bicycles distributed during the year, with each bicycle representing a single individual whose annual income and level of savings it is likely to influence. Thus a wider area
- More beneficiaries (**23 beneficiaries**) are applying for a second bike as compared to **none (0)** in the year 2000, indicating an increase in the income level of the beneficiary.
- Number of new boda bodas who applied for bikes and formerly had no jobs has increased from **zero (0)** in the year 2000 to **50** boda bodas in 2001 indicating an increase in job creation among the beneficiaries. This is also a good indicator of improved household incomes as the families of these boda boda cyclists depend on the boda boda bicycle for a living.
- The number of women who have benefited from both the Bicycle Sponsorship Programme and the bicycle credit scheme has risen from **163** in the year 2000 to **237** in 2001. Indicating increased level of saving among women beneficiaries (*who are the less advantaged group*). This statistic is also a good indicator of increases in levels of ownership of property by women as well as increased levels of household incomes in these women's respective households.

1.7 Appropriate technology

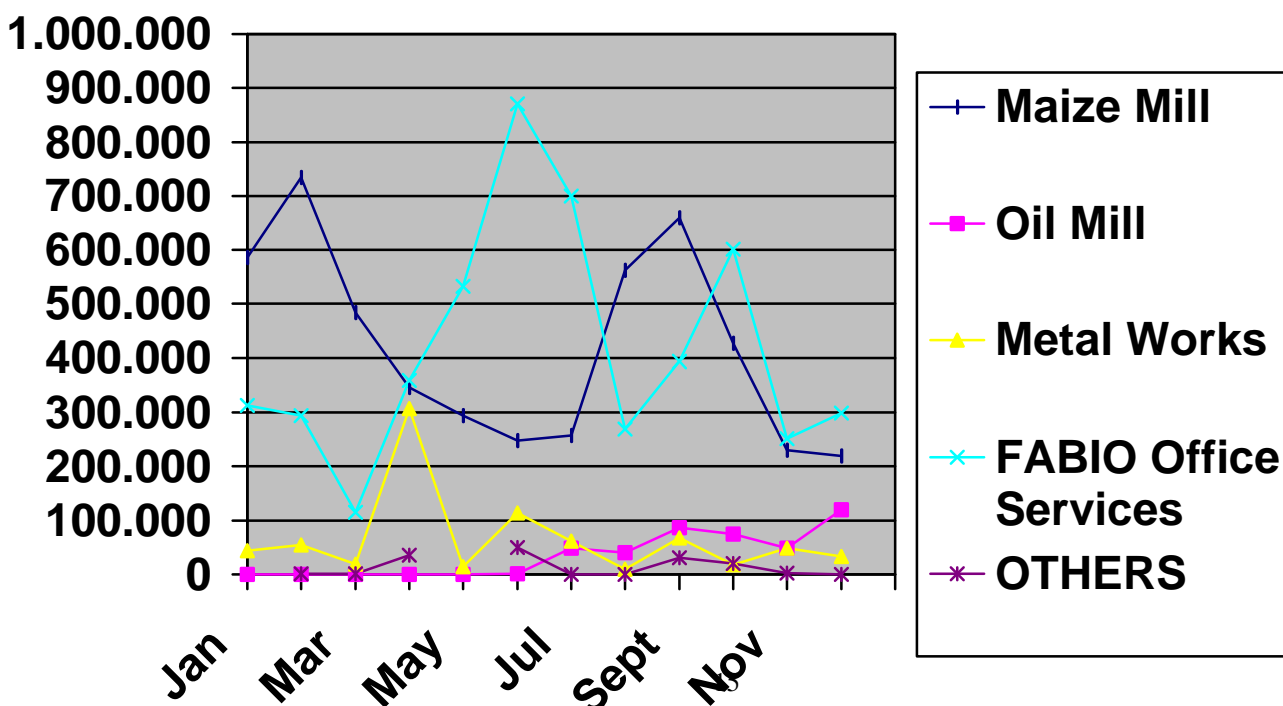
This programme was developed with the aim of adjusting the rod – pull bike to suit the local conditions and situations in Uganda. However it was expanded to include new initiatives aimed at promoting the sustainability of the Bike Sponsorship Programme and the bicycle ambulance / carriages.

During the period between 01 – January 2001 and 30th December, 100 ambulances were assembled for Kabale Mobility Project by the BSPW Team. The bicycle ambulance project implemented in Kabale and Bugiri District has recorded good results. Its only limitations is the high costs of production of the bicycle ambulances. However, different individuals particularly FABIO/ BSPW volunteers have continued to donate.

FABIO / BSPW has also carried out redesigning and re- enforcing of bicycles and bicycle carriages to suit the needs of the beneficiaries and to ensure their durability. One of such items was a manual cart that was designed and assembled for one youth who is involved in selling fruit salad for a living. This lady’s sales have shot up and she is now thinking of expanding her business by hiring a second person to man a second cart.

The income generation sector is one of the most successful in the direction of sustainability. Below are details of monthly income from the different initiatives.

1.7.1 Figure 3: INCOME FROM THE DIFFERENT INCOME GENERATION INITIATIVES.



It is sad to note that the BSPW Section experienced theft at once this year. However , there have been no reported problems as regards the performance of the various implements / machines in this section.

The income received from income generation initiatives this year is **2.09%** of what was received last year. Indicating an improvement . (**Income received in 2000 is 6,760,050 /= while that received in 2001 is 14,140,190 /=**). However there is still need to strengthen the marketing strategies of this sustainability sector.

1.8 Management and Administration of the Programme:

Under this department the organisation is manned by a team of full time professionals, part time volunteers both local and some times from mainly Germany, headed by the Co-ordinator and the programmes Manager.

A team including the Development Worker, Development Officer (DED funded), Four workshop Technicians, an accounts Assistant and two FABIO support staff.

However, with the limitations in the administrative over heads to enhance the effectiveness of the monitoring and follow- up of the different programmes considering the wide area of coverage.

- Monitoring and evaluation:

Under this sector the different organs have continued to meet with the aim of reviewing and assessing the progress of the programme, these include periodic Board, Management and support staff meetings. Quarterly work plans and reports are discussed and reviewed.

1.9 Achievements

- The long awaited Pan African Bicycle Conference (PABIC) hosted by FABIO / BSPW in Jinja.
- More bicycle ambulances distributed among the beneficiaries.
- An input into the new policy document – The Jinja Declaration in place.
- A new network - The Pan African Bicycle Network (PABIN) formed.

2.0 Conclusion:

Despite the fact that the IGA sector is growing, the proceeds are not enough to cover the administration costs, salaries inclusive.

Being aware that DED funding is about to end, it is important for FABIO / BSPW and DED to discuss the above issue critically.

The Pan African Bicycle Network is another load that has been inevitably created and loaded on FABIO/ BSPW despite the fact that the contract of the local expert expired. Her services are still critical to the organization and the sustainability of the program.

There is great need for FABIO/ BSPW to improve its resource base for the purpose of sustainability.

We take this opportunity to thank all our funders for their continued support to FABIO / BSPW and in helping to ensure that FABIO / BSPW achieves its goals.