

Against the odds – a documentary series on living in poverty and with a disability

The series of half hour documentaries are presented and linked by Ade Oke, originally from Nigeria and produced by Mags Murphy, KCLR 96fm. The interviews were spread across a number of themes. The music used as the theme signature tune was sourced in a local craft centre in Kampala. The first programme centered on Jane Perfect from Blind But Able and other programmes can be broken down as follows:

- (1) Jane Perfect
 - (a) poverty and disability in Uganda
 - (b) Jane Perfect's personal experience as victim of an acid attack
 - (c) Women marginalisation, women in politics, Women Affirmative Action

- (2) Rehabilitative Training for the Blind
 - (a) Blind But Able
 - (b) Community Based Rehabilitative training

- (3) Disability Movements in Uganda

- (4) Eye Care Services in Uganda

- (5) Inclusive Education for people with disability in Uganda

- (6) Recreation for people with disability
 - (i) Sports for the Blind
 - (ii) Oversea's Aid
 - (iii) Irish Aid's Activities in Uganda
 - (iv) Sight Savers International

Personal experience of working with local media on the ground:

One real example in Uganda of the power of local media was the use of the local radio. Kiira FM was a very small operation on top of a building with literally no facilities apart from 2 small studios and one computer in a newsroom. However, their franchise area spread to 2 million people and the power of the airwaves in the region meant that information about services for blind and disabled were carried to many homes.

The same can be said for our own local media who may not be in a position to cover the major catastrophes that happen around the world, but who through funding like the Simon Cumbers Media Challenge Fund, can go at different times of the year and really show how people live. The local slant of 'one of our own' going abroad to broadcast and record really makes people talk about the issues at home.



Mags Murphy visits a class with 150 students on average per class © Mags Murphy