

Tailoring a Better Future

COD-ASD-TBF-P01



Goma, DR Congo



Economic Empowerment

Budget \$22,500

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

SEP 21

AUG 22

Overview

This project provides training for 100 local vulnerable, and often traumatised, women, girls and boys to become tailors across two locations in Goma. Participants learn several different sewing techniques together with some marketing/business skills, training participants to become proficient all-round tailors who can either set up a small business or obtain a job in the sewing industry. Ten robust sewing machines will be purchased to add to the stock of machines, together with fabric. A secondary aim is to facilitate peace in a society still suffering from decades of civil unrest and ethnic conflict. This is our fourth sewing project with our partner to develop skills for gainful employment. DR Congo continues to be a very challenging environment.

Impact for September 2021 - February 2022

105



105 students are currently in the program

and have increased their skill level by 60%, having started with no skills at all and now just past the half-way mark of their training. It is great news that the program is back to full capacity, after reduced numbers due to COVID-19.

2 of 10 new sewing machines purchased

A downpayment has been made on the remaining 8 on order. These will replace broken machines and will benefit women who can least afford to buy their own machine.



105



Marketing and business skills training

is incorporated into the tailoring course. This enables students to be competitive in the market and to be aware of effective ways to attract customers and maintain good business practices.

Financial support for two teachers,

one at each centre, provides quality training for the students (54 women and girls at one, 48 women, 3 boys at the other).



- 320 clients of the sewing students in the two centres have indirectly benefitted from the course through receiving mending, adjustments and tailoring services.



Anne's Story

My name is Anne Bufole. I am 21 years old and the mother of a 13 month old baby. Having the opportunity to learn a skill that will provide an income for me has changed my life! I am six months into the course and can now sew dresses, skirts and shirts. Each day I feel more confident sewing clothes for customers and the money I earn helps to cover my expenses, especially my baby's expenses. It feels very liberating to be self-reliant and able to provide for my child. I am very happy and thankful for the support I am receiving. Without it, I don't know how I would be able to get by.



Thank you for making a difference