

Empowering Vulnerable Women



Mbale, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 1 Budget \$45,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

MAR 23

FEB 25

Overview

This project follows previous empowerment projects impacting vulnerable women in some of the poorest communities in Mbale, eastern Uganda. It has three arms: (1) Women's savings/loans groups that have had great success since beginning in 2011 and are growing due to popular demand. Another 30 groups will be created along with training and follow-up; (2) Vocational skills/business training will teach young mums income-generating skills to support themselves and their young children. 100 women will receive training each year in sewing, hairdressing, catering etc; (3) Goat-rearing project for women and orphans in mountain communities. Goats are a simple and reliable animal project and a valuable source of income through breeding of future offspring and supply of meat.

Impact for October 23 - February 24

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Strengthening systems within savings groups

Group leaders training took place in four locations, providing key refresher training, particularly in record-keeping. An internal review of projects, personnel and systems took place, resulting in changes that strengthen governance across all our partner's projects.

16 new savings groups launched in six months

taking the count to 19 new groups for this first year. An entrepreneurial spirit is being fostered, with one women's group, having learnt shoe-making, working together and saving their profits! To date, 8,190 women attend savings groups!



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Vocational training for young mums/women

The first group of 45 Young Mums graduated from vocational training (22 hairdressing, 23 tailoring) in December and a new cohort began in January. Daughters of Destiny recently launched in new premises, enrolling 63 women in hairdressing (35) and tailoring (28). Everyone is enjoying the new learning environment.

Weekly visits to goat beneficiaries

In September, 30 new goats were given out to widows and women living with HIV in Namabasa community. Each week, the Project Officer travels to at least one of the 7 project communities (2000+ beneficiaries) to encourage beneficiaries and provide critical monitoring and oversight. Training on goat care and regular deworming, vaccinations, spraying for ticks and fleas and hoof trimming are provided.

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Norah's Story

Norah used to work as a nursery teacher, but she was rarely paid on time and could barely pay her bills to support her three children. When she heard about Young Mums, she joined the hairdressing program and graduated in December. She has since rented a large salon in the middle of town and called it "Hope's Beauty Salon". She has hired four young women and one young man to work for her and the business is booming! She even wants to collaborate with our partner to start an internship so that more Young Mums can gain work experience after they graduate. How exciting it is to see Norah thriving in her business!

100% GETS THERE

Thank you for making a difference