

Empowering Vulnerable Women



Mbale, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 2 Budget \$47,000

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 March - August 2024

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Strengthening systems within savings groups

Training of group leaders (9 per group totalling 1,263 leaders from 9 locations) in financial management skills and implementing new methods of book keeping is leading to improved tracking of savings, loans and repayments. Other topics included conflict resolution, domestic violence, menopause and home hygiene.

14 new savings groups (480 women) launched

in the reporting period, adding to the 19 formed last year. There has been a significant increase in demand from communities seeking training on savings and loans as more people realise the value of savings. The total number of existing savings groups now stands at 234 (representing 8,190 women).

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Vocational training for young mums

45 Mooni Daughters of Destiny (DoD) (formerly Young Mums) and 42 Namatala DoD, were equipped with vocational skills in tailoring, hairdressing, cooking and shoemaking. There has been an overall increase in self-esteem observed in these vulnerable young mothers.

Weekly visits to goat beneficiaries

128 home visits were carried out in the project communities where 2000+ goat beneficiaries reside. Increased economic status is evident e.g. children returning to school, home improvements and new small businesses starting up. 11 goats were given out to new beneficiaries, giving them a sustainable source of income to support their families.

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Safina's Story

Safina is from one of the poorest of the poor families in her village. Before receiving a goat, she and her family members were surviving by selling packed drinking water in the market. As a single mother she was struggling to provide for her family and so was selected by the project to receive a goat. Her goat has now produced four kids, two of which were sold to go towards school fees. The family is also making use of the goat manure in their small-scale vegetable farm. They plan to save money from future goat sales to buy a cow for milk production. One of their dreams is to one day own a family milk business.



Thank you for making a difference