

New Generation Tailors

UGA-YIM-NEW-P01



Kampala, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget

\$27,000

Project Timeline

SEP 19

NOV 20



Overview

This 12-month course in tailoring, fashion and design equipped 20 disadvantaged youth (18-30) with the knowledge, practical skills and training required to pursue a promising and successful career within the fashion industry. Participants undertook business and entrepreneurship training workshops, and students were also required to create a quota of reusable menstrual hygiene packs monthly to help vulnerable girls stay in school and complete their education. At the end of the program, students are offered a loan to purchase a sewing machine or start-up capital to ensure a smooth transition into business, with follow-up mentoring provided. 20 vulnerable youth are on the road to supporting themselves!

Objectives



Vocational training for 27 youth

Impact

20 students graduated in late November following a lockdown pause. In total, 22 (15 from previous intake) graduates have received micro-loans to help them start up small businesses. 340 menstrual hygiene packs were distributed.



Fee-paying course & social enterprise

To support self-sustainability, fees were paid by 7 students at weekend classes and 33 tailoring graduates were employed in social enterprise (mainly mask-making) leading to local and international sales. On-line sales of items also continues.



A promising new beginning

Single mother of four, Haddijah, was only primary educated but found work selling icy poles at the local school after her husband left her. She joined the tailoring course and showed great promise, her attention to detail and exceptionally neat work meant she accelerated ahead and learnt to sew school uniforms. Her links to the school gave her uniform-making opportunities and increased earning capacity. During lockdown she put some savings from sewing masks into rearing chickens, which she sold after graduating, using the proceeds to set up her own tailoring business. What great initiative and determination!



Life change

- Income-generating skills, in this case tailoring, provide sustainable income to help support participants and their families
- Young people feel empowered to live fruitful, successful lives and will be less vulnerable to crime and the damaging effects of unemployment
- Students learn good teamwork and the value of putting back into their communities

