

Women Overcoming Poverty



Mbale, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 1 Budget \$29,500 (Year 2: \$10,000 needed)

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JAN 21

DEC 22

Overview

This project follows previous empowerment projects impacting vulnerable women in some of the poorest communities in Mbale. It has three arms: (1) Women's savings/loans groups which have shown great success since they began in 2011. Another 20 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; (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. Year 2 budget \$29,500 began 1/1/22.

Impact for July - December 21

700



Emergency food parcels were delivered to 700 loan members severely affected by

the ongoing lockdowns and loss of income in an incredibly challenging situation. This was a huge encouragement.

10 new savings groups were launched in

October, mainly in the village of Busamaga with approx 30 women in each group. That's 300+ additional women - fabulous! That's 4,815 women across 160 groups!

10



41



Vocational training for young mums/women

continued with home visits due to lockdowns. 41 women graduated in August. Some young mums have dropped out as has been the case for education across Uganda. Most recent graduates have found work, helping them to survive and be independent, despite the difficulties.

2,000 goat beneficiaries are visited weekly in 5 villages on a rotational basis.

2,000



This is a wonderful income-producing asset for families. An on-site goat manager is appointed for each community and keeps the buck for breeding and to ensure the first-born kid is returned to the project for others in waiting.

- lockdowns have been severe and people are just beginning to meet again for Christmas activities, training etc
- It is estimated that 50,000+ are impacted positively by these women's programs - a huge and positive influence across the Mt Elgin region, which combines with many other projects eg coffee planting



Gloria's* Story

My name is Gloria and these are two of my three children. I live on the Mt Elgin mountain. A few years ago my husband left me to join the army. He abandoned me and my children and left us destitute. I joined a savings group in Obalanga. After the first year, I used my savings to sell nuts at the market. It has gone well - I saved enough to buy a small plot of land. I am building a house for my children and me, bit by bit. It is lacking doors and windows but I am hopeful of completion one day. I have worked hard but I have come far! I could never do this without the support of the other women, the training and the encouragement. I am grateful.

100%
GETS THERE

Thank you for making a difference