

## Women Overcoming Poverty



Mbale, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 2 Budget \$29,500

Project Timeline

\$7,500 TO GO

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 January - June 22

**160**

#### Follow-up of existing 160 groups



Our partner carries out monthly training of group leaders by region. Now that all groups have been reached, the cycle will repeat again over the next 6 months. Refresher training (of trainers) in best practice for monitoring savings groups was held in April.

#### A further 10 new savings groups were launched

across 5 villages, adding an extra 350+ women to the total number participating (now over 5000)! Demand for groups continues to grow as word spreads among communities.



**100**

#### Vocational training for young mums/women



with new cohorts of 45 "Young Mums" in Mooni (30 tailoring, 15 hairdressing) and 55 "Daughters of Destiny" in Namatala (22 tailoring, 23 hairdressing). Women also benefit from training in Wise Choices for Life and nutrition.

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

These visits are critically important for monitoring and oversight, encourage the beneficiaries, and provide ongoing training on proper goat care well as regular deworming, vaccinations, spraying for ticks and fleas, and hoof trimming as necessary. In February, 20 new goats were given out to vulnerable women and widows in Bukonde.

**2,000**



- With inflation skyrocketing across Uganda, these savings groups, goat rearing projects and vocational training courses are more important than ever in providing a reliable and steady income for families.



### Lynette's Story

Lynette\* is one of the 20 goat recipients from Bukonde. She is blind, and as a result has suffered a great deal of abuse. Lynette is a single mother of four children, all of whom have different fathers who, sadly, are unknown to her. Despite her situation, she actively looks for work and washes clothes for her neighbours with the help of her children. Although none of her children are currently in school, her eldest son is now finding a sense of purpose caring for their new goat. She has also joined a savings group which is helping her integrate into her community and gain self-esteem. The gift of a goat has been a turning point for Lynette and her family!

*\*name changed*



**Thank you for making a difference**