

## Tailoring a Better Future

COD-ASG-TBF-P01



Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED \$30,000

SEPT 21

DEC 22



### Overview

This project trained and graduated 104 local Congolese women and men to become tailors across two locations in Goma. Participants learnt several different sewing techniques together with some marketing/business skills, training participants to become proficient all-round tailors who can either set up a small business or obtain a job in the sewing industry. A secondary aim saw the facilitation of peace in a society still suffering from decades of civil unrest and ethnic conflict. This is our fourth successful sewing project with our partner to develop skills for gainful employment. DR Congo continues to be a very challenging environment with civil unrest, insecurity, inflation, volcanic activity and of course COVID-19 and the subsequent lockdowns etc.

### Objectives



104 students graduated in September

97 women and 7 men successfully completed the sewing course in September 2022. This was extended by 3 months due to lockdowns. Forty-three had to drop out due to restrictions. Despite this, it was an incredible feat to finish!



605 clients were served during the course!

A new sewing room was completed during the previous project. This helped the current students and will enable a better space in the future. Plans for a bigger centre are in process. There were 605 clients served during the course.



### A life transformed!

Project Manger Jenny Crameri and CEO Richard Beaumont travelled to Goma DRC in June. They met Juliette who said, "I am 20 years old. My parents are very poor. I had to abandon my studies even though I didn't want to. Instead of prostituting myself, I was able to enrol in the trade of sewing. Thanks to the support, I am in charge of making clothes for my brothers and sisters, friends and clients. I was able to work with clients whilst learning which was a big help. Thank you very much for your support. It changed my life." Jenny added, "It was wonderful to hear the many life transforming stories from students from this project!"



### Life change

- Income-generating skills to support themselves fostered dignity and self-esteem
- Ability to manage clients, accounts and orders, fostering independence
- A network of support from teachers and other students, particularly during COVID-19 lockdowns, evacuation during volcanic activity and civil unrest

