

Skill Me Up!

UGA-YIM-SMU-P01



Kampala, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Budget \$35,500

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

APR 22

MAR 23

Overview



High quality, professional and holistic vocational training courses in tailoring, fashion and design, and hair and beauty, provided 40 Ugandan marginalised youth (20 in each) with practical market-ready skills and techniques to commence their own business or obtain meaningful employment. The course included business and entrepreneurship training in order for businesses to thrive. The courses are designed to a high standard to give graduates multiple competitive edges. Students are supported through graduation to find jobs or set up a business with a small loan - very little capital is needed to start a business either from home or as a mobile business. Each participant contributed a small amount to the program to ensure they have some "skin in the game".

Objectives



Vocational training for 40 youth

40 students (20 hair, 20 tailoring) graduated in a vibrant ceremony to celebrate their achievements. Many find employment or start their own businesses. The new location has expanded the catchment area for potential students.



A growing social enterprise

The social enterprise has gained pace. New schools are ordering uniforms which employs more graduates. Brochures target hotels etc for tourist business. Fabric shopping tours are running well and the salon is attracting paying customers.



Full Circle!

Albert's family couldn't afford school fees or treatment for an eye condition, which eventually required its removal. It was hard to see his family struggle, so he left for Kampala in search of work. Things weren't that easy and he ended up living on the streets collecting plastic and tin scrap to sell, and sleeping outside a prominent building called City Mall. Last year he was introduced to the tailoring course and studied adult numeracy and literacy at a local school while learning his trade. His hard work paid off, recently graduating and securing a tailoring job in the very building he once slept in front of. He has truly come full circle, and more!



Life change

- Income-generating skills providing a sustainable income for participants to help support themselves and their families
- Young people feeling empowered to live fruitful, successful lives and will be less vulnerable to crime and the damaging effects of unemployment
- Growth in self-esteem, confidence and dignity and able to give back to the community

