

Skills Development

PROJECT:	Learn, Earn and Save (U-LEARN) II
REGION:	Central, East & Southern Africa
COUNTRIES:	Uganda and Tanzania
PROJECT PHASE:	July 2016 – June 2021
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:	Mastercard Foundation



RATIONALE

Education significantly influences a person's life chances in terms of labor market success and general human flourishing. The chance of getting a decent education is limited for many young people in Uganda and Tanzania mainly due to lack of opportunity. Many of the poor work as daily laborers in informal settings. More often than not, the chance of starting a profitable business or being employed in the formal industry is pinned on an individual's level of education.

Beneficiary, Namulunde Nuule, proudly displays her cookies after completing training in Uganda



Youth fixing a column during a practical training session in Tanzania

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The U-LEARN Project targets economically, socially and academically disadvantaged youth between the ages of 18 and 24 years from families living below or slightly above the national poverty line of \$1.90 a day. It is implemented in 14 districts in the Mwanza and Mara regions of Tanzania and 11 districts in the Central, East and Western regions of Uganda. The project focuses on three broad sectors. These are agri-business, building and construction and tourism and hospitality. These sectors are fast growing and require more locally skilled personnel to meet demand and enhance growth.

The project is guided by a unique youth and market-driven learning group model. Youth, particularly young women, are engaged in all aspects of the project, including design, implementation, and management. Swisscontact acts as a market facilitator; building capacity within local institutions to deliver relevant training, business, and employment services to the youth. Through learning groups, Swisscontact offers a holistic package including technical and vocational skills training, business support services, market access and linkages, social and healthy living skills training, and financial service support.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EXPECTED PROJECT IMPACT



Raise 15,000 young people living in Tanzania and Uganda sustainably out of poverty and improve their self-employment opportunities.



Increased employability and competitiveness in the job market. 80% of the graduates should be engaged in self-employment.

TESTIMONIAL

"In the past, career guidance, life skills and financial literacy components were missing from our partners and our results were not favorable for expansion. Due to the structured guidance from the U-LEARN Project in building youth capacity, our results have improved. Many youth are vulnerable and lack the initial guidance and investments required to enter agribusiness. These challenges need to be tackled through continuous sensitization, training and close engagements to have the youth understand how they can maximize partnerships. With the current partnership between KK Foods, an export company in Uganda, and the youth groups, we were able to actualize an inclusive supply chain that safeguarded young hot pepper farmer interests with 55% of the company's business. As a result, our turnover grew from \$5.2million in 2016 to \$6.5million in 2017."

Dr. James Kanyije | Chief Executive Officer - KK Fresh Produce Exporters Ltd., Uganda

We create opportunities

