

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT BULGARI PROJECT

BVLGARI



Save the Children

With funding from Italian Jewelry company, Bulgari, Save the Children is implementing the Youth Empowerment Bulgari (YEB) project with the aim of equipping the youth in Northern Uganda, with skills to enable them be champions of their destiny.

Context

Northern Uganda region rates highly in Youth poverty with 68%. As such, most of the youths are at risk of survival because they missed out on socio-economic opportunities for over two decades of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) conflict. They are the poorest in the country with the lowest rates education levels, and highest levels of unemployment at an alarming 70%. Also, approximately 25% of the households in Northern Uganda are headed by youth (UBOS 2014).

Project Overview

Save the Children, through Youth Empowerment Bulgari project is making significant strides towards improving the lives of the youths; helping them and their families to meet their basic needs and to escape the inter-generational cycle of poverty. It targets vulnerable youths in Gulu, Nwoya and Amuru who have poor or no access to health, education and social protection services; they lack the basic necessities and have no avenues to express their need for services.

By harnessing youth-focused opportunities in basic foundational skills (literacy and numeracy), life skills, vocational skills training and education, livelihoods, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, the project is working towards empowering the youth with financial independence and propelling them towards improved livelihoods.

Overall Goal:

To empower deprived youths (12-20) through personal development, skills training/education, economic empowerment and promote their active participation in the development of their communities.

The Project Expected Results:

- Basic foundational skills through the Accelerated Learning programme, life skills and age-appropriate sexuality and reproductive health for youth are improved (Personal Development).
- Youth abilities to secure decent work opportunities and incomes through vocational trainings/Agri-enterprises are improved (Education and Training).
- Access to financial services that provide the means to investment, meet immediate and long-term livelihood needs for youth and their households are improved (Economic Empowerment).
- Youth engagement in civic activities at community and national level is improved.

Total reach in the first year of implementation

- 397 youth undertaking vocational skills training in organic agro livestock, motorcycle mechanics, hair dressing, leather works and beads artistry, carpentry and joinery, tin smith and iron casting, welding and catering.
- 50 VSLA youth groups with 650 youth established and trained in Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA) methodologies, entrepreneur skills, business development and developing viable business plans
- 1,399 youth enrolled within 23 established Accelerated Learning Programme centres

- 30 youth empowered to advocate for issues affecting them through dialogues with the community, duty bearers, and different platforms to ensure youth issues are incorporated and taken care of.
- Empowered community resource persons to support project intervention; 11 Community Based Trainers supporting VSLA groups, 12 Community Based Agriculture Mentors supporting youth trained in agribusiness, local artisans providing non-formal vocational skills training, ALP facilitators supporting learners at the ALP centres, youth councilors trained to guide youth advocates.

Project snapshot

The project will run for five years from January 2016 to December 2020

Location

- Gulu district (Patiko and Palaro Sub-counties)
- Nwoya district (Alero and Lungulu Sub-counties)
- Amuru district (Amuru and Lamogi Sub-counties)

Donor

BULGARI

Project Partners

Implementing Partner: African Trust Outreach Trust (ACOT)
Other Partners: Local Government.

Thematic Areas


Education and training:



- Accelerated Learning Programme (enrolling youth aged 12-17 years to access literacy, numeracy and life skills)
- Vocational skills training and education (youth enrolled for formal and non-formal vocational training)
- Life skills and Sexual and Reproductive Health

Livelihood and youth empowerment:

- Entrepreneur/Income Generating Activities
- Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA)

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