

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURE (YETA)

FEBRUARY 2015 – FEBRUARY 2020

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

Mastercard Foundation
\$11,454,063



TARGETS

YOUTH TRAINED IN AGRICULTURE BUSINESS SKILLS:

26,250

YOUTH BUSINESSES ESTABLISHED:

21,820

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURE

This project is part of the Youth Forward initiative in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation, Overseas Development Institute, Global Communities, Solidaridad, NCBA CLUSA and GOAL.

The YETA Consortium will draw on a network of Producer Organizations and Youth Associations as an entry point to train, mentor, and provide employment opportunities for at-risk and unemployed/ underemployed youth in four districts of Northern Uganda: Dokolo, Kiryandongo, Kole, and Masindi.

YETA hinges on NCBA CLUSA's "Learn, Engage, Build" model designed to create long-term engagement by integrating numeracy, literacy and life skills with technical expertise in agriculture, business, entrepreneurship and management. Youth who participate in the program will learn concepts they can relate to everyday life (Learn), apply those concepts under a mentor's guidance (Engage) and receive support and encouragement to experiment on their own (Build).



Herbert, 23 of Dokolo, shows off his ox tilling business, where he now employs others after going through YETA business trainings and connecting to his youth association "Youth with Vision"



Youth
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A SINGLE MOM STANDS ON HER OWN WITH SUPPORT FROM HER YOUTH ASSOCIATION

After getting training in financial literacy and entrepreneurship through a YETA supported youth group, Juliet Abitegeka, a single mother from Masindia, Uganda, learned how to save, budget and manage her projects. By integrating these skills into her daily business, she was able to quickly diversify her income and, ultimately, support her family on her own.

Juliet is the 23-year-old chairperson of Katwemukye Bukooba Youth Group. Founded in November 2015 with 35 members—21 men and 14 women—the group elected Juliet as chairperson. Working together, the group received training in agriculture, business and financial management through the Youth Empowered Through Agriculture (YETA) Project, led by NCBA CLUSA in partnership with Mastercard Foundation.

Collectively, the Katwemukye Bukooba Youth Group decided to start a piglet incubator business. While many invested in the start-up, Juliet also used her new skills to branch out on her own until the larger group could turn a profit. She started by buying local chicks from her village that she fattened and later sold. She soon found a market for her chicken in the neighboring weekly market where she also sold her fast-growing green vegetables, locally known as nakati.

Juliet joined a Village Savings and Loan (VSLA) group in the neighborhood, where she saved over 300,000 Ugandan



shillings, or just over \$80 USD in 2016. These savings were a platform to accessing credit and expanding her businesses.

According to Juliet, trainings offered by YETA opened her eyes to the world of opportunities and she will no longer accept failure as an option. She is planning to pay back the loan in the next few months.

Juliet now lives in her own home with her only child. They moved in February this year, solving the major challenge of their own shelter. She will continue to expand her businesses and looks forward to the investment of knowledge and training from the youth association.

With the confidence to strike out on her own and the support of other youth group members, Juliet is creating a stable foundation for herself and her son. Through projects like YETA, providing entrepreneurial women the opportunity to use their leadership skills is a springboard to success and resilience.

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and is the primary voice in the United States for people who use cooperatives to build a better world. We currently work in Africa, Asia and Latin America building resilient communities, promoting economic opportunities and strengthening cooperatives and producer groups.



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