# The Umbrella of Hope Nederland/Uganda

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 **Project Concept**

**Project Title: Build a Vocational School for 200 Children with Albinism in Uganda**

**Location: Mayuge rural areas, Uganda**

**Amount requested: $20,000**

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# 1.0 Executive Summary

The Umbrella of Hope is committed to community advancement. We are seeking funding for an enterprise project for 200 People with Albinism Uganda. This project aims to achieve the following 5 goals:

* Empower people with albinism socially and economically making them financially independent
* Invest in the education of children with Albinism
* Establish sustainable livelihoods for youths with Albinism
* Enable people with albinism to lead more fulfilling lives with investment in health
* Reduce vulnerability and discrimination against people with Albinism in Uganda

**1.1 Background**

Most of the E.African region is made up of the Equatorial climate which is characterised by very hot temperature all year round, a condition which is not suitable for people living with Albinism. Albinism is a defect of [melanin](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/002256.htm) production that results in little or no colour (pigment) in the skin, hair, and eyes. This kind of condition is treated by protecting the skin and eyes from the sun: Reduce sunburn risk by avoiding the sun, using sunscreen, and covering up completely with clothing when exposed to the sun, Sunscreen should have a high sun protection factor (SPF) and Sunglasses (UV protected) may relieve light sensitivity.

In that kind of UV environment the Sun ravages an Albinos body, thus a person with albinism cannot fully participate In outdoor activities like farming, and going to school and if they have to go to the farms or school then they have to go very early when it’s still dark, which is not safe considering that they are on high demand for ritual sacrifices in most of the communities they live in in E.Africa. This has left many people with albinism to be burdens and liabilities on their families and communities.

# 2.0 Problem Statement

From the above background we can conclude that people with Albinism can’t work in the sun yet In Uganda 90% of the Albino population is based in the rural areas and for the 80 percent of the poor people with Albinism who live in rural areas, agriculture is the main source of income and employment. Agriculture work requires one to work in the fields mainly during hot conditions, a condition people with albinism cannot sustain. Even the children who have to walk to school find it hard to walk over 1-2 Kms every day in such a scorching sun in a Uganda village– the very last place they should be. Many Children and teenagers with Albinism usually develop, at a very young age, a facial rash of dark melanomas that are the precursor of the skin cancer that kills so many albinos in early adulthood in Uganda.

This acute dilemma has been multiplied many times over by the killings. Twenty-six-year-old albino Yusuf Elias says it’s really very simple: “If you don’t go in the sun you don’t eat,” adding that for security reasons he has now been barred by elders from tending his plot a short distance away from his village where there was a particularly notorious murder and dismemberment of a young girl by albino hunters. Yusuf survives on the charity of his neighbours.

Unfortunately because of lack of education and constant discrimination against them, people with Albinism mainly youths lack any skills to involve themselves in income generating initiatives that can help to improve their livelihoods. People with albinism mainly women have struggled with life and they need a hand that can support them through vocational training that can equip them with constructive Knowledge and reliable Skills. Most of them lack direction and support which has contributed greatly in affecting their growth and health which has negatively impacted on their lives.

## 2.1 Intervention

Stichting The Umbrella of Hope Nederland is mandated to help poor communities make a step in their lives by providing them with education, medical care and also empower their them with skills initiatives to boast household incomes.

This project aims at People with Albinism’s empowerment and advancement, to enable them to become self-sufficient and eradicate poverty in the long run. In order to achieve these goals, the project wants to ensure sustainable livelihoods for them in Mayuge District Uganda.

***‘’We Believe In Empowering People To Empower Themselves’’***. Our strategy aims at building and strengthening hands on skills and creating a favorable environment that enables People with Albinism to identify their strength, talents and potentials and turn them into business opportunities. We believe in transforming the formal education system in Uganda by providing skills for job creators but not job seekers. We shall offer skills that provide solution to un- employment and tackles poverty. This project will offer various community tailored skills for people with Albinism as one way of expanding innovation in the community, fighting poverty, improving access to education, manage their health and also keep them away from the sun and discrimination. We believe vocational education is the key to tackling these challenges.

**2.1.1 Proposed Solution**

We have already identified and recruited trainers who will train the beneficiaries in their respective areas of interest. After a period of two years, the project shall use previously trained beneficiaries to assist in the project as mentors to the project beneficiaries.

This project has already identified skills needs of these youths with Albinism an empirical research carried out in June, 2015. We were able to identify over 200 youth and children with Albinsm, and we will equip them with skills in leadership, business management, communication, people management. As a result we hope to have over 87% of the trained beneficiaries start running their own businesses and employing over 300 youths, women and persons with disability from the area. The business area of focus includes income generating projects such as candle making, soap making, tailoring, hair styling and Carpentry.

Stichting The Umbrella of Hope Nederland will to set up vocational Centre, this centre will focus on helping Albinos improve on their livelihoods through skills acquisition. This project will therefore strengthen the service provisioning of this centre by establishing a quality vocational and entrepreneurial skills training centre. The vocational skills will be imparted through direct provision of skills and apprenticeship. The organization plans to expand the existing training center to an annual capacity of 200 youth with Albinism. Trainees will attend the morning and afternoon sessions. By the end of 24 months, 400 trainees will have graduated and then another intake will come. This project will also require training materials.

### 2.1.2 Our request

We are therefore requesting for $20000 to enable us acquire the necessary start-up equipment for the trainees these will include the soap making machines, candle making machines, Carpentry tools, Beauty Salon equipment and also training equipment.

We shall give this equipment to people living with albinism who will run their businesses in groups and they will be monitored by staff from umbrella of hope and the Vocational centre to ensure efficiency and effectiveness of the project.

Through these capital ventures people with Albinism will be able to generate income which will be used to acquire medical services like sun lotion, sun glasses, caps, magnifiers, thick clothes, skin treatment, food and other amenities- Something that will keep them away from the sun and also gain respect from the communities who see them as a burden and liability

**3.0 The Programme**

## 3.1 Project Goal: To reduce the vulnerability of people with Albinism and increase their access to vocational education and life skills training by end 2017.

**Project Objective 1:** To strengthen the capacity of 200 people with Albinism through training in tailoring and knitting, Soap making, candle making, computer skills, fashion design and entrepreneurship for improved livelihoods by end 2017.

**Results and Activities**

**Result 1:** enhanced abilities of the people with albinism applying acquired skills and created jobs for themselves.

**Activities**

1. Purchase necessary materials needed for the expansion of the vocational training center.
2. Empower children with albinism to go to school in a safe environment by proving sun protection equipment.
3. Purchase of training materials, office equipment and fittings.
4. Mobilize and organize people with albinism in groups of their courses choice.
5. Select and enroll beneficiaries for the vocational training.
6. Conduct training in various courses for the period of two years.
7. Purchase of training equipment and materials.
8. Organize two graduation ceremonies for the finalists in various courses.
9. Support graduates with startup kits for business establishment.( soap making machines, candle making machines, sewing machines, knitting equipment, Hair & beauty salon equipment)

**Project objective 2:** To rehabilitate and provide psychosocial support to people living with Albinsm by end 2017.

**Results and Activities**

**Result I:** 200 people with albinism supported rehabilitated and benefited from project interventions.

1. Organize weekly counseling and guidance sessions for people with albinism
2. Organize games and sports for cognitive building and socialization among people with Albinism.
3. Organize Music Dance and Drama for the beneficiaries to unlock their talents and learn traditional dance to revive their cultures.
4. Organize weekly health education and debates on Albinism in the community

**3.2 Target population**

The project will target 200 people with albinism. Out of which 100 will be female and 100 males. These beneficiaries are characterized by high rates of unemployment; they have little or no formal education. Beneficiaries are interested to acquire practical skills for self-reliance but lack an opportunity to exploit their potentials. The project will promote education for sustainable development which will empower youth to identify their potential and abilities and use them to create employment opportunities for themselves.

**3.3 Sustainability Plan**

This centre will be open to the community who will also have access to the vocational facilities and services. Anyone outside the targeted beneficiaries will be required to pay a fee in order to access the training programme. This money will be used to run the centre by paying the trainers, acquiring the training equipment and start-up kits for the subsequent trainees. We shall also have contribution towards the education of children with Albinism.

To ensure sustainability of the program, the practical skills provided will enable beneficiaries to initiate their own businesses. This will reduce over dependency on the project. Every year, 100 beneficiaries will be offered group start up kits that will strengthen their capacities economically. By the end of 2 years, 200 beneficiaries will have benefited from this component.

The training Centre will also serve as a business support center and we shall ensure that after completing the training, they (trainees) shall not be left out in the cold. They will have a center to revert to for support, advice and technical guidance. With the Internet connection, the center shall provide free online courses and free business software. At the same time, a call center where national and international calls can be made and answered shall be part of the business center.

Most important of all, the business center shall take the lead in locating suitable employers for the beneficiaries, supporting them to solve day-to-day problems and offering guidance and counseling to ensure success. Beneficiaries businesses will be officially registered at local government and this will enable youth to compete for the existing funding opportunities that will boost their businesses. This will enable them boost their enterprises that will generate incomes thus boosting their livelihoods.

**4.0 Monitoring and Evaluation (based on Quantitative and Qualitative data)**

**1. Indicators for Poverty Reduction**

* + Conduct Interviews with beneficiaries to measure progress
	+ Use Basic Capabilities Index to monitor Beneficiaries’ overall progress
	+ Conduct baseline survey of beneficiaries’ earnings on a quarterly basis
	+ Conduct community assessment to measure community participation in the project

**2. Indicators for Education**

* + Measure children’s progress and attendance in class for the school year (September-June) with the help of report cards and interviews with class teachers

**3. Indicators for** **Health**

* + Record expenses on beneficiaries health care
	+ Monitor number of visits to the clinic
	+ Monitor types of foods purchased in order to measure healthy nutritional intake