

Project Description

PROJECT TITLE

Train and Support (Empower) 1000 Internally Displaced youths In Cameroon to develop sustainable start-ups for income generation

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project seeks to train and train and support(empower) 1000 (600 girls, 400 boys) vulnerable and underprivileged internally displaced youths in Cameroon including single teenage mothers, young widows, school dropouts, ex-convicts and Orphans in simple, low cost business start-ups (computer studies, tailoring, hair dressing, beads jewellery production) as alterative income generating activities. These vulnerable youths will be trained and supported in activities of their choice within our vocational training programs.



Donation of basic food and sanitary item/ and mentorship to IDP's

CHALLENGE

The Current anglophone crisis plaguing the two English speaking regions of Cameroon have posed tremendous negative impact on the civilian population of the country's north- west and south-west regions, hosting over 4 million inhabitants of the nation's population which is about 16% of the total population.

In the mist of these crises, youths between the ages of 18 and 35 in conflict zones are most vulnerable to various challenges such as recruitment into armed violent groups, rape, conception of unwanted pregnancies, contraction of STDs especially HIV/AIDS while some are left orphans and widows as husbands and parents are frequently murdered in the course of the struggle. This has caused thousands of people to flee their homes and seek refuge in neighboring safer towns with limited access to employment opportunities and little or no capital basic livelihood. Most young people caught by this tragedy turn into illegal activities such as prostitution, theft, gambling and drugs to make a living.

SOLUTION

The Project seeks to provide life-skill training and support to some 1000 (400 boys, 600 girls) internally displaced youths in computer studies, beads jewelry production, tailoring, hair dressing as alternative income generating activities. These youths will be trained and supported with start-up capital in form of equipment and finances. This will help empower them and reduce their risk of being associated with illegal activities.



Teaching Elderly women on how to market her locally made soap/Omo on social media and local market



Receiving laptops for training donated by labdoo

LONG-TERM IMPACT

In the long term, these young people will be able to create jobs for themselves and for more youths in the region. While they will be able to make a decent living for themselves and their families, they will also be able to create huge opportunity for others. Our economic livelihood support program (ELSP) created within our sustainability scheme hopefully will be able to sustain the project activities to assist more and more young people and to create programs that will help more underprivileged and vulnerable youths and the rest of communities.



Workshop "Getting to know the IDP's to verify if they have some skills that could be promoted"

THEME

Donation Options

\$10 Will train a youth/family on basic skills to promote a small business on social media and local market

\$25 Will provide basic training in beads jewellery production for a youth/family

\$100 will train and provide start up kits for a Youth/ family in buying and selling local foods

\$150 will train a youth/family with basic online/offline skill and support with a laptop

\$200 will provide basic training in tailoring and hair dressing for 10 youth each for three months.

\$400 will buy 4 electric sewing machines to provide access to many trainers

\$600 will train and support 10 youths/families in tailoring and hair dressing for 10 youth each for three months.

\$1800 provide full time training and sustainable start up materials for 10 youths/families

PROBLEM

Since November 2016, political and social instability, exacerbated by sporadic violence, has posed negative impact on the civilian population of Cameroon's North- West and South-West Regions, hosting over 4 million inhabitants of the nation's population which is about 16% of the total population. This socio-political crisis has progressively translated into insecurity and armed violence escalating tensions and upsurge in hostilities between non-state armed groups and defence and security forces of the nation.

Significant internal displacement has accompanied this instability in the two regions and schools have been progressively disrupted. All divisions in the North West and South-West region, host to more than 1.4 million inhabitants, are affected by the crisis. More than 6000 young people have been recruited into armed separatist groups living in bushes and together with the government military forces preach and perpetrate violence and attacks on schools, homes and civilians resulting in thousands of killings, destruction of property, looting of businesses, blazing of homes and schools. More than 150 schools have been burnt

down and others turned into camps for armed groups. Young girls and women are raped and sexually assaulted by the military and children of school age are denied their rights for education. With schools shut down, thousands of children of school age are left wondering in the streets, most have turned to illegal activities to make a living with numerous unwanted pregnancies among teenage girls and increase in contraction of STDs. Local farmers do not have access to go to the farm which is gradually leading to malnourishment among many locals. The situation is getting worst as politicians, war mongers and other radical individuals are using it to push forward their agendas through promotion of hate speech, tribalism, extortion of money from people through kidnappings and demands for ransom and other evil practices. The end result is the lay man who is suffering leaving young people extremely vulnerable as they are often the target by the armed groups and the government military. The number of households forced to flee their villages and the country in search of safer areas has rapidly and steadily increased since November 2017. Recent needs assessments report that at least 160,000 people have been internally displaced in the two affected regions. In addition, more than 50,000 Cameroonians have been registered as refugees in Cross River, Benue and Akwa Ibom States in Nigeria.

SOLUTION

The Project seeks to provide life-skill training and support to some 1000 (400 boys, 600 girls) internally displaced youths in computer studies, beads jewellery production, tailoring, hair dressing as alternative income generating activities. These youths will be trained and supported with start-up capital in form of equipment and finances. This will help empower them and reduce their risk of being associated with illegal activities. The project will also help reduce the number of young people being recruited into violent extremist groups by reintegrating them into society and giving them a source of living. As these youths gain more skills and begin individual start-ups, it will reduce the rate of illegal activities such theft, drugs, prostitution which will go along way to

reduce unwanted pregnancies especially among teenagers, spread of STDs and the number of parents and husbands killed, thereby reducing number of young girls left as widows and number of children left as orphans. The project will help create more job opportunities for other young people in future.

POTENTIAL LONG-TERM IMPACT

In the long term, these young people will be able to create jobs for themselves and for more youths in the region. While they will be able to make a decent living for themselves and their families, they will also be able to create huge opportunity for others. Our economic livelihood support program (ELSP) created within our sustainability scheme hopefully will be able to sustain the project activities to assist more and more young people and to create programs that will help more underprivileged and vulnerable youths and the rest of communities.