

Provide Skills for Unemployed Vulnerable and Displaced youths in Bamenda, North West Region of Cameroon:

CHANGE A YOUTH'S LIFE THROUGH VOCATIONAL TRAINING



ABOUT H4BF COOPERATIVE

ABOUT US

We are:

- NGO based in Bamenda, Cameroon
- Operating all over Cameroon
- Working on the issues of Agriculture, Capacity building, Peace Building, WASH, Vocational Training, Food Security, Food Exchange and Environmental Protection

Our target population:

Most vulnerable, particularly youth and women (Widows, Single Mothers, People living with HIV, minority groups, the extreme poor, ex conflicts.)



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Target group:

- Uneducated and unemployed youths aged 18 to 35 years
- Internally displaced youths
- Ex- conflicts
- Young widows
- School dropouts
- Orphans



Project Description

SUMMARY

The project seeks to train and support 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 (jewelry production) to increase their chances of gaining employment and also provide alternative income generating activities. These vulnerable youths will be trained and supported in activities of their choice within our vocational training program

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 15 and 30 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 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.

LONG-TERM IMPACT

In the long term, these young people will be able to secure employment and most importantly, 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. Out of the 110 students who graduated from our VTC, 89 have successfully found jobs. This is a 75% successful job placement! Our hope is that by continuing to offer skills training, more and more disadvantaged youths will find employment and break the cycle of poverty

OUR METHODOLOGY

1. Identification of beneficiaries:

- Possible beneficiaries are found by:
 - **Application:** Youths apply at any given time, we register them as candidates and keep them until funds are available to open up a new generation.
 - **Community:** Community quarter heads always give us a list of youths they find among the poorest in their area.

Youths are called to come for **interview**, and household visits. Level of vulnerability is assessed. Those most vulnerable, with a minimum disposition to carry on business, are selected.



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

1. Youths between 15 and 30 years old
2. Commitment: In some cases, we admit fully committed older age women/Individuals.

WHY YOUTHS?

Youths between the ages of 15 and 30 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.

WHY VOCATIONAL TRAINING?

We believe vocational training help individuals develop social competencies and improve health-related behavior. We also believe it have a positive impact on a person's motivation, attitude, self-esteem, and self-confidence especially among the unemployed. Our pass experience has proven on right, based on our believes, we could not thing of a better way to empower unemployed youths better than offering them practical training.

More than 79 youths have been trained and supported in Bamenda since creation

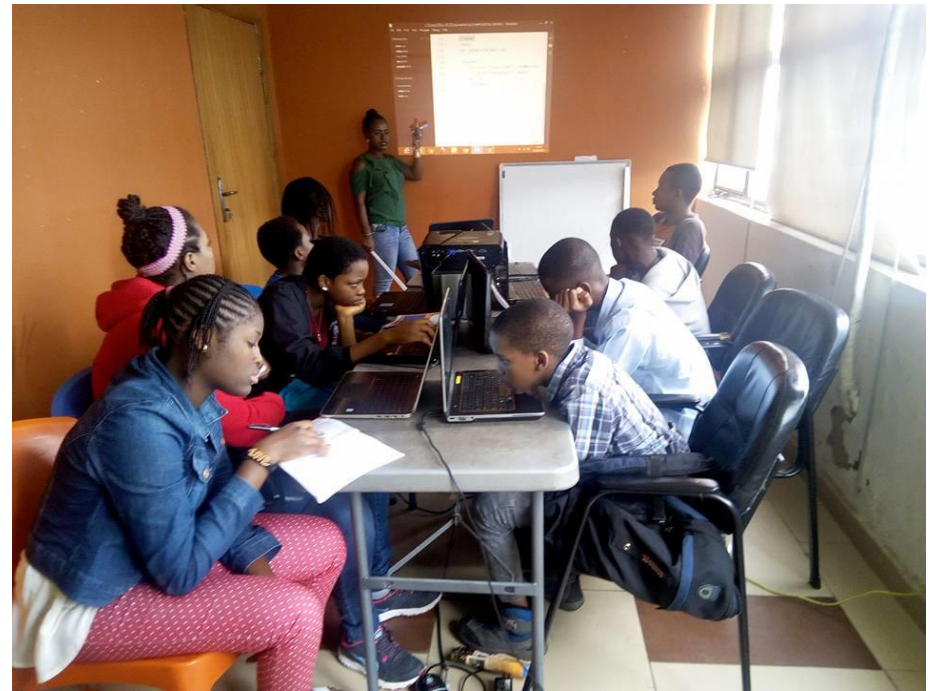
In 2017:

- 18 youths trained & supported
- 12 new girls joined the program

In 2018:

- 31 youths & supported
- 18 new youths joined the program

THANK YOU!



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