



SAFEPLAN UGANDA

BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2019

In this document we capture highlights of the recent activities conducted in the organization up to June 2019. The report also rolls over the organization on going activities from 2018 to 2019.

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Brief Background of the organization and its activities.

Safeplan Uganda is a youth led community-based organization harnessing the potential of young people to create an enabling environment for development through training and support to youth activities.

The organization targets youths and especially young women below the age of 30 years old with livelihood skills and business opportunities. The organization achieves this through its five-fold program areas of Health, Environment, Education, Gender and ICT (Information, communication and Technology).

In 2018/19 social economic empowerment through skills training was top on the organization agenda to increase the number of youths especially women creating new livelihood opportunities for themselves to improve their growing families.

Organization focus 2019

1. To increase the number of girls acquiring life skills changing technology through training.
2. To promote women led entrepreneurs through training and networking with partners for financial support.
3. To expand the use of energy efficient cooking technology last mile consumers across the Bunyoro regions.

ACTIVITIES COVERED

1. Skills training in Carpentry and Tailoring
2. Social Economic empowerment project The Budongo women Bee Enterprises-BUWOBE.
3. Sale and distribution of energy saving cookstoves

Photos and captions

- BUWOBE Project
- Skills training and
- Energy cookstoves.

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Project reports.

1. Skills training- Carpentry and tailoring:

In the first quarter of 2019, 20 boys and 15 girls were enrolled to benefit from the ongoing skills training in carpentry and tailoring at Safeplan Uganda organization. The training program is designed to take a period of three months or 78 working days and one month or 22 working days industrial training. Out of the 35 youths identified 10 girls and 12 boys completed all the three months training.

1.1. **Carpentry**- The training covers introduction to carpentry tools, measuring, using the tools, cutting and safety measures with bias in product development leading to completion of sellable product by the end of the three months course. The trainees in carpentry spend the whole day because they make small contribution as cost sharing fee to meet the training requirements, administration and also facilitating the instructors.

1.2. **Tailoring**- The tailoring training course covers introduction to parts of tailoring machines, design in garment industry and craft work. The young girls are trained how to be creative by making art products as they learn complicated designs.

In both training the trainees are empowered with simple business skills to improve their financial management while carrying on their work, record keeping and group saving to help them increase on capital for their enterprises.



The trainees attend practical classes with their instructor.

The skills training program is a hands-on training covering 90% of the trainees' time in the centre.

This provides ample time for learners who can not read and write to acquire skills in a work based approach

2. Budongo Women Bee Enterprises-BUWOBE

Brief project background.

2.1. Budongo Women Bee Enterprises (BUWOBE) the prize-winning project, addresses young women's economic needs in the community through providing free training and supplies for environmentally-friendly cooperative bee farming. On a weekly basis, the young women, including young mothers, meet and learn basic reading and writing skills as well as receive training on economic empowerment, women and children's health.

2.1.1. *Safepan initiated BUWOBE in direct response to the growing predominance of sugarcane farming in the region. A local sugarcane factory has taken over a lot of land to grow sugarcane; local farmers are also growing sugarcane on their own land to sell to the factory ("outgrowers"). This results in significantly less land for family food, especially as it can take two+ years for the sugarcane to be ready for harvest. Moreover, land is owned by men, so there is less land available for women to grow food for their families' consumption. Sugarcane growing is now covering up to 80% of arable land at the expense of agricultural activities with increasing population and looming economic growth around the world there is high demand for agricultural produce without any consideration on sustainable natural resource management.*



The photo above shows sugarcane plantation covering more land than food crops in the community

The beekeeping enterprise was developed as a way to allow women to have resources for themselves in an environmentally aware way. BUWOBE project borders national forest land. The Government of Uganda has a program of collaborative forest management in this community, allowing the communities bordering the forests to use it in non-harmful ways (such as for beekeeping). Since the project also supports tree planting this is a way to sustain the forests and natural resource.

The Budongo Women Bee Enterprises is proudly funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) with its partners Volvo and Standard chartered Bank.

2.2. Specific activity reports.

Identification of the training participants.

2.2.1. The training was officially launched in January 2019 by the district chairperson Masindi District.

A total of 74 youths was mobilized aged between 14-30 years of age 60 females and 14 males. A needs assessment was done basing o the following criteria among others.

- There level of education and the last time they left school
- Ability to read and write at least one's names
- Future aspiration for oneself
- Skills needs in the options of tailoring, hairdressing honey products that include cosmetic and syrups.

According to participants response the following youths were identified to benefit from the training project.

Activity	Sex	Age	Location	Selected participants for training
Participants selection	F	14-20 years	Nyantanzi,	16
	M		Siiba,	2
	F	21-30 years	Kabale and	9
	M		Kasenene	3
Total				30

In summary 25 females and 5 males.

2.2.2. Training partners

Training partner	Duration	Areas of training
Rockland Bee keeping company-Kasese Uganda	2 days	Bee keeping and apiary management basic skills
Kapeeka Bee keeping Association	2 days	Honey harvesting and packaging
Clear A2Z Consult Uganda Ltd	2 days	Business skills and record keeping

Masindi District Farmers' Association, Saving and Credit Section	1 day	Financial literacy, Saving and credit management
KIBO Youth Foundation also An alumni of Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI)	2 days	Leadership skills and mentoring program

2.2.3. Monitoring and evaluation visit.

Recently our partners from USAID visited our project to assess progress since the project start. In the photo below they record podcast with beneficiaries.



Gloria one of the BUWOBE project beneficiaries expressed much appreciation for the project that has empowered them to acquired skills that are helping them in many other areas especially business and leadership skills.

2.2.4. The project beneficiaries formed themselves into smaller groups a way of continuing to work together and also saving funds to acquire beehives. Through the saving scheme the project has already secured 10 beehives and 10 more hives are being fabricated to be distributed to other members.

3. Sales and distribution of energy efficient cooking technology

3.1. Safeplan Uganda organization promotes and distributes energy efficient cooking and lighting technologies. Since the beginning of 2019 the organization has sold 3000 cookstoves across Masindi contributing up to 13,000,000Ugx in revenue.

The organization train teenage mothers who have dropped out of school to work on producing low cost energy cooking stoves and they earn a small commission form the stoves produces.



Esther support staff on the left displays her finished stove ready for sale.

Below Annet Executive Director counts the stoves before they are delivered to customers



3.2. Challenges and opportunities in the region

3.2.1. The challenges affecting project implementation in the community

- The major challenge remains how do the group members put together resources to acquire beehives and embark on commercial bee farming in an inclusive manner even the weak members benefiting
- How can the group multiply the little savings by sharing with members doing business to grow their enterprises as well bring interest to the group savings.
- Further support to secure enough beehives so the members can produce more honey to increase their earnings.

3.2.2. Opportunities.

- ✓ The beneficiaries are now trainer of trainee in bee keeping they also acquired adequate skills in business skills especially record keeping and marketing their products.
- ✓ Saving groups have already been formed members can hope to get hives in nearby future.
- ✓ National forest authority is willing to allocate land for bee farming for free in the forest reserve.