

recognition that allows us to deliver nationally accredited vocational programs. This milestone validates the quality and relevance of our training courses, ensuring that the skills our learners gain are recognized across Uganda and beyond. We also proudly obtained our Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) registration certificate, a major step in formalizing our operations and expanding our capacity to partner with local and international stakeholders. These certifications have positioned Ademaria as a trusted, accountable, and professional partner in the refugee response and urban development landscape. In addition, we received awards from PHB for our outstanding community service and innovation in supporting refugee livelihoods and education. These recognitions reflect the dedication of our team, volunteers, and partners who continue to drive our mission forward with passion and integrity. Ademaria Initiative stands stronger, more resilient, and better prepared to scale its impact in the years ahead



**“Firm Foundation Bright Future”**



**SERVICES OFFERED**

- ◆ Day Care Services
- ◆ Nursery & Primary
- ◆ Kids Talent & Development
- ◆ High Standard Teaching
- ◆ Highly Qualified Teachers
- ◆ Night Care Services
- ◆ Balanced Meals

**Other Services**

VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING,  
FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING  
TAILORING, HAIR DRESSING, ART & CRAFT  
ADULT EDUCATION(ENGLISH)

**LOCATION :**  
**Salama Road ,**  
**Mayanja Stage**

## BACKGROUND

Ademaria Initiative is a refugee-led organization based in the urban slums of Makindye, Kampala. Founded to address the pressing needs of refugees and vulnerable host families, the Initiative empowers communities through education, vocational training, and livelihoods support. Rooted in the belief that refugees are agents of change, not just recipients of aid, Ademaria focuses on building self-reliance and restoring dignity.

Since its establishment, the Initiative has provided early childhood education to refugee children, trained women in income-generating skills, and connected youths to business and employment opportunities. Ademaria also promotes savings culture through community groups, financial literacy, and partnerships with financial institutions. Recognized and certified both by the Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT) and as a refugee-led NGO, the organization continues to grow as a trusted grassroots partner, championing inclusion, resilience, and socio-economic empowerment in Uganda's urban refugee communities.

### Education for All

Education remains at the heart of Ademaria Initiative's mission to restore hope and dignity among refugee and host communities in Makindye. In 2024, we provided early childhood education to 60 children, ensuring they had access to safe learning spaces, nurturing teachers, and age-appropriate learning materials. For many of these children, our center offered not only education but also stability, nutrition, and emotional support in an environment where displacement and poverty often disrupt early learning.

To celebrate progress and inspire continued learning, we held the colorful graduation ceremony for our top-class children, marking important milestones in their educational journey.



Parents, teachers, and community leaders joined to honor their achievements and reaffirm the value of education for every child, regardless of background. During the year, Ademaria Initiative also formed the Urban ECD Network, a collaborative platform of five early childhood centers across Kampala. This network promotes shared learning, advocacy, and joint action to improve the quality of early education in urban refugee and low-income communities. Through these collective efforts, we are building a foundation where every child has the opportunity to learn, grow, and dream beyond limitations.

### Empowering Women & Families

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At Ademaria Initiative, we believe that empowering women is key to building stronger, more resilient families and communities. In 2024, our focus on livelihoods and self-reliance led to the training of 70 women in practical vocational skills such as tailoring, crafts, and hairdressing. These trainings not only equipped women with marketable skills but also helped them regain confidence, independence, and a sense of purpose after years of displacement and hardship.

To further enhance household resilience, 11 heads of households were supported to secure employment, providing a steady income and improved living conditions for their families. Recognizing the importance of financial inclusion, Ademaria also established an active savings group to help parents collectively save, access small loans, and start microenterprises that sustain their livelihoods.

In partnership with Opportunity Bank, members of the group received financial literacy training, enabling them to better manage resources, plan for the future, and strengthen their financial discipline. These initiatives have sparked a growing culture of savings, entrepreneurship, and cooperation among refugee and host families, demonstrating that when women are economically empowered, entire communities thrive.

### Youth Development & Entrepreneurship

Young people are the heartbeat of our communities, carrying both the dreams and potential to shape a brighter future. In 2024, Ademaria Initiative placed youth empowerment at the center of its work, focusing on transforming



vulnerability into opportunity through entrepreneurship and skills development.

Through a partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), we connected 80 refugee and host-community youths to business training programs designed to nurture their entrepreneurial abilities and strengthen their economic resilience. These youths gained essential knowledge in business planning, financial management, marketing, and innovation, preparing them to start and manage small enterprises in urban settings.

Beyond training, NRC provided startup kits that enabled participants to immediately put their skills into practice and launch income-generating ventures. Many have since initiated small businesses in tailoring, food processing, and mobile services, creating livelihoods not only for themselves but also for others within their communities.

Through this initiative, Ademaria continues to promote entrepreneurship and self-reliance, equipping young people with the tools, confidence, and mindset needed to lead change. We envision a generation of empowered refugee and urban youth who are economically independent, socially engaged, and committed to building peaceful, thriving communities.

### Institutional Growth & Recognition

The year 2024 marked significant growth and consolidation for Ademaria Initiative as an emerging refugee-led organization committed to sustainable community transformation.

Building on our grassroots experience, we achieved several important institutional milestones that have strengthened our structure, visibility, and credibility. During the year, with the support from the Amahoro fellowship, Ademaria acquired certification from the Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT), a key