



Dynamique des Jeunes Leaders pour la Paix et le Respect des Droits Humains

**DYJEPREDHU asbl**

Dynamics of Young Leaders for Peace and Respect for Humans Rights

**CHANGEMENT TRANSFORMATION IMPACT**

## Train idle youth in tailoring

April 2026

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# PROJECT TECHNICAL PROPOSALS

## I. Project Summary

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### 1. Title of the project: Train idle youth in tailoring

### 2. Contact details:

- Name of the organization: Dynamic of Young Leaders for Peace and Respect for Human Rights, "DYJEPREDHU asbl" in acronym

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### 3. Organization Mission Statement

"Our mission is to combat youth unemployment and social vulnerability by providing high-quality vocational training in tailoring and entrepreneurship. We are dedicated to transforming 'idle youth' into skilled professionals and self-reliant business owners through a hands-on approach that combines technical mastery, professional mentorship, and the provision of essential startup tools. By bridging the skills gap, we aim to foster economic independence, reduce poverty, and promote long-term social stability within our communities."

### Core Values

- **Empowerment:** Giving youth the tools to take charge of their own destiny.
- **Craftsmanship:** Promoting excellence and high standards in local garment production.
- **Sustainability:** Ensuring that every graduate can maintain a stable and long-term income.

### Project Beneficiaries

The project is designed to reach a diverse group of individuals, primarily focusing on those most excluded from the formal economy.

## **1. Direct Beneficiaries (The Trainees)**

The project will directly train youth over a 12-month period. The selection criteria will prioritize:

- **Idle and Unemployed Youth (Ages 15–25):** Young men and women who are currently "NEET" (Not in Education, Employment, or Training).
- **School Dropouts:** Individuals who were forced to leave formal education due to financial constraints and lack marketable skills.
- **Vulnerable Young Women:** Including teen mothers and those from female-headed households, providing them with a dignified path to financial independence.
- **At-Risk Youth:** Individuals in high-risk neighborhoods who are most vulnerable to social vices, substance abuse, or recruitment into illicit activities.

## **2. Indirect Beneficiaries (The Community)**

The impact of the training extends far beyond the classroom, benefiting approximately additional people:

- **Family Members:** On average, each graduate supports 5 to 6 family members. Increased income leads to better nutrition, healthcare, and schooling for siblings and children.
- **Local Customers & Schools:** The community gains access to affordable, locally-made clothing and school uniforms, reducing reliance on expensive imports.
- **Local Suppliers:** Small businesses selling fabrics, threads, and sewing machine parts will see increased demand, stimulating the local "micro-economy."
- **The Wider Community:** By reducing youth idleness, the project contributes to a decrease in petty crime and social unrest, fostering a safer and more stable environment for all residents.

**Total cost of the project: US \$ 80,000**

- **Bank account: Dynamique des Jeunes Leaders pour la Paix et le Respect des Droits Humains, DYJEPREDHU asbl**

**Trust Merchant Bank S.A. (TMB)**

**Goma Agency -DRC**

**No. 1272-28000-23526760001-87**

**Following code: TRMSCD3L**

## Project Summary

# Project Title: Empowering At-Risk Youth through Vocational Tailoring & Entrepreneurship

## 1. Project

## Overview

This project aims to transform the lives of unemployed and vulnerable youth by providing them with professional tailoring skills and business tools. By moving from "idleness to industry," participants will gain the technical expertise needed to secure employment or launch their own micro-enterprises, fostering long-term financial independence and community stability.

## 2. Objectives

- **Skill Acquisition:** To train [Number] youth in garment construction, pattern making, and machine maintenance over a [3/6]-month period.
- **Economic Inclusion:** To equip graduates with "Starter Kits" (sewing machines and basic toolkits) to facilitate immediate income generation.
- **Entrepreneurial Growth:** To provide essential training in basic accounting, customer service, and digital marketing to ensure business sustainability.

## 3.

## Target

## Group

Unemployed youth (ages 15–25) from marginalized backgrounds, including school dropouts and those at risk of social exclusion.

## 4. Key Activities

- **Phase 1: Intensive Technical Training.** Hands-on workshops covering measurements, cutting, and stitching of standard garments (uniforms, casual wear).
- **Phase 2: Business Mentorship.** Workshops on pricing, saving strategies, and managing client relations.
- **Phase 3: Certification & Graduation.** Granting of recognized vocational certificates and distribution of equipment.

## 5. Expected Outcomes

- **Reduced Unemployment:** At least 80% of graduates successfully starting a home-based business or finding work in local textile shops.
- **Poverty Alleviation:** Increased household income for participants and their families.

- **Social Impact:** Reduced crime and social unrest by providing youth with a productive career path and a sense of purpose.

What is the problem?

In a project proposal, the **Problem Statement** (or "Statement of Need") explains why the project is necessary. Here is how you can present it for this tailoring program:

## **Problem Statement**

### **1. High Youth Unemployment and Idleness**

A significant number of youth in [Target Area/Community] are currently out of school and unemployed. Without access to formal education or professional skills, these "idle youth" face a lack of economic opportunities, leading to a cycle of poverty and hopelessness.

### **2. Social Vulnerability and Risk**

Protracted idleness makes young people highly vulnerable to negative social influences. In the absence of productive activities, there is a rising trend in substance abuse, petty crime, and recruitment into illicit activities, which threatens the stability and security of the community.

### **3. Lack of Marketable Vocational Skills**

The local labor market requires practical skills, yet many youth lack the technical training needed to bridge the gap. Specifically, there is a high demand for affordable clothing, school uniforms, and garment repairs, but a shortage of skilled local tailors to meet this need.

### **4. Financial Barriers to Self-Employment**

Even for those with a spark of initiative, the high cost of equipment (sewing machines) and lack of business knowledge (accounting, pricing) prevent them from starting their own small businesses, leaving them trapped in a state of dependency.

How will this project solve the problem?

This project solves the problem by moving youth from **idleness to industry** through a practical "hand-on" approach that addresses the root causes of unemployment and social instability.

## **1. Bridging the Skills Gap**

The project transforms "unskilled" youth into "marketable" professionals. By providing vocational training tailored to local demands (such as school uniforms and custom clothing), the program ensures that graduates possess the specific technical competencies that local employers and customers are actually looking for.

## 2. Creating Immediate Livelihoods

Rather than just providing an education that leads back to unemployment, this project emphasizes **Self-Employment (SE)**. By combining technical training with "Starter Kits" (sewing machines), the project removes the primary financial barrier to entry, allowing graduates to begin earning an income immediately after completion.

## 3. Promoting Social Stability

By replacing idle time with productive skill acquisition, the project acts as a direct **crime prevention tool**. Research shows that engaging youth in vocational programs reduces their vulnerability to negative influences, such as substance abuse and criminal recruitment, by providing them with a sense of purpose and a "stake" in their community.

## 4. Building Resilient Micro-Enterprises

The inclusion of **Entrepreneurship Training** (accounting, customer service, and marketing) ensures that the new tailors aren't just workers, but business owners. This holistic approach helps them manage their earnings, build a loyal customer base, and navigate the informal economy sustainably.

## 5. Empowering Marginalized Groups

Tailoring is a highly inclusive trade that provides a dignified path to independence for women, school dropouts, and youth from low-income households. It fosters **financial freedom**, allowing these individuals to support their families and reduce their dependency on external aid.

## Potential Long-Term Impact

### 1. Sustainable Economic Independence

By equipping youth with a high-demand trade and the tools to practice it (Starter Kits), the project breaks the cycle of generational poverty. Graduates move from being dependents to becoming breadwinners, ensuring long-term financial security for their families.

### 2. Local Economic Growth & Market Resilience

The project stimulates the local "circular economy." Instead of importing ready-made clothes, the community can rely on local tailors for school uniforms, workwear, and fashion. This keeps capital within the community and strengthens local supply chains.

### **3. Job Creation and Apprenticeship Cycles**

Successful graduates often grow their micro-enterprises into small shops. In the long term, these new business owners will take on their own apprentices, creating a "multiplier effect" where one trained youth eventually trains three or four others, further reducing local unemployment.

### **4. Social Stabilization and Crime Reduction**

A generation of youth with a clear career path and steady income is less likely to engage in crime, substance abuse, or social unrest. This leads to a more peaceful, stable, and productive society where youth are seen as assets rather than "at-risk" populations.

### **5. Empowerment and Dignity**

Beyond money, the project restores a sense of dignity and self-worth. Professional mastery fosters a "can-do" attitude, empowering marginalized youth to take leadership roles in their communities and advocate for their own future.

## **Context and Justification**

### **1. Socio-Economic Context**

In many developing regions and marginalized urban areas, youth aged 15 to 25 represent the largest segment of the population. However, this demographic also faces the highest rates of unemployment. The lack of access to quality formal education or specialized vocational training has created a generation of "idle youth" individuals who are neither in school, nor in employment or training (NEET). Without a clear path to economic participation, these young people remain trapped in a cycle of systemic poverty, unable to contribute to their households or the national economy.

### **2. The Threat of Chronic Idleness**

Idleness is not merely an economic issue; it is a profound social risk. Prolonged unemployment among youth often leads to:

- **Increased Criminality:** Lack of income drives vulnerable youth toward petty theft, drug trafficking, or organized crime as a means of survival.
- **Substance Abuse:** Despair and lack of daily structure contribute to rising rates of drug and alcohol addiction.
- **Social Unrest:** A disillusioned youth population is more susceptible to radicalization and participation in civil disturbances, undermining community stability.

### 3. The "Skills-Gap" in the Local Market

While formal jobs are scarce, the demand for essential services remains high. In [Target Area], there is a consistent need for school uniforms, workwear, religious attire, and garment repairs. Currently, much of this demand is met by expensive imports or a few aging tailors. There is a clear "skills gap": the market needs garments, and the youth need work, but they lack the technical expertise to bridge this divide. Tailoring is a low-entry-barrier trade that can be practiced from home, making it an ideal solution for rapid economic reintegration.

### 4. Rationale for the Intervention

This project is justified by the urgent need to pivot from **passive aid** to **active empowerment**. Traditional charity provides temporary relief, but vocational training in tailoring provides a permanent "tool for survival."

- **Economic Viability:** Tailoring is a resilient trade; people always need clothes regardless of economic fluctuations.
- **Low Startup Costs:** Unlike heavy industry, a tailor only needs a sewing machine and basic notions to start a micro-enterprise.
- **Multi-Generational Impact:** By training one youth, the project stabilizes an entire family unit, as the income generated is typically reinvested in health, nutrition, and the education of younger siblings.

### 5. Alignment with Development Goals

The project directly aligns with the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, specifically **SDG 1 (No Poverty)**, **SDG 5 (Gender Equality)**, and **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**. It addresses the root causes of vulnerability by providing a dignified, sustainable, and scalable solution to youth unemployment.

## Project Objectives

The primary goal of this initiative is to socially and economically reintegrate idle youth through high-quality vocational training in tailoring and entrepreneurship. The specific objectives are as follows:

#### 1. Technical Proficiency and Skill Acquisition

- **Comprehensive Tailoring Mastery:** To ensure that 100% of participants master the fundamental techniques of garment construction, including precise body measurements, pattern drafting, fabric cutting, and professional machine stitching.

- **Specialized Production:** To train participants in the production of high-demand items such as school uniforms, corporate workwear, and traditional/modern fashion to meet local market needs.
- **Equipment Maintenance:** To teach basic mechanical troubleshooting and maintenance of manual and electric sewing machines, ensuring the longevity of their tools.

## 2. Entrepreneurial and Financial Empowerment

- **Business Literacy:** To provide [Number] hours of training in micro-business management, covering cost calculation, pricing strategies, and simple bookkeeping.
- **Financial Inclusion:** To assist participants in opening savings accounts and teaching them how to manage their earnings to reinvest in their businesses.
- **Market Access:** To train youth in customer service, garment finishing, and the use of digital platforms (WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram) to market their products locally.

## 3. Economic Integration and Startup Support

- **Provision of Starter Kits:** To equip every successful graduate with a "Professional Startup Kit," including a sewing machine, a set of tailoring tools (scissors, measuring tapes), and an initial stock of fabric to eliminate the barrier to entry.
- **Self-Employment Creation:** To achieve a minimum of 80% self-employment or job placement rate within three months of program completion.

## 4. Social Transformation and Mentorship

- **Behavioral Change:** To reduce the vulnerability of idle youth by providing a structured daily environment, professional ethics training, and conflict resolution skills.
- **Long-term Mentorship:** To establish a 6-month post-training mentorship program where graduates are paired with experienced master tailors for guidance during their first months of business.
- **Community Impact:** To foster a sense of dignity and social responsibility, transforming "at-risk" youth into productive role models within their communities.

## Vision Statement

"To create a world where every young person, regardless of their background or past challenges, possesses the professional skills and entrepreneurial mindset to build a dignified, self-sufficient, and prosperous future. We envision a community where 'idleness' is replaced by 'industry,' and where local craftsmanship becomes a powerful engine for social stability and economic growth."

## Mission Statement

"Our mission is to empower marginalized and at-risk youth by providing high-quality vocational training in tailoring, combined with essential business mentorship. We are committed to:

- **Transforming Lives:** Moving youth from social exclusion to active economic participation through hands-on technical education.
- **Equipping for Success:** Providing the physical tools (sewing machines) and financial literacy needed to launch sustainable micro-enterprises.
- **Fostering Excellence:** Promoting a culture of craftsmanship, professionalism, and high ethical standards in the local garment industry.
- **Strengthening Communities:** Reducing poverty and crime by giving young people a productive purpose and the means to support their families and local economy."

## Project Implementation Schedule (6-Month Timeline)

This calendar outlines the four main phases: **Preparation, Training, Business Integration, and Follow-up.**

Phase	Month	Key Activities	Deliverables
<b>Phase 1: Pre-Launch &amp; Recruitment</b>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community sensitization and outreach to identify "at-risk" youth.</li> <li>• Selection interviews and registration of [Number] participants.</li> <li>• Procurement of sewing machines, fabrics, and toolkits.</li> <li>• Setting up the training center and hiring instructors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of selected trainees.</li> <li>• Fully equipped workshop.</li> <li>• Training syllabus finalized.</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 2: Intensive Technical Training</b>	2-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Module 1:</b> Introduction to tailoring tools and machine maintenance.</li> <li>• <b>Module 2:</b> Basic stitching, seams, and finishing techniques.</li> <li>• <b>Module 3:</b> Measurement taking and basic pattern drafting (skirts, shirts).</li> <li>• Weekly practical assessments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trainees able to operate machines independently.</li> <li>• Completion of basic garment prototypes.</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 3: Advanced Skills &amp; Specialization</b>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Module 4:</b> Advanced garment construction (trousers, dresses, uniforms).</li> <li>• <b>Module 5:</b> Designing for the local market (traditional vs. modern).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of a "Graduation Collection."</li> <li>• Mastery of complex patterns.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality control and speed improvement exercises.</li> </ul>	
<b>Phase 4: Entrepreneurship &amp; Graduation</b>	<b>5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Module 6:</b> Business management (pricing, bookkeeping, customer service).</li> <li><b>Module 7:</b> Digital marketing (social media for business).</li> <li>Final practical examination.</li> <li><b>Graduation Ceremony:</b> Distribution of Certificates and Starter Kits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual business plans developed.</li> <li>Delivery of [Number] Sewing Machines.</li> </ul>
<b>Phase 5: Post-Training Mentorship</b>	<b>6+</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Field visits to graduates' home-based workshops.</li> <li>Monthly "Mastermind" meetings for troubleshooting business issues.</li> <li>Monitoring income generation and job placement rates.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact report on first-month earnings.</li> <li>Active network of new micro-entrepreneurs.</li> </ul>

## Key Milestones

- Month 1:** Launch of the training facility.
- Month 3:** Mid-term technical evaluation.
- Month 5:** Official Graduation and Startup Kit distribution.
- Month 6:** First socio-economic impact assessment.

## Detailed Project Budget (Total: \$80,000 USD)

Category	Description	Unit Cost	Qty	Total (USD)
<b>1. Personnel &amp; Staffing</b>	<b>Project Management &amp; Instruction</b>			<b>\$21,600</b>
Project Coordinator	Overall management and reporting (12 months)	\$800	1	\$9,600
Master Tailor Trainers	Lead instructors for technical skills (10 months)	\$400	2	\$8,000
Business Mentor	Part-time entrepreneurship/accounting trainer	\$200	2	\$4,000
<b>2. Training Equipment</b>	<b>Workshop Setup (Capital Investment)</b>			<b>\$12,500</b>

Industrial Sewing Machines	Heavy-duty machines for the training center	\$350	10	\$3,500
Manual/Pedal Machines	Standard machines for training center	\$200	15	\$3,000
Cutting Tables	Large professional wooden cutting tables	\$250	4	\$1,000
Overlock/Serger Machines	For professional fabric finishing	\$500	2	\$1,000
Electric Irons & Boards	Professional steam irons and industrial boards	\$200	5	\$1,000
Furniture & Storage	Chairs, shelves for fabric, and display racks	\$3,000	1	\$3,000
<b>3. Training Materials</b>	<b>Consumables for Practice</b>			<b>\$10,400</b>
Practice Fabrics	Cotton, linen, and synthetic rolls for learning	\$300	20	\$6,000
Sewing Notions	Threads, zippers, buttons, needles, chalk, etc.	\$200	12	\$2,400
Pattern Paper & Tools	Brown paper, rulers, and drafting tools	\$1,000	2	\$2,000
<b>4. Startup Kits (Graduation)</b>	<b>Equipment for 50 Graduates</b>			<b>\$17,500</b>
Individual Startup Kits	1 Manual Machine + Basic Toolset (Scissors, Tape)	\$350	50	\$17,500
<b>5. Operations &amp; Logistics</b>	<b>Running Costs</b>			<b>\$13,500</b>
Workshop Rent	Monthly rental for the training center	\$600	12	\$7,200
Utilities	Electricity, water, and waste management	\$150	12	\$1,800
Outreach & Recruitment	Community meetings, flyers, and radio ads	\$1,500	1	\$1,500
Maintenance & Repairs	Regular servicing of training machines	\$100	12	\$1,200
Graduation Ceremony	Venue, certificates, and community event	\$1,800	1	\$1,800

<b>6. Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>	<b>Impact Tracking</b>			<b>\$4,500</b>
Field Follow-up	Transportation for mentors to visit graduates	\$250	12	\$3,000
Final Impact Report	External audit or final evaluation documentation	\$1,500	1	\$1,500
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>				<b>\$80,000</b>

### Budget Justification (Notes)

- **Sustainability:** The **Starter Kits (\$17,500)** are the most critical investment. They ensure that once the training ends, the "idleness" does not return because the youth have the immediate means to work.
- **Scalability:** The training center equipment (Section 2) remains the property of the organization, allowing you to train new groups of youth year after year.
- **Personnel:** We have budgeted for **Master Tailors** rather than general teachers to ensure the highest quality of craftsmanship.

Done in Goma, April 14, 2026

For DYJEPREDHU asbl

 Christian AHADI BEN MASONGA

EXECUTIF DIRECTOR, HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTI

