



YOUTH4BIZ

INNOVATION AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP FACILITY
UGANDA



Profiles of youth enterprises for the
Youth4business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility



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Youth4Biz

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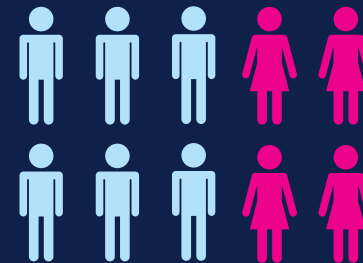
About Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility

With about 700,000 young people reaching working age every year, an estimated additional 13 million workers are expected to enter the Uganda job market between 2017 and 2030. And whilst Uganda experienced stellar economic growth and poverty reduction rates, the economy has not reached the degree of structural transformation needed to create decent jobs at scale. As such, a significant number of young people are unemployed, underemployed and engaged in precarious and non-rewarding work or in jobs that do not offer decent incomes.

Entrepreneurship presents a suitable and empowering alternative to the persistent challenge of unemployment and underemployment amongst youth. And Uganda has for long been lauded for being at the forefront in terms of entrepreneurship and business start-ups. It was recently ranked as the world's most entrepreneurial country by GEM, recording the highest rate of youth entrepreneurs with 55.6 per cent of the youth population involved in new or established businesses. The county has also been ranked among the top three countries with the highest percentages of women-owned businesses - 4 out of every 10 business owners in Uganda are women.

However, the country is also among the worst performers when it comes to sustaining and scaling created enterprises. The rate of business discontinuation is high with 90 per cent of businesses closing before their 1st birthday. Of those that survive beyond one year, less than 60 per cent live to see their fifth birthday. Several reasons have been advanced for this unfortunate trend including limited access to affordable and appropriate financing. While limited access to capital still constitutes a major hurdle for young entrepreneurs, other barriers including inadequate entrepreneurial competencies may be just as detrimental to the development of a business. In fact, capital without know-how and adequate support systems and mentorship can quickly become lost investment.

JOB MARKET
IN UGANDA
13M
workers
2017 - 2030



**business
owners**
IN UGANDA



financing
LIMITED ACCES

INADEQUATE
**entrepreneurial
competencies**

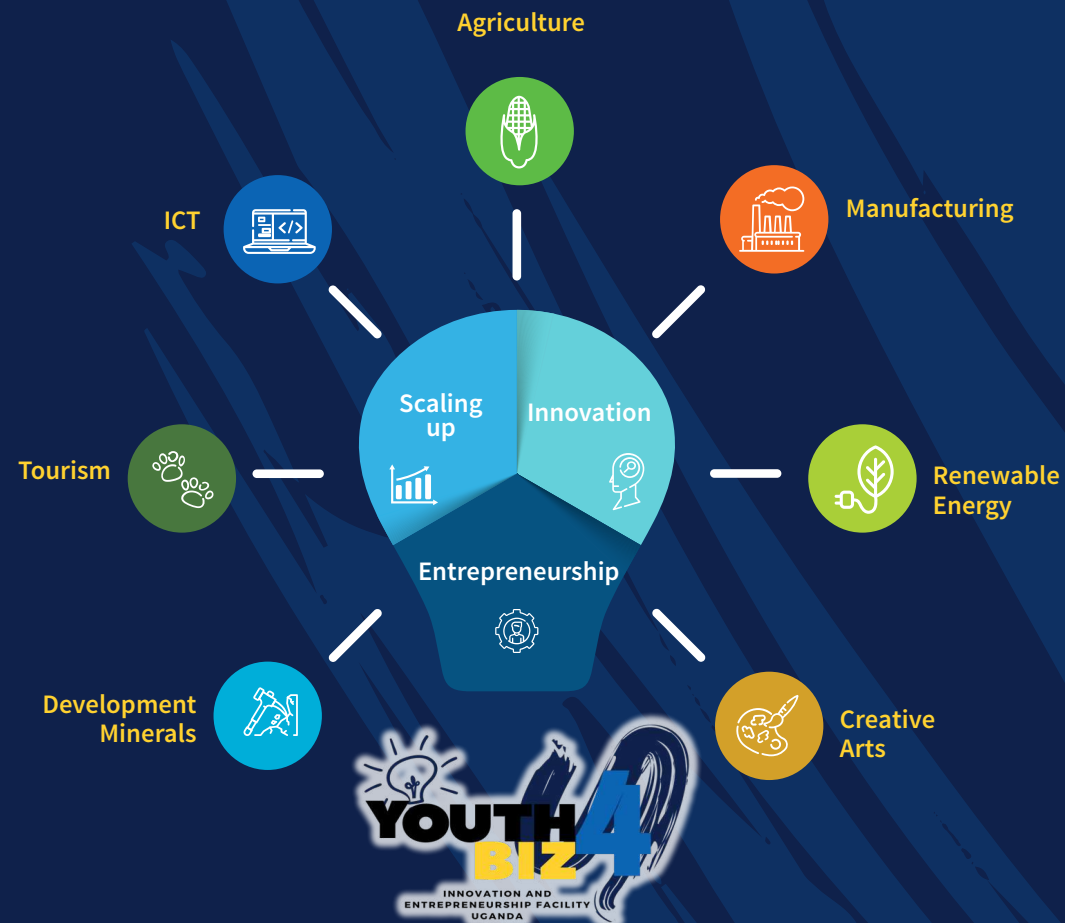


Addressing the Youth Unemployment Challenge

UNDP in partnership with Stanbic Uganda developed the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility. The Facility launched by his H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on International Youth Day in August 2020 is curated to promote impact-driven entrepreneurship, foster innovation, and leverage innovative business solutions to address the youth unemployment challenge. It is also intended to act as catalyst for innovation by prototyping and transforming sustainable business ideas and models into impact; and by scaling innovative businesses that create jobs and livelihood opportunities for youth.

Objective of the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility

Y4BF is an integrated support package designed to spur impact-driven entrepreneurship and engage enterprises in tackling youth unemployment by leveraging innovations in selected economy sectors to create jobs and livelihood opportunities; improve quality of people's lives and provide access to affordable finance, products and services. The sectors include agriculture/agribusiness, tourism, mining (particularly development minerals), manufacturing, creative arts industry, renewable energy, and ICT.



The key objectives of the Facility are to:

- a) Support youth and enterprises to pilot innovative ideas (solutions, technologies, business models), or new ways and markets of delivering products and services with a commercial imperative.
- b) Enable enterprises to transform successful innovative pilots with commercial viability into impact at scale.
- c) Stimulate faster recovery of SMEs from the impacts of COVID-19 and enable them build sustainable enterprises that are resilient to similar disruption; and
- d) Establish a functional ecosystem platform to connect young entrepreneurs, Government, Development Partners, financial institutions, and all other relevant actors

The Facility will also directly contribute to the attainment of eight SDGs: 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 17.

Youth4Biz is curated to enable the creation of at least 20,000 new decent jobs for youth; retool and skill 50,000 youth to increase their entrepreneurial success rate and have a multiplier effect through the creation of over 100,000 indirect jobs and improved livelihood opportunities.



Components of the Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility

The Youth4Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship Facility consists of four separate, but interlinked windows designed to boost economic empowerment of youth. They include:

- 1) Spurring Innopreneurship:** To enable youth to unearth and nurture creative early-stage ideas and form start-ups. The successful youth for start-ups shall be awarded with a grant of between USD 1,000 - 5,000 to pilot their ideas. We have partnered with entities such as NASE to organize ideathons, with BRAC Uganda and Texfad to equip young people with the skills necessary to enhance their entrepreneurial rate.
- 2) Innovation Challenge Fund (ICF) and Growth Accelerator (GA):** Pioneering financing facility that offers competitive matching grants of between USD 5,000 – 40,000 to spur impact-driven commercially viable innovations by the youth-owned and youth-focused SMEs in sectors where growth leads to jobs.
- 3) Enterprise Challenge Fund:** Provides competitive catalytic funding in form of blended finance - grants and concessional debt finance - to SMEs with commercially viable businesses that address a defined key development challenge. It is intended to incentivize financial institutions to provide longer term loans so that funding becomes more easily available to enterprises including youth-owned SMEs. It is also intended to derisk investment by enabling SMEs to scale-up innovations; diversify product/service offering; and recover from the economic fall-out caused by COVID-19.
- 4) Youth Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem platform:** To provide an enabling environment by connecting young people to key stakeholders including government, business enterprises, financial institutions, BDS providers, academia as well as markets and knowledge and information to facilitate identification and resolution of systemic business challenges. The ecosystem platform will promote mentorship, provide trainings, information-sharing and networking.

ENDIRO LIMITED

About Endiro Limited

Endiro Limited is a social enterprise with eight coffee shop locations in Kampala and Eastern Uganda as well as one coffee shop and a roastery located in the Chicago, Illinois, United States of America (USA). The Endiro brand has positioned itself as one of the premier coffee brands in Uganda, leading the way in serving high quality, single village-lotted and ethically sourced Ugandan coffees to the public. Endiro directly sources specialty grade Arabic coffee from 250 farmers, 80% of whom are women, in Bududa and Manafwa, Eastern Uganda. Annually, Endiro purchases fifty metric tonnes of parchment coffee from these farmers at Ugx 415,000,000 (over USD 100,000).

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Increased domestic and regional coffee consumption is key to attaining Endiro's vision to economically empower the vulnerable and disadvantaged particularly women and youth. With UNDP's support, Endiro has adopted an inclusive business model in which young people are being equipped with the knowledge, skills and tools to operate an Endiro franchise. Endiro will partner with young people to set up 13 coffee kiosks in central Uganda and 4 coffee bars along Uganda's major highways through a partnership with Vivo Energy Uganda Limited. This is expected to create 50 jobs for young people in the short run and over 300 jobs within four years. The franchise model will also result into an increase in the volumes of coffee purchased from the women farmers in Bududa and Manafwa by ten metric tonnes annually.



ENTEBBE ANIMAL CARE CENTRE

About Entebbe Animal Care Centre

Entebbe Animal Care Centre (EACC) is an integrated commercial farm enterprise started by a smallholder farmer and veterinarian – Emma Naluyima in 2010. The commercial farm seated on one acre of land produces pigs for breeding; matooke, fish, and vegetables. EACC is also in the process of establishing a milk processing plant for cheese and butter, a modern slaughterhouse with a pork-processing unit, and an on-farm retail store. The enterprise also provides training for farmers, agritourism experiences for domestic and international tourists and agriculture enthusiasts.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Official estimates indicate that Uganda's agriculture sector contributes 37% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employs 72% of Uganda's workforce, and contributes 80% to the export base. Obstacles such as poor agronomic practices, limited stock of quality agro-inputs and limited access to timely and quality market information continue to undermine the sector's potential to create jobs and entrepreneurship ventures.

As Uganda gears towards oil production, some 160,000 workers who will be directly and indirectly employed by the oil industry will need food, creating an additional market opportunity for farmers and agri-entrepreneurs especially in the Albertine region which consists of nine districts - Hoima, Buliisa, Masindi, Kibaale, Nebbi, Nwoya, Kyenjojo, Kabarole, and Ntoroko.

With the support of UNDP, EACC has partnered with the Hoima Caritas Development Organization (HOCADAO) - the development arm of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Hoima, to replicate its largely successful business model on a 6-acre piece of land in the Albertine Graben. The replication is intended to scale the EACC model, but also become a demonstration site to inspire small scale farmers in the region; provide market information, offer value addition services and market for farmers' produce. Over 500 young farmers have been integrated into the EACC value chain as suppliers and distributors of value-added agricultural products for the enormous market in the region.



EXCELLA ENTERPRISES LIMITED

About Excella Enterprises Limited

Excella Enterprises Limited is an agro-enterprise incorporated in Uganda. The enterprise is engaged in the processing and trade of natural honey, by-products of honey and bees' wax purchased from local farmers in Kitgum, Gulu, Arua, Nebbi, Soroti, Luwero, Masaka, Hoima, Kasese, Bushenyi, Kabale, Rukungiri, and Bundibugyo.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

While the estimated annual production potential of Uganda is 500,000 metric tonnes of honey, the country only produces 800 – 1,200 metric tonnes of honey annually largely due to limited bees' stock, and knowledge amongst farmers on the lucrativeness of apiary as a business venture.

In partnership with UNDP, Excella Enterprises Limited is piloting an apiculture out-grower scheme with 50 young farmers across the country. The farmers are equipped with knowledge, skills and tools to undertake apiary as a business, including the production of processed quality honey and candles from beeswax, purchased by Excella Enterprises at a premium price for further processing, packaging and export to the international market. The meaningful integration of young farmers in their value chain, is key in creating jobs and livelihood opportunities for thousands of young people, in the targeted communities offering auxiliary services to the out-growers.



HONEY PRIDE ARUA LIMITED

About Honey Pride Arua Limited

Honey Pride Arua is a limited liability company engaged in agribusiness particularly apiary. The focus of the enterprise is value addition to the following beehive products – honey, bees wax propolis sourced from 1,775 small holder farmers in Arua, Terego and Madi Okullo. These products are used widely for both food and medicinal values. One of the fast-moving products of Honey Pride Arua is bees wax whose production has increased from 600 Kg to 1,440 Kg annually in the last four years.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Bees wax is a raw material in the production of soap, cosmetics, wood glue, candles, and wax cloth as well as in the pharmaceutical industry. As such, demand for bees wax, has grown exponentially over the years, while production has grown arithmetically resulting in a deficit of 500,000 MT annually.

To address this shortfall, Honey Pride Arua Limited in partnership with UNDP is equipping over 200 youth in Arua, Terego and Madi Okollo (West Nile region) with skills in apiary establishment and enterprise management; appropriate processing of crude bees wax to improve the quality of the final product; and providing a guaranteed market for semi-processed bees wax produced by the trainees.



INSPIRE AFRICA ESTABLISHMENTS LIMITED

About Inspire Africa Establishments Limited

Inspire Africa Establishments Limited (IAEL) is a social human capital developmental organization with a goal to empower the youth through entrepreneurship with focus on Agriculture and ICT innovations. Inspire Africa Coffee (IAC) is a subsidiary firm of IAEL that deals with coffee value chain (crop-to-cup). IAC is involved in enhancement of domestic coffee consumption and coffee product diversity amongst which is specialty coffees, coffee cosmetic product and bio-organic fertilizer, for job creation especially for the youth.

Since inception, the company has been operating at all nodes of the coffee value chain with operations in primary production (coffee growing), value addition (coffee processing) and marketing (distribution and last mile consumption). IAC has expanded from a single room coffee shop into a major coffee enterprise with an asset base comprising of a coffee nucleus farm situated on 92-acre, and various coffee shops, bars and kiosks across the country. IAC employs over 6,700 youth and women at all levels of the coffee value chain who have been equipped with skills in agronomy, roasting and barista, to ensure quantity and quality standards in coffee production and value addition.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

There is growing domestic demand for a high-quality coffee cup at an affordable price. Inspire Africa Coffee has already developed a domestic coffee consumption strategy with already existing coffee shops and Mobile Booth franchise outlets in Kampala, Gulu, Lira, Malaba, Mbale, among others operated by 150 youth.

In partnership with UNDP, IAC is scaling this approach further through engaging 30 youth in its franchise model, in which they own and operate 6 mobile coffee booths creating at least 60 direct jobs. IAC is also establishing a wet coffee processing mill, climate smart packing and a bio plant centre, expected to create 340 jobs.



KADAFRICA ESTATE LIMITED

About KadAfrica Estate Limited

KadAfrica Estate Limited is a socially driven agribusiness enterprise engaged in growing, value addition and marketing of certified horticulture products including passion fruits, tomatoes, onions and ginger. Through its proprietary out-grower scheme, KadAfrica provides inputs, extension services and guaranteed market to market-excluded rural, young female and male smallholder farmers and refugees in the Rwenzori region (Bunyangabo, Kabarole, Kyenjojo, and Kyegegwa).

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Less than 1 percent of cultivated land in Uganda is dedicated to horticulture. However, horticulture crops are fast growing and maturing, providing a quick and reliable source of income to smallholder farmers. Having successfully piloted and scaled-up its passion fruit value chain inclusive business model, KadAfrica is with support from UNDP, piloting a tomato value chain inclusive model in which 120 young female and male farmers will be supported with inputs, training in good agronomic practices and agribusiness enterprise management, extension services and guaranteed market. The support is intended to enable the farmers transform from subsistence to commercial agriculture whilst providing a steady supply of inputs for KadAfrica.



NTAKYE HOLDINGS LIMITED

About Ntaky Holdings Limited

Ntaky Holdings Limited is an agribusiness engaged in dairy farming, horticulture, supply of animal feeds and of recent, cuniculture (rabbit rearing and processing of rabbit meat and urine as an organic fertilizer). Rabbit farming is one of the fastest growing micro-livestock enterprises in East Africa, due to rapid transformation of dietary habits in favour of sustainable sources of protein.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Ntaky Holdings Limited is unable to meet the demand for processed rabbit meat and organic fertiliser. As such, Ntaky's short term goal is to multiply the number of rabbit farmers to attain yields of up to 5 tons per month of rabbit meat. Ntaky also plans to add value to rabbit urine to produce well packaged pesticides and foliar fertilizers.

To this end, Ntaky is, in partnership with UNDP establishing a 672 farmer out-grower scheme to ensure the increased and consistent supply of high-quality rabbits to meet the market demand. The targeted farmers are youth who are being equipped with the knowledge, skills and tools in rabbit rearing as a business and enrolled into the Ntaky out-grower scheme.



OSLO CITY LIMITED

About Oslo City Limited

Oslo City Ltd is engaged in the provision of agricultural inputs in Lango and Acholi regions of Uganda as well as in Kenya, South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo. The company is also engaged in agricultural production of and value addition for Sesame, Maize, Rice and Sorghum.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Seeds are basic units of crop production; and are the basis for agricultural productivity and profitability. However, small holder farmers are dependent on farm-saved seeds and seeds from local markets, which hinders increased agricultural productivity. With UNDP's support, Oslo City is partnering with 100 select farmers (seedpreneurs) in the multiplication of maize, sorghum, simsim, rice and soybean certified seeds. Oslo City will then buy these seeds at a competitive price, package and branded for sale to small holder farmers across the country.



PAAT SOIL CLINIC

About PAAT Soil Clinic

PAAT Soil Clinic Limited is a social enterprise established to enable farmers improve incomes using affordable yield improving technology. PAAT Soil Clinic Limited provides farmers with soil testing facilities to ensure optimum use of fertilisers, soil repair services, and trains farmers on climate smart agricultural technologies in a bid to improve soil and increase yields.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

With support from UNDP, PAAT Soil Clinic Limited is supporting farmers to improve their soil's health through providing mobile soil testing services using handheld mobile web-based soil technology, fertilizer blending and soil fertility amendment at a subsidized cost. The model aims to use the grant to subsidize the cost of this service for farmers, as a mechanism to demonstrate the positive impact of the technology on productivity and farmers' income. PAAT Soil Clinic will also use the grant to impart soil testing and amendment solutions knowledge skills to over 2,000 youth soil "agri-preneurs" to create employment.



SMART FOODS LIMITED

About Smart Foods Limited

Smart Foods Uganda Limited is an agro processing startup company being incubated by the Food Technology Business Incubation Centre (FTBIC), Makerere University, Kampala. It focuses on the development and commercialization of new soy-based products for the domestic, regional and wider African market. The soy-based products include Soy Yoghurt, plain and marinated firm tofu, sausages and soymilk.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Affordable protein rich foods are scarce on the Ugandan market. Smart Foods has produced a new product instant soy powder, and several derivatives from it. With support from UNDP, Smart Foods is commercialising these unique innovations which include plain instant soy powder, Soy-For-Sauce powder, Instant Soymilk powder, and Soy G-nuts and Mukene mix powder, with a six month shelf life. The commercialization of these innovations is expected to create 250 direct jobs for youth; and fortify the livelihood of 250 women farmers engaged by Smart Foods to produce soybean.



TREE UGANDA ACADEMY

About Tree Uganda Academy

Tree Uganda Academy (TUA) is a youth-led conservation and agriculture-based Community Organization with a membership of 1,050 farmers. TUA seeks to enhance environmental conservation and address the human-wildlife conflict in and around Queen Elizabeth National Park, through promotion of sustainable commercial horticulture amongst its members.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Youth unemployment remains a key challenge in Kanungu district most of whom are engaged in subsistence farming as a means of livelihood. Kanungu district which borders Queen Elizabeth National Park, also has another challenge of human-wildlife conflict owing to the distraction of crops by animals from neighbouring national parks.

To address these challenges (youth unemployment and human-wildlife conflict), TUA with support from UNDP are partnering with 500 youth in Kanungu, to engage in the highly profitable chilli growing and processing for export market. Chilli, is a fast-growing crop that maturing in three to four months, and can be harvested throughout the year, is drought resistant and has a high demand in both domestic and international markets. Through this partnership, over 1,500 direct and indirect jobs and livelihood opportunities will be created.



VOLCANO COFFEE LIMITED

About Volcano Coffee Limited

Volcano Coffee Limited is an agribusiness engaged in the processing, distribution and sale of high-quality gourmet coffee in 17 locations across Kampala including a coffee shop at Forest Mall, Lugogo. Volcano Coffee also operates an academy in which it equips young people with barista and basic business skills.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

There is growing domestic demand for a high-quality coffee cup at an affordable price especially in Kampala and the fifteen newly established cities in Uganda. To meet this demand for quality coffee, Volcano Coffee is, with UNDP's support, establishing a franchise model of 140 coffee kiosks across the country, owned and operated by budding young entrepreneurs. This is expected to result in the creation of over 4,000 jobs and livelihood opportunities for young people.



YILDI ENTERPRISES LIMITED

About YILDI Enterprises Limited

YILDI Enterprises Limited is the producer of “Yildi flavoured black tea” in Uganda. Yildi flavoured black tea is produced in two flavors from medicinal and aromatic plants i.e. Lemon grass (Omutete) and Ocimum Suave (Basil or Omujaja). The two flavors are extracted from leaves by steam distillation.

YILDI in acronym is Youth in Leadership and Development Initiatives, a youth founded non-partisan, nonsectarian socio-economic organisation whose major aim is to unite youth to strengthen cooperation, togetherness, health and socio-economic standing by furthering their moral, material and financial resources.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

YILDI produces Yildi flavoured black tea by blending processed tea leaves with extracts of essential oils from Lemon grass and Ocimum suave. Through an out grower, YILDI Enterprises works with smallholder farmers most of whom are youth. The farmers are organized into Lemon grass and Ocimum suave producer groups supplying YILDI with raw materials for processing. YILDI Enterprises Limited supplies producer groups with quality inputs and agricultural extension services. However, the extraction of the essential oils from lemon grass and Ocimum is currently undertaken using rudimentary means.

In partnership with UNDP, YILDI is automating the process, through the acquisition of post-harvest technology equipment for lemon grass and Ocimum Suave distillation, and an automatic tea packaging machine. This will enable YILDI to meet the ever-increasing demand for its products in domestic and regional markets. Automation of the production process will also lead to increased demand for raw materials from the smallholder farmers and thus higher incomes.



WATUFY LIMITED

About Watufy Limited

Watufy Limited is limited liability start-up company engaged in the development of innovative digital technologies to advance Uganda's visual creative arts – film, video and music.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Currently, there is no ecosystem for film and video content in Uganda. Also, the Ugandan film industry is grappling with problems of raising funds to meet the production needs as well as limited markets for the productions. Additionally, there is also no centralized platform to watch Ugandan content, nor a digital marketplace to distribute Ugandan film and video content.

With the support of UNDP, Watufy Limited has developed an online application – Watufy – based on cloud technology to provide an online streaming service, created to provide an affordable platform for Ugandan Video content to be consumed affordably. By creating Watufy the founders have in effect created a model from which creatives are able to recoup their investments, and focus on developing new content whilst providing a solution to the longstanding content production and distribution bottlenecks, that have greatly devastated the film industry in Uganda.



ECO CONCRETE LIMITED

About Eco Concrete Limited

EcoConcrete Limited is a Ugandan registered civil engineering firm that produces cement based precast construction materials, with an objective to produce strong, durable and affordable products while drawing less from the environment. The materials include blocks, bricks, paving materials, slabs, kerb stones and other cement-based construction materials.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

EcoConcrete Limited has developed a sustainable inclusive business solution through which its employees can become owners of industrial scale machines. The Operate-to-Own program (an Eco-Concrete Reward Program), aims to turn machine operators into entrepreneurs/suppliers of quality assured concrete products, which Eco Concrete supplies to its clients. Through improved management processes, machine operators will be trained and supported to operate and maintain all plant/equipment under their care, until they are able to reach a 600,000 blocks mark or its equivalent. On achieving the 600,000 blocks target, Eco Concrete Limited will transfer ownership of the whole camp to the machine operator. This camp includes a 3-phase generator, a concrete mixer, a block machine, 3 moulds and other accessories, all valued at Uganda shillings Sixty Million (UGX 60,000,000/=).



KYOGO MAZINGA TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

About Kyogo Mazinga Trading Company Limited

Kyogo Mazinga Trading Company Limited is a stone veneer manufacturing enterprise operating in the East African region. Its areas of work include small and large-scale construction, repair, alteration projects and supply of a variety of stone products.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The boom in the construction industry within the East African region, has created an increased demand for Kyogo Mazinga's products and services. However, the company is not able to efficiently satisfy this demand due to human resource constraints. Given that the nature of masons the firm employs are trained on-site, the enterprise has faced challenges in putting in place an expanded training facility, to deliver the necessary practical learning sessions. With UNDP's support, Kyogo Mazinga is equipping over 50 young people with skills in masonry. The youth will also be equipped with business management skills and knowledge in financial management. About 30 youth will be retained by the firm as full-time employees, whilst 20 will be engaged on part-time basis. It is envisaged that this cohort of highly skilled masons will, with the skills attained be able to capitalize on the increasing demand for such construction services, to establish and operate their own enterprises.



LOTRADCO (U) LIMITED

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About Lotradco (U) Limited

Lotradco (U) Limited is a Ugandan registered civil engineering firm that is in the business of producing cement based precast construction materials with an objective to produce strong, durable and affordable products, while drawing less from the environment. The materials include blocks, bricks, paving materials, slabs, kerb stones and other cement-based construction materials.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The boom in the construction industry within Uganda particularly in the north, has created an increased demand for Lotradco's products. However, the firm is unable to meet this demand due to a shortage of skilled manpower. With UNDP's support, the firm is equipping over 90 young men and women with skills in commercial production and marketing of value-added stone aggregates, and high performance mixed concrete products like culverts, road curbs, concrete blocks, interlocking blocks, concrete fencing posts, and compound pavers to meet the increasing demand in the building construction and road infrastructure development.



CABRAL TECH LIMITED

About Cabral Tech Limited

Cabral Tech Limited is an Agritech company with extensive expertise in the design, development and distribution of innovative digital solutions addressing various challenges in the agriculture value chain. Its flagship products include: MyFarm, Buuza Farmers Call Centre, Crop Manager and Livestock Manager. The Buuza Farmers Call Centre is currently serving 185,000 farmers.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Market information asymmetry is a key challenge hindering the growth of a sector, that employs over 68% of households in the country. Cabral Tech is with UNDP's support, scaling the Buuza Farmers Call Center – a multichannel Farmers Call Center that leverages mobile technology to provide agriculture advisory and extension services, to the hardest to reach last mile smallholder farmers, through SMS, USSD, Voice Calls, interactive Voice Response (IVR), and an android application, improving market linkages, ensuring proper usage of agriculture inputs, and promoting good farming practices to improve agriculture productivity and food security around the continent. The scale-up will bring onboard an additional 10,000 farmers onto the platform, and lead to the creation of over 800 direct and indirect jobs and livelihood opportunities for young people.



CELES INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

About Celes International Limited

Celes International Limited (CIL) is a limited liability company incorporated in Uganda. Celes International is engaged in the provision of business development services to micro, small, medium size private enterprises as well as public sector enterprises and institutions.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The economy of Uganda and Africa at large have not maximized opportunities presented by technology. Recruitment processes in both public and private sector organisations remain lengthy, time consuming, resource inefficient and environmentally unfriendly. A call for applications to fill three junior positions can attract up to 2000 handwritten applications from youths, taking hundreds of hours to sort and assess. In private sector, this is money and time lost. Jobs are often advertised in expensive traditional print media reaching few youth and circulating once a day, with no equal chance for all eligible poor youth candidates to see adverts and apply.

Celes International Limited has developed an online application - Work and Rise, that allows anyone with a job to access, assess, hire and pay workers, either remotely or physically. The system is fully automated, allowing employers to advertise offers, receive applications, interview, set terms and conditions, hire and pay conveniently through the system. With the support of UNDP, Celes will enroll and link over 50,000 youth job seekers with 10,000 employers.



CHAP CHAP AFRICA LIMITED

About Chap Chap Africa Limited

ChapChap Africa Limited is a fintech and social venture, looking to improve livelihoods of low-income individuals, and businesses by addressing market failures that result into exclusion of low-income persons from participating in productive financial activities. ChapChap leverages versatile innovation, digital and mobile technology to unlock access to; gainful employment, trade, affordable credit facilities and low-cost financial services, thereby enabling last mile low-income consumers access goods and services. The company builds a coordinated network of micro, small and medium enterprises and uses their combined strength to create lasting impact in the communities they serve, by becoming access points for a wide range of products and services.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

ChapChap is building a mobile powered platform aimed at improving livelihoods, by facilitating equitable participation of low-income earners in trade, finance and the economy by enabling access to financial services like affordable electronic payment infrastructure, mobile money agency banking services, unsecured micro credit and remittance services by individuals and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). In addition, the solution is embedded with a business management solution that enables small business owners make the right decisions for their businesses, by accessing vital information in increasing productivity and sustainability of their businesses.



GOLAZO SPORTS LIMITED

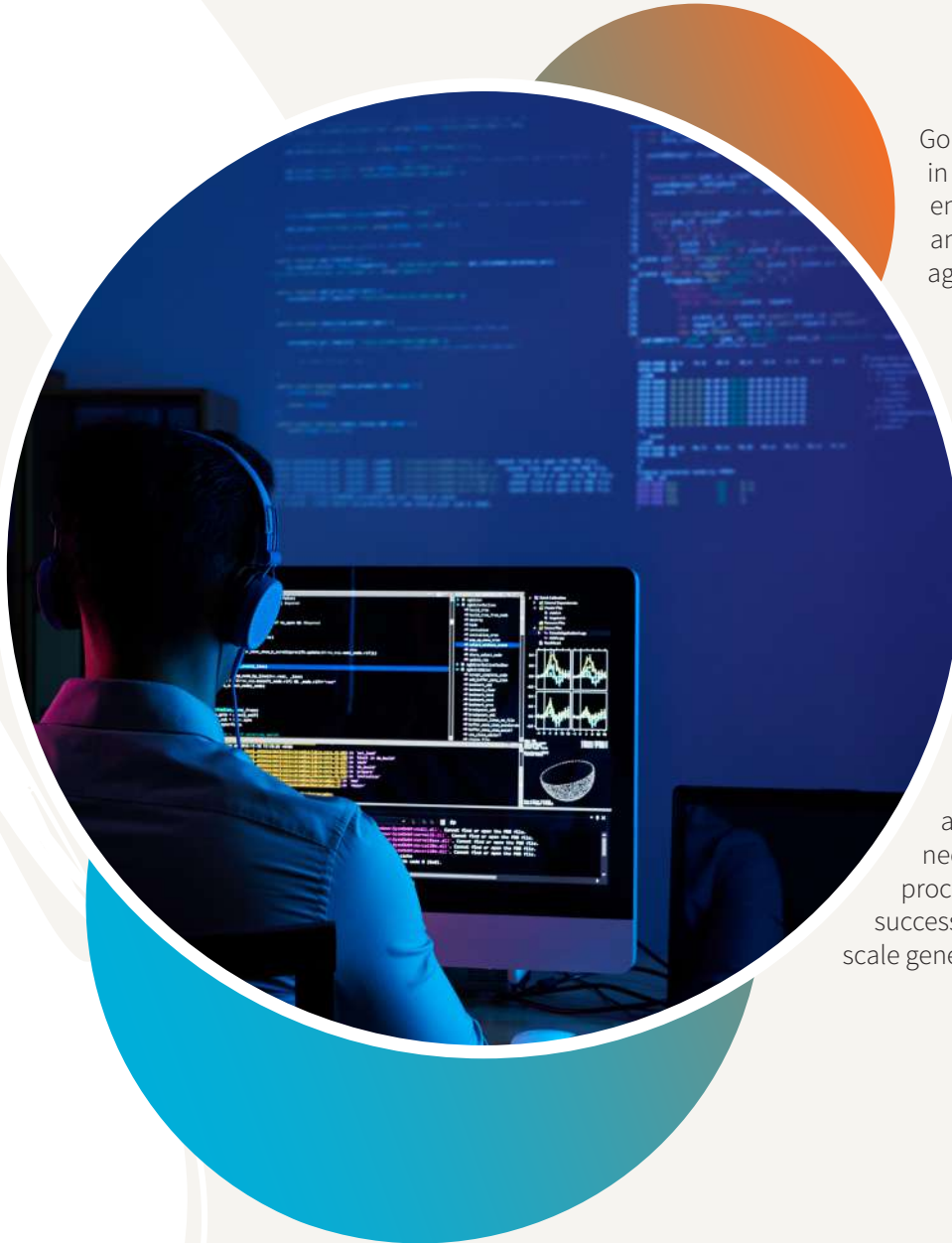
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About Golazo Sports Limited

Golazo Sports Limited is a social enterprise engaged in the development of software and digital tools, to enhance productivity and facilitate growth of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the service and agricultural sectors.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), which make up over 90% of Uganda's private sector, struggle to identify and nurture talent needed to support their growth and expansion plans. Golazo has developed and piloted an on-demand software application, that uses geolocation technology to connect SMEs in agriculture and service sectors, to readily available skilled and unemployed young people, for short-term jobs paid on hourly rates using mobile money and thus lowering operational costs for recruitment. From the digital footprint of the users' journey and interaction on the platform, profiles of businesses and employees will be generated eliminating the need for Curriculum Vitae (CVs) during the requirement process. With support from UNDP, Golazo will turn the successful pilot with a commercial viability into impact at scale generating up to 20,000 jobs over the next five years.



KANZU CODE LIMITED

About Kanzu Code Limited

Established in 2014 by Peter Innocent Kakoma and Nyana Helen Kamkoma, Kanzu Code Limited is a software development company that powers businesses, by creating web and mobile applications and helping them build high-performing, distributed software engineering teams. Kanzu Code Limited provides full-time engineering resources to handle all things including hiring and training an inhouse team, software infrastructure evaluation and setup, DevOps, agile process review and shipping quality code in a timely manner.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

With support from UNDP, Kanzu Code Limited proposes to create Kanzu Jobs - a platform that matches clients that need web and mobile applications built with pre-vetted, expert Ugandan software developers. The platform will connect clients to pre-vetted top-notch software developers, who create web and mobile applications for clients in the market. These tech tools include custom software, websites, apps and custom digital solutions. The platform acts as a link between the client and the developer. These clients are small to medium-sized businesses that need tech tools built, but do not have the internal capacity or skills in evaluating top software developers.



NODE MEDIA SYSTEMS LIMITED

About Node Media Systems Limited

Node Media Systems is a Ugandan firm engaged in developing cutting-edge solutions using frontier technologies such as Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence (AI), E-Learning, Drones, Additive Manufacturing and (3D Printing) that create efficiencies, drive growth, and solve some of the most complex challenges faced by developing countries.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Uganda is gifted by nature and was referred to as the Pearl of Africa by Winston Churchill. To compete at the world stage for part of the tourism pie, UNDP is supporting Node Media Systems to deploy novel and innovative digital technologies to showcase Uganda's hotspots to the world.

Node Media is developing a digital portal (Web & Mobile App) that gives tourists a virtual tour of the major hotspots and resorts in Uganda, using virtual & augmented reality. From the website and mobile app, viewers can experience a 360-degree panoramic view of many of Uganda's iconic places such as Gorilla Trekking, National Parks, Mt Rwenzori among others. Furthermore, the virtual tour offers the closest possible sensory experience of any tourist destination, services, and product which also consist of 360-degree panoramic views.

An e-commerce shop for high quality arts and crafts made by artisanal women and people with disabilities, will be available to enable tourists buy trinkets and jewelry made in the Pearl of Africa. The virtual platform will allow tourists make bookings for gorilla permits, safari tours, luxury hotels and the various attractions across the country.



QUEST DIGITAL FINANCE LIMITED

About Quest Digital Finance Limited

Quest Digital Finance Limited has developed Akellobanker - a data-driven mobile and web-based digital platform that enables low-income earners including farmers, youth, women, and disabled persons to have easy access to tractor hire, improved seed, medical services and farm labor on credit, by leveraging data & mobile technology to offer structured repayments compatible to the user's needs. The platform integrates Mobile Money and use of USSD to facilitate instant access, disbursements, and repayments.

Akellobanker uses the historical data collected to generate unique credit identities, which track user credit behavior to assign appropriate credit scores. It is believed that everyone has a financial history, except for the fact that it is not documented. The documentation processes form part of the customer journey towards making access to credit simple and easy. To use the platform, the user can use their phone or walk to the nearest Akellobanker partner merchants who include SACCOS, medical service providers, and seed and tractor providers for assistance. The merchant can then sign-up a user or a user who is currently enrolled can sign-up another user.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Quest Digital Finance Limited is proposing a solution "Akellobanker" which is an analytics based mobile and web platform, that facilitates easy access to farm inputs, expert-extension services, agro - advisory services, tools and equipment for farmers while providing an option for smallholder farmers to pay, share, or hire farming services or equipment on credit.

With focus on addressing the constraints of cost, data and access, Akellobanker will connect smallholder farmers to agricultural service providers such as input dealers, extension workers, agro-advisory services and lenders using a low-cost, data-driven, user-centered approach. Quest Digital Finance's model will de-risk farmers at the cooperative or group level, and allow providers and lenders to reach millions of farmers at a fraction of the cost of expansion.



About Savara International Limited

Savara International Limited is a legally registered business in Uganda engaged in the provision of IT services, advertising, and marketing. The firm specializes in information and communications technology solutions, project management, social media management, branding and design, public relations, photography and videography.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Tooro Kingdom is a host to 7 key tourism districts. The Kingdom is also blessed with an abundance of tourism resources such as ample wildlife including the tree climbing lions, rare bird species, breathtaking landscapes, picturesque tea, coffee and cocoa farms, magnificent palaces, a museum, the scenic snow-capped Rwenzori mountain, crater lakes and a unique culture and culinary arts. The tourism industry in the Kingdom has been disproportionately affected by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and severely disrupted the livelihoods of a significant number of inhabitants of the kingdom, who derived their income from industry.

Digitization has changed the way tourists manage their travel, from searching for the next trip destination, checking in at the airport, or when looking up dishes on the menu. Many have welcomed and embraced the transformations because it is fast, efficient and reliable. Digital solutions can support the rapid recovery of tourism businesses and build their resilience to similar shocks.

With support from UNDP, Savara International, in partnership with the Kingdom of Tooro, will develop a mobile application - Tooro Online, showcasing and marketing the regions abundant tourism resources. The application will provide tourists with a platform to access information, book services and virtually experience some of the tourism activities. The application will also create livelihood opportunities for communities in the region, through offering tourism services.



TUBAYO (U) LIMITED

About Tubayo (U) Limited

Tubayo (U) Limited is a Ugandan company that operates an online marketplace enabling tour guides to list unique travel experiences such as city tours, historical tours, safaris, photography, arts and more. Tubayo makes available a unique technology platform to economically empower many people around the country to unlock and monetize their spaces, passions, and and to engage in hospitality. Tubayo's marketplace – an online market, offers tourism businesses access to a market of over 30,000 Tubayo users in Uganda.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Digitization has impacted travel, including searching for the next destination, airport check-in, or when looking up dishes on the menu. Many have welcomed and embraced the transformations.

In partnership with UNDP, Tubayo is taking advantage of the continuously shrinking technology gap in rural areas and increased mobile phone and internet usage, to remove barriers to entry into the tourism industry. The scale-up of the platform will help spread the benefits of tourism, previously in the hands of a few. The platform Tubayo removes the need for access to capital, office set up, and high levels of education and skills in management encouraging youth participation in the tourism industry.



About Tukole Makerspace Limited

Tukole Makerspace Limited is an online marketplace for reliable blue-collar services, providing vetted and qualified professionals to households and corporate businesses.

Tukole aims at creating dignified work opportunities for 1,200 youth in 6 trades across Central, Eastern, Northern & Western Uganda. Tukole sources and vets youth skilled in vocational and artisan skills to identify skills gaps. Tukole upskills the youth with market-relevant skills and connects them to the labor market through the short, medium, and long-term job opportunities.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

With support from UNDP, Tukole is building a community of qualified service providers in 6 informal trades (plumbing, carpentry, beauty and hair, electrical work, laundry, welding and fabrication) in the four regions of Uganda. Tukole is identifying skills gaps, retooling and reskilling the youth and onboarding them onto the Tukole taskforce online community, to increase linkage to job opportunities.



UGANDA SAFARI GUIDES ASSOCIATION

About Uganda Safari Guides Association

The Uganda Safari Guides Association (USAGA) is a member-based organization established by tour guides and specialists of tourism sub-activities such as birding, butterflies, reptiles, and cultural tourism, to provide a platform to increase visibility and recognition as key actors in the tourism industry. USAGA currently has over 1,000 members from across the country.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Trained tour guides often fail to obtain opportunities to practice their craft while tourists, both domestic and international, as well as tourism service providers, struggle to identify tour guides to offer guiding services. USAGA has with a matching grant from UNDP developed a one-stop point web-based portal, and mobile application similar to Airbnb application for accommodation facilities, intended to enable tour guides access markets (tourists) for their services. Over 1,500 tour guides, 80% of whom are youth are expected to benefit from increased access to short term employment opportunities.



YO-WASTE LIMITED

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About Yo-Waste Limited

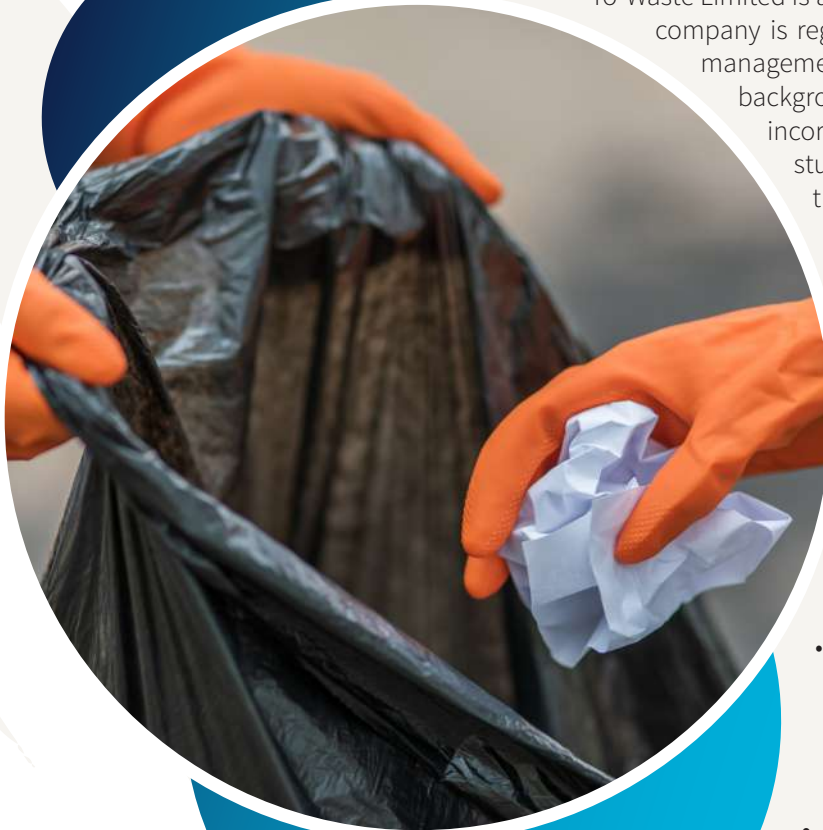
Yo-Waste Limited is a tech waste-management startup incorporated and registered in Uganda. The company is registered under the Government of the Republic of Uganda to deal in waste-management as a Limited Liability. The company has got a multidisciplinary team with backgrounds in computer science, waste management and others. The company was incorporated as a startup by 5 Makerere University computer science undergraduate students in 2019, to implement their research projects in the community. Some of their solutions include the Yo-Waste Connect, Yo-Waste hauler & Yo-waste cloud all in the pipeline of implementation, piloting & scaling.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

With the support of UNDP, the company is developing the Yo-waste innovation ("an uber for waste"), a mobile & cloud-based solution that connects garbage generators (households, restaurants, schools, businesses) to the nearest local waste haulers in their communities and is efficient, reliable, affordable and convenient. Yo-Waste technology includes three offerings:

- **Yo-Waste Connect** - Android mobile application that allows businesses and households to request and schedule for waste collection services at a tap of their smartphones.
- **Yo-Waste Hauler** - Android mobile application that provides sophisticated routing and logistics tools to garbage collection trucks. The application allows collectors to maximize garbage collection points while navigating around the city. The application collects household waste data which can be used by urban planners to plan for their cities with reliable data.
- **Yo-Waste Cloud** - Cloud based platform that allows garbage collection companies (franchises) and municipal authorities to measure the productivity of garbage collection trucks in the field. Users can track garbage collection trucks in real time, serviced locations and jobs in progress.

All these platforms work hand in hand to create clean sustainable smart cities, and make the whole process of garbage collection effective.



BIOGENICS LIMITED

About Biogenics Limited

Biogenics Limited is a Ugandan owned manufacturer and supplier of medical consumables and equipment. Biogenics is currently manufacturing 3ply surgical and KN95 masks with a production capacity of 30,000 KN95 masks and 60,000 3ply surgical masks per day. However, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the company has experienced a surge in demand for its products. It is however unable to meet the tenfold growth in demand for its products due to the limited production capacity.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

With support from UNDP, Biogenics is scaling production to 900,000 KN95 masks and 1,800,000 3 ply surgical masks, as well as diversifying the firm's product range to include cotton balls, gauze, surgical hairnets and sanitary towels. In scaling, the firm will also create about 200 decent direct and indirect jobs, and livelihood opportunities for young people.



ECOPLASTILE LIMITED

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About EcoPlastile Limited

EcoPlastile Limited is a social enterprise established to tackle the challenges of post-consumer plastic pollution, waste management, deforestation and climate change. The business model also enables households to use plastic and agricultural waste as a form of financial resource in exchange for medical services.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Globally, more than 9 million metric tons of plastic garbage end up in our oceans annually causing threat to marine life, and affecting all sectors of the food supply chain. By the year 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Also, while forests still cover about 30 percent of the world's land area, they are disappearing at an alarming rate. Between 1990 and 2016, the world lost 502,000 square miles (1.3 million square kilometers) of forest. Uganda loses over 400,000 hectares of forest land annually. The alarming rate of forest depletion is due to the growing demand for timber in building and construction activities.

EcoPlastile Limited has developed a chemical free and energy conserving plastic extrusion technology called "Waxy II technology" to recycle and transform post-consumer plastic garbage and packaging materials into durable and long-lasting plastic timbers. Plastic timbers are a strong, durable, affordable and ideal for building, construction and furniture making. With UNDP's support, EcoPlastile is commercializing this environmentally sustainable innovation, to reduce deforestation and attendant impacts of climate change, as well as profit from the lucrative timber market.

Commercialization of this innovation will create direct employment for 125 young people involved in the converting of shredded and melted plastic, into durable and environment-friendly posts timbers and other building hardware. It will also create livelihood opportunities for over 1,000 youth and women involved in the collection, sorting and cleaning of plastic waste for resell to EcoPlastile.



KAZIRE HEALTH PRODUCTS LIMITED

About Kazire health Products Limited

Kazire Health Products Limited is a commercial enterprise engaged in the production and packaging of healthy and nutritious juices made from organic fruits, vegetables and plant roots. The enterprise produces an array of juices such as Kazire orange tea drink, Kazire Lemon Green Tea Drink, Kazire VIT Fruit Drink, Kazire Aloe Green Tea Drink from aloe vera, Kazire Power Tonic and Kazire Red Tonic.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Uganda is the second largest producer of bananas in the world, with an estimated annual production of 10 million metric tons. Banana farming inhabits 30 percent of the farming land and is produced by over a million households, representing 24 percent of farmers in Uganda. In this regard, banana farming is a major source of income among farmers in rural communities of Uganda. Banana production and trade in Uganda is characterized by high post-harvest losses due to high perishability of the product, no value addition and low prices.

Kazire is venturing into the commercial production and packaging of banana juice; natural sweetener and flavouring agent from banana. The enterprise has established a 300-nucleus banana farm to support the commercial production of banana juice. However, the fruits from this farm are insufficient to enable Kazire sustainably produce and package commercial quantities of banana juice. With support from UNDP, the firm is working with over 500 farmers to establish an out-grower scheme that will grow banana and supply Kazire with juice mechanically extracted from the banana (first line processing) at a cooperative-owned plant. This is expected to create an estimated additional 1,000 jobs and livelihood opportunities for young people.



About Oribags Innovations (U) Limited

Founded in 2009, Oribags Innovations (U) Limited is a growing brand for environmentally friendly packaging and stationery in Uganda. The core business of Oribags is waste recovery, design, and manufacture and marketing of innovative biodegradable packaging materials from recycled fibres. The company ecologically recovers office waste, household and agricultural waste of biofibre grade, and transforms it into valuable and environmentally friendly bags, stationery and other packaging materials.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The informal sector is responsible for 80-90 percent of recycling activities. Majority of homesteads, institutions and enterprises still send over 90 percent of their recyclable materials to the landfill, incinerate or opt to burning. Uganda's informal recycling economy is highly dysfunctional with inefficient supply chains dominated by middlemen. As such, manufacturing of Oribags products is constrained by the inconsistent supply of high-quality raw materials.

Oribags is with support from UNDP, developing a mobile application platform - WASTE4GOOD – curated to facilitate the ethical sourcing of discarded materials for recycling whilst creating green jobs and livelihood opportunities for young people. The platform is designed to digitize the waste supply chain thus building a successful, efficient, responsive and accountable circular economy infrastructure. Through the application, it is estimated that over 300 waste entrepreneurs will be created.



SPORTRISE UGANDA LIMITED

About Sportrise Uganda Limited

Sportrise is an eco-friendly & sustainable sports brand that manufactures footballs and sportswear purely from recycled plastic waste.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

By combining passion for sport and a plastic-free and cleaner environment, Sportrise has developed an innovative technology to manufacture durable footballs from waste plastic. In partnership with UNDP, Sportrise is commercializing its innovation through which over 50 jobs and livelihood opportunities will be created.



ZETU AFRICA LIMITED

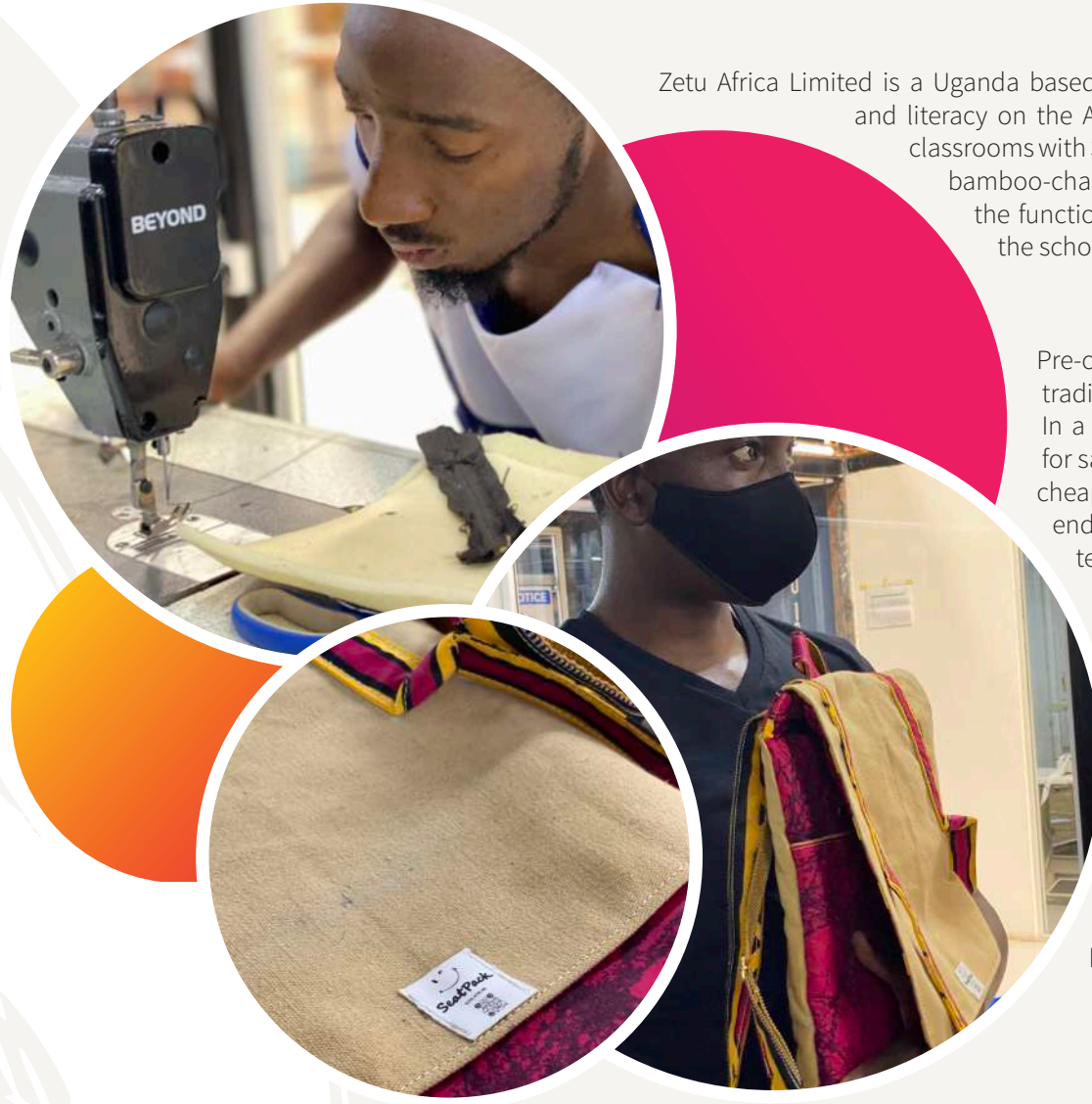
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About Zetu Africa Limited

Zetu Africa Limited is a Uganda based social enterprise engaged in improving education and literacy on the African continent by furnishing rural primary-school classrooms with SeatPacks - Personal schoolbags that turn into mobile bamboo-chairs with recycled-paper writing surfaces, to perform the functional duties of wooden classroom desks/lockers that the schools cannot afford.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Pre-covid 19, over 95-million African children did not afford traditional-wooden classroom furniture (desks/lockers). In a post-covid19 era, meeting space recommendations for safer schools requires an alternative more flexible and cheaper option than the USD 110 wooden locker. To this end, Zetu Africa Limited has developed an innovative technology – the SeatPack, to aid learning in schools. The SeatPack is a simple school bag that performs the functional duties of a desk, by turning into a mobile bamboo chair with a writing-surface. Built for ages 5 to 13 years whose primary-school classrooms cannot afford wood-based furniture whether due to under-facilitation, post-conflict or post-disaster situations. The SeatPack makes personalised, safe-classrooms possible for rural schools during the covid19 pandemic. Zetu is with support from UNDP piloting the commercialization of this innovation to enable safe learning for young people.



CHARGE KO TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED

About Charge Ko Technologies Limited

Charge Ko Technologies is an energy solutions provider that is making owning and operating electric vehicles and other battery-powered devices, more convenient and affordable while transitioning Africa towards clean mobility and universal energy access.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Social media and travel experience rating sites like Trip Advisor have more than 460 million visitors posting 830 million reviews, majority of which are posted while still on the trip, and have a lot of influence on choice of destination. However, most mountaineering camp sites and tourist destinations excluding lodges and formal accommodation, don't have electricity access or grid lines to keep phones charged.

Also, owing to the impact COVID-19 a significant number of micro and small businesses (MSEs) have resorted to the use of e-commerce and social media platforms, as a business continuity measure. However, they lack reliable electricity to charge mobile phones in the informal workplaces. This restricts access to services like mobile money transfer, communication, educational content and government services.

To address this challenge, UNDP is supporting Charge Ko scale-up its innovation – a network of solar powered charging stations, in various tourism destinations and informal workplaces in Uganda. This will enable mountaineers to enjoy their trip, take, and share more photos about their experience and share experiences with other potential travellers in real time. It will also, facilitate e-commerce for MSEs enabling faster recovery of the economy from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic whilst providing an income source for youth who will hold the franchises for the stations.



DIVINE BAMBOO LIMITED

About Divine Bamboo Limited

Divine Bamboo Limited is an innovative forestry company that provides a clean cooking fuel in the form of high-quality charcoal briquettes, produced from local bamboo, grown specifically for energy purposes on sustainable bamboo plantations in Uganda.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Biomass energy contributes 14% and 95% to the global and national energy matrices respectively. With population increase in Uganda at 3.6% per annum and forest cover loss now estimated at 92,612ha annually, the benefits accruing to the use of biomass energy are increasingly dwindling. Within the next 40 years, Uganda will have no forests if deforestation continues at its present rate. This has led to an energy crisis and high demand which have seen the prices of biomass fuels escalate.

Divine Bamboo Limited has developed a high quality, clean and affordable bamboo briquette, produced from fast growing local bamboo species as a sustainable cooking fuel alternative to conventional biomass fuels such as charcoal and firewood. Bamboo briquettes cook for longer at 70 minutes burning time, compared with 45 minutes of charcoal and can be used in existing cook stoves. Bamboo briquettes retail for \$0.32 which is 30% cheaper than traditional charcoal and burn cleaner with no smoke.

Selection of bamboo as a raw material for the briquettes was informed by the fact that it grows fast and has an average rotation of 4 years, requires minimal maintenance, no fertilizers or pesticides and can be integrated in both agroforestry and mixed farming systems. Commercialization of this innovation with support from UNDP, will result in the creation of over 100 full time jobs and engagement of over 2,000 farmers in commercial bamboo growing as a source of livelihoods.



FINE REED LIMITED

About Fine Reed Limited

Fine Reed Limited is a youth-led Ugandan renewable energy service start-up that provides a set of services, activities, and programs that leverage and expand existing innovation capacity. Its work supports the development and deployment of sustainable, affordable, and profitable energy solutions at the grassroots level

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Uganda is highly dependent on biomass as a source of energy. Around 90% of Uganda's total energy demand comes from firewood and charcoal. This has caused an unsustainable demand for firewood leading to deforestation, growing emissions, and energy poverty due to the high inflation of cooking fuel.

The sugar industry in Uganda produces over 5 million tonnes of bagasse (dry pulpy residue left after the extraction of juice from sugar cane) annually. Whilst a minority of sugar companies use their bagasse to generate electricity, a proportion of bagasse is poorly disposed of in communities that surround sugar factories.

Fine Reed has developed an alternative to charcoal – briquettes from charred bagasse, molasses and clay soil that has been piloted and proven to be viable, affordable, lights quicker and burns longer. With a matching grant of USD 40,000 from UNDP, Fine Reed will engage in the commercialization of this innovation through the establishment of a factory with production capacity of 200 tonnes of bagasse briquettes – faya energy brand - a month; and franchising of the production and distribution to over 5,000 young people and women over a five year period.



WEYE CLEAN ENERGY COMPANY LIMITED

About Weye Clean Energy Company Limited

WEYE Clean Energy Co. Ltd is a youth-led green enterprise dedicated to promoting clean and sustainable cooking and heating solutions for institutional kitchens, poultry farms and small & medium scale industries. The firm's products include charcoal briquettes, improved and efficient Institutional briquette stoves, and briquette machines. They also offer waste management, and briquetting and plastic waste recycling.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

One of the most pressing innovation gaps in the briquette industry in Uganda is the sourcing of feedstock and/or bio-char for the production of the briquettes. In Uganda more than 90% of briquette producers still use charcoal dust from wood charcoal as their main feedstock, making the industry dependent on often non-sustainable wood fuel. WEYE has developed a model that will sustainably and profitably source the required amounts of feedstock while creating decent green jobs within the briquette value chain. With support from UNDP, WEYE is commercializing its innovation – converting organic waste material into bio-char. In partnership with UNDP, WEYE will equip a group of 35 youth with skills and equipment to commercially source organic waste from large scale farmers and municipal waste collectors and turn these feedstocks into bio-char that will be purchased by WEYE as a raw material for the production of briquettes.



BIRD UGANDA SAFARIS LIMITED

About Bird Uganda Safaris Limited

Bird Uganda Safaris Limited is a tour and travel company headquartered in Uganda. The enterprise offers a variety of tourism experiences to domestic and international tourists interested in birding, nature, wildlife and cultural tourism. The enterprise relies on skilled manpower in the various destinations across the East African region to offer worthwhile tourism experiences to their clients.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The Eastern Tourism Development Areas particularly in Kidepo valley and Pian Upe are experiencing significant growth in visitor numbers and investment in tourist establishments the region. However, this growth is constrained by the absence of trained and skilled indigenous safari and cultural guides. UNDP in partnership with Bird Uganda Safaris has mobilized and equipping over 100 young women in the Karamoja region (Kaabong, Abim, Kotido, Moroto, Napak, Nakapiripirit and Amudat) with skills in nature, bird, cultural and wildlife guiding. The trainees will also be equipped with skills in financial management, developing exciting tourism experience offers, and digital literacy. Bird Uganda will also ensure that the trainees are assessed by Uganda Safari Guides Association (USAGA), certified by the Directorate of Industrial Training (DIT) and licensed by Uganda Tourism Board. This initiative is expected to generate an additional 200 livelihood opportunities for communities offering homestays, culinary delights and community walks.



BWINDI MGAHINGA CONSERVATION TRUST

About Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust

Bwindi Mgahinga Conservation Trust (BMCT) is a trust established to conserve biodiversity and ecosystem health of Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla National Parks - two critical ecosystems that are a habitat to half of the world's remaining population of mountain gorillas in South Western Uganda. To achieve this, BMCT invests in tourism promotion through collaborative community development projects, that improve their livelihoods and income generation.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The Batwa are the major inhabitants of the areas around Bwindi Impenetrable and Mgahinga Gorilla National Parks. They largely derive their livelihood from hunting and cultivation crops in the national parks. These activities have resulted in significant human wildlife conflict as gorillas destroy the crop gardens.

To address this situation, BMCT with support from UNDP will impart knowledge and skills, and enhance entrepreneurial ability of young people and communities living adjacent to the parks. In particular, BMCT will provide hands-on training in basket making, wood carving and production of assorted souvenirs from bones, horns and volcanic stones; BMCT will establish village tourism trails and train tour guides, in a bid to enhance tourism at community level and increase tourist stay time, building capacity to engage in art and craft business. This is expected to result in the creation of over 200 employment opportunities (formal and informal) for the Batwa youth.



KARUNGI CROWN ENTERPRISES LIMITED

About Karungi Crown Enterprises Limited

Karungi Crown Enterprises is a tour company that offers tourism services including the provision of accommodation to tourists. The company operates fully serviced apartments for short-term visitors and a luxury eco-lodge – Kigambira Safari Lodge – in Lake Mburo National Park.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Over 95 percent of Uganda's tourism is based on nature and wildlife. However, the low participation of communities in the tourism value chain presents a danger to wildlife conservation especially due to the human-wildlife conflict. In partnership with UNDP, Karungi are undertaking an initiative intended to strengthen wildlife conservation, through community engagement. Karungi is integrating the local communities around the Kigambira Safari Lodge into its value chain as suppliers of inputs, employees, and service providers.



MLIMA SAFARIS AND AGRITOURS LIMITED

About Mlima Safaris and Agritours Limited

Mlima Safaris and Agritours is a full-service travel agency dedicated to providing corporate, leisure and meeting services with a bias towards agritourism. Rural communities across Uganda face many complex challenges including reliance on one source of income – subsistence agriculture – which is subject to weather vagaries.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Over 68 percent of Uganda's households derive their livelihoods from engaging in agriculture. Agritourism – the practice of visiting agricultural farms and businesses for the purpose of entertainment or education, is on the rise in Uganda and is popular amongst the domestic tourists from the growing middle class. However, most farmers in the rural areas have not been prepared to take up agritourism as an additional source of income from their farms.

To ensure rural communities diversify their sources of income and enable them benefit from the tourism value chain, UNDP is supporting Mlima Safaris and Agritours to pilot agritourism working with over 400 farmers in eastern Uganda to prepare appropriate travel itineraries for tourists interested in agritourism and develop their agritourism guiding skills to offer a worthy tourism experience. Through this initiative, Mlima Safaris and Agritours will create over 1,500 employment and livelihood opportunities directly and indirectly for young people in Eastern Uganda.



MOUNTAIN SLAYERS UGANDA LIMITED

About Mountain Slayers Uganda Limited

Mountain Slayers Uganda (MSU) is a hiking club established to challenge perceptions about the outdoors in Uganda. The club offers affordable adventures that encourage Ugandans to explore the outdoors and the country.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Uganda is home to 5 of the 10 highest mountains in Africa including the Rwenzori ranges, which has one of the most scenic and challenging mountaineering experiences anywhere in the world. However, just 6,000 visitors a year visit the Rwenzori compared to Kilimanjaro, which receives more than 35,000 visitors annually. Further, a few Ugandans climb mountains in the country and East Africa, yet neighbouring Kenya sends large groups to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro. Two of the most important reasons for this disparity are: i) a lack of sufficient safety measures, and ii) a lack of regional and global exposure. In partnership with UNDP, MSU will train and equip the mountaineering industry in the Rwenzori region with skills and tools required to ensure increased, and lifesaving, safety measures in the mountains.



THE MKUTANO COMPANY LIMITED

About The Mkutano Company Limited

The Mkutano Company is a Ugandan-owned integrated conferencing, incentive travel and media production company blending competencies in ideation, content development, and media production to curate a suite of products that fit within the 21st century business operations and growth.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

Uganda is endowed with abundant natural resources and a rich cultural and historical heritage which are the base for its tourism industry. However, about 95% of the country's tourist packages focus on wildlife products, largely neglecting opportunities in eco-tourism, adventure tourism, water-based and special interest attractions such as cultural and community-based tourism. Yet alternative tourism has a lot of growth potential as demonstrated by the success of festivals such as Nyege Nyege and Bayimba Festival.

In partnership with UNDP, The Mkutano Company is developing the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE), and media content creation spaces that have a direct bearing on neglected opportunities within Uganda's tourism sector. This will be achieved through integrating the development of a media product that entails the production and distribution of a documentary on Uganda tourism highlighting, the non-traditional tourism endowments hidden in the country's contemporary creative culture covering fashion, music and film; and hosting a special Tourism Mkutano focusing on alternative tourism (cultural, MICE, exhibitions, medical et al).



THE MEDICAL CONCIERGE GROUP LIMITED

About The Medical Concierge Group Limited

The Medical Concierge Group (TMCG) is a leading digital health and telemedicine company in East Africa since 2012; using information and communication technologies to deliver health solutions for patients, providers, researchers, insurers, development practitioners, and policymakers.

Business Solution to Youth Unemployment

The remote location of many of Uganda's tourist destinations creates a challenge to accessing timely and quality healthcare services for both local and foreign tourists. In addition, the rural health centers are often run by low cadre health workers that sometimes may not be equipped to handle all manner of complex clinical cases, and periodically need a second opinion when handling difficult medical cases, or are short of supplies like medicines and laboratory investigation capabilities.

TMCG through its Rocket Health brand, is with support from UNDP piloting a telemedicine centered medical service delivery ecosystem, for tourists including 24/7 teleconsultation services via voice, text or video, mobile laboratory sample pick-up and on demand delivery of medicine and other pharmaceuticals.




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