

VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING UNDER SNAP



Funded by ILO/IPEC Uganda

Implemented by: Rubaga Youth Development Association (RYDA)

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“RYDA CHILD LABOURER’S EXPERIENCE”

Child labour is one of the main sources of child abuse, exploitation and a potential threat to health, safety, moral and psychological development of children. Many are caught up in hazardous and life threatening activities, in the formal sector, domestic service, in the streets, plantations and brothels.

Poverty, domestic violence, societal attitudes, the HIV/AIDS epidemic and armed conflict are some of the contributory factors.

In order to combat this phenomenon ILO/IPEC identified implementing Agencies to implement a pilot project (SNAP) in the three pilot districts of Wakiso, Mbale and Rakai. A total of Implementing Agencies selected for the three districts were 11 and out of these 4 Implementing Agencies were selected from Wakiso and these were RYDA, HUYSLINK, UYDEL and KIN covering eight (8) sub-counties. Of Namayumba, Wakiso, Katabi, Entebbe, Nangabo, Nabweru, Makindye-Sabagabo, to mention but a few.

RYDA SNAP operated with a working Title: **Child empowerment Against Child Labour through formal Education and vocational skills Development.**

The operationalisation of this working title has many activities however in this report we are concentrating on vocational skills training for ex- child labourer identified during the activities of SNAP.

Here below are some of the highlights:-

Identification (15-17yrs)

The identification process was done by the project team with the help of the identification forms. And this was done after the training from the DBMR on how to fill the forms, below are the criteria used when identifying the children for vocational skills training;

- The children had to be between the ages of 15 to 17.
- They had to be in child labour
- Children in child headed families.
- Children living with HIV/AIDS

Selection

We had clear criteria for selecting children to benefit from the services provided by ILO-IPEC SNAP. There was transparency and this criteria was developed by different stakeholders at all levels right from the grassroots to the level of the implementing agency, district officials, teachers, CDOs, CCLCs, local council leaders, some members of the community.

These criteria acted as a guide for everybody that was involved in the selection of child labourers to be withdrawn and prevent those at risk of entering into child labour.

The criterion that was established for the selection of these children to benefit from the program was:

REMOVAL

- *Child must be working in child labour, and below the minimum age of employment (14yrs)*
- *If the child is above the minimum age of employment but below 17 years and in hazardous work.*
- *Those in poor standards of living and below the poverty line.*
- *Orphans especially double orphans*
- *Child living with HIV/AIDS who need care and protection and below 17 years.*
- *Child headed families and below the employment age and within the age bracket.*
- *Child living with disabilities.*
- *Children schooling and working below the minimum age of employment.*

Conditions for some of the children to be prevented from child labour.

- *The child must not be in child labour.*
- *The child must be at school but a likely to fall into child labour if the elders are child labourers.*
- *At a high risk of falling into child labour may be because the parents are very poor.*
- *Child not working and not going to school for the past few months.*

Psycho- social support

The 29 children who have already been withdrawn and attached to RYDA vocational centre have already been provided with psycho-social support. These children started to report around 16th / 10/2010 and they were orientated for 2 weeks.

During this orientation period, the former child labourers underwent a psycho-social support training, counselling and life skills education. The psycho – social support is ongoing in their respective departments until the end of the 9 months.

Psycho- social support involved the children themselves, the social worker, the co-ordinator, the Director and instructors of RYDA.

Initial stage of vocational skills training empowerment at RYDA Centre

Orientation

Background

Orientation period lasted for two weeks i.e. from the day the children started reporting to the centre. These children selected trades of their choice with the instructor's guidelines.

Commencement

Selection of trades

This was done immediately after the orientation process. This was done in the way that each child was asked to choose a trade of his interest. They were guided by the project team and Instructors from different departments.

During this exercise the instructors were requested to briefly demonstrate what they do in their departments, materials required, educational level needed, challenges, to mention but a few.

Training of Ex-child labourers

The actual training commenced with a total number of 33 children in November 2010 at RYDA vocational skills training centre. Here below is the tabulated data of the children undergoing training by age and sex and their areas of origin.

Table showing Ex-child labourers under training at RYDA Vocational Skills Training Center

NO.	NAME	IPEC NO.	SEX	AGE	SUB-COUNTY	TRADE OF TRAINING
1	Nakawooya Racheal	169	F	15	Wakiso S/C	Hair dressing
2	Namugambe Scovia	168	F	17	Namayumba S/C	Tailoring & Embroidery
3	Kiggundu Patrick	172	M	15	Namayumba S/C	Carpentry & Joinery
4	Bogere Edward	204	M	15	Namayumba S/C	Hair- dressing
5	Ssekanjako Godfrey	493	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Carpentry & Joinery
6	Namakula Harriet	116	F	17	Namayumba S/C	Hair dressing
7	Nsubuga Falouk	136	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Art & Design
8	Namugenyi Sarah	088	F	17	Namayumba S/C	Tailoring & Embroidery
9	Matovu Fred	085	M	16	Namayumba S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
10	Ddungu Rajab	036	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Electrical Installation
11	Lukwago Ronald	206	M	16	Wakiso S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
12	Nakazzi Sylvia	207	F	16	Namayumba S/C	Hair dressing
13	Semuyaba Ronald	234	M	16	Namayumba S/C	Carpentry & Joinery
14	Ssebbunza Edward	231	M	16	Namayumba S/C	Carpentry & Joinery
15	Nyombi Ronald	232	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
16	Ssekisambu Dan	233	M	16	Namayumba S/C	Bricklaying & Concrete practice
17	Kambugu Francis	230	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Electrical Installation
18	Sserumaga Lawrence	236	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
19	Kalungi Ronald	237	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Carpentry and Joinery
20	Lutimba Yaiiro	238	M	17	Namayumba S/C	Art & Design
21	Ssenabulya John	212	M	14	Wakiso S/C	Hair Dressing
22	Nabagwanya Margeret	245	F	15	Namayumba S/C	Tailoring & Embroidery
23	Nabagereka Phionah	235	F	16	Namayumba S/C	Hair dressing
24	Namutebi Lydia	495	F	17	Namayumba S/C	Hairdressing
25	Kasozi Joshua	227	M	15	Wakiso S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
26	Tumwine Ivan	214	M	16	Wakiso S/C	Art & Design
27	Nassanga Margaret	203	F	15	Wakiso S/C	Art & design
28	Namukasa Gladys	239	F	16	Namayumba S/C	Tailoring & Embroidery
29	Babirye Viola	228	F	16	Namayumba S/C	Tailoring & Embroidery
30	Mukwaya Henry	219	M	16	Mende S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
31	Mutyaba George William	225	M	16	Mende S/C	Bricklaying & concrete Practice
32	Nakabiiri mayimuna	218	F	17	Wakiso S/C	Hairdressing
33	Mawanda Ivan	226	M	16	Mende S/C	Bricklaying & Concrete Practice
34	Nakitende Fatuma		F	17	Mende S/C	Hairdressing
35	Ddamulira Alex		M	15	Mende S/C	Moto vehicle
36	Ssemambo Isma		M	16	Mende S/C	Motor vehicle

37	Nakintu Getrude		F	16	Wakiso S/C	Hair dressing
38	Nambalirwa Grace		F	16	Wakiso S/C	Hair dressing
39	Bukirwa Justine		F	15	Wakiso S/C	Hair dressing



Ex child labourer (Boys) undergoing Vocational Skills Training at RYDA centre

Many of them have started picking up the interest in the trades there are engaging in at the centre except some few who still un decided to chose what they want to do Many of the boys have picked interest in Brick laying than other trades.

Some of girl trainees at RYDA Centre under SNAP



The **12** girls who first reported for the Vocational Skills training at RYDA centre. Many of them have joined the Hairdressing trade followed with Tailoring and Embroidery and only one chose **Art**

and Design. Apart from the practical trades the young trainees have been given on simple Business and Entrepreneurial and complementary English.



1111Dan Ssekisambu aged 16's Story

Dan Ssekisambu aged 16 is an orphan who dropped from school at primary four in 2009 after the death of his father. His father left 7 children Ssekisambu mother Nalubega Goretti had 4 children (3girls and 1 boy) after dropping from school he resorted to digging for people in community and in his free time he engaged in radio repairing to get money to support hisr mother to meet their basic needs at home.

In May 2010 he was identified and selected by RYDA team and CCLC's for SNAP project. "After joining RYDA centre I chose to undertake Bricklaying and concrete practice. Why? Because it was easy for me and after training that I can easily find something to do in the community. I look forward after training to support my young sisters to go

back to school." Dan has a lot of dreams about what to do for his mother.

Conclusion:

We hope that with the support of our partners for SNAP, community members, RYDA training and project staff the training programme is envisaged to be more to the targeted beneficiaries. Challenges have not been identified so far but we pray that none of the trainees drop out of the programme.



Dan Ssekisambu mixing sand and cement to starting the building lesson at RYDA centre