

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURE (YETA)

FEBRUARY 2015 - AUGUST 2020

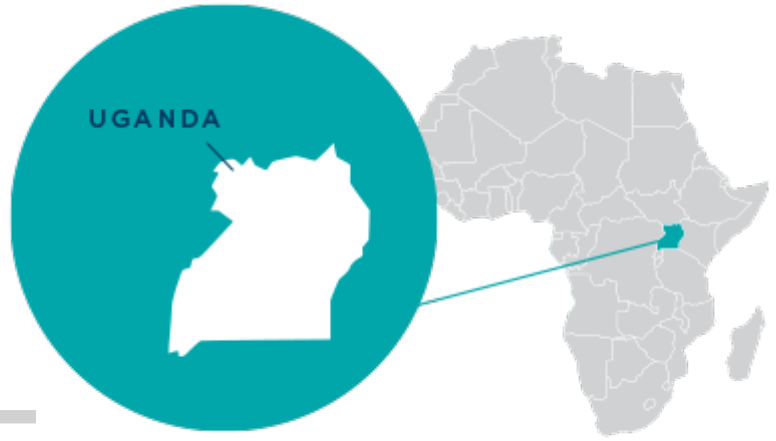
AT A GLANCE

FUNDED BY:
Mastercard Foundation
\$11,704,063

Youth Trained in Agriculture
Business Skills :
21,664

Youth Businesses Established:
26,856

Learn More at the Project Website:
www.clusauganda.co.ug



This project is part of The Mastercard Foundation's Youth Forward Initiative in partnership with Overseas Development Institute, Global Communities, Solidaridad, NCBA CLUSA and GOAL.

The YETA Consortium draws on a network of Producer Organizations and Youth Associations as an entry point to train, mentor, and provide employment opportunities for at-risk, out of school, unemployed/underemployed youth in four districts of Northern Uganda: Dokolo, Kiryandongo, Kole, and Masindi.

YETA hinges on NCBA CLUSA's "Learn, Engage, Build" model designed to create long-term engagement by integrating numeracy, literacy and life skills with technical expertise in agriculture, business, entrepreneurship and management. Youth learn concepts they can relate to everyday life (Learn), apply those concepts under a mentor's guidance (Engage), and receive support and encouragement to experiment on their own (Build).

YETA builds on the successes of NCBA CLUSA's previous program, the Uganda Conservation Farming Initiative (UCFI) \$8.4 million USDA-funded program in Northern Uganda, which took a value chain approach to increasing smallholder farmer profitability through conservation farming. Parents and leaders of Area Cooperative Enterprises (ACE), established under UCFI, now mentor YETA youth.

YETA deepens the skillset of Ugandan youth, integrating sexual reproductive health, numeracy, literacy, and life skills with technical expertise in agriculture, business, entrepreneurship, and management.



Members of the Pakanyi Group, a youth association started through YETA, in Uganda.





A SINGLE MOM STANDS ON HER OWN WITH SUPPORT FROM HER YOUTH ASSOCIATION

After getting trained in financial literacy and entrepreneurship through a YETA supported youth group, Juliet Abitegeka, a 23-year old single mother from Masindi learned how to save, budget, and manage her agricultural enterprises. By integrating these skills into her daily business, she was able to quickly diversify her income and, ultimately, support her family on her own.

Founded in November 2015 with 35 members—21 men and 14 women—the Katwemukye Bukooba Youth Group elected Juliet as chairperson. Through YETA, the group received training in agriculture, business, and financial management.

Collectively, the Group decided to start a piglet incubator business. While many invested in the start-up, Juliet also used her new skills to branch out on her own until the larger group could turn a profit.

She started by buying local chicks from her village that she fattened and later sold. She soon found market for her chicken in the neighboring weekly market where she also sold her fast-growing green vegetables, locally known as nakati.

Juliet joined a Village Savings and Loan (VSLA) group in the neighborhood and saved over 300,000 Ugandan shillings (80 USD) in 2016. These savings were a platform to accessing credit and expanding her businesses. According to Juliet, trainings offered by YETA opened her eyes to the world of opportunities and she will no longer accept failure as an option. She is planning to pay back the loan from her VSLA in the next few months.

Juliet now lives in her own home with her only child. They moved in February this year, solving the major challenge of finding their own shelter. She will continue to expand her businesses and looks forward to the investment of knowledge and training from the youth association. With the confidence to strike out on her own and the support of other youth group members, Juliet is creating a stable foundation for herself and her son. YETA is providing entrepreneurial women like Juliet, the opportunity to use their leadership skills as a springboard to success and resilience.

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and is the primary voice in the United States for people who use cooperatives to build a better world. We currently work in Africa, Asia and Latin America building resilient communities, creating economic opportunities and strengthening cooperatives and producer groups.

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