

GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED

Plan International UK- Tanzania

Project: Partnership to enhance livelihoods and social inclusion of marginalised young people dependent on the informal economy

GOOD PRACTICE: Formalising of youth groups dependent on the informal economy and linking them to access social protection services

1. Key areas of good practice:

- Formalising of youth groups depending on the informal economy and linking them to access social protection services (2.2 – 4.7)

2. Context - Brief description

Where was the good practice implemented?

It was implemented in Illala and Temeke districts in Dar es Salaam Region. Kisarawe, Kibaha district and town Council in Pwani Region. Kilombero district in Morogoro Region. Mtwara District and Municipal Council in Mtwara region. Lindi district and municipal Council in Lindi region.

Why it was implemented:

Access to formal social protection services is not provided to youth dependent on informal economy. Formalization of youth Income generating associations by supporting them to be registered with the government. This will in turn give them access to formal social protection services (linked to Parastatal Pension Fund).

Who was involved:

Type of target group/community members: Marginalized youths depending on the informal economy and from marginalized groups, aged 15 to 35 from Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Pwani/Costal, Lindi and Mtwara regions of Tanzania

Implementers (Plan International Tanzania; an International Non-Governmental Organization):

Partners of implementers (Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO), Community Development and Relief Trust (CODERT), Uhamasisha Hifadhi Kisarawe (UHIKI) non-governmental organizations, and Tanzania's Vocational Educational and Training Authority (VETA) a government institution. Associate Partners are: Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) a non-governmental organization expert on disability issues, the Ministry of Information Youth Culture and Sports (MOIYCS), and Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE).

When the activity was implemented:

From September 2015 to present

3. Description of implementation of good practice:

The Youth Economic Empowerment project provides an opportunity for youth to access market relevant vocational skills as per the labour market scan and analysis report conducted in all 5 project regions.

In line with the labour market report, 10 curricula /courses were provided by a government Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA), on motor vehicle and cycle driving, tailoring, Masonry, Catering and Decoration, motor vehicle and cycle mechanics, Mobile phone repair,

Carpentry and Aluminium fitting and Iron and metal fabrication (welding). The Youth Economic Empowerment project is supporting marginalized youth from the informal economy to attend Vocational training by paying for their training Costs, the government is supporting the project by providing classroom free of charge. The project is using Outreach model in order to reach Youth depending on informal economy.

All trained youths are sensitized to form their saving groups (YSLA) as well as their Income Generating Association (IGAs) depending on the specific courses.

IGA involve 5 to 15 members in order to be registered as per the government policy.

Registration of IGAs is done at District/Municipal councils with support from District/Municipals Youth Development officers. The registration process starts at Ward level where IGAs are linked with Community Development officers at ward Level for registration process. After fulfilment of all requirements (cover letter and group constitution), the registration is submitted to the District level for Certification and then linked with Youth Development officer who controls Youth Development fund at District level.

District and Municipal Youth Development Officers assess the applications and request for the groups to be given fund from district youth development fund in the form of soft loans. They are soft loans because the government has discounted interest rates to 10% or less. Also, the District Youth Development Officers link beneficiaries of the Youth Development Fund to the Parastatal Pension Fund (PPF) for social protection through pension. Joining PPF is a voluntary decision of a group member, although Youth Development officer is the one linking youth groups to access Youth Development fund with PPF. Once having joined the PPF, youth from the informal economy contribute Tsh 20,000 per month. The amount to contribute to the PPF comes from the YSLA Group Social fund In their IGAs (Most of IGAs are also operating as YSLAs). Members contribute and therefore dependents benefit with Health Insurance card from National Health Insurance (NHIF) for the whole year as well as accident insurance. If they have an accident while working, they will be taken care of by the insurance and also members of PPF are benefiting with education loans which is an interest free loan if a youth from the informal economy and who is a member of PPF want to go for further education.

Kisarawe YEE Catering and Decoration Group have used the Youth Development Fund to purchase all needed materials for catering and decoration services. With the materials, the group has managed to acquire different tenders and within this short time they have managed to return Tsh 1,400,000. They are sure of contributing their monthly contributions to PPF. They are planning to expand their business and improve their services as well as provide employment to other marginalized youths. Currently they have started offering apprenticeship for 2 marginalized girls.

In Kilombero district, two IGA groups of youths with disabilities have accessed loans through the Youth Development Fund. The Baraka Farmers (mobile phone repair) group of youths with physical disabilities with all 5 men having accessed Tsh1.5 million, they have started a project for renting bicycles. They have purchased 16 bicycles and are renting each for 200 Tsh per hour. With this project they have managed to repay Tsh 650,000. EMFRANJO Catering and decoration is another group at Kilombero that has recently accessed Tsh 2 Million. They are planning to open a very nice restaurant with that loan.



EMFRANJO members demonstrating their works to Morogoro region Commissioner Dr Kebwe Steven Kebwe

In Lindi, 3 groups have accessed social protection through District Youth Development fund, Motivation Mchinga group has accessed Tsh 1 Million, Utetezi Kiwalala has accessed Tsh 1 million and Electrical group has received Tsh 1 Million. More than 40 IGAs have applied for Social protection through Youth Development fund.

YEE MOKI (5 members 1 female) and AMSATH (12 Member 5 male) have applied for Loan of Tsh 10 Million each from the Ministry of youth development fund and are at final stages. Once they have received the loan, they will be in a position to join the PPF and or other Social Security Service options YEE MOKI are planning to open a modern garage at Kisarawe and have been supported by the district council by offering a place to set their garage. AMSATH are planning to open Catering service (cafeteria and decoration services) as well as engaging in agriculture, they have been given 10 acres of land by the ward government. The condition is to make sure the land given is utilized, if not utilized for 2 years consecutively, the group shall lose the ownership of the land. The agreement between local government and the group is signed.

Five youth groups have been linked with social protection services through access to the Youth Development Fund. The process of registration and linking to social protection is simple. Once a working relationship is established with Local Government and central Government. The project engaged the government through stakeholder meetings where comments / information is shared, and feedback is received. The Wards Executive Officers and Development Officers are engaged in the awareness creation and youth selection and mobilization. Youth Development officers participate in project support monitoring

In this project we have Youth Forum members who work very closely with our Youth; members of Youth Forums meet regularly with District Youth Officers (DYO) and share with them the progress and challenges. For example for the registration of IGAs i.e. preparing group constitutions, opening bank account etc. Through these regular meetings and follow-up, the project ensures that the youth receive support to register and obtain the government loans. DYO submit monthly progress reports on their activities on this project to the District Executive Directors and District Commissioners.

4. Level and type of innovation of the good practice

Linking saving groups and IGAs to social protection.

5. Resources and skills needed to carry out the good practice

Human Resources for mobilization of the IGAs, Money for facilitation of mobilization of Youth into IGAs and IGAs registration

6. Sustainability perspectives – Replicability

Once linked, the group can access social protection services continuous upon successful reparation/paying back of the previous loan. This approach has already been replicated in other

Regions in Tanzania where Plan International operates (Rukwa, Mara and Geita

7. Links to Other Resources

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Lessons Learned

We have learnt that if marginalized youth are mobilized and built their confidence through life skill training, entrepreneurship and build their communication skills and leadership skills they can be confident and able to start Income generating Activities. They can acquire loans to boost the business and be able to repay the loan from District Councils and other financial Institutions. We have seen that before getting this training, marginalized youth were demoralised and helpless but now they are confident and able to run their own business profitably. And youth can now stand up for their rights, including getting a loan from the Local Government and obtaining a conducive business environment.

Advocacy for scaling up is needed to replicate the intervention, even in Plan's project area, many youths dependent on the informal economy do not know about the opportunity of government loans and social security.