



## Jobs & Oil: Improving youth employment in Western Uganda.

Living Earth Uganda (LEU) in partnership with Living Earth Foundation, UK have been implementing EU funded project titled ***Jobs & Oil: Improving youth employment in Western Uganda***. The purpose of the 3 & ½ year project cofounded by UKAID is to support the community affected by incoming **oil and gas industry in Hoima and Buliisa Districts** and at national policy level. The project targets to support creation of job opportunities for youth and women in the region.

The main goal of the project is to contribute to reduction of poverty and empowerment of women to hold local leaders accountable to address women issues.

The project specifically aims at increasing employment opportunities for the youth and women through establishment of a vocational skills and training programme focused on improving relevant technical skills and creation of a cadre of effective and skilled local enterprises to supply labour, goods and services to the growing economy at both local, national and regional markets.

LEU has implemented a number of interventions including delivery of a training programme to improve the pedagogical skills of instructors in vocational training institutions as well introducing training in health, safety and environment. So far 80 instructors from VTs are undertaking the training. The project has also supported the hands on training of youth from the institutions through placement for work experience at different industries and organisations as well attachment of youth for apprenticeship training in different trades. The program has so far supported placement of 531 youths from the vocational training institutions for work experience training and 52 youths for apprenticeship training.

Through the business development programme LEU has partnered with **Makerere University Business School Entrepreneurship Centre** to deliver an entrepreneurship training programme aimed at equipping local business owners and managers with effective business management skills to grow their enterprises. The tailor made training enables entrepreneurs to acquire skills in business planning, financial management and marketing of their goods and services all aimed at enhancing their capacity to run their businesses, access to credit to finance expansion and compete in the markets. And so far 244 entrepreneurs have benefited from the entrepreneurship training program, 60 of which have been provided with particular business advisory services through business clinics to address critical issues in their enterprises. LEU is also supporting local petty traders especially women to diversify their business opportunities through functional skills training to produce goods which are sold to generate income and eventually expand their spending power at household levels. And to this date 517 women and youth have benefited from different functional skills training in areas including briquette making, producing candles, soap and Vaseline, commercial cookery, mushroom growing, manure and animal feeds production.

In partnership with Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO), LEU has delivered advocacy, lobbying and civic education skills training to 80 women leaders from Hoima and Buliisa to enhance their capacity to hold local leaders accountable and to mobilise fellow women to play their roles in the community and participate in decision making at all levels.

LEU has engaged with key stakeholders both at local and national level to ensure that the outcomes of the project intervention are used as best practices for continued learning.

---

**Address: Living Earth Uganda, Plot 409, Canon Njuba Road - Nakulabye, P.O.Box 28694, Kampala, Uganda**