Redesigning Skills-based Education for and after COVID

Hawah Nabbuye, Uganda Country Director, Educate!
Purpose

Prepare youth in Africa with the skills to succeed in today’s economy

Long-Term Vision

Design Solutions that Measurably Impact Millions of Youth Across Africa Each Year
Our Approach to Skill Development

Business Club + Mentorship

Course

Assessment

Soft/Transferable & Hard Skills

Education Attainment

Gender Equity & Family Planning

Employment & Income
Can we create a skills bootcamp for youth outside of the system?
SEED Bootcamp
Improved Youth Livelihoods

Impact assessed 3 years post-intervention

- Income increased 31%
- Increased skills
- Improved business creation and survival
The IDEA

Evidence-based bootcamps for out-of-school youth, focused on strategic growth sectors or target groups
Graduates increased their income by 131%.

22 youth completed the 3-week bootcamp.
Remote Skills-Based Lessons

Virtual Mentorship + Projects at Home

Mobile-Based Assessment

Virtual Experience
Currently Testing:

**6-Week Virtual Bootcamp in Uganda**

**Distance Learning Bootcamp**

How to apply

1. STEP 1] DIAL *284*1#
   CHOOSE VIP BOOTCAMP

2. STEP 2] CHOOSE INDUSTRY TRACK: SMALL-SPACE FARMING OR SMALL SCALE MANUFACTURING

3. STEP 3] FILL OUT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Deadline for applications 9th September 2020

EDUCATE!
SESSION 1: RE-GROWING VEGETABLES

Introduction
Corona has caused new challenges in Uganda. For example, food prices have increased and people have lost income. Entrepreneurs see solutions where others see problems. You can identify business ideas by matching needs and available resources.

Scholar Hellen explains
My brother Moses and I decided to fight food insecurity by starting a sack garden using available resources. Our first step is to create seedlings from food scraps (vegetable cut-offs). Here's how you regrow an onion, try it out today!

1. Fill a container with 1 cm of water
2. Place the base cut-off of an onion in the water
3. Leave the base in water. When roots have grown, transplant to soil.

Today 12:56 PM
Hi Mukisa, Please share your progress. Which veggie did you regrow? 1 Potatoes 2 Onions 3 Cabbage 4 Other 5 None. Send your answer. - AutoMentor
Increased Economic Activity

- 137% ↑ Running a Business
- 77% ↑ Earning Any Income
- 33% ↑ Putting Aside Any Savings

Distance Learning VIP Bootcamp: Pre-Post Evaluation
Improved Skills

Grit
17% ↑

Goal Setting
22% ↑

Distance Learning VIP Bootcamp: Pre-Post Evaluation
5 Lessons Learned Adapting for Distance Learning
1. Going beyond broadcasting content

**Need:** Use best practice pedagogy for active learning, beyond memorization, and student data

**Challenge:** Limits of accessible technology

**Solution:** Layered distance learning strategies on a flexible schedule
- Deliver lesson content via radio, airing episodes on the weekend
- Mentorship and assessment via robocalls and SMS, sending learning prompts later in the day
2. Looking for new ways to engage families

**Need:** Active devices and caregiver engagement

**Challenges:** Phone enrollment & Device ownership
- 13,000 phone numbers in our database, <50% were active
- Youth have access for ~30 min / day

**Solution:** Conduct targeted outreach to parents and family members
- Communication around the purpose and benefits of programming
- Encouraging the lending of a family member phone
3. Incorporating story-based learning

Need: Engaging storytelling

Challenge: New mediums for lesson delivery
  ● Academic-feeling content is less engaging

Solution: Story-based activities
  ● Rewrite radio scripts and lesson activities to include characters and stories
4. Integrating gender equity into design & delivery

**Need:** Gender-responsive learning opportunities

**Challenges:** Gendered access and norms
- Boys are more likely to own phones
- Girls are underrepresented in curricula
- Girls are socialized to be more reserved

**Solution:** Target girls in lessons and activities
- Female lead characters and case study examples
- Safe spaces within all-girl conference calls
5. Tailoring program design to learner realities

**Need:** Rapid impact assessment

**Challenge:** Remote data collection via basic technologies

**Solution:** Data collection through:
- Text and phone based surveys
- Conference call-based group interviews
Opportunity: Increased Access

- **Bootcamps for Out-of-School Youth**
  - Strategic Growth Sectors & Businesses
  - Target Groups
- **Education System Support**
  - Leverage Learnings to Support Systems
Thank You

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