

Green Business Plan Competitions held annually in Uganda

The National Green Business Plan Training Workshops provide opportunities to young people with sustainable and environmentally friendly businesses.



The Commissioner congratulating the Best Green Business Award Winner 2012, Allan Kasirye who is pottery business

The 28 participants (25 males and 3 females) were selected from the 66 young entrepreneurs who had previously undergone the 3-day business plan development training between 12th – 14th September 2012. The same cohort had received business advisory services over time and had presented their draft plans to ILO YEF for consideration.

The 28 participants came from various districts across the country. The districts included; Masaka, Kampala, Arua, Gulu, Kisoro, Kyenjonjo, Mukono, Soroti, Lira and Nakaseke and Gomba.

The facilitators used interactive review approaches to discuss the general and the individual-specific sessions. The discussions were blended with useful experiences from the facilitators and the participants.

The business plans submitted earlier were later shared with Enterprise Uganda for reviewing and generation of feedback was shared with the participants. This improved their positive attitudes, skills and confidence about completion of their business plans.

One participant from Arua said, “the seminar has touched and changed many of us and it has been discovered that good ideas lead to success in business”

Through further development of the business plans to their finalization, the youth accessed business skills training, mentorships to facilitate them have access to finance in the long run.

Participants’ businesses included; tree growing, fuel briquette making, paper bag making, pottery, paper recycling, manufacture of energy saving stoves, bio gas, solar to mention but a few.

About Green Business Plan Competitions

The GREEN Business Plan Competitions are intended to promote entrepreneurship and business planning among the young entrepreneurs. They provide opportunities for young entrepreneurs to develop sustainable, environmentally friendly business ideas and compete for prizes.

The aim is to support young women and men with great business ideas and make their ideas work. This initiative helps the youth start and/or improve their own GREEN businesses thus turning them into job creators.

In May 2012 and a total of 128 business plan proposals were submitted; of these 70 were found to be Green and of these 66 were offered a package of support and business development services.

In May 2012, the ILO through the YEF contracted Enterprise Uganda to prepare and conduct two Business Plan writing workshops and offer handholding and technical support to the young entrepreneurs. Assisting young entrepreneurs finalize their Green business plans into bankable ones is of crucial importance to facilitate them be able access affordable finance from existing financial institutions.

The young entrepreneurs were equipped with concrete skills in business planning and in order to ensure that they can fully optimize the knowledge that they acquired, there was follow-up in order to give them technical backstopping. The follow-ups provided for refining the business plans prepared and also supported the participants in challenging areas hindering the completion of their strategy.

The banker’s talk exposed the participants to the requirements of the banks and also allowed them to understand why the banks have these requirements. The Bankers team was from Pride Microfinance and it was led by Ms Birungi. The opportunity to meet the bankers allows participants to understand and appreciate the requirements of dealing with a financial institution



The Youth Employment Network

