



CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECT

The Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda is engaged in various development programmes to preserve and promote cultural heritage. The Foundation is committed to promote the recognition of culture as vital for human development that responds to our national identity and diversity.

CCFU is implementing the cultural entrepreneurship project for youth and women from indigenous minority groups

The goal of the project;

To enhance cultural enterprises that can promote both livelihood and cultural identity and expression.

Women Cultural enterprise

Over the past 5 years the Foundation has been involved in promoting the cultural rights of indigenous minority groups in Uganda. The work revealed that, among other challenges such as lack of education, political representation, access to cultural resources, among others, the cultural heritage of most indigenous minorities is at risk of disappearing. This could be attributed to dominance by neighbouring ethnic groups, voluntary assimilation or the loss of the knowledge and skills to make cultural products that reflect their cultural identity.

There are however different ways through which these groups express their heritage in respect to the use of indigenous languages, traditional music and dance as well as the production of cultural items.

As a result in 2016, CCFU initiated a programme that seeks to support the efforts of indigenous minority groups in involved in using their culture to generate income. The programme targets women in particular and seeks to enhance transmission of knowledge and skills to the younger generation. The criteria of selection involved identifying groups that are organised, have a running business or income generating activities using cultural resources, that have basic book keeping, transmitting their knowledge and are driven by the need to promote their culture. The selected groups would receive a grant to enhance their capacity and grow their businesses or income generating activities, as well as business skills training. Following visits to indigenous minority groups in Uganda that expressed interest, CCFU identify three groups to work with under this project.

So far, CCFU is supporting the Rwebisengo Widows Cultural Association (RWCA) and the Kebu Women Development Initiative (in West Nile) is up next

RWCA has 15 members with saving and loans as a main activity and engaged in cultural enterprise. The Association's main activities also include production and sale of cultural items, engaging young people in cultural activities, cultural exhibitions, etc. The association is located in Rwebisengo Town Council, Ntoroko District, Western Uganda.

Youth Cultural Enterprise

CCFU received over 30 expressions of interest from different youth organisations involved in harnessing cultural resources to earn an income. 4 were selected to receive support from CCFU (1 other group is yet to be selected, [contact us](#)). The Foundation is currently supporting 2 youth groups/organisations;

[Go Culture Africa](#) – a local community based organisation involved in working with youth, especially young women to produce and sale cultural items.

Kibatsi Youth Development Association – a youth-led organisation with an aim of 'economic empowerment among the youth using culture and tradition'