



# UGANDA UNICEF PROJECT

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## 2025 Project Summary

Throughout 2025, War Child Canada continued implementation of the UNICEF-supported project titled “Strengthening Skilling and Alternative Education Pathways for Adolescents” in Uganda, expanding activities across refugee and host communities in Kampala, Isingiro, Yumbe, Adjumani, and Lamwo. Building on the foundations established in late 2024, the project progressed into full-scale delivery, focusing on increasing participation in alternative education and youth skilling programs among out-of-school adolescents.

During 2025, all 7 Youth Skilling Centres (YSCs) became fully operational, delivering integrated programming combining accelerated education, vocational skills training, and life skills development. The project reached a total of 6,045 adolescents, including 3,159 females, across both in-school and out-of-school pathways. Learners participated in Accelerated Education Programmes (AEP) alongside vocational courses such as tailoring, hairdressing, baking, agriculture, and soap-making, supported by structured life skills and entrepreneurship training.

Significant progress was also made in expanding access to education and supporting transitions. A total of 653 out-of-school adolescents, of whom 349 were females, newly enrolled at the AEP centres, bringing the total to 811 learners (434 females and 377 males) by the end of 2025. Retention was strengthened through provision of learning materials, safe learning environments, and targeted support for vulnerable groups, including adolescent mothers and persons with disabilities.



The livelihoods component also scaled up substantially during 2025. A total of 1,117 youth (632 females and 485 males) participated in a market-driven skilling bootcamp, with 215 (116 females and 99 males) receiving seed funding to become actively engaged in income-generating activities. Youth groups established small businesses in areas such as honey production, briquette making, and soap production, supported through mentorship, entrepreneurship training, and start-up inputs, contributing to improved self-reliance.

Community engagement and systems strengthening remained central to implementation. Management committees were operationalized across all centres, while caregivers, community leaders, and local government actors were actively engaged to support enrolment, retention, and safeguarding. Partnerships with civil society organizations further strengthened local ownership and sustainability.

Overall, 2025 marked a year of full implementation and scale, with the project demonstrating strong progress in improving access to education, skills development, and livelihood opportunities for vulnerable adolescents. The project ended in March 2026.

## Key Results for 2025

Indicator	Achievement
Youth Skilling Centres operational	7
Adolescents reached (AEP & skilling)	6,045 (3,159 females, 2,886 males)
Learners sitting national examinations	649
Youth receiving seed funding	215
Children and young people reached through awareness raising activities	4,282 (2,234 females, 2,048 males)



"I didn't even know how to start a computer, but now I can use it... I used to be rude and not appreciative of the little my parents were providing. I even wanted to get married. But we were taught many things, and I am now very understanding and do not make decisions just like that."  
- Priscilla, 21

When Princess was 13, she walked four days to reach safety from South Sudan to Uganda, exhausted and unsure of her future. Now, she's 21. Going to school in the Bidibidi Refugee Settlement has been a challenge – she wakes before dawn to make a long walk to school, often studies on an empty stomach, and pushes through without basic sanitary supplies.

As part of War Child's "Youth in Progress" entrepreneurship program, Princess has gained life skills, confidence, & how to run a successful soap business with her team.

She's helping solve problems at home, learning real skills, and hopes to build a better future.