



CONCEPT NOTE



**POWERING PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC
FREEDOM FOR WOMEN AND YOUTHS**

INCOME GENERATING SKILL

BACKGROUND

In recent decades, Income-Generating Skills (IGS) have been given great importance in the socio-economic and human development programs and strategies of African countries, as they contribute not only to poverty reduction, but also to the economic inclusion of a large part of the population that is excluded from the economic system. The creation of micro-enterprises through income-generating activities has a major impact on a country's economy. In Cameroon, 90% of the workforce is employed in the informal sector, which contributes more than 57% of the country's GDP. The youth unemployment rate in Cameroon was 7% in 2022, compared to 6.43% in 2018. The majority of youth and women in

Cameroon are unemployed or employed in small businesses. The poverty rate in Cameroon continues to rise, especially among youth between the ages of 18 and 35, which is alarming.

It is in response to the vital role played by income generating skills on the economic inclusion of youth and women in a country that the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Center (SBEC) of the Denis and Lenora Foretia Foundation is organizing Income Generating Skills (IGS) trainings. SBEC seeks to equip women and youth with the appropriate skills that will allow them to meet their livelihood needs and enable them to be more viable in the host communities.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The general objective is to improve household income in active women and youth in Cameroon.

The specific objectives are as follows:

- To reduce the vulnerability of women and youth by increasing their disposable household income;
- To improve entrepreneurship skills among youth and women;
- To strengthen micro businesses owned by women and youth;
- To arrange an entrepreneurship training to educate the youth and women on income generating activities.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The event is open to women and youths in 5 Regions of Cameroon with a special

attention to internally displaced persons (IDPs)

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Increased projects owned by women and youth in the country;
- Household incomes for youth and women improved;
- Strong and viable women and youth entrepreneurs network establish;
- Quality improvement and standardization as a result of training in value chain addition;
- Improved home stead disposable income;
- Improved socioeconomic well-being of the youth and women in Cameroon.
- Most importantly make SBEC a go to resource center for skill development.

PROPOSED TRAINING ITEMS

The team proposes to train women and youth, especially IDPs, in the production of detergents (cube soap, powder soap, bleach), production of medicinal balms, hair oil, petroleum jelly, natural fruit juice processing, and how to recycle waste materials to create value-added products

for commercialization.

This is because the above-mentioned items do not require a lot of resources and time to process and as such it will be easier for our trainees to integrate into this sector of activity.

SUCCESS STORIES OF INCOME GENERATING SKILLS

NGO BIEM JOHANE

She is a premium member of the SBEC network dealing with natural fruit juice processing. Founder of Johana Fruits Enterprise. She has been running the business since 2021 after graduating from the Institute Agricole Obala where she was a beneficiary of the PAjeune initiative of the Ministry of Youth and Civic Education (MINJEC). The team believes that her experience could be used to encourage our trainees in this

sector, as it will showcase her business and demonstrate SBEC's ability to highlight the businesses of its members.



**EMRY BIGO, NKOH NDKONKOU
MCKEEVER AND ACHU MIRIAM**

Students of the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of the University of Yaounde 1, between the ages of 18 and 22. They have been producing bleach, liquid soap and hair oil for the past 4 years. They produced liquid soap for the Government Bilingual High School Etoug-ebe and the Amazing Grace Voices Choir in 2020 and 2022 respectively.

We are proposing these 3 young people because of their age and the remarkable work they are doing in this sector of activity. At the same time, there are young

people and having them as success stories will boost the morale of our participants to show that young people can make a living out of these income-generating skills.



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