



THE SEE PROJECT

SENSITIZE . ENLIGHTEN . EMPOWER

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2016



MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN



*The SEE Project is jointly implemented by AYGF & ALDF
with sponsorship from ECOWAS- Spain Fund on Migration & Development*

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AYGF is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. It acts with its partners to assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migrants' issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

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Contents

Cover Sheet5

The Project.....5

Summary and Context.....5

Major Activities6

Achievement of the project.....7

Phase 18

Phase 2.....8

Phase 3.....8

Activities Implemented9

Achievements.....9

Post-training Vocational Internships9

Work Equipment Purchase.....10

ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre14

Final Sensitization Rally/Road Show15

Sustainability Plan.....29

Management Team.....29

Supervisory Board30

Cooperative.....31

Appendices32

ANNEX 7: Template Standard Work Plan.....32



Cover Sheet

The Project

This project titled the SEE Project was being jointly implemented by Africa Youth Growth Foundation (AYGF) and Activating the Lost Dream Foundation (ALDF). A total grant amount of **€64,387.25** was approved by ECOWAS and the Spanish Fund on Migration to facilitate the implementation of the project over a period of twelve (12) months. The project officially commenced in October 2014 and was be completed by October 2015.

Summary and Context

Human trafficking, goods/commodities smuggling and other migration related offences were major concerns in border communities. Particularly in a border town like Idi-iroko where little or nothing is known about the provisions of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Free Movement Protocol, these problems are even more commonplace. Furthermore in addition to the

ignorance about the Free Movement Protocol in Idi-iroko, there are other constraints such as poverty, women and youth unemployment and illiteracy that provide an enabling environment for these problems to thrive.

Major Activities

The project proposed to confront the four constraints through sensitization, education and empowerment (SEE). Firstly, the SEE Project reduced the ignorance of the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol as a critical factor reinforcing trafficking in persons (TIP) activities in Idi-roko border community through sensitisation of community residents especially women and children on the dangers of human trafficking. Appreciating the critical role of women in societal development, the project also empowered a population of women within the community through entrepreneurship and vocational skill acquisition trainings. The training focused on vocations such tailoring and fashion design, computer and secretarial service delivery, hair dressing, baking and bead making. Sequel to the

training, beneficiaries were guided and empowered (through donation of equipment and award of seed funding) to establish small scale businesses (vocations) which will serve the community.

Achievement of the project

At the end of the project, the four specific outputs which are in tandem with the major objective of the Fund on Migration and Development in the ECOWAS sub-region achieved are;

1. Increased awareness of the ECOWAS free Movement Protocol within the community.
2. Significant increase in the local population particularly, women and children with adequate information on the modus operandi of traffickers and organized trafficking groups including their recruitment, deception and coercion strategies.
3. Entrepreneurship and vocational skills acquisition training conducted for fifty (50) women.
4. Small scale vocational businesses established for fifty (50) women and youths.

Phase 1

The first phase of the project which was fully completed included the production – including prose development, design and publishing – of advocacy materials, project letterhead, formal project advocacy visit to the Idiroko community and engagement of local interlocutors.

Phase 2

The second phase spanned three-quarters of the total project duration. Activities implemented include production of IEC materials on ECOWAS Free movement protocol and human trafficking, banners, T-shirts and face caps, development and production of radio jingles, sensitisation rallies/road shows, formal launch of the vocational internship exercise, purchase of equipment, establishment and set-up of a vocational centre, amongst others.

Phase 3

The closing phase of the project included activities such as the final sensitization rally and road show and the formal award and closing ceremony.

Activities Implemented

Achievements

Post-training Vocational Internships

At the beginning of the project, trainers from 5 vocational enterprises namely; Tailoring, Hair Dressing, Catering, Aluminium Works and Auto-mechanic were selected to train 96 trainees. For most vocations, post-training vocational internships commenced in April 2015 and continued till August 2016. Trainee drop-out rate was initially at 23%. As the internship programme continued however, more trainees dropped out with drop-out rate climbing up to 57% by the end of the training. As a case in point, the Auto-mechanic training programme had to be totally discontinued because the trainee was unserious. Summarily, at the end of the project, of the 96 trainees who started the vocational training, only 43% that is 55 trainees, completed the training and were awarded work equipment.

Work Equipment Purchase

Work equipment was purchased to empower trainees (project beneficiaries) to start their individual businesses. Given the current economic landscape in the country, quality equipment was sourced from the most affordable markets. The following table shows the list of equipment purchased per vocational enterprise. Detailed breakdown of prices per equipment is included in the financial report.

Vocation	List of Equipment
Tailoring	Sewing machines, scissors, pressing iron, work table/mirror
Hair Dressing	Hair dryers, trolleys, shampoo bowls, hair making supplies such as attachment, hair relaxer and shampoo
Aluminium Works	Tools box
Catering	Ovens, rollers, work table, cake designing equipment, pastry making tools, icing sugar dispenser,
Computer Centre	Desktop monitors, CPU, keyboard, mouse, printer (colour and black/white), photocopier/scanner, paper



Figure 1 – Desktop computers for Business Centre Cohort being configured



Figure 2 – Sewing machines for Fashion Designs Cohort being assembled



Figure 3: Photocopier for Business Centre



Figure 4: Ovens and some other catering equipment and power generator



Figure 5: Hair dryers and shampoo bowls being set-up



Figure 6: Trolleys for the Hair Dressing Cohort

ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre

A vital part of the empowerment plan of this project apart from giving work equipment was to provide project beneficiaries a shop from where they can start their vocational enterprises. As such, an entire wing of shops at a popular shopping complex was rented for the beneficiaries. The place was rightly named and branded the ECOWAS SEE Project Vocational Training Centre. Co-location of project beneficiaries was adopted to enable a sharing economy, create an environment for mutual accountability and learning, enhance productivity, and empower long term sustainability.



Figure 7: Front-view of one of the shops meant for the Catering Cohort at the ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre

The equipment bought for beneficiaries were installed and the centre was equipped with other necessary items such as tables, chairs, workstations, wall mirrors, floor carpet, and electric power generator amongst others. To protect the investment at the Centre, a security arrangement was facilitated and funded. Members of the community expressed gratitude to the ECOWAS for the kind gesture of establishing and equipping a centre in their locality.

Final Sensitization Rally/Road Show

A sensitization rally and road show was held as part of activities to round off the project. The rally kicked off at the Mercyland Hotel in Idiroko and the rally train moved towards the city centre with music, dancing and specific messages about ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol, Smuggling and Human Trafficking being passed across through the public address system. As the group progressed through the Idiroko town towards the Nigeria-Benin border, IEC

materials were distributed and explained to traders, passers-by, and other members of the community.



Figure 8: Final rally/road show taking off from Mercyland Hotel



Figure 9: Public address system on board rally Truck some of the Idiroko Youth groups



Figure 10: Idiroko dancers entertaining the crowd

Project Empowerment and Closing Ceremony

The Project Empowerment and Closing Ceremony was very well attended and successful. Apart from the teeming members of the community who were present, several members of security organisations graced the occasion. Of worthy note is the Chairperson of the Closing Ceremony, a Comptroller of Customs, who was sent from the Customs Headquarters in Abuja to grace the occasion. Other security agencies in attendance included, officers from the Nigeria Police Force, Idiroko Command, Nigeria-Benin Border Patrol Command, and Nigerian

Immigration Service. Also in attendance were representatives of the King of Idiroko and Mr Botoku, the Secretary-General of the Nigeria-Benin Inter Border Forum.



Figure 11: Special guests



Figure 12: Comptroller Immigration Service from Abuja and Mr Botoku, Secretary General, Nigeria-Benin Inter Border Forum



Figure 13: Cross-section of participants at the Closing Ceremony

Anti-trafficking and smuggling lecture

At the ceremony, the audience was reminded of the ills of smuggling which is a thriving trade in the community. Representatives of security organisations at the event narrated real life stories of ugly and unfortunate occurrences between smugglers and security operatives. Additionally, project beneficiaries received valuable instruction and strong admonition not to take the empowerment from ECOWAS lightly but to responsibly manage their vocational enterprises, cautiously keep the equipment and cooperatively run the centre. The trainers were also appreciated and encouraged to keep providing

guidance and support to the beneficiaries as required.



Figure 14: Project Director, Dr Arome Salifu addressing the audience



Figure 15: Representatives of the Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) speaking at the Closing Ceremony



Figure 16: Cross-section of Trainers and other members of the audience

Presentation of Certificates

Towards the end of the event, certificates were presented to trainers and project beneficiaries (trainees) to recognize their participation in the ECOWAS SEE Project.



Figure 17: Trainers receiving certificates of participation from the Chair of the Closing Ceremony and the Project Director



Figure 18: Project beneficiaries receiving certificates of participation



Figure 19: Project beneficiaries enthusiastically showing-off their certificates



Figure 20: Vote of thanks from representative of the Project Beneficiaries (left) and Trainers (right)



Figure 21: High table guests with some of the Trainers



Figure 22: Special guests with some of the Project Beneficiaries

Official Commission of the ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre

The Centre was officially commissioned by the Comptroller of Immigration and other special guests that attended the Closing ceremony as well as members of the cabinet of the King of Idiroko.



Figure 23: Comptroller of Immigration about to officially commission the ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre



Figure 24: Official commissioning of the Centre



Figure 25: Dr Arome discussing with Special Guests



Figure 26: Members of the King's Cabinet observing the Centre's Tailoring section



Figure 27: Members of the King's Cabinet inspecting the Computer Business Centre



Figure 28: Catering and Event Management Trainee

Sustainability Plan

With the project officially over, a major concern in the minds of implementing NGOs – AYGf and ALDF has been how to ensure the project endures and remains viable beyond the immediate. After carefully studying the Idiroko landscape, culture and peculiarities, the following initiatives have been put in place to achieve sustainability of the project and ensure the ECOWAS SEE Project Vocational Training Centre becomes a legacy project in the Idiroko community.

Management Team

The ECOWAS SEE Project beneficiaries span five trades – tailoring, catering, fashion designing, computer centre, and aluminium works. A management team comprising one representative from each trade will be formed to manage the Centre. The five man management team will administer the day-to-day running of the Centre including utilizing and allocation of shared resources. This management team will report to the Supervisory Board.

Supervisory Board

A supervisory board comprising a top official of the Idiroko Artisan Trade Union, a member of the Royal Monarchy's cabinet, a trainer from each of the trades and a member of implementing NGOs has been formed to oversee the Centre as well as the actions and powers of the Centre's management team. This eight member board will periodically conduct monitoring visits evaluating the management of the Centre and the activities of the beneficiaries. The board will also settle disputes and disagreements that arise in the Centre. Commenting on the importance of the Centre, the King of Idiroko, stated categorically that he will personally ensure the Centre is not mismanaged but rather support its growth and expansion.

Cooperative

Project beneficiaries were organised into an informal cooperative society mimicking the popular “Esusu” contributory style to engender collaborative business relations, mutual accountability and inclusive growth. Beneficiaries will contribute a jointly agreed amount to a central purse which will be controlled transparently by the Centre’s Management Team. The contributions will be used to manage the day-to-day running of the Centre as well as save up towards contingencies and future rent renewals.

Appendices

ANNEX 7: Template Standard Work Plan

Name of Beneficiary: AFRICAN YOUTH GROWTH FOUNDATION/ACTIVATING THE LOST DREAM FOUNDATION

Project Reporting Period: June 2015 – November 2016

Planned Activities	Jun 2015 – Dec 2015	Jan 2016 – Aug 2016	Sep 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Expected Results	Indicators of Achievement	Cost In Euro
Activity 2.5 Conduct post-training vocational internships						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Interns gain on the job experience and improve vocational skills > Uncommitted interns identified and delisted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Number of awareness rallies conducted > Number of IEC materials on ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol distributed > Number of project advocacy materials distributed 	2,572.82
Activity 2.6 Establish Small Scale Vocational Businesses						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Work equipment purchased > ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre equipped and furnished > Vocational businesses empowered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Number of jingles produced > Number of times jingles are aired on local radio station > Copies of receipts from radio station 	16,990.29
Activity 3.1 Hold project closing programme						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Project closed officially > ECOWAS Vocational Training Centre commissioned > Members of the community sensitized on the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol and dangers of human trafficking > Certificates awarded to beneficiaries and trainers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Number of people at the closing ceremony > Number of project beneficiaries > Number of trainers > Number of people at closing rally > Number of IEC materials on ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol distributed 	5,291.26
						TOTAL		24,854.37

