



EMPOWERING THE FUTURE GENERATION WITH ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING

PROPOSAL FOR FAIRWAY TRAINING LTD

INTERVENTIONS
COMPASSION FOR CHILDREN

Releasing children from poverty
Compassion
in Jesus' name

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Children born into poverty often lack self-esteem. Without social care, an education and the right skills, their cycle of poverty will continue.

Compassion Rwanda are supporting young people with their welfare and future careers. However, many are struggling to find employment when they finish their vocational courses. With youth unemployment as high as 24% in Rwanda, children from low income families have a slim chance of earning a decent income.ⁱ

90% of employment in Rwanda comes from agriculture. This makes Rwanda's agricultural economy vulnerable to changes in soil fertility, climate and global prices in tea and coffee.ⁱⁱ Despite Rwanda's resilience to the 1994 genocide, poverty and unemployment means many of Rwanda's youth are not benefitting from the country's growing economy.ⁱⁱⁱ

For the cost of £30,970, ten child development centres in Rwanda will be able to empower 93 young people with entrepreneurship training and career guidance so they become self-sufficient professionals, or proud business owners. To stand out in the competitive job market, young people need to be confident team players with leadership skills. However, children born into poverty often lack self-esteem or vision of a life beyond that of their parents.

We can change this.

With engaging entrepreneurship training that is relevant to the current Rwandan market, the young people will be inspired and practically supported for successful long-term businesses or careers. 93 interested students from 10 centres who are currently in vocational training or have recently graduated from a vocational training course will be enrolled onto this intervention.

Together, we can ensure young people, already disadvantaged by their circumstances, are not marginalised from the workplace and Rwanda's growing economy.



During a lesson at Rubavu Child Development Centre, Rwanda.

PLANNED INTERVENTION

OBJECTIVES

-  93 Compassion-supported young people will have received entrepreneur training and support with a career plan as a result of this intervention.
-  93 Compassion-supported young people will be equipped to write funding proposals to a government organisation called the Business Development Fund for investment in their own small business.

CONTEXT

-  10 Child Development Centres in Rwanda
-  93 Compassion-supported young people will directly benefit
-  £30,970

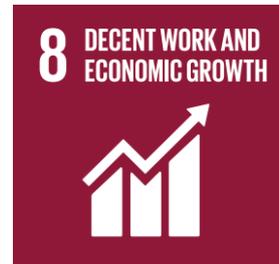
Poverty does not have to be permanent. Between 2005 and 2011 Rwanda pulled one million citizens out of poverty.^{iv} Rwanda is the third least corrupt country in the African continent and is a leading exporter of tea.^{iv}

Despite progress, 59.6% of the population are living below the income poverty line.^v Moreover, Rwanda has a Human Development Index (HDI) ranking of 158 out of 188 countries.^v HDI takes into account factors such as national income, health and education.

The 1994 genocide halved Rwanda's GDP, destroyed infrastructure and health services.ⁱⁱ These major set backs, coupled with an agricultural economy and labour force where only 6.8% are skilled (in the UK it is 83.2%), have hindered development and left many in poverty.^v

A lack of career advice and business skills training leaves many Compassion-supported young people struggling to find work.

Overall, poverty and youth unemployment remain an issue in Rwanda. When poverty robs you of confidence and access to skills training, competing for a job as a young person in Rwanda becomes very difficult.



In September 2015, UN world leaders set a transformational course for the future of human development by creating the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Along with other major charities, such as UNICEF and Save the Children, Compassion puts these goals at the heart of our work, in order to combat poverty and inequality and transform our world.

Sustainable development goal eight, which this intervention is in line with, calls on the world to support “decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalisation and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises” - together, we will answer that call.^{vi}

INTERVENTION DETAIL

The intervention will begin with Compassion Rwanda staff meeting staff at the Business Development Fund (BDF) and the Workforce Development Authority (WDA) – government organisations that provide support in skills development.

93 students will take part in a five-day intensive training course. This will include various classroom activities on different entrepreneurship styles, group work and stories from successful business owners.

The entrepreneurship training will teach the students the following:

- ✦ Marketing strategies
- ✦ Researching business opportunities
- ✦ Identifying strengths and abilities
- ✦ Business planning and growth
- ✦ Bookkeeping
- ✦ Business sustainability

Each student will then be encouraged to plan their own sustainable business idea. Each student will be supported to create a proposal for funding for their business from the BDF. Their business journey will be monitored by centre staff and support and advice will be provided.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

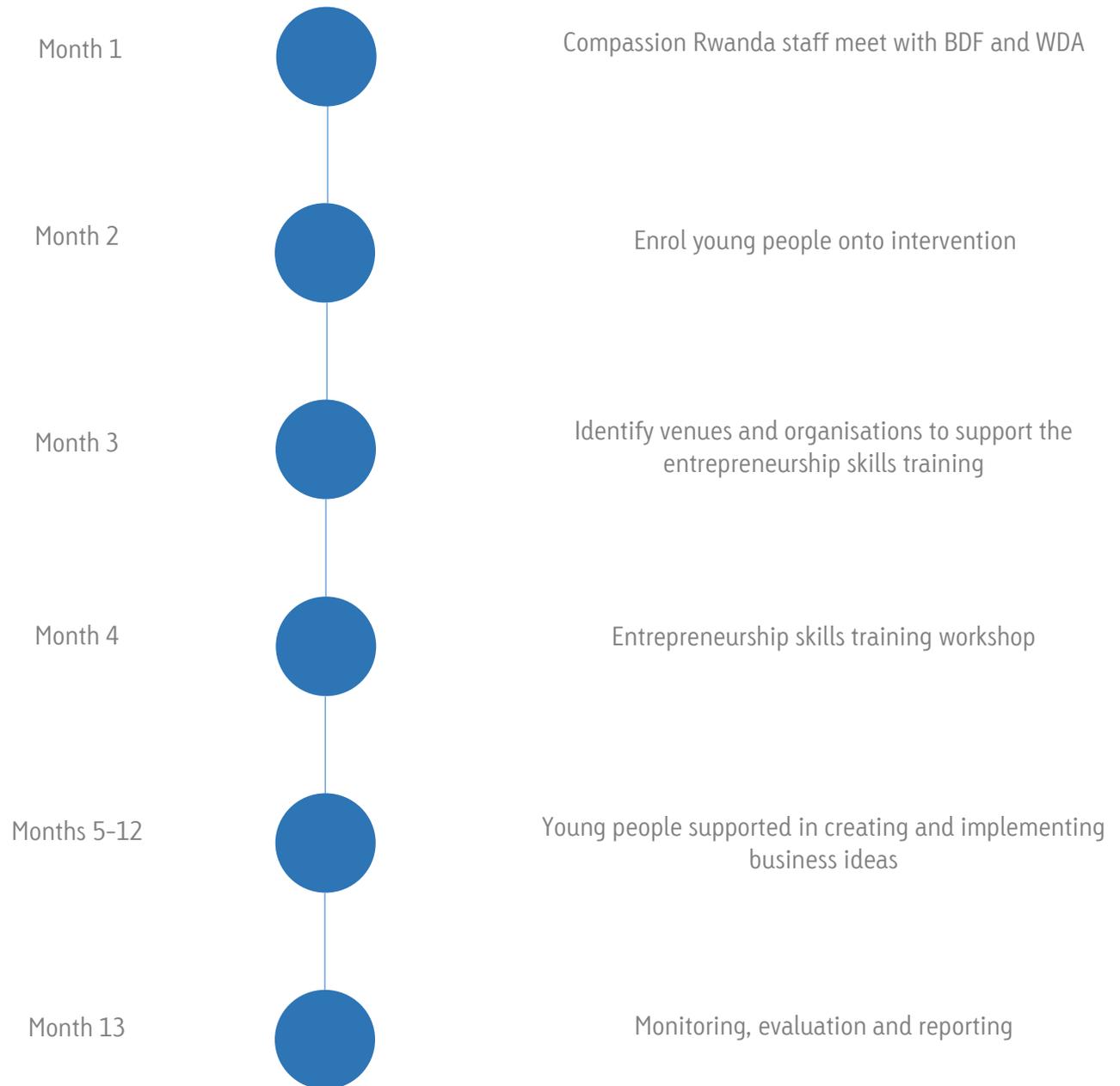
The success of this intervention will be evaluated at the centres by Compassion Rwanda’s partnership facilitators. They will be looking to confirm the following indicators of success have been met at the end of this intervention:

- ✦ Students will have transitioned successfully from vocational training to job attainment by January 2022.
- ✦ Students will be equipped with business skills and be more competitive in the job market as a result.
- ✦ All students will be able to write fundable proposals for the BDF by January 2022.



After losing his parents, Fils (middle) began to struggle at school. He joined vocational training at his Compassion centre in Rwanda to become a mechanic.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



INCOME GENERATION AND COMPASSION: A STORY OF SUCCESS

Compassion has seen lives transformed through income generation interventions many times before. For example, in 2018, Mburiashi Child Development Centre in Tanzania facilitated income generation training for children and community members. In addition to the skills learnt in baking, film making and carpentry, the beneficiaries valued their entrepreneur training. This included identifying business locations, learning about the marketplace, acquiring and keeping customers, bookkeeping and savings.

This intervention ensured sustainable development, as the young people learnt skills that would enable them to meet their own needs in the future. This intervention widened job prospects, generated income and created confident, entrepreneurial mindsets. Investment in skills training also empowers people to provide for themselves and believe in a brighter future.



Bakery workshop in Tanzania.

Erick, the director at Mburiashi Child Development Centre, highlights the opportunities created for the young people. He says:

“The young people have been very excited to learn new skills at the workshops. Many feel more part of the programme now. This intervention has given them new learning experiences. They are now exploring things they could have only dreamed of before.

Since they are acquiring new skills, they can be confident that, even if they will not make it academically or fail to be employed due to the employment situation in the country, they can be sure of having some form of income in the future. The lives of the youth have been changed in such a way that they are hopeful for the future and are sure that, in some way, life will not be as difficult as it has been for their parents.”



Economic empowerment was achieved in 2019 through carpentry and business management skills training at Mahiakalo Church of God Child Development Centre in Kenya.

Ezekiel explains how he benefited:

“Before this intervention, I was depending on my grandmother for everything I needed. With the income that I get from the sales of wood products, I am now able to buy some items that I need without having to depend on my grandmother. I have learnt to be responsible and I am able to run a business and market the products.

The change will go a long way towards changing the future of my family. I intend to manage the business very well, market the products aggressively and make savings. The income will enable me to support my family members and not just myself. My grandmother will be a happy woman to see me prosper because of the carpentry skill.”





THANK YOU

Thank you for reading this proposal.

A barrier to becoming self-sufficient for young people in Rwanda is a lack of support and preparedness for the future.

For many young people in Rwanda, poverty has inflicted low self-esteem and low expectations of what they can become. This intervention will equip young people with the skills and confidence to become successful entrepreneurs and act as examples to their younger peers.

Poverty does not have to be permanent – when young people from poorer backgrounds become professionals with successful businesses, communities change. Income and skills change lives and communities.

Thank you for supporting Compassion interventions in the past that have empowered young people to fulfil their potential and thrive.

If you have any questions about this intervention, please contact Mark Preston on 07864 653280 at MarkP@compassionuk.org.

ⁱ National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda, *Youth*: www.statistics.gov.rw/publication/eicv-4-thematic-report-youth

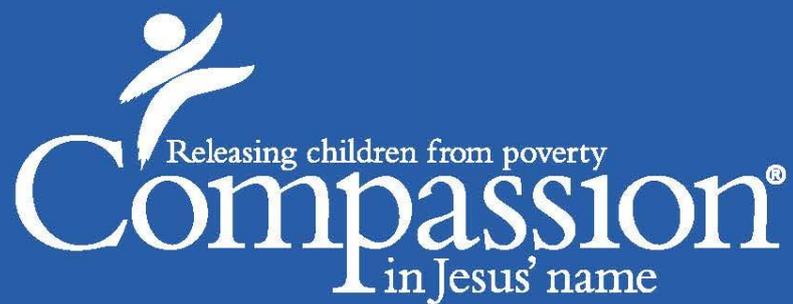
ⁱⁱ The Borgen Project, *Causes of poverty in Rwanda*: www.borgenproject.org/causes-of-poverty-in-rwanda/

ⁱⁱⁱ Borgen Magazine, *Why is Rwanda Poor*: www.borgenmagazine.com/why-is-rwanda-poor/

^{iv} TRTWORLD, *What makes Rwanda one of Africa's Fastest Growing Economies*: www.trtworld.com/magazine/what-makes-rwanda-one-of-africa-s-fastest-growing-economies-23410

^v UN, *Human Development Reports*: hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/RWA

^{vi} UN, *Sustainable Development Goals*: sustainabledevelopment.un.org



COMPASSION UK CHRISTIAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Compassion House, Barley Way, Fleet, Hampshire, GU51 2UT

TEL: 01932 832490

EMAIL: info@compassionuk.org www.compassionuk.org

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