

FINIDP Secondary and Vocational Skills Training School Project

Project Code: FINIDP/SCHOOL -2007

In Uganda approximately 14% of all children less than 18 years are orphans. HIV/AIDS, the past and current civil conflicts are responsible for the continued increase in the number of orphans in Uganda. Given the nature of Uganda's population structure, where half of its estimated 27 million people is below 18 years of age and only two percent being above 65 years, Uganda lingers on the periphery of a worrying orphan problem that could have far reaching impacts if not addressed timely. FINIDP's situation analyses conducted in 2005 and the implementation of the Aids Orphans Secondary Education Support Project, funded by Orphans Against Aids (OAA) from 2006 to date in Mukono district showed that failure to sustain orphan secondary education was one of the major socio-economic problems with far reaching economic repercussions. Uganda government started UPE in 1996 and USE in 2007, but these have also had problems such as high student to teacher ratios; lack of prerequisite scholastic needs such as books, uniforms, lunch fees, etc.; and failure to reach out to a substantial number of children in rural areas with fewer or no government aided schools. A few orphan education support projects have been fairly successful only that these have been basically at primary education level.

FINIDP upon exploring a number of possibilities with the help of the community has proposed a secondary and vocational skills training school project with the goal of providing quality secondary education to orphans and vulnerable children in Mukono district and equipping them with practical skills that will enable them to live self-sustaining lives in future. The long-term project to be run as a non profit making entity will involve buying land in the rural areas of Mukono, constructing a secondary school section and a vocational skills training centre to the benefit of a substantial number of orphans and out-of-school youths. The project will gradually incorporate paying students for sustainable reasons and the guardians will cost share by providing the scholastic materials such as uniforms, books, pens, etc. and lunch fees for the orphans and this means that the project can start with over 50 orphans. This project has the potential to make a lasting impact on the education of orphans in Mukono district because of the anticipated community support and the self-sustaining nature of the project.

The estimated project cost and budget request from development partners for the first year of the project is Ugandan shillings 98,600,263 (\$56,994). Of this \$36,581 will be spent on initial capital development to buy 6 acres of land, to construct 2 classes, administration offices and pit latrines, to buy laboratory equipment and basic text books, etc. On the other hand \$17,699 will be used to finance recurrent expenditure on school operational expenses such as to pay teachers' and support staff salaries, school operational petty expenses, school co-ordination costs, etc. and \$2,714 will be miscellaneous spent on unforeseen project expenses. We propose that the project be undertaken in stages and with a minimum of \$15,000 some project activities especially relating to capital development can take off as we solicit for funds from other donors to

start operation. A school Board of Governors, local council leaders and FINIDP executive will take the lead in project implementation.

If you are interested in making a contribution towards this project, [Contact Us](#) for details.