

Small Businesses – Big Opportunities for youngsters of rural families (SBBO)

A project plan of Youth Social-economic Development for social risk groups

Summary

The majority of the rural families have several children per household and they struggle to survive by doing odd jobs. Therefore, all the family incomes are basically oriented to first needs and in most cases they cannot afford the cost of school fees for the children. In the case of a family that can afford the cost of the school fees, most of them don't have money to purchase school materials, as exercise books and texts. As a result, most of these poor families choose very simple and poor but affordable schools for their children. Children from poor families attend schools that have no libraries or opportunities for research. Yet these very children are examined together with the rest of the better off children who have access to good schools with all the necessary facilities. The extreme consequence of this is that the children that are in need of a scholarship to continue their studies, are the ones without possibilities to obtain it. The opposite is true, that it is the well-off children who after attending very good schools perform better and are eligible for free higher education at university level.

The only options are entrepreneurs and vocational skills training. However, the cost of entrepreneurs and vocational skills training, that could be considered as a middle solution between work and school, are still beyond the means of many poor families living in these slum areas.

Illiteracy have negative consequences on the whole family, for the reason that a parent that hasn't received an education, is not able to get a good job and is not able to pay the school fees for his children. Unfortunately, the same parent cares very little about the size of his family thereby creating a vicious circle of poor families transmitted from generation to generation.

Main Activities

Training the youth on entrepreneurial skills

Most of the youth in town are unskilled. Most don't have enough knowledge on enterprise development, petty trading and related activities. Some have skills but their knowledge is traditional. Besides, they have no start up capital. Therefore, training on business development and going to envisaged business of their interest is the first step.

Provision of sporting materials

In here different sport teams which were already formed will be given sporting materials. The sporting team's types are football, netball, volley ball and table tennis.

Vocational skills training

In the aim of improving the life quality of disadvantaged persons and to give a professional qualification to the young people, the project will improve the quality of the existing vocational skills training, and increase the number of beneficiaries through acquisition of more training materials and instructors. At the end of the professional training the graduates will receive a professional kit (box of tools, sewing machine,..) that will put them in the position to start quickly working on their own. The total number of beneficiaries is of 250 young people. Also, the coordinator NGO of the project will organize

vocational trainings for disadvantaged youth aged from 12 – 30 years, with the aim of offering vocational skills for job in the following skills areas; tailoring, hairdressing, video making / photo making.

Children Support

Children support activities seeks to improve lives of poor children through vocational skills for orphans and vulnerable youth (carpentry, computer maintenance, tailoring and hairdressing), educational support for children, functional Adult literacy training, community development activities (micro credit; sustainable agriculture; food aid to orphans and elderly people; health and hygiene trainings), environmental protection (energy saving stoves, biogas production; rain water harvesting; use of compressed soil bricks), running a cinema showing didactic movies and cartoons to the children of the slum, supporting to the local community through the distribution of mosquito nets and medicaments, organizing sport and drama activities for the youth of the slum, and income generation through movie shows/ sale to cover part of the costs of the organization.

Training for local NGOs

The project plans to carry out staff training of local NGOs through seminars of two / three days on the following topics; human resources management, accountability and transparency, civic education, women/ youth participation, family planning, sustainability, project coordination, administration, project formulation and design, monitoring and evaluation. The aim is to improve the management capacity and the organization of the local organizations.

Awareness meeting

Once every month the main room will host sensitization and awareness meetings under the facilitation of professional and experienced trainers. The meetings will be followed by a discussion among the participants. The main topics will be; gender based violence, children rights, general health, life saving strategies, women empowerment, cultural heritage and tourism promotion.

Cinema

For the children the multimedia activities constitute a leisure and fast instrument to learn new things. Through documentaries and cartoons, this activity will reach a greater number of children in order to facilitate learning in a leisure atmosphere.

Literacy school

This activity aims at to improve NGO literacy program of informal classes for the most disadvantaged children of the slum. The aim is to give a first education to the ones whose families cannot afford the cost of a pre-school and therefore who don't have the possibility to be prepared to pass the admission test for primary school. As part of the program, the families of these children will attend a monthly meeting to check on the performance of the pupils and will benefit from other trainings such as counseling on family planning and foreign languages.