

WOMEN IN BUSINESS



(WIB) FACILITY UNDER PSFU

INTRODUCTION

GROW Project is a government of Uganda five-years project financed by International Development Agency (IDA) under a grant financing arrangement of USD 217million.

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase access to entrepreneurial services that enable female entrepreneurs to grow their enterprises in targeted locations, including refugees host districts.

Implementing Agencies: The implementing agencies are Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development (MGLSD) and Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) who will collaborate with the following entities among others:

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| a | Office of the Prime Minister |
| b | Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development |
| c | United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) |
| d | Ministry of Local Government including local governments |
| e | Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry |
| f | Makerere University Business School |



Implementation in Refugee Host Districts: GROW project implementation in Refugee Host Districts will to the extent possible, be aligned with existing service delivery mechanisms being used by other projects and development partners.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

COMPONENT 1 (\$42 MILLION)

Support for Women empowerment and enterprise development services

- Supporting creation and strengthening of women platforms, community mobilization, and mindset change.
- Support for core business development for micro and small enterprises.
- Support for trade/sector specific skills.
- Women entrepreneurship work placement program.



COMPONENT 2 (\$90 MILLION)

Access to finance for women entrepreneurs

- Grant support for micro enterprises through business competition.
- Facilitating access to credit for enterprise growth.
- Sustainable loan products and processes for women entrepreneurs.



COMPONENT 3 (\$70 MILLION)

Enabling infrastructure and facilities for women enterprise growth and transition

- Multi-purpose service and production facilities to boost women enterprise productivity.
- Enabling access to gender-inclusive workplace infrastructure



COMPONENT 4 (\$15 MILLION)

Program management, policy innovation, and evidence generation

- Project management support for high-quality implementation.
- Policy innovation and evidence generation.



Purpose

The WiB Facility is the Subcomponent 1C of the GROW project that supports advanced, sector-specific training/skilling and business Development Services. The sector specific trainings are part of the continuum of enterprise development services provided to women enterprises that have growth potential and want to move to the next stage. The subcomponent supports women who have existing enterprises and may or may not necessarily need the core course and would benefit from trade/sector-specific training that allows for value-addition and expansion of their enterprise. In addition, the subcomponent finances business development services to women-owned micro and small enterprises with the potential to further grow and increase productivity.

Eligible Beneficiaries of the WiB Training and Business Development Services Facility: Include:

- Self-employed women/women entrepreneurs.
- Full-time employees of women-owned businesses.
- Members of association and cooperatives with majority of female members.
- Female apprentices employed by women-owned enterprises.
- Beneficiaries of subcomponent 1B with potential to grow their businesses and transit from micro to small and small to medium enterprise.
- Beneficiaries from other government programmes such as Myooga and Parish Development Model (PDM) wishing to transit from micro to small and small to medium enterprises.

- Female refugee entrepreneurs.
- Male employees working for a female entrepreneur.
- For cases of shared businesses between a woman and man the woman should have at least 51% of shares in the enterprise.

Areas of Sector-Specific Training/Skilling:

The training packages will take a value chain development approach. Skilling will include but not limited to:

- Agro-processing
- Post-harvest handling
- Technological skills
- Textile related skills and technologies
- Construction fields
- Manufacturing fields
- Business digitalization
- Tourism and hospitality
- Oil and gas fields

The training will include an introduction to management of sector related environmental, social health and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts.

Provision of BDS to Women Entrepreneurs (WEs): WiB Facility beneficiaries will be provided with Business Development Services for business expansion and growth. Eligible activities for support include but are not limited to:

Processes that lead to product and standards certification for local and international markets (e.g., getting UNBS Q-mark, ISO etc.). The process leading to product certification and actual fees will be financed by the project,

Innovations and development of new business products, (The project supports processes and costs related to product research, consultancies and product development),

Consultancy services and activities leading to development and actualization of marketing plans of female owned enterprises,

Activities leading to business digitalization and development of information Management systems,

Activities leading development of business branding plans and actualization,

Support for market penetration, both local and international markets (Business promotions, and business negotiations fora etc.)

Costs for Formalization of businesses (Business registration, tax guidance, initial consultancy services about business formalization, etc.)

BDS will include supporting Women Entrepreneurs to comply with ESHS requirements as per national policies and laws.



Provision of short-term business mentorship and development of business networks,

Provision of coaching services that lead to value addition and further expansion of the enterprise development,

Participation in marketing activities both nationally and internationally, like trade fairs and business conferences and other business fora,

Business linkages with industrial processors, value chain development and product(s) aggregation.

For more details, please contact:

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