



**MOLOKAI Children's Organisation**

**PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR:  
SKILLS, POVERTY ERADICATION AND HEALTH  
SENSITIZATION PROJECT  
(SPEHS PROJECT)**

**OCTOBER 2023**

## **General Information**

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### ***Background***

Molokai Children's Organisation(MCO) is a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) that is committed to finding sustainable solutions to eradicate poverty, promote good health, better education, sustainable agriculture and peaceful co-existence. Founded in January 2020 and registered in January 2023 under Non-Governmental Organisation Registration ACT **(Reg. No. 80034694026043)**, MCO is more active in Iganga district with some of its activities in Buwaiswa village, Mayuge district with core thematic areas of; Health, Education, Advocacy, Civic empowerment and Human rights, Research and communication, Innovative action oriented Sustainable Agriculture.

Molokai Children's Organisation (MCO) has become a strong national level organisation united by purpose, mission, vision, values and principles. MCO has its Board of Directors who initiate, consider and adopt policies and programs. The Board is the policy making organ of the organisation responsible for policy design. The secretariate is the planning, implementation and monitoring organ of the organisation.

### ***Vision***

To bring Inspiration, innovation and hope to every child in the community

### ***Mission***

Inspire children to make them more productive and successful to be effective to the world.



### ***Executive Summary***

The project will be implemented in the districts of Iganga and Mayuge with an aim of giving a second chance to the Out-of-School Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) through imparting new skills in vocational training and soft skills development such that they become self reliant and are able to face the world on their own which automatically improves on the quality of their lives.

The organization has therefore come up with this proposal after realizing that a number of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC's), young mothers and other members of the communities we work in have dropped out of school with no skill that can help them earn a living in their day today life.

According to Uganda Bureau of Statistics(UBOS), 45% of children aged between 5-17 years in Busoga region from households living below the poverty line are forced out school to work and supplement their parent's income.

Back to back studies have indicated that Busoga sub-region is living in abject poverty which is visible and physical within the Busoga communities. This is well illustrated in the Uganda National Household Survey (UNHS) 2016/2017 report released by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics(UBOS). In some of the findings, data indicates that 74.8% of people in Busoga sub-region are considered poor and insecure against the national average of 63%. Despite the numerous government programmes geared towards alleviating poverty and enhance service delivery, the people of Busoga sub-region continue to live with various forms of poverty. The sub region has continued to poorly perform in education, health, water and sanitation, environment and natural resources sectors, registering high levels of unemployment across all categories of people.

The organization has been extending a supporting hand in skills development on a small scale because of limited resources but intends to increase on the numbers if resources are available.

### ***Project Description***

The project will reach 150 out-of-school youth (15-24 years) with Every Day Carry (EDC's) harmonized Work Ready Curriculum in Iganga and Mayuge districts. The project will support out-of-school youth and young mothers to be identified using MCO's targeting and enrolment protocol.

The proposed activities will be designed based on MCO's project implementation plan and experience in youth programming and support for district-led Work Readiness and Soft Skills under the given fund mechanism within the target districts of Iganga and Mayuge.

These activities promote innovations in accelerated skilling, linkages to existing Services, and collaborations that support the implementation of key Ugandan Government policies and MCO's Youth Policy on positive youth development for OVC's, other vulnerable and out-of-school youths and young mothers.

Through these activities, MCO presents its readiness and capacity to implement both Work Readiness/Soft Skills Training and Transitional Support for Youth and Accelerated Education programming within the target sub counties in Iganga and Mayuge districts.

### ***Purpose of the project***

The purpose of the project is to rehabilitate and rejuvenate Adolescent Girls and Young Women and Orphans and Vulnerable Children through vocational training and soft skills development.

The project also intends to offer youth friendly services to the AGYW's and address issues relating to SRH and GBV through behavioral change communication messages(BCCM) for sustainable development.

### ***Objectives of the Project***

To build appropriate skilling practices through recognized systems for the AGYW's to take care of their own health and development needs.

To advocate for easy access of youth friendly services in Iganga and Mayuge districts.

### ***Project activities***

#### ***Profiling***

Identify and profile potential beneficiary AGYW (baseline profiling) in groups of 10-15 persons per parish. Selection of beneficiaries shall be based on vulnerability and the need for skilling.

During the entire implementation of activities relating to the AGYW, the profiling **MUST** ensure that the right targeted persons are identified.

This activity shall involve identification of a profiling team that will collect the data of the AGYW and profile potential beneficiary AGYW (baseline profiling) in groups of 12-15 persons per parish (per age

category) in the targeted sub counties for the comprehensive services in GBV screening, SRH, family planning services and counseling. It is critical to have representatives of young girls on this profiling team. Selection of beneficiaries shall be based on vulnerability and the need for skilling.

### **Vetting of the profiled AGYW's**

Village level Vetting meeting costs for beneficiaries (secretary for women secretary for youth, 2 Elders, MCO staff, AGYW representative, LC1 Chairperson, VHT/Para-social) (secretary for women secretary for youth, 2 Elders, MCO staff, AGYW representative, LC1 Chair, VHT/Parasocial). The committee should endorse the names of the AGYW selected that suit the criteria for the targeted interventions, including, vocational skills and soft skills for further vetting at parish level.

Parish level Vetting meeting costs for beneficiaries Community Development Officers, Health Assistant, Parish Chief, MCO staff, AGYW representative, Local Council II Chairperson (CDO, Health Assistant, Parish Chief, MCO staff, AGYW representative). The committee should endorse the names of the AGYW selected that suit the criteria for the targeted interventions, including vocational skills and soft skills.

Sub county level Vetting meeting costs for beneficiaries CDO, Health Assistant, Sub county Chief, MCO staff, Youth rep, AGYW representative, Local Council III Chairperson, Health Worker (CDO, Health Assistant, Sub county Chief, MCO staff, Youth rep, AGYW representative, Local Council III Chairperson and Health Worker). The committee should endorse the names of the AGYW selected that suit the criteria for the targeted interventions, including vocational skills and soft skills.

### **Conduct awareness and sensitization community dialogues aimed at promoting participation of AGYW in existing opportunities and addressing stigma and discrimination**

This activity should cater for district entry meetings and advocacy at district and sub county levels.

These meetings should occur before and during profiling to enable identification of the right girls.

After entry meetings, MCO shall continue conducting dialogue meetings at district/Sub county/Parish/village levels. These entry meetings shall be engagement meetings to inform the program. This shall involve mobilization of parents, local leaders and young people to conduct awareness dialogues on keeping girls in school, ending teenage and child marriages and cultural tendencies that affect the AGYW in community in relation to, SRH, GBV, malaria, stigma and discrimination. These dialogues shall also involve young people to bring out issues that affect them.



MCO to mobilize communities and facilitate them with meals and transport refund in order to increase the level of participation of AGYW in existing opportunities in the project. District facilitators will be identified with the help of district technical persons and the SR shall facilitate them in raising awareness. MCO shall be responsible for planning for these activities with support of the District Community Development Officer who will provide technical support to particular sub counties and parishes that shall be targeted by the intervention.

Considerations such as:- low service coverage, high school dropout rates, high teenage pregnancy, high child marriage, high burden of GBV building on the achievements and addressing gaps identified in the areas that have had similar programmes/interventions supported by other partners shall be taken into account in choice of parishes/sub-counties.

Costs related to this activity include; - venue hire for meetings/outreaches, meals and transport refund for participants, stationery, facilitators' allowances, and coordinating costs for MCO). MCO shall be responsible for planning for these activities with support of the District Health Educator who will provide which particular sub counties and facilities that shall be targeted by the intervention.

#### **Adolescent Innovation Camps, Idea generation and updates.**

MCO shall organize Adolescent Innovation Camps Idea generation and updates for out of school adolescents and young women in targeted districts. This will be held at least once in the grant life. Organize Adolescent Innovation Camps Idea generation and updates at sub-county level (Ekisakate type of retreat) this shall be held once a year targeting different AGYW. This will attract individual and groups of young women who are interested in innovation competitions on health information from their respective sub counties. All girls should be accommodated in one place with the mentors. AGYW shall be accommodated preferably in a school setting. Health workers and counselors shall be facilitated to address and provide services related to SRH/BCCM, GBV, family planning and soft skills to the AGYW in each of the targeted sub-counties (Each health worker will responsible for about 10 AGYW). MCO shall ensure that AGYW are offered with related services including family planning, GBV Screening, STI screening and management, proper condom use and distribution). After testing, the youth people who tested positive shall be linked to care and followed up during the next camps.

This activity brings together about 40 out of school girls for a six day event to share with each other from their respective interventions as acquire new skills from their peer. In order to be more cost effective but accommodate more girls, MCO shall hold this activity during school holidays preferably at a boarding school that can provide accommodation is identified to support the events.

Adjudicators shall be facilitated to lead the competitions and during these events, these shall also involve a health conference, attracting



guest speakers and AGYW and boys representatives talking to the population on issues that affect the young people and questions and answers per sub-county. Items to support the girls during the camp (toiletries) Toilet paper, pads, diapers, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush etc. Instructional/Raw materials for skills development (e.g. soap making, reusable pad making, etc) - where possible engage an institution to provide skills development facilitators. Products produced during the event by the AGYW shall be taken by the girls and not the instructor. Instructors shall be facilitated to impart different skills to the AGYW during the camp.

**Facilitate tournament players and officials participating in the preliminary games/matches in the selected sub-counties.**

It is anticipated that these events shall attract a minimum of 180 AGYW and maximum of 225 AGYW, counselling service provision. This shall involve zoning each sub-county into 4 teams, each team shall be constituted of 12 players and 3 officials. These tournament events are aimed at attracting the AGYW where they shall receive counselling services and BCCM and refreshments shall provided for players and team leaders and officials (includes a soft drink and snack during each game).

MCO shall facilitate the players and team leaders with transport, Honorarium and transport refund for 3 referees and 3 umpires in each sub-county, plus venue maintenance and cleaning services. In each of the sub-counties with resident staff, 2 people/staff shall coordinate these SBCC events. MCO shall also facilitate the health workers and VHT's who will help in community mobilization.

**Promote vocational skilling and soft skills**

This activity will consider AGYW who want to have vocational skills. It will consider payment of tuition for the AGYW attending Social-Economic Asset building (literacy, numeracy, financial) Informal education, Tool kit and basic needs for girls attending skills/ informal skilling, and providing scholastic materials for girls. It will be implemented in high burden districts among targeted sub-counties where AGYW are receiving a comprehensive package targeting out of school AGYW aged between 15-24 years. Second chance education that is convenient for the mothers to attend skilling classes with their babies).

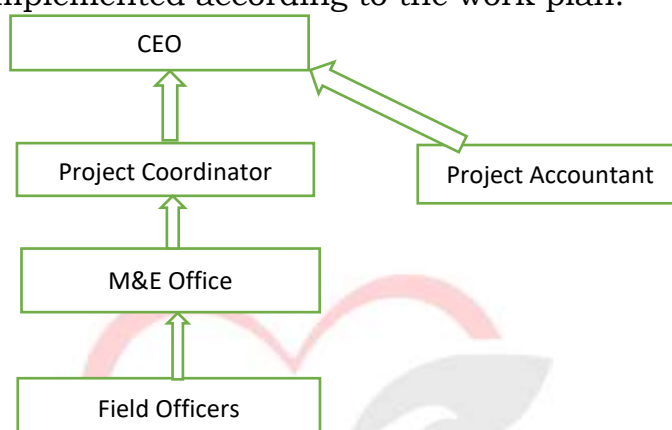
**Conduct support supervision by the sub-county/district teams**

MCO shall work with the district team to form a Technical Working Group (TWG) that shall be responsible for the planning, oversight, coordination and quality assurance with in the district. The MCO shall mobilize and facilitate technical working group to conduct field visits and assess progress of the programme, do quality assurance, identify of gaps and come up with strategies for improvement (drawing mitigation plans).

The MCO coordinator shall be a secretary to this technical working group and shall ensure documentation of proceedings and findings. Costs related involve fuel for district officials, SDA for district officials, Per Diem for MCO coordinator, vehicle hire for MCO coordinator and fuel for MCO coordinator.

### **Human Resources**

The organisation will recruit and assign four staff to the project to ensure that it's implemented according to the work plan.



### **Project Site**

The project will be implemented in the districts of Iganga and Mayuge targeting two sub-counties in Iganga e.g Central and Northern division and one sub-county of Buwaaya in Mayuge district. The project will breakdown to parishes at implementation levels with the help of parish chiefs and local person chairpersons.

### **Project Work Plan**

*Attached as excel sheet.*

### **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan**

**MCO** will;

- Track outputs and outcomes for youth via age dis-aggregated indicators where applicable (gender, age, education level).
- Track scope and effectiveness of partnerships with local education government actors at the sub-county, district and national level.
- Track scope of community-led initiatives.
- Pursue integrated approaches at various levels when and how it makes sense.
- Promote integrated approaches to improved service delivery to children and youth among system actors.

### **Proposed Budget**

*Attached as excel sheet*

**Sustainability plan/strategy:**

MOLOKAI Children's Organisation intends to address the sustainability of this project based on its dynamic interconnections and focus with the different partners who appreciate the approach. It is important to note that the deliberate involvement of various stakeholders is one of the many tools for continuity especially with close link to government sectors. These moves will not only guarantee access to Policy advocacy for related support in the national budget but will inform the policy holders about the need to support this noble cause.

Lobbying and advocacy for more partnership from different stakeholders shall remain the main focus for MOLOKAI Children's Organisation. Best success stories should be bench marked on to provide opportunities for further studies in line with skills development for school drop-outs.

MOLOKAI children's Organisation intends to further research into innovations that enhance sustainability of children at school to complete formal levels of education. This can be achieved through establishing a savings and loan scheme of alumni that get the direct support of tools and equipment to contribute to the fund that would help others in the ensuing intakes.

Through the training courses of the beneficiaries the organisation intends to open up income generating projects like exhibiting the products made by the beneficiaries that would plough back to the project sustainability fund.



**Acronyms**

AGYW.....Adolescent Girls and Young Women  
BCCM.....Behavioral Change Communication Messages  
CDO.....Community Development Officer  
DCDO.....District Community Development Officer  
EDC.....Every Day Carry  
GBV.....Gender Based Violence  
LC.....Local Council  
MCO.....Molokai Children’s Organisation  
NGO.....Non Governmental Organisation  
OVC.....Orphans and Vulnerable Children  
SRH.....Sexual Reproductive Health and Research  
UBOS.....Uganda Bureau of Statistics  
UNHS.....Uganda National Household Survey  
VHT.....Village Health Team



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