



TOOLS FOR SELF RELIANCE

Practical help for practical people



IMPACT & LEARNING REPORT

**Youth Livelihoods Development Programme
Bo, Sierra Leone**

www.tfsr.org

YOUTH LIVELIHOODS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME IN BO, SIERRA LEONE

This project supported training for 20 young unemployed men, many of whom were early school leavers or had received no education. The training included vocational skills training in carpentry, metal-work and motorbike and wheelchair maintenance; alongside basic financial literacy and numeracy, business training, and life skills training which harnessed an inclusive approach to challenging stigmatisation against people with disabilities. In addition to their centre based training, the participants also undertook a one-month work placement with local enterprises.

The project was delivered in Bo, Sierra Leone an urban town which has experienced a 40% increase in migration over the last 10 years into its population from more rural areas where opportunities are even fewer. Recognising this, MSL adopted a leave no one behind approach and focused their recruitment on encouraging and engaging young productive rural poor men who have migrated and are competing for the limited available jobs.



Mobility Sierra Leone training centre is based in Bo, the capital of Sierra Leone

Project duration July 2017 – July 2018 **Project evaluation** November 2018

PARTICIPATION

Feedback from graduates and observations obtained through the evaluation process indicated strong delivery and attainment of vocational skills – 100% of graduates feel that they have the skills needed to earn a sustainable income and establish their own businesses.

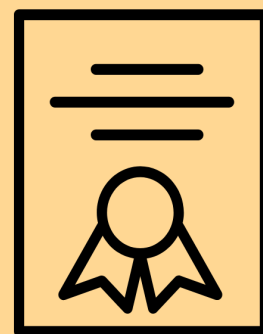
35% of graduates commented on additional skills that they acquired through the one-month work placement. For example, motorbike and wheelchair repair participants were engaged in applying techniques they had learnt on motorbikes, to motor-vehicles, using alternative sized spanners compared to those they were familiar with.



OUTCOMES

EVERY TRAINEE completed their month training programme.

95% passed their Continued Assessment Test (CAT) which is an internal observational and technical assessment carried out by MSL.



Average **INCOME INCREASE** for trainees



Before training



10,714 Leones
96p per week



During training

31,540 Leones
£2.81 per week

**AFTER
GRADUATING**



62,900 LEONES
£5.61 PER WEEK

4 OUT OF 10
graduates are now saving their
additional income



CHALLENGES

Travel

Over 50% of the participants identified difficulties in the distance and associated cost of travelling to the training centre to take part in the programme.

Post-project capital

The core challenge highlighted by graduates was the difficulty they found in affording local rents on business premises. It was recognised by MSL that prices of rent/land are increasing in Bo and graduates, although equipped with business and entrepreneurial skills, do not have seed capital to cover this initial outlay.

LEARNING

Post project capital

In order to mitigate against the rising prices of workplace rent/land in Bo, MSL are looking at introducing a 'cash-box saving scheme' in to their programme, to take a two-fold outcome focussed approach by: embedding a culture of savings amongst participants, and also equipping them with seed capital ahead of completion of the programme.



Ready for work

Combined with preparing graduates for the workplace by supporting them in procuring capital throughout the project, MSL intend to allocate more resource to the sensitisation of Master trainers who mentor participants throughout their work placements.

STORIES OF CHANGE

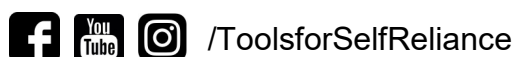


"Thank you very very much for the support and for this change to get skills and make ourselves forever."

Nabil Banma, 18, motorbike and wheelchair maintenance graduate

"I was idle before the training but now he can earn some money and buy items for myself and others."

Tommy Senesi, 19,
Carpentry graduate



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