

## **IMPACT & LEARNING REPORT**



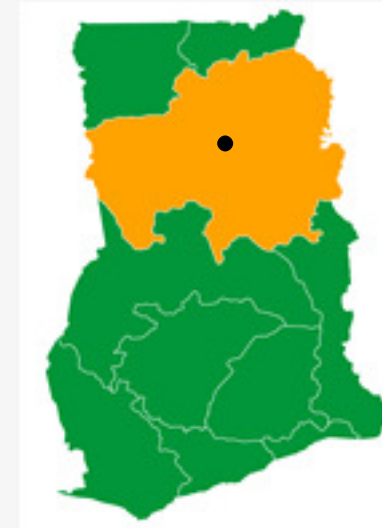
**Youth Livelihood Empowerment Project  
Phase Two (YOLEP II)  
Delivered by NORSAAC**

# Youth Livelihood Empowerment Project Phase Two (YOLEP II)

This project was designed to be a holistic livelihoods programme incorporating vocational skills training, business and entrepreneurship and life skills training. Graduates were also provided with a tool kit upon completion of the programme so that they were equipped to be able to start their own small enterprises to support themselves and their families.

## Addressing gender job-stereotyping

Not only did the project seek to financially empower 30 young people, it also sought to address the barriers that gender job-stereotyping create in northern Ghana. NORSAAC facilitated ten workshops across different communities in the Sagnerigu Municipal and the Mion District where they discussed the myths and misconceptions of gender job stereotyping, and the effect that it has on young people's ability to earn a sustainable income.



The training was carried out in northern Ghana

**Project duration January 2018 – January 2019 • Project evaluation - July 2019**

## PARTICIPATION

Average age of participants we met during evaluation was **22 YEARS OLD.**

Participants trained in one of

### **FOUR TRADE SKILLS**

welding and fabrication,  
tailoring, masonry or carpentry.



Over **6 OUT OF 10** of  
the participants were early  
school leavers due to their  
families not being able to  
afford them to continue  
attending.



**BEFORE TRAINING 94%** of  
the participants were previously  
**UNEMPLOYED** and 6% described  
their income as inconsistent and unreliable.

**100% OF TRAINEES** completed their training and  
passed their NVTI accredited exam.



# OUTCOMES



Graduates on average are now earning Ghc419 (£59.12/month)

**7 TIMES MORE**

than before the training.

**4 OUT OF 10** graduates

are now **SAVING.**

None of them did before training.



Just under **THREE QUARTERS** through mobile banking.

Just over a **QUARTER** are saving at home.

Just under half trainees are saving to support their families, and the other half are using their savings to support both their families and reinvest back into their business.

## WITH THEIR NEW INCOME

72% of graduates are spending their new income on additional food for their families.



22% use it for transport and to pay rent and bills.

11% can afford school fees for family members.



**WELLBEING** This project saw Tools for Self Reliance and NORSAAC pilot an interrelated assessment on the wellbeing of participants and the influences that contribute to increased confidence and feelings of value at community, household and individual levels, using self reporting questionnaires. Participants reported a 33% increase in confidence and a 45% increase in their ability to financially contribute towards their household. Graduates highlighted that as a result, they feel more respected as decision makers within their household.

## STORIES OF CHANGE

***“When you go home, you can now do something for it!”***

Weisu,  
masonry



***“Now that I have a trade I can see my future whereas before at home I had no living.”***

Yakubu, tailoring

## CHALLENGES

Despite strong attainment of trade skills across the programme, it was requested that the training period be extended to 18 months.

This was specifically relevant to trades such as welding, where graduates explained that due to the technical equipment involved, they would feel more confident with additional time to train with their Masters; and tailors, who explained that this would mean they could confidently produce men's clothes to a higher standard.



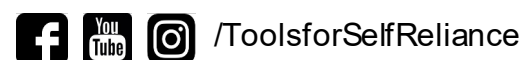
**"DOING THE TRAINING  
HAS RESTORED MY  
HOPE... I CAN DO  
SOMETHING ON MY OWN."**

Alhassan Sualisu, carpenter

## LEARNING

To mitigate against some of the challenges highlighted, NORSAAC recommended embedding refresher training six months after participants graduate and start their businesses, upskilling and creating a space for additional learning and any questions and follow up regarding their newly established enterprises.

Women face multiple and complex challenges in northern Ghana. Gender stereotyping, including in the workplace, is prevalent. It was suggested that future programmes could link in with community outreach activities across the Sagnerigu Municipal and Mion District that NORSAAC are already delivering in order to offer additional life skills and empowerment interventions as a complimentary activity to the current life skills delivery; ensuring that women are not just equipped with skills, but empowered to use them to increase their economic independence.



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