

REPORT ON THE FIRST COHORT OF LIFE SKILLS TRAINING, SELF-RELIANCE, ECONOMIC, AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR VULNERABLE GIRLS IN KOROGOCHO

March 2025



with Support from



Raggi di Sole
onlus

Implemented by



SLUM CHILD
FOUNDATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Stakeholder Engagement

Selection Process

The Training

Financial Literacy

Business Start Up

Conclusion and Way forward

1. INTRODUCTION

Slum Child Foundation through a partnership with raggidisole Onlus from Italy established life skills training, self reliance, economics and personal development project for 40 vulnerable girls in Korogocho slums for a duration of nine months.

Through the project we sought to help the young girls living in hardship areas like Korogocho slums in addressing the socio-economic challenges faced by young mothers in informal settlements, where limited access to education and employment opportunities often leads to financial dependence and vulnerability. By providing skill-based training, financial literacy education, and access to banking services, the program aims to uplift young mothers and create long-term economic stability for their families.

To actualize this, slum child foundation established a team under the leadership of the programs Manager with the support of the Chief Finance Officer, 3 social workers and the Community Health Promoters to identify and enroll the girls into the project whilst tasking one of the social workers to take the lead into the project.

The program focuses on hands-on training in bead making, tie and dye, soap making, and shoe making, providing participants with practical skills that enable them to generate sustainable income and improve their livelihoods.



Slum child foundation Social worker Publisizing the Project at Sikiliza FM



2. PROJECT LAUNCH AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Program Launch and Stakeholder Engagement

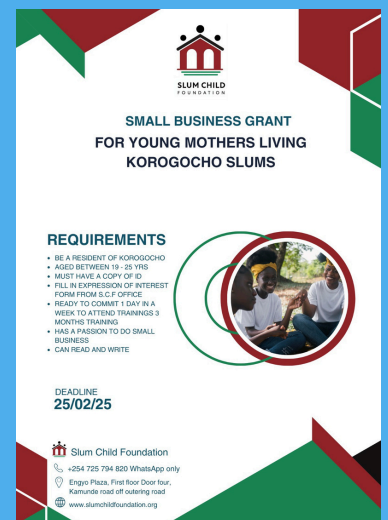
A one day inception meeting was conducted with all the key potential stakeholders in the project were invited and a clear implementation framework was endorsed outlining the process of beneficiary identification, enrollment and grant disbursement throughout the entire duration of the project.

In addition to that within the framework we discussed the project's intended courses, objectives, target beneficiaries, and expected outcomes. This engagement was crucial in securing support and ensuring effective implementation and community ownership of the project. During the meeting, stakeholders actively participated in discussions about the selection criteria and methods for identifying suitable candidates for the program.

After thorough deliberation, they agreed on the following eligibility requirements for participants:

- Must be a resident of Korogocho
- Must be a young mother aged 19–24
- Must be willing to commit to the training schedule
- Must have an active bank account or be willing to open one before training begins since the grant will be offered to them in cheque form.

A dedicated team from slum child foundation under the leadership of the social worker initiated the recruitment process and developed application forms for young mothers to express their interest in joining the program.



Poster for the call for the of applicants



Stakeholder Engagement



Stakeholder Engagement

3. RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION PROCESS

To ensure fairness and inclusivity, a structured recruitment and selection process was implemented by making a call to all the young women within Korogocho community to participate, the process took two weeks.

The process involved the following steps:

- Applicants were required to fill out an expression of interest form.
- They were invited to the program office for verification of their documents, including their national ID and passport photos for proper documentation.

A total of 67 young mothers applied for the program. However, the selection committee carefully screened applicants based on the established criteria:

- Age verification to ensure they fell within the 19–24 age range
- Proof of residency in Korogocho
- A valid national ID for identification purposes
- A genuine reason for wanting to join the program
- Basic literacy skills, as some applicants faced difficulties providing their full name, age, or area of interest

After rigorous evaluation, 40 eligible participants were selected and placed in their preferred training groups that are bead making, soap making, tie and dye, and shoe making, with each group consisting of 10 participants. Successful candidates were contacted via phone and informed about their selection.

They were also invited to an orientation meeting where they received detailed information about the training schedule, expectations, and the program's long-term vision.



4. TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The training was to be conducted in phases, with each group undergoing intensive hands-on training in their respective areas of interest. The first group to receive training was the soap-making group, consisting of 10 participants.

This training was designed to provide them with in-depth knowledge and practical skills in the production of high-quality liquid soap for both domestic and commercial purposes.

The training covered the following key areas:

- Introduction to soap-making ingredients and their functions
- Step-by-step demonstration of the soap-making process
- Safety measures and best practices in soap production
- Packaging, branding, and marketing strategies for soap products

The training took two days, with participants actively engaging in practical sessions and guided exercises to ensure mastery of the skills. By the end of the training, participants were able to successfully produce their first batches of soap and gained the confidence to start their own small-scale businesses.



5. FINANCIAL LITERACY AND BANKING

To complement the skills training, all participants were introduced to financial literacy sessions aimed at promoting economic empowerment. This component of the program was designed to:

- Encourage a culture of saving money
- Provide access to financial services, including bank accounts, loans, and investment opportunities
- Equip participants with essential financial management skills to sustain their businesses

All 10 participants in the first group were assisted in opening bank accounts, ensuring they had a secure and structured way to manage their earnings.

The financial literacy sessions covered topics such as budgeting, record-keeping, pricing strategies, and reinvestment approaches to help participants grow their businesses sustainably.



6. BUSINESS START UP SUPPORT

Recognizing the importance of financial support in kick-starting businesses, each participant in the soap-making training received a grant in form of a cheque totalling to the amount of Ksh. 5,800 at the end of the 2 days training sessions.

This seed capital was meant to help them purchase raw materials, equipment, and other essentials required to establish their soap-making enterprises. The participants were also encouraged to form small business groups to enhance collaboration, support each other's growth, and explore opportunities for bulk purchasing, which would reduce costs and increase profitability.



7. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The Young Mothers Program successfully trained and empowered its first group of 10 participants in soap making, equipping them with valuable entrepreneurial and financial management skills. By ensuring that each participant had a bank account, the program reinforced the importance of financial security and smart money management for business sustainability.

Moving forward, this program aims to:

- Continue training the remaining groups in bead making, tie and dye, and shoe making
- Provide ongoing mentorship and follow-up support to ensure business sustainability
- Facilitate networking opportunities and linkages to potential markets for participants' products
- Seek additional funding and partnerships to expand the program and reach more young mothers in Korogocho

Through this initiative, Slum Child Foundation remains committed to fostering economic empowerment, self-sufficiency, and long-term growth for young mothers in informal settlements.

