



“PROJECT MY SPACE” YOUTH WORK IN ACTION

Slogan: Harnessing The Power Of Youth, For A better Tomorrow

The overall objective of this project is to contribute towards the positive development of the Youth within the geographic area", with capable staff and volunteers to design, interpret and deliver programmes to the beneficiaries.

I. BACKGROUND

Research in 2012, titled “Unemployment and the Youth in Namibia” through The Partnership for Local Democracy, Development and Social Innovation involving the Municipalities of Keetmanshoop, Ondangwa, Kangasala And Lempäälä (Finland) has shown a need for such a Project. 4H Namibia has been involved in Preventative Youth Work since its inception in 2000. Through funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland 4H Namibia successfully concluded the “Crossing Boundaries Project” which had a three year Project Cycle. The current 4H model has proven to be a successful one.

4H Namibia with 14 years of experience in Preventative Youth Work through its programs

and networks will drive this Project for the beneficiaries. Throughout the different Project Cycles, 4H Namibia have impacted positively on the lives of more than 10 000 young people participating in 4H Club Activities, Regional and National Training Workshops and Camps. Existing 4H programmes will form the base for this Project.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT AND PROJECT RATIONALE

Youth Unemployment and Delinquency is a big problem in Namibia. The majority of unemployed youth in the targeted geographical area of the Project are from disadvantaged backgrounds with no or little excess to internet, computers and information in general. The youth are becoming increasingly disillusioned and are losing hope, turning to crime and substance abuse to fill the void left by meaningful social engagement of which employment, entrepreneurship and social engagement is a major part.

Statistics published by arms of Central Government was also used to assess the need for this Project.

"UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 15 AND 19 YEARS STANDS AT 56%, 20 TO 24 YEARS STANDS AT 49%"

(Namibia Statistics Agency)

III. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The geographic scope of this Project shall be the Municipal area of Otjiwarongo, Otavi, and Tsumkwe, with young people aged between 6 and 25 years being the main beneficiaries. The aim of this Project is to establish infrastructure (Information Centre) to prepare unemployed youth to enter the formal job market and to explore ideas on own enterprise development. The Info Centre shall be a base to launch 4H club activities, based on the 4H formula for Preventative Youth Work in schools. The Information Centre shall facilitate relevant training, assistance and coaching to unemployed youth in CV writing, Interview preparation and Character Transformation. Staff, volunteers and stakeholders involved at the Information Centre shall endeavour to boost the confidence of young people through relevant skills training workshops and activities that are inclusive of their own ideas, therefore promoting democratic processes.

Components of the Project are as follows:

1. YOUTH WORK IN ACTION,

People often talk about and demand change for the good. Often only a small group of people actually do something to bring about that change. 4H Namibia sees young people as instruments in taking the lead in bringing about positive change in their respective communities through their own initiatives. It is very important that we influence and facilitate change in young people from an early age.

Training

A participatory approach that is results driven will be constantly followed to achieve optimal results that can be measured .

Training 1

TOT- training: (5+3 days): Training of trainers, aimed at capacity building of staff & volunteers in transferring the knowledge to beneficiaries. The key focus will be to improve their facilitation and communication skills. The TOT training concept will prove to increase the self confidence in staff & volunteers.

Skills Training Workshops: To be organised with key partners to prepare young people for the job market and own enterprise development (one per quarter with a minimum of 20 participants per). To be facilitated by CED and other stakeholders.

Training 2

Environmental Education and Action, Various interventions will be planned and executed. Young people will be educated on the importance of the preservation of their environment through practical lessons, field trips/camps (1 each quarter with a minimum of 20 participants per) and clean up campaigns to be organised annually (3 per annum). Each 4H Member will commit themselves to plant one tree annually.

Training 3

ICT Training for Unemployed Youth, intake of 10 participants per Quarter that translates into 90 unemployed youth being trained in ICT's within the geographical scope of this Project.

Training 5

Training for Executive Board and Regional Structures, topics to be covered are Organizational Management, Good Governance, Democratic Principles and Resource Mobilization (with emphasis on managing the collection and spending of membership fees). Participants will be obligated to impart this knowledge at regional level.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT,

This is aimed at institution building for 4H Namibia, But most important, it's about creating "A Safe Space" where young people can come together to freely express themselves in a controlled environment and also giving them a platform to be creative in their thoughts and actions.

4H Info Centres

The Info Centres will house offices for staff and volunteers as well as an enclosed and open space for various activities geared towards relevant knowledge and skills transfer to the main beneficiaries of this Project. The strategy is not to construct buildings, but to get local authorities to avail unused space.

Learning made easy through ICT's,

Whether you live in a big city or a small settlement, the importance and impact that Information and Communication Technology have on our lives can't be ignored.

The aim is to establish an ICT lab at the Info Centres to make learning, innovative, creative and fun.

3. INTERCULTURAL LEARNING.

Events will be organised (3 per year), in order for different cultural groups to learn from each other and in the process find pride in their own cultural identity.

To develop, organise and participate in Regional, National and International Exchange Programs/Camps for the youth of Otjiwarongo, Otavi, Tsumeb and Tsumkwe. The idea is to have young people from these municipalities to come together and share commonalities as well as differences (5 to 10 pax per). Each Municipality will host each other at least once during the Project Cycle.

4H Namibia having close cooperation with the Finnish 4H Federation has an opportunity to expose young people to international activities such as the Nordic Camp 2015 to be held in Finland. 4H Namibia will endeavour to send a minimum of 6 participants to this Nordic Camp.

4. Organising Annual AGM

4H Namibia is committed to Democracy through action. Giving 4H Members the platform to choose their leadership and actively participate in discussions. Through their participation at the AGM, young 4H'rs gain confidence by getting understanding of democratic processes. It is also a means to encourage active citizenship, such as understanding, appreciating and participating in future Namibian Elections.

LEARNING BY DOING