

Detailed Implementation & Financial Report

Copperbelt Youth Enterprise Incubation Project
January 2023 – December 2024

1. Project Overview

- **Title:** Copperbelt Youth Enterprise Incubation
 - **Location:** Kitwe & Ndola, Copperbelt Province, Zambia
 - **Duration:** January 2023 – December 2024
 - **Objective:** Build sustainable youth-led enterprises through cooperative incubation, business skills training, and access to seed grants, thereby reducing unemployment and enhancing community resilience.
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2. Background & Rationale

- Zambia's youth unemployment rate remains high, especially in mining towns affected by economic downturns.
 - Incubating youth enterprises addresses income insecurity, promotes innovation, and aligns with Zambia's Vision 2030.
 - The initiative responds to donor priorities on **youth economic empowerment, SME growth, and inclusive development.**
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3. Activity Components

- **Youth Training:** Entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and cooperative governance.
- **Enterprise Incubation:** Provision of seed grants to youth groups.

- **Mentorship:** Engagement with Copperbelt business leaders.

- **Market Linkages:** Creating access to buyers and cooperative unions.
- **Monitoring & Growth Planning:** Tracking performance, reinvestment, and sustainability strategies.

4. Detailed Execution Phases

Phase 1 – Recruitment & Training (Jan–Mar 2023): Mobilized 40 youth; delivered training workshops on business planning, accounting, and governance.

Phase 2 – Enterprise Support (Apr–Dec 2023): Provided 15 start-ups with \$2,000–\$3,000 in seed grants; mentorship initiated.

Phase 3 – Operations & Market Engagement (Jan–Sep 2024): Businesses launched in tailoring, ICT, agro-processing; cooperative trade fairs hosted.

Phase 4 – Growth & Sustainability (Oct–Dec 2024): Business networks formalized; reinvestment models established; monitoring and evaluation conducted.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeline
Recruitment & Training	Jan – Mar 2023
Enterprise Support	Apr – Dec 2023
Operations & Market Engagement	Jan – Sep 2024
Growth & Sustainability	Oct – Dec 2024

6. Outcomes & Impact

- **40 youth trained** in enterprise skills.
- **15 enterprises launched** in services and agro-based sectors.
- **120 jobs created** (direct & indirect).

- Average youth income increased by 35%.
 - Strengthened cooperative ecosystem in the Copperbelt.
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7. Key Partners

- **Copperbelt University Business School:** Training provider.
 - **District Cooperative Union:** Market linkage and oversight.
 - **Private Sector Mentors:** Business coaching.
 - **Donor Agency:** Provided grant support.
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8. Youth Testimonials

“Before this program, I had no business knowledge. Today, I run a poultry venture that supports my family and employs 2 friends.”

— **Loveness Chanda, Beneficiary**

“The incubation model gave us more than funding — it gave us networks and confidence.”

— **Brian Mulenga, ICT Start-up Founder**

9. Financial Report – Donor Grant (\$75,000)

Budget Item	Amount (USD)	Description
Training & Workshops	\$12,000	Facilitators, materials, venue
Seed Grants	\$30,000	Capital for 15 start-ups
Mentorship & Coaching	\$8,000	Honoraria for mentors, business clinics
Market Linkages & Trade Fairs	\$7,000	Exhibitions, buyer forums
Monitoring & Evaluation	\$8,000	Data collection, analysis, reporting

Contact: 0970098380

Email: info@barlistrive.com

Website: <https://barlistrive.com>

Location: Plot 07, Mango Rd Kaunda Square, Lusaka.

Administration & Contingency	\$10,000	Staff, communication, buffer
Total	\$75,000	Grant Allocation

Summary

This project successfully incubated youth enterprises in the Copperbelt, providing skills, start-up capital, and networks. It fostered sustainable income, reduced unemployment, and contributed to inclusive community development. The cooperative incubation model is scalable to other provinces.

Yours faithfully,



Lukachi Banda
Executive Director
Barlistrive Cooperative Society