



My name is Peter Badia, a Life Coach and Financial Trainer in Kenya. I am also the Founding Director of Kingdom Biz Network (SHG) a community based initiative committed to advance Financial Inclusion in order to STOP Child labour and to ensure each child has at least 15 years of full-time formal education. We have been in existence since 2014.

Research has been done to discover that Savings Groups contribute to financial inclusion by serving excluded market segments in countries and regions characterized by low formal financial sector participation. Savings Groups contribute to financial inclusion through the direct delivery of basic financial services in excluded market segments and as a pathway to formal financial inclusion. They require minimal infrastructure and operate in marginalized and remote communities where formal financial services may not be viable. Furthermore, SGs meet the demand of poorer and more vulnerable populations for small, flexible and frequent transactions. Each group sets its own financial parameters – including weekly savings requirements and loan interest rates – which need not be based on cash flow requirements or business plans typically required by formal financial service providers. And SGs are, by design, financially and institutionally sustainable: once the members have been trained in the methodology, groups generally continue to operate independently, without any need for external facilitators.

RATIONALE

The impact of Covid 19 pandemic on households economy is alarming, vulnerable families in Trans Nzoia County (Kenya) have been adversely affected to the extent that some parents are forced by circumstances to expose their children to potentially dangerous alternatives of generating income on behalf of their families to meet basic needs, some children are exploited sexually in the process of making money. Beyond this gruesome acts we are seeing steady increase in Teenage pregnancy and sometime early marriages. Some children are also exposed to potential danger as they are sent out to sell fruits, vegetables the whole day or knock doors from house to house begging for food in the neighbourhood late at night resulting to rape cases and sodomy.

On this subject matter, Kingdom Business Network (KBN) acts on the conviction that we can STOP Child Labour by changing the attitudes of those who keep children in work, as we help create reliable sources of income for adults who see no alternative but to send their children to work. This we can do as we advance financial inclusion in Peri-urban communities. Formation of Savings groups are the first step to financial inclusion as they provide a mechanism to save money while building financial knowledge and skills. A savings

group is member-owned and composed of a small number of people who save together in a safe, convenient and flexible way. They use a simple, transparent method to accumulate and convert small amounts of cash into savings that can then be lent to members as credit.

Risk of Child Labour	Contributing Risk Factors
Children at risk of child labour	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More children pushed into child Labour including commercial sexual exploitation to meet basic needs of their families. • Children, especially girls, assuming greater responsibilities for family survival, taking longer hours in domestic and care duties. • Lack of external workers places more responsibility on children to assist in family activities, including agriculture and home- based industries. • Caregivers resort to negative survival strategies including child labour and child marriage. • Child caretakers, especially girls, more exposed to risks of disease contraction by looking after sick relatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of school, learning facilities and limited access to remote learning increase time at home. • Reductions in family income due to death, illness, quarantine job loss. • Reinforcement of traditional gender roles at home: increased role of girls in cleaning, cooking, and caregiving; increased pressure on boys to help their family with income generating activities. • Weakened or overburdened governments unable to prevent exploitation in certain at-risk sectors. • Essential services for children at risk of child labour are reduced and therefore basic needs are not met. • Children in isolation do not see their peers and friends and are disconnected from other support networks. • Family separation due to hospitalization, quarantine, isolation, migration or death. • Myths around COVID-19 that downplay the risks of the disease, especially for children.

A key difference between the financial inclusion model built by Kingdom Biz Network (KBN) and other organisations is its strong focus on **Stopping Child Labour and Promoting Educational investments**. Communities that sign up to financial inclusion with Kingdom Business Network (KBN) must follow sustainability criteria when taking out loans and starting businesses to ensure that any business or development opportunities do not promote Child Labour or have negative impacts on the community.

PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

To Advance Financial inclusion and STOP Child Labour through Business Saving Groups (BSGs) promotion and Livelihood Enhancement Initiative.

The major objectives of concern are:

1. To Stop Child Labour caused by Household socio economic crisis
2. To establish an inclusive financial system in the community to ensure all households and businesses, regardless of income level, have access to and can effectively use the appropriate financial services they need to improve their lives.

3. To increase income and employment opportunities among the women and their house holds
4. To build capacity of the women in activities and credit funds.
5. To improve access to sufficient credits a mounts for working capital required to expand or start-up new income activities.

PROJECT OUTCOME/ RESULTS

- An inclusive financial system will be enhanced in the community to ensure all households and businesses, regardless of income level, have access to and can effectively use the appropriate financial services they need to improve their lives.
- Business Saving Groups (BSGs) will be promoted and strengthened by inculcating habit of saving and enforcing credit discipline
- Saving Groups in Peri-Urban communities will build their own capital through regular savings and get access to loans and secure social security for themselves.
- Women will be empowered economically and made self-reliant through provision of credit facilities
- Child Labour will stop and victims restored with loving care, spiritual and emotional counselling, and effective education/ vocational training.

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Direct beneficiaries: - 1000 households in Peri-Urban Communities through 50 Business Saving Groups (*with each Business saving Group having 20 members*)

Indirect beneficiaries: - 1000 families in Peri-Urban Communities across Trans Nzoia County comprising of 7000 individuals. (*Each Family estimated to have 7 members*)

WHY RAISE MONEY?

I would like to Raise seed capital through this campaign which will be given out as revolving loan to Business saving groups who will be expected to loan each other with minimum interest rate. Saving families can accumulate savings and access loans that they can use to create and strengthen their livelihood opportunities. By increasing a smoother cash flow, parents and caregivers can afford to buy more and nutritious food for their children as well as meet their children's education expenses. We have also seen how families can improve their homes to make them safer and warmer for their children. Also, families are now able to cope with household emergencies or crises that arise, which further protects their children's well-being.

I NEED YOUR HELP

Your support at this time is needed, Your giving will enable us to strengthen the voice of economic sector curved out by Business Saving Groups which may have gone unnoticed

yet deliver vital services that impact Household economy and stops Child Labour . Your support will enable us to rescue vulnerable children off labour force. We will also be able to take children back to school especially teen mothers who are victims of sexual exploitation. Our intervention strategy goes beyond Lockdown.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Goal 1 – Ending poverty: provide the most vulnerable families with loans and savings that can be used to increase their income-generating abilities.

Goal 5 – Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: Financial security reduces exposure of girls to early marriages and the need for parents or caregivers to rely on child labour.

Goal 8 – Decent work and economic growth: Savings Groups can provide skills training so members can invest in their own income-generation activities, tap into government services and eventually qualify for microfinance or employment in local businesses.