



AMERICAN WOMEN FOR
INTERNATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING

Grant Report

YWSOEE, Uganda

2024

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Overview

American Women for International Understanding established the micro-grants program in 2008. The program awards grants annually to organizations and projects that support women internationally. The focus of these projects is on one or more of the following topics: health, entrepreneurship, and education.

In 2024, AWIU worked with 15 grantees across the world. Recipients were located in Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Uganda, Guatemala, Guinea, India, Kenya, and Tanzania. Projects ranged from library furnishing, to farming education, to maternity ward upgrades.

Grants ranged from \$1,000–\$3,000. All grantees were required to submit reports at the end of their projects. While some grantees received AWIU grants in the past, many were first-time recipients.

AWIU is proud to support the work of women, women-led organizations, and critical programs that enhance the livelihood of women internationally.

15 grantees

9 countries

\$30,000 granted

**5,000+ people
impacted**

AWIU Micro-Grant Program At-A-Glance

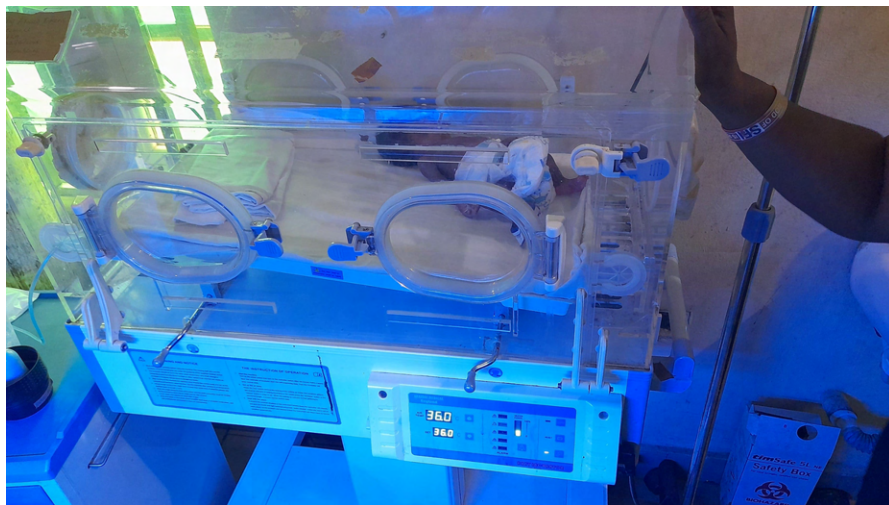
**17
Years**

**37
Countries**

**>\$441k
granted**



Comprehensive Care and Support Initiative Nigeria, Nigeria



About the Grant

The Agunwu Village maternity ward was granted \$2,400 for essential medical equipment.

Equipment included an ultra sound machine, infant incubator, delivery bed, oxygen concentrator, examination table, and baby scale.

Hospital personnel were trained to use the new equipment, which has increased the hospital's capacity to attend to deliveries.

The infant mortality rate has significantly decreased with proper monitoring and emergency care more accessible.





Congo Restoration Girls School of Compassion, Democratic Republic of the Congo

About the Grant

Congo Restoration was granted \$2,400 for new school resources. Work included new shelves and chairs in the primary school library, and the payment of textbook fees for 6th grade students.



Congo Restoration was able to create a space for young students to continue their learning with proper resources.

Their initiative aims to revitalize the village of Mudaka, restoring hope and dignity by empowering women and girls through education.



Ezeora Women Farmers Association, Nigeria

About the Grant

Ezeora Women Farmers Association was granted \$2,600 for modern cassava processing equipment and sustainable farming training.

Between June and October, the equipment was fully installed and tested, and 100 women completed the training which included irrigation techniques, eco-friendly farming practices, and business management.

Women Farmers reported a 30% reduction of post-harvest losses and increase in income after the introduction of equipment and training. Community bonds were strengthened and access to markets has been improved.





Hope of Young Mothers Development Initiative (HOMODI), Uganda

About the Grant

The Hope of Young Mothers Development Initiative was granted \$2,500 to train women as cassava farmers in two sub-counties of Kyamukube.

60 female cassava farmers were selected to train with new equipment, which included a milling machine, engine, and metallic storage boxes.

The project has so far served 240 people in the community.





Oasis Charitable Trust, India

About the Grant

Oasis Charitable Trust has been granted \$2,030 to provide sewing machines to young women and help them build their entrepreneurial skills.

13 young women, from ages 19–37, were able to start their own tailoring and sewing businesses, enabling them to take care of household expenses and save money for the future.

Oasis Charitable Trust thanks AWIU for aiding their initiative to tackle poverty by empowering women to a high standard.





Organisation Force des Femmes Guinee (OFFEG), Guinea



About the Grant

Organisation Force des Femmes Guinee (OFFEG) was granted \$2,000 to continue a tailoring skills training project which was funded in 2023.

Purchases included 8 sewing machines, 100 T-shirts, books for record-keeping, furniture, and rent for 3 months, among other necessities.

With this grant, OFFEG was able to recruit more trainees, move to a more spacious building, offset bills, pay salaries, and purchase materials for the next 6 months.



Prince & Princess Academy, Ghana



About the Grant

Prince & Princess Academy was granted \$1,400 to complete the construction of a new Library and Computer Lab. The work included purchasing ceiling fans, doors and windows, tables, bookshelves, and other furnishing accessories.

A prior AWIU grantee of 2019, 2021, 2022, and 2023, this final grant allowed them to open the Library-Computer Lab to pupils for functional use.





Rural Women and Girls Empowerment Forum (RWEFO), Uganda

About the Grant

Rural Women and Girls Empowerment Forum (RWEFO) was granted \$2,000 to train women and girls in silver fish farming and processing.

With the funds, RWEFO mobilized 35 women and girls from lake communities into groups and trained them in modern fish farming, safety, hygiene, post-harvest handling, and marketing of silver fish. Participants received life jackets, fishing gear, and storage equipment, while also learning value addition through community grinding mills. They were further equipped with skills in small business, financial literacy, record keeping, and savings, leading to the formation of women-led savings and credit associations.





Tejidos Cotzal, Guatemala

About the Grant

Tejidos Cotzal was granted \$1,000 to support a previously funded weaving project in order to create an inventory of traditional pieces. They expanded the Ixil Maya Women's Museum of Art, Education, and Survival—the first of its kind in Guatemala—by adding new weavings, ceremonial blouses, men's jackets, and other traditional pieces, while also improving displays. They also trained younger weavers to preserve historic patterns and began producing traditional agave-fiber satchels, creating both cultural preservation and new sources of income. Because of this, the museum is attracting more traffic from the local community as well as tourists.





Violence Against Women Foundation (VAWOFO), Tanzania

About the Grant

Violence Against Women Foundation (VAWOFO) was granted \$1,900 to purchase bicycles for women so that they can travel to school.

19 girls from 3 different schools were provided with bicycles as a means of transportation. This project increased their accessibility to education while breaking the cycle of gender-based violence and poverty. This transportation method allows each girl to engage fully in school and perform at her highest capacity, receiving the education they need and deserve.





Women Arises Association (WAA), Uganda

About the Grant

Women Arises Association (WAA) was granted \$1,150 to provide solar lamps to young girls in school.

This project supplied solar lamps to 100 impoverished girls so that they can continue educational study at night. A portion of the grant was used for fuel so that WAA could deliver lamps in hard-to-reach areas.

This initiative not only created better studying conditions for young students, but minimized the cost and risks of candles and kerosene lamps.





Women in Action (WINA), Uganda

About the Grant

Women in Action (WINA) was granted \$3,000 to implement a 12-month project titled, “Enhancing the skills of women in repurposing car tires.”

The Project reached 55 direct participants (52 women and 3 men) representing a 110% achievement of their initial goal.

In Uganda, opportunities often feel out of reach for women in vulnerable situations. In the slums of Bunamwaya, single mother of three, Naluwooza Jane, found hope where others saw waste. Struggling for years to feed her children and keep them in school, her life changed when she joined a Women in Action (WINA) training program funded by AWIU.

The training taught her to repurpose discarded tires into income. With a few tools and a spark of creativity, Jane began crafting shoes. “I cried when I sold my first four pairs,” she recalls. “It proved I could do something with my own hands.”

Today, Jane produces about 20 pairs each week, employs three other women in her village, and ensures her children attend school without interruption. Of the 53 WINA participants, 35 are now making shoes, while others have created innovations like stools, kitchen gardens, and planters—all turning discarded materials into livelihoods.





Youth and Women for Social and Economic Empowerment (YWSOEE), Uganda



About the Grant

Youth and Women for Social and Economic Empowerment (YWSOEE) was granted \$2,000 to aid in the construction of a protected spring well in Ssakabusolo Village, Uganda.

This initiative provided clean water access to 3,512 women and children while reducing water-borne diseases by 95%. Other efforts included a community-managed maintenance committee and sanitation training for future support.

