Reviving her tailoring business

Akello Angella was happy to have started her small tailoring enterprise with hope of improving her household income. Unfortunately, after a period of two months, the enterprise collapsed because she didn’t have enough capital to continue.

Later, she joined one of the groups, Odongai Bull Fattening women’s group under the Women Economic and Political Empowerment Project – WEPE in Kuju Sub County. While in the group, she became part of other women attending different meetings that were geared towards empowering women economically and politically. Through the WEPE project, Angella was empowered and got motivated to pick a soft loan of 380,000 shs from the group which helped her bring her tailoring business to life again.

Angella currently makes uniforms for school going pupils of Odongai and Ogwarat Primary schools.

“I am happy to say the business is making profit which is helping me help the family” Angella.

Empowerment benefits

Salume, Betty and Lucia Abarata-Bonik group in Kuju Sub County Amuria District, beneficiaries of the WEPE training were able to purchase their first mobile phones in March this year. They had never owned phones and the communication device has added value to their lives as women.

The smiles they wear are as a result of the benefits they found as phone holders and they include but are not limited to easy access to information on market prices and transactions. They attributed this to the WEPE training where they learned about being economically empowered women.

They had never owned phones

Salume, Betty and Lucia from the Abarata-Bonik group in Kuju Sub County Amuria District posing with their new phones.
I had lost hope, I knew I wasn’t productive again basing on my age and energy. It did not come to my mind that one day I would own a goat. All my focus was on rearing local chicken which is a common business. I thank FOWODE for bringing a project that revived my energy – to an old mama who had left it all to children. Now, Asao Immaculate owns a goat that she bought at only 65,000shs. She believes that her next purchase will be a cow.

Rose first encountered FOWODE during the selection of women groups that were to benefit from the WEPE Project last year. Born in Akusi village, Olekai parish, Asamuk Sub County found in Amuria District, Rose’s dream to run for LCIII Chairperson was hatched. This was after her participation in the FOWODE training sessions that took place in Kampala at the time.

The training of trainers was organized by FOWODE under the Women Economic and Political Empowerment Project (WEPE). The purpose of the training was to increase knowledge and skills of participants in leadership.

Rose is adding value to herself through frequent visits to the FOWODE-Amuria field office to access information that will enrich her political leadership dream. Her engagement in civic education meetings and other fora is strengthening her every moment she stands to speak for the women.
Saving for Investment

Amuge Salume, a mother of three hails from Aoja-kwap village in Kuju Sub County Amuria District. She is a member of Abarata-Bonik group one of the groups supported by the WEPE project.

Salume’s journey to economic empowerment started in November 2018 during the WEPE Project inception meetings where she got challenged to be a strong and economically empowered woman. “After that inception meeting, I went back home and thought how best I could add value to myself. I have been part of the savings group but the practice was that people save and the money is divided in December with the purpose of using it during the festive season.

The WEPE Project inception meeting took place before we divided the savings and it changed my mindset, In February 2019 I bought my heifer in Obalanga market at 550,000shs” Salume Narrated.

She has committed herself to invest in rearing animals to improve on her income inflow so that she can support her family, meet her basic needs and also enable her prepare herself for the 2021 elections.

Salume is interested in contesting for LCIII Councilor.

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