

Skills Development



PROJECT:	Promoting Market Skills Training and Employment Creation in the Great Lakes Region (PROMOST) II
REGION:	Central, East & Southern Africa
COUNTRIES:	Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) & Burundi
PROJECT PHASE:	February 2016 – January 2019
FUNDING:	Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC)



RATIONALE

Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, commonly referred to as the Great Lakes region, are historically and geographically linked together and share several challenges inherited from a troublesome colonial period. They have in the past faced situations of political instability which have accelerated armed conflicts. The three countries face common challenges albeit not to the same proportion as Rwanda is more stable than its neighbors. Some of these challenges range from weak private sectors, shortages in skilled workforce, weak vocational training institutions and training systems, insufficient qualification frameworks and large numbers of unemployed youth.

Claude Simbankabo practically using the mechanical skills he gained from the project



Beneficiary at her tailoring shop

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The PROMOST Project, currently in its second implementation phase, uses a systemic approach and works closely with formal and informal Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sectors and the local rural population to achieve five main outcomes:

- Improved access to more equitable and diversified training;
- Improved quality and relevance of the training offered;
- Support the development of a Recognition of Prior Learning and Experience (RPL/E) system;
- Support the joint management of local training systems and improved professional placement; and
- Improved access of target beneficiaries to financial and non-financial services.

The main activities implemented by the project include but are not limited to Training of Trainers (ToT), capacity building of TVET managers and stakeholders, construction and equipping TVET schools, short-term training of the vulnerable rural population, apprenticeship, rehabilitation of the micro-training providers in the informal sector, linkages between the private sector and the TVET providers, proximity support to business development and entrepreneurship for training graduates.

Focus is placed on market-driven skills such as carpentry, masonry, welding, food processing, auto and motor mechanics, knitting, bamboo processing, hairdressing, leather production, electricity, photography and videography, tailoring, boat making, plumbing, photovoltaic and soap making.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EXPECTED PROJECT IMPACT



Improved employment opportunities and income generation for the rural population in targeted areas of the Great Lakes region.



Improved access to quality and labor market-oriented vocational training through the use of a systemic approach to support both the formal and informal TVET sectors.



Full assistance of 5,900 direct beneficiaries through apprenticeship and short-term training programs.

5,900

TESTIMONIAL

"It was pure luck that I received the support from Swisscontact that allowed me to take part in the hairdressing training. When I was young, my father passed away and I had to leave school to help my mother at home. Poor living conditions dictated the need to find a partner and get married. The training I gained through the project enabled me to learn a new skill and after discussions with my husband, we agreed to sell his motorcycle to raise startup capital to open our own hair salon. I trained him in hairdressing and we now operate the salon together. I am also slowly training my two children in the skill, so they can grow up to be self-reliant. My monthly average income is CHF 230. This has helped me build my own house and educate my children. I can see a bright future for my family."

Aloisie Muhawenimana | 33- year-old Beneficiary, Rwanda

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