

Policy Plan Stop Poverty 2023–2027

Vision & Mission

The vision of Stop Poverty is grounded in the principles articulated by Nelson Mandela:

*‘Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity, but an act of justice.
It is the protection of a fundamental human right: the right to dignity and a decent life’.*

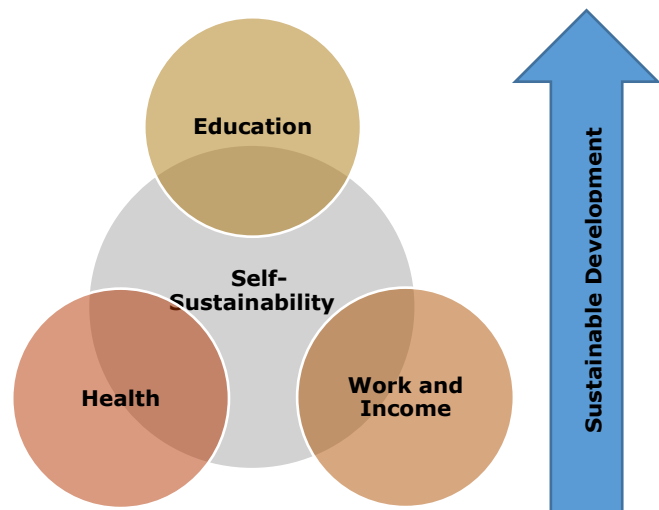
Through the implementation of its projects, Stop Poverty contributes in an effective and sustainable manner to the improvement of the living conditions of individuals whose livelihoods fall below the poverty line. Accordingly, Stop Poverty’s mission is to support individuals who are unable to independently meet their basic needs by promoting self-reliance through international cooperation, thereby enabling the development of a dignified and sustainable livelihood. In situations of acute emergency, including hunger or life-threatening circumstances, Stop Poverty provides immediate and appropriate assistance.

Working Method & Implementation Framework

For Uganda, Stop Poverty has developed a vision focused on community development and self-reliance in Budondo, in the Jinja District, one of the poorest regions in Eastern Uganda. Through this integrated approach, the project is largely designed to become self-sustaining. The approach includes:

- ✓ **Education:** By investing in education for disadvantaged children and by providing high-quality vocational training and guidance to the local community, we strengthen local knowledge and skills. In this way, we contribute to sustainable capacity building.
- ✓ **Health:** By investing in concrete health initiatives, we contribute to improved health. We provide clean drinking water and invest in solar-powered lamps to replace toxic kerosene lamps. In this way, we ensure that health problems are significantly reduced.
- ✓ **Self-sustainability:** By investing in income-generating projects, we create a sustainable local source of income. This income is used (over time) to cover the operational costs of the local projects. In this way, the projects become self-sufficient and independent of sponsorship in the long term
- ✓ **Work and Income:** By investing in employment opportunities, agricultural projects, education, and vocational training, jobs and income are created for the local population.

Figure 1: Our Integrated Approach



A plan of action for self-reliance has been developed. To become less dependent on (foreign) sponsors, agricultural land is being purchased, where farming and livestock activities will be carried out and made available to poor villagers.

The cultivation of crops such as maize, beans, tomatoes, cabbage, and watermelon will be selected in line with market demand. In addition, the products will be rotated regularly to prevent soil depletion. Naturally, this will be decided in collaboration with the local population and experts. By breeding pigs and goats, prosperity in the villages will further increase.

However, self-reliance should not be seen as purely financial. Building self-confidence and self-image among villagers, teenage mothers, and children—strengthening their belief in their own abilities and empowering them through education and life skills—is an essential part of future success (as noted by the mayor in March 2023). The theme “**we can do it**” runs as a common thread through all programs. In addition, education on improved ecological practices, environmental awareness, and healthier lifestyles is imperative.



Agricultural (land) for self-sustainability and food security of the poorest

Target Group

Based on its mission, Stop Poverty focuses on the most vulnerable people in Eastern Uganda who lack sufficient access to basic necessities of life. Assistance is available to everyone. However, children, women, and teenage mothers receive special attention. Women and girls often have a disadvantaged position in rural Uganda.

There is 70% unemployment, 54% of people can only eat once a day, and 30% never attend school.

Working Method

Stop Poverty focuses on community development with the goal of making the local population as self-reliant as possible. This is achieved by empowering people through education and training, by setting up various projects in agriculture, by creating income and employment, and by fostering a mindset of “we can do it.”

Area of Operation

Since 2022, Stop Poverty has been working exclusively in Uganda. Previously, the organization was also active in Mozambique, India, and South Africa. To guarantee the quality of the projects, this choice was unavoidable. By concentrating on one area of operation in Uganda, it is possible to build more effectively and sustainably on community development, as well as improve the quality and supervision of the projects.

Organization

Stop Poverty has a board consisting of at least three members (chairperson, treasurer, and secretary) and an Advisory Board of at least two members. In addition, there are volunteers with specific responsibilities, such as administration, events, and public relations. Other volunteers introduce new projects and are responsible for monitoring them. Stop Poverty is registered with the tax authorities as a Public Benefit Organization (ANBI).

Financial Policy

Stop Poverty aims to keep overhead costs as low as possible. At present, Stop Poverty operates entirely with volunteers, enabling the organization to allocate at least 95% of donations directly to projects, with a maximum of 5% reserved for overhead costs. In 2024, Stop Poverty's total overhead costs were only 2.5%. Private donations of up to €1,000 per year go 100% to the intended beneficiaries.

Donors (individuals, companies, funds, and other organizations) can choose which projects they support and in what way (financially, expertise, etc.).

Local expenditures in Uganda are carefully reviewed in advance by Stop Poverty through a monthly budget. Stop Poverty also works with a Ugandan accounting firm that performs a monthly online check and has access to the local accounting system. In addition, a physical audit takes place every quarter, during which all expenses are reviewed.

Priorities and Sponsors

Donors and sponsors are the first priority within Stop Poverty. They must be able to trust that donations are used effectively and to the fullest extent. The second priority is the target group—the poorest of the poor. Sponsors and donors are regularly informed about project progress and are given the opportunity to visit projects. Stop Poverty holds one seat on the board of the local implementing organization to safeguard the interests of sponsors. The second responsibility is toward the intended beneficiaries.

Cooperation

Project implementation is carried out by local partner organizations, and Stop Poverty works closely with both local and central governments as well as communities. Transparency and accountability are ensured because bank accounts in Uganda can be monitored directly 24/7 from the Netherlands.

Partner organizations are carefully selected based on reliability, proven results, and relevant expertise. Local partners regularly visit the projects and prepare progress reports. Projects are carried out by the local population; materials are sourced locally, and local knowledge and skills are utilized as much as possible. Where possible, efforts are made to have the population contribute to the projects themselves, either financially or through labor.

Organisatie

Objectives 2023–2027 (See progress and results on the website: news)

Stop Poverty is ambitious in helping the poorest of the poor break out of the cycle of poverty. However, we also recognize that we are entirely dependent on the goodwill and donations of sponsors. Therefore, we adjust our objectives on an annual basis.

For example, in 2020 there was an ambition to start a vocational training program in construction, but this was not realized due to COVID-19 and various lockdowns in Uganda. Projects in Uganda are developed in close collaboration with the local population. Due to the urgency of certain situations, new projects may be added, or existing projects may be adjusted depending on circumstances. Consequently, the final two years will be further defined at a later stage. You can follow the progress of the objectives through Stop Poverty's news updates.

2023:

1. Start vocational training for hairdressing and beauty (2nd group)
2. Start IT training – Level 1
3. Launch medical clinic
4. Development of Community Agricultural Program for the unemployed
5. Combating deforestation and environmental pollution
6. Increase school attendance for children
7. Installation of drainage system using sewer pipes along 3.7 km of poor road
8. Launch supplementary feeding program for 800 primary school children

2024:

1. Start IT vocational training – Level 2
2. Start vocational training for hairdressing and beauty (Group 3)
3. Purchase land for the benefit of the poor so they can use it to grow food and pay school fees
4. Expansion of the medical clinic with a laboratory department
5. Expansion of the medical clinic with more service days and services
6. Implementation and launch of the Contribute Community Agricultural Project for the unemployed and poor in Uganda (first half of 2024)
7. Fundraising for 2025 (second half of 2024)
8. Fundraising for a 2-year agricultural vocational training school
9. Fundraising for expansion of the medical clinic with prenatal care
10. Fundraising for self-reliance: land acquisition for the unemployed and poor
11. Fundraising for education and infrastructure improvement: adequate solar energy
12. Start supplementary feeding program for 800 primary school children
13. Schools-for-schools program and capacity building for primary schools
14. Planting 1,000 trees to combat deforestation caused by illegal logging

2025:

1. Construction of building for agricultural vocational training and accommodation for up to 80 students (March 2025)
2. Start vocational training at the Contribute agricultural school (Year 1)
3. Start vocational training for hairdressing and beauty (Year 4)
4. Start IT vocational training Level 1 and 2 (Year 3 and Year 2)
5. Purchase of 5 acres of land (20,000 m²) for self-reliance (January–June 2025)
6. Expansion of the medical clinic with prenatal care, child health clinic, and waiting room (January–April 2025)
7. Start prenatal care and child health services (April–June 2025)
8. Construction of three small one-room apartments of 25 m² each
9. Development of self-reliance through a local fundraiser in Uganda
10. Stop Poverty fundraising for 2026 (second half of 2025)
11. Fundraising for a multifunctional Community Center
12. Start supplementary feeding program for 800 primary school children
13. Schools-for-schools program and capacity building for primary schools
14. Expansion of vocational training to a maximum of 140 students
15. Training of local educational staff for new government requirements

2026:

1. Construction of Emergency Department (ER) with 4 units: minor surgery, dental care, examination room, sterilization room for medical supplies – operational by April 1
2. Construction of medical housing for doctors' family & midwife – completion by April 1
3. Purchase of an ambulance for the ER
4. Start vocational training at the Contribute agricultural school (Year 1 and Year 2)

5. Start vocational training for hairdressing and beauty (Year 5)
6. Start IT vocational training Level 1 and 2 (Year 4 and Year 3)
7. Start supplementary feeding program for 1,000 primary school children
8. Fundraising for 2027 (second half of 2026)
9. Construction of MEC (Multifunctional Education Center) 1,040 m² for various vocational programs and community development (pending approval)
10. Planting of 100 trees to combat deforestation caused by illegal logging
11. Training of local staff (second half of 2026)
12. Construction of staff housing

2027:

1. Start vocational training at the Contribute agricultural school (Year 2 and Year 3)
2. Start vocational training for hairdressing and beauty (Year 6)
3. Start IT vocational training Level 1 and 2 (Year 5 and Year 4)
4. Start vocational training in Fashion Design & Tailoring, Catering & Cooking (Year 1)
5. Start supplementary feeding program for 1,000 primary school children
6. Fundraising (second half of 2027) for 2028 projects: Self-reliance, Education, and Medical services

Note:

Objectives are achieved based on firm and actual commitments from sponsors; therefore, the plans depend on the level of sponsorship ultimately secured.



New waiting room for prenatal care – June 2025



Self-Sustainability

