

Detailed Implementation & Financial Report

Youth Waste-to-Wealth Innovation Lab
January 2023 – December 2024

1. Project Overview

- **Title:** Youth Waste-to-Wealth Innovation Lab
- **Location:** Mongu & Kaoma Districts, Zambia
- **Duration:** January 2023 – December 2024
- **Objective:** Empower youth to transform plastic waste into eco-friendly products while creating green enterprises and reducing community waste.

2. Background & Rationale

- Plastic waste clogs drains, pollutes rivers, and worsens flooding in Mongu and Kaoma.
- Youth unemployment is high, but opportunities exist to turn waste management into a viable green enterprise.
- By incubating youth-led recycling businesses, the project contributes to environmental protection, income generation, and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production).

3. Activity Components

- **Youth Training:** 25 youth trained in recycling technologies (plastic pavers, briquettes, furniture).

- **Innovation Hubs:** Established 2 recycling hubs (one in Mongu, one in Kaoma).
- **Enterprise Incubation:** Supported youth in developing business plans and forming cooperatives.
- **Market Development:** Linked products to local construction companies and households.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Conducted 5 community sensitization events on waste segregation.

4. Detailed Execution Phases

- **Phase 1 – Training & Hub Setup (Jan – Jun 2023):** Youth recruited and trained; equipment procured and installed at 2 hubs.
- **Phase 2 – Production & Testing (Jul – Dec 2023):** Youth produced first plastic pavers and briquettes; tested in local markets.
- **Phase 3 – Enterprise Formation & Sales (Jan – Sep 2024):** 8 youth enterprises formed; branding and cooperative registration supported.
- **Phase 4 – Expansion & Sustainability Planning (Oct – Dec 2024):** Enterprises linked to buyers; long-term waste supply chains developed.

5. Implementation Timeline

Phase	Timeline
Training & Hub Setup	Jan – Jun 2023
Production & Testing	Jul – Dec 2023
Enterprise Formation	Jan – Sep 2024
Expansion & Sustainability Planning	Oct – Dec 2024

6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Recycling:** 15 tons of plastic waste processed into useful products.
- **Enterprises:** 8 youth-run green enterprises established.
- **Income Generation:** \$18,000 in sales recorded from pavers and briquettes.
- **Environment:** Local waste reduced by 20% in target communities.
- **Capacity:** Youth gained technical, entrepreneurial, and environmental stewardship skills.

7. Key Partners

- **Green Enterprise Zambia:** Provided training curriculum and technical mentorship.
- **Local Councils (Mongu & Kaoma):** Supported waste collection and site allocation.
- **Private Sector (construction firms):** Buyers of pavers and briquettes.
- **Community Leaders:** Facilitated awareness campaigns and youth mobilization.

8. Youth/Community Testimonials

"We turned plastic from trash to cash. Now our community is cleaner, and I earn from selling briquettes every week."

— Grace Lungu, Youth Entrepreneur

9. Financial Report – Donor Grant (\$95,000)

Budget Item	Amount (USD)	Description
Training & Recruitment	\$15,000	Trainers, manuals, youth allowances
Hub Setup & Equipment	\$25,000	Recycling machines, safety gear, site preparation
Production & Testing	\$15,000	Raw materials, trials, supervision
Business Incubation	\$15,000	Business plans, branding, cooperative registration
Market Development	\$10,000	Buyer linkages, transport, packaging
Awareness Campaigns	\$5,000	Community events, posters, outreach
Monitoring & Evaluation	\$5,000	Data collection, reporting
Administration & Contingency	\$5,000	Coordination, overheads
Total	\$95,000	

10. Summary

The Youth Waste-to-Wealth Innovation Lab demonstrated how youth innovation can address environmental challenges while generating livelihoods. By incubating 8 enterprises and recycling 15 tons of waste, the project reduced pollution, created jobs, and fostered sustainable business models. It is a replicable model for other urban and peri-urban areas facing plastic waste challenges.

Approved by:



Mercy Ndhlovu

Executive Director