

SUSTAINME

ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT

2020



SustainME
Until every woman is empowered



SustainME Enterprise
Until every woman is empowered

OUR PURPOSE

**We strive
for a world
where
every woman
is empowered.**

We Achieve our Purpose through:

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Our focus is for every vulnerable woman to get involved in economic development. Through our women empowerment program, we enable women to start their own economic activities and earn a daily income.

SKILL EMPOWERMENT

We believe in providing skills and tools to the women so that they are able to create sustainable livelihood. With the skills, the women are able to establish sustainable income generating activities which ensures sustainable incomes

HEALTHCARE

Good health and empowerment work hand in hand. A good woman's health allows for improved life, increased incomes and family wellbeing. Health sensitization and sessions saw the women stay healthy and improve on their earnings.

MICROFINANCE

By providing small start-up loans and seed grants, SustainME helps vulnerable women and families to start-up small businesses. With small businesses in place, the women start earning an income and use part of the income to provide for their children with food, school fees, medical care and other basic needs

A Message from The CEO

2020 was a year in which we have faced numerous challenges; still, we are grateful for your support to assist us in impacting vulnerable women's lives and their families to support them to escape the cycle of poverty, until now; we were able to help 1,574 women and children throughout the year 2020.

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who stood with us during the difficult times of the COVID 19 pandemic. No one ever imagined that the world would shut down. **We are truly grateful!**

It was a unique and busy year for **SustainME!** Your kind support and donations enabled our organization to reach out to more vulnerable women. Special thanks go to Michael, Foundation for Sustainable Community Development, Kusimama Africa and the Board for supporting the women and families throughout the year.

To our amazing virtual interns, **Margaret, Xia, Sarai and Stacey**, you made our year better! Thank you very much for sharing your time, skills and resources with the women, families and our organization.

Finally, big thanks to everyone who supported SustainME throughout the year as we worked towards our vision of building a world where every woman is empowered. Without your support, we couldn't have achieved this milestone.

*Thank you very much for
standing with us*



For Empowered Women,
Samuel Wanyagira
CEO.

OUR IMPACT

Although the pandemic hit the year, we are happy to share that we managed to serve more vulnerable women with our different programs

185

Small startup loans

53

Business skills training

23

Vocational skills training

223

Livelihoods and small businesses created

15

Women were mentored

60

Women participated in the Women's Market Day

265

Families supported during the COVID 19 relief



ABOUT SUSTAINME?



SustainME is a nonprofit organization empowering vulnerable women and their families to fight poverty through economic empowerment, microfinance, healthcare and women's rights.

Women including widows, single and young mothers, grandmothers, women infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, victims of domestic violence and women living in extreme poverty are targeted, particularly those living in rural Uganda. Our purpose is to help women to create sustainable livelihoods for their families, improve their daily earnings, attain good health and thus be able to provide basic needs for their children.

A YEAR OF ACTION FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Small startup loans and seed grants:



We enabled 185 vulnerable women and teenage mothers to access collateral-free small startup loans and seed grants, which helped them begin their small businesses and create their income. With the establishment of small businesses, the women increase the money they earn to maintain their children's needs.

Business skills training:



So far 53 vulnerable women accessed free business skills including business collaboration, record keeping, personal finance, customer care, marketing and business excellence, which is very vital for the sustainability of women's livelihood since it aid women to see their businesses grow and, at the same time, startup businesses from an informed point.

We are glad to share that women received business skills that saw many startups up income-generating activities through our work.

Vocational Skills training:

SustainME believes that providing vocational and teaching hands-on skills to women is crucial in the empowerment journey and fight against poverty.

23 beneficiaries were able to receive hands-on skills in hairdressing, crafting, agriculture and sewing.

We are hopeful that more vulnerable women will access hands-on skills once the Centre is established.



Thus, this will demonstrate the establishment of more livelihoods and the creation of new business.

Livelihoods development:

223 women-led small businesses/income generating activities were established. The year offered us another opportunity to help women to startup businesses and income-generating activities to earn their daily income without having difficulties. The women created a wide range of livelihoods throughout the year, including retail shops, local brewing, brick making, grocery, farming, restaurants, fishing, silverfish, second-hand clothes, charcoal business, and baking, sewing, and fresh foods.



Women's Market day:



SustainME

organized a market day at Nyenga Division, Buikwe District after women recommended organizing a platform for them to sell their products and services to earn money and promote their businesses.

60 women and 45 guests, including politicians, local leaders, women leaders, women and other stakeholders, participated in the Women's Market Day despite the negative impact of covid 19 and purchased the women's products. Our plan is to keep the activity of Market Day in progress to create a sustainable market for women's products.

Covid 19 relief and support for the families:



As the pandemic hit the world and the country under lockdown, the small businesses which are the primary source of livelihood for the vulnerable women were also locked down. In acknowledgement to helping the women, our organization, with other partners, mobilized resources to support the women, families and communities with basic needs such as food and other basics of life, and supplies such as maize flour, rice, salt, soap, sugar, beans were delivered to their families.

With many businesses collapsing, SustainME is now in recovering attempts to ensure that the women's businesses are up again to continue supporting their families without any dependency

Mentorship:

SustainME delivered mentoring services to 15 women involved in running small businesses and some of the issues covered included supporting women to master their small businesses, improving record-keeping and responding to critical challenges from their businesses. Mentorship consists of walking a journey with the women and their businesses, which allows us to keep supporting the women with their business growth journeys and increase household income.



Women's Rights and Awareness



To create awareness about the plight of women and their families' perplexities, an awareness day was organized.

On this day, the women and other stakeholders participated in marching within the local community. This activity helped us spread about our work with the women; the women raised their voices and shared their views with the leaders and the community on the issues that affect their lives.



Healthcare;

Health is a great contributor to enabling women to fight poverty. Through our healthcare program, we reached out to the women to provide hygiene and sanitation training, offered sensitization, and empowered women to build Tippy Taps.

In addition, SustainME partnered with health institutions to help women access medical checks, treatment and referrals.

We are glad that women's health improved enabling them and their families to save money.



Virtual Internship;



As the covid 19 pandemic hits globally, several sectors were affected, resulting in a ban on international travel, thus affecting our community to work with the kind people worldwide who always love to get involved with our work to make a difference.

With international travel banned, we had to adjust to the virtual way of embracing the new normal. We are very thankful to our partners, the Foundation for Sustainable Community Development, who supported us throughout the way to continue impacting and serving the community amidst the pandemic. Through the virtual internship program, 24 vulnerable women were impacted with business skills with the support of 4 interns. Big thanks to Xia, Margot, Stacey and Sarai; thank you for the community transformation created with Mukisa Women's group.



OUR FUTURE

SustainME, driven by its passion for empowering poor women and families to fight poverty, our future is brighter than ever before, our hearts are beating towards building the Women's Centre, which will provide women with an excellent opportunity to access business-and-vocational skills training, medical access, meeting point, and different practical skills, support and apprenticeship. We are excited to see that we are moving closer to achieving our goal, managing to secure a piece of land and fundraising towards the building.

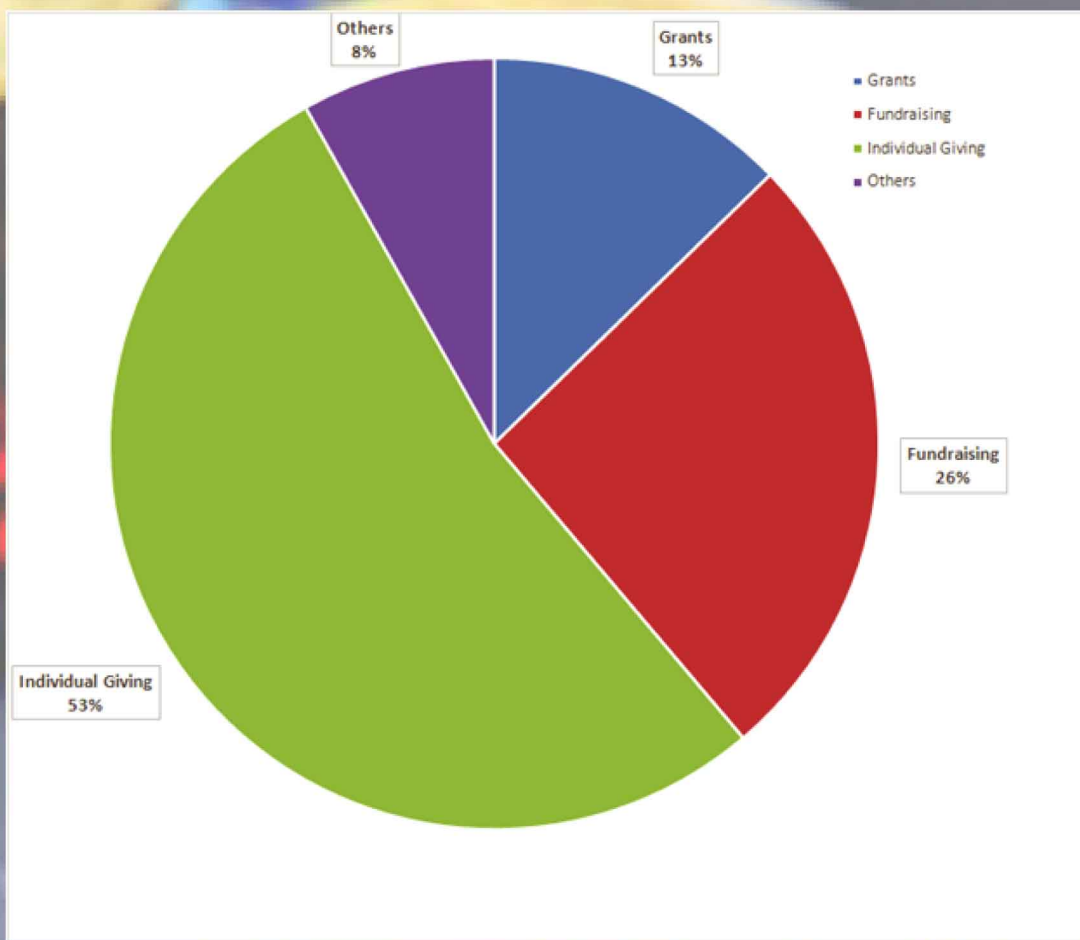


Interested in learning more and supporting this cause, follow this link:

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/sustainme-uganda>

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW 2020

INCOME



EXPENDITURE

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN 2020



HOW YOU CAN HELP



Donate:

Your gift helps to create a lasting impact in the lives of women and families

Partner with us:

Get your community involved with us

Volunteer:

Use your time and skills to support SustainME to reach out to more vulnerable women.

Fundraise:

Get creative and come up with fundraising ideas and events that can help us raise funds to support our projects and programmes.

Be an Ambassador:

Lead the way, create a community and raise support and represent our charity in your local community.

THANK YOU

We take this opportunity to thank every organization and individual who supported SustainME to serve the vulnerable women and families. We couldn't have achieved this impact without your support.

OUR PARTNERS



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