



# UpClose@Rotary Vijana Poa



**Rotary**  
District 9211

The **FEED**

Issue RVP / 101 / July 2016

✉ upcloservp@gmail.com    **f** Rotary Vijana Poa    **t** Rotary Vijana Poa    📞 +256 772 922777

# The Editorial

**Rtn. Denis Jjuuko**  
Chief Editor - 2016-17  
UpClose Rotary Vijana Poa

### UpClose@RVP Team:

Rtn. Marion Olga Alina,  
Rtr. Felix Mwebe,  
Rtr. Younis Ssebagala,  
Rtr. Ibrahim Bagalana

A year ago, District Governor Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa started an ambitious project to ensure every youth employed. And definitely, the goal is still the same. Over the course of the Rotary Vijana Poa first year, 817 youths got employed as the DG's final message will show.

In this last issue of UpClose in the Rotary Year 2015/16, we have profiled youths from Jinja who have found jobs after they had been trained as part of this project. Their stories, if you share them with others, will be able to inspire them and change your community for better.

As the Rotary year ends, I have also been asked to come in as

UpClose's new editor. I would like to thank Rotarian Marion Alina (on sabbatical) who has been our editor for the last 11 months and the entire editorial team for a job well done. I hope I will be able to fill her very big shoes!

In the new Rotary Year, we will come out once a month which will enable us give you a much more comprehensive newsletter about Rotary Vijana Poa.

Thank you and I look forward to receiving stories from the youths from your club who have been impacted by Rotary Vijana Poa.

Have a great read.



# Called to transform the youth

**Ethan Musolini**  
Chair Rotary Vijana Poa 2015/16

What if you and I are meant to be a transformational agent for this youthful generation? What if every jobless and energetic youth is a call to your humanity to step beyond the call of duty like you have done before – only deeper and bigger specifically for our wonderful youth.

Listen, if one of us is not well, definitely all of us cannot declare ourselves to be well.

This is what I mean. 75 million of the youth are unemployed globally. 64% of Ugandan youth

are either unemployed or underemployed. In Tanzania, it's over 53%. Is this the world you want to keep living in? Of course not. Amidst all this, there is also good news courtesy of Rotary Vijana Poa whose vision is to get every youth working. For example...

In Tanzania, with the entrepreneurship centre open to create a platform for enterprise development and internships opportunities already being enjoyed by youths, the future is bright.

In Uganda, hundreds of youths have been trained and several enterprises started. Hope is knocking again with such results. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this dream.

Our dream is that if every Rotary club enabled 10 enterprises and 20 internship/apprenticeship placements, then, as District 9211, we would create 1,000 businesses and 2,000 internships by 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. It's very possible. The question is, have you stepped up? Has your club done its part? Jobless youth are waiting anxiously to hear your resounding YES, if you haven't done so. Let's get our youth working.



# Rotary Vijana Poa Initiative in FIGURES: Thank You for Being a Gift to the Unemployed Youth

World and transit into a Rotary Year 2016/17 – Rotary Changes Lives, its worthy to look at Vijana Poa in figures.

During its inaugural year (2015/16), out of the 121 clubs in the district, 36 have already initiated enterprises and internships to create employment. Over \$28,771 has been invested by Rotarians to train and fund enterprises. 934 have been trained. 119 enterprises started. 41 internships offered. And as a result, 817 youths have been employed in the process. If we look at the money invested and the number of jobs created; it amounts to an average of \$36 per job created.

## Message from the Vision Bearer and Thought Leader

**Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa [Bob]**  
District Governor  
Rotary District 9211

Soon every Rotary and Rotaract Club will have a new president and it is imperative that each and every club prioritizes this initiative. We should also continue to learn more from what we have achieved in the past so that Rotary Vijana Poa continues to be a force to reckon with.

I was looking up the definition of the word initiative and this what I got... “a new plan or process to achieve something or solve a problem” .

As we close the Rotary year 2015/16 of Be a Gift to the

While I thank everyone who has got a youth employed for being a gift to him/her, I wish to re-assure everyone that next year we shall have even enhanced support as I will devote a good amount of time, talent and resource to get more and more youth into employment and I am counting on each and everyone of you.

# Acquisition of skills - RC Muyenga

By  
Marion Alina

The Rotary Club (RC) of Muyenga has embarked on a number of projects to empower 20 unemployed youth in various enterprises. These youth come from the areas of Muyenga, Namuwongo, Kikuba mutwe and Bukasa to gain skills in tailoring, weaving, shoe making art and crafts among others. To get this number of youth, RC Muyenga started with an 8-day training attended by 60 youth. During the training, the youth were empowered with employability skills including personal branding, CV writing and the art of winning interviews. The youth who had already attained formal training

were helped in getting internship placements.

“We have had a situation where many youths run away because they are not patient. The few who have stood with the Rotary Vijana Poa programme in our club are benefitting a lot,” asserts Michael Mpiima, the RC Muyenga Rotary Vijana Poa Officer.

Saul Emmanuel Isingoma, is one of the beneficiaries who has taken on the business of making shoes and now supports members of his family. “I am in position to pay school fees for my sister, support my mother and myself. I rent a two bed roomed house in Zaana and I furnished it with state-of-the-art house hold items,” he brags.

The Club also avails these beneficiaries a platform to sell their finished products. “We have a clear desk marked **‘Buy not to use but to support the Youth.’** Through this, the youth bring their items and sell to Rotarians above the market price purposely because we have an agenda to support them,” Mpiima emphasizes.

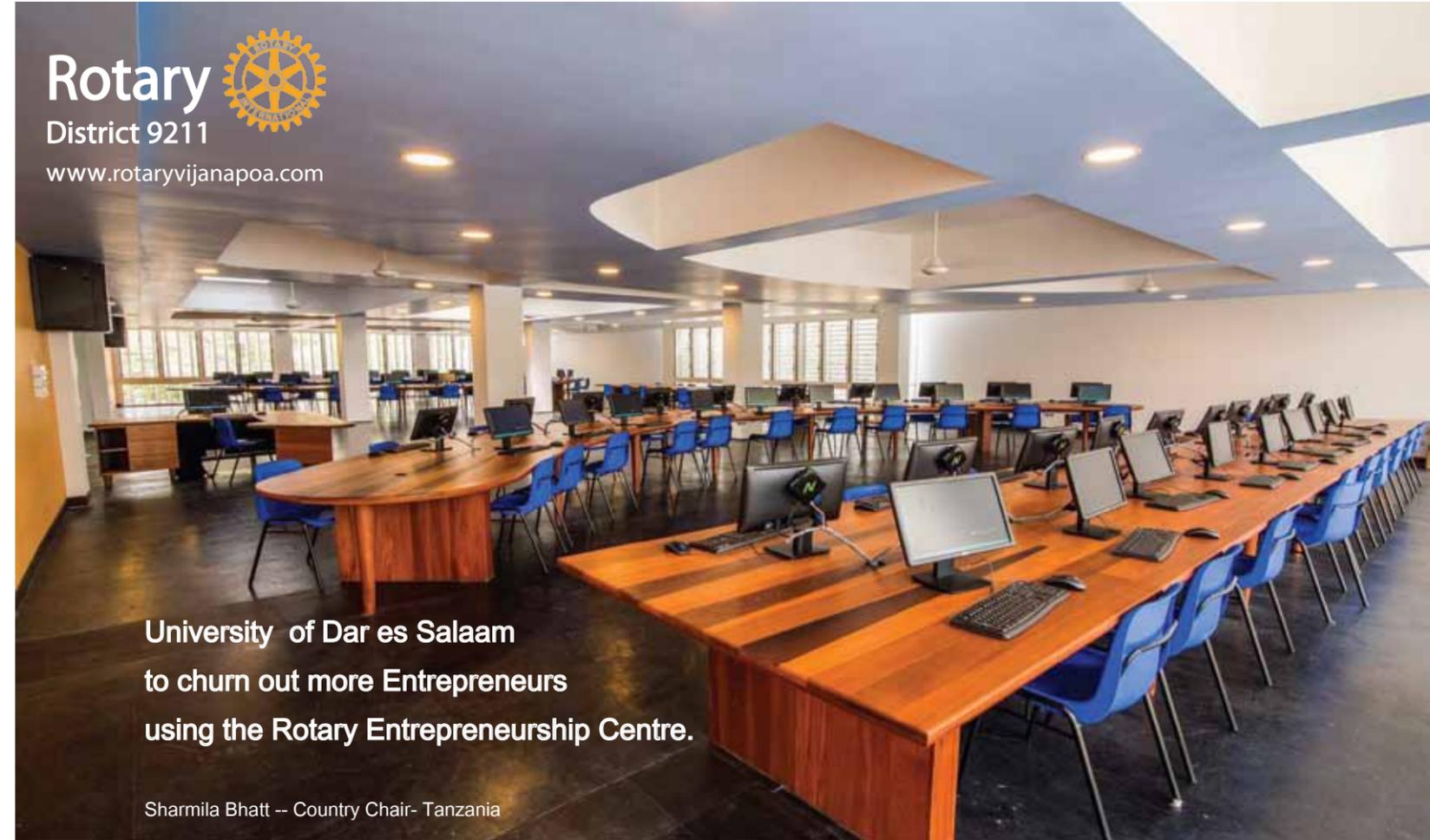
To make acquisition of skills possible and sustainable, RC Muyenga worked with Noelina Namukisa, commonly known as Maama Noelina- a resident of Namuwongo who is concerned about youth unemployment. Noelina is known for her generosity towards youth

startups- a passion she has nurtured over time. “When I was growing up I never wanted to see someone suffering. I was once a youth I know what I passed through and within this community people are so vulnerable. We have a lot of thieves and criminals. I saw that at least getting these youth skilled will help them get something to do to support their lives and their families,” she explains.

RC Muyenga argues that whereas Rotarians are in position to secure funding, there is need to work with people who have the capacity to monitor the youth, provide accountability and ensure that the capital is put to good use if the Rotary Vijana Poa programme is to achieve.



Rotary  
District 9211  
www.rotaryvijanapoa.com



University of Dar es Salaam  
to churn out more Entrepreneurs  
using the Rotary Entrepreneurship Centre.

Sharmila Bhatt -- Country Chair- Tanzania

Two marathons later, nearly 20,000 runners and over USD200, 000 raised the newly refurbished and well equipped state-of-the-art Rotary Entrepreneurship Centre at the University of Dar es Salaam, which has been in operation for the past 4 months. It is geared towards improving the quality of training offered to young people on how to set up and run successful businesses as part of the efforts by the University and the Rotary Clubs to tackle the high levels of youth unemployment in Tanzania.

Each year, since 2009, all the six Rotary Clubs of Dar es

Salaam come together to organize a marathon and raise funds for various charitable causes in the city. These include installing water and sanitation systems in poor neighborhoods and rehabilitating the cancer ward for children at the government run Muhimbili hospital. The last two marathons, 2014 and 2015 had an ambitious target, to support the University of Dar es Salaam’s Entrepreneurship Centre (UDEC).

The 600 sq. mts centre curved out at the library of the University of Dar es Salaam, which is the oldest public university in Tanzania, has

been modernly refurbished and equipped with 80 thin client networked computers. Funds for the computers were provided through an additional grant by the Rotary Foundation.

The Centre whose goals is to promote entrepreneurship among the local youth runs entrepreneurship courses for 1, 500 students from various faculties at the university and the Student Training on Entrepreneurship Program (STEP) which is an entrepreneurship incubator with an active online business training component.



# MAKENKE – MPUMUDDE YOUTH PROFILES

**Charles Sozzi** is 21 years old. He speaks with pride about attending the Rotary Vijana Poa entrepreneurship workshop. He always wanted to start a business selling metallic drums but had no idea how to generate capital.

**Sarah Kisakye** is 28 years old. She started her salon business from the one year savings she generated after working for a friend

immediately she graduated from school. After the Rotary Vijana Poa workshop, she used her savings from the saloon business to diversify her income by selling shoes and sandals.

**Winnie Mary Awori** is an 18 old preparing for her senior four examinations. Her parents passed on in 2009. After attending the Rotary Vijana Poa workshop she managed to convince her

uncle to support her with UGX 30,000/= to start a business in selling airtime. The tin she is holding in her hands is where she keeps the airtime for sale. On a daily basis she sells airtime worth 30,000/= to her teachers at school and other customers.

She makes 1800/= as profits from the sale of 30000/= airtime. Awori committed to saving 800/= every day, an

amount she puts in a group savings club formed by a group of young girls in her community. She is saving to become a fishmonger.

Jacklyn Nabirye is 19 years old and a student in senior four this year. She wants to enroll for a vocational course in hair dressing after senior four. Nabirye was inspired during the Rotary Vijana Poa entrepreneurship workshop to start working

on her dreams.

Her mother is a hair dresser and owns a salon. She has now started taking apprenticeship classes in her mother's salon to perfect her skills in hair dressing. She goes for classes every weekend for 4 hours after which she attends to her books.

