



Disability and youth entrepreneurship development in foundations assisting persons living with disabilities: a case study of Malengo Foundation, Entebbe Municipality, Wakiso District

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Keywords: *disability, youth entrepreneurship, youth, entrepreneurship, development, Entebbe, Wakiso*

Objectives

The study was guided by three objectives namely:

1. to examine the influence of impairment on the creativity of youth entrepreneurs at Malengo Foundation,
2. to assess the influence of activity limitation on the productivity of youth entrepreneurs at Malengo Foundation,
3. to examine the influence of participation restriction on skills and market opportunities of youth entrepreneurs at Malengo Foundation.

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Methodology

The research study used the cross-sectional survey design and adopted the quantitative and qualitative approaches to collect data from 63 respondents, who were selected by reliance on simple random sampling and purposive sampling techniques. Quantitative data were presented in the form of descriptive statistics, while the narrative text format was used to present qualitative data.

Key findings

The study found that youth entrepreneurs with disabilities were able to maintain business relationships with their customers in business enterprises they cannot be discriminated against based on their disability, including tailoring and hairdressing. The study found that youth entrepreneurs with disabilities cultivated confidence to do business when given entrepreneurship training and technical skills. They also generated “bankable” ideas which ensured the achievement of their business objectives.

Further, the study found that youth entrepreneurs with disabilities’ productivity was limited in environments, namely: marketplaces, etc, where anti-disability bias and discrimination were rife.

Last but not least, the study found that youth entrepreneurs with disabilities were generally viewed not only as physically handicapped but also as intellectually inferior; hence restricting their opportunities in skills development opportunities in the marketplace.



Recommendations

The study recommended that the Government of Uganda prioritises investment in entrepreneurship capacity building of youth entrepreneurs with disabilities.

Key references

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