Strengthening entrepreneurial and business capacities of women and youth-led businesses in the pig value in Uganda

Challenge
- Low technical, financial and business skills experienced by women and youth-led businesses in the pig value chains.
- This has resulted in poor business performance, and weak linkages with pig farmers.

Expected outcomes
- Empowered and skilled women and youth-led businesses that are more effective in providing services and enhancing linkages with smallholder men and women pig producers through various forms of market arrangements
- Improved profitability in the youth and women–led businesses through improved business operations

Our approach
- Personal initiative business training for women and youth-led businesses, following the Empretec model
- Empretec model is a behavioral approach, designed to unleash personal entrepreneurial potential for SMEs and improve their business skills, foster motivation and enhance business networks.
- Conducted an Entrepreneurship Training Workshop, specialized training workshops and one on one coaching and mentoring sessions

Results, outcomes, achievements
- Changes in mindsets towards business
- Improved business acumen
- Improved financial literacy
- Increased valuing of one’s time
- Setting of clear business goals and vision

Lessons and significance
- Low literacy levels among pig aggregator groups, therefore, need to hold separate sessions for the aggregators, and veterinary drugs and feed stockists.
- Consideration of time constraints especially for women–led businesses. Need for short, concise and interactive sessions.
- Reflections from participants:
  - Keeping records helps in separating personal expenses from business expenses.
  - “Starting from where I am with what I have however little it is, is fine since money needs to be used and multiplied”.

Partners
- ILRI
- Enterprise Uganda
- Mukono and Masaka District Local Government

Project intervention
Women and youth

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Pig aggregators in a specialized training workshop in Mukono.
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