

**REPORT ON THE MONTHLY WORKSHOP SHARING EXPERIENCES
ON GYIN GAMBIA CHAPTER YOUTH MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME ON ENTERPRISE
MANAGEMENT**

DATE: 30th- 1st DECEMBER, 2018

VENUE: TRANS-GAMBIA LODGE AT PAKALINDING, LOWER RIVER REGION (LRR)

On the 30th November, 2018, all the participants including (supervisors, mentors and mentees) arrived at the venue for the workshop.



ORIENTATION

There was an orientation done by GYIN Gambia together with Manager's Prescription Consultancy Firm to brief the participants on the planned sessions of the second face to face workshop and its objectives.



Proceedings

On the 1st December, 2018, marked the official opening of the workshop and was led by **Miss Jainaba Manjang, GYIN Gambia Chapter's** Head of Programmes, who introduced the high table and followed by participants' introduction. She commended the mentors and supervisors for their commitment and efforts vested in the six months programme. She also gave a brief rundown of the programme guide.

Mr. Fabakary Sanneh, one of the supervisors of Managers Prescription spoke about the mentorship history and its relevance to the **GYIN** Gambia youth mentorship programme from 2017 to date. He told the participants that every player has its crucial role in the program ranging from **GYIN Gambia**, Supervisors, Mentors and Mentees.

The rationale for this initiative, he explained, is to create and involve youths into the business cycle that will create and add value to the society.

GYIN Gambia has done all it takes to continue lobbying and negotiating with partners and donors to intervene in entrepreneurship and support the youth especially those in rural areas. This is collective intervention and it needs holistic approaches to win and empower the generation to come.

The Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) youth representative in LRR, **Mr Mustapha Manneh** thanked GYIN Gambia and its partners for the timely and much worthy course in youth empowerment through youth mentorship.

He gave a brief background of YEP interventions at national and regional level through loan schemes and grant with conditions. Darboe further urged the participants to take up these initiatives and promise the youth about **YEP** opportunities on the table.



Delivering the opening remarks on behalf of the GYIN Gambia's Executive Director on the occasion, **Madam Mariam Saine, GYIN's Financial Controller** underscored the importance of the Youth Mentorship Programme since its inception to date. She reminded the participants that GYIN Gambia mentorship programme is built on recommendations by the first edition of the Rural Youth Award 2017 that there is need for a mentoring programme for rural youths.

According to her, the success of this programme entirely depends on all of the players and therefore they must endeavor to make it happen. She said last year's mentoring was a good one and this year's too, they hope for the best.

She commended all those who played very essential role to make this mentorship programme work and commended the **Donor (YEP)** for timely intervention and declared the second workshop officially opened.

MENTEES PRESENTATIONS:

The most interesting session was created for mentees to present their achievements and challenges which were very effective to see the practical testimonies in different varieties of business. After their presentations, there was an open discussion for comments, suggestions and experience sharing.



Ahmed M. Ceesay-

Business Registration:

- ⦿ I knew about registration and its importance before this program, but I did not know how crucial it is for the progress of my business.
- ⦿ It was the first thing I discussed with my mentor and from there I was able to register my business.

Market:

- ⦿ Market is a great challenge for my business; most of my customers are students, that means my market will reduce whenever there is school holidays.
- ⦿ As a result, I am now working on making most of my IT works online.
- ⦿ In a bid to increase my revenue streams, I did graphic design training at YMCA funded by YEP and also got enrolled at the YEP Freelancing Programme, where I am currently learning online marketing and Facebook Advertising skills thanks to my mentor and GYIN Gambia.

Expansion:

- ⦿ With the freelancing programme, I can be able to work on my own schedule that will give me more time to go **GREEN** by doing agribusiness, thanks to Hassan and George of Ever Green Garden Abuko for the motivation and assist.
- ⦿ SDGs: 1- No Poverty 2- Zero Hunger 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth and 13- Climate Action.

Financial Support:

- ⦿ The GYIN Gambia Youth Mentorship Program has immensely helped me on how to attract investors and access the available loans and grants for Startups and Scale-ups.
- ⦿ E.g: The YEP Mini Grant Scheme, YEP Mini Loan Scheme, the National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (*Nema* Project) Matching Grant and many more.

Other benefits and experiences:

- ⦿ NETWORKING: This Youth Mentorship Programme gave me and my fellow mentees the opportunities to meet some of the young and dedicated entrepreneurs of the Gambia to discuss and share ideas concerning our various business ventures.
- ⦿ We are also learning a lot from the experienced our mentors and the supervision team like how to run a profitable business, records keeping, business sustainability among others.

GROUP WORKS

The experience sharing was followed by group sessions. All the participants were divided into five groups with their mentors to network among themselves. This session took two hours to enable the mentors and their mentees to share and learn from each other thus creating the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning.



CLOSING

The face-to-face workshop was very effective and participatory by all players. Mr. Fabakary Sanneh thanked all the participants, partners and donors for their support and active involvement towards harnessing the potential of the Gambian youth and encourages the participants to continue the hard work and to be business oriented. He officially declared the workshop closed.

