**1,Your Organization:**

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| **Organization Name** | EAGLES YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (EYDI) |
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| **Country** | Uganda |
| **Legal status** | Community Based Organization. |
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1. **The proposed project:**

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| **The title of the project:** | **Improving child nutrition and education through promotion of school gardening in Busukuma Sub County, Wakiso District, Uganda** |
| **Country project implementation (Cities/communities:** | Uganda, Wakiso District, Busukuma sub county |

1. **Problem statement**

Uganda’s maternal and child high mortality rate is linked to micronutrient deficiencies (Black et al.2013), although vegetable and fruit consumption can reduce childhood and maternal micro nutrient deficiencies in Uganda (UBOS and ICF International 2012) its production and consumption is still dream to be achieved due to structural constraints towards sustainable fruits and vegetables production. More so, many children in rural areas of Uganda like Busukuma Sub County and Bussi Island have inadequate and unbalanced diet which results in malnutrition; children’s growth and behaviors are good indicators of their overall health. And these forms of malnourishment is classifies in three forms; under-nutrition; children not getting right mixed foods which contribute to learning problem at school, over-nutrition; children eat too much mixed foods and do not have enough exercise and become over-weights which contributes to adult health problems like obesity or overweight), micronutrient malnutrition here children do not get enough essential vitamins and minerals. Although vitamins and minerals are available in foods which can easily be produced in home or school gardens but people simply do not realize that these foods are essential for health for example vegetables and fruits are rich in many different vitamins and minerals and other substances which protect children health especially dark green leafy vegetables and yellow or orange fruits and vegetables for example pumpkins, papaya, mango, carrot, African eggplants, green amaranths among others. Children can eat different types of vegetables and fruits every day if it’s provided.

Globally its estimated that 27% of all death that occur in East Africa is due to low intake of fresh fruits and vegetables (Ihucha 2011), the people consume less than one serving per day even if fruit and vegetable consumption has a significant impact in reducing the incidences of non communicable diseases (NCD’s). Research shows that Uganda’s per capita fruits and vegetables consumption falls short of daily recommended intake levels is about is about 64 kilograms (kg) against 145 kg as recommended (WHO 2006), even though Uganda can potentially produce more than 225 kg or 155 percent (Ganry et al. 2009). The demand and supply side explain the gap between vegetables and fruits intake and potential availability (Ruel, Minot and Smith 2005) therefore this demand can addressed by increased school based on awareness of the importance and nutritional benefits of fruits and vegetables consumption for children, and supply of fruit and vegetables requires understanding of farming system in Uganda and how production is linked to consumption.

There are structural constraints towards sustainable fruits and vegetables production even when there are opportunities for investment in integrated fruit production, processing and marketing system for local and export markets this is linked to having organized of school based fruits and vegetables production are early age is key. The promotion and intensification of school based fruit and vegetable production systems is one of the possible strategies to increase fruit and vegetables availability and improved child nutrition, thus leading improved academic performance, health and employment opportunity generation (Galhena, Freed and Maredia 2013).

1. **Project Description**

Eagles Youth Development Initiative (EYDI) is leading partnership of improving child nutrition and education through promotion of school gardening. School administration, School management committees, parents, teachers and young mothers this will be I collaborating with selected schools to designing demonstration fruits and vegetable gardens.

And this School garden project is a powerful tool to improve the quality of nutrition and motivation to education of children and their families in the communities. It’s an avenue for nutritional education and this calls for integration of school based fruits and vegetables production programs. The School garden will be strategy to promote healthy food choices; engaging children in gardening to increase fruits and vegetable consumption and conduct vegetable and fruit taste test. This will be done through incorporating it into school menu, conduct a harvest month program, educational activities on fruits and vegetables grown among others. The main aim of school garden project is to enable children learn how to grow healthy food and how to use it for better nutrition through fresh garden produce which contributes to enriched school meal diet.

Also this project will serve as an opportunity for environment education for children, teachers, parents and community through establishing and designing demonstration garden which can be managed by pupils, teachers and parents with variety of different nutritious fruits and vegetables among others. The project will provide foundational seeds and seedlings. The production methods will be appropriate to be replicated by children, teachers and parents at their homes. This is also long-term strategy for improvement of agriculture sector and income earning of families to provide School Mid-day meal. These meals which are the perfect opportunity for children to test new and existing fruits and vegetable that they may not get home and taste testing intervention will allow the them to take a bite without the commitment of getting whole served and this repeated exposure will enable them to decide whether they like it or not.

**Project implementation Model**:

EYDI with support from community leaders will map out schools in Busukuma Sub County in its integrated school approach to establish a school based demonstration garden aimed at enabling children learn how to grow healthy food and how to use it for better nutrition through fresh garden produce which contributes to enriched school meal diet and an opportunity for environment education for children and community at large. Therefore one school will be selected where this project will be implemented for the period of 6 months.

**Project Goal:** “Sustainable Vegetables and fruit production and consumption for improved academic outcomes’’.

**Project Objectives**

1. By end of the 6 Months, to have empowered 584 children and their parents in schools with appropriate technologies in fruit and vegetable production and farming as an entrepreneurship venture and sustainability of our communities.

**On farm training:** Children will be equipped to make healthy choices and understand positive outcomes of health eating and making healthy eating choices within and outside school environment because nutrition education can be incorporated in classroom, use of IEC materials and gardening. This will be focused on increasing fruits and vegetable consumption because if Children participate in fruits and vegetable growing, they are more likely to eat on daily basis. School garden will be an opportunity to equip children with appropriate technologies of planting, weeding, watering and taste testing through a well-designed demonstration school garden under school and children responsibility.

1. By end of the 6 months, to have establishing fruits and vegetables garden and its management integrated in school program to enhance food security and nutrition.

Empowered school leaders, teachers and parents about the benefits of the school fruits and vegetable production and consumption (Mid-day meals), provide information on nutrition standards, health benefits of nutritious food and its impact on educational outcomes.

**Targets group:** 254 primary school children, 15 teachers and 5 facilitators.

**Project Geographical area:** Busukuma Sub County, Wakiso District.

**Project Period:** 6 Months

1. **Organization Description**

Eagles Youth Development Initiative (EYDI) is a non-profit making organization that was founded by young people in 2002 and it is registered community based organization. (Reg.No. WCBO/058/08) committed to empowerment of young people base in Wakiso, Uganda, that work to prevent of Violence against children and women(VAC/W), teenage pregnancy, STIs treatment and prevention, HIV/AIDS Prevention and care, Skills development through ICT training and Economic empowerment and strengthening among others.

**Vision:** Empowered and healthy Generation.

**Mission:** Contributing to the process of HIV prevention, restoring hope and empower young people resulting into zero new infection through scaling up access to quality Sexual Reproductive health services for social and economic well-being.

**Management Systems**

Monitoring and evaluation strategy will be developed to capture qualitative and quantitative data for vegetable and fruits production, consumption and people perception on the school garden project. Monitoring will be on going activity as part of implementation through the structure of schools and others in the community.

A final project evaluation will be conducted to assess the project impact, its potential sustainability and develop an orderly termination or renewal of the project mandate.

1. **EYDI Project Work plan for 6 Months**: **May- November.2018**

| **Year: 2018** | **Months** | | | | | | **Responsible Person** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| **Activities:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inception meeting at key stakeholders to strategize on the project implementation. | X |  |  |  |  |  | Head teacher |
| Identification and selection of schools | x |  |  | X |  |  | Education Officer |
| Selection of School Demonstration site and land preparation | x |  |  |  | X | X | Agricultural Officer |
| Procurement of project seeds, supplies and tools | x |  |  |  | X |  | Project Coordinator |
| Planting, weeding and spraying of school demonstration garden | x | x | x | x | X | X | Agricultural Officer |
| On farm training of children on fruits and vegetable production (planting period). |  |  |  |  | X | X | Agricultural Officer |
| Carry out monitoring and supervision visits to project activities. | X | X | X | X | X | X | Project Coordinator |
| Quarterly review meetings | X | X | X | X | X | X | Project coordinator |
| End of project review& evaluation |  |  |  |  |  |  | Project Coordinator |

1. **Budget Explanation:**

EYDI and community member will contribute 25 % and 75 % from Accelerator Grant Competition under World Connect toward the project activities. These funds will be used to conduct an orientation meeting, Procurement of 2 kilograms of Solanum aethiopicum (Nakati) seeds and 300 seedlings of papaws/Papaya, tools(1 wheel barrow,3 rakes, 1 spraying pump, 3 buckets, 3 watering cans) and supplies(2 tons of Manure, labour cost for establishments of demonstration school gardens.