

Pure Skills is a non-profit organization that was established in 2015 to provide a fully accessible and inclusive training centre. It was established to tackle the high levels of poverty, low employment rates and limited training facilities available for the adult population of Livingstone. It aims to address this by linking with literacy training, a pure skill and entrepreneurial opportunities to economically uplift individuals.

Pure Skill focuses on empowering differently abled men and women with essential skills for life, skills that they can utilize to set-up their own businesses and educate others on the ethos of eco-friendly entrepreneurship. Pure Skills promotes the art of up cycling and zero waste marketplaces. It takes a twist on the old or infuse some new technology to create unique, functional and sustainable products.

Pure Skills works hand in hand with the Zambian government organisations, local agencies as well as the local people. They identify students to empower with sustainable skills and try to bridge the gap between the needs and current skills offerings available.

WHAT THEY DO

- Pure Skills focuses on using materials of waste and recycled materials to create useable items such as drinking glasses, bamboo straws, light fixtures and so on which will be retailed. The profits are used to sponsor new students.
- Training in Welding; this is an intense 12-week course that provides the skills in basic fabrication as well as complex welding procedures. The training is conducted by a fully qualified artisan welder/fabricator with vast experience in the field. The students are provided with safety gear including face shields, safety glasses, gloves and aprons. The work stations are also well equipped and are accessible to wheelchair users too.



- Soap making: Pure Skills also make pure soap from scratch. The soap is handmade from natural products such as goat milk, soybeans, pure essential oils which are grown and produced locally in Zambia. It is organic, moisturizing and lightly scented without any artificial chemicals. The students have benefited greatly from this skill as they have been able to make their own soaps and generate income for themselves.

Pure Skills also has a women's club. This club consists of women that learn money management and entrepreneurship skills. The women to date have learned how to crochet plastic bags into beautiful bags and decorations, knitting, rug making, macramé, jewellery, basketry and currently perfecting paper mache.



PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

20 graduated students in welding
 10 graduated in soap making
 13 women weaving baskets
 5345 bottles upcycled into beautiful ornaments
 Set up "Abanya" an online store that showcases and retails products from across Livingstone.



SUPPORT NEEDED

- Purchase products from Pure Skills online store at abanya.com. Your support will provide the artisans with a sustainable source of income and contribute to the ongoing expansion of the Abanya community.
- Expertise and funding in Ecommerce for marketing campaigns that will boost sales of their products.



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