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Local Income Solution



PAPER
BAGS



Dixon Aine

SOLUTION ENTREPRENEUR

MALE • 37 YEARS • MPERERWE, UGANDA

Dixon has a strong belief in persistence. He attributes it to starting his organization, Sustainable Youth Development Foundation (SYDF), an organization that empowers youth with hands-on skills such as making paper bags, reusable sanitary pads, and tailoring.

Dixon was raised by his aunt as both of his parents passed away. His dream was to become a doctor but instead he pursued studies in business administration. In one of his first jobs he learned how to make a range of easy-to-start income skills including paper bags and reusable sanitary pads. Soon after, he started SYDF with the aim to train many youth in these skills.

Dixon has trained over 500 youth in paper bags, reusable pads and other skills over the past seven years.

HIS FAVOURITE QUOTE

“*Life is what you make it.*”



INCOME FACTS

- Startup cost: UGX 70,000 (16.03 Euros)
- Selling price: 1 paper bag (A4 size) for 100 UGX (0.027 Euros)
- Income potential (monthly): 300,000 UGX (68.68 Euros)



SALE TIPS

- Make paper bag sizes that are marketable
- Don't sell the paper bag, sell the value of it
- Know your customers and their needs



POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

- Requires making in large quantities to be profitable
- Need to be careful when cutting to avoid paper wastage
- May require some efforts to find customers

5-YEAR VISION

A large scale production of the paper bags.



LEARNING VIDEO

Click the video and learn how to do this income solution.



13 Steps TO MAKE PAPER BAGS

MATERIALS

These materials can make up to 125 paper bags of A2 size and 375 paper bags of A4 size

Book binding glue (or cassava flour porridge).....	1 jar
Scissors	1 pair
Clean brush.....	1
Empty glass bottle	1
Paper (or recycled paper/purchased craft papers).....	½ ream
Punching machine	1
String	1 roll
Ruler	1



Take an A4 size-paper (height 29.7cm and width 21cm) and fold the paper $\frac{3}{4}$ way, leaving a small strip. Put glue on the remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ small strip using a brush and stick it to the top part of the folded paper. Press the folds to make two folded lines



Line up the two folded lines against one another and press the paper in gently to create two more folds.



After pressing gently, you're able to make four sides.



Put your index fingers at the center of the middle part of the "box" shape and press while using the thumb to press the two other flat sides together.



Prepare the bottom of the paper bag with one of the open ends pointing towards you. Fold the bag 4cm up from the bottom.



Press the folds firmly using a glass bottle to create sharp lines.



Open the folded part back. Fold the left hand side to make a right angle triangle and do the same for the right side. Open the folded triangles to get back to the starting point of this step.



Use the outermost edges of the triangle as a guide and fold each of the edges inwards to make a square-shaped bottom with triangles.



Taking the outer point, pull the bag outward to create a flat bottom with triangles on the left and right sides.



Glue the sides of the inner triangle but not at the tip and attach it to the flat bottom. Also, glue the sides of the outer triangle up to the tip and press gently on the flat bottom to complete the paper bag.



Fold the top open end of the paper bag inwards and glue it in position.



Add holes for the strings using a punching machine



Add the strings on both opposite sides. Your paper bag is now complete.

TIPS

1. If you don't have glue, you can use cassava flour porridge.
2. The pair of scissors can be used to cut the paper to the different sizes.
3. Experiment making different kinds of paper bags sizes.