



2024
ANNUAL REPORT



INTRODUCTION

Resilience Action International (RAI) is a dynamic refugee-led non-governmental organization headquartered in Kakuma Refugee Camp, Turkana, Kenya.

Founded in 2010, Resilience Action International began as a refugee self-help group in the camp. Over the years, our dedication to empowering communities has driven our transformation from a community-based organization in 2014 to an NGO in 2016.

Today, RAI stands as a leading refugee-led organization in Kakuma, working in three areas: Entrepreneurship, Vocational Skills Training, and Wellbeing Programs.

Our support for refugee youth is in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030.

RAI's work primarily contributes Quality Education, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Reduced Inequalities.



MISSION AND VISION

- **Mission:** *To equip displaced youth with skills and tools to achieve greater economic potential.*
- **Vision:** *To create a society in which every displaced person is enabled to thrive economically and socially.*

PROGRAMS

ENTREPRENEURSHIP	• Purpose is to promotes self-reliance among youths • Offers financial literacy training and business management • Connects participants with financial inclusion partners for access to capital. • Offers personalized business coaching. • Supports creation and growth of small enterprises. • Helps youths generate sustainable income, targeting earnings above the \$3/day poverty line in Kenya.
VOCATIONAL TRAINING	• Offers hands-on, market-relevant training in craft skills: tailoring, hairdressing, motorcycle repair & maintenance. • Provides soft skills training in digital skills and Cambridge English Language classes. • Focus areas: workforce preparation, employability, and smooth transition into employment or higher education after coursework.
WELLNESS	• RAI's Wellbeing programs focus on two key areas: ◦ Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) ◦ Violence Prevention and Mitigation • Delivers rights-based SRH education, adolescent, youth & community engagement, public awareness, and advocacy • Connects beneficiaries to care through a referral network of professionals for Psychosocial Support, Protection, or Health Services

IMPACT SUMMARY



Entrepreneurship

65 students started new businesses
61 gained employment
94 improved their businesses/living standards
76 continued earning via community attachment
446 youths completed entrepreneurship classes



Vocational Training

102 English Language students advanced to college
18 Open Society University Network students proceeded to higher levels of education while 16 of them got jobs
91 digital skills alumni secured jobs
74 youths trained in hairdressing
173 youths trained as tailors



Wellness

60 influential refugee leaders and men engaged and trained as health champions,
4 women-led health initiatives were capacity built and strengthened
4 SRH school clubs established and supported in Kalobeyei and Refugee camp
1100 adolescents completed sexual & reproductive health school workshops
250 youths reached by awareness and skills workshop



Total Reach

4, 313 youths, adolescents, and community elders in 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS

Key Insights

Employability and Skills Development

Against a target of 1,350, we trained 950 youth in Global English Language and OSUN professional courses, boosting academic and job readiness.

Stakeholder Communication

Our outreach through newsletters, donor updates, and partner engagement was boosted by 30% and on social platforms by 43%

Business Skills and Livelihoods

Out of a 180 target, 145 trades received coaching, and 5 women-led businesses secured capital and in-kind support to launch sustainably.

Team Building and Cohesion:

RAI'S first ever 3-day team-building retreat was held in Lokichogio, strengthening staff collaboration, morale, and team cohesion.

Reproductive Health Education:

We surpassed our target of 800, reaching 1,545 adolescents and youth through workshops and campaigns in Kakuma and Kalobeyei.

Organizational Capacity & Partnerships

We joined the Issroff Family Foundation CLI program and strengthened our leadership. RAI welcomed a new partner, WUSC-EUMC, launching our first ever digital skills training targeting women from Turkana community

OVERVIEW

REFUGEE ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM (REP)

The program offers Entrepreneurship Skills Training, Craft Skills, and Small Business Support. Its goal is to empower refugee entrepreneurs with the skills, tools, and market access to succeed.

Program Reach

The program trained a total of 693 youths in 2024

Entrepreneurship training certified a total of 446 youths, 286 being male and 160 women

The hairdressing program, introduced this year, has skilled 74 youths, 8 men, and 66 women

Tailoring skilled a total of 173 youths, 57 being men and 116 women

Start-up Support empowered 145 trades with business coaching and funded 5 women-led start-ups

REP inclusion empowered 8 Young Persons with Disability (YPWD) and reached 342 young women across all programs

Program Impact

Out of the 693 youths. The program managed to transition

65 students ventured into new businesses,

61 students employed by local establishments.

94 students reported improved income generation and living standards,

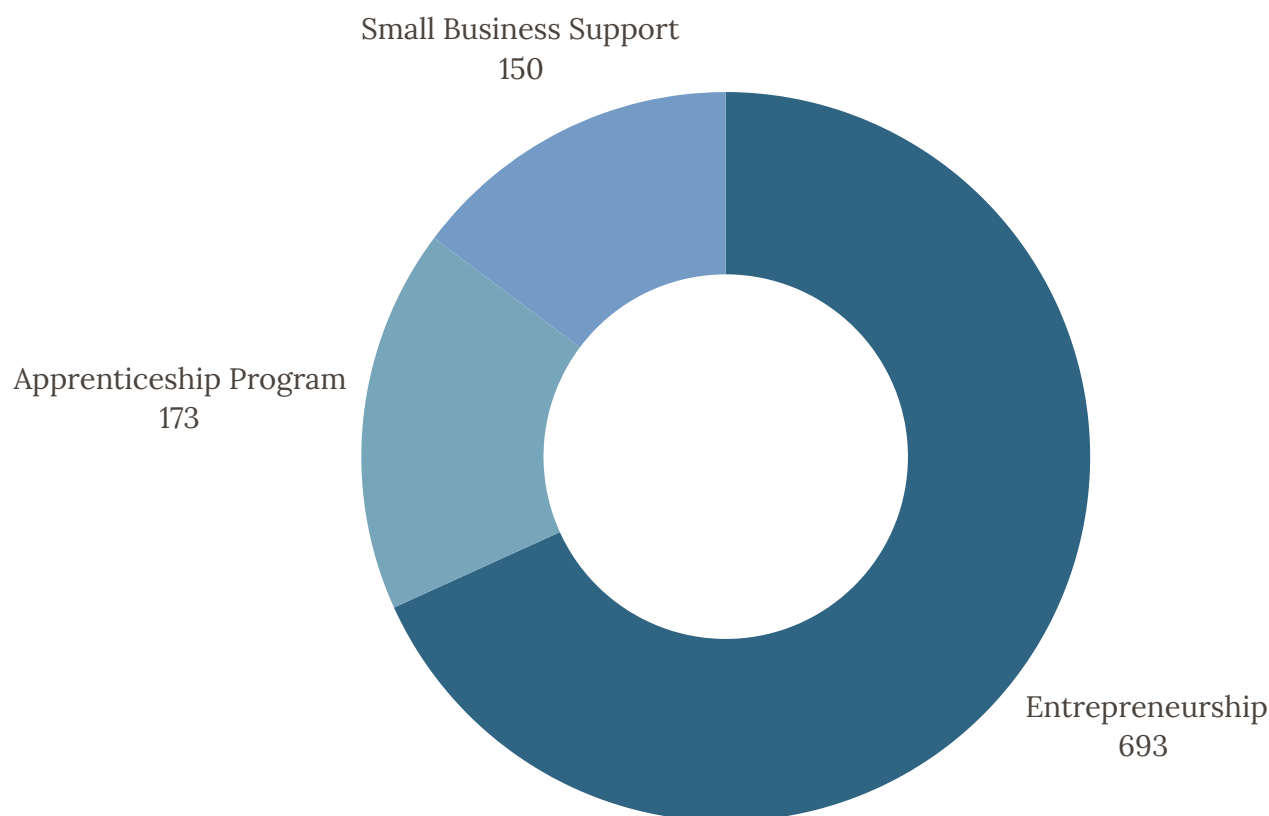
76 students were taken in as apprentices by local businesses where they did their attachment after graduation for more experience, but also earning some income.



Tailoring classes at RAI Kakuma 2 center. Women make up majority of trainees.

REP STATISTICS

The Refugee Entrepreneurs Program (REP) yielded remarkable outcomes:



150

No. of refugee businesses mentored and equipped with resources.

65

No. of entrepreneurship graduates who started a new trade.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING (VET)

The vocational education department offers digital skills training, job placement opportunities for digital entrepreneurs, Global English Language Coursework, and professional coursework through partner universities. These programs aim to enhance the professional, academic, and digital development of Kakuma participants, fostering self-reliance and employability.

Program Reach

The program trained a total of 2075 youths and adolescents.

Basic and Advanced ICT Courses: trained a total of 465 youths, 360 being male and 105 female. Advanced ICT Curriculum offers training in web design (HTML, CSS), JavaScript programming, networking concepts, and troubleshooting techniques. Basic covers foundational knowledge on operating computers, office packages, paving way for advanced studies.

Learning through Education and Access to Employment Pathways (LEAP), a new project, aims to address these barriers through holistic training, empowerment, and mentorship to support young women in their efforts to successfully transition from learning to earning. A total of 120 young Turkana women have been recruited and trained in Kakuma town.

The project is expected to conclude in February 2025 and be evaluated in the same year.

Global English Language enhances the academic development of youths into higher education, offering Cambridge-certified English coursework up to the C1 level. 924 total students were trained, 665 being male and 259 being female

Open Society University Network (OSUN) online professional courses equip learners with career readiness tools and student project support funding for academic progress. A total of 26 youths were trained, 24 being male and 02 being female

Solar kit maintenance and operation: a project aiming to promote the use of renewable energy in schools, targeting science teachers from Kalobeyei. A total of 50 teachers were trained, 47 being male and 13 being female

Digital Safety and Data Security Exhibits; equipping high school students with AI knowledge and raising awareness on privacy and safety online, the program reached 500 adolescents, 338 being male and 162 being female.

A total of 2 youths with disabilities were reached through the program.

Program Impact

The digital skills training program led to meaningful employment outcomes, with 91 alumni successfully securing jobs after completing the course.

In the Global English Language (GEL) program, 102 students transitioned to colleges and campuses, marking a significant step forward in their academic journeys and highlighting the program's impact on English for educational advancement.

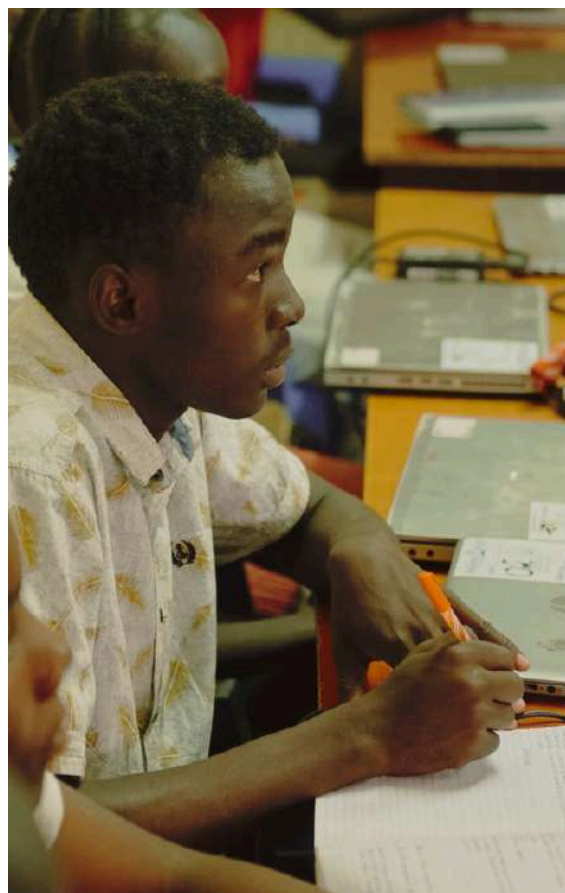
The solar kit training also had notable outcomes. High school teachers were empowered with the technical skills to operate and maintain solar kits in their schools, ensuring sustainability and continued use of the technology

.Additionally, the training sparked interest among several individuals in pursuing solar installation as a career path.

Although no green jobs were created during the reporting period, the program laid a foundation for future engagement in the renewable energy sector.

Through the Open Society University Network (OSUN) program, 18 participants advanced to higher education institutions, while another 6 secured employment. This demonstrates the program's success in supporting both academic

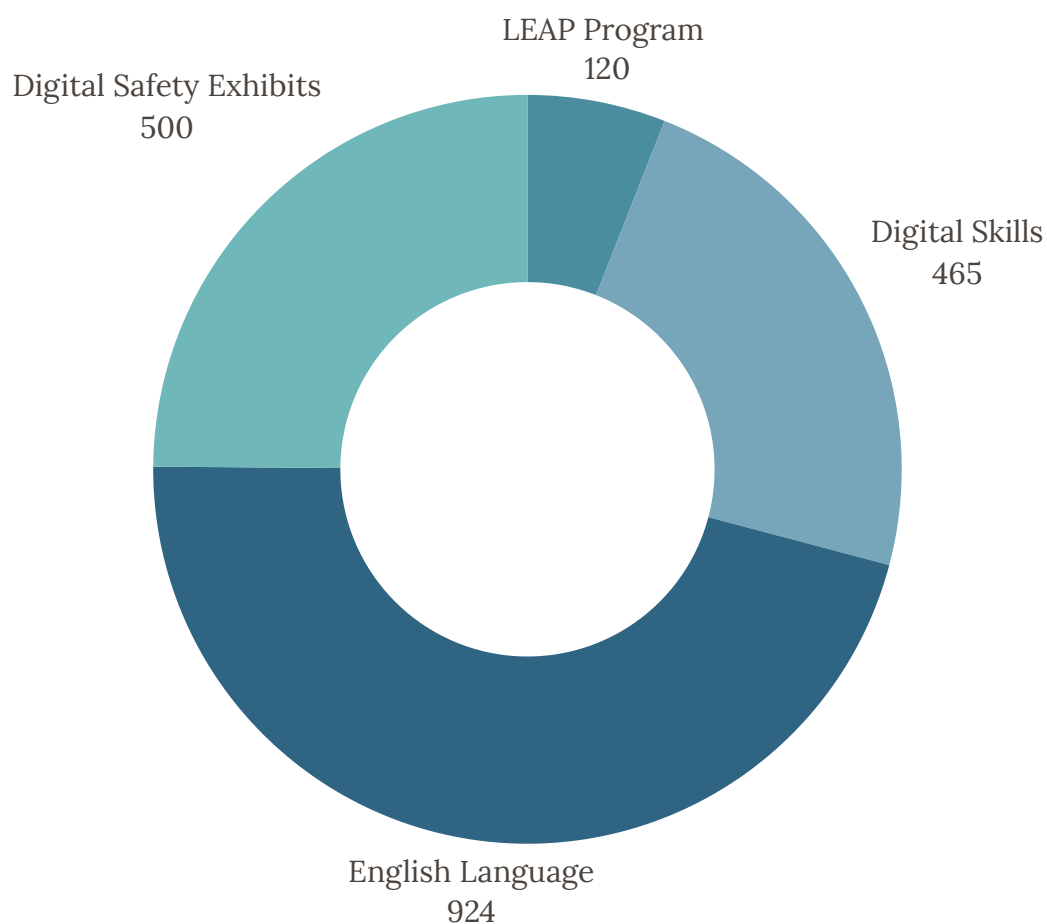
progression and workforce entry among displaced youth.



A student diligently listening at Kakuma 2 training center.

VET STATISTICS

The Vocational Education Training (VET) with the highest participants :



97

No. of youths employed

102

No. of English Language students transitioned into higher education.

YOUTH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM (YRH)

The reproductive health education and rights under the wellbeing program heavily invests in adolescents' and women's empowerment, involving young men and the public as allies and participants in the push for change.

The program has diverse activities: counseling and referrals, community awareness campaigns and advocacy, school-based sex-ed, and youth training workshops.

Program Reach

YRH program reached a total of 1,545 women, men and adolescents.

Community advocacy campaigns reached a total of 60 people, 25 men and 35 women

The school's adolescent sexual and reproductive health education workshop reached a total of 1100 teens

Youth workshops reached a total of 250 youths, 129 being women and 121 men

Counseling and referral for psychosocial support reached

30 adolescents and youths, and 30 women.

A total number of 25 community health champions were trained that is 13 Community health volunteers, and 12 Safe Motherhood promoters.

International Women's Day, World Refugee Day, and 16 Days of Activism relevant international days were commemorated and celebrated through a public ceremony alongside other health partners and collaborators in Kakuma and Kalobeyei.

A total of 50 youth with disabilities were reached across our 2024 cohorts

Program Impact

Following the signing of our Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with Bliss Medical Center, there has been a notable increase in family planning uptake, especially among young women.

This collaboration has expanded access to essential reproductive health services within the community.

Our MOU with community leaders in Kalobeyei and Kakuma has strengthened engagement. Involved By participating in and supporting our public events and awareness activities, leaders played a key role in normalizing open dialogues on SRHR

Through a six-month partnership with Girl Power Action Initiative, the organization mobilized resources and secured funding from UNHCR. They are now implementing independent programs focused on girls' empowerment and reproductive health.

Thanks to an MOU with CHVs from Kenya Red Cross in Kalobeyei, CHVs now facilitate monthly health and hygiene talks in youth clubs, promoting informed decision-making and better menstrual hygiene management

Auntie Jane Hotline Trainers of Trainers (TOTs) are now active in villages and zones across Kakuma and Kalobeyei. They have become trusted advocates, significantly increasing access to information and telemedicine, especially around post-abortion care.

Following our media advocacy in 2023, Sifa FM (101.1) introduced the show Sauti ya Msichana, and REF FM (88.4) launched Jasho Langu and Binti Mara

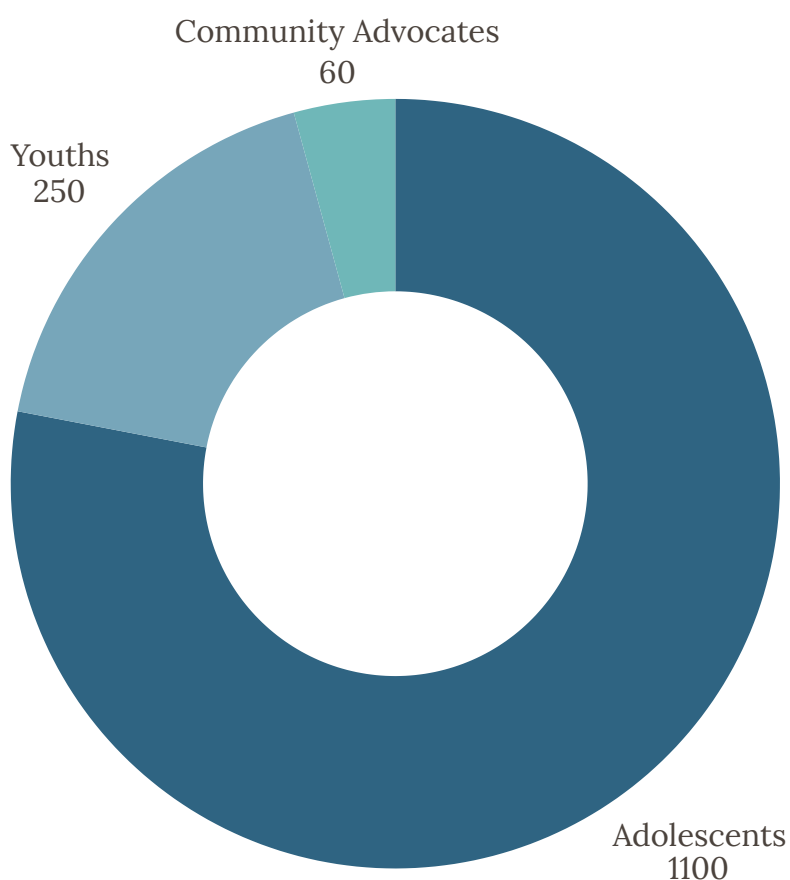
These programs, airing in specific days of the week, focus on reproductive health, menstruation, consent, and general well-being, continuing the conversations on reproductive health, family planning, and safe motherhood on the airwaves.



Adolescent girls actively listening in their sexual and reproductive health school club after evening classes in Kalobeyei settlement scheme

YRH STATISTICS

The Youth Reproductive Health Program (YRH) performed as indicated:



1100

No. of adolescent boys and girls received reproductive health education in junior and senior schools.

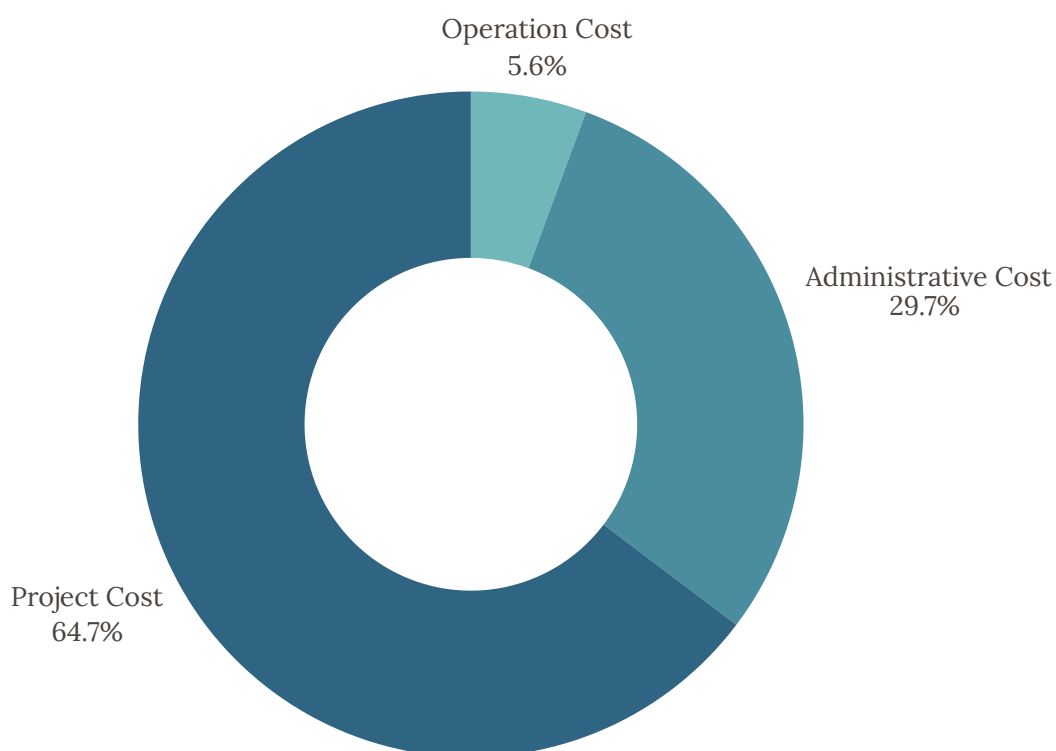
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No. of MOUs signed and fulfilled by local leaders and health actors

FINANCIAL BRIEF

EXPENDITURE IN 2024

Resilience Action International total revenue for 2024 was USD \$ 359,715



64.7%

Of Total Revenue went to
Project Implementation

STORIES OF CHANGE

ROGER YAKOBO: THE BUSINESS OF BEAUTY AND HAIRCARE

Starting Over in Kakuma

Roger Yakobo, a young refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, arrived in Kakuma after fleeing conflict and leaving his education behind. Like many others uprooted by war, he found himself in an unfamiliar place, uncertain about his future and burdened by the challenges of starting over in a refugee camp.

Despite the difficult environment, Roger was determined not to give up. He began by enrolling in an English course to improve his chances of finding work and adapting to his new community.

It was a small but important step toward reclaiming control over his life.

A Spark of Inspiration

What truly sparked Roger's transformation was a series of social media posts by a friend—a skilled hairdresser—who regularly showcased intricate braids and beautifully styled plaits. The artistry and confidence displayed through those hairstyles captivated Roger. He began to imagine a future for himself in the beauty industry, not just as a stylist, but as someone who could one day own his own salon.



Roger, left, with his friend in the salon he interns in in Kakuma 3.

Learning the Craft

Earlier this year, Roger joined a hairdressing training program offered in Kakuma 2 RAI training center. Under the mentorship of Madam Elizabeth, an experienced stylist, he started to learn the foundational techniques of braiding, plaiting, and client care. The learning environment came with its challenges—limited supplies and crowded practice sessions—but Roger remained focused. He found ways to adapt and took every opportunity to refine his skills.

Turning Skill Into Opportunity

Today, Roger interns at a local salon near his home in Kakuma 3. He is already known for his ability to braid styles that are intricate and hard to match. This recognition has boosted his confidence and allowed him to begin earning an income. The money he makes helps him support himself and contribute to his household, a source of pride and independence that seemed out of reach just a year ago.

Dreaming Forward

Roger's long-term dream is to open his own salon—a space not only to showcase his creativity but to create job opportunities for others.

He continues to learn both the creative and business sides of hairdressing, slowly building toward that vision. For young people like him who've had to rebuild their lives from scratch vocational skills are more than just training—they're tools for dignity, survival, and hope.

"I'd tell any young person, especially those without opportunities, to take this path," Roger says. "It gives you something to hold on to. A skill you can use anywhere."



I WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WORLD” TANI HASSAN

Passion Sparked by Imagination

Tani Hassan, a 22-year-old from Sudan, discovered her love for Geography and History during high school. These subjects allowed her to imagine people, places, and events far beyond her immediate environment. Her curiosity for the world was born in these classrooms.

In 2021, Tani joined Resilience Action International (RAI) and enrolled in English classes through the Open Society University Network (OSUN).

Recognizing that nearly all academic subjects are taught in English, she took this step to improve her language skills and prepare herself for further studies

Discovering the World Through Global History

After completing her English course, Tani enrolled in Global History within the same year. The class was a turning point for her.

“I loved my classes. I got to interact with people from different countries and learn about events and important landmarks... Global History improved my knowledge about the world.”



Tani shared that learning alongside peers from different countries and backgrounds helped her grow not only academically, but personally.

One of the most impactful aspects of the OSUN program for her was the study buddy arrangement, where students are virtually paired with peers from other parts of the world. This structure encouraged interaction during lectures, discussions, and collaborative assignments.

Through these connections, Tani developed not only a broader worldview but also greater empathy and appreciation for diversity.

“Through live interaction with students from different countries... I am able to appreciate things and people more than before.

Continuing the Journey: Academic Writing and Citizen Science

In 2022, she enrolled in two more OSUN courses: Academic Writing and Citizen Science. These classes further expanded her knowledge and strengthened her academic confidence. Her goal is to pursue a full degree through the OSUN program and explore job opportunities that align with her interests.

A Supportive Learning Environment

Tani's experience is also shaped by the sense of community at RAI. She studies alongside a longtime friend, which makes the learning environment more enjoyable and supportive.

“I look forward to coming to the RAI center because I enjoy the company and don't feel alone.”



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