Uganda's Youth Opportunities Program (NUSAF) — Unsupervised Group Cash Grants for Skilled Trades, With a Nine-Year Fade-Out

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Uganda

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Northern Uganda's YOP gave 265 lottery-selected youth groups about USD 374 per member, without supervision, to fund vocational training and tools. Four years on, incomes were 41% higher, but by year nine the control group had caught up: a kick-start, not a lift out of poverty.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-17

Government of Uganda, Office of the Prime Minister (Northern Uganda Social Action Fund), with the World Bank — accessed 2026-11-17

J-PAL evaluation summary — accessed 2026-11-17

Blattman, Fiala & Martinez (2014), Quarterly Journal of Economics 129(2) — accessed 2026-11-17

IPA brief: Are Cash Grants (Just) a Jump-Start? — accessed 2026-11-17

Cite this — Evidoria. *Uganda's Youth Opportunities Program (NUSAF) — Unsupervised Group Cash Grants for Skilled Trades, With a Nine-Year Fade-Out*. Persistent ID: d3494a2d-60be-45a0-94b1-6f2d55a48ae9.