



EMPOWERMENT

REDUCED INEQUALITIES: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10

Five Talents works in regions where poor or lack of state infrastructure and services exist. This includes access to basic facilities and services such as education, healthcare and banks. Being financially excluded means that individuals in attempts to provide for their family's needs, default to borrowing from loan sharks at extortionate loan rates and conditions, leaving them vulnerable to becoming deeper entrenched in poverty and debt.

Ojo is 22 and lives in a small village in Tanzania. Only 13% of young adults in Tanzania have a bank account compared with 44% of adults over 25. Like many of his peers, Ojo didn't have access to financial services. With aspirations to start his own business so he could support himself, unfortunately, Ojo didn't have the resources and skills he needed to make this a reality.

Through his local church, Ojo heard about Five Talents and was captivated and inspired by accounts of other young people who had started their own business. So Ojo joined a Five Talents Savings Group too. After six months of saving and training, he took his first loan and was able to start a small business selling sunflower oil. He used his profits to invest further into his business and to pay his school fees. Ojo's market research led him to identify popcorn as a potential profitable business. So with his latest loan, Ojo rented a popcorn machine and also bought seeds to grow vegetables in his garden. His business has flourished and he now has big plans to buy his own popcorn machine with his next loan and expand into rice cultivation.

Five Talents equipped Ojo with the skills, tools and knowledge needed to secure a sustainable income, which helped him to complete his studies and build a successful business. His Savings Group further gave him a safe place to save and borrow money - services, which he would otherwise not have had access to due to his age and where he lived.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS OUR PROGRAMMES

80%

of those we reach are women

65%

of elected group leaders
are women

72%

of female members no longer
suffer food shortages

Figures are accurate from April 2020.