In Uganda, as many as 62% of youth are unemployed. Caroline is not one of them. As an Educate! Graduate, she knows she has smashed the statistic, and it is precisely that knowledge that feeds her big ambitions. At just 22 years old, Caroline is a facilitator for the International Labor Organization, a University student (working toward an Entrepreneurship degree), an Educate! Mentor for over 120 youth, and the founder of a community project called Babies of Hope. Remember, she is only 22 years old.

Caroline has an inextinguishable desire to create exponential impact within her community. As an Educate! Scholar, Caroline was able to combine this passion with the hard and soft skills needed to launch both a business and a community initiative. As a result, Caroline has a keen eye for identifying chronic social issues, developing sustainable and culturally relevant solutions, and implementing those solutions in a way that affects meaningful change. Troubled by the high number of pregnant teenage girls who drop out of school every year, Caroline started an initiative called Babies of Hope, which aims to empower and develop the skills of entrepreneurial young mothers, while preventing malnutrition among infants.

According to a Uganda Demographic Health Survey, 24% of female teenagers are either pregnant or have given birth already, leading to a loss of educational opportunities, a decreased ability to acquire employable skills, and poverty. Caroline understands this reality on a personal level because her mother gave birth to her at a very young age and faced serious hardships as a result. Caroline's initiative, Babies of Hope, chips away at the adversity young mothers face by teaching them business skills like manufacturing products, market research and branding, as well as affordable ways to ensure a healthy diet for their newborn. She aims to get these women back into the workforce to pursue their dreams, earn a living, and step out of the cycle of poverty, all while raising happy, healthy children. There are currently twenty Babies of Hope members, all between the ages of 16 and 25. To Caroline, becoming a young mother “shouldn’t be the end of life.” Caroline says, “I want to create hope. I want to build up children to have hope within them, to have a future ahead of them.”
In 2015 Educate!, once again, exceeded our own goals. Our huge progress has been driven by incredible demand for our model, reinforcing that there is a tremendous and growing need across Sub-Saharan Africa for high-quality, skills-based secondary education that can meet the challenges posed by ballooning youth unemployment. In 2015 we scaled to work in 250 schools and reached almost 90,000 youth, 10,000 intensively. We continued to quality test our model at scale through rigorous monitoring and evaluation, confirming that we can drive costs down and allowing us to make adjustments, where necessary, to ensure that beneficiaries continue to receive the most impactful, cost-effective intervention possible.

In 2015 Educate! completed workshops advising Uganda’s National Curriculum Development Center on curriculum reform for the Technology and Enterprise subject. This new curriculum should enable lower secondary students to acquire critical soft skills by the time they are eligible for upper secondary school.

In June of 2015, Educate! signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Rwanda’s Education Board and was invited as a technical advisor for its secondary competence-based curriculum reform. Educate! has been working with the Rwanda Education Board since and recently trained 100 District Master Trainers in entrepreneurship.

Cameroon’s Ministry of Education and Amom Charities invited Educate! to advise on an entrepreneurship pilot program. This included a 5-day teacher training on Educate!’s Skills Lab Program delivered by our staff.

Staff from the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development toured our program in Uganda and met with our Monitoring & Evaluation team to better understand our impact. This visit was a result of Educate!’s Global Skills Education Conference in April.

“A program can best be implemented by people who really understand and appreciate the needs of the people, the culture of the community they serve, the environment, the politics, and the unique history of the region.”

LAWRENCE KOMAKECH, PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR NORTHERN UGANDA AND GULU RESIDENT

Launching Our Model in Northern Uganda in 2016

Educate! is scaling further in 2016, adding 100 partner schools in Uganda, including 80 schools in a new region—Northern Uganda.

The North is a post-conflict region with twice the poverty rate of the next-poorest region in Uganda. The level of need in Northern Uganda is enormous and the environment is challenging.

We laid the foundation for successful expansion to this region by investing heavily in hiring and training the management team and staff who will lead our expansion, all of whom are from the region, allowing them to understand its unique needs.

In January, the new Mentors for the Northern Region will attend an intensive training to prepare for the first term of the program. This all leads up to the program launch in January 2016, when we expect to be reaching over 25,000 additional youth in Northern Uganda alone.
Educate! Builds Momentum, Engages Teachers in Skills-Based Education Reform

In May, Educate! hosted its first annual Global Skills Conference, bringing international and local stakeholders together to build capacity and momentum for skills-based education. The conference engaged teachers with the national agenda to integrate skills-based entrepreneurship education into Ugandan secondary schools. It was an honor to welcome high-level Ministry of Education representatives from Cameroon, Kenya, and Rwanda to participate in the Conference and join a panel discussion with the Ugandan Ministry of Education. The Global Skills Conference engaged and empowered teachers to:

**Integrate Skills-Based Education into Curriculums**

**Raise Student Performance and Achievement**

**Create Jobs by Teaching Entrepreneurship Skills**

Results of a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT), the gold standard in impact evaluation, found:

**Educate! Graduates More Than Doubled Their Average Income**

105% INCOME INCREASE
Graduates earned $338/year compared to $165/year for the control group.

**An Outsized Impact on Girls!**

120% INCOME INCREASE
Female graduates earned an average of $200 more per year than their peers in the control group.

2015 AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2015 WISE Award Winner</th>
<th>Profiled by The Brookings Institution</th>
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<td>Preeminent global education award</td>
<td>The foremost thought leader in education</td>
<td>Selected Educate! as 1 of 20 Most Impactful Youth Organizations Globally</td>
<td>awarded to Educate! Co-founder, Angelica Towne</td>
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Babies of Hope is Caroline's labor of love, but it's just one part of her busy life. Since her community initiative generates impact but not income, Caroline leverages her Educate! training into real world earnings. She has established a small business where she produces paper bags and sells them to independent buyers and supermarkets who use them for packaging. This endeavor is not only income-generating, but also environmentally friendly. The paper bags, which are made with recycled paper and cassava root glue, are biodegradable and reusable.

Caroline's business is profitable and expanding, and she recently acquired a business partner to help her with distribution and identifying new market opportunities. What's more, Caroline is a superstar Educate! Mentor. Since 2014, she has channeled her passion for business and empowerment into influencing the lives of her Scholars. She is constantly motivated by her Scholars' progress, especially when they tell her that she is their role model, which happens frequently. When asked what her favorite lesson to teach her students is, she replies, ‘My favorite activity is called ‘Label Me’. Some people are minimized by society and they give up because of who society says they are. This lesson teaches Scholars that you should not go by what society says. As long as you have your vision, you can believe in yourself and continue forward.”

Six to seven billion young people will go through secondary school in Africa between today and 2100. These children will become the region's workforce and leaders.

What kind of education will they receive?

Educate! is transforming education in Africa to teach youth to solve poverty for themselves and their communities.

Give youth the tools to become the generation that ends poverty.

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF AFRICA

Educate! Graduates earn DOUBLE the income of their peers. With a cost of $125/Scholar to deliver our program, that is a 5.5x return on your investment in just 4 years!

$25 covers materials to develop one young leader and entrepreneur

$125 develops one young leader and entrepreneur

$50 provides seed capital to a top young entrepreneur for a month

$5,000 develops a whole school of 40 young leaders and entrepreneurs for a year plus 310 additional students

To support our Scholars today, visit us at www.experienceeducate.org/investing.