



Building Resilience & Entrepreneurship



2021 Program Report



CYCLE CONNECT

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**CYCLE
CONNECT**

A Letter From Our CEO

Dear Cycle Connect supporter,

Over the years our team has witnessed the transformational power of assets, *such as; bicycles, motorcycles, oxen and plows, and grinding mills*, in launching businesses and building resilience among rural Ugandans in northern Uganda. This has been a critical part of our work through the pandemic.

In 2021, we worked with clients like Ojok Richard, a farmer and small business owner. When Ojok isn't tending to his farm, he is managing his bakery. The two motorcycle loans he received from Cycle Connect enabled him to expand his bakery's delivery to five districts. Currently, Ojok is in the process of receiving four oxen and two plows on loan to further expand his farming business. The extra income has enabled Ojok to create access to education for his children, food security for the household, and healthcare for his family. *Assets unlock small businesses and small businesses build resilience in last-mile communities.*

Over the past twelve months, your generous support enabled our team to work with thousands of rural farmers to generate \$1.2M in additional income across these communities.

In 2022, Cycle Connect is setting an ambitious expansion plan to move us even closer to our rural clients. Next year, our team's goals are to:

- Expand our reach through the set up of **six rural sub-offices in northern Uganda**
- Connect **over 1,500 rural households** to transformational products
- Generate **\$3M in additional income** across the rural communities we serve

Will you join us in 2022? If you make a gift to Cycle Connect before the end of the year, your donation will be doubled thanks to the generosity of a family foundation that is matching donations up to \$25,000.

Your support will bring us closer to our vision of a world where every family in the last mile has the means to thrive, not just survive. Thank you for going the distance with us!

Sincerely,



Molly Burke, CEO

2021 Impact

Over the past twelve months, your generous support enabled our team to work with thousands of rural farmers to generate \$1.2M in additional income across these communities.

>1k

**Clients
Served**

5k

**Lives
Impacted**

>70%

**Clients Utilizing
Asset for Small
Business**

\$1.2M

**Additional
Income
Generated**

Lifetime Impact

Your support over the years has enabled our team to connect over 10,000 rural farmers with transformational tools to impact over 50,000 lives and generate an additional \$2.4M in income across northern Uganda.

10k

**Clients
Served**

50k

**Lives
Impacted**

>30%

**Increase
in Income**

\$2.4M

**Additional
Income
Generated**

Akello Milly

Since 2016, Milly has been investing in her future through Cycle Connect.

Over the past four years, she has invested in two bicycles and a pair of oxen. The bicycles help Milly to carry 5x more goods to the market. The oxen enable Milly to till more land which results in a bigger harvest.

The assets have helped Milly grow her farming business, leading her to earn additional income for her family. She isn't done investing. Milly hopes to next take a motorcycle loan to move her even closer to her dreams.



Ojok Richard

Farmer & Small Business Owner

Ojok Richard stands with the two motorcycles he received on loan from Cycle Connect

In 2021, we worked with clients like Ojok Richard, a farmer and small business owner. When Ojok isn't tending to his farm, he is managing his bakery. The two motorcycle loans he received from Cycle Connect enabled him to expand his bakery's delivery to five districts. Currently, Ojok is in the process of receiving four oxen and two plows on loan to further expand his farming business. With oxen and plows, he can till land faster to improve his own yield and additionally rent them out to his neighbors.

The extra income has enabled Ojok to create access to education for his children, food security for the household, and healthcare for his family. Assets unlock small businesses and small businesses build resilience in last-mile communities.



One of the bakers prepares rolls for delivery



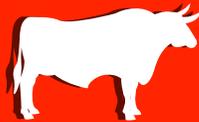
Ojok explains his vision for his farm to a Cycle Connect field officer

Our Products



BICYCLE

A bicycle loan allows our clients to go further to access critical resources such as water, education, and healthcare. With a bicycle, a client can carry 5x more crops, go 4x the distance, and increase their income by 35%.



OXEN & PLOW

An oxen & plow loan allows our clients to till twice the amount of land in half the amount of time. Additionally, they're able to rent out their oxen and plow so that other neighbors can receive faster tilling, a benefit that brings in roughly \$550 in rental income alone.



MOTORCYCLE

A motorcycle loan allows our clients to go farther and faster than ever before. With a motorcycle, our clients can carry more, save on travel costs, and increase their income through using the motorcycle as a taxi.



GRINDING MACHINE

A grinding machine loan is a great business investment. The grinding machine adds value post-harvest, which enables our farming clients to get more money for their crops. Our clients can offer this service to fellow community members, which generates additional income for their family.

Abongo Mary

Mary has been investing in her future through Cycle Connect since 2019.



Mary first took on a bicycle loan from Cycle Connect. Her bicycle helps her transport her crops to the market and enables her children to reach school.



Next, Mary invested in an oxen and plow. Before, Mary had to till her land by hand. Oxen provide access to improved farming practices, which leads to a bigger harvest.

Despite COVID-19 and the different lockdowns, food needed to be available which meant that people needed to farm. Our products helped farmers like Mary be resilient through these times.



Next, Mary hopes to invest in a motorcycle from Cycle Connect to move her business forward.



Our Team

Cycle Connect is able to generate a high level of impact because of the passion and commitment of our team members. In 2021, we were able to grow our team to bring diverse experiences. All of our recent hires came from East Africa.

Currently our team is:

40

Members

2

Branches

92%

East African



The People Behind Our Impact

Recently we asked a few members of our team "why do they enjoy working at Cycle Connect?"



Ocen John David
Operations Manager

"I am especially excited about working with technology to support a scale-out journey that seeks to transform lives of rural farmers, empowering them with services that would otherwise have been the preserve of the elite."



Okweda Williams
Head of Credit

"With a minimum of less than \$100 in asset financing, Cycle Connect has transformed over 10,000 households in northern Uganda. And, the company has ambitious plans to scale up operations through East Africa."



Lilian Joy Ogweng
HR Coordinator

"The level of humility, motivation and passion to serve the last mile farmers portrayed by staff at Cycle Connect is the most amazing and humbling experience."



Daniel Mukuye
Finance Manager

"As part of the Finance Team, I derive my joy from putting a smile on farmers' faces while ensuring proper use and accountability of resources so that we can reach many more."



Joash Mango
Head of Innovations

"Cycle connects view the 'glass as half-full' by providing smallholders farmers with tools and knowledge to spur production by using locally available resources, which in turn leads to household well-being."



Johnson Owonda
M&E Manager

"I love interacting with smallholder farmers and I am so happy to be a part of the team to help measure the real wealth and income change smallholder farmers experience as a result of Cycle Connect's work."

"I'm proud of the leadership team that we have built over the years and I'm personally excited about the unique strengths each individual brings."

-Molly Burke, CEO



Where We're Going in 2022

In 2022, Cycle Connect is setting an ambitious expansion plan to move us even closer to our rural clients.

Next year, our team is on a path to:

- Expand our reach through the set up of **six rural sub-offices in northern Uganda**
- Connect **over 1,500 rural households** to transformational products
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= Cycle Connect branch



= new rural sub-office





**Thank you for being a
part of our journey!**

Cycle Connect envisions a world where every family living in the last mile has the means to thrive, not just survive.



