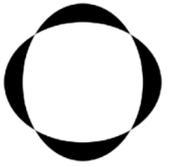
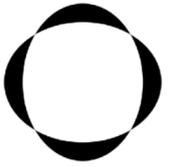


LAB UGANDA



LAB UGANDA is a music project by MUSIC CONNECTS e.V.

LAB UGANDA



MUSIC CHANGES LIVES

Music has indeed the power to change lives and LAB UGANDA Community Music Project proofs this daily.

LAB UGANDA is a fully equipped truck with stage, recording studio, instruments and a small cinema for BidiBidi in northern Uganda. Financed through Germany's Federal Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt), Munich based charity organization MUSIC CONNECTS designed and manufactured this mobile, multimedia music laboratory prototype.



This custom-made music truck has been moving through the vast BidiBidi area since autumn 2021 in order to reach as many refugees and their hosts as possible.

The technical features of LAB UGANDA, which are unique for this remote region, and the regular music lessons for hundreds of refugees improve the lives of the mostly young people significantly. Music offers a cultural home away from home, brings education, discovers talent, creates peace, promotes the creative economy and helps to learn essential life skills.

FACTS AND FIGURES



BidiBidi Refugee Settlement (Source: [UNHCR Refugee Statistics, September 2022](#))



210,102 BidiBidi settlement population, mostly from South Sudan



18,1% have an occupation, mostly agriculture and farming

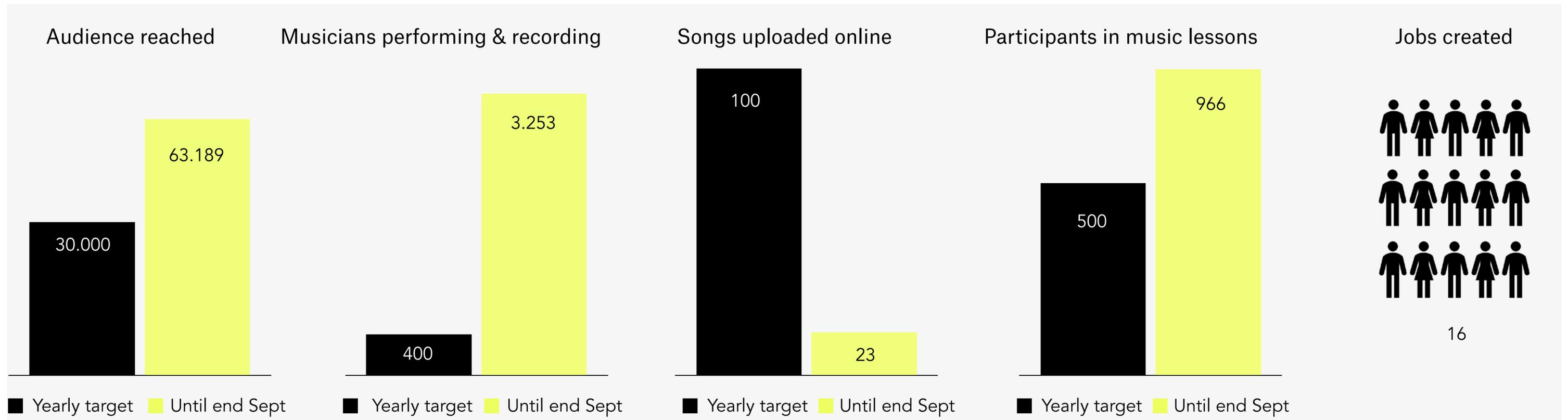


85% women and children
64% under 18 years old



the settlement covers an area of 250 km²

KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) for our LAB UGANDA Community Music (as of end of September 2022)



A JUMP-START FOR THE ECONOMY



LAB UGANDA acts as a kickstarter for creative economic development in northern Uganda.

The music project is the seed for the creative economy in BidiBidi. Refugees and Ugandans are trained in stage, event and sound technology. Hundreds of others receive music lessons. So-called life skills such as leadership qualities and team skills are the focus of the training units. This way, the refugees qualify for the job market. The region will be strengthened economically.

A SUCCESS STORY



Alpha Community Brass Band is the first refugee marching band in BidiBidi. The band consisting of more than 30 members, has formed in Zone 3 in October 2021 when the LAB UGANDA project started. Two official representatives were elected in May 2022 and the band gave itself a name. The musicians rehearse four days a week and make rapid progress.

The band now performs in front of their community and all of BidiBidi, earning their first money, inspiring young people and - most recently - applying for an UNHCR grant. This would make it possible to acquire their own instruments and suitable band clothing and to continue practicing and rehearsing intensively in order to finally earn money with their passion: music!

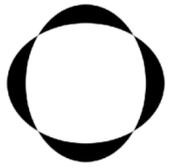




Clement and Gift
elected Chairpersons of
Alpha Community Brass Band

“We want to be role models in our
community and for our brass band to
become famous in the whole of Uganda.”

MORE THAN MUSIC



During each of its daily visits in BidiBidi, LAB UGANDA acts like a magnet to these many children. LAB teachers and musicians take advantage of this dynamic: They visit schools and teach important topics such as peaceful coexistence, equality between boys and girls, health care, teenage pregnancy, human rights and environmental protection.

All these issues affect their daily lives, but are not taught in schools. LAB UGANDA is essentially participating in conveying these social values to the people of BidiBidi.



HELP THE PROJECT GROW!



We are looking for a sponsor that can cover costs to purchase pop band instruments as well as additional sound equipment.

The number of young people interested in learning musical instruments is overwhelming. We have around 130 brass instruments, which is sufficient to teach 500 mainly young people weekly. However, we're struggling with pop band equipment (currently only 7 guitars, 4 keyboards and 1 drum kit) to satisfy the demand for pop music education.

Further, requests from interested organizations and communities that would like to use LAB UGANDA stage and sound system for social and community events, exceed our supply.

UNHCR will now provide the LAB UGANDA Community Music Project with facilities in all 5 zones. Regardless of the weather, band training can take place there with additionally purchased musical instruments. All rooms have solar powered electricity and are lockable. Additional sound equipment, however, will remain in our base camp and will be used at large events.

Equipment will be purchased on site in Uganda. This saves transport costs and import duties. Please contact us for detailed information.



MUSIC CONNECTS



MUSIC CONNECTS is a charity organization based in Munich.

The aim of the association is to bring music and artistic content to refugees abroad. Jobs are created in the cultural sector. Refugees are given the chance to receive training in order to give them perspective on site.

MUSIC CONNECTS consists of five members - comprising musicians and business people (KPMG, DHL, Bayerische Staatsoper etc.). All members give their time voluntarily. No members draw a salary.



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LAB UGANDA



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