

# IMPACT



YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

## See Inside:

**Crowning the Future:**  
Code Queens Take Over STEM P2

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**Herbs, Hope, and Healing:**  
Andean Women Reclaim Their Power P2

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**From 2 million to 15 million:**  
How Hafsa Made 7X the Revenue P3

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## Code Queens: Igniting the Future of Young Women in STEM

In Jamaica, a quiet revolution is underway. Girls from communities like Majesty Gardens, Spanish Town, and Central Kingston are defying expectations and stepping into the world of technology, thanks to the Code Queens program. This isn't just about coding. **It's about empowering girls to become leaders, and role models in their communities.**

The program, a collaboration between the Grace & Staff Community Development Foundation and Cuso International, offers more than technical skills. Through

learning to code, work with Microbit devices, and tackle real-world challenges, the girls are both mastering technology and discovering their potential.

Code Queens is building confidence, inspiring future leaders, and rewriting the narrative for girls in Jamaica... one line of code at a time.

### THE CUSO EFFECT:

"I used to think my opinions didn't matter. But now I believe in myself and speak up." — Jamelia. Code Queen participant, age 14.

## Quechua Women Revitalize Andean Medicine and Boost Income

In the Chari community of Peru, Quechua women are reclaiming their ancestral knowledge of Andean medicine while boosting their income through community tourism. They are using native plants to create medicinal ointments, syrups, and soaps.

Cuso International is collaborating with women to build their skills in product development, sanitation, and marketing; supporting their leadership in preserving knowledge and expanding economic opportunities. **"We want to use plants to cure ourselves, our families, and for tourists,"** said participant Eustaquia Quispe Pucho.

Their products, sold at local and Cusco markets, are made with environmentally friendly materials, helping preserve the environment and protect their traditions.

Through this initiative, women are not just **strengthening their incomes. They are reviving and safeguarding their cultural heritage.**



### THE CUSO EFFECT: Training the trainers

**9 women** are learning these skills and sharing their knowledge with **460 others** in the community.

 represents 9 women



## THE CUSO EFFECT:



2 million to **15 million**  
Tanzanian shillings a year

=

\$1,200 CAD to \$9,000 CAD.

**That's 7.5X her initial  
annual revenue.**



“When women are empowered, the entire nation thrives.” —Hafsa

## From 2M to 15M:

### Hafsa Builds a Business that Lifts a Community

Growing up in Mtwara, Tanzania, Hafsa Hussein Mwalimu was told a woman's place was in the home, silent, dependent, and unseen. But Hafsa had a question no one seemed to want to answer: *Why not more?*

“We weren't encouraged to earn income or start businesses,” she says. “Most of us had no chance to break free from those expectations.”

Hafsa wanted more. She wanted independence and a way to provide for her family. But wanting more and accessing it are two very different things.

Until 2017, when she joined the **Tanzania Local Economic Development (TLED)**,

a transformative program funded by Cuso International, and her path changed. Through training, mentorship, and access to resources, **Hafsa found not just skills, but a sense of purpose.**

Today, she runs a thriving business. Her annual income has grown from 2 million Tsh to 15 million Tsh, allowing her to support her children and parents. She also employs 13 people, mostly women. Her success isn't just personal; it's profoundly communal.

“I want to empower women, especially those who have been overlooked,” she says. “When women are empowered, the entire nation thrives.”

To supporters, she says: “Maybe your help seemed small, but to us, it changed everything. We are forever grateful.”

Hafsa's story is a powerful reminder: when women are given a chance, they don't just succeed. They uplift entire communities.

Enable women to break norms & pursue their goals by giving today!



**You're Changing  
the World, One  
Community at a Time**



# Skills to Share. Futures to Build.

From remote villages to bustling cities, thanks to you Cuso International's work spans the globe, creating lasting impact in communities worldwide. Every project, every partnership, and every person is a vital part of a global community committed to sustainable change. Together with your support, we are working alongside communities to strengthen leadership, foster resilience, and create a more inclusive future for generations to come.



123 Slater Street, Suite 800, Ottawa ON, Canada K1P 5H2

If you have any questions about the impact of your gift, please contact us at [donorrelations@cusointernational.org](mailto:donorrelations@cusointernational.org)



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