

## **empowermefirst.college -** A bridge to higher education

# About empowermefirst.college

Guided by our vision, mission, and values, we promote equality and diversity, regardless of gender, lifestyle, background, age, or religion. Our curriculum promotes social and environmental responsibility, human rights, and equality.

Through education and knowledge application in STEM subjects, business studies, entrepreneurship, health and life skills, English and foreign languages, we address the root cause of poverty. Our methodology and learning contents are based on the Swiss dual education system, international and national curricula.

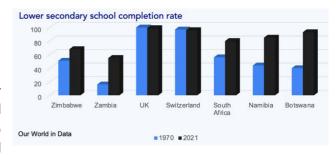
While our students study online at their own pace and in peer groups, we coach them in problem solving and improving their learning methods to score well in their semester assignments. Besides preparing them for national exams, we are working on establishing a pan-African online examination board.

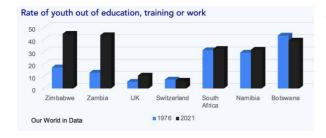
We provide vocational training and internships with a strong focus on ICT through our own entrepreneurship projects and partnerships with local and international companies and organizations. While we offer education for free, our students are expected to volunteer and help develop their community as well as our organization.

#### Our beneficiaries

Our beneficiaries are upper secondary school dropouts. In many countries 9 years of education are provided, while most youths drop out between grades 8 and 10.

Common reasons for dropping out are early marriage or pregnancy, lack of funds for school fees, uniforms and exam fees, the need to earn an income, long distances to school as well as the pandemic. Yet most youths and adults have a smartphone or tablet.





We especially focus on empowering girls and women, as 3 out of 4 school dropouts are female.

As we promote lifelong learning, there's no age limit. Anyone from a vulnerable background can study with us, if they can't attend local schools.

## Local impact - global reach

Since our creation in 2021, we tried our program in Uganda and Zimbabwe, and quickly decided to focus on Zimbabwe, thanks to our local team's accountability, consistency, and dedication to creating successful outcomes.

In 2023 we are planning to continuously expand our number of students and centres in underprivileged high density and rural areas with high numbers of vulnerable school dropouts. These centres provide access to coaches, internet, and devices.

We also provide our educational content, assessments and coaching remotely to students who have moved away or who want to access our





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education from their homes, independent of their country of residence, and plan to continuously expand on a global scale.

At the same time, we are working on creating a pan-African respectively global online examination board to counteract high examination fees.

We furthermore are working on creating partnerships with local, Swiss, and international companies, organisations and universities for internships, vocational trainings, scholarships, infrastructure and financial sponsorship, and remote peer-to-peer activities to promote global citizenship.

#### **Financial**

Through local entrepreneurial projects we contribute to financial stability, food security, sustainability, and better public health in the areas of our activity, provide work experience to our students and economic development to local communities.

We focus on sustainable and socially responsible entrepreneurship projects, such as waste management, sustainable production of food, hot water, and hygiene products, such as solid hair and body cleansing products and reusable sanitary pads to reduce plastic waste, and responsible tourism with tour guiding, shop, restaurant, lodge, and volunteering opportunities at study centres.

For these projects, we are looking for start-up donations.

To our partners, we offer tailor-made educational content for vocational trainings, trade partnerships and a highly motivated student body happy to work remotely, thus remedy the lack of skilled workforce while counteracting brain-drain and political issues related to migration. Furthermore, as a dynamic global movement who are strong in all SDGs, we are perfect sponsorship partners.



## **Contact, Support and Partner**

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