

CREATING PATHWAYS FOR DISENGAGED YOUTH

Certificate 1 Bridging program:
innovation in skills training.




A DIVISION OF THE KIRIBATI GOVERNMENT'S
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT.




SUPPORTED BY AUSTRALIAN AID




BACKGROUND

- Government and community concern about lack of learning and employment opportunities for youth and growing social problems
 - Many families struggle to support their children to attend school
 - Many young people in Kiribati don't complete primary or junior high school education
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PARTNERS


- Kiribati Institute of Technology
 - ChildFund Kiribati – NGO working in Betio to bring about positive change for children and their communities
 - Ministry of Employment and Human Resources
 - Local Councils: Betio, Abemama, Teinainano Urban Council
 - Kiribati Police Service
 - Alcohol Awareness Family Recovery Centre
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PROCESS


- Youth Learning Needs Assessment carried out by ChildFund youth workers in Betio
 - Bridging course developed by KIT
 - Professional development given to KIT lecturers
 - Students selected by ChildFund youth workers and supported in class by youth workers
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CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- Not be in school, training or working
 - Have left school in primary or junior high school
 - Be between the ages 15 – 30
 - Be able to read and write in the Kiribati language
 - Be committed to learning
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THE BRIDGING COURSE

- One year full time
 - Learning how to learn, literacy, numeracy, English, motivation, computer skills and construction skills
 - Begins in the Kiribati language and English is gradually introduced
 - Classes are interactive, supportive and challenging with pair work, group work, games and songs, talking and laughter to maximise engagement
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RESULTS


- Students learn new skills, are more motivated to assist their families and communities and tend to drink less alcohol.
- Bridging students have:
 - gained employment
 - completed short courses in Construction and Certificate 1 in English
 - applied for full time trades courses
- They now have pathways to further training.
- Many would like to access overseas employment options in the future.

BOB



BOB'S TESTIMONIAL

“A turning point occurred in my life when I was selected to be one of the bridging course students. I knew at that moment that my life would change. Being at school at KIT has changed my life. I now know I am responsible for my life. I wake up every day knowing I have things to do. I am so proud of myself to be chosen as a representative for KITSA (KIT Student Association)”

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KAM BATI N RABWA

Te Mauri, Te Raoi ao Te Tabomoa



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