



Together we can light the **way**.

Stories from Northern Uganda for young people across Africa: our story, words worth carrying, and real opportunities open now.

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Igniting Light. Inspiring Change.

Born from resilience.

Lumina Africa Foundation is a youth-led nonprofit in Northern Uganda, founded by Moses Komakech. It grew out of a region shaped by conflict and recovery, where young people have every reason to doubt that the world is listening, and every capacity to prove it wrong.

The foundation works where opportunity is hardest to reach: digital skills, quality education, and access to healthcare for young people, women, and marginalised communities.

The name says the rest. Lumina means light. The flame in our emblem rises over a map of Africa and a laptop, a picture of what we believe: that knowledge and technology, put in young hands, change what a community can become.

WHAT WE FOCUS ON

Digital skills

Literacy, entrepreneurship and safe internet use for young people.

Quality education

Learning that keeps young people in the room and moving forward.

Healthcare access

Reaching women and marginalised communities first.

500

Young people. One goal.

Our digital inclusion project aims to set up ICT hubs that train at least 500 young people in digital literacy, entrepreneurship and safe internet use.

This is a goal we are working towards, not a result already reached. Source: the foundation's public fundraising campaign.

Moses Komakech



Moses Komakech

Founder, Lumina Africa Foundation

Lumina Africa Foundation was founded on a simple but urgent realization: too many young people in Northern Uganda are being left behind in a world that is rapidly becoming digital.

Growing up in a region that experienced more than two decades of conflict, Moses witnessed firsthand how war disrupted education, limited opportunity, and left many young people struggling to rebuild their futures. Entire communities were displaced, schools were interrupted, and access to technology was almost nonexistent for many families.

Even as peace returned and communities began to rebuild, a new challenge emerged. The world was evolving through technology, yet many young people in Northern Uganda still lacked access to computers, digital skills, and opportunities to participate in the modern economy.

For Moses, this gap was not just about technology. It was about opportunity, dignity, and the future of an entire generation.

Motivated by the belief that every young person deserves the tools to succeed, he founded Lumina Africa Foundation to bridge the digital divide and create pathways for youth to learn, work, and lead in the digital age.

Today, Lumina Africa Foundation is a growing community-based organisation, working towards establishing the partnerships, resources and implementation frameworks necessary to translate its plans into meaningful community impact.

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Not defined by the challenges of the past, but empowered to shape the opportunities of the future.

Beyond the Classroom

A day of hope and possibility at Lacekocot Primary School

3 OCTOBER 2026 • LACEKOCOT PRIMARY SCHOOL, NORTHERN UGANDA



Pupils, teachers and the Lumina Africa Foundation team at Lacekocot Primary School.

Every child deserves the chance to believe that their future can be greater than their present.

On 3 October 2026, a simple but powerful message of hope reached the learners of Lacekocot Primary School: your circumstances may shape where your journey begins, but they do not have to determine where it ends.

As the Lumina Africa Foundation team visited the school, the purpose went beyond a routine school outreach. It was an opportunity to remind young learners, particularly those preparing for their Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE), that their dreams matter, their potential is real, and their futures are worth believing in.

In communities across Northern Uganda, many children grow up surrounded by challenges that can make the future seem uncertain. Limited opportunities, economic hardship and the weight of difficult histories can sometimes narrow the possibilities young people imagine for themselves. Too often, survival becomes the immediate priority, leaving little room to dream about what might be possible.

But a child's future should never be defined by the difficulties surrounding them.

A different kind of lesson

At Lacekocot Primary School, the message was clear: education is more than passing examinations. It is a doorway to possibility, a foundation for confidence and a tool that can help young people shape their own lives and contribute to their communities.

Through conversations, shared experiences and words of encouragement, the team reminded the learners that the world needs their ideas, their talents and their determination. A child sitting in a rural classroom

today could become tomorrow's doctor, engineer, teacher, entrepreneur, scientist, artist, community leader or innovator.

These possibilities are not reserved for children from wealthy families or prestigious schools. Greatness can emerge from any classroom, any village and any community when young people are given the opportunity to learn, the confidence to believe in themselves and the support to pursue their ambitions.

For the candidates preparing for their PLE, the encouragement carried an especially important message: examinations are a significant milestone, but they are not the final measure of a person's worth or the full definition of their future. Every learner deserves to approach this stage with courage, determination and hope.

The power of being seen and encouraged

Sometimes, changing a young person's outlook begins with something simple: an adult who listens, a mentor who shares a lesson from experience, or someone who takes the time to say, "You can become more than you can currently imagine."

Such moments matter because confidence does not always grow on its own. It is nurtured through encouragement, opportunity, guidance and an environment where children feel that their aspirations are taken seriously.

The Lacekocot outreach brought this principle to life. The Lumina Africa Foundation team, including Jojo, Charity, Jackson Odida, Kabila Lawrence, Sarah, Raymond Oroma, Mara and colleagues, came together around a shared purpose: to encourage learners and reinforce the belief that every child deserves the chance to realise their potential.

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Your circumstances may shape where your journey begins, but they do not have to determine where it ends.

The visit was not about promising that every journey would be easy. It was about helping young people understand that challenges do not erase possibility, setbacks do not have to become permanent barriers, and asking for support is part of learning and growing.

Hope must become an opportunity

Inspiring children to dream is important. Creating pathways that help them pursue those dreams is even more important.

That responsibility belongs to all of us: parents, teachers, community leaders, civil society organisations, development partners and everyone who believes in the promise of the next generation. Children need more than encouragement for a single day. They need safe learning environments, committed teachers,

access to educational resources, mentorship, practical skills and opportunities to discover what they can achieve.

This is why school outreach and mentorship matter. They help connect the classroom to the wider world, remind learners that their communities care about their future, and encourage the adults around them to keep investing in children's potential.

At Lumina Africa Foundation, this belief is at the heart of the mission to empower underserved communities through education, health, innovation and opportunity. The visit to Lacekocot Primary School was one expression of that commitment: helping young people see possibility where circumstances may have taught them to expect limitations.

One child. One dream. A generation of possibilities.

The true impact of a school visit cannot always be measured in photographs or the number of people gathered in a room. Sometimes, its most meaningful result is a question a child begins to ask, a dream they become brave enough to share, or a renewed determination to keep learning.

We may never know every thought that stayed with each learner after the team left Lacekocot. But the purpose remains clear: to leave behind a message that can travel further than the visit itself.

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You matter. Your education matters. Your dreams matter. And your future is still being written.

When we invest in one child, we shape a family, strengthen a community and influence a generation. A learner encouraged today may become the person who creates jobs tomorrow, serves a community in need, develops a life-changing solution or inspires another child to believe in what is possible.

Northern Uganda's future will not be shaped by its challenges alone. It will also be shaped by the opportunities we create, the children we encourage and the hope we turn into action.

THE TEAM AT LACEKOCOT

Moses Komakech

Jojo

Charity

Jackson Odida

Kabila Lawrence

Sarah

Raymond Oroma

Mara

and colleagues

A day at Lacekocot



Sharing sanitary pads with pupils, so that no girl has to miss school.



Foundation team members and school staff during the session.

Light for the road

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Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

— NELSON MANDELA

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It's the little things citizens do. That's what will make the difference. My little thing is planting trees.

— WANGARI MAATHAI, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATE

ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

- 1 Start before you feel ready.**
Your first venture, application or project will be imperfect. Momentum teaches what planning cannot.
- 2 Learn a skill the world pays for.**
Digital literacy opens doors in every sector. Pick one skill and go deep.
- 3 Apply widely, and apply early.**
Most opportunities close within weeks. Keep a calendar, and draft your story once so you can adapt it.
- 4 Bring someone with you.**
Share what you learn. A community that rises together is hard to hold back.
- 5 Protect your light.**
Rest, ask for help, and look after your mind. Consistency beats burnout.

Open doors for young Africans

Anzisha Venture Building Fellowship 2027

CLOSES 10 NOV 2026

For young African entrepreneurs aged 15–22 who already run a venture (20+ hours a week). Run by African Leadership Academy with Mastercard Foundation. Opened 29 Sep 2026; fellows announced May 2027.

Verification: Dates agree across several listings; official page not reachable by us.

One Young World — Leading Scholarship

CLOSES 31 OCT 2026

Scholarship to attend the One Young World Summit in Cape Town, South Africa. Please check the page carefully: the summit is listed for 3–6 November 2026.

Verification: Date taken from the official One Young World scholarship page; one third-party listing disagrees.

DAAD In-Country / In-Region Scholarships 2027

CLOSES 12 NOV 2026

Funded Master's and PhD study in Sub-Saharan Africa for people planning careers in teaching or research at a university. Apply through the DAAD scholarship portal.

Verification: Three listings agree on the date; confirm on the DAAD site.

Mandela Rhodes Scholarship (Class of 2028)

OPENS 9 MARCH 2027

Postgraduate scholarship with leadership development, for African citizens aged 19–29 with strong academic results, to study in South Africa. The 2027 cycle has closed.

Verification: Opening date from the foundation's own application page.

KEEP LOOKING

More fellowships and scholarships are collected at AfterSchool Africa, Opportunities For Africans and Scholars4Dev. Always apply through the official programme page, and never pay a fee to apply for a scholarship.



Your light matters.

Share this issue with one young person who needs to see it. Support our work, volunteer, or partner with us to bring digital skills and hope to more young people in Northern Uganda.

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