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Edith Mpoto

Managing Director, Nkhotakota Steadfast
Cooperations for Youth (NS4Y), Malawi

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Edith Mpoto is a young woman and mother of two from Nkhotakota District in Malawi, who serves as the Managing Director of Nkhotakota Steadfast Cooperations for Youth (NS4Y). Edith, who previously struggled to access education and failed to secure a job, established NS4Y as a means of taking care of her family's needs while supporting other young women facing similar challenges. NS4Y is a social enterprise focused on agribusiness and comprises of young women and men aged 16 to 35 years. The enterprise aims to improve economic and social conditions for its members and the surrounding communities. NS4Y works with women and youth farmers to produce and process various agricultural products, including groundnuts, rice, fish, and fruits. The enterprise provides capacity building through training, ongoing mentorship, and high-quality farm inputs such as seeds. NS4Y improves access to these agricultural products, particularly during the lean season, when job opportunities are scarce, incomes plummet, and food prices rise. The enterprise was established in 2020 and registered in 2021 under the Business Registration Act (No. 12 of 2012). NS4Y is a democratically governed organization with a management committee that is elected by its 69 members, comprising 56 females and 13 males. Through a participatory decision-making process, members work jointly to identify business opportunities, brainstorm ideas, and develop an action plan and budget. NS4Y divides its members into five groups, each responsible for handling one of the mentioned agricultural products. Members contribute to the budget based on their ability and receive monthly salaries based on their level of contribution. Through its initiatives, NS4Y has uplifted its members out of extreme poverty.



MENTOR

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