



PROFILE

Leader: **Ntakamaze Nziyonvira, Executive Director**

Website: www.ciyota.org

Email: executivedirector@ciyota.org

Country: Uganda and DRC

Sectors: **Education and Community Engagement**

ORGANISATIONAL SUMMARY

CIYOTA is a community-driven, non-profit organisation dedicated to empowering refugees, internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and the host community in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Through its educational and livelihood programs, it provides access to quality education and builds capacities in leadership and entrepreneurship. CIYOTA fosters self-reliant and sustainable communities by equipping children, young people, and communities with the knowledge, skills, and resources to create innovative start-ups that drive positive changes in their communities.

WHY OUR WORK MATTERS

Millions of people are forced to flee their homes every year due to armed conflicts, becoming refugees or internally displaced. This crisis disproportionately impacts women, children, and the elderly.

WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT OUR WORK?

CIYOTA was founded and led by refugees. It has over 18 years of experience working with displaced persons in East Africa, particularly Uganda and DR Congo. CIYOTA has two core intervention areas: **Education** and **Community Engagement**. After acquiring education, our students come back to give back to their communities.

OUR IMPACT

CIYOTA's impact spans Uganda and the DRC through education, leadership, and entrepreneurship programs.

Since its inception, CIYOTA has directly impacted:

- Early Childhood Development (ECD) & Primary education: **6,345** students.
- Secondary Education: **2,317** students;
- University Education: **103** students (attended

universities in Africa, Europe, and the USA);

- Bridging Programs: TaRL and Accelerated Education Program(AEP): **3,409** students (1,794 male and 1,615 female);
- Institutional capacity sharing: Six Edupreneurs of 6 different primary schools (directly supporting **2,600** learners in ECD & Primary school);
- Community Engagement: **200,000** people through Cooperatives, Sports Clubs, Family Businesses for Education, and skilling of the youth.



Legal Status

CIYOTA is an IRS 501(c)(3) Certified charity in the USA. Registered in Uganda and DR Congo as an NGO

Number of Employees

121 full-time employees and 3 Volunteers

Mission-lived leadership

Ntakamaze, a Mechanical Engineering graduate with 17 years of experience in emergency education, has led CIYOTA since 2018, strengthening its impact. An award-winning advocate who increased access to secondary education for refugees in Uganda by establishing a secondary school in Kyangwali for 600+ students and promoted STEM programs for youth empowerment.

Financial & Organizational Resilience

Year	Budget	Revenue
2021	USD 615,592	USD 713,192
2022	USD 800,000	USD 780,000
2023	USD 1,300,000	USD 1,190,500
2024	USD1,500,000	USD 926,500
2025	USD2,000,000	USD 1,600,000 (Projection)

Board

CIYOTA has a Board of Directors who meet quarterly and oversee governance and operations of the organisation.

Leadership Bench Awareness Aspiration

CIYOTA is building the talents of existing staff and its Alumni through several capacity-building sessions. These include but are not limited to training and scholarship opportunities to fill existing and future leadership gaps. CIYOTA has two dedicated volunteers from the U.S. who are actively supporting our donor relations efforts.

Monitoring & Evaluation

We use a database to collect data on our programs. Some impact metrics we measure include completion, progression, and transition rates for primary, secondary, and university education, household income, and the number of jobs created.

Challenges

Influx of new refugees and Internal Displacement in and from DR Congo, Sudan and South Sudan has put pressure on limited existing resources. Freezing of USAID and reduced funding by US and EU members lately has directly affected our interventions. Limited unrestricted funding to cover overhead costs. Stringent donor requirements for multi-year funding that limit fundraising for small and refugee-led organizations.

Areas for Growth - Investment

Monitoring and evaluation are complex because of their multisectoral work and the safety issues they face. We want to invest more in providing a better employee package, as staff turnover is a massive issue in hard-to-reach areas. Institutional capacity building: The organization is growing, so its staff should build capacities to sustain the growth and scale up to other areas with a need.

Partnerships

