

## SCRIPT VILLAGE PHONES UGANDA

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### PRESENTATION

To start your own business for the price of a mobile phone,  
and then survive on it.

Some 15,000 people in rural Uganda in Africa nowadays do that.

They bought a mobile phone, and started a phone booth with it.

The so-called Village Phones,

and it seems only the beginning.

### BETA

You really have to look for it,

here in central Uganda.

Because only from this sign board you can see there is a village phone.

It's at the house of the 49-years-old Nakakande Uvumba.

### QUOTE NAKAKANDE UVUMBA

I never thought I would still start a business.

A mobile phone, a battery, an aerial,

and you can start right away.

Costing almost 400 Dollars, which is a lot of money in Uganda.

The mobile provider therefore grants small loans.

Nakakande got herself such a loan,

and she paid it back in a few months.

### QUOTE NAKAKANDE UVUMBA

First I used the money to get more phones.

Now I pay the school fees of my children from it.

Er komen hier per dag gemiddeld 15 mensen om even te bellen, voor zo'n 10 cent per minuut.

Nakakande heeft al 7 Village Phones, verspreid over de hele buurt.

Ze kon zelfs investeren in deze fiets met voorop een luxere telefoon.

Haar zoon rijdt er mee rond.

Some 15 people per day come here to make a call,

for 15 cents per minute.

Nakakande has 7 Village Phones now,  
spread across the neighbourhood.  
She could even invest in this bicycle that has an executive model on the front.  
Her son operates it.

#### QUOTE SSOZI BOSCO

I drive to places where I expect people who want to make a call.  
Like markets and public functions.

The son wants to show how it works,  
but he gets stopped by a customer.

#### SOUNDBITE CALLER

There is something I need from you.  
I want to talk about it now.

Rural Uganda a few years ago didn't have any phone lines.  
Now there are 15,000 Village Phones.  
It boosted the local economy.  
Like for this lady who is fixing clothes.  
Or this couple that does typing.  
But there might be a threat for the Village Phone keepers.  
The mobile providers keep building new aerials  
Which means that people in the end can use their own mobiles everywhere.  
Making Village Phones obsolete.  
According to the provider they will remain necessary.

#### QUOTE JUNIOR KWEBIIHA, MTN Uganda

Because people in the rural areas many people still cannot afford to load as much air time they want since they're living below a Dollar a day.

Meanwhile the elderly neighbour pays a visit.  
He's totally absorbed by this piece of modern technology.  
Maybe next time he's a customer,  
or even gets his own Village Phone.