



Grace Ayaa Microcredit is peanuts!

Supports family of 7 children and employs 1 person with her peanut butter business in Uganda, Africa. Used a microcredit loan to expand her business.

Some micro-credit sources online:

- * www.meda.org then click on MEDA trust link in menu
- * www.kiva.org
- * www.opportunity.org
- * www.grameenfoundation.org/

Find more information on microcredit sources by doing a search online. Source for this Grace's story is: <www.kiva.org>.

Grace Ayaa is a mother of four who lives in Kulambiro, Uganda. She is of the Acholi tribe and lived in the Northern districts of Kitgum before the civil war forced her to leave her home. She cares for 7 children, 3 of whom are not her own but orphans of the civil war.

Grace tried to support herself and her family making peanut butter using a mortar and pestle. The process was so slow, and batch of produce so small, that it was very difficult to make the peanut butter fast enough to earn enough money to cover living costs for her and her family.

Grace knew she had to change her processes for her business to be successful, so she saved enough money to purchase a processing machine, no longer grinding with a mortar and pestle. With her new investment she was able to make much larger batches of peanut butter more quickly than before, but she had no way of storing her peanut butter and could not make more until her current batch had sold.

Grace took a loan of \$475 through Kiva.org, administered by Life in Africa, a Kiva Field Partner. Grace intended to spend 50% of her loan to purchase a refrigerator to store the larger batches of peanut butter, 25% on packing materials and an additional 25% as working capital for her business.

Within six months Grace had employed an additional person to help her with her business. She was also able to save enough money with her increased profits to acquire a small piece of land, so that she could better care for her children who were growing up quickly.

Grace is an example in her community of a successful woman, despite the difficulties she has faced. Grace is no longer forced to decide which children she can send to school as she can afford to send them all, and she is now building a home for her family on the land she was able to purchase.

Background

Name	Grace Ayaa
Business Name	Grace's Peanut Butter
Location:	Kampala, Uganda
Loan Requested	\$475.00
Repayment Term	6 months - repaid monthly
Loan Use	Purchase of refrigerator fridge

Based on her current income, Grace will be able to repay the loan in 6 months. She has designated 1/4 of the interest she pays on this loan to support educational opportunities for Life in Africa member children.