## Jerubbaal International Inc.: Bridging the Gap Between the Needy and Humanitarians in Liberia, Africa<sup>1</sup>

## Masann Miapeh<sup>2</sup>

Jerubbaal International Inc.3 is a non-governmental organization that conducts needs assessment at the community level to help bridge the gap between the needy and humanitarians. To achieve its goal, the organization focuses on research in public transport, public policy, public health, agriculture, and education. We conduct human resource capacity development training in project management, project proposal writing, procurement and logistics, data analysis, monitoring and evaluation, environmental science, computer science, professional catering and baking, governance, human resource management, NGO finance management, professional driving, psychotherapy, advanced marketing strategies, etc. The organization also provides intervention leading to environmental protection (e.g., planting of trees, awareness on the negative impact of deforestation), health education (e.g., teenage pregnancy, reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases, communicable diseases) and agricultural activities (e.g., such as high school backyard garden project, rural women selfhelp, cassava and rice farming, rural fish farming). For example, during 2017-2018, the organization trained 53 students on how to use MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint (Figure 1); some students on catering and baking (Figure 2).

Testimonials from three alumni follow. "I am a 2017 graduate of Jerubbaal International Inc. free training in computer software application. I graduated from high school in 2010, and coming from a very poor background, I never had the slightest dream of becoming who I am today. I am grateful that with the free computer knowledge I acquired from Jerubbaal, I currently serve as the secretary for Patrick M. Tormetie Jr. & Sr. High School located in Pipeline Community, Paynesville-Liberia. With my salary, I am taking care of my family. I am even hoping of enrolling in University this year. I am encouraging every young man like me to take advantage of the free training provided by Jerubbaal. - John Saah

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Received on January 6, 2019. Accepted on January 9, 2019, Last revisions received on January 12, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Executive Director, Jerubbaal International, Monrovia, Liberia E-mail: miapehmasann@gmail.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Jerubbaal International Inc. is legally established (i.e., it has article of incorporation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to allow any non-governmental organization to operate in the Republic of Liberia). Also, it has accreditation from the Ministry of Education to conduct a youth development program.



Figures 1 and 2. Examples of human resources capacity development conducted by Jerubbaal International Inc. 1. Students compiling data from a survey using laptops. 2. Some students of professional catering and baking.

"I had always dreamt of working with an NGO, but I had no bankable skill which NGOs could go for. "My decision to attend Jerubbal International Inc. in 2017 was rewarding. It has made a great difference in my life: Today I'm a Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning (MEAL) Officer at Welthungerhilfe Liberia - PARTNERS Programme and I feel even more optimistic about my career - all thanks to Jerubbaal International Inc. for the knowledge provided." - Abraham V.M. Dukuly



Figure 3. Graduated students from our 2017 Program on computer software applications and data analysis.

"My name is Victor V.S Willie, General Manager and Chief Executive officer (CEO) of Ecofuel Liberia Limited, an energy company that produces a product called ECOCOAL from general municipal and agricultural wastes. I am an Alumnus of the Jerubbaal International Inc. where I did project proposal writing and environmental science. The decision to attend Jerubbaal was the best

decision of my life up to now, because I gained the technical support and knowledge to begin my own social venture that is contributing to environmental sustainability. Without this knowledge, getting grants through project proposal would not have been possible to have started this project. With the knowledge gained, I started this enterprise in less than a year. I recommend this institution to all young and serious-minded individuals for career boost and advancement."

Currently, Jerubbaal International Inc. is searching for donors to support its high school backyard garden, community health forum, high school health club, rural women cassava project, rural fish farming project, and a research proposal entitled, "The Negative Impact of Government's Policy to Stop Transport Motorcyclists from Plying the Principal Streets of Monrovia, Liberia".