

## Project: **School lunch**

### ***Background information***

Kalwala Village is a small village in the rural area of northern Zambia. About ten years ago the Dutch foundation Joy of a Toy initiated the set up of an orphanage for the large number of orphans in the area. They subsequently founded a primary school, a clinic and some facilities aiming at the strengthening of the social cohesion in the community. Two years ago they sponsored a local Secondary School.

In the meantime another Dutch foundation, SOZ<sup>1</sup>, contributed to the development of a school for basic vocational education – the School for Continuing Education. Courses offered at the moment are Bricklaying & Plastering, Metalwork and the use of ICT. The school is set up in such a way that it allows for differentiation in end-level. A course on entrepreneurship is in the process of development. The underlying philosophy of the schools is that there should be a possibility for everybody to complete an education – either academic or vocational.

All schools are situated at the same premises. There is a certain degree of integration between the Secondary School and the School for Continuing Education: some staff teaches at both schools, there is a common staff room, ICT facilities are shared, etc. All is done to show and emphasize that vocational skills are no less than academic skills and that a bricklayer is equally valuable for the community as a college degree holder.

Even though the number of programs is still to be increased and also a School of Agriculture will be an essential component in the future, one can speak now already of a quite complete 'educational center'.

Underlying in the philosophy of an educational center of this form is that, as much as possible, students should go to day schools (as opposed to boarding schools). In that way they keep their ties with the region they came from and they are likely to stay in that region after graduation instead of going to one of the larger towns. That is important for the development of the area. However having local schools in a rural area means that economy-of-scale has to be sacrificed to a large extent. A clear disadvantage. By concentrating the various school types and optimizing the mutual assistance and synergy this disadvantage can be overcome to a certain extent.

All three schools are by now under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education.

### ***Objective of the project***

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1 Stichting Onderwijsprojecten Zambia

Even though the schools were locally oriented, they started to attract also students from further away. Up to two hours walking. These students come to the school early in the morning and return home at 16 or 17 hours. All day they are without (proper) food. No need to stipulate the negative effects of skipping lunch for young people.

With the above problem in mind the Committee of Principals of the schools came with the request to assist them in setting up a facility to offer a school lunch to all pupils and students. The number of students/pupils involved totals up to about 500. The lunch will be served in three or four shifts. The Committee of Principals saw too many disadvantages in solutions in which only students from further away would get a meal (where to put the borderline; some students live nearby but don't get a proper meal either).

### ***Set up of the facility***

Even though at the beginning most of the food will have to be bought from local farmers, it is the intention that the educational center grows its own food in a school garden. Students work in this garden under professional supervision. The schools own sufficient land of good quality soil to realize such a garden (there is a river nearby for irrigation). It will take about a year to have the school garden reach a sufficient production level. Near to the school garden a storage room will be constructed (more precisely: there will be a shed for tools and seeds and a food storage facility).

A dining hall will be built for about 200 students (maximum). Furniture will be constructed by the students of the School for Continuing Education. The hall will also be used for assemblies and social activities. Next to the hall a kitchen will be constructed.

Two houses will be constructed (one for the production manager and one for the kitchen manager).

All building will be done by students of the School for Continuing Education under supervision of the teachers.

The Ministry of Education will take care of the personnel and their related cost (2 FTE - full time equivalent - staff)<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> A letter from the Provincial Education Officer confirming this commitment can be forwarded on.

## ***Estimated budget***

Dining hall (20 m x 9 m)	105,000 KR <sup>3</sup>
Kitchen	20,000 KR
Tool & crop shed	30,000 KR
Staff houses (2)	90,000 KR
Furniture hall and cooking/dining equipment	40,000 KR
Tools	30,000 KR
Initial investment garden	10,000 KR
Unforeseen	20,000 KR
Total	345,000 KR
(in Euro's this is approximately 50,000 at present exchange rate)	

## ***Secondary objectives***

The main objective is, as stated earlier, to feed all pupils and students of the Kalwala schools with a healthy meal. But there are secondary objectives that determine the way the project is set up.

These objectives are:

- students get in touch with agriculture; new techniques of production, new crops and new storage techniques can be introduced; at some moment in time these techniques and crops can also be demonstrated to the parents of the students and others interested;
- the experience of running a school garden can later be used when the school of agriculture is set up;
- all construction is done by students; to them it is a valuable training;
- facilities for social activities are next to none at the moment; with the availability of a proper hall activities like quire singing, traditional dancing and drama can be initiated;
- students are trained in working together, bear responsibilities, etc.

## ***Project organization***

Mr. Lackson Kwangu, principal of Kalwala Secondary School will be the local project manager. He will report on progress and finances on a monthly basis. He has experience in the management of projects of this size.

Mr. Chris Hendriks (Stichting Onderwijsprojecten Zambia) will be his counterpart and

3 KR stands for Kwacha Rebased. The Kwacha is the Zambian currency. As per 1/1/2013 it has been 'rebased' meaning that all amounts in Kwacha's are divided by 1000.

sparring partner in The Netherlands.

## ***Planning***

The duration of the project will be one year.

The construction of the various buildings can be completed within 6 months.

Preparation of the garden will take 6 months also.

All materials needed are either obtained locally or, if not available locally, they are brought from Lusaka (the capital of Zambia at a distance of 820 km from the schools). Materials can be made available within 2 weeks.

A detailed planning will be completed by the project manager when funds are released. The planning will be depending on the starting date of the project in relation to the rainy season.

## **Stakeholders and contact**

The proposal is submitted by the Committee of Principals of the Kalwala schools, represented by their chairman Mr. Lackson Kwangu.

The submission is supported by:

The PTA – Parent Teacher Association – of the schools

Joy of a Toy<sup>4</sup> (Mr. Arie van Kooten - chairman)

Stichting Onderwijsprojecten Zambia<sup>5</sup> (Mr. Chris Hendriks - chairman)

The Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education (PEO - Chinsali)

All of the above named persons/organizations will be pleased to supply further information.

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<sup>4</sup> [www.JoyofaToy.nl](http://www.JoyofaToy.nl)

<sup>5</sup> [www.SOZambia.nl](http://www.SOZambia.nl)