

Diocese of Monze Diocesan Development Department

Sharing the little we have for a better world A Summer School Exchange initiative.

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"if one had taken what is necessary to cover one's needs and had left the rest to those who are in need, no one would be rich, no one would be poor, no one would be in need." — St. Basil

1. Introduction

Arising from the Summer school exchange of 2013 whose theme was "development equity", Some German and Zambian participants were moved with their experiences in the Schools they visited. A realization of the lack of the education necessities that manifests itself among some of the School going children in some of the schools in Zambia was difficult to stomach when else where there is so much possibilities for children of the same age as regards education possibilities and provisions. These young people, in trying to uphold the theme of the exchange, decided to embark on a project that should contribute towards the enhancement of education for some of the less privileged children in the schools they visited.

2. The Concept

The "Sharing the little we have for a better world" concept is intended to support in a small way but essential to their needs, those children in selected schools in the Diocese of Monze in need of such support that will enhance their possibility to excel in school.

This document has been drawn for school authorities, Parish leaders as partners in the concept and the children who may benefit from the initiative, as a guide to accessing the support. From the outset it must be emphasized that this as an initiative of young people who in themselves are dependants and therefore may neither guarantee continuity in supporting an individual school going child nor give such support as may require huge sums of money. The intention is to make a contribution towards the basic education necessities / school fees for those who may be targeted and not to take over the responsibility of the parents / guardians and or the government.

3. Parties to the Project and their role

- 3.1. A group of young German and Zambian participants to the summer school exchange 2013 will undertake to promote the concept by publicizing it to their peers and other interested parties in Germany and in Zambia as an effort to fundraising for the project.
- 3.2. *The Diocesan development department* of Monze Diocese will act as local partner and executor of the initiative in the diocese. Will receive funds that will have been raised by the youths and direct it as intended by this project. Therefore applications by potentials beneficiaries through their Parishes will be directed / addressed to the Promoter for development. Based on the validation results, the required assistance and availability of finances, the development department will undertake the appropriate action in supporting the approved applications.
- 3.3. **School authorities** for schools to be targeted have a significant role to play in confirming the beneficiaries of the support. They will be requested to assist the development department in the verification process where needed. Will receive on behalf of the pupils the finances especially where school fees are concerned.
- 3.4. *Parish Leadership* We realize that some parents have approached Parishes for the support of their children who may have stayed home because they cannot pay school requirements. Parishes will receive from development office this concept paper so that they may forward such names for consideration. The parish leadership working hand in hand with development staff will gather further information on the potential candidates. The gathered information will then be used as a base for support finances allowing.

4. Potential beneficiaries

As already stated, the project is intended to contribute towards the enhancement of education for the less privileged children in the diocese and in the targeted schools. Less privileged here refers to children coming from homes with parents / guardians who are economically unable to support their children / dependants. These may also be cases of child headed households, single/ female headed households or indeed cases where the school going child is supporting herself / himself in harnessing school requirement through piece work or any other such fundraising initiatives which may impact negatively on their education. The support will be inclusive i.e. will not segregate on the basis of faith affiliation. In selection of beneficiaries the Parish leadership and the Diocesan development department acting on behalf of Summer school "Sharing the little we have for a better world" project will have an important say. Parish leaders, based on their knowledge of the child will recommend to the development department who, with the assistance of the school authorities, may in turn either want to validate or merely approve the application.

Potential candidates should be school going and of ages between 6 and 17 inclusive in targeted schools in the Diocese of Monze as will be agreed to by parties to the projects, of either sex and must be Zambians.

5. Application and approval for Assistance

- 5.1. For children of age 12 years and above, they will have to make their request in writing through the Parish leadership who will in turn recommend to development department of Monze Diocese. Both the recommendation and the letter written by the pupil should be forwarded to the development department. Letters by applying children should be as detailed as possible, with full names, where they come from, family background, economic occupation of the family, kind of assistance needed (is it school fees, education materials or uniform¹) of the origin and justification for assistance.
- 5.2. For children below the age of 12 years and are not able to write their own story, Parish leadership may have to make the application on their behalf, giving details as above. It is assumed that who ever member of Parish leadership will interview the child will also write a letter which will serve both as a recommendation as well as application. However it should still bear the signature of the Parish Priest, full names and signatures of the member of the Parish leadership, the child's endorsement in own handwriting and a Parish stamp.
- 5.3. It must be noted that Parish leaders may reject some applications before they even get to development office. This may be necessary where Parish leadership deem such an application as not genuine. It also follows that no application will go directly to development office without passing through the Parish leadership and without correct authentication of the Parish leadership that is without Parish stamp and the Parish Priest's signature.

¹ Note that no cash will be given directly to the beneficiary child. In case of school fees these will be paid directly by the development office to the school. For other requirements these will have to be paid for and on behalf of the child by either the school authorities or the development office.

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6. Focus for the First year.

6.1. Target Schools for year 1.

As an initial attempt to start the project for the first year, the two schools selected are Monze Secondary School and St. Mary's School in Monze. The two schools having been visited by the summer school participants, stimulated the idea and hence the selection as first target.

6.2. Support to be given

Mainly for the first year the focus will be on school fees. During the summer school visit it was noted that some pupils were not in school because they had not yet paid school fees some of which was as low as K15.00 as in the case of St. Mary's school. This focus is intended to ensures as many pupils as possible attend and or report for school on time.

6.3. Anticipated School fees for the year 2014

- 6.3.1. For Monze Secondary school fees for 2014 per term will be at K900.00 (euro equivalent 129) or K2, 700.00 (euro equivalent 386) per year per pupil.
- 6.3.2. For St. Mary's School:
 - For Grade 1 to 7 will be K30.00 (euro equivalent 4) per term or K90.00 (euro equivalent 13) per year per pupil.
 - For grade 8 and 9 will be K150.00 (euro equivalent 21) per term or K450.00 (euro equivalent 64) per year per pupil.

7. Future prospects

The year 2014 is to be perceived as an experimental year and shall be reviewed during the summer school exchange 2014 which shall be in Germany.