

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Anglican Relief and Development Fund®



DRC: AT-RISK YOUTH CAN OVERCOME POVERTY WITH PRACTICAL SKILLS

Vocational skills offer a brighter future and an escape from poverty for young Congolese



The education system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is not sufficient for students to find gainful employment upon graduation. To improve students' chances, this project will introduce vocational training in South Kivu.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

CONTEXT: Despite its vast material wealth, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has long been associated with poverty and lawlessness. Half of the country's population exists below the poverty line, living on less than \$1 a day, especially those in rural communities. The lack of formal economic opportunities, combined with the entrenched political conflicts and instability, as well as high rates of malnutrition, illness, and poor education, make DRC one of the hardest places for people to live in.

NEED: The education system in the DRC is in a poor state. The quality of education, especially skills training, has declined in recent decades. While some opportunities are still available in urban areas, access to education for children in rural South Kivu province is not easy. Young people need education and practical skills to become self-reliant and able to support themselves and their families. A primary education is not sufficient for youth to succeed in this war-torn country.

SOLUTION: With funding from the Anglican Relief and Development Fund, the Anglican Diocese of Bukavu will expand vocational opportunities with a new training center in Kabare, South Kivu, in Northeast DRC. The diocese will build the training center on land it has secured. Young men and women, especially orphans and those graduating from primary school, will learn sewing, masonry, and carpentry skills. As they learn a new profession, they will also learn a new way of thinking about the world as they engage in Bible studies on reconciliation and forgiveness and take appropriate steps to mend relationships. They will also receive personal support, spiritual mentorship, and hands-on training for employment. As the center grows, other youth in the area will be offered opportunities to enroll in the vocational school.

LIFE IMPACT

Benefits 260 people, some in multiple ways:

- 240 young people will learn technical skills so they can start their own shops and earn income; they will also be nurtured spiritually
- 20 teachers will benefit financially through employment at the vocational school, enabling them to support their families by providing better meals and paying medical bills and school fees

PROJECT PROFILE

ID: ARDF-0823-Bukavu

Lead Ministry

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF BUKAVU



LIVES IMPACTED 260

SECTOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

AMOUNT REQUESTED \$194,625

ARDF COST PER BENEFICIARY \$748.65

TIMELINE 24 MONTHS

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"Our territory is in great need of young technical graduates in the three sections organized at the Mana Technical School. Unfortunately, until now, we haven't had the means to implement our policy. If funds are mobilized for the implementation of this project, the community will be blessed through this school."

– The Rev. Gustave Bahaya of the Anglican parish of Kabare, DRC



WHAT IT'S LIKE NOW



“The multidimensional humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has resulted in

low enrollment rates and discrimination along gender lines in schools throughout the country. Children and adolescents face many risks, including abuse and exploitation, forced recruitment by armed groups, child labor, child marriage, gender-based violence, food insecurity, and poverty. For students who are fortunate enough to attend school, the quality of education is impacted by overcrowded classrooms and low budgets.”

— www.educationcannotwait.org/our-investments/where-we-work/democratic-republic-the-congo#:~:text=The%20DRC%20has%20a%20poor,on%20schools%20by%20armed%20groups

“Conflict in Eastern DRC is having a devastating impact on children’s education. Insecurity has disrupted the education of three-quarters of a million children in 2022 and early 2023, according to the latest UNICEF data.

— www.unicef.org/press-releases/conflict-eastern-drc-having-devastating-impact-childrens-education

“In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where education and vocational training face major challenges, training focused on employability is key tool for peace and development.”

— ideas4development.org/en/vocational-training-drc-tool-peace-development/

PROJECT DESIGN

Funding from the Anglican Relief and Development Fund will enable the Diocese of Bukavu to expand the existing Mana Professional Technical Institute in Kabare region. Plans call for constructing new vocational training classes to complement the existing primary school. Currently vocational training students do not have their own classrooms and share the facilities with the primary school. Primary school students attend in the morning, vocational students attend in the afternoon.

The diocese will work through the local Anglican church to identify young people to be trained in sewing, carpentry, and masonry from among students already attending its school and from their communities. Priority will be given to orphans. Training will also include Bible-based teaching on peace and reconciliation. Fidèle Mushamuka Hamisi, diocesan development coordinator, will serve as the project coordinator. Land has already been secured for the vocational training center. Construction will begin after funding is obtained. The diocese has a contractor who will oversee construction of the center, which is expected to take at least eight months.

During construction, a committee of parents and local professionals will help coordinate the work. The contractor will recruit local laborers and purchase construction material locally. As the building is completed, the diocese will purchase equipment for sewing, carpentry, and masonry work. Twenty teachers with experience in the trades will be selected to teach the technical classes, industrial drawing, simple bookkeeping, and marketing during the one-year program. Up to 240 students will enroll in the vocational center in the first year. In addition to vocational skills, the students will be mentored spiritually. New students will be enrolled annually.

The school will gain sustainable income by selling students’ products. This small income may supply some of the teachers’ salaries, as well as provide for future supplies. To help ensure the success of graduates in the local marketplace, the diocese will help place them with existing businesses so that they can gain experience.

Measuring impact. The project coordinator will make site visits, meetings, phone calls, and send e-mails. He will report on construction progress. Upon graduation, students will be tested to show their skills. Surveys of graduates will reveal their employability, ability to earn a living, and changes in their household income, as a result of their new technical skills.

PROJECT BUDGET

| ITEM | SOURCES OF FUNDS | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| | ARDF FUNDS | LOCAL FUNDS |
| Land ¹ | | \$30,000 |
| Construction of 6 workshop areas ² | \$70,000 | |
| Project administration, monitoring and evaluation ³ | \$35,386 | |
| Training equipment ⁴ | \$23,090 | |
| Materials for practical training ⁵ | \$17,958 | |
| Construction of 6-door latrines with hand-washing facilities ⁶ | \$14,100 | |
| Construction administrative block | \$13,875 | |
| Instructor payroll | \$13,216 | |
| Administration ⁷ | \$7,000 | |
| TOTAL | \$194,625 | \$30,000 |

 This mark is used throughout the report to indicate additional information available upon request.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

For \$14,000, you can provide six restrooms
For \$23,090, you can provide the equipment for training.
For \$70,000, you can cover construction costs for six workshop areas

NOTES

- ¹ includes cost of the land donated by the community
- ² includes the cost of materials and labor for constructing six vocational workshops
- ³ ARDF contracts project research, monitoring and evaluation with The Grid and provides administration and communication to ensure full project funding
- ⁴ includes the cost of purchasing equipment for sewing carpentry and masonry
- ⁵ includes the cost of purchasing supplies for masonry, cutting, sewing, and carpentry
- ⁶ includes the cost of constructing six latrines (three for women and three for men)
- ⁷ includes site visits by diocese development office staff



IMPLEMENTER FINANCIALS* 

This project adheres to some or all of this sector's established best practices

| INCOME | 2020 | % | 2021 | % | 2022 | % |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Rent | 40,943 | 29 | 35,560 | 22 | 40,369 | 28 |
| Local donations | 7,291 | 5 | 1,618 | 1 | 5,419 | 4 |
| External donations | 95,036 | 66 | 124,215 | 77 | 99,308 | 68 |
| TOTAL | 143,270 | 100 | 161,393 | 100 | 145,096 | 100 |
| EXPENDITURES | 2020 | % | 2021 | % | 2022 | % |
| Personnel | 34,286 | 25 | 20,740 | 13 | 29,000 | 20 |
| Program | 88,201 | 65 | 119,211 | 76 | 93,357 | 64 |
| Office & administration | 12,425 | 9 | 15,710 | 10 | 21,413 | 15 |
| Other | 1,444 | 1 | 1,690 | 1 | 1,180 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 136,356 | 100 | 157,351 | 100 | 144,950 | 100 |
| SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | 6,914 | | 4,042 | | 146 | |

NOTES:

*Income and expenditures reported in U.S. dollars

INCOME: Income is from internal and external donations as well as rental income. Internal donations and rental income are about 30% of total income, while external donations are around 70%. There was a note in the statements provided that each department keeps its own books and some follow the accounting guidelines better than others. It was recommended that each department follow the guidelines and utilize accounting software.

EXPENSES: Each year the diocese operated within its available income. The great majority of the funds were spent on program related expenses and very little on administration. Program is the main expense (between 64% to 76% of total income for each year analyzed) and consists of programs for training/conferences, humanitarian aid, combating violence against women and children, health, and water. Some \$37,000 was spent in 2021 to combat violence against women and children, while \$19,000 and \$4,000 were spent in 2020 and 2022 (respective) thus the increase in program expenses in 2021.

RISK ANALYSIS



Low: 1, Low/Medium: 2, Medium: 3, Medium/High: 4, High: 5 

CONCEPT: 1

Many young people are unemployed and lack the skills needed to compete in Bukavu's job market. This program will prepare some of them to earn an income, while allowing them to build positive lives. The project is a timely and appropriate initiative by providing technical skills in an area with high unemployment. It is an appropriate response to the needs of DRC's youth. With a limited number of students, the Vocational Training Center will have adequate time to fully train and equip the students and prepare for impact in the years ahead.

PROGRAM DESIGN & EXPERIENCE: 2

The Diocese of Bukavu has experience with construction projects, having supervised the construction of a primary school and pastoral training center. The diocese has a development office with experienced and qualified staff, including a diocesan development coordinator with experience in needs assessment, project design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. During the project, the diocese will hire qualified trainers and lobby the government to subsidize the vocational school.

LEADERSHIP: 1

The leader has been with the diocese for years and comes highly recommended. The teachers for the center will be hired after funding is provided. There is some risk that the teachers may not be available or fully qualified.

FINANCIAL CONTROL: 2

Management of the diocese is stable and it has secure means for transferring funds. However, the governing board is not independent, as all are members of the Anglican Church. The diocese's financial statements are not externally audited. As a result, funds should be transferred in a phased manner with clear reporting timelines to help ensure that they are properly used and distributed.

SUSTAINABILITY: 3

Bishop Bahati Bali-Busane Sylvestre is committed to keeping this project economically independent from the church. Once external funding concludes, the school will be run by parents and the state, as the school will be accredited and recognized by the Congolese government. The diocese will also lobby the regional government to grant more subsidies to this public-interest vocational school. Trainees will be able to earn income after the funding period of this project ends. They will be encouraged to take on apprentices.

EXTERNAL: 4

South Kivu province continues to experience sporadic violence. There are still conflicts among the many armed groups active in the area that could force people to move in search of shelter. Political and economic insecurity could affect project implementation and outcomes.



LEADERSHIP PROFILES

The Rt. Rev. Sylvestre Bahati Balisusane has served as the diocesan bishop for 20 years. His background includes:

- a degree in theology from Free University of the Great Lakes Countries, Bukavu
- a champion and advocate of development, peace, and justice in the Great Lakes region.

Fidèle Mushamuka Hamisi has served as coordinator of the development department of the Diocese of Bukavu since 2000. He also coordinates the development office of the Anglican Church of Congo. His background includes:

- a bachelor's degree in rural development and a master's degree in project and program monitoring and evaluation from the Higher Institute of Rural Development of Bukavu
- project manager of the medical centers of Idjwi and Nyangezi for the International Red Cross in Bukavu since 2003
- over 20 years of experience serving the Anglican church in DRC by overseeing implementation of development projects
- project manager of an environment program in Kamanyola and Kabare funded by Tearfund since 2009

REFERENCES

"A strong Swiss delegation of partners visited Bukavu, Idjwi island, and surroundings in May 2022, which gave my colleagues and myself the opportunity to see on the field and witness the impressive actions of the diocese, with the fantastic leadership of its Bishop Sylvestre Bahati. The bishop promotes the relief actions of the diocese, which takes big social, educational, and public health responsibilities as contractual subsidiary of the provincial government of South Kivu. Bishop Bahati coaches a team of highly competent and truly committed project leaders and coordinators, and the action is embedded in the population and local communities through the integrating power of the local parishes and their reverends and councils. The professional staff – clergy, teachers, doctors, nurses, empowerment specialists – and the hundreds of volunteers and community leaders work hand in hand. Those networks are a huge asset for any development project conducted or planned in the diocese. We never had any problem with accounting and proof of good use of money."

– Franz Peter Murbach, Old Catholic Church of Switzerland, which works on projects in French-speaking Africa

RESEARCHER'S STATEMENT



Frederick Barasa
Sr. Research Analyst
August 2023



Churches and aid organizations in the DRC make a significant contribution to children's schooling. That said, it is clear that the country needs a skilled and entrepreneurial workforce to create wealth and emerge from poverty. Through this project, young people have a chance to acquire skills in trades. This school will prepare them for gainful employment and sustainable livelihoods. This training is crucial for the stability of the DRC. It undeniably represents a tool for promoting peace and conflict resolution, as well as social cohesion, especially in Northern DRC.

IMPLEMENTER'S INSPIRATION

"You are like salt for the whole human race. But if salt loses its saltiness, there is no way to make it salty again. It has become worthless, so it is thrown out and people trample on it."

– Matthew 5:13-15 (GNT)

HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT

PROJECT RECAP

ID - ARDF-0823-Bukavu
Timeline - 24 months
Requested - \$194,272
Modified - 101323

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