



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Pastoral Training Strengthens Biblical Outreach and Boosts Community Development



In November 2011, members of the community repay their loans with part of their rice harvest. The loan project was conducted by the Anglican Diocese of Kindu at Kitimba village, Kindu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

COMPLETED PROJECT

A vast country with immense economic resources, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been at the center of what some call Africa's world war. The conflict has claimed an estimated 3 million lives, either as a direct result of fighting or because of disease and malnutrition. After so many years of war, people in Eastern DRC are beginning to return home only to face reintegration problems, such as a lack of agricultural inputs, agricultural skills and transportation.

The Anglican Diocese of Kindu in the DRC sought to improve the socio-economic livelihood of Congolese families who are returning to their homes by giving them agricultural tools, certified seeds, livestock and fish farming opportunities. The result was improved food production, better farming practices and healthier living conditions. The beneficiaries repay the diocese out of their harvests, allowing the diocese to make even more loans to community members.

The project was expected to help 2,730 people, but actually reached more than 4,200 people. It exceeded one project goal and achieved a second, earning an overall rating of "Exceeded."

TRACK RECORD

The Anglican Diocese of Kindu has been implementing projects that assist families affected by the civil war since 1998. The projects include humanitarian work; agricultural development through training, distribution of farming tools and seeds; and peace and reconciliation efforts. The diocese uses this forum to preach the Gospel and pass along other messages of peace and reconciliation.

PROJECT PROFILE

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF KINDU



Investment	\$51,546
Actual investment	\$50,666
Expected cost	\$19.91 per beneficiary
Actual cost	\$12.03 per beneficiary
Location	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Portfolio	Evangelism
ID	ARDF-0810
Evaluation date	August 2012
Researcher	Frederick Barasa

PROJECT PERFORMANCE

BELOW ACHIEVED EXCEEDED



DEFINITION OF RESULTS

Exceeded	Implementer exceeded goal by more than 20%
Achieved	Implementer solidly achieved the goal +/- 20%
Below	Implementer partially achieved the goal
Not achieved	Goal was 100% not achieved

ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATION

In DRC, the agricultural sector supports two-thirds of the population. In a country where agricultural production has stagnated, this project by Anglican Diocese of Kindu helped to rebuild their lives and communities. This project represents the kind of initiatives needed in places that are recovering from many years of war. The goal of this project was to boost the availability of food in Kindu and surrounding areas. It strengthened the technical expertise in production, storage, transformation and marketing of agricultural products.

Of 130 people who were trained in new agricultural skills, 80 percent were vulnerable women from the Sabyazo and Kintimba areas of Kindu. The project also included the distribution of 12 male goats and 118 female goats and the cultivation of an estimated 61 acres of land. The land was used to grow rice and to house 10 new fish ponds.

The diocese uses these projects as a means of presenting the Gospel to participants. As a result of this project, more than 2,000 people engaged with the Scriptures or developed a Bible reading culture that resulted in home groups for Bible study.

This project picked up where UK-based Tearfund had once worked. After Tearfund terminated its partnership with the diocese last year, this ARDF project filled that gap by implementing a sustainable mode of agriculture. This project has gone a long way in rebuilding people's lives and reducing dependence on relief food.

There are many more opportunities to invest in initiatives that will promote Scripture engagement and economic development. This will help lead to more stable and peaceful communities that foster development for all. This project proves that using local expertise in agriculture can help create a stable society and, at the same time, empower people to participate in their own development activities.

While the risks surrounding the project's concept, leadership and financial control remain low, there are other risks that should be considered before future funding:

Program design. Although this project succeeded in producing enough food for the families, with some left over to sell, it lacked a marketing strategy to sell the food at markets. As a result, most of the produce ended up being sold below market price, preventing the beneficiaries from realizing the income they anticipated. More thorough market research into market demand should be conducted before planting a crop or investing in fish ponds. Ideally, a contract would be signed with a potential buyer before planting to help minimize loss. Also, those who engaged with the Scriptures lack Bibles. The Diocese of Kindu should seek partnership with the Bible Society of DRC to receive Bibles as part of the Bible Society's She's My Sister initiative.

External. Eastern DRC remains in terror of marauding militia and rebels. Continued threats of insecurity in Eastern DRC have curtailed farming activities, leading to the loss of produce and further population displacements. However, there are efforts by governments in the Great Lakes Region to send in a stabilizing force to help secure the region. Moreover, in some places, weather conditions were unreliable and irregular. In the future, the Diocese of Kindu should work with the appropriate government departments to establish the rain patterns and help minimize losses as a result of crop failure.

This type of project has the potential to rescue people from starvation. Those reached by this project are vulnerable people who have endured years of hardship and need to be reminded of God's love and compassion through his Word. The opportunities for agricultural growth in this region are enormous. Global Scripture Impact recommends this project for further funding.



A woman from Sakanya village, DRC, receives a female goat from the diocesan development coordinator as part of the project conducted by the Diocese of Kindu in October, 2011.

Anticipated

780 PEOPLE become engaged with the Scriptures, including 650 people who take part in daily agriculture events and weekly community peace and reconciliation events organized by the local church and 130 people who become peace and reconciliation advocates within their community, attend church regularly and apply the Scriptures to their daily lives

1,950 PEOPLE reach out to other community members by training them with new agriculture skills and by promoting peace and reconciliation through Scripture reading

Actual

2,000

2,210

Expectations/Comments

[++] EXCEEDED A total of 2,000 people engaged with the Scriptures. Prayer and cell groups at parish level were started as a result of this project, which helped community members become peace and reconciliation advocates in a country that has been devastated years of destruction and conflict. The beneficiaries participated in Wednesday evening prayers, visited sick people and consoled those who lost loved ones. As a result of this, parishes have reported marked increase in membership.

[+] ACHIEVED A total of 2,210 people learned new agricultural skills that employed Christian discipleship principles. The program resulted in improved food production for families and surplus food for sale. There was good cooperation with the local government agriculture department and people were eager to learn new food production techniques. More than 70 percent of the beneficiaries experienced higher household income, as indicated by their ability to pay school fees for their children, access medical care and eat at least two or three meals a day.



Beneficiaries receive tools and seeds (first photo) as part of an agricultural project introduced by the Anglican Diocese of Kindu in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Tools included machetes, axes, hoes, files and spades. The participants also received rice and cassava seeds (second photo). Another aspect of the project involved the cultivation of an estimated 61 acres of land, part of which was used to house 10 new fish ponds (including the one in the third photograph). The diocese instructed beneficiaries on new fish breeding and land management techniques.

FINANCE REPORT

ITEM	REQUESTED AMOUNT	ACTUAL AMOUNT
Farming tools	\$22,100	\$21,380
Training	\$6,500	\$6,410
Research and evaluation	\$5,278	\$5,278
Staff	\$4,980	\$4,980
Administration	\$4,000	\$3,930
Motorbike	\$4,000	\$4,000
Transportation	\$2,400	\$2,400
Capacity building program*	\$2,288	\$2,288
TOTAL	\$51,546	\$50,666

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"I am a farmer who has suffered for a long time. I returned {to} my village after having stayed in another community for a long time because {of the} war. When I returned, I was lucky to be a beneficiary of 1 axe, hoe, 2 machetes and 20 kilograms of rice. I also received cassava cutting and one goat and was train{ed} in new farming techniques. I planted rice and my first harvest from my farm was more than 970 kilograms of rice, which helped me to feed my family, pay {for} school and healthcare for my children. I paid back 20 kilograms to {the} church in order to distribute to others in the village. This year, I will farm two more hectares of land and my goat will give birth to another young goat. I thank God for the Anglican Church, Diocese of Kindu, for this project that has changed my life for the first time. As a community, our mindset has changed because we now believe that our lives can improve ... here in Kindu."

— *Kisambula Augustin, Kitimba village, Kindu*

PROJECT RECAP

ID - ARDF-0810
 Timeline - 12 months
 Requested - \$51,546
 Modified - 101112

HOW TO FUND THIS PROJECT



The Anglican Relief
and Development Fund
Canada

For information about the fund or projects, write to:
 Anglican Relief and Development Fund Canada
 Box 1013
 Burlington, Ontario L7R 4L8



Global Scripture Impact serves the American Bible Society and the greater American Christian philanthropic market by providing independent research and evaluation of Scripture ministry projects around the world, and supplying this information to interested supporters.

Global Scripture Impact
 1550 Liberty Ridge Drive
 Suite 330
 Wayne, PA 19087
 484-654-3490
www.gsimpact.org