

Project: KICORA YOUTH GROWTH PROGRAM (KYGP) IN KIGOMA, TANZANIA

Applicant and implementing organization

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Rationale

Although records talk today of improvements which have been made in the economy of the African continent in the last years, poverty remains one of the biggest challenges for the development of the many people in rural areas. And undoubtedly, one of the biggest threats to local development in Africa is ignorance as families with many children reduce the already meager chance for kids to go to school. Even when they are registered in school, malnutrition slows down their capability to fast learning in the complex study programs of the modern school. The present initiative is therefore to seek for ways to support students whose chance of education would remain low if no effort is done to help them.

Project location

The project will be implemented in the region of Kigoma, in the western part of Tanzania.

The implementing organization

KICORA has a good experience in managing initiatives for the development of Kigoma the western part of Tanzania. These activities have led KICORA to win the Harubuntu award in 2008. www.harubuntu.org

Objectives

The present project is to support the payment of the school fees and the school material for 20 students whose parents have not the financial possibilities to afford the payment of these fees for the education of their kids until they finish their studies. This project is also to ensure the follow up

of the progress of the students who benefit from its support. It has been demonstrated that students who have to show their results from the school would work hard to ensure that they continue to be supported.

Beneficiaries

The first beneficiaries of this initiative are the 20 students who include girls and boys whose parents are poor and cannot pay their school fees. On the second line of the beneficiaries are the parents who see their children get the unique chance to continue their education. Beneficiaries are also local communities who will see the knowledge of its members increased. A possibility therefore for local development through initiatives which will be taken by people who will have been educated with the support of the KYGP.

Activities

The project acts at different levels starting from the coordination of the donations' flow from the donor's side up to the students' level, the follow up of the performances of the students at school, the coordination of workshops between the students and the parents, the preparation of the printouts of the credits of the students and their transfer to the donor's side. In the long run the project will work with the students in finding institutions to host them for fieldwork and internships.

Expected results

One big result of this project is that the 20 students succeed in their studies and finish them up to the end. Students who benefit from donations have to report their results to people who support them. In this sense, the pressure they get for sharing the results from school make them perform better than their classmates. And, the older they grow the more effective they work. The second big result of the project is the awareness that students develop through the support that they get in the eyes of other community members who do not have the same support. Students who are supported develop therefore a high sense of responsibility and solidarity in their social whereabouts. Beside the fact that these students take care of themselves after their studies, the support from the KYGP allows the preparation of qualified technicians and entrepreneurs who take initiatives in the different domains of life.

Sustainability and spillover effect of the project

The good news about this project is that once the students who get the support will have finished their studies they will look for jobs or they will create their own employment as they will be the new entrepreneurs of the community. Their new situation will then allow them to support young generations of new students.

Parallel to the support of the students, the project KICORA will organize regular workshops for making the students meet between themselves and together with the parents. The objective of this campaign will be to all the beneficiaries of the project to share their ideas on solidarity. Workshops will

then put an emphasis on the necessity for the students to support each other at school, at home, in their community, and in their active life as civil servants of people of the private sector. As solidarity is part of the African culture, it is supposed that students will at least support their parents in paying the schools fees for their young sisters and or brothers. And that the project continues as part of the tradition and that it replicates through the effort of former students who support other generations of students is the best result of this initiative.

Follow up of the students

KICORA is looking forward to get the demanded support for empowering the local students to grow as responsible people on whom families and communities can count. Different people have supported students before on private basis. And, from experience the follow up of the students is done by their elder sisters and brothers who coach them in all matters of education. When a family has children who are grown up and who are educated, parents who often are not educated, leave the responsibility to follow up the young students to the older ones. Information from the family about the performances of the students at school would then be given to the responsible person at KICORA by the older students. This allows to prepare the copies of the results of the students who get support from this project and to send them to the donor who, in her/his turn, appreciates the results of her/his effort to support local students.

Budget

The total budget to start with is 5000Euros. This amount is to support 20 students and KYGP would then ask the sponsor to contribute 20euros per month. The amount will then be used to pay the school fees and to buy the school material for the students.

Timing

This initiative to support students is expected to start with the beginning of the coming school year in September 2014.

Sponsoring

This project is funded by private sponsors. The idea is that each sponsor will support one for a consecutive duration of several years. People who want to support a student can contact Professor Emeritus Alfons Vervaeet (email: vervaeet@elis.ugent.be, alfons.vervaeet@elis.ugent.be, tel:) and will receive regular reports of the student's progress.

Transfer can be done using a form which is enclosed to this document and which is also available at: www.kicora.net

