YOUTH CENTERS IN KAMPALA

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<tr>
<th><strong>Project title</strong></th>
<th>YOUTH CENTERS IN KAMPALA</th>
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<td><strong>Promoter</strong></td>
<td>ISP in Africa</td>
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</table>
| **Local Partners** | 1) Masanafu Child And Family Support (MCAFS)  
                       2) Needy Children Organisation (NCO) |
| **Activities**   | ♦ Professional trainings  
                       ♦ Literacy school  
                       ♦ Two libraries  
                       ♦ Construction of an education center  
                       ♦ Construction of a sport center |
| **Project location** | Kampala district |
| **Beneficiaries** | Masanafu: 1090 youngster and 40 families  
                       Kabalagala: 300 youngsters  
                       Namuwongo: 750 youngsters and 20 CBO leaders |
| **Person of reference** | Davide Franzi |
| **Project coordinators for each area of intervention** | Masanafu: Nicholas Yiga  
                                                       Kabalagala: Gianni Cannas  
                                                       Namuwongo: Erika De Bona |
| **Years**        | 3 years                  |
| **Total Budget** | 587,420 euros            |
| **Budget 1st year Association StreetSpirits** | 114,500 euros |
PREFACE

The areas of intervention of this project are all located in Kampala district, on the outskirts of Kampala City in the suburban residential and characteristically slum areas. People living in these areas are in condition of extreme poverty and consequently they have no possibility to afford the costs of basic needs, such as shelter, education, healthcare and food.

The majority of the families have an average number of six children per household and they struggle to survive by doing odd jobs. Therefore, all the family incomes are basically oriented to first needs and in most cases they cannot afford the cost of school fees for the children. In the case of a family that can afford the cost of the school fees, most of them don't have money to purchase school material, as exercise books and texts. As a result most of these poor families choose very simple and poor but affordable schools for their children. Children from poor families attend schools that have no libraries or opportunities for research. Yet these very children are examined together with the rest of the better off children who have access to good schools with all the necessary facilities. The extreme consequence of this is that the children that are in need of a scholarship to continue their studies, are the ones without possibilities to obtain it. The opposite is true, that it is the well off children who after attending very good schools perform better and are eligible for free higher education at university levels.

For the children from these poor families who succeed to be in school, continuing with the education is still a big challenge this is because many of them drop out (stop) due to other reasons such as family needs. For example many girls stop going to school in order to take care of the sick parent at home or boys to do some work to support the home. By the time such a child is free to go back to school it is no longer possible to continue with the regular schools. The only option is vocational skills training. However the, cost of vocational skills training, that could be considered as a middle solution between work and school, is still beyond the means of many poor families living in these slum areas.

Illiteracy have negative consequences on the whole family, for the reason that a parent that hasn’t received an education, is not able to get a good job and is not able to pay the school fees for his children. Unfortunately the same parent cares very little about the size of his family thereby creating a vicious circle of poor families transmitted from generation to generation.

Through increasing quality and access to affordable education for poor children, and skills training for poor youth and women, this project aims to give a concrete possibility of social and economic empowerment to the adults of tomorrow and to all their families.
AIMS

GENERAL AIM

To improve the living standards of people living in slums and marginalised areas of Kampala through educational, skills training and support.

SPECIFIC AIMS

The project will take place in three different areas in Kampala: Masanafu, Kabalagala, Namuwongo. Each area of intervention will have the following specific aims:

Masanafu (responsible organisation: MCAFS)
- To build a youth center
- To run a primary school
- To run vocational skills trainings (metal fabrication, carpentry, tailoring, saloon)
- To promote community development
- To create a library

Kabalagala (responsible organisation: NCO)
- To build a youth sport center
- To run sport activities
- To run a cinema

Namuwongo (responsible organisation: ISP)
- To run a literacy school
- To run professional trainings (tailoring, hairdresser, crafts, informatica)
- To create a library
- To improve the capacity of the staff of local CBOs
- To run a didactic cinema
Associazione Gruppi “Insieme si può…”

The Association of groups “Insieme si può…” (together it is possible …) is an Italian voluntary service organization legally registered as ONLUS (non-profit organization for social purposes) in the regional register of Veneto on 9th August 2000, protocol no 10921/206.42, and also as NGO by The Ministry Of Foreign Affairs as D.M. n. 2006/337/005008/4 on 29th November, 2006. The association was founded in 1982 and has more than 2000 members divided in 90 groups that are based in different regions of Italy.

The income of Insieme si Può (ISP) is derived from generous donations of companies, individuals and private foundations. ISP supports local organizations in various countries in the world, e.g. Sudan, Uganda, Mozambique, Madagascar, Kosovo, Afghanistan and the Philippines.

ISP has been working in Uganda since 1982 and opened an office in Kampala in 2003, ISP in Africa. ISP in Africa officially registered as an international NGO with the Ugandan NGO board in Kampala in February 2004 under registration number S5914/4852. The aim of ISP in Africa is to improve the quality of life of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in the country through enhancing their capacity to identify and address their social, health, economic, cultural and development needs.

In the specific, the main action of ISP in Africa are:

- Support to local community initiatives to improve the standards of living of the population.
- Provision of emergency relief to the refugees and internally displaced people in war affected areas.
- Cooperation with other international NGOs to coordinate aid and relief in Uganda.
- To empower local communities to search for and identify ways of addressing their developmental needs.

ISP in Africa has a second office in Moroto (Karamoja region) running programs in the field of Education Support, Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Capacity Building Programs, Children welfare and Infrastructure development.
ISP project proposal
Youth Centers in Kampala

LOCAL PARTNERS

MASANAFU CHILD & FAMILIES SUPPORT (MCAFS)

Masanafu child and family support (MCAFS) was founded in 1999 by a group of Christians seeking to solve the problem of poverty in the area with special attention to orphans and vulnerable children. It is located in Masanafu, Rubaga Division, 5 kilometers from Kampala.

MCAFS seeks to improve lives of poor people through:

− Vocational skills training for orphans and vulnerable youth (carpentry, joinery, welding, metal fabrication, tailoring, hairdressing).
− Educational support for 121 children
− Functional Adult literacy training.
− Community development activities (micro credit; sustainable agriculture; food aid to orphans and elderly people; health and hygiene trainings)
− Environmental protection (energy saving stoves, biogas production; rain water harvesting; use of compressed soil bricks).

NEEDY CHILDREN ORGANISATION (NCO)

Needy Children Organization (NCO) is a local CBOs created by a group of youngsters of the slum of Kabalagala. It started its activities in 1992 by opening a cinema and by organizing sport activities from the most disadvantaged children. In 2004 NCO received the acknowledgement of CBO (Comunita’ di Base) from the Ugandan government (with registration number Mak/162). In 2006 NCO, through new income generating activities, has increased his activities. Nowadays the activities of NCO are:

− Running a cinema showing didactic movies and cartoons to the children of the slum
− Supporting to the local community through the distribution of mosquito nets and medicaments
− Organizing sport & drama activities for the youth of the slum
− Income generation through movie shows/sale to cover part of the costs of the organization
GENERAL CONTEXT

UGANDA

Uganda is situated in East Africa and is surrounded by Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan and Tanzania. It has a population of approximately 29 million inhabitants, 10 million of whom live on less than a dollar per day. The population growth rate is of 3.5% per year. 51% of the population is composed of children with less than 14 years; only the 2% of the population has more than 65 years. The fertility rate is of 6.69 children per woman; the mortality rate for new born children (in the first year of life) is of 94 children died every 1000. The life expectancy has grown in the last years from 42 to 47 years; this improvement is due to the reduction of the HIV affected from 18.5% in 1991 to 6.2% in 2004 (State of Uganda report 2004) and to the increase in the use of the condoms, from 15% in 1995 to 23% in 2003. However this percentage is still low compared to the world general rates.

Even if in the ’80 and ‘90 the process of economic and political reforms has reduced the poverty in the country, Uganda still remains one of the poorest countries in the world (UNDP Report, 2002). According to the most recent data the percentage of population living under the poverty line is of 38%. The medium income per capita is of 320$ per year.

KAMPALA

Kampala, the capital of Uganda, is situated in the South of the country on the north of Victoria Lake, at a medium height of 1.180 m over the sea level. Statistics of last census (1991) indicate a population of 2 million inhabitants in the District of Kampala with a growth rate of 5.7%, i.e. the highest in the country. The high rates of growth, increased also by the migratory processes of the population from the north escaping the war, have contributed to the deterioration of the living conditions in the capital. Furthermore, as a consequence of this situation, there has been continuous deterioration of supply and maintenance of public services, the extended growth of slums and of people living in extreme conditions of poverty.
INTERVENTION AREAS

We don't have official data for the interested areas, for the reason that poor and peripheral zones are not object of accurate governmental surveys. The information that we present here have been collected by the staff of the ONG ISP in Africa through questionnaires and interviews made before and during the implementation of our previous projects. The selected information underlines the most common consequences of poverty and unemployment, such as lack of education, poor nutrition and low incomes.

I MASANAFU

Masanafu is situated in the parish of Lubya, Lubaga zone, in the periphery of Kampala to approximately five kilometers from the city center. The area has a total population of approximately 17,000 persons.

- Education

  Only the 50% of the children of Masanafu attend primary schools; the 39% of youngsters have been able to attend high school but only few among them have finished their education until the last level. The 11% of Masanafu population is attending the literacy programs in MCAFS.

- Nutrition

  The majority of the families can provide at least a meal a day to each member but only the 80% of them can have an additional meal. The common meals are mainly composed by tea, cassava (local root), or posho (maize flour) with beans. Only 31% of the families can buy rice, potatoes or peanuts sauce. Very few of them can buy occasionally meat.

- Incomes

  The medium income per family is of 145' 000 Ush per month, (approximately 56 euros) and varies from 20' 000 Ush to 250' 000. The familiar group is composed on average of 8 members; indeed the medium income per person is of 18'000 Ush per month. The main source of income is agriculture and animals breeding. Alternative sources of income can be: brick fabrication, sale of charcoal, tailoring and sale of cooked food.
II KABALAGALA

The parish of Kabalagala counts currently more than 12,300 inhabitants but the population is increasing very fast. The greater part of the population belongs to the ethnic group of Baganda, originally of the south of Uganda, but the number of persons coming from other ethnic groups of the north -like Acholi, Lango and Lugbar- is increasing.

✓ Education

In this parish there are more than 1000 orphans, aged between 3 and 15 years. The greater part of the orphans between the 3 and 15 years doesn't have access to primary education; most of the families cannot afford the cost of school fees that cost on average between 80,000 and 150,000 Ush per term. In the area there are no NGOs running free educational programs such as literacy programs and there none financed by the government. Without alternatives most of the children whose families cannot afford formal education try to get some money by , selling groundnuts on the road, collecting garbage or doing manicure. In the most extreme cases, girls start to be prostitutes at an early age of 12-13 years.

✓ Nutrition

In general nutrition is poor from the nourishing point of view: for breakfast the usual meal is cassava or beans with tea, for lunch or dinner they usually eat posho, bananas, beans, cassava, rice, peanuts and fish.

✓ Income

In the slum of Kabalagala, like in all the poor areas of Kampala, unemployment is a common problem due to the lack of the space to create new activities, the high costs of rent for the existing shops and the limited possibility to have access to a bank loan. For these reasons a wide percentage of the people do not have just one job, or a fixed job, but they do more activities in order to be able to guarantee a minimum income to provide to the needs of the family. The persons interviewed in the area of the market report that the medium income is of 2'500 Ugandan shillings a day (one euro), with a variation that can go from a minimum of 500 to a maximum of 6.000 shillings. The medium salary is of 50.700 Ugandan shillings and can vary from 15.000 to 180.000 shillings. From this income depends the whole family that is composed at least of four persons. Indeed in the slum of Kabalagala the per capita income is of 11.500 shillings.
III NAMUWONGO

Namwongo is peripheral areas closed to the city center of Kampala. The greatest part of the population belongs to Acholi tribe, because this area was one of the first where the people from the north found shelter in order to escape to situation of total insecurity of the northern areas of the country. The total population of the area is of about 10,000 persons.

✓ Education

Despite of the presence of schools in the slum, because of the financial problems of the families, only the 36% of the children attends school. Among these, only the 1% attend nursery school, 26% the primary school (elementary-medium), 9% the secondary school (medium-advanced). The medium cost per term is of about 80,000 Ush.

✓ Nutrition

The 73 % of the population of the slum eats only once a day. The common meals is composed by maize flour (posho) and rice and beans. The medium expense per family for the food is of 50,000 Ush per month.

✓ Income

The medium income for one family is of 59,000 Ush. On this income depend the survival of 8 persons; on average 7.375 Ush per capita each month. The greater part of the income comes from the sale of fruit and vegetables (61%), from tailoring activities (17%) and from meals preparation (11%). Only 9% among them has a fixed salary, like teachers and waitress.
**ACTIVITIES**

*Youth center MASANAFU*

1. **Construction of a Youth center**

The project plans to construct a youth center for the youth and the poor families of people living in and around Masanafu on a land owned by the organization MCAFS, next to the existing lower primary school. This will enable MCAFS to expand and improve on the educational programs already existing in MCAFS. The center will constitute a meeting point for the young people and a center of new activities and new opportunities. The centre will comprise, a multipurpose hall, some class rooms, a library books storage room, two offices and toilets. The center will accommodate the literacy school for adults, a course of ICT, some recreational activities, one library and the didactic movies projection. The target beneficiaries are 700 persons.

2. **Reference Library**

One of the rooms will be fitted with shelves and stocked with reference books for infants, youth of both primary and secondary school level plus general reference books and magazines. Other related assets would be a public address system, music system, a video and television system In door and out door games. The place would be organized into a resource and recreational centre where the youth can meet and recreate in a constructive and guided way. Where they have access to resources and information that enables them to be connected to wider society and to the world. Where awareness and sensitization programs can be run on HIV/ AIDS, male/female relationships, drug abuse, etc….

The multipurpose hall would be furnished for use as a reading and study room or workshop and training purposes.

3. **ICT training**

The course of computer directed by MCAFS animators will involve the young people of the community of Masanafu and the women who cannot be admitted to similar courses because of the age, of the cost and the level of education. This program of computer science is the only one existing in the zone of Masanafu. The number of beneficiaries will target a particular part of the population, on average 40 youngsters and 30 women.

4. **Vocational skills training**

In the aim of improving the life quality of disadvantaged persons and to give a professional qualification to the young people, MCAFS will improve the quality of the existing vocational skills training, and increase the number of beneficiaries.
through acquisition of more training materials and instructors. Because of the problems of insuring a constant supply of electricity (sometimes the distribution is limited to 3-12 hours per day) MCAFS will purchase a three-phase generator. At the end of the professional training the graduates will receive a professional kit (box of tools, sewing machine,...) that will put them in the position to start quickly working on their own. The total number of beneficiaries is of 180 young people.

5. Support HIV/AIDS affected families

In order to limit the spread of AIDS diffusion among the population of Masanafu, MCAFS supports 120 affected families whose children are already beneficiaries of the centre. The HIV affected persons are supported through the subsidies of medical care for the affected and start up input for the head of family in order to set up income generating activities. Furthermore the beneficiaries of the program will be referred to medical centers in order to receive free medical care and antiretroviral. Among the families supported by MCFS, 40 of them, the most disadvantaged ones, will receive a further support through food distribution.

Sports center KABALAGALA

The property on which the sport centre will be constructed, has been given to NCO by the Ugandan Ministry of Youth Policy, (NCO is in the process of obtaining the official documentation) in the aim of promoting and establishing sport activities for the youngsters. The aim is to offer leisure activities and a meeting point to the young people of the slum and at the same time of giving to the most performing among them the opportunity to qualify for joining a national team. In 2006 thanks to the activities organized by NCO, that have involved 200 children, 27 of them have received a free scholarship. The activities will be:

1. Construction of the center
We plan to construct a sport facility that will include showers, dressing rooms, bathrooms, one meeting room, a field for soccer, one for volleyball and one for basketball.

2. Sport activities
The main activity of the center will be the improvement of the already existing soccer trainings. With the opening of the new sport grounds we will have the possibility to organize new sports activities for the free time of the young people.
Youth center NAMUWONGO

The LOC (Local Organization Center) is a multi activity center created by ISP in Africa in order to improve the management of local NGO partners and thus increase their levels of sustainability. The main activities of the center are a literacy school for the children and professional trainings for youngsters and women, but it will host also some activities addressed to the whole community: a shop for selling local handicraft, trainings for local partner organization staff members, awareness meetings and free cinema. In the specific the planned activities are:

1. **Literacy school**

This activity aims to improve NCO literacy program of informal classes for the most disadvantaged children of the slum. The aim is to give a first education to the ones whose families cannot afford the cost of a pre-school and therefore who don’t have the possibility to be prepared to pass the admission test for primary school. As part of the program, the families of these children will attend a monthly meeting to check on the performance of the pupils and will benefit from other trainings such as counseling on family planning.

N. beneficiaries: 60 children/ year

2. **Vocational skills training**

MCAFS, in collaboration with ISP, will organize vocational trainings for disadvantaged youth, with the aim of offering vocational skills for job in the following skill areas:
- tailoring
- hairdressing
- videomaking/photomaking

N. beneficiaries/ year: tailoring: 30; hairdressing: 20; video-making/photo: 20.

3. **Trainings for local NGOs**

The project plans to carry out staff training of local NGOs (CBOs) through seminars of two/three days on the following topics: human resources management, accountability, sustainability, project coordination, administration.
The aim is to improve the management capacity and the organization of the local organisations. The planned number of beneficiaries is 10 persons/ seminar

4. Awareness meetings

Once every month the main room will host sensitization and awareness meetings under the facilitation of professional and experienced trainers. The meetings will be followed by a discussion among the participants. The main topics will be: gender based violence, AIDS prevention, children rights, general health, life saving strategies. The planned number of beneficiaries: is 50.

5. Cinema

For the children the multimedia activities constitute a leisure and fast instrument to learn new things. Through documentaries and cartoons, this activity will reach a greater number of children in order to facilitate learning in a leisure atmosphere.

6. Computer facilities

The center will offer the possibility of using computers facilities in order to:
- train local NCO staff and improve the quality of their administration
- acquire ICT skills for all the beneficiaries of the center

The planned number of beneficiaries: 100/year

7. Library

Two rooms of the center will host a library and a study room, in which students of all levels will have the possibility to deepen the knowledge acquired at school. There will be also a general book section for leisure reading. This facility will give the possibility to the students attending low level schools, to be prepared for the final exams. There will be also a veranda space where a wider public will have the possibility to read in a comfortable and quiet environment.