

Project Title: *Help Change the Lives of 300 Young People at Risks in Kinshasa*

Project Summary

There are over 500000 young people in Kinshasa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, who are not in school, not employed, not in training and not fulfilling their potential. At Association des Ami(e)s du Père Tony, we are working with community-based youth associations to build the life skills of young people at risks and create new educational, employment and economic opportunities.

What is the issue, problem, or challenge?

The war, coupled with mismanagement and lack of accountability, has led to sound poverty, high unemployment rate and a culture of violence as a means for resolving social problems. While the government is struggling to change the situation, its investments often overlook non-violence education and youth outreach. This is unfortunate because the city is experiencing a dramatic population boom, and few services exist to help youths become the positive leaders that their communities need.

How will this project solve this problem?

This fund will help reach out 300 youth at risks through Nonviolence Adventure Camps, which are designed to help young people build their self-esteem, teamwork and leadership skills, problem-solving abilities and appreciation of cultural differences. Funds will be used to support capacity building and small business initiatives for 30 community-based youth at risks mini-associations.

Potential Long Term Impact

We strongly believe that community-based youth associations are often in better position to provide long-term support for psychological change and economic empowerment for marginalized young people. By supporting training and small business efforts of youth mini-associations, donations to this fund have the potential to generate stronger poverty alleviation and non-violence capacity in a way that these groups are better prepared to address future community challenges.

Project Objectives

- **Project Goal :**

Youth play an active role in promoting social cohesion and access to services in their communities.

- **Project specific Objectives :**

1. More at risks youth's life skills strengthened to fight poverty and violence in their communities
2. More at risks youth connected to access job and economic opportunities.

Project Key Activities

In view to achieve the above objectives, the following activities are planned:

- Rich out 300 at risks young people and sensitize them about the project

- Design a non-violence and life skills program curriculum and engage relevant stakeholders
- Select and train 30 youth life skills facilitators /leaders
- Organize 3 Nonviolence Adventure Camps for 300 at risks young people
- Organize 300 at risks young people into 30 mini-associations
- Support small businesses for at risks young people mini-associations
- Set up a Monitoring and evaluating life skills program

Project Expected outcomes

- 300 at risks youth are sensitized and trained on business, entrepreneurship, self-esteem, teamwork and leadership skills, problem-solving abilities and appreciation of cultural differences. They acquire enough knowledge, life skills and non-violence prerequisites.
- Empowered 300 at risks youth are organized into 30 mini-associations. The mini-associations run small businesses and are well rooted into local communities. They provide long-term support for psychological change and economic empowerment for its members.

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Two complementary methods will be used to monitor the project's successes and address challenges that will be identified during the monitoring process. On the one hand, the approach of management by objectives will be applied. That means we will each time ensure whether the project objectives that were initially set up have been achieved or are being achieved. Here we will refer to the project indicators that were primarily defined. On the other hand, we will gather the impact that the implementation process of the project will be generating. That means that will be assessing the achieved results but gathering the unexpected outcomes of the project. To this end, participative interviews and pre-workshop and post-workshops surveys will be conducted among the project beneficiaries. A strong monitoring system will be set up. Bimonthly financial and narratives reports will be month shared with donors and supporters to show how funds are being used and which impact the project has generated. Final financial and narratives reports will be produced at the end of the one year implementation period.

Ownership and sustainability

It is expected that the 30 target youth at risks mini-associations will attain the knowledge and skills to enable them raise their own resource locally and externally. Peace and non-violence education courses as well as leadership skills, business and team building training sessions will equip the target youth groups with the necessary knowledge and skills that will help them to manage their own projects and organize for expanded and new initiatives. These target youth leaders will play a multiplication role of the project impact in their respective communities and these communities will have strength, abilities and opportunities to develop their own organizations, resources and activities beyond ASAPT's support. Target groups will, after the end of the project, raise their own technical inputs in form of trained women or manpower. The knowledge, lessons learned and best practices generated by the project will be duplicated locally and expanded at provincial and national levels.

Project timeframe

The project is planned for one year, from October 2014 to October 2015. Below is the detailed project timeframe:

Activities	Month	
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	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O
Rich out 300 at risks young people and sensitize them about the project	x	x											
Design a non-violence and life skills program curriculum and engage relevant stakeholders	x	x	x										
Select and train 30 youth life skills facilitators /leaders			x	x	x								
Organize 3 Nonviolence Adventure Camps for 300 at risks young people			x					x			x		
Organize 300 at risks young people into 30 mini-associations					x	x	x						
Support small businesses for at risks young people mini-associations							x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Set up a Monitoring and evaluating life skills program	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x		x

Organizational Capability and Experience

Association des Ami(e)s du Père Tony (ASAPT) is an emerging effort to build and consolidate local and national networks among groups working for peace and sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Created in 2006 but operating since 2008, it has succeeded in establishing provincial offices in Kinshasa, South Kivu and Maniema provinces. As a local and national peacebuilding Network, ASAPT is committed to the vision of tolerant coexistence among communities, where individuals have equal access to resources and contribute positively to social change. Selected recent programs: in partnership with the University of Pretoria (SA) and Institut Supérieur de Pédagogie Religieuse (ISPR-Kinshasa), ASAPT organized in Kinshasa (December 2013) a weeklong professional training in Leadership and Ethics in Africa for 60 NGO leaders, graduate students and teachers from Congo-Brazzaville and DRC. It participated as an implementing partner of CEPAS in the International Youth Foundation (USA)'s "YouthMap" project (March-June 2013) as well as in the National Democratic Institute (USA)'s assessment on community needs and expectations of democracy and political parties (January-March 2014). ASAPT partnered with Teachers Without Borders (USA) to organize a regional peace education pilot workshop for teachers from Rwanda and DRC in Bukavu (February 2011, for more detail please visit: <http://www.teacherswithoutborders.org/about-us/news/twb/peace-education-program-planteddemocraticrepublic-congo>). Through surveys conducted with the workshop participants, teachers requested ASAPT to pursue the program. Five peace education study groups were initiated in Bukavu and the outcomes of one year of work was encouraging. With 6 months Funding from the Swiss Direction of Cooperation for International Development (DDC, 2012), ASAPT trained teachers and students in civic education and equipped 15 schools from Kyankombe (south Kivu) and Bikenge (Maniema) area with desks. That was an expansion of a previous two years project (2011-2012) funded by the International Congregation of Missionaries of Africa to do similar work for 32 schools from Mingana Parish area (Maniema). With funding from the latter donor, ASAPT empowered 40 women leaders from UKAMAMA (a local network of women-farmers from Kabambare District, Maniema province), in Community Saving Groups and Lending Association system (2011). In 2013, ASAPT was recognized by the DRC government (Ministry of New Citizenship) for its contribution in civic and youth education. It was selected among the NGO partners that will be implementing the government strategy on new citizenship (2013-2016). ASAPT intends to build this project on these connections and experiences.

Budget in US \$

The funding goal is **\$ 72, 550** distributed as follows:

- 3500 for youth sensitization and out rich ;
- 1500 for non-violence and life skills program curriculum design;
- 5000 for youth life skills facilitators/leaders' training;
- 13000 for Nonviolence Adventure Camps;
- 30000 for support to small business initiatives of at risks youth mini-associations;
- 5000 for at risks youth mini-associations capacity building;
- 3000 for a Monitoring and Evaluating life skills program
- 3550 for offices supplies and administrative costs
- 8000 for personal and related costs