

# Nyalebbe Community Development Alliance Democratic Republic of the Congo

## Plan for a GOAT BANK

to be established  
with the assistance of people of goodwill  
via  
Global Giving

“Most people believe that NGOs are suppose to distribute free things to the community as was the case with some international NGOs who first operated in our area when we had just returned after the war. I urge everyone in the community to focus on the fight against poverty but not materials gains. Poverty is not only lack of material wealth and money but also ignorance. Ignorance is actually the biggest problem that people in our community face and is the reason why people are poor.

“I urge everyone to embrace opportunities such as the training that CDA is going to offer and other development projects that will come by. Let us break the vicious circle poverty that ties most of us down.”

*Mama Mado Beriu, Chairperson, Nyalebbe CDA, at a one day seminar for all the stakeholders (CBOs, Local NGOs, Local/community leaders, Political Leaders, Government leaders and the members of the organization etc) on 12th April 2008.*



The Nyalebbe Community Development Association was registered in November 2007 as a Non-Government Organisation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.  
Our NGO Registration Certificate can be [read by clicking here](#).

## Purpose

*This is a request for assistance to establish a 'Goat Bank' in our community.*

The idea is of a bank not lending money but lending goats... a person receives a female goat and when there is offspring passes on a female goat to the bank community. The goats will be cross-bred from local does and imported Boer goat bucks, to provide improvement in livestock health and meat and milk production.

## Needs and Implications

We live in a place fractured by war. We need to come together to build a healthier community and build our own economy. CDA have made a start with two training programs, in tailoring and carpentry, for young people.

This project is more ambitious. It requires us to organise at a more complex and enduring level, in a number of places. It requires that we accept responsibilities to run a 'bank'. It requires effective management of goats, their nutrition, health, breeding and marketing. Goats can be willful and destructive if not managed well. Managed well, they provide quantities of milk and meat most relevant to families, compared to cows.

So from this project we seek:

- improved nutrition for families, especially mothers and babies
- income for family units
- organisational skills
- community coherence and greater stability

*We seek funding for setup. We must become financially self-sustaining.*

## Background – who we are

Nyalebbe is a 'Localité' in Sabu Groupement, in Anghal Collectivité, Mahagi Territory, in the Ituri Province of eastern Democratic of Congo. This project is intended to be implemented in the Sabu Groupement<sup>1</sup>.

As a community, we developed the vision of having a Non Governmental Organization in 2006. The idea was developed after several years of extreme instability and civil unrest. Many died. All this resulted into a number of social problems which include high level of malnutrition especially among the children, appalling levels of education especially of the girl child, inadequate access to clean and safe drinking water, political, economic and social strife, a high level of poverty, a high rate of HIV/AIDS infection, unemployment, illiteracy (over 85% of the population is estimated to be illiterate) and no proper medical facilities.

We registered our NGO in November 2007. With the Community Development Alliance (CDA) we intend to promote long term development change by involving the community in every step of the project that we undertake. This way the community feels that they own the projects rather than having a feeling that the project belongs to the implementers. This is so helpful because the community tend to identify themselves with the project hence maintain it.

We have made a beginning with community projects in which we have set up our own training schemes (carpentry and tailoring) to provide skills and potential for work and income for young people. These projects also are giving us experience in receiving and managing financial support in a transparent and accountable way.

We want to run a goat bank project to restock the animals that were lost during the civil strife and political instability, as well ensuring constant supply of milk and meat as a means of food security, and to reduce the problem of malnutrition especially among the children and pregnant and breast feeding mothers.

<sup>1</sup>In the Congolese administrative set up, which was actually inherited from Belgian colonial times, the lowest administrative unit is a Localité, followed by a Groupement then a Colectivé and then Territory. The administrative leaders from Localité up to Collectivité levels are traditional leaders, they play both traditional and political administrative roles, and their positions are hereditary. CDA has support from these leaders.

This project will also help in conflict resolution and reconciliation among the community as they will be organized in groups hence bringing them closer, working together.

### **Situation Analysis**

The Second Congo War, also known as Africa's World War left a massive destruction of properties huts, granaries, animals, plants and even lives especially in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). There was a lot of abuse of human rights especially of innocent children and women. This left them vulnerable and traumatized and added to an already vulnerable position in the society: hence high rate of poverty and malnutrition especially among the children. This kind of situation calls for the need for advocacy and means to end such suffering and collective assistance.

CDA has a mission of enhancing people's life capacities, bringing hope to people's lives considering the pathetic economic and social situation the community is facing. With this project we wish to promote cultural transformation, agricultural (Nyajenge hybrid goat production for meat and milk) production, community transformation (i.e. promotion of unity and resolution), promotion of gender equality and creation of employment.

The challenges are immense and particularly daunting. This will require very strong commitment and support for the organization to effectively engage with most of these issues. It calls for skills, structures and systematic in place that can ensure effective engagement, continued organizational strengthening of the organization and human resource development.

### **Why Goat Bank**

A goat is one of the domestic animals reared by most people around the world, like any other edible domestic animals like cattle, sheep, rabbit etc. domestic goats are one of the oldest domestic animals, for thousand of years goats have been used for milk, meat, skin. Female goats are referred to as *does*, *nannies* or *mishas*, intact males are *bucks* or *billies*; the off spring are *kids* while castrated males are known as *wethers*.

Goat meat from young animals is called *kid* while from older animals is called *choven* or *mutton* by some people. The skin, leather, is known as kid, and is excellent.

Raising goats is relatively easy due to the fact that they require low capital investment, the reproductive yield is high, managing is not labor intensive but requires diligence.

The genetic potential of the local goats needs to be improved by selection and cross breeding, they can be used as pasture improvers.

## **GOATS – TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

*Detail in the following sections is included to provide reassurance of the depth of our research and the way in which this project can find a sensible and natural place in our community.*

### **Goat feeding**

There may be a popular idea in some countries that goats will eat 'anything' but in fact a goat needs a good mix of clean 'browse' food eaten from well above the soil, every day, to remain healthy and avoid disease. especially worms. Their digestive systems allow nearly any organic substance to be broken and used as nutrition. Goats are also known to be fastidious in their habits, they prefer to browse on the tips of woody shrubs and trees as well as the occasional broad leaves plant. Their plant diet is extremely varied and includes some species which are toxic or detrimental to cattle and sheep. This makes them valuable for controlling noxious weeds and clearing bushes and undergrowth. Goat can hardly eat soiled food or drink contaminated water unless it is starving, which is one of the reasons why rearing them is most often free range. In a day a healthy and well fed goat will consume an average of 4.5 units of dry matter per 100 units of body-weight.

### **Reproduction of goats:**

The reproduction of goats greatly depends on the environment, climate and the availability of grass, trees and shrubs to feed on. Breeding may occur at any time of the year — if goats are well and strong, they breed more often and produce better kids.

In Nyalebbe (with the existing local goat breed) the breeding period is normally from December to March which is the dry season, during this time most (all) goats are left to graze on free range and mix with other herds as they mate, another breeding period is from June to August which means in a year the goats kid twice, but the fertility of goats (does) greatly depend on care and nutrition.

The gestation period is 150 days and the results are more often in single with twins and triplets being less common, in some incidences there are also cases of quadruple and quintuple. A young doe will go on heat after 7 – 9 month of its birth while a buck can be able of breeding at the age of 2 – 3 months.

### **Importance of Goats**

Goat are of overriding importance to human being when they are alive and dead, they provide milk and are also used for cultural function like paying of bride price, paying fines to chiefs, exchanging with cattle, selling etc and then when are dead they are used for meat and hides, the horns are used to make spoons and also trumpets are made out of them. Goats are preferred by many in developing countries because they are also easy to manage as compared to cattle and their production (amounts of meat and milk products) is more appropriate to a household, especially in a community where there is no refrigeration like Nyalebbe. Being lighter on the ground and because the 'browse' higher up rather than on the ground like cattle or especially sheep, they cause less damage to land IF they are well managed and not allowed to run free, multiply and destroy all vegetation.

### **Meat/nutrition**

In our view, goats have the tastiest meat among all the domestic animals. Most people compare to that of lamb, the test and quality of the meat depend on the age and the condition of the goat. The meat can be prepared in a variety of ways including roasted, grilled, stewed, canned or as sausage.

Goats' meat is also known for being highly nutritious and healthier than other mutton, it has less fat and cholesterol, and it is some times compared to chicken but has more

minerals than chicken. Apart from the red meat, other parts of the goat like organs, offals are equally edible and sensibly they are meant for elders or important visitors, the heads and legs are smoked and cleaned then used to prepare a special dish with ground nut pastes.

Goats are usually killed for meat hear from the age of one year. A well matured local breed goat normally weighing 25 – 30 kg can feed from 40 –50 people.

This is also the age at which females are able to breed.

### **Milk**

From the time of kidding, the doe comes into milk production which varies with the breed, diet, age and quality of the doe, dairy goats giving the highest quantity of milk (2 to 5 liter a day). The local goats give between ½ to 1 liter a day, in most case they are not milked since they produce just enough milk to feed the kids. Any milking is normally done early morning before the kid has suckled then in some cases also late evening.

Goats milk is very nutritious and successfully replaces cow milk for those who do not take cow milk. Goats milk too like cow milk has sugar (lactose) which may cause gastrointestinal problems people with lactose intolerance, it equally contain a form of casein, a protein. Goats mild is naturally homogenized hence the cream remains suspended in the milk instead of rising to the top like in raw cow's milk, when the milk is kept thoroughly clean, it can be drunk raw which improves the benefit. The milk also has reduced allergy sensitivity compared to cows milk which is because goat's diet is very varied, not just grass.

### **Goat Skin/ pelt**

After the flesh of a goat is taken and sold or eaten, the skin is stretched and dried and is used locally for making drums and other local musical instruments like adungu, dongo, agwara . Skins are also used as mats or sold for leather trade where they processed and used for making high quality manufactured items like belt, hand bags,

shoes etc. What makes goat skin so useful is that they have little hair so the follicles are spread further and there is more uninterrupted surface area.

### **Goat dung/urine**

The most common use of goat dung and urine locally is for smearing the floor, smearing baskets, to and bind surfaces. This may sound strange in some countries but it is a common and sensible practice in most countries.

It can also be used as manure, especially the floor waste from sheds, where it is mixed with straw and urine.

### **Local goat breeds**

The most common breed of goats found in and around Nyalebbe is the small type of goat described as Small East African (SEA), a mature goat weighs from 20 – 25 kg live weight. Other types which are not very common are the bigger type which weighs from 30 – 35 live weight and the third type is a cross breeding of the first breed and second one, they weigh between 25 – 30 kg live weigh.



The colors of the goats range from white, black and brown or mixture of three colors. Their twinning level is estimated to be at 30%, they produce milk just enough to raise the kids and incase of triplets there is likely a poor initial growth due to inadequate milk supply.

### **Approach for improving on the local breeds**

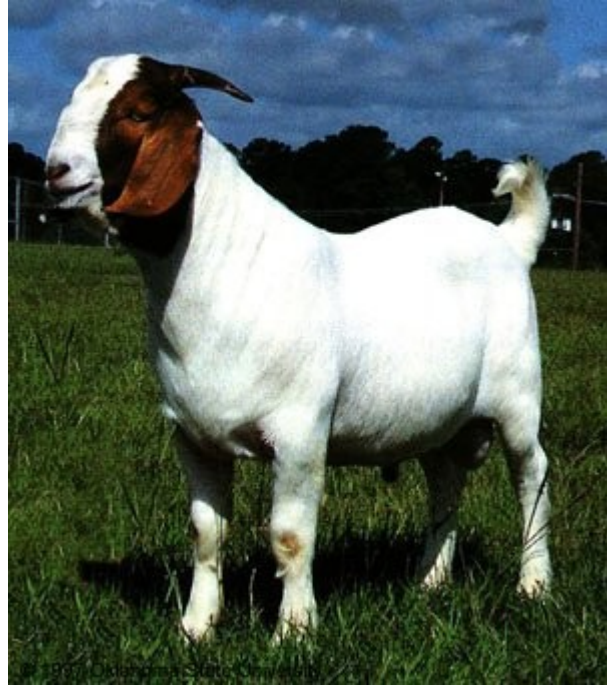
Increase in meat and milk production from goats can be based on the basic principles and practices of animals' propagation; this can be done by selection and cross breeding methods. It is therefore useful to apply improved genetic resource which is indigenous



to the African continent; such an animal is a characteristic of the Boer Goat commonly known by the local community as Nyajenge.

The Boer Goats was selected from the indigenous goats and breed for many years by the Boers of South Africa (hence the name Boer) with the aim of improving meat production.

A mature female Boer goat may weigh between 60 – 75 kg live weight and a mature male weighs from 90 – 100kg live weight. Their colors are normally cream – white body and a reddish brown head. They have twinning rate of 50% and the rate of triplets is 6%, there is high milk yield and adapts well to semi arid conditions. It has a very high carcass dressing percentage and the skin has excellent quality for leather.



*Picture of a male Boer goat used in a similar crossbreeding project in Malaysia*

The Boer goat breed was imported into Uganda (from where we intend to import) in 1993 from Northern Cape Town Province of South Africa by Veterinary Medicine at Makerere University – Kampala. The breed has now been spread throughout the country (Uganda) and it has done so well.

## **STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Objectives of the project:**

- To offer the community business opportunity and skills in goat husbandry
- To improve on the goat's meat and milk production
- To build a banking system with goats as the currency
- To improve family nutrition especially among children
- To add to social harmony and confidence by succeeding in all this

### **Organizing the community in groups:**

To achieve the above objectives, the community will be organized in groups. Each Localité (i.e. the 8 Localité of Sabu Groupement) will have two small groups, the number and size of the groups will depend on the population size of the Localité.

Each group will have its own executive committee consisting of five members one of whom will be a member of CDA executive committee. The group members will be expected to pay some amount for membership fee in order to join the group, the amount to be paid will be determined by the executive committee of each group.

There will also be a stakeholders' meeting to introduce the project to the community, the meeting will be attended by local leaders, other NGO officials, veterinary officers etc.

### **Training of group members:**

The group members will receive a three months training prior to the distribution of goats, each group will have 12 session of training, for example, one training session per week for a period of three months. After the training each group will be given a doe (local breed) which they will share among themselves. The first person to receive the goat will keep it till it produces the first female kid, the female kid will be passed on to another member who will also keep it till it gets the first female kid and pass it (the kid) on to another members, this procedure will continue till all the members have

received goats (does). The training will also encompass promotion of contemporary community issues like AIDS, family care, gender issues, cultural issues etc.

Additional training will also be organized for two people who shall be the caretakers of the imported Nyajenge (boer) breeds. They will be trained on basic / simple treatment and de-worming skills so that they are able to give simple treatment to the imported goats in order to prevent them from being effected by tropical deceases caused by especially ticks; the training will be entrusted to the Collectivité veterinary department.

After the training of the caretakers, each will be provided with treatment kits (drugs, inputs and protective wear). Payment for their work will be by having free mating of their does with the hybrid goats while other people will be required to pay some amount of money to have their does mated by the imported Nyajenge breeds. We are studying and will discuss with participants the need for goat owners to maintain housing, general care and nutritional standards to be entitled to veterinary support.

#### **Distribution of does (local breeds)**

Each group will be provided with one doe from the local breeds, the does will be selected from high yield mothers, for instance those that give birth to twins and triplets. The doe will be given to one group member who will keep it till it gives birth to the fist female kid, the kid produces will be passed on to another group member who will also keep it till it gives birth to the first female kid that will also be pass on, this system will continue till all the group members have received a doe each. The local doe will be cross breed with Boer goat (bucks) that will be imported from Uganda. The local breeds is sold at about US \$50 each, the 16 goats will cost US D 780.48.

To ensure that quality breeds are kept for herd development, in case of twins and both are does, the weaker one will be retained by the owner and the stronger one is return to the group to be given to another person. This is because the owner will have other opportunities to select better does in future for herd development.

**Introducing Boer Goats:**

Two Boer goats (bucks) will be imported from Uganda for cross breeding with the selected local does. Access to the imported goats will be open to all the community members even those who are not in the groups but there will be a fee charged on every doe brought for cross breeding. Sharing of the bucks will be one per four Localité (1:4) to reduce the distance and to allow also other people to bring their does for mating, this will also avoid over load of the bucks. Each buck will cost about US \$ 220: transport from Kampala, custom clearance and veterinary documents will cost about \$600, to import the two Boer goats therefore we need \$US 1040.

There will also be funds needed (\$200) through this project for the construction of two goat sheds and two crushes for drenching and vaccination. This will help in treating the project goats. The shelters and the crushes will be roofed using iron sheets thus increasing the cost of construction. The roofing with iron sheets is intended to avoid them (the crushes/shelters) from catching fire from the near by bushes or people with ill feelings setting them on fire intentionally.

**Methods of grazing:**

To avoid goats running away and invading people's garden, all the project goats will be grazed on semi free range, that is by tying them in the bush in the morning to browse and shifting under shed when the sun gets too hot then taking them back for browsing in the afternoon. The imported bucks will be kept in pens, with grass and other vegetation cut and brought to them at their shelters.

**Veterinary services:**

All the project goats (imported and local breeds) will have routine veterinary services i.e. every three month, the services will comprise of de-worming, spraying and vaccination to prevent them from contracting tropical diseases which are caused by ticks and worms. The effect of these diseases if not treated may result in lost weight, lost of appetite, diarrhea, and eventually death. Nutritional care also essential. The veterinary advice will be sought from the department of veterinary of the Collectivité who will also help in the training of the imported breed care takers.

**Linking/partnership:**

The project will partner with the Collectivité (local government) in order to cover the human resource gap that may exist in the agricultural field; the partner will be expected to provide technical support and supervision to the beneficiaries.

**Research/documentation:**

There will be monitoring reports prepared by the Project Coordinator and the Chair Person of each group, the reports will assist in the evaluation and monitoring of the projects. Other documents that will be prepared are training reports/attendance list, and the records of goat distribution.

**Resources needed:**

- Selected local breed does
- Boer goats
- Transport means (bicycles)
- Inputs/ drugs/protective wear
- Human resource

**Expected timeframe/schedule for the completion of the project:**

The expected time frame of this project is one year (12 months) by this time the first female kids will have been passed on to another group member at least from each group.

After the one year (12 month) the management of the project will be left in the hands of the executive committee of each group but with periodic (say once a month) supervision by CDA.

The Chairperson of each group will also be expected to furnish CDA with a quarterly progress report of the project which will be posted on our web site.

See timeframe next page.

Activity	Achievement indicator	Actors	Time Frame														
			Quarter 1			Quarter 2			Quarter 3			Quarter 4					
<b>Organizing the community in groups</b>																	
Stakeholders meetings	Photos, reports,	Local leaders, CDA executive,	X														
Community Mobilization	Minutes of meetings held, reports,	CDA, community, stake holders	X														
Formation of groups	Groups formed	CDA, Community	X														
Registering members	Number of members registered	CDA, each group	X														
<b>Training</b>																	
Training of group members	Training reports, pictures, list of people trained	Group members, CDA		X	X	X											
Training of Boer goat care takers	Training certificates, pictures reports	Collectivité veterinary officer, trainees, CDA				X											
<b>Distribution of does (local breeds)</b>																	
Procuring local does	Delivery notes, receipts	CDA, group members					X										
First phase distribution of goats	List of people who received the goats	CDA					X										
Procuring imported goats	Delivery notes, receipts	CDA							X								
<b>Inputs and supplies</b>																	
Construction of goat shed	Sheds constructed	CDA, group members						X									
Construction of crush for drenching, vaccination	Crush constructed	CDA, group members						X									
Procuring inputs/ drugs/protective wear	Delivery notes, receipts	CDA	X			X			X			X			X		
<b>Linking/partnership</b>																	
Partnering with the Collectivité	Papers signed, photos taken		X														
<b>Research/documentation</b>																	
Writing of reports	Reports written	CDA, groups	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Veterinary services</b>			X			X			X			X			X		
<b>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

*Table 1: Timeframe for Goat Bank establishment*

### **Management of the project:**

The deployment of funds will be managed by the executive committee of the Community Development Alliance while the progress of the project will be managed by the Coordinator who will be caretakers trained.

### **Ownership of the project:**

All the assets of the project will be owned by CDA, this will be ensured by registering all the assets in the name of the organization and the legal documents signed will be

kept by the Coordinator (on behalf of the organization) within the premises of the organization.

**Accessibility of the project:**

All the community members (beneficiaries), group members, stakeholders and CDA staff will have access to the project and will be able to use the project facilities.

**BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT**

A detailed line budget appears on the next page, from which we have derived the following outcome lines appearing on the Global Giving web site, with amounts rounded [Dollar amounts are at October 2008]:

1. We must organise and train 200 people at \$10 each (\$10 x 200)
2. We must buy and import 2 quality Boer bucks and pay for transport and customs (\$520 x 2)
3. We must buy 16 good local breed does (\$50 x 16)
4. We must buy veterinary equipment to use long term, cost per goat (\$33 x 18)
5. We must buy the first year's supplements and veterinary supplies, per goat (\$22 x 18)

Note that CDA will pay costs of secure housing for goats and for goat crushes (for holding and handling goats).

[go to next page for line budget]

S/n	Activity / input	qty	Unit cost UD S	Total cost US D	Funded locally?
1	<b>Training of group members/care takers</b>				
	Stakeholders meeting/seminar	1	213.41	213.41	
	Group members	192	6.1	1171.2	
	Care takers (one week training)	1	304.49	304.49	
	Printing of certificates	3	3.05	9.15	
	<b>Sub total</b>			<b>1698.25</b>	
2	<b>Construction of shed/crush</b>				
	Construction of goat shed for the hybrids	2	60.98	121.96	
	Construction crush for the hybrids	2	30.49	60.98	
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>182.94</b>	Yes, CDA
3	<b>Procurement of goats</b>				
	Boer breed	2	213.41	426.82	
	Local breeds	16	48.78	780.48	
	Transportation and custom clearance		609.76	609.76	
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>1817.06</b>	
4	<b>Drugs / Acaricides / veterinary services</b>				
	Botles of Oxytetracycline 10% injection	4	3.67	14.68	
	Penstrep (botle 100 mls)	4	21.34	85.36	
	Levamisole dewarmers (125 ml)	4	3.05	12.2	
	Vitamine Indicatable (bottle 125 mls)	4	7.32	29.28	
	Reneg Spray (Botle 250)	4	14.02	56.08	
	Mineral bricks	50	4.29	214.5	
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>412.1</b>	
5	<b>Inputs</b>				
	Bucket spray pump	1	274.39	274.39	
	Basins	2	3.05	6.1	
	Drenching gun	1	36.59	36.59	
	Burdizzo 23cm	1	67.07	67.07	
	Empty Jerricans	2	3.05	6.1	
	Syringe	1	48.78	48.78	
	Packets of needles	2	91.46	182.92	
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>621.95</b>	
6	<b>Protective wear</b>				
	Overolls	2	15.24	30.48	
	Gum boots	2	9.15	18.3	
	Gloves (pairs)	2	4.89	9.78	
	<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>58.56</b>	
8	<b>Administrative cost</b>				
	Stationery	-	121.95	121.95	
	Transport (bicycle)	1	121.95	121.95	
	<b>Sub total</b>			<b>243.9</b>	
	<b>Grand total</b>			<b>5034.76</b>	



### **Sustainability of the project**

The maintenance of the project will solemnly lie in the hands of the groups, with close supervision by CDA. After the completion of the project, the money continuing to be collected from the group members as membership and subscription fee plus payments for mating of individual does will be used to funds the project especially in procuring drugs and inputs for treating the imported breeds.

### **Security for the project properties:**

Cases of goats being stolen has been very rare in this community, however to ensure safety of the goats especially the imported breeds, we intend to construct shelters which with strong locks to prevent the goats being stolen at night. The local breeds will be kept safe by the individuals to whom it has been given. As the herds grow and people develop higher value herds, there will be need for a piece of land where a community kraal can be constructed and all the goats are kept safe and grazed on free range as is being done at the moment with cattle. This will require continued consultation and policy development.

### **Monitoring of the project:**

There will be progress reports, training reports and minutes of the meetings held prepared by the Coordinator of CDA. The executive committee of each group will also be expected to monitor the process of distribution and present quarterly report to CDA, the reports will also be used to evaluate their performance (the performance of each group).

### **Additional information about the organization:**

Learn more about us at our website at <http://www.easterncongo.net/>

AND

we will be reporting on this project also at our blog

<http://easterncongo.blogspot.com/>

October 2008