



giveafew

Non-profit Organisation Description

Giveafew is a non-profit organisation with the purpose of teaching, empowering and providing citizens with tools and skills for promoting their endogenous and sustainable development. Under this principle, we believe that the citizens of every country around the world have got the right to a decent life where they can make the most of the resources at their disposal, as long as there is potential to harness them, promoting the best practices for environmental protection, enhancing resilience and achieving good living standards.

Official Registration

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Contact Details

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Vision

To have a world with the best development opportunities with a safe environment at heart.

Mission

Our mission is to enhance coffee and cocoa farm communities by providing them with the essential tools to foster their own sustainable development and improve their livelihoods in a safe environment, especially family farmers who are undergoing hardships or lack the resources. Our support will help them thrive and have better life conditions.

As non-profit organisation we would like to help people in need in Venezuela with our project. We are aware of the fact that we will not end cocoa and coffee farmer's impoverished situation worldwide but at least we can raise awareness and bring better future opportunities to farmers in Venezuela, especially in the midst of the country's worst economic crisis.

Giveafew Project

Project Title: Helping Vulnerable Venezuelan Slum Children

Region: South America

Country: Venezuela

Estimated start date: 14.10.2019

Estimated end date: 14.10.2020

Executing Agency: GIVEAFEW

Sector: Education, Health

Sub-sectors: sustainable development, human rights, capacity building, training, nutrition

OVERVIEW

Venezuela, a South American country known worldwide for holding the world's largest supply of crude oil, is also one of the countries with the most diverse natural resources and prior to the discovery of oil, the country's main sources of export and revenues were *coffee* and *cocoa*, two of the most sought-after agricultural crops in the world nowadays. However, with the oil discovery the country's economy soon changed, becoming one of the biggest countries of oil and oil by-products exporters, leaving coffee and cocoa business pushed to the background. It wasn't until recent years that, due to the collapse in oil prices together with high levels of debt and corruption, the country's economy has declined and Venezuelans are currently undergoing the worst ever economic, political and social crisis. Hyperinflation has led to shortages of food, medicines and other basic elements worsening the life quality of the country's citizens.

Sources from the National Institute for Statistics (INE) as well as the Poll for Living Conditions (ENCOVI) have shown that almost 90% of Venezuelans survive with an income below the poverty threshold, and extremely deprived citizens can't simply afford a decent living. Slums in the country such as Petare, South America's biggest slum and one of the many populous slums in Caracas, has become massively populated as the situation in the country worsens. Citizens can't endure the current situation with forecasts from the International Monetary Fund pointing to a soaring 1.700.000% inflation rate, and in the midst of the deepening crisis, poverty-stricken children in these slums are the ones who suffer the most: many of them have been deprived from education as parents can't afford their schooling, favouring increase in delinquency rates, and a growing number of these children do not receive proper food supply. A study carried out by UNICEF shows that a dramatic number of children in Venezuela suffer from malnutrition as a result of the economic crisis in the country. According to UNICEF "there are clear signs that the crisis is limiting children's access to quality health services, medicines and food" and this is the day-to-day situation of these kids in the slums. As times goes by and the situation aggravates in Venezuela, malnutrition rates are on the rise as well as lack of education and access to basic resources, that is why a call for action is needed.

At Giveafew, we strongly believe that access to education and a balanced diet are human rights that must not be violated, and with joint efforts we can achieve big changes on these hopeless children. Our project aims to develop a meal programme and after school activities together with a local community in one of the many sectors in Petare, in order to provide underprivileged children with a daily meal as well as teaching them skills through workshops and ludic activities on cocoa and coffee as sources of

sustainable livelihoods which will foster better future opportunities in these children.

Why cocoa & coffee workshops?

Throughout its history, Venezuela's economy has experienced major shifts and prior to the oil discovery, the country relied on *cocoa* and *coffee* as the main sources of export and revenues. During the 17th century "cacao" was the main source of income in the country and the only supplier to Spain. Later, in the beginning of the 19th century farmers started planting coffee crops and soon Venezuela had for the first time its first major coffee export of 6.5 million pounds of this important crop. By the mid 1830's Venezuela's main sources of income were coffee and cocoa. Nowadays, where the country's economy has collapsed and with the plummeting oil prices which cannot sustain the country's needs, Venezuelans have got to rethink their situation and look for alternative options in the search for a better future, especially the most deprived sector of the society where citizens have got no access to tertiary education or good work opportunities, and where access to primary and secondary education is only accessible to a small percentage of these children. Moreover, amid the crisis, there has been an important surge in the development of small cocoa and coffee businesses in the country with more than 8000 chocolate and coffee brands 100% made in Venezuela. That is why, through our food bank and workshops, we want to offer these underprivileged children opportunities for a better and brighter future, teaching them about the value these Venezuelan crops have got to offer through proper planting, cultivation, harvest and post-harvest practices, and providing them with training on business skills so that or even their parents can later embark on their chocolate or cocoa businesses. Education is the only means for acquiring knowledge, skills, beliefs, habits and values which

can help them thrive and lift them out of poverty. By teaching the future Venezuelan generation, we will be bringing hope to an embattled society and help guarantee the future production of cocoa and coffee, which is being threatened in Venezuela by the lack of qualified farmers and the devastating climate change effects.

Can you imagine waking up in the morning without access to your morning coffee or unable to purchase a chocolate bar because the country ran out of them? This is what the future looks like and that's why we need to take action!

OBJECTIVE

Our main objective on this project is to establish a **"Once a day meal"** programme - cooperating **with "Sueña Mi Gente" project** - in one of the many communities of Petare where we can provide school children with a daily meal and **training workshops** and activities in cocoa and coffee production in the form of an after school programme where we can provide them with food, knowledge and skills which will help them foresee a better future.

Specific objectives include:

- Providing impoverished children in a Petare community with a daily balanced meal in order to help compensate for the lack of a balanced diet.
- Offering children in a Petare community workshops and playful activities adapted to their ages on cocoa and coffee skills and practices.
- Encouraging children through friendly activities to learn about the values, benefits and numerous uses coffee and cocoa crops have got to offer which can bring economic growth.

ACTIVITIES

With the contributions we gather from donations we will be able to implement the following activities:

- Purchasing tools and materials to set up and adapt the space for the food providing place and the workshops areas.
- Designing a feeding plan with a nutritionist's advise to ensure meals will be balanced and appropriate for the children.
- Preparing the meals at the designated food area so that the local community can get involved so they can also benefit from the project's activities and encourage participation.
- Teaching after school workshops adapted to the children's age with qualified specialists.
- Designing playful learning activities (arts, crafts, etc.) focused on the process of transformation of cocoa and coffee.
- Carrying out meetings with the children's parents in order to familiarise them with the learning outcomes and get them involved should they wish to take part in the activities.
- Raising awareness on the economic values and benefits Venezuelan cocoa and coffee offer which can help them foresee future entrepreneurial projects.

