

Kaloko Report to Trade plus Aid on Scholarship funding in 2005

To date a total of 750 scholarships have been awarded to 333 different children. In 2005 100 children received scholarship support at a cost of £4,400. We are also supporting 12 G12 students in 2005 at a further cost of £1,100.

Year	Total cost of scholarships Grades 8-11	No of children supported in Grade 8	Cost of support	No of children supported in Grade 9	Cost of support	No of children supported in Grade 10	Cost of support	No of children supported in Grade 11	Cost of support
2005	4,400	40	1,400	40	1,400	11	750	10	850

(Note: costs have been rounded to the nearest £50 – exact values change daily with exchange rates).

Of the 19 students who we supported and who completed G12 in 2001-3, six are enrolled in tertiary education. (Those who completed their G12 in 2004 will enrol in 2006 after a compulsory year out). Subjects being studied include forestry, teaching accounts and management. Three of the six work for us during the holidays and we hope to offer employment to at least two of the six on completion of their studies.

Challenges

Enrolment numbers at LUBS (Luansobe Upper Basic School) continue to provide a challenge to the school. Thanks to increasing settlement in the area and Kaloko's encouragement of children to stay on at school, enrolment has continued to rise. LUBS has been forced to run 2 classes for each Grade with the legal maximum of 45 per class, giving a total of 810 students.

This has presented teaching difficulties with the Government unable to supply sufficient teachers. Kaloko has continued to fund additional teachers to ensure sufficient numbers are employed but this can only be seen as a stop-gap measure.

There has been a disappointing progression from G9 to G10 this year. This in large part has been caused by the ever increasing pressure on the education system in the area, as there are very few schools – effectively only 2 - that cater for Grades 10 to 12.

With increasing numbers of students attending schools in the District, and LUBS in particular, which is obviously a fantastic achievement, this means that places at Grades 10 are at a premium. This has raised the pass mark threshold for entry into secondary schools. The result is that many children are passing their Grade 9 exams, but failing to get high enough scores to enter Grade 10. The system is further complicated by the fact that each school can set its own entry pass mark.

Away from the teaching pupil numbers have also caused severe pressure on scarce water supplies, which have not been helped by fuel price rises (35% this year) or last year's drought.

An appreciation of the Kwacha by 13% against the pound has also meant that school fees have increased significantly this year in pound sterling terms.

Future Plans

We have been discussing the future of the school with the PTA and the Government over the last 6 months.

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As a result of this we are in the process of writing a development plan to improve the educational infrastructure of the school so that it can accommodate 810 pupils. This will include: building new classrooms specifically for G8 and 9; building additional teachers houses so that the Government can post sufficient teachers to the school, which they have agreed to do; improving the water supply to the school to avoid the risk of pupils being sent home due to a lack of water; and rehabilitating the hostel accommodation so that it is up to standard.

At the same time the Government has asked the District Authority to recommend schools for upgrading to full secondary school status catering for G10-12 in order to alleviate the problems of progression from G9 to G10. We understand from the District that LUBS is one of those schools that has been recommended.

In 2006 we expect to continue our scholarship programme and Kaloko Trust UK remains committed to providing education for the local communities' children. It is still very much an integral part of our vision, and we couldn't achieve this without generous funding such as that of Trade plus Aid.



CHEPELA Mwamba, Aged 14, Grade 8, LUBS

“Scholarship is really helping me because my parents are supporting many school-going children. I have three sisters and two brothers who are still at school. So to have my fees paid is a relief to my parents. I am thankful to the sponsors for the help they offer.”



CHIPANGA Mercy, Aged 15, Grade 8, LUBS

“Scholarship helps me to continue schooling. I have a brother who is at a boarding school, so my mother spends a lot of money to pay for his fees and she would not manage to also pay for me. Thank you for your help.”



MWILA Busiku, Aged 15, Grade 8, LUBS

“I am a double orphan (both my parents are dead) staying with my relatives. Scholarship is helping me in my education, without it I would not be in school. “

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KUMWENDA Nyampande, Aged 16, Grade 9, LUBS

“I am able to continue schooling only because my fees are paid by the scholarship money. Next year I can go to Grade 10 because of this scholarship which is helping me to continue schooling. We are many in my family, so my parents cannot manage to pay all the fees for everyone and to provide my school needs.”



KUNDA Paul, Aged 18, Grade 9 , LUBS

“Both my parents are dead and I have a real need to be educated. My parents passed away when I was very young, leaving me with relatives. When I passed my exams to continue to Grade 8 my relatives had no money to pay for my school fees. Scholarship has helped me to continue schooling, without it I would be at home doing nothing.”



NGWIRA Zechheus, Aged 18, Grade 10, Chiwala Boys School

“I am very happy to be on scholarship because the support it gives has helped me continue at school. I live with my elderly grandparents as my parents passed away when I was doing Grade 5. Thank you very much for the support which you offer to me.”



MWENDEDE Meston, Aged 18, Grade 10, Chiwala Boys School

“Scholarship is helping me with my education. I cannot manage to pay for all my schooling myself. Because my fees are paid by scholarship I can use my money for other school needs such as my uniform and books.”

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BWALYA Pethias, Aged 19, Grade 11, Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School

“I am grateful for this scholarship scheme which is giving me an education. My father is dead. I have five brothers and my mother struggles to take care of us all.”