

COMPUTERS YOUTH POLYTECHNICS IN KENYA

**PROJECT: 120016 INTERIM REPORT OF:
HELP MISSION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

SUBMITTED TO: JOHANNA VOGELI

PROJECT COORDINATOR,

MIVA SWITZERLAND

Postfach 351 CH-9501 Wil/SG 1

Tel:+41719121555

Fax:41719121557

projecte@miva.ch

voegeli@miva.ch

ON

JANUARY, 25TH 2013.

SUBMITTED BY: JOSEPHINE SINDAVI

DIRECTOR,

HELP MISSION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

P.O BOX 16164

NAKURU, KENYA

TEL.+254-51-8006098/9

Mobil: +254-714 473 437

“Vijana Na Ujuzi” Project- Computer component

Project background

In an effort to address the problem of youth unemployment, socio-economic dependence and desperation, Help Mission Development Services (HMDS), in partnership with well-wishers, has and continues to implement vocational skill training programmes for the ever increasing number of out-of-school youth. Many of the youth drop out of school either because of lack of school fees or opportunity to pursue higher formal education studies. It is not surprising today to find frustrated and hopeless youth indulging in deviant behaviors such as alcoholism, drug peddling and pushing, thuggery, thieving and robbery, prostitution and other various anti social activities, in order that they may survive in this life. For most of them, it feels like a lost course in life already. Previously, April 2008 – March 2011, the HMDS implemented a three (3) year ‘TUMAINI LA VIJANA – TLV (Hope for the Youth) project, in 12 Youth Polytechnics (YPs) in the Rift Valley Province, Kenya, embracing the sole purpose of giving hope to such youth through vocational skill training strategies in those YPs. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MOYAS) which holds the auspicious portfolio over the YPs in the Country, was quite impressed with our TLV project and work achievement. Indeed our revival and revitalization strategies have been well adopted by MOYAS in YPs in other areas across the Rift Region, in effect challenging HMDS to replicate the project in other areas YPs and areas. Beginning January 2013 therefore, HMDS, in collaboration with donor CO-OPERAID Switzerland, is replicating the virtues of the TLV project in five (5) other YPs in Nakuru County, Kenya.

Project aims and objectives

The purpose of the VNU project is to facilitate quality vocational skills training opportunities for unemployable youth to become successful workers, entrepreneurs, parents, citizens and leaders. The most significant of the project objectives is to reinforce partner Youth Polytechnics through provision of equipment, tools, machines, materials and textbooks, in order to facilitate quality training for the youth. And like in the case of the TLV, it is under this objective that the supply of 20 computers each partner YP fell and falls in the current project. Other objectives include:-

- Career upgrading of YP instructors and Management training for Board of Governors.
- Expert facilitation in entrepreneurship,
- Girl-child empowerment through guidance and counseling,
- HIV&AIDS education and creation of awareness,

➤ Sports infrastructure and talent development among YP youth

It is the hope of HMDS that VNU, like the front runner TLV project, will provide young people with the skills and opportunities they need to be successful, independent and self-sufficient in life. HMDS hopes that trained youth will not only become employable, but they will also be able to undertake self-employment and eventually create employment opportunities for other youth in their communities.

Activity platform

MIVA is supporting 80 computers for the five Youth Polytechnics in Kenya as a part of their 80 years Jubilee Celebration in Switzerland. The funding for the Computer component was received from MIVA in December 2012 Amounting Kshs. 4,253,442 CHF. 48,800 when Youth Polytechnics were on recess for end of the year break i.e. December holiday. HMDS too had closed for Christmas and New Year (2013) holidays. The YPs re-opened on 7th January 2013, and it has taken a quick effort to realize the following work:-

- ✚ HMDS scheduled meetings with BOGs of respective partner YPs, discussed preparation of Computer Labs and the delivery of 20 computers each during first quarter, 2013. It has also been agreed that instead of providing each YP, 5 printers, they will receive one printer and a photo copier machine instead. The computers will be networked to use the one printer without problem. Cost price has increased by 10%, since the proposal was originally made.



Discussion with BOG on computer project at Cheptuech YP on Right HMDS Director Miss Josephine Sindavi.

- ✚ HMDS has contracted a carpenter to make computer Lab furniture for all partner YPs and work is going as scheduled.

- ✚ Already we had received and vetted quotations for supply of 100 computer pieces and are ready for the supply from Blink Byte Technologies of Nakuru. CO-OPERAID will contribute towards the extra computers, textbooks and the upgrading training of instructors in computer courses for the remaining two (2) years of project implementation.

- ✚ Njoro YP is set to receive its delivery on 28/01/2013 as its Lab preparation is about complete. The delivery and installation process will then proceed gradually on fortnightly basis until all partner YPs have received their allocation. We have no doubt that the anticipated 480 people will benefit from computer literacy and other relevant applications through the project during this year, 2013.

- ✚ Other partner YPs are busy preparing their Computer Labs with keen supervision from HMDS project personnel. The BOGs are fairly excited about this particular support and are making their contributions with singular resolve e.g. to facilitate electrical wiring in the Lab, putting a new coat of paint where necessary, putting or repairing the ceiling boards as necessary, security reinforcement, purchase of

curtains etc. It is our hope that by the end of this quarter at least four (4) YPs will have received their computers, each.



Computer lab preparation at Njoro Youth Polytechnic

- ✚ Only Saptet YP still hasn't got electricity connection but the process is rolling-on and its hoped that it will be connected in the course of this 1st quarter.
- ✚ Teacher (ICT instructor) training has not been done yet, but HMDS has identified Egerton ICT training Department for the services in the very near future for instructors in partner YPs.

Past experience with the TLV project.

All 12 project YPs received 20 computers each. Delivery and installation was always an exciting modern happening, but it will quickly be observed that compared to today, it wasn't the MUST LEARN thing. Although all enrolled trainees were free to learn computer. A few TLV YPs managed to train their students and run Computer packages paying classes for interested members of the community. Three have sustained the temple to date and have turned the component into viable income generating activities.

Today, the mention of supply of computers not only excites the students, but also the staff and BOG members who quickly see access to computer literacy by their entire catchments communities. As they say here, 'the digital future is inevitable' and all must comply.