

PYGMY REPORT - February, 2022

Income Generating Project (IGP)

Executive summary

Since 1997, the Democratic Republic of Congo in general, and the Eastern part in particular is subjected to recurrent insecurity leading to massive international displacement. Since then a relief mode of intervention has been established in the region to assist the vulnerable people. While this approach is valid in time of war, it tends to inhibit the creativity of the younger generation. As a result, the population of the Eastern part in general and of Ituri province in particular, has been developing, consciously or not, a “relief” syndrome for the last 25 years.

The above behaviour is hindering the population from taking their responsibility. For instance, parents at Ataloholu are not willing to take their responsibilities in creating a better future for their children. Since 2010, their financial contribution towards the education of their own children might be approximately US\$130. This is a sign that this current generation is unable to exploit its capacities to think, produce and fight for holistic community wellbeing.

While we appreciate the generous contributions of our overseas brothers and sisters, we believe that needs are numerous, global economy is subjected to unpredicted circumstances such as COVID19, bushfires etc. Therefore unpredictable changes are most likely to occur, leading to the reduction or even termination of foreign assistance. Therefore, our main concern is how to transition from 100% external funding to the development of local income generating activities that can also serve for transfer of skills for the younger generation.

After assessment and different consultations, we are aiming at installing a palm oil production unit that will be able to cover the following areas as well:

a) Skills transfer

Children and the community will be able to make their own soap from the palm nut oil which is extracted. The same source of energy used for crushing the palm nuts can be used for grinding maize.

b) Welding and carpentry

The same source of power can be used for welding and carpentry and be used to train young people in these skills.

c) Promotion of farming and students’ meal

Parents who are not able to pay school fees for their children will be encouraged to produce maize that will be transformed locally using the same source of power for grinding maize and so contribute to increase the family income and provide food for students.

d) Animal husbandry

Palm cake will be used in pig farming. Improving animal husbandry will lead to improve feeding at the family level and also generate income for the school.

e) Hygiene

We will be able to produce soap locally. Students will be able to learn how to make their own soap and use it for their own hygiene.

f) Income generation

Extra soap produced from the plant will be sold and can generate income for the school.

Budget:

1. Palm nut crushing equipment	US \$2,250
2. Power source equipment.....	US \$1,700
3. Hanger for installing equipment and soap making unit.....	US \$ 850
4. Running cost at the beginning and taxes.....	US \$ 650
Total.....	US \$5,450

Kangakolo building needs

We have one more house to complete for **staff housing**. The cost for a medium size house is **US \$775**. We can plan to have one for Shalom in the future. The present need is for the additional housing for staff at **Kangakolo**.

In addition to staff housing is the need for a **hanger** that can be used for church services as well as for sewing skills, estimated cost **US \$950**..