



## Annual Report

2010

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## 1. Foreword by the Executive Director



Dear Reader,

It is with great pride that I am sharing with you this fourth Annual Report of Palms for Life Fund since we have been incorporated in May 2006.

Much has happened since then in Palms for Life's universe. The organization continues to grow and 2010 was a very good year. After months of hard work, a team of dedicated professionals at the Palms for Life Fund Headquarters in the United States and in Swaziland was successful in getting a major project approved and funded by the US Agency for International Development, USAID. This was a major breakthrough and a tipping point for Palms for Life.

Despite the magnitude of our involvement in Swaziland, we have been able to maintain our operating costs to a minimum. We engaged our Board, Advisers and friends in our activities on a voluntary basis. We met twice with our Board and prepared new funding proposals; we reached out to corporations, foundations and individuals and pursued our signature programs: Art for Life and Tees for Life. We created a new concept: *Facing Up to Hunger* that became the transition from the Faces of Hunger in America film contest.

Thanks to our supporters, family and friends, we felt encouraged to carry on with our mission and to raise the level of awareness about social and economic problems affecting the poor. We maintained an active dialogue with our partners on the ground and were successful in securing additional funding for our social investment projects.

Palms for Life Fund owes its achievements to the members of our Board of Directors and Advisers and to the many individuals who have contributed by offering their free services and advice, responding to our appeals or simply encouraging us to continue our work.

To all of you and in particular, to my dear husband David Rottman and my beloved daughters Naâma and Maayan, THANK YOU! I hope you enjoy the reading.

Sincerely,

Hannah Laufer-Rottman  
Executive Director

## 2. How we view Social Change

Palms for Life supports the idea that Social Change is best achieved by investing in education with the underlying idea that we need to also change behaviors and attitudes. By focusing especially on women's and girls' education, we guarantee even more impact because, as is widely documented, an educated young woman will more likely have less children, will have healthier children and will send them to school.

Palms for Life's primary distinguishing factor is that we are committed to empowering local organizations to take ownership of their own development work. Our expertise allows us to carefully select implementing partners that have an impeccable track record, and have benefited from other international grants. For each project that we consider for support, we carefully assess its sustainability, its long term impact and active community participation. We verify that no more than 10% of the social investment is spent on recurring costs, and that all necessary conditions are met to ensure full operational capacity. We do not execute projects ourselves which allows us to keep our operating costs very low and to ensure that at least 90% of the funds that we secure benefit the poor directly. Palms for Life does not target "beneficiaries, it engages "participants."

As a "Global Alliance to End Poverty" we believe that it is essential to bring into the Social Change arena as many active participants as possible. Palms for Life is one such participant. We also believe in the need to engage as many people as possible to join in today's fight against global hunger and poverty, hence our unique motto "*we are all connected to the poor.*"

## 3. Our Commitments

Palms for Life operates on the conviction that eradicating poverty needs a massive and urgent response. Our first commitment is to act NOW, based on lessons learned and on actual urgent needs, as identified by the local populations that we serve. We aim at engaging as many partners as possible, thus maximising resources. Our key stakeholders are the project "participants" whom we empower through training and active participation. In the case of projects engaging women, we look at the big picture and attempt to address all the many elements that are part of the women's everyday life.

Our second commitment is to look at social/economic investments in terms of impact and return. How can we achieve maximum and sustainable impact of our operations on the ground? The answer is always complex but it also always includes the one single most important focus: education - with a strong emphasis on girls' and young women's education. In the case of rural women, we apply a global/holistic approach and address the many needs of their everyday life in an integrated and sustainable manner. This is the condition to ensure their true participation in development projects. We thus encourage our partners to design projects following the same perspective.

Our third commitment is to build local capacity. Beyond an act of social generosity, we see building local capacity as the right thing to do if we want to achieve proposed results

in a sustainable way. This translates into engaging key local players as partners in all our activities; provide them with the services and equipment they require to operate properly; recognize their comparative advantage and grant them the same kind of value and recognition that is granted to international organizations. Working with solid local implementers allows Palms for Life to keep its own overhead very low.

In 2010, in close collaboration with our partners, we have identified the following main projects for which we have been seeking funding:

- Community-Based Health Planning and Service in Burkina Faso
- Educating and Feeding Street Children in Ecuador
- Cuentameo Todo: Introducing Reading for Low-Income Children in Ecuador
- Food Production by Rural Women in the Lake Bam Region Burkina Faso
- Well-digging in Rural Ethiopia: Engineers for Life
- Food and Water Security project for Pastoralists in Ethiopia
- Food and Water Security project for 120 poor schools in Swaziland

The value of the projects listed above ranges between \$100,000 and \$2 million. A short description of all the Palms for Life projects - funded and to be funded - can be seen in Annex A.

In addition, Palms for Life worked extensively on the problem of Hunger in the United States through the Faces of Hunger in America film contest and the short film about hunger that was shown in several movie theaters in New York City and in Los Angeles during the spring of 2010.



## 4. Our Partners

In 2010, Palms for Life strengthened its relationship with the local NGOs in our select countries and with several organizations in the US such as the Marble Collegiate Church and the Population Council. Our Partners have the capacity to run the projects, monitor the activities and report back on results and impact. They are marked by a trajectory of social commitment, often working in difficult conditions, sometimes in uncertain political environments and always with insufficient funds and support to carry on their work and help the people in need.

As we interact with the local organizations, we constantly come across enormous funding gaps for very high quality projects – of which many would directly contribute to attaining the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Many projects are currently on stand-by simply because of lack of funding. Therefore, the scope for support that our partners need is enormous!

- Angola: Development Workshop (DW)
- Burkina Faso: Population Council
- Burkina Faso: APRODES
- Ecuador: Centro del Muchacho Trabajador (CMT)
- Ecuador: Fundación Esquel
- Ecuador: Fundación Fe y Alegría
- Ecuador: Fundación Desarrollo Social y Habitat
- Ecuador: INEPE
- India: HOPE foundation
- India: M. Venkatarabgaiya Foundation (MVF)
- Tanzania: Izaas
- Mozambique: The Community Development Foundation (FDC)
- Ethiopia: Wako Gutu Foundation
- Swaziland: ActionFourAfrica



## 5. Our Activities and Results

### A. Fundraising

We applied our fundraising strategy on three different fronts: the public and private foundations; corporate foundations; and individuals (e-philanthropy and special events). We continuously researched prospects, submitted Letters of Inquiry, Concept Papers and proposals, and managed a mailing list of about 500 contacts for our online appeals. Networking and social media proved more useful for informational and advocacy purposes than to raise substantial amounts of funds. We made heavy use of social media for the Faces of Hunger in America film contest through our website and have started a Facebook page.

- 1) USAID project for Swaziland: this was our main achievement in 2010 and a true success for Palms for Life, the first step of which was to become a registered Private Voluntary Organization with USAID, a process that we completed at the end of 2009<sup>1</sup>. As a result, we submitted to USAID 3 Concept Papers for Swaziland, Ethiopia and Ecuador. The Swaziland project was selected by USAID and we were invited to submit the Full Proposal. This preparation required the mobilization of a team of professionals in New York and in Swaziland that remained connected for 6 months until we completed the entire process. A fascinating and sophisticated project was designed to ensure water and food security in 120 schools in Swaziland over a period of 3 years. The value of the project is \$1,993,600.00.
- 2) Operating expenses: in 2010, we spent a large portion of our funds in responding to the USAID call for proposals. The entire process took about 6 months and Palms for Life mobilized most of its own resources for this purpose. We also mobilized considerable volunteer contribution. This experience illustrated the fact that a small organization like Palms for Life needs to be able to rely on a more stable source of income for its operating expenses and for supporting our fundraising efforts. We are therefore constantly looking for capacity grants and this is our main challenge. Funding from stock donations and charitable trusts are still under consideration.
- 3) Our Board: for the next 2-3 years our plan is still to keep our Board small and continue expanding a solid Advisory Board. Former UN colleagues – from UNDP, WFP, FAO, World Bank or simply retired UN officers - have joined our Advisory Board; these professionals provide pro bono technical support or help with the identification of local partners. We continuously draw on voluntary help and paid internships.
- 4) Creative ways to raise funds: during 2010, Palms pursued its “for Life” projects and events that engage citizens in an interactive way, support our brand and help raise funds. We pursued the concept of “Tees for Life” with our *Hungry* tee shirt and of “Art for Life” with the sales of art work from Ecuadorian painter Luis Salazar.
- 5) Facing Up to Hunger: we introduced this concept in 2010 (see Concept Paper in Annex A) as an umbrella concept under which we designed our food production

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1) <sup>1</sup> The registration with USAID must be renewed annually.

- projects in Burkina Faso and Mozambique. We wrote a Concept Paper and shared it at different for a or whenever we found an opportunity to express our views on how to address the problem of world hunger.
- 6) We pursued in 2010 our support to some smaller projects. We secured funding for the Centro del Muchacho Trabajador – feeding street children – in Ecuador and for another project in Ecuador that promotes literacy among street children. These fundings were made possible thanks to donations from the Marble Collegiate Church and the UBS Employee Giving Campaign through CAF America.

## **B. Key Results from our work**

- 1) Our major success this year was the approval of the USAID project in Swaziland. The goal of the project is to strengthen water supply and food security systems for about 42,000 vulnerable school children and their families using sustainable and participative methods. This will be achieved by installing water harvesting and storage structures and latrines in 120 schools and by establishing new or rehabilitating existing school gardens. Through the establishment of school gardens and the implementation of appropriate training programs, the project will teach pupils agricultural skills, ensure a much needed nutritional vegetable or root crop component to school lunches and develop new water management and agricultural skills that can be shared with the greater community. The project is implemented jointly between Palms for Life and local partner ActionFourAfrica.
- 2) We have maintained an ongoing dialogue with our well established anti-poverty and educational partner organizations on the ground mainly in Angola, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, India, Mozambique and Swaziland.
- 3) We have submitted funding proposals to USAID, the UBS Optimus Foundation, UBS Employee Giving Campaign, Boeing Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Marble Collegiate Church and Dextra Baldwin McGonagle Foundation.
- 4) We enquired with the Clinton Foundation about the complementary participation at the 2010 CGI annual event. This annual event is of strategic importance and a wonderful opportunity to meet many mind-like organizations. Unfortunately, we were not approved.
- 5) As part of Mission Fish, the charitable organization of eBay, we are regularly listed by buyers as their charity of choice and collect small donations thanks to the association with this online community.
- 6) We have re-designed our HUNGRY tee and added the ILLITERATE tee to our collection. We have organized two special exhibits for the sale of the paintings from Ecuadorian artist Luis Salazar: one in New York City and a second one in Miami during the Arts for a Better World event in December. While these were good opportunities to market our work, they generated little revenue. More emphasis will be put on this particular program in 2011.
- 7) The total revenue and Public Support that we generated in 2010 amounted to \$113,894. This does not include two important voluntary contributions by Palms for Life officers and audit fees which we estimate at an additional \$120,000. A large portion of that revenue came from the USAID funding to cover the project's costs for the first three months of October, November and December 2010.

- 8) A PSA about hunger in America was shown in 8 major movie theaters in New York and Los Angeles. This gave high visibility to Palms for Life and contained an important message that raised the level of awareness about hunger in America among thousands of viewers. This projection was largely made possible thanks to the subsidy of the art marketing firm.

### **C. How we Measure our Success**

We used outcome and impact indicators such as:

- 1) The funds that we have been able to raise from our different activities and campaigns
- 2) The recurring gifts we receive from small foundations and individuals
- 3) The funds that we delivered to our partner organizations on the ground
- 4) The number of people with new opportunities to improve their lives
- 5) Our sustained capacity to support our operations
- 6) The relationships with corporations and foundations who trust our ability to identify reliable partners and submit good quality projects
- 7) The number of individuals whom we have engaged to support our mission through our signature events and email blasts
- 8) The replicability of innovative fundraising and advocacy models such as Art for Life and Tees for Life.



## Annex A. Facing Up to Hunger Concept Paper



...because hunger is everyone's business

### **what**

*Facing Up to Hunger* is a platform that engages a wide audience to look at world hunger from the perspective of its root causes and concrete solutions. While the main root cause of hunger is poverty, *Facing Up to Hunger* addresses the two problems most directly responsible for global hunger: food availability and food production.

*Facing Up to Hunger* invests in food production projects mainly in Africa and Latin America. For example, In Burkina Faso it supports women farmers, in Ethiopia it targets pastoralists, in Ecuador, small dairy farmers. The idea is to work with small groups of communities by helping them with their most immediate food production needs and then over time, developing more sustainable food security solutions.

In the United States, *Facing Up to Hunger* advocates for change in the type of response that is provided to the approximately 50 million people currently affected by hunger.<sup>2</sup>

### **why**

Every six seconds a child dies of hunger or related causes. More than a one billion people across the world are hungry.

Hunger is seen as a problem with no solutions and is therefore often overlooked and ignored.

With practical and tangible solutions, we can ensure an adequate and consistent source of food for millions of hungry people worldwide.

### **how**

*Facing Up to Hunger* engages the largest possible audience to attract funds to be used exclusively to increase local food production and local availability of food. This is the first step in response to immediate needs and will last between 3 to 5 years. In a second phase, more sustainable and long-term solutions will be developed and implemented.

Funds raised by *Facing Up to Hunger* are invested in food production projects, specifically in one or more of the following areas:

- 1) Basic irrigation systems
- 2) Agricultural tools and equipment
- 3) Fertilizers

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<sup>2</sup> USDA and Feeding America 2009 Report

- 4) Seeds
- 5) Food storage

Projects are implemented by reputable local organizations in order to achieve maximum impact while also building and scaling up local capacity. Furthermore, a contractual relationship with the participating communities is established to ensure mutual commitments and protect the investments.

### **In the United States**

In the United States, *Facing Up to Hunger* supports initiatives that raise the level of awareness about hunger in local communities and provide a more accurate understanding of the root causes of hunger by activities such as: producing films about hunger, organizing conferences and panels, and collaborating with research and academia.

The road to end hunger in America is ultimately beyond the traditional means of charity and philanthropy. It will be achieved by social and structural change and through recognition of every person's basic human right to food.

### **Editorial**

by Hannah Laufer-Rottman

### **The New Dialogue About Hunger in America**

*Slowly but surely our American culture needs to move towards a new and revolutionary approach to hunger (or food insecurity). Two ideas need to be developed in order for a national dialogue about hunger in America – and the end of hunger - to take place. The first still-controversial idea is that access to adequate food is a basic human right. As a corollary, the dialogue needs to integrate the idea that a comprehensive review of the entire apparatus of responses given to hunger in our country, needs to take place.*

*Food insecurity in the United States affected 17.4 million households in 2009. In other words, 50.2 million Americans lived in food insecure households, of which 33 million were adults and 17.2 million children<sup>34</sup>. This has produced a vast discussion and indignation among many in our society. It is not that we came from a baseline situation of zero food insecurity. There were already 36 million people food insecure in 2007 but somehow, little political action was taken as a result. Furthermore, we don't have to wait another year to get the 2010 report of food insecurity. We know that even more Americans are food insecure now, as we speak.*

*Americans are having difficulty figuring out where those 50 million people are, since we have had an assumption that only the homeless go hungry. In fact, hunger in*

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<sup>3</sup> Feeding America Report based on USDA statistics

<sup>4</sup> The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, defines food security as a situation in which all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food for a healthy and active life. This involves 4 conditions: 1) adequacy of food supply or availability; 2) stability of supply, without fluctuations or shortages from season to season or from year to year; 3) accessibility to food or affordability; and 4) quality and safety of food.

*America is a broad spectrum of the unemployed, the underemployed, those whose wages or assistance don't stretch through the month, and finally, yes, the homeless. So, the first condition is to acknowledge that hunger in America is everywhere. There is no reason to believe that our clear social inequities would not impact our fridge or the meals we put on our table. The facts about the persisting and aggravated hunger in America are a clear indication that the subject has to be taken out of its shadow and onto everyone's radar screen.*

*There are important international declarations that food is a basic human right; the 1996 Rome Declaration of the World Food Summit and the much earlier 1974 Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, which states in Article 1: "Every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition in order to develop their physical and mental faculties." These declarations have not yet penetrated into American political discussion because we have the assumption that basic human rights have already been defined comprehensively by our laws and constitution. (No one would argue that one can achieve "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" with inadequate food. Food is the pre-condition for the exercise of constitutional rights.) As with all the modifications of the concept of a right that have gone before in American history, the change requires a progression in which the national discussion can get used to the idea. Once we acknowledge food security as a basic human right, the dialogue can begin.*

*The second idea, which is a corollary to this discussion, requires policy makers to review the existing responses to food insecurity including the very concept of charity associated with some of the current food distribution infrastructure. We need manageable and cost effective alternatives that reflect the shift in thinking about food security as a basic human right, and not a condition that is fulfilled on a voluntary or charitable basis. Author Janet Poppendieck in her book "Sweet Charity? Emergency Food and the End of Entitlement" introduces the idea that it is important to resist the creation of parallel structures that are far from being cost efficient and perpetuate or replicate the very condition of inequality that is one of the root causes of hunger in America. Joel Berg's "All You Can Eat: How Hungry Is America" outlines the role of government in addressing the issue of hunger and how delegating the solution to society in general is an abdication of the purpose for which government exists.*

*Poor and hungry people should be able to access the food they need in a dignified way, from the local supermarkets or other food stores and markets (or from growing their own food). All children in school should receive good quality and nutritious food, every day. Food stamps for the unemployed, the underpaid, the homeless and anyone who cannot access food, should become the rule until many other changes take place that will ultimately align the cost of living with the minimum salary for the employed and create more jobs.*

*Combined, these two ideas--that food is a basic right and that those who are hungry should be integrated into society without a separate infrastructure to serve them--illustrate that a major rethinking needs to take place in the way hunger is conceived and addressed in American society, just as the problem is worsening. It's becoming clear that the impact of these two ideas will have to accelerate as 50 million food insecure (i.e. hungry!) people require an immediate and radical change in the way our country deals with the hunger problem and its underlying causes.*

**Annex B: Statement of Financial Positions Years Ended Dec. 31, 2010 and 2009** (prepared by WeiserMazars LLP- Certified Public Accountants-New York)

**Palms For Life Fund, Inc.**  
**Statements of Financial Position**  
**December 31, 2010 and 2009**

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Assets	2010	2009
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 21,176	\$ 101,653
Grants receivable	72,708	-
Inventory	6,463	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 100,347</b>	<b>\$ 101,653</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accrued expenses	\$ 72,304	\$ 2,431
Due to officer	-	11,059
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>72,304</b>	<b>13,490</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted	28,043	81,809
Temporarily restricted	-	6,354
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>28,043</b>	<b>88,163</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 100,347</b>	<b>\$ 101,653</b>

P.S. Please contact us to get complete copy of our Audited Financial Statement

## Annex C



### Our Projects and Funding Requirements

Palms for Life Fund selects projects that respond to real needs and have proven to be effective and have a lasting impact on people's lives. Our projects are implemented locally by reputable organizations that share our vision. All projects require urgent funding.

#### ANGOLA

##### **Quality Primary Education in Peri-urban & Rural Schools (Pending Funding)**

Location: Provinces of Luanda, Huambo, Bie, Huila, Moxico and Cuando Cubango (Angola)

Executing Partner: Development Workshop

Participants: 12,800 schoolchildren and 320 teachers

Funding needed: \$592,000 for 3 years

The Project will establish Child Friendly Schools to improve the quality of education and learning outcomes with a special emphasis on school safety and girls' enrolment and retention; it will improve water and latrines on premises, school safety and availability of school material and library facilities. It will increase parents' and students' participation and implement sports and cultural activities, and increasing students' learning ethics and behaviour.

##### **Social Empowerment of Girls and Young Women (Pending Funding)**

Location: Provinces of Luanda, Huambo, Bie, Huila, Moxico and Kuando Kubango (Angola)

Executing Partner: Development Workshop

Participants: 6,000 girls aged 6-18 years in peri-urban areas

Funding needed: \$782,000

The Project will promote a radical change towards girls' and young women's basic rights by promoting the importance of girls' education leading to a gradual increase in their attendance and retention in schools; it will increase awareness of girls' right to be free from violence, sexual exploitation or abuse and to resist traditional practices that threaten their dignity and future. The project will increase their awareness about delaying first sexual experiences, resisting early marriage, child spacing and use of contraception and condoms.

#### BURKINA FASO

##### **Food Production by Rural Women in the Lake Bam Region, (Ongoing)**

Location: Communities of Loulouka (Burkina Faso)

Executing Partner: APRODES  
Participants: 500 rural women  
Funding needed: \$75,000 (in average, \$150/person) ***Partly Funded***

The project is being implemented in different phases: increase the production of tomatoes and onions by engaging more and more women in this activity; increase the irrigation capacity to ensure higher productivity; provide micro-credit to allow for the purchase of agricultural inputs; fund the storage and conservation of the products to increase market value and opportunities. These actions, combined with training will allow participants to double their income and increase their livelihoods and the quality of their families' life. It is designed as a sustainable model.

### **Community-Based Health Planning and Service (Pending Funding)**

Location: Districts of Zabré and Léo (Burkina Faso)  
Executing Partner: Population Council, Burkina Faso  
Participants: 98,500 mothers and 68,000 children totaling 166,500 people  
Funding needed: \$1,531,000 for 2 years

The objective of this project is to reduce maternal and child mortality and also morbidity and mortality linked to malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV and AIDS. In order to achieve this objective, the project will apply a new methodology based on community participation, local volunteers, and the formation and deployment, at the level of the village, of qualified staff. Funds will help train health promoters and community leaders and build basic essential health infrastructure in the communities thereby making health services of better quality available to the local population.

### **Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation, (Pending Funding)**

Location: Countrywide (Burkina Faso)  
Executing Partner: Population Council  
Participants: researchers, extension workers and all women committed to ending this violence  
Funding needed: \$14,723 for initial research phase and \$500,000 for second phase

The project will first organize a series of training sessions in order to determine the prevalence of the FGM. A second phase of the project will be to continue the series of awareness, training and educational campaigns to ultimately eliminate the practice in the country. Today, despite the Law in 1996 that prohibits the practice and imposes fines on people who excise girls and women, clandestine excisions take place on a daily basis and mainly younger girls are being affected.

### **Promoting Low-Risk Sexual Behavior (Pending Funding)**

Location: Ouagadougou (pilot phase) with extension to Bobo-Dioulasso, Tenkodogo, and Gaou (Burkina Faso)  
Executing Partner: Population Council and local partner organizations  
Participants: 30 community leaders (first phase)  
Funding needed: \$12,100 (first phase)

The project will prepare 30 sex workers as leaders and models for other young women that engage in this profession and provide them with comprehensive life skills training to increase their self-esteem and put them in a better position to take care of their life, health, and relationships. The project will also help control the spread of HIV/AIDS (prevalence among the general population is 2.7%, however, among sex workers it was 8.5% and among their clients 4.1% in 2006).

## **Integrated Health and Sanitation Complexes in Border Areas (Pending Funding)**

Location: Volta and Western Regions border areas with Ghana  
Executing Partner: Population Council  
Participants: vulnerable communities and volunteer health officers  
Funding needed: \$100,000 (first 12-month phase)

In an effort to reduce child and maternal mortality and to bring health services closer to low-income communities, the project proposes to build integrated health complexes in border areas in West-Africa, focusing on water, sanitation and hygiene. Each health complex will provide sanitation and hygiene facilities as well as health services and education to surrounding communities and to travelers, thereby addressing both preventative and curative measures.

## **ECUADOR**

### **Educating and Feeding Working Street Children (Ongoing)**

Location: Quito, Ecuador  
Executing Partner: Centro del Muchacho Trabajador  
Participants: 2,000 street children and their families  
Funding needed: \$60,972 ***Partly Funded***

The project focuses on educating and feeding the disadvantaged and often forgotten — street children. It is unique in that it educates children while also teaching them a trade or craft. It is sustainable: the poor children are able to remain in school while also working and providing for their families. There are three components to this project: implement a revised curriculum, build a team of community health providers, and strengthen the food security program.

### **Bilingual Education in Rural Schools (Ongoing)**

Location: County of Ambato, Province of Tungurahua, Ecuador  
Executing Partner: Fundación Esquel  
Participants: 7,129 school children with indirect benefits to 35,000 people  
Funding needed: \$430,000 for 3 years ***Fully Funded!***

This project will be implemented in areas affected by high levels of poverty and poor education. The funds will improve school infrastructure and curriculum while also preserving the students' native language and culture by setting up intercultural bilingual education centers. Because of this project children living in rural areas will now have access to quality bilingual education.

### **Cuéntamelo Todo - Education From the Streets (Ongoing)**

Location: Quito, Ecuador  
Executing Partner: Fundación Desarrollo Social y Hábitat (DS&H) and Fe y Alegría  
Participants: 350 children  
Funding needed: \$60,000 for the second year

DS&H and Fe y Alegría are taking popular education to the streets. With a multidisciplinary approach and backed by a professional team of pedagogues, animators, a social worker and psychologists, Cuéntamelo Todo invites children aged 5 to 12 twice-weekly in Quito's old town on the Plaza San Francisco to take part in reading and recreational activities that seek, through a rights-based approach, to develop key life values. In addition to generating interest in readership,

Cuéntamelo Todo also aims to create opportunities for children and their families to transform their realities through tailored social support and an individual referral system to specialized institutions.

## **ETHIOPIA**

### **Construction of Wells in Drought Stricken Areas (Pending Funding)**

Location: Lowland Bole zone of Oromiya

Executing Partner; Wako Gutu Foundation

Participants: 3,100 vulnerable households totaling 15,500 people

Funding needed: \$130,254

This project will establish a special alliance between a US Foundation and the community of engineers in the US and a local pastoralist organization in Ethiopia to fund the construction of 10 new water wells in rural areas of the Oromiya region in this country. New water wells will dramatically increase water supply in traditionally dry areas. As a result, participating communities will have better access to food and drinking water, and increased prospects for livestock and agricultural activities. The project includes training for local capacity building, environmental protection and sustainability. In the long-term, the project model can be scaled up and replicated to other rural communities.

## **INDIA**

### **Enhancing Climate Resilience of Small Farmers through Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture for Greater Food and Water Security in Northern India (Pending Funding)**

Location: Northern India- Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Orissa

Executing Partner: Navdanya

Participants: 500 individual farmers

Funding needed: \$2M for 3 years

The project will improve food and water security of small and marginal farmers by enhancing their climate resilience through sustainable agricultural practices and integrated water management systems. The project will transform 500 participating farmers, at least half of whom will be women, into core project leaders who will apply and disseminate these practices in their communities; and establish community seed banks and nurseries to collect and distribute bio-diverse climate-resilient agricultural inputs.

### **Universal School Enrollment & Quality of Primary Education (Pending Funding)**

Location: Hyderabad, India

Executing Partner: MV Foundation

Participants: 36,000 schoolchildren

Funding needed: \$750,000 for 3 years

The project seeks to abolish child labor and ensure universal education for all children in the project area by building a strong social norm in favor of children's right to education. It will ensure that all children are retained in schools and are given good quality education. It will also

build local capacities to strengthen the school system and monitor child rights. MV Foundation works in 2,500 villages and monitors 400,000 children on a daily basis and works to get and keep every child 5-14 years old in school.

### **Vocational Training & Employment Opportunities “Centers of Hope” (Pending Funding)**

Location: Countrywide, India

Executing Partner: HOPE Foundation

Participants: 4,500 disadvantaged young men and women

Funding needed: \$1,089,508 for 3 years

The project will transform the lives and livelihoods of 4,500 young men and women some who are unemployed and others under-employed, and whose parents often earn less than US\$15 per month by providing them with new employable skills. A total of 15 centers will participate in this project. Project participants will go from an earning potential of 1,000 rupees per month on average (\$26) to 2,470 rupees (\$65), doubling their capacity to earn. The training centers are a sustainable investment and will provide training for many more young people after the project terminates.

## **MOZAMBIQUE**

### **Strengthening Rural Primary Schools (Ongoing)**

Location: Nampula and Zambezia Provinces (with also national actions), Mozambique

Executing Partner: The Foundation for Community Development (FDC)

Participants: 4,000 children age 6-16 and 150 teachers

Funding needed: \$1,126,000 ***Fully funded!***

The project will improve the quality of education by training teachers and improving the educational facilities and equipment; it will mobilize parents and the communities to send and keep girls in primary school. One important feature is that the project will break the silence on and reduce violence and sexual abuse in rural primary schools by establishing watchdog posts as well as a free and friendly national telephone “Green Line” for information and denunciation. These actions will be complemented by a national media campaign with TV debates, investigative press articles and community radio programs.

### **Food Production with Small Farmers Focusing on Women**

Location: Beira Corridor

Executing Partner: Foundation for Community Development

Participants: 5,000 rural women and their families

Funding applied for: \$,773,144 for 3 years

The project will be implemented by the Foundation for Community Development in partnership with AGRA. It will concentrate on the Beira Corridor, an area with a significant agricultural potential and will provide participants with technical assistance, credit and other inputs to drastically increase their income from agricultural activities.

## **SWAZILAND**

### **Water Supply and Sanitation for School Gardens and Food Security (ongoing)**

Location: Countrywide

Executing Partner: Action Four Africa

Participants: 40,000 schoolchildren in 120 public schools and their families

Funding needed: \$1,993,600 for 3 years. **Fully funded!**

The project will be executed by our partner organization Action Four Africa. It will implement a comprehensive scaling up of water harvesting/storage structures and sanitation systems in primary and secondary schools and rehabilitation (in some cases, installation) of school gardens. By improving water access, supply and sanitation in schools, a transformative process can occur in the areas most critical to children and their families: improved health, hygiene, livelihoods, education and most critically, enhanced food security.