



ACTION STORY



Seeds of Hope: Restoring Walungu and Kabare

This report details the allocation and impact of funds used in a project focused on supporting orphans, training community farmers in composting, establishing nurseries, and promoting sustainable agriculture in Walungu and Kabare villages. The project also aims to address the long-term effects of conflict and poverty on women and children in the region.

Funding Allocation

The funds were spent as follows:

- **Support for Orphans:** AUD\$1000 was allocated to support 100 orphans with furniture, school fees, and other necessities for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **Composting Training and Materials:** AUD\$900 was used for training in composting techniques, purchasing materials (composters, seeds, polythene bags), and transportation.
- **Nursery Establishment and Transplanting:** AUD\$800 was invested in building germinois (seedbeds), developing nurseries, and transplanting seedlings.
- **Transplanting, Monitoring, and Evaluation:** AUD\$500 covered costs associated with transplanting, watering, weeding, hoeing, report writing, fieldwork, and meetings.

Project Beneficiaries and Activities

The project directly benefited 100 students (youth orphans) and approximately 10,000 community farmers. Key activities included:

- **Agroforestry and Fruit Tree Production:** The project successfully produced around 5000 trees of 15 different agroforestry and fruit species in various nurseries. This initiative aims to improve food security and provide long-term economic opportunities for families.
- **Environmental Protection and Erosion Control:** The focus on tree planting contributes to environmental protection and erosion control, vital in a region impacted by conflict and natural disasters. Fertilising trees was also a key component.

Addressing the Wider Context: Conflict, Poverty, and Women's Vulnerability

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has experienced significant challenges since 1997, including armed conflict, atrocities, economic crimes, and sexual violence against women. These issues have exacerbated existing vulnerabilities, particularly for women and children. Many children have been orphaned or marginalised due to conflict and natural disasters, including those born as a result of sexual violence ("Fruits of Rape").

This project directly addresses these challenges by:

- **Supporting Women's Roles:** Empowering women in agroforestry and food security through the introduction of new seeds for sustainable agriculture. Women play a crucial role in environmental preservation and sustainable development.
- **Improving Food Security:** Increasing agricultural productivity helps reduce poverty and the temptation to exploit ecologically fragile areas.
- **Supporting Orphans:** Providing essential support to 100 orphaned children for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **Ecosystem Restoration:** The project is part of a broader environmental policy to restore the degraded ecosystem of Walungu and Kabare villages, impacted by conflict and natural disasters.



This project demonstrates a comprehensive approach to addressing both immediate needs (support for orphans) and long-term sustainable development (agroforestry, food security, women's empowerment). By combining environmental initiatives with social support, the project contributes significantly to improving the lives of vulnerable populations and fostering a more resilient community in the face of ongoing challenges.



The Impact



100 students



10,000 farmers



5000 trees

