



*Partner for*  
**Quality Education**

# About VVOB Zambia

Zambia, like many African countries, scores poorly in basic skills of literacy and numeracy. All children should have access to quality education. To achieve this, VVOB Zambia collaborates with the Ministry of Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education (MESVTEE) to improve the quality of teachers.

Between 2008 and 2013, VVOB has supported teacher trainers to continuously improve their practices. Our programme has focussed on improving the quality of pre-service and in-service teacher training for primary education, through distance learning and the use of ICT.

In 2012, VVOB in partnership with ZOCS and the Ministry of Education applied and received funding from the European Union to implement a project in support of teacher training in community schools.

As of 2014, VVOB is focussing on early childhood education and on improving quality of education in community schools.

## A few examples of our results between 2008 and 2013

- The programme reached all 12 colleges of education preparing teachers for primary education in Zambia. By improving the quality of these colleges we improved the teaching skills of 400 lecturers, so indirectly we enhanced the learning of 12,000 students.
- The programme improved the facilities for teaching and learning in all colleges of education, and enhanced the ICT skills of 50 lecturers over the 6 years.
- The programme improved the organisation of distance education offered in all colleges of education. 10 out of 12 are offering a full quality programme for distance education. We have enhanced the courses offered to more than 5,000 students who are studying on distance education mode in Zambia.
- The programme has improved the teaching skills of 2,600 teachers employed in all community schools in three provinces. In practice this means a potential impact on approximately 73,000 children.





**LITLE**  
Programme

# Learning Improvements for Teachers and Lecturers for Early Education

## Context

Research has shown that children who participate in early childhood education are more likely to enrol and remain in primary school (and achieve better results) than those who cannot access comprehensive early childhood care and education. This is particularly important for girls as through early childhood education they are better prepared for school and frequently stay in school much longer.

Early childhood education is very new and not well established yet, particularly among

vulnerable groups. Moreover, the quality of the service is still quite low. Zambia is in need of highly qualified early education teachers to meet the required numbers as the policy of the Ministry of Education is implemented.

Given the recent plans to improve and create structures for early education (NIF III, 2011-2015), VVOB and the Ministry agreed that the focus of the next VVOB programme would be teacher training for early education. The programme runs from 2014 until 2016.

## Direct beneficiaries

**All**

**Principals, lecturers of teacher training institutions and government officials responsible for early childhood teacher development**

## Indirect beneficiaries

**210**

**New early childhood education teachers yearly from 2016 onwards**

**360**

**Teachers in early childhood education in 18 zones in 2 districts**

**180**

**School leaders in 18 zones in 2 districts**

## Final beneficiaries

**140,000**

**Children approximately entering grade 1 with pre-school experience**



## Objective of the programme

The VVOB intervention supports the Ministry of Education in monitoring the delivery of early childhood education at the colleges of education. VVOB is supporting the Ministry of Education in setting up systems for early childhood education. VVOB is empowering lecturers for early childhood education through in-service and pre-service training.

Pre-service teacher training for early childhood education is provided in a selected number of colleges of education. The programme aims at increasing the quality of the courses provided at these institutions. Besides this, VVOB is supporting the District Resource Centre Coordinators from Ndola and Kitwe in organising training on early childhood education for the in-service coordinators in 18 zones. These coordinators are helping teachers in the schools to provide quality education for small children.



PROJECT CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION



# Improving Quality of Education in Community Schools

The ECSITE project aims at raising the standards of teaching in community schools by improving the quality of teachers and access to teaching and learning materials in the Central and Copperbelt provinces.

ECSITE is co-funded by the European Union, for a period of three years. The project kicked off on the 1st of January 2013 and is implemented in partnership with the Zambia Open Community Schools (ZOCS) and the Ministry of Education.

## Activities

ECSITE addresses the challenges of teacher education quality in community schools through COSTEP, a project designed by the Ministry of Education in close collaboration with VVOB, to enhance teacher development for community schools. ECSITE is empowering 500 teachers and head teachers in 250 community schools over three years. It is providing teaching and learning resources to 10 teacher resource centres, reaching 750 additional community school teachers. Others directly targeted include administrators and parents from areas around these schools. A total of 1,000 parents are trained in school management and administration skills.

This effort is expected to improve the learning opportunities of more than 80,000 vulnerable boys and girls across the Central and Copperbelt provinces of Zambia. These children live in areas that are not adequately served by government schools. The ECSITE partners believe that orphans and other vulnerable children in community schools should have access to the same quality education as their more fortunate counterparts in regular government and private schools.

10

Teacher resource centres provided

250

Community schools empowered

500

Teachers and head teachers empowered

750

Additional community school teachers reached

1,000

Parents trained

80,000

Children with improved learning opportunities



VVOB, the Flemish Association for Development Cooperation and Technical Assistance, is a non-profit organisation that implements development programmes in the education sector. Our core business is to provide technical assistance in education programmes. This way VVOB supports local capacity building as a means to stimulate sustainable development and poverty reduction.

VVOB is currently active and has well established strategic and operational partnerships in nine countries.

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