



THE EAST AFRICA PROJECT PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

Kuenea Christian Technical School - Tassia Co.

The East Africa Project ('The Project') is a project-based initiative that seeks to manage development projects primarily in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Each project is designed to meet specific, short-term development goals that will lead to long-term outcomes. These projects focus on one or more of the following areas: educational programs, poverty alleviation, resource development and partnerships, medical care, and spiritual growth. This proposal involves the establishment of a Vocational Technical School in the Tassia neighborhood of Nairobi, Kenya.

The Challenge

The growing problem of youth unemployment and underemployment is one of the main socio-economic development concerns of most African governments. Without job-related skills, youth and adults cannot benefit from the employment opportunities that offer a decent income. In many countries, one of the key elements of development strategies is to support young people to acquire vocational skills through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs. This approach also helps to promote entrepreneurship. Africa is experiencing high economic growth rates as evidenced by the rapid population growth in urban cities such as Nairobi, but this unfortunately does not translate into jobs, and unemployment rates are not falling. The consequence is that African economies are struggling to cope with the difficult task of providing decent jobs for the millions of new entrants to the labor market, estimated at about 10 million each year. The increasing number of poorly educated, unskilled, unemployed, and underemployed young people every day becomes a threat to the stability of countries and therefore to their development. It is estimated that almost 100 million young men and women in Africa, out of a total population of about 200 million young people, are illiterate and unemployed or in low-paid jobs (UNESCO, 2012). Consequently, the quality of the workforce remains low and often inadequate.

Tassia is a neighborhood in Nairobi, Kenya located in the Kasarani Constituency, on the eastern side of the city. Located north of the Airport and east of Outer Ring Road; Tassia is separated from New Green Fields Estate by the Ngong River. The total land area was about 1,000 acres and had been subdivided into about 4,000 plots by the National Social Security Fund for commercial, residential, and public use. Access to the settlement is mainly via Outer Ring Road. It is home to a population of over 100,000 people, where living conditions are generally poor. Most of the population lives in informal settlements, which are characterized by overcrowded housing, poor sanitation, and lack of access to basic services such as water, electricity, and healthcare.

The unemployment/underemployment rate in Tassia is high, and many people are low-income earners, subsisting on an average daily wage of around \$1-\$2. Clean water is scarce, and food is a major challenge, with most fresh food being sold to locals by outside vendors at higher-than-market prices. Medical services are privately owned and are very expensive. There are some types of medical insurance available, but even at \$5 per month most residents cannot afford it. Despite these challenges, the people of Tassia are resilient and resourceful. Often, they will support themselves by starting small business such as buying and selling goods, preparing and selling food, repairing equipment, and other types of 'side hustle' businesses. The biggest barriers to an individual starting and running a small business in Tassia are the lack of vocational skills, financial illiteracy, access to startup capital and a poor understanding of basic business principles.

Spiritual Life Centre - Tassia

Several years ago, Pastor Harrison Mmaiti and his wife Christine Imeli felt called to start a church in Tassia and have begun to minister to the community. The Spiritual Life Centre in Tassia has grown from a bare wooden pole and tin sheet building into a sturdy ministry center with block walls, a finished floor and platform, and electricity that ministers to hundreds of residents each week. Not only do Harrison and Christine meet spiritual needs, but they attempt to meet physical needs as well. Christine noticed that many neighborhood children were not going to school, the majority of which had been neglected by their parents. Some had been orphaned and most were going hungry. In 2007, they began a feeding program as a ministry of the church. The feeding program has grown into a school where today over 200 students are being taught from pre-school through 8th grade.

Keeping the school running is a big challenge as there are few outside supporters and only about 50 of the 200 children's families can pay anything towards their education. As mentioned earlier, underemployment is a real problem for many of Pastor Harrison's church members. To help work towards a sustainable solution, The East Africa Project partnered with an indigenous business training organization called SOMO. SOMO empowers low-income East African entrepreneurs to transform their communities by building, growing, and scaling their social impact businesses. By investing in the right people, connecting them with the right mentors, equipping them with the right tools, and facilitating access to finance and markets through SOMO's resources and partners, SOMO enables entrepreneurs to launch and scale their businesses— bringing jobs and long-term stability to marginalized communities. Through our partnership, several the church members were able to attend one of two different basic business courses. As their knowledge expands and their businesses grow, they will be able to bring more economic support to the school and neighborhood.

Despite that initiative, there are still many who are not well suited to running a business on their own. They are hard workers, but lack the basic technical skills needed for higher paying jobs. The need exists for an alternative learning path for those whose talents are better implemented with hands-on skills.

An Approach

The East Africa Project was founded in early 2020 by Jeff and Susan Moser, who have led short-term mission teams to Kenya since 2009. The mission statement of The Project specifically targets educational programs, poverty alleviation initiatives, resource development and partnerships, medical care, and spiritual growth. Pastor Harrison and his wife Christine have been partners with The Project for many years. They have shared a vision for a Vocational-Technical school in the Tassia neighborhood that will help church members develop marketable skills that will lead to good paying jobs.

A vocational technical school in Tassia would provide several benefits to the community, including:

- **Increased employment opportunities:** The school would provide training in a variety of skills that are in demand in the workforce including carpentry, plumbing, welding, and electrical work. Training residents in these disciplines will allow them to compete for skilled jobs, which will in turn reduce poverty in the area.
- **Improved quality of life:** The skills taught at the school will not only allow residents to compete for jobs but allow them to improve their own living situation. For example, training in carpentry could help residents to fix and maintain their own homes, training in plumbing could help them to improve their water supply, and training in electrical work could help them to maintain safe access to electricity.
- **Reduced crime:** The school would provide a positive outlet for young people in Tassia, helping to reduce crime and violence. Studies have shown that young people who are engaged in vocational training are less likely to commit crimes.
- **Improved community morale:** A vocational technical school would be a source of pride for the community of Tassia. It would show that the community is committed to improving the lives of its residents and that it is a place where people can get the skills they need to succeed.

The construction of a vocational technical school in Tassia would be a significant investment in the future of the community. It would provide residents with the skills they need to improve their lives and would help to create a more prosperous and vibrant community.

Kuenea Christian Technical School

This document proposes the establishment of a vocational training program in Tassia named the “Kuenea Christian Technical School”. Loosely translated to English, ‘kuenea’ means “to distribute or disperse widely”. The goal of the school would be to ‘distribute’ knowledge and skills to the residents of the area. Each student will pay a below-market rate for their technical training program, with help provided for those for whom even this amount would be challenging. The

school will rely on local craftsmen who will teach classes in the different vocational disciplines. The products and services produced while the students are in school will be sold to help fund the operation of the school, and once trained, the students will become economic contributors to the neighborhood. Pastor Harrison has already procured a site in Tassia that is ready for use, with some basic structures already constructed and electricity and toilets available. In keeping with Kenyan practices, Harrison and Christine have defined the mission of the school as follows:

Vision: A leader in Globally competitive training in technical, vocational, innovation, and research.

Mission: To develop highly skilled graduates, in technical, vocational, innovation, business, and research for the global market.

Motto: To create and continuously provide training in relevant and up to date vocational and technological skillsets required by today's ever-changing market need.

Kuenea Christian Technical School is a private tertiary institution operating under the Spiritual Life Center Missions Church that provides spiritual mentorship and practical vocational and technical training.

The school will take a phased approach to ensure each program is operating successfully before moving to others. This allows the team to adopt a 'learn as you go' approach to ensure they don't attempt too much too soon. The programs initially contemplated include welding, woodworking/carpentry, tailoring, baking/catering, landscaping, motorcycle repair, and counseling. All products manufactured during training will be sold to support the school. The basic phased plan includes:

- **Phase 1 – Welding and carpentry.**
 - **Welding:** A six-month course teaching the basics of arc welding. Students will be taught the basics of welding and will learn to make doors, gates, and windows during the term. Students will also learn to make basic welding repairs on motorcycles and other machinery. Tuition will be \$300/term with assistance available up to \$150.
 - **Carpentry:** A six-month course teaching basic carpentry skills. Students will learn to use woodworking tools to make chairs, tables, and beds during the term. Tuition will be \$300/term with assistance available up to \$150.

- **Phase 2 – Tailoring and baking.**
 - **Tailoring:** A six-month course teaching basic tailoring. Students will learn to make dresses, school uniforms, and men's clothing during the term. They will also be taught how to maintain and make basic repairs to sewing machines. Tuition will be \$300/term with assistance available up to \$150.
 - **Baking/Catering:** A three-month course teaching the basics of cooking and baking and how to prepare meals for large groups of people. Tuition will be \$150/term with assistance available up to \$75.

- **Phase 3 – Landscaping/Counseling**
 - **Landscaping:** A three-month course teaching landscaping basics. This includes laying out designs and construction of various gardens, enhancing appearance and creating usable space for outdoor activities. Tuition will be \$45/term with learning ‘on the job’.
 - **Counseling:** Will be an ongoing program in the school, to help in rehabilitating those who had given up in life. This will be a ministry of the church to the students in the school. There will be initially be no charges attached to this service.

- **Phase 4 – Small engine repair**
 - **Small engine repair:** A six-month course teaching the basics of combustion engines and their maintenance and repair. Students will learn how to do basic preventative maintenance on all kinds of small engines, but particularly motorcycles. They will also learn how to make most basic motorcycle and engine repairs. Tuition will be \$300/term with assistance available up to \$150.

The Kuenea Christian Technical School as envisioned is a non-profit school designed to provide vocational and technical training. All proceeds received more than the cost of running the school will go to help support the primary school operated by the Spiritual Life Centre.

PROPOSAL – ESTABLISHMENT & FUNDING

As previously mentioned, Pastor Harrison has already procured a site in Tassia that is ready for use. There are already some basic structures built that can be repurposed into classrooms. The tin and pole constructed classrooms are surrounded by a wall and a gate which makes the place secure. The welding school is planned to be located close to new construction to attract prospective customers. Several local craftsmen have agreed to lead the teaching for these programs. This proposal will proceed in several phases, giving time for each phase to get established before moving forward with the next.

All products manufactured by the school will be sold. To accomplish this, these actions are planned:

1. We shall have a display and sale point for all our completed furniture.
2. Our welding center is close to a new construction area that has come up, we will work on windows, doors, gates, and grills, among others. We will assign one person who will get tenders/orders).
3. Our Tailoring department will work primarily on school uniforms, for our schools and neighboring schools.
4. Cakes will be sold in our shop together with honey. Cakes for weddings, birthday parties, and anniversaries will also be made.

More detailed costs are listed below, but here are the basic proposed costs for each phase:

- Phase 1 –
 - Program Startup Capital: \$5,500
 - Licensing and fees: \$300
 - Bookkeeping and Admin supplies: \$250
 - Welding: \$2,700
 - Carpentry: \$2,250
 - Year 1 operating Expense: \$6,000
 - School administrator: \$1,800
 - Welding instructor: \$1,200
 - Carpentry Instructor: \$1,200
 - Welding shop rent: \$1,800
 - Phase 1 expected annual tuition income: \$5,400.
 - Tuition will be set at \$300/student 6-month per class.
 - Assume 1 full paying student for each subsidized student – avg \$225/ea.
 - Welding – 2 classes, 6 students each: \$2,700
 - Carpentry – 2 classes, 6 students each: \$2,700
 - Phase 1 estimated annual goods production income: \$6,000
 - Welding – 300 doors & windows @ \$10 profit per item.
 - Carpentry – 300 tables and chairs @ \$10 profit per item.
- Phases 2 through 4 –
 - Phases 2 through 4 will be specified and costed as the success of phase 1 is measured. Startup and working capital for each phase will be similar to phase 1.

Sample Training Curriculum:

- Basic Welding:
 - Apply safety to a workplace.
 - Apply housekeeping principles to welding work area.
 - Prepare tools, equipment, consumables, and work pieces for manual arc (stick) welding processes.
 - Weld work pieces in all positions in accordance with national and international specifications and procedures.
 - Inspect finished product quality against national and international specifications and procedures.
 - Learn to apply acquired skills in real-world situations.
- Financially empower participants with skills and knowledge in basic financial management.
- Educate students in basics business literacy skills.

SUMMARY

Pastor Harrison and his wife Christine are already making a significant impact in the spiritual and educational well-being of people in the Tassia neighborhood of Nairobi. The Kuenea Vo-Tech School will allow them to expand that impact to the residents' financial well-being. The skills and abilities learned by the students will reduce poverty and crime in the community and will improve the quality of life for all affected.

If you have questions on this proposal, feel free to contact Jeff Moser at your convenience by email at jeff.moser@theeastafriaproject.com.

Thank you for your consideration.
Jeff Moser

President, The East Africa Project

Startup Capital Budget for Welding School

EXPENDITURE				
NO:	ITEM	QTY	UNIT RATE (USD)	AMOUNT
A	WELDING WORKSHOP TOOLS & EQUIPMENT			
1	Rail	4	\$50.00	\$200.00
2	England heavy duty Vice	1	\$180.00	\$180.00
3	Stainless steel Stanley Tri-square	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
4	Pipe range	1	\$50.00	\$50.00
5	Ball pein hammer	2	\$10.00	\$20.00
6	Stainless Steel Chisel hammer	2	\$20.00	\$40.00
7	Claw hammer	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
8	Cutting pliers	2	\$10.00	\$20.00
9	Grinder (Makita)	1	\$140.00	\$140.00
10	Chisel removal	2	\$10.00	\$20.00
11	Komelon measuring tape 8M	1	\$10.00	\$10.00
12	Hacksaw-Stanley steel	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
13	Tolsen tape measure	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
14	Stanley spirit level	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
15	Riveter	1	\$15.00	\$15.00
16	Nordica welding medium duty welding machine	1	\$300.00	\$300.00
17	Pliers	2	\$60.00	\$120.00
18	Long-nose pliers	1	\$60.00	\$60.00
19	Welding MASK (1pcs)	2	\$15.00	\$30.00
20	Helmet (1pcs)	5	\$20.00	\$100.00
21	Scriber	1	\$10.00	\$10.00
22	Workshop Gloves	12	\$15.00	\$180.00
23	10 M 2.5G H/Duty extension cable	1	\$200.00	\$200.00
24	10M 2.5 G grinder extension cable	1	\$30.00	\$30.00
25	Tolsen Big Toolbox	1	\$50.00	\$50.00
26	Startup materials	1	\$600.00	\$600.00
27	Contingency expenses	1	\$165.00	\$165.00
				\$2,700.00

Startup Capital Budget for Carpentry School

EXPENDITURE				
NO:	ITEM	QTY	UNIT RATE (USD)	AMOUNT
B	Carpentry WORKSHOP TOOLS & EQUIPMENT			
1	Drill machine	1	\$80.00	\$80.00
2	Circular machine	1	\$120.00	\$120.00
3	Router machine	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
4	Jigsaw Machine	1	\$70.00	\$70.00
5	Saddling Machine	1	\$70.00	\$70.00
6	Electric plane	1	\$100.00	\$100.00
7	Band saw Machine	1	\$300.00	\$300.00
8	Hand plane no. 4	1	\$70.00	\$70.00
9	Bow saw no. 10	1	\$10.00	\$10.00
10	Tape measure	3	\$10.00	\$30.00
11	Square ruler	3	\$10.00	\$30.00
12	Chisel	2	\$10.00	\$20.00
13	Clamp 7"	1	\$100.00	\$100.00
14	Pliers set	1	\$15.00	\$15.00
15	GPs set of screwdrivers	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
16	Drill bet set	1	\$20.00	\$20.00
17	Workshop costumes	4	\$20.00	\$80.00
18	Timber for starting the work	1	\$800.00	\$800.00
19	Contingency expenses	1	\$165.00	\$165.00
				\$2,250.00

EXPENDITURE				
NO:	ITEM	QTY	UNIT RATE (USD)	AMOUNT
C	Landscape EQUIPMENT			
1	Gardening trowel	4	\$12.00	\$48.00
2	Hanging basket planters	10	\$10.00	\$100.00
3	Handheld manual lawn	1	\$25.00	\$25.00
4	Garden sprayer	2	\$10.00	\$20.00
5	Black plastic planters	50	\$10.00	\$500.00
6	Set of cultivator equipment	4	\$60.00	\$240.00
19	Contingency expenses	1	\$67.00	\$67.00
				\$1,000.00