GEAMOC PROJECT REPORT-MALAWI OFFICE Jan-Mar 2020



The supervisor plus some Chiradzulu kids showing fertilizer and school fees monies

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The report covers the period between Jan-March 2020, which is a period in which our beneficiaries were in their second term in our school calendar and others are preparing to sit for Primary School Leaving Certificate Exams scheduled to start early May 2020.

JALI

The maize mill at Jali is doing well despite low turn up by clients due to this season, in which people are still struggling to make ends meet, as their maize are still in the field. Regarding the maize mill operation, there is no problem apart from few services here and there as required. It was only the building as reported previously which had cracks, but that was rectified using the loan given to the supervisor at the centre. She promised to start repaying the loan when massive milling starts probably in April 2020, as more people will be harvesting their maize.

The 10 kids currently at Jali were given the monies for maize seeds plus fertilizer through their supervisor as our visit was late. The supervisor promised to give the monies to the kids in the following day, of which I confirmed through one of the beneficiaries who accepted that she received the monies from the supervisor.

The supervisor appreciated a lot for what **GEAMOC** did by considering assisting the kids with monies for the important materials. She assured us that, she will make follow ups to the homes of these kids to see that, the required materials were indeed procured. Of course our Jali supervisor is a trusted person and honestly, she is handling our Jali kids well, plus our maize mill is being taken care of positively.

I therefore just advise her to continue doing her noble job, as the Jali centre is the only centre which is a living example of **GEAMOC** assets which is meeting its objectives.

Since the Maize mill has not yet started generating the required returns, she still requested us if we could assists the centre with school materials and school fees for this second term, She promised that come third term, she will continue doing her tasks, as by that time, she expects more returns from the maize mill as it will be during season. I didn't promise any positivity, but I told her to wait till I requested the German Board on the same, hence this request sir. Of course due to the challenges currently being encountered by them now. I fully understood their plea; as such I second their request to your office for possible consideration.

LIRANGWE

I visited Lirangwe centre, on which as per required, I gave them the monies for fertilizer and maize seeds. This was like that, because the shops which were selling the maize seeds and fertilizer, were closed that time as it was Sunday afternoon, while school fees were directly given to their secondary schools.

Upon seeing that the other kids were being given the monies, parents and guardians of those kids whom, we stopped supporting, came again and start requesting me whether **GEAMOC** could revive the support as the kids were suffering and others didn't proceed to enroll with the secondary schools they were selected to because they had no support. Honestly it deeply touched me, indeed to see those kids appearing at the centre just to admire what their friends were receiving. Since the decision by **GERMAN** Board regarding these kids were already made, I told them frankly though with dismay that, the Board was done with them,

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hence even though they were making the request, the response won't change, as such they were to look for other means to support their vulnerable kids. They left the place while still pleading with me whether a reverse to the decision could be made. I therefore accepted reluctantly that I would deliver the message to the Board, hence here I am.

All the kids who received the monies appreciated a lot to **GEAMOC** Board for the support. They promised to work hard at school so that their goals must be achieved. Many of them were admiring Enock who, from a humble background now he is pursuing a degree at Mzuzu University through the support from **GEAMOC**. Moreover when they heard that **GEAMOC** do still support him, with stationary monies, they were really encouraged.

ENOCK BANDA

Enock Banda is currently at Mzuzu University studying his Theology Degree. After receiving the money, he appreciated. He promised that during his holiday days, he will be available for career talk to other GEAMOC kids currently in Primary and secondary schools. Of course I already told him that, him together with Dalitso and Tiyanjane are our role models, as such, in our next visit when all are free, we shall take them along to inspire others to work extra hard.

CHIRADZULU.

We visited this centre when school was in progress; as such few kids were available, while others were at school. The chairman gave monies to those who were around and the rest were given to the lady supervisor who gave the kids after they knock off from school. Those kids on behalf of the friends thanked the chairman for the monies, in which they promised to use them for the intended purpose i.e. buying maize seeds and fertilizer plus school fees. With the hunger rooming in the area, the kids said they didn't expect the organization to help them with maize to support their families, they appreciated a lot.

In her speech, the supervisor continued to thank the organization for the kind gesture; it is showing the kids in the area by providing the school materials and welfare amenities. She promised the chairman that, her role normally becomes easier when the kids see indeed that **GEAMOC** is still helping them despite world economic challenges. She also appreciated the allowance the organization gives her, because being someone who stays in the village; the money do assists her to make some ends meet.



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MULANJE

Just like what I have been doing all along with Mulanje kids, I called one of the beneficiaries parents, to inform his friends to contact me, on the monies for school fees and other materials, within a week all the kids through their guardians received the message and their monies were sent through mobile phones and bank transfers.

Most of the parents requested if we could visit them this term, as they want to see us and also tell us much about their challenges, as they felt that the organization seems to be phasing out in the area. I promised to respond to them after seeking advice from you, but the chairman already advised me that, it would be a loss to travel to Mulanje and not meet the kids, who are the real beneficiaries instead we meet guardians.

He then suggested that unless **GEAMOC** wants to add more kids in the area, then we can go there and meet chiefs to inform the community leaders to identify vulnerable kids, therefore, it can be a good idea rather than just going there to meet the guardians and tell us about their problems.

Through the parents the kids appreciated the monies we gave them, and I hope that's why they want the organization to continue operating in the area, at a large scale.

For your own sake, the maize mill building lies idle and the inscription "**GEAMOC**" **e.v** is still written on top of it and no -one is using it.

TIYANJANE MBENDERA

Tiyanjane Mbendera is still doing her attachment at Mwanza Border, she got her allowance and she appreciated a lot, plus I paid the company where she is doing her attachment the agreed sum. As stated earlier, the company has given her freedom to apply to other companies, if she feels so, as they don't have a space for her at the moment.

Of course she has learnt a lot, what remains is for her to get employed. Tiyanjane is being trusted by her bosses, as she is able to work with minimum supervision. She however mentioned the driving lessons; she aspired before, as to whether the organization could sponsor her.

Since we already discussed this issue and you said, it would be proper if she gets a job first and thereafter the organization might contribute partly, I just told her to wait till she gets a job and the rest will be discussed later. She accepted as she had no option.

Finally she promised to continue working extra hard at the company, so that if the vacancy exists, then she can get the job. Her bosses also assured me that, if a vacancy exists, then they won't look for someone else but her.

Tiyanjane Mbendera in her office

BLANKETS FOR BENEFICIARIES

Since every year during winter season, we distribute blankets to our kids, this year, the winter season has started earlier as such its cold in most parts of the Malawi, I therefore request the **GERMAN BOARD** to consider buying the blankets during this time. As such in my request table, I have indicated there the number of kids and the amount per blanket. These blankets are normally negotiated, GOOD blankets are around K15,000.00, and even more, but this Indian whom I normally buy has assured me that, he would give me good blankets at a discounted rates of K10,000.00, the same blankets they sale at K15,000.00. He told me that the same blankets will be sold at higher price come May- June 2020 as these months are considered as the peak for warm clothing's including blankets. This as awaits your approval.

COVERING THE DISTRIBUTION BY MEDIA

We are planning to include a journalist in our visit with the chairman so that he/she can cover the distribution exercise of school materials, blankets and fees to our kids. This will help our international donors to appreciate in German. I felt that apart from my reports, if the newspapers can produce an article explaining the role **GEAMOC** is playing in Malawi education system especially how the support from **GEAMOC** has impacted people like Tiyanjane and Dalitso, then other donors might show interest and begin to contribute.

Hence the addition of an allowance and food for the journalist in the request table. But this has to depend on the approval also by the **BOARD**.

REMARKS

Let me take this opportunity to thank the **GERMAN** board for their trust in me and the chairman in running the organization here in Malawi. We don't take that for granted, we believe, the journey has been good because we are able to be heard, when we request your office for considerations in many aspects. The kids of Malawi will continue to work extra hard as they know that their needs will be met.

Furthermore I would like to appreciate again for the approval of the additional costs for transportation to Mwanza to meet, Tiyanjane bosses, additional maize seeds due to sudden escalation of prices and my emergency allowance to be repaid in the next session. The Chairman and I were able to do the needful.

We have hope that whatever is being planted in these kids, some fruits are being seen, like the likes of Tiyanjane and Dalitso. We can proudly say that **GEAMOC** has tremendously improved their livelihood, as they are able to live and sustain their lives plus that of others.

As per required, we are ready to distribute the blankets and school materials as soon as we receive the monies in our account. Despite his busy schedules, the chairman has promised to also accompany me in the centres just to appreciate the kids how they are fairing. It gives me zeal, honestly when I see the chairman being part of the journeys in the centres, this really outlines that he values the support **GEAMOC** is giving to the Malawians. Though he gets nothing at the end of the trip, it really shows that he has the passion for the kids of Malawi.



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Benson Mongiwa (Geamoc-Malawi Coordinator)

GEAMOC MALAWI WISHES ALL BOARD MEMBERS A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!