

SCHOOL AID SHIPMENT TO TANZANIA: 040TA.15

Despatched 15 October 2015

SUMMARY REPORT ON STAGE 2 MONITORING & EVALUATION FEEDBACK

INTRODUCTION

In October 2015, School Aid despatched a 40ft consignment of books and other educational resources to Tanzania. The resources, which were not released from customs until February 2016, were initially destined for 26 government schools: six secondary schools nominated by the Wabia Network, and 12 primary schools plus a travelling library put forward by Voices of Africa and the Kigamboni Community Centre (KCC). In addition, eight pallets of new textbooks donated by Harper Collins were distributed within the secondary sector through partners Aseri Katanga and Professor Wen Kilama.



SUMMARY DATA OF STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND CLASSES FOR RECIPIENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Number of students	14362	Average number of teachers	21
Number of girls	6781	Average number of classes	11
Number of boys	7581	Number of OVCs	1013

The consignee for the shipment was KCC, who also nominated suitable storage. Unfortunately, despite formal MOUs and distribution agreements being in place for all new partners, collection of resources from the storage depot proved complex and the six pallets of resources destined for Wabia Network schools did not reach their target schools. We believe that these were taken by KCC for schools in their area, but a breakdown in communication resulted in a lack of feedback from them.

USAGE AND BENEFITS OF RESOURCES



On the plus side, My Little Travelling Library (MLTL) – pictured above with School Aid resources – is working with several primary schools in the Mwanza area, nominated by Voices of Africa, with considerable success. At five of these schools, MLTL has set up reading clubs for 45 students, broken down into groups of five for individual reading. They report that ‘the resources have helped children create their reading habit, something that has boosted their academic performance’.

This feedback is supported by two headteachers, who have provided the following comments:

'The books have made an instrumental difference at our school. We've set up reading clubs and when My Little Travelling Library arrives at our school, it produces enormous excitement and a whole host of after-school and extra-curricular activities to take place – all of which relate to reading and English.' *Joseph Mlabwa, Headteacher, Iseni A Primary School*

'The books have really helped the students to start practising their English early. The images and illustrations initially attract them to pick up the book and then at the end of the day, students indirectly start reading the books and learning new vocabulary. The travelling library initiative has also helped reading and English to become a more interactive and fun event, particularly in the after-school hours, when the bicycle carts arrive.' *Joseph Metili, Headteacher, Azimio Primary School*

SUMMARY

Although we are disappointed that distribution of the resources from this shipment did not go according to plan, it is reassuring to see that children are benefiting not just from access to the books, but from the interactive fun and inspiration of a series of reading clubs – furthering School Aid's goal of promoting literacy and instilling a love of reading.

This report is based on feedback received during 2016, largely from MLTL; full details and further images are available in the School Aid office. Given the complexity of obtaining this data, there will be no further report on this shipment.

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