



For a world without hunger

Your topic: Education

2019 REPORT





Dear friends of Welthungerhilfe,

An alarming 70.8 million people were forced to live as refugees this year. This is more than ever before, and the United Nations Refugee Agency reports that the figure continues to rise. This is devastating – and entirely unnecessary. People are leaving their homes for a variety of reasons including war, violence, and conflict. Most are fleeing hunger, food insecurity, and the effects of climate change as well as unemployment and poor income opportunities.

Surveys show that most women and men in this situation yearn to return home to a dignified life. However, sustainable long-term opportunities must be created before this can occur. Using practical education approaches suited to local circumstances, Welthungerhilfe is already enabling young people to improve the outlook for themselves and their communities. In Kenya, the Matuu Vision Centre offers neglected and orphaned children a future. Read about the centre's success story on page four.

The Luanoli professional education centre offers hope in trauma-wracked eastern DR Congo. In a space of just two years, its new curriculum and training programme have helped it earn an excellent reputation throughout the region (page 6).

Without your generosity, projects like these would not have found such success. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Inga Schallau
Welthungerhilfe Education Expert

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Cover photo: Young people learn various trades at a vocational education centre in the district of Rash, Tajikistan.

Mopti, Mali

In training sessions, women learn how to apply for microloans and how they can fight for their rights. This offers them new opportunities and, above all, safe and secure nutrition for themselves and their families.



Gokwe South, Zimbabwe

Students trained as hygiene ambassadors are better able to take care of their own health and then share that knowledge with their families.



Knowledge is the basis for development. In numerous projects throughout the world, we ensure that people have access to education.



Kabul, Afghanistan

600 young men and women are completing a one-year professional education programme at the technical vocational school. They receive a scholarship and are provided an allowance after graduation to help them along on their way to independence.

Jharkand, India

Traditional social taboos are examined through theatre productions. This provides a forum for children and adults alike to discuss these topics freely.



Districts of Mugu and Bajura, Nepal

Nepal's democracy is still in its infancy. Our project helps people understand to which government services they are entitled and how to become involved in the local governance process. In addition, representatives of local government are trained in the proper fulfilment of their duties.



North Kivu, Congo

In the new Luanoli training and teaching centre, young people gain a solid knowledge base for a career as agricultural experts. The same professional development opportunities are open to the local population as well.



Matuu, Kenya

The Matuu Vision Centre offers neglected and orphaned children care, shelter, schooling, and protection, giving them a real chance at a successful future. In addition to an education, the centre also offers the children full meals as well as medical and psychological care.



Kenya: A Happy Childhood



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In recent years, Kenya has surpassed most other African countries in terms of development. Nonetheless, nearly half of the population still lives below the poverty line. Sustained droughts have plunged entire regions into famine. This has had a catastrophic effect on child development, especially in the municipality of Matuu and the neighbouring communities in the Kenyan highlands. A facility supported by Welthungerhilfe is now offering neglected and orphaned children in this region a future.

As might be expected, the girls and boys of Matuu are suffering from poor nutrition, with chronic undernourishment leaving up to 46 percent of all children and up to 52.7 percent of girls too small for their age. Many of them come from a difficult background. The Matuu Vision Centre is offering them an education and a place to live.

When it was founded in 2000, the centre housed 15 children. Now, having grown steadily ever since, it supports over 350 orphans and needy children. “The girls and boys have survived traumatic experiences. Many are AIDS orphans and were homeless until the centre offered them a place to stay. Others were mistreated at home”, says Welthungerhilfe employee Farida Juma. “The children need

special care to overcome this trauma. At the Matuu Vision Centre, they can go to bed free of worry and fear for the first time in their lives.”

Greater Independence for the Centre

The centre's young charges are receiving a solid education, a full and balanced diet, and medical and psychological care. Perhaps most importantly, they are also given the loving support and security that every child needs to develop. Welthungerhilfe has been supporting the centre since 2003. It has already provided many children with a path to a better life and now offers its students eight years of schooling as well as vocational courses in areas including metalworking, carpentry, and food processing.

Some graduates maintain the connection to their second home long after they have left. “The centre contributes a lot to the community. The number of street children in Matuu has fallen, and the number of boys and girls going to school has risen. The community of Matuu is also very invested in the centre”, says Farida Juma. But everything that has been achieved so far is under threat due to the recurring droughts that plague the entire region.



The boys and girls patiently wait for their daily lunch. Learning is much easier on a full stomach.

Crop and livestock losses have caused food prices to increase exponentially, ultimately making it more expensive for the centre to feed the children. To limit the drought's dire effects, the centre must become more independent, including in terms of food production, because funds for food purchases are limited.

To this end, the orphanage bought five milking cows and hired someone to take care of the animals. A permanent shade shelter and a hay barn were built to help the cows thrive on the harsh land. This lets the centre produce some of its food itself and significantly improves the children's nutrition situation.

The children help out in the vegetable gardens and cattle barns. Working together builds team spirit and helps them gain the confidence to process their past, step by step. The Matuu Vision Centre has already done a lot to offer these children hope for a better life.



The centre now offers 350 children a new home.



Working together in the vegetable garden improves not only the children's nutrition situation but also their cohesion and self-confidence.

Congo: Farming is the Future



The students put their lessons into practice on the land surrounding the Luanoli professional education centre.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo's north-east is in desperate need of agricultural experts. In the remote border regions with Uganda, vegetation is lush, and the fertile black soil has enormous potential. With its traditional approach to small-scale farming, the local population was never able to exploit this potential. Taken together with high unemployment, this has left many families here bitterly impoverished. However, since Welthungerhilfe expanded the region's only education institute into a training and teaching centre for organic, market-oriented agriculture, the people have been getting their first chance at secure nutrition and career prospects.

The Congolese government invests little in training and professional education. The people's only option to learn something is through private initiatives, which are often so underfunded that they can offer only very limited training. Even

the Luanoli professional education centre, located near the city of Kamango in the province of North Kivu, used to receive bad grades across the board in terms of its equipment and the quality of education it provided. The building was constructed of wooden boards and sheet metal, and the school lacked suitable books and training material as well as opportunities to apply the newly learnt lessons on practice fields. "Before the reform of the institute, the students had to travel up to 200 kilometres on an unsafe road, all the way to Butembo, for the practical portion of their education", reports Muyisa Kambale, deputy head of project for Welthungerhilfe. "It's no surprise that the drop-out rate was so high. Many of the teachers also gave up, because they realised that they lacked the necessary knowledge."

A Challenging Curriculum

The problems have been resolved, and two years of construction have created an environment where learning is fun, with addition personnel, well-trained teachers, and a completely revamped and expanded training programme. “The curriculum includes courses in financial planning, accounting, food processing, and marketing as well as components that have a direct and significant influence on the agricultural production of the project area, such as certification, environmental protection, and water management”, says Muyisa Kambale.

Job Opportunities Improve

In order to let the students gain sufficient practical experience, the institute used the land surrounding its main buildings to establish a farm complete with barns, training fields, and a greenhouse. There, they can learn about techniques such as crop rotation, which is an important aspect to organic agriculture that involves planting beans, maize, manioc, and plantains in a rotating order for the purpose of maintaining soil quality. They also learn about marketing cash crops, i.e. crops meant exclusively for export, such as cocoa. Another area of focus is the breeding and keeping of livestock like goats, pigs, poultry, rabbits, and bees. The institute also offers the same professional training and qualification opportunities to the local public, such as short courses in organic, market-oriented agriculture for farmers, for example, or courses meant specifically for women.

The Luanoli training and teaching centre now enjoys an excellent reputation far afield. The success of its approach is clearly reflected by enrolment figures: While it had a respectable 275 full-time students in 2018, this figure rose to 477 in 2019. More families than ever want to place their children there in order to give them a solid, professional education and the best chances on the job market. The graduates return to their home communities with their diplomas and a village development plan in their pockets to help improve the nutrition situation and standard of life at home.

As Muyisa Kambale is happy to note, “the centre is well-placed for the future. We have developed a business plan and established the necessary management structures. It now produces enough to fund itself in the long term and will be able to preserve its independence. At the same time, it plays a key role in maintaining the stability of the impoverished region, because it strengthens the community and creates opportunities for the young generation.”



Learning how to inspect seedlings is part of a good agricultural education.

In 2030

600 million

young people worldwide
will be looking for work,

every
third one

in Africa.

(International Labour Organization)



Education for Refugees Falls by the Wayside



61 percent of refugee children ...

92 percent of children worldwide ... attend primary school.

24 percent of refugee children ...

84 percent of children worldwide ... get a secondary education.

Sources: UNESCO (2016), UNHCR (2017)

In difficult circumstances, education can offer hope of a better future. However, this opportunity is far too often denied to girls and boys from families that are fleeing armed conflicts, political persecution, environmental disasters, or hunger and poverty. Their education is often interrupted for years at a time, pushing a better future farther and farther out of reach. Education is essential to offering this lost generation a way forward in the long term.

More than half of the world's refugee children of primary-school age cannot attend school. This is attested to by the annual education report published by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, in August 2019. After that, the gap only grows wider: 84 percent of children worldwide get a secondary education, but among refugees, this figure drops to just 24 percent. The direct effect is to deny these girls and boys the basic knowledge they need to realise their full potential.

In the long term, they also end up lacking the skills necessary for establishing a career and, ideally, helping rebuild their homes.

Welthungerhilfe addresses these issues by integrating education and training programmes into its projects in a number of crisis regions. In the Ugandan district of Arua, for example, young people from South Sudan are offered a professional education while adults can take part in literacy courses. In Malawi, physically handicapped children living in the Dzaleka refugee camp can now participate in classes, too. Schools were built in Iraq, and a diverse array of training programmes is available for young men and women in Kabul, Afghanistan. All of these activities provide people with the possibility of personal and professional progress while offering them greater confidence and hope for the future.

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