

Title: **Develop a Writer**

1.0 Project Summary

Zambezi district is faced with a number of challenges. Among them are high *illiteracy* levels. According to the Provincial Education Report for 2016 states that the literacy levels are at 45% (*Percent*) in Zambezi District of the population about 30,000 people, while the province is at 60% (*percent*) of the population of 125,000. Zambia stands at 55.3% *percent* according to Adsum Foundation. This means that most learners cannot read and write. The challenge is due to education back ground. Some of the reasons are that these learners are coming from homes that are stricken with poverty, HIV/AIDS and many other challenges to mention but a few. These affect their performance in school. In some schools, there are low staffing levels and because of that it becomes difficult for teachers to effectively teach reading and writing skills to the learners. Therefore, the impact of these challenges is a chain reaction that, secondary schools today have learners that cannot read and write. Therefore, to help mitigate the high low *reading* and *writing* levels among the learners, **Zambezi Writers Corner (Formed and Registered as an NGO under the laws of Zambia on 29th of June, 2018)** shall run competitions in writing of which the best stories shall be published in a Magazine and the best writers shall be awarded.

2.0 Background

Zambezi District is one of the remotest places in the province. It is situated about 600 kilometres away from Solwezi and about 1000 kilometres away from the capital city Lusaka. The district is faced with a number of challenges among them poverty, negative impact of HIV/AIDS and many others. Another challenge is that the district has high illiteracy levels due to so many challenges that affect the learners. In order to help reduce the high illiteracy levels among the learners and help in the reading and the writing skills; '**Develop a Writer**' project has been initiated. This project intends to instil the **skills of reading and writing** among the learners in the district, province and the country at large.

This project shall develop a Magazine which shall be called '*Let's Read*' whose materials shall come from the children themselves.

Therefore, '*Develop a Writer Project*' will embrace and improve writing in the district and beyond through a writing competition of essays, articles, poems, and stories. The stories and other pieces of writing written by the learners shall be published in the district Magazine called, '*Let's Read*'.

3.0 Aims and Objectives

3.1 Overall Aim

The aim is to motivate the learners to develop reading and writing skills, and help to develop the best writers in the district and the country at large.

3.2 Specific Objectives

- To publish at least *two magazines* and a *novel* of collective stories of children in a year.
- Identify and develop writers and market them as a motivation to both themselves and the community.
- Strengthen and provide capacity building to teachers and Press Clubs in schools and the community.
- Partner with the *cooperate world, donors, well-wishers* and *friends* in developing writers and help *improve literacy levels* in the district and beyond.
- Initiate programs that shall support *reading and writing skills* among the learners (Children) and members of the community.
- To run a spelling and debate competitions among the learners in schools.
- To provide educational support to the **need, vulnerable**, and **orphans** in the community. (This include helping those that had stopped school to go back to school.)

4.0 Expected Outcomes

When the project is implemented, the illiteracy levels will decrease as the establishment of 'Develop a Writer Project' shall motivate the reading and writing skills in schools. The awards and other forms of motivation put in place by the organisation shall motivate the community to encourage the learners to embrace writing. In addition, the project involves reading skills. Therefore, the high low reading levels will decrease as the project's core business shall be centred on reading and writing. Furthermore, the district reading and writing levels will increase which shall also help improve results in schools at both grade 9 and 12. It will also increase the number of writers in the country. Furthermore, it will also create the employment as writing shall be taken as a career in the country.

5.0 Organisation Structure

- (i) Chairperson – Daniel Phiri
- (ii) Secretary – Ng'ombe
- (iii) Mrs Kuwema Susan Treasurer
- (iv) Editors – English – Phiri .D., Lunda- Katoka ,Luvale – Konde .K.

6.0 Execution of the Project

The project shall be executed immediately. Each school in the district shall be required to submit 15 stories /articles to the editors. Thereafter, the team shall select the best three articles in both local language and English. The selected stories/articles are the ones which are going to be published in the journey. After publication, the best writers shall be awarded at an **award ceremony** which shall be organised by the organisation and partners.

6.1 Summary on the execution of the project

- Develop a work plan
- Mobilisation of resources
- Develop question / topics for the learners and send them to schools
- Receiving of articles and stories
- Editing of the articles / stories
- Selection of best articles / stories
- Publication of articles
- Awarding of deserving students (writers)

7.0 Sustainability of the Project

The project is self sustainable as the journals published shall be sold, at a minimal amount, to the schools as well as the community as a way of sustaining the project. Furthermore, the project shall continue to partner with other cooperate world for some of the programs. In future, the organisation shall come up with a publication firm which will run as a business in order to sustain the organisation.

8.0 Budget

S/NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	AMOUNT ZMK	TOTAL (US \$)	Total ZMK
1	Laptops	3	6000	180	18,000
2	Editing cost	3	1000	300	3000
3	Publication cost	100	130	1300	13000
4	Marketing		3000	300	3000
5	Transport cost		2500	500	5000
6	Admin coast			500	5000

8.1 Budget (Award Ceremony)

S/NO.	ITEM	QUANTITY	AMOUNT (ZMK)	Total (US \$)	Total (ZMK)
1	Awards	15	250	375	3750
2	Venue		1000	100	1000
3	P. A. System hire		1000	100	1000
4	Refreshments		3000	300	3000
5	Decorations		1000	100	1000

Grand Total ZMK:K56, 750 =00

Grand Total US \$:K5, 675 = 00

❖ Exchange Rate: 10 ZMK = 1 \$ (US)

8.2 Awards

1. 1st prize Writer English-
2. 2nd prize Writer English -
3. 3rd prize Writer English
4. 1st prize writer Lunda
5. 2nd prize writer Lunda
6. 3rd prize writer Lunda
7. 1st prize writer Luvale
8. 2nd prize writer Luvale
9. 3rd prize writer Luvale
10. 1st prize speller
11. 2nd prize speller
12. 3rd prize speller
13. Debate winning team
14. Best speaker
15. 2nd Speaker

9.0 Evaluation

In the short and long term, it is expected that more young writers shall be developed and it is also expected that the number of those submitting their work for publication, shall increase. This increase shall indicate that the project has gained grounds in the community hence as a result more participation by learners.

It is also expected that the high illiteracy levels shall reduce as the project shall target to address such issues that surround the rural communities. More awareness on some the topics such as HIV/AIDS, Corruption, Road and Safety, Consumer Protection, Child Abuse and many other educational topics will be made through as the learners shall try to address them in the journal.

10.0 Conclusion

The organisation shall up hold the highest level of transparency. It shall see to it that the project grows and bears fruits. Through its qualified personnel, the organisation shall see to it that the project is implemented and that it is sustained. The current situation of low reading levels in schools leaves much to be desired. Hence, to bridge the gap, the organisation through its interventions programs, shall introduce other supporting programs that shall help to mitigate the low reading level.

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