



Gatoto Community Primary School

2023 ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED
TO
ALL DONORS, PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS



We Strive to Shine

SUMMARY

2023 has been a year of many trials and triumphs for Gatoto. It has been a year etched with indelible triumphs. For instance, we recorded a high performance in state examinations-KCPE and this became the second-best class since Gatoto inception. Gatoto posted a mean score of 265 out of a possible 500 marks. That was the last class to sit for the examinations under the old system of Education-8:4:4. We have fully switched to Competence Based Curriculum-CBC in Kenya! We couldn't have done this without you!!



Our junior school emerged top in Nairobi after our students participated in an innovative Tech Challenge that was organized by the Ministry of Education. Students prototyped ideas using computers that have(had) connectivity. Each activity required learners to apply new concepts in real-world situations and then submitted their experience for review. They competed at school level, county and at national level. We were ranked 26 nationally. More than 400 schools in Kenya participated in the challenge.

It was a big win for our school choir and elocution teams again this year. The two teams grabbed the national scene after winning four national awards. That included choral music on composition for upper primary school choirs and poetry. Other categories that were featured on the award podium were a patriotic set piece and an upper primary school girls' composition. Gatoto made history by being the first institution to be given a trophy to permanently keep. This is because we have continuously won at this level over 5 years in the same category! We couldn't have done this without you.

We are happy to report that we hosted 4 Notre Dame University (USA) students at Gatoto during summer for two months, June and July. The students supported teachers in the implementation of curriculum in the school by assisting in classroom duties both inside and outside class. Plans are underway to maintain the summer program with the University in the future.

Our students participated in this year's cultural day. It's an annual school event where children compete in sports, share culture, singing and exhibit academic projects with support from teachers. It's an extension of PHE-physical health which is taught in the new curriculum. Our students and teachers could not hide their joy after a long break of 3 years due to covid-19.

Our students (class of 2023) did well in KCSE-Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education. This is a state examination administered at secondary school level at year 4. More girls posted better results compared to boys. Top student posted a mean grade of A- with 83 points out of a possible 84 aggregated points. As always, we conducted our post primary meetings. We can't fail sincerely acknowledge the support we will be getting from the three (3) students who have offered to volunteer their services in 2024 to the school before joining university in September. They will be supporting teachers to implement the new curriculum in different grades. That includes co-curricular activities.

Our students in the other classes continued to access quality Education in both prior 8:4:4 system of Education and the competence-based curriculum (CBC). We are happy to report that school pass rate remains at 3 out of a possible 4. Most of our students exceeded expectations. As this is a new education system in Kenya, we continue to encounter challenges of availing requisite learning resources. The new curriculum mainly encourages practical learning with less than 2% theory. In addition, the government continues to prioritize public schools only for free resources, allocation of books and teacher training. In addition, the resources are not only expensive but take a considerable time to arrive on book shelves. As for teacher training, we have continued to source education experts to support in this area.

With our feeding Programme, we have seen attendance rate maintained at 96% right from the start of 2023. A big thank you to Rachel Brass. Our students have consistently attended school and this has translated in better performance in their school work. We have provided a cup of porridge at break time and a hot lunch daily.

In successfully delivering our programmes amidst hurdles we face; we have our donors to thank. They include the American Friends of Gatoto, The Kenyan Friends of Gatoto, Stitching Dioraphte, The Gatoto Fund- Ireland, David Moffit, Gian Grob & Janine Frei from Charity Run- Switzerland, Willow Willers, Rachel Brass, Rene Johnson and Friends, Philip Sharp & Friends, David Sharpe, Roberto Oddi and Walter Hollas among others. We are delighted for the parents' support as well despite the financial challenges they have faced in 2023. We highlight contributions from all our donors in the Financials Section.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS- 2023.

Committed	Delivered
<p>1. Access/Quality: Academics, Excellence, Enrolment and Retention targeting 1000 children in primary school and 120 in post primary institutions each year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Register, prepare and support 288 students for state examinations/assessments. ▪ Implement a child friendly approach model that enhances provision of quality education. ▪ Enhance provision of holistic education. ▪ Provide school feeding Programme that enhance enrolment and retention. ▪ Engage the local community as partners in education. ▪ Design suitable mentorship and affirmative action models to support girls in primary and post-primary schools. ▪ Inspire students and alumni through extra supports to enable them to excel. ▪ Provision of new books and curriculum support materials. ▪ Promote environmental consciousness among the student community, including 	<p>Quality education delivered to about 1000 students in primary school and 120 in post primary this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 153 Grade 8 students sat for KCPE and scored 265/500. This was the second-best class since Gatoto inception and the last one to sit for state examinations in the old system of Education. ▪ 135 Grade 6 students sat for KPSEA, a state assessment that was administered in November. Students in grade 3-5 sat for KEYA, Kenya Early Years Assessment in June and July this year. Most students exceeded expectations. The assessment is always organized by Kenya National Examination Council. ▪ 168 students participated in co-curricular activities. That included Music festivals and ball games. ▪ We continued to engage learners in different school club activities so as to enhance extension of what is learnt in class. ▪ Implementation of a Child Friendly School model is in progress. It entails enhanced safety measures for children and a friendly environment for all. ▪ A few books and Curriculum Support materials for the new curriculum-CBC were purchased to enhance learning in both the primary and junior school. ▪ We continued our engagements with parents and the community through class meetings focusing mainly on

<p>personal hygiene and caring for their surroundings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sensitize parents on issues that pertain the new curriculum-CBC (Competence Based Curriculum). 	<p>ensuring the success of the new curriculum. That included all students in the prior curriculum (8:4:4 system of education).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We continued with our mentorship programme, both individual and group focused for both the primary and post primary students. ▪ We held our termly meetings with our Alum currently in Secondary School. Mentorship sessions were done in April, August and December! That included a separate engagement with Alum in tertiary institutions. ▪ We continued to green our compound focusing on nature and beautification of our front lawn and planting trees, grass and flowers along designated walkways. This was mainly marked on World Environment Day where our students and teachers planted more trees.
<p>2. Health and Safety: Improve infrastructure and grounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Repairs to school fence to enhance child safety. ▪ Deworming exercise to promote child's health. ▪ Additional washing point for pre-school going children to enhance Water Sanitation and Hygiene. 	<p>Align all current and future school development of facilities and grounds, ensuring safety and support to education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deworming all the students was done to enhance their health. ▪ Existing play equipment repaired and painted to enhance learning of Psychomotor Activities among children in the early years. ▪ Washing point installed to enhance water sanitation and hygiene among children in the early years. ▪ Continued to encourage our students to wash hands & observe hygiene. ▪ Repaired school fence to enhance security of our learners.
<p>3. Financial Sustainability: Achieve long-term financial sustainability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work on means to achieve financial sustainability. 	<p>We report with gratitude that Cuatro Amigos Ltd -David Moffit donated €100,000 to support GIDP programmes, The Gatoto Fund-Ireland donated € 23,438.53 while Kenya Friends of Gatoto, additionally donated a sum of Kshs 250,000 towards purchasing of learning resources in the Middle school and Kshs 130,000 for making Christmas lunch special for all our students. Additionally, Becky Brass Donated a sum of Kshs.USD 4,000 and Trademania € 3,000 to support Kenya National Music Festival and ball games. David Sharpe donated € 9,995 to support in capital costs. Charity Run-Switzerland donated € 10,269 while Kenya Classical Singers Organization donated Kshs. 134,593 for general operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In addition, we received generous gifts from Irish Friends of Gatoto, Huru Pads organization, Kenya Red Cross, Rotaract Club-Nairobi, SIF Kenya, World Reader, Paola Vaughan and Nairobi County.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- We organized a seminar for our 60 parents that we support and trained them on possible small business opportunities. The parents were equipped with business skills in order to be able to run small business to support their families.

- Amidst hard economies posted by the cost of inflation, we continued to engage our parents/guardians through mentorship sessions. That includes 60 families that we support.
- We have had a sequence of parent’s meetings on sensitization of the new curriculum.
- Health talks were conducted on parental engagement and enrolment of their children’s welfare.
- Further to our commitment to support our parents/guardians infected/affected by HIV/AIDS, we made home visits and supported 60 families with food aid.

MANAGEMENT, FUNDRAISING AND PLANNING

During the term, we had the privilege to host several guests from different organizations, including four Notre Dame University students from the US, Richard Mc Carthy from Ireland, EFAC-Education for all children Kenya, Guests from Netherlands, CAMARA Education Ltd, MSF (Doctors without borders), ICEA LIONS Kenya & guests from Germany and officers from the Ministry of Education.

Others were from Strathmore University, Notre Dame University, Nairobi Water & Sewerage Company, KEMRI, World Reader and Nairobi Girls Chorale.

Several others came in their individual capacity. They include Gian Grob & Thomas Grob from Switzerland, Georgia Sharpe & Val Masson from Ireland, Dieter Huick, Claudia Gever, Larissa Hegeh and Tim Geller from Germany. Although we cannot give all their names in this report, we wish to sincerely thank them for their support, words of advice and encouragement during their visits.

CHALLENGES

- Temporary school fence has been a challenge to us. That has been caused by frequent dumping of soil along the fence. This compromises the safety of our learners and everything.
- We experienced political unrest in Kenya in July/August and this distorted our learning in the school.
- Curriculum changes as recommended by the government through presidential working party on curriculum changes in Kenya comes with additional costs for learning resources, new classes, equipped resource rooms and a science lab.
- The high rate of inflation in Kenya slightly affected our operating budget.

SOLUTIONS

- The school is engaging the community members to prevent further dumping of soil along the fence and necessary repairs made.
- Plans are underway to approach the government for Capitation grants to secure learning resources.
- Efforts on fundraising are in place to expand donor base.
- Planned fundraising through CSR within the neighboring Industries so as to erect a perimeter wall around the school campus. That includes making formal payment requests to well-wishers.

- Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to significantly mitigate critical issues by purchasing a few new books and science apparatus for the junior school.
- We worked on modalities to compensate lost time for our students during political unrest during the year. Teachers agreed to create more time for remedial classes after school.

COMMITMENTS GOING FORWARD:

1. Provide primary and post-primary education to up to 1000 children:

- To offer a quality educational experience that challenges pupils to achieve their fullest potential. To this end, we will also seek to have manageable class sizes, not exceeding 50 pupils in the longer term.
- Retain qualified, capable and committed teachers.
- Promote a thorough academic culture that engages the full community and encourage all Gatoto pupils to embrace constant learning.
- Provide a wholesome, well-balanced, clean and safe environment for the students.
- Digitize as much as possible some learning areas mainly focused on CBC.
- Continue our rigorous evaluation of teaching and conduct an annual assessment of teachers' job satisfaction. Any gaps noted will be fixed.
- Promote regular career guidance sessions to give advice on career choices for students.
- Continue our co-curricular activities offerings to allow children to express and grow their talents beyond the classroom.
- Continue to enhance ICT skills amongst our students using existing upgraded ICT lab.

2. To raise funds for years 2024 and beyond

Primary objectives:

- Develop a strategic plan that reflects Funding plan for 3 years that will enable GIDP remain focused on fundraising efforts.
- Maintain a balanced budget that will provide financial support for GIDP and Gatoto's short and long-term operations.
- Foster good working relations with donors to benefit from their investments.
- Work closely with the Board to establish relations with local businesses to support our programmes.
- Engage international NGOs and Foundations to raise funds.
- Strengthen our partnership with current and potential donors.
- Continue encouraging parents to support the school.

3. Provide families from Kwa Reuben and its environs with a nutrition and health programme

- Continue to offer a psycho-social support programme for people affected by HIV/Aids in Mukuru.
- Continuously offer a mentorship programme to all our pupils and parents.

- Continue to provide families from the Kwa Reuben area with a nutrition and health programme.

4. Organization strengthening and infrastructural improvements;

Enhance the professional development of the organization so it can respond to the ever-changing environment of education and improve the safety of the school.

- Initiate in house teacher training
- Mentor our students to remain focused, choose careers wisely and harvest all the gains that come with Education.
- A training and professional development process implemented to support the Board and internal management of GDP.
- Improve the physical facilities necessary to accommodate the school programs.
- Secure the school by erecting a perimeter wall.

FINANCIALS (SUMMARY) IN KENYA SHILLINGS

FINANCIALS -SUMMARY FROM 1ST JANUARY-15TH DECEMBER 2023

SOURCE OF INCOME	AMOUNT
American Friends of Gatoto-Operating Cost	11,000,000.00
Kenyan Friends of Gatoto	2,388,000.00
The Gatoto Fund -Ireland	3,632,890.00
Becky Brass	440,000.00
Rachel Brass	4,950,000.00
Charity Run Switzerland (GIAN)	1,180,869.00
Stiching Dioraphte	6,897,527.50
Childs Life International	50,000.00
Cuatro Amigos Ltd (David Moffit)	11,500,000.00
Stone Bridge (David Sharp)	1,149,425.00
Sonalake Ltd (Philip Sharp)	454,294.85
Roberto Oddi-UK	943,459.00
Kenyan Classical Singers	134,593.00
Kamongo Wast Papers (k) ltd	35,400.00
Walter Hollas And Family	460,000.00
USA Volunteers (Notre Dame University)	64,000.00
Parents Contributions (Primary school)	3,278,044.50
parents Contributions (Middle school)	633,980.00
Willow Willers	120,000.00
Trademania	345,000.00
Levit Nudiacc-Choir Support	10,000.00
Eloni Eohgan	7,000.00
Marco Calzavara	59,800.00
Nora Kinsella	6,000.00

Sue Rolls	7,000.00
Ros Mcfeeley	20,800.00
Exchange Gain	10,575,843.31
Green House Income	102,430.00
TOTAL INCOME	60,446,356.16
EXPEDITURE	
PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
Staff costs	15,533,367.15
Students Costs	10,176,416.00
Repairs and Maintenance	674,310.00
Post Primary support	1,210,837.00
Water	88,075.00
Transport	354,027.50
Family Support	160,130.00
Emergency Assistance	179,470.00
Middle School Expenses	1,158,378.00
Audit Fees	170,500.00
Bank Charges	60,511.48.00
Email	444,740.00
Electricity	304,771.00
Hospitality	63,376.00
Phone	161,300.00
Postage and Post Box Rental	87,120.00
Fundraising	539,343.50
Motor Vehicle (Taxi hire)	82,490.00
Physical/cultural Activities	1,471,946.50
Green House	71,477.00
TOTAL EXPEDITURE	32,992,586.13
Surplus/ Deficit	27,453,770.03
Note	
The balance sheet items have not been included.	

IN PICTURES.



Row 1: LEFT: A seminar for parents from the 60 families that we support.

RIGHT: Junior school students demonstrate acrobatics skills to the other students during a cultural day in November.

Row 2: LEFT: Students demonstrate physical and health education skills during the cultural day.

RIGHT: Our students in lower primary school present a song to other students.

Row 3: LEFT: The winning grade in the cultural day activities receive a trophy.

RIGHT: Part of our 288 students pose for photo just before sitting for state examinations/assessments in November.



Row 1: LEFT: Two of the top students in junior school work on an assignment during an innovative Tech challenge organized by the Ministry of Education.

RIGHT: Students in lower primary prepare a class garden for Agriculture as part of an extra assignment in the new curriculum

Row 2: LEFT: A post primary meeting in progress with our students who are currently in different secondary schools in Kenya.

RIGHT: A school choir visit to the Embassy of Ireland and meet the Ambassador during an event themed plant the planet games 2023.by Notre Dame students from the US.

Row 3: LEFT: Post primary students preparing getting ready for a termly meeting at Gatoto.

RIGHT: A teacher guides students to learn Gatoto history and view students' projects in the new curriculum in our resource room.