



Ten Foundation  
Developments in 2012

# The Ten Foundation

an opportunity for young people to secure safe and sustainable futures

## Developments in 2012

Activities according to project location:

### Zimbabwe

- Improving and maintaining the conditions of Karoi children's home (including renovation work and the 'eat, play, learn project') continues with support from Dr. Hofstee Stichting. Detailed below.
- Developing learning & play with computer training continues at Karoi children's home. Detailed below.
- The Ten Foundation Trust satellite homes and cradle to cradle training project is developed. Detailed below.

### The Netherlands

- GRO (Green Recycled Organics) expands its work.
- Ten maintains its fundraising, awareness-raising and communications with potential sponsors/corporate partners.

### The Democratic Republic of Congo

- The mushroom and food production project has expanded in Lubumbashi with out reach training in mushroom and food production in and around Lubumbashi made possible due to support from the Belgian Consulate. Detailed below.
- The seed production project continues. Detailed below.



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Improving and maintaining the conditions of Karoi children's home,  
Zimbabwe



Dr. Hofstee  
STICHTING

Ten is improving the conditions and potential of the children's home to provide the optimum environment for children to grow up in the long term. Now, with the help of Dr Hofsteestichting, Ten is continuing to renovate the home and equip the centre so that it can be more self-sufficient, offer training for children and staff, and also give them access to games, toys and activities. Improving and maintaining the conditions of Karoi children's home and implementing training involves three main projects:

#### Safety, health and sanitation

Actions: Installing security e.g. gates, locks, and lights; sewage pipes; showers, toilets and tanks; washing machines and storage e.g. closets.

Aims:

- Strengthening security at the home
- Strengthening self sufficiency and environmental efficiency at the home
- Improving infrastructure, utilities and storage at the home
- Developing a safe, efficient and hygienic institution (it is especially important that health issues can be dealt with as efficiently and as sensitively as possible considering the high levels of HIV/AIDS in the project area)

#### Food and water

Actions: Improving cooking facilities, water supplies (borehole), gardening facilities (including a separate mushroom growing house) & training materials, and offering training to the staff, older children and general community in mushroom farming, tending vegetable, fruit and herb gardens, keeping animals and poultry, health and nutrition education, and general self-sufficiency, using materials that are locally available so the projects are sustainable.

Aims:

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- Diversifying/improving cooking facilities, food production & water sources
- Ensuring a physically safer and more constant cooking regime
- Ensuring an improved and reliable dietary intake
- Increasing resources for strong sustenance and self-sustainability
- Increasing independence for the home as a whole (reducing dependence on unreliable sources of fuel, food and water)
- Empowering young people & reducing their vulnerability by increasing their early experience of where food comes and sharing with them how to provide for their own security by engaging in training in health, nutrition, and food production (production of mushrooms, vegetables, fruit and herbs and poultry-raising)

#### Education and social interaction

Actions: Establishing a computer room and offering the children access to computers, supervised use of the internet, and other resources to develop their IT and internet skills at the same time as reinforcing their learning and overcoming some of the disadvantages they face at school (due to limited resources and large class sizes for example), and supplying games, toys and activities.

Aims:

- Combining traditional education with practical, vocational and creative skills
- Creating an atmosphere suitable for residents to be students but also to relax once school work is done
- Enabling children to learn more independently and inspiring the children with skills that aid their maturation and transition into independent adults
- Ensuring that through rest, leisure, play and recreational the children can experience relief from the severe worries that they unfairly face.

Overall, the upgrade of the home is intended to restore it to its optimum conditions, to establish strong foundations for it to continue to provide shelter, and to equip the home to facilitate education and training for those living there. The long-term and wide-spreading effects will include empowering the children with experiences additional to traditional education so they have a better chance of securing themselves decent futures.

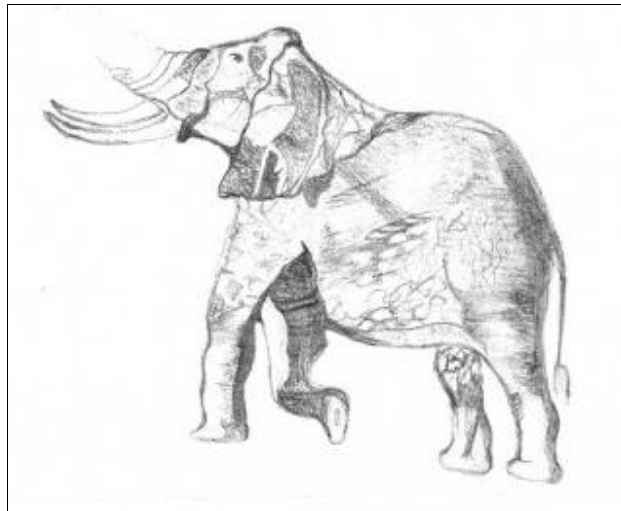


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### Developing learning & play with computer training at the Karoi Children's Home, Zimbabwe

Stichting Ten secured computers equipped with e-learning software and Microsoft software through the help of Close-the-Gap, e-learning for kids and Microsoft respectively. Funding was secured from Deloitte sponsorship and the Fiep Westendorp Foundation to: establish and equip a secure computer room; install the computers; introduce the children and staff to basic computer use; and gradually build on the use of the computers; applying this to administration, education, play and communication. Computer training has been continuing since the computers were installed, so that the staff use them to make their administration more efficient and the children use them more and more - both for homework and study, and for fun.

We would like to share some amazing artwork with you. It was created by Given who lives in Karoi, when he is not studying art at the Jairos Jiri Centre.



Here's an amazing fact you would not expect: Given drew this with his mouth, as he lost both hands in an accident when he was 12.

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## Planning and launching the satellite homes and cradle to cradle training project, Zimbabwe

During 2012 the Ten Foundation Trust team in Zimbabwe have been busy finding a site for the satellite homes and cradle to cradle training project, and developing the project plans.

At the moment we are witnessing a situation where it is impossible for youngsters in children's shelters (such as some of the older individuals at the children's home in Karoi) to become independent and start their own life. We wish to create a safe and healthy environment for them from which they can really step into adulthood. Activities carried out at the satellite homes will involve the residents learning, sharing, and integrating into communities and society. The development of cradle to cradle skills will enable the participants to support themselves and others in the future.

We will construct satellite homes - a centre consisting of family-style homes and an office/staff centre in a spacious setting with a working garden. Each home, housing around 5 participants, will have: a kitchen, bathroom and central/shared living space, access to use of a well, solar water pump, and solar panels, and shared access to a working-garden and mushroom house. The office/staff centre will provide a working space for the organisation of the satellite homes and their activities, as well as out-reach activities with the wider community. It will also provide a living space for the personnel working there who will carry out administration, care and training. Cradle to cradle training will be an extra curricular activity for the residents, but also a full time vocational training programme for those participants who wish.

The first objective for the satellite homes project is to create a safe place, characterized by real life experiences, where young people can grow and learn to take charge of their livelihood and the shaping of their future. This space needs to allow for them to flourish in terms of:

- Health and well being
- Education and employment opportunity
- Social interaction and community integration

Cradle to cradle thinking and training allows us to realize the objectives above.

- Health and well-being – by growing your own food you will learn how to eat and live a more healthy life and you will have access to creating and maintaining that healthy life independently and sustainably.
- Education and employment – the residents will learn how to grow mushrooms and vegetables and how to look after small cattle/animals. This will enable them to

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secure a financial basis for their future. As additional services we plan to arrange for other education as well, if they are interested in studies.

- Social interaction – by living and working together in such an environment they will learn how to share and trust others. We also plan to offer the possibility of youngsters starting relationships to live in a setting with more privacy.

Participants will be young, vulnerable or disadvantaged people, women especially, and specifically those who need affordable, nutritious food to combat mal-nutrition, those who need income, and those who might otherwise find it harder to access skills training.

As well as a specific group of 15 – 50 young people in Harare & Mashonaland West, the project will involve adults who will be trained to help and guide the residents and who will have a job as supervisors, other young people in care in Zimbabwe (for training and teaching sessions at the site), and other individuals in projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Ivory Coast and the Netherlands.

Our key to making sure the idea will work is to create ownership for the residents. If they feel responsibility towards the project and if they see it results in a different lifestyle then it will be a structural improvement. More importantly, if we create a safe and secure space where the young individuals can work, study and live together, there will also be a social structure and sense of responsibility. Together they will stand strong and we will emphasize the importance and value of this aspect of the community. At the same time the Ten Foundation as well as the Trust in Zimbabwe will continue to assist and monitor the situation. Also, as we develop activities in other regions, we will continue to ask for the expertise of those living in the settlement. This will also secure continuity. In the long term, whilst the satellite homes can continue to guide young people into adulthood, those that participate in the training there will be able to move on – having become independent but also equipped with skills that can be maintained and expanded.

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## The mushroom and food production project expands in Lubumbashi, the Democratic Republic of Congo

The communities first supported by Heineken, Bralima, Stichting Ten and Cordaid in Lubumbashi, the Democratic Republic of Congo have continued to put their cradle to cradle food production training into use by producing mushrooms and integrating this with other production. They are growing food for their own consumption and for sale. They are also creating a seed production laboratory. This new laboratory will ensure that there is a local, sustainable supply of seed for the existing project communities and for new communities that they train. This set-up will ensure that the local skills base, and source of supplies, becomes a permanent fixture that can continue and expand. This one-off investment in the start-up will allow for sustainable and self-supporting production and training to start and continue independently. Income earned through sale of mushrooms, other food, and seed, can be spent on necessary supplies, reinvested in the project and distributed as compensation/income independently. Already, participants are marketing the mushrooms being produced and reinvesting resulting funds back into the project.

Anticipated results of continued expansion are:

1. Consolidation of groups growing mushrooms & other foods using locally available resources.
2. Mushrooms & related produce become a substantial part of the diet of the participants, compost is used in fields/gardens and produce is sold for profit/to reinvest in production.
3. Establishment of a seed production laboratory; training in seed production; and continuous production of seed will support the existing participants, and other local groups trained.
4. There is the potential for commercial production - of mushrooms, other food produce, seed, or of the by-products of production. Potentially participants can proceed to a higher grade of operations, developing entrepreneurial, organizational, commercial and marketing skills.



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Now, thanks to the Belgian Consulate in Lubumbashi, the core communities will be able to train other nearby communities in how to set-up their own mushroom (and other food) production projects. Here are some first impressions of the roll-out mushroom training in Lubumbashi. Two groups of women (union des meres & veuves) in the community of Bel Air have started learning about mushroom production. Fidell (from the handicapped trainer) is doing a great job leading the training.



A documentary following 10 ordinary Congolese women who inspire others will feature Gisele, one of the ladies working on the project in Lubumbashi. The documentary will focus on women role-models who overcome their difficult circumstances to succeed, despite the odds. It will be shown on CNN, PBS, MSNBC, Africa Channel, National Geographic channels and local channels in the DRC. We are proud that we get the chance to promote Gisele and that she will represent the team and project.

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