

MHCD
MISSION IN HEALTH CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
MISSION EN SOINS DE SANTE ET DEVELOPPEMENT
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ITARA/LUVUNGI-TERRITOIRE D'UVIRA
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



MHCD 2022 GENERAL REPORT

DR. LUC MULIMBALIMBA
MHCD Director

APPRECIATION

We would like to appreciate the sacrifices and efforts that committee members of the MHCDSA and other MHCD friends in promoting MHCD activities and projects in DRC.

1. Dr. Julie Monis Ivett
2. Jenny Weaver
3. Sharon
4. Shirley
5. Mary Macfarlane
6. Stella and Peter Darmody
7. Nathan and Cathy Dietsch
8. John and Elaine Dietsch
9. Sam Cookes
10. Raf Show
11. Yolande and Mark Hass
12. Ivan Liloyd
13. Dr. Berna Kim
14. Rebecca C Carratt

SPECIAL THANKS

Our special thanks go to the following organisations for supporting MHCD projects in DRC. You have been on the frontline in the year 2022 in supporting MHCD activities and projects and we really appreciate all efforts and sacrifice you have put in in helping us reduce poverty in DRC.

1. MHCD Australia Support Association Adelaide
2. Bethesda Ministries International Australia
3. Echunga Uniting Church
4. Macclesfield Uniting Church
5. Kiwanis Club of Adelaide Hills
6. Mt Barker Church of Christ
7. Zonta Clubs of Adelaide Torrens
8. Spring of Life Mission Centre Australia
9. Robbie Mark and SA Energy
10. Mark Yates
11. Strathalbyn Concert Band
12. Wagga Wagga Rotary Club
13. Minderoo Foundation Perth Australia
14. Nairne Community Market
15. Victor Harbour Rotary Club
16. Zonta Club of Central Goldfields
17. West Wyalong Community Church
18. RTGS UK on-line Giving Foulberta CA
19. Birthing Kits Foundation Australia

INTRODUCTION

We are very happy to present our year 2022 general report. We were fortunate enough to carry out many activities that helped in poverty reduction, fighting hunger and malnutrition, promoting education and microfinancing for women, providing medical care to vulnerable people, helping internally displaced people and many other activities. In this year, we also managed to restart MHCD activities in Bungoma Kenya and started projects in Burundi. We are so grateful to all those who supported and prayed for us in one way or another. We have managed to carry out the activities below through your support and we really appreciate that. We hope that in reading this report you will understand the many activities we achieved in DRC, Kenya, and Burundi. We shall appreciate to hear your feedback or receive your suggestions after reading this report.

MHCD LUVUNGI SECONDARY SCHOOL (POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL)

One of MHCD's objective is the reduction of poverty and providing proper and affordable health care services to vulnerable people living in villages and rural areas. To achieve these objectives, MHCD focussed on education and training as education is the key to development and the only way that gets people out of ignorance and make them independent. For many years, we had been researching on the best way to make the vulnerable people to be self sufficient and we found that providing education for them will be of great help. Even if education takes a long time, when they finish, the education helps the whole family and communities.

We started by creating nursery and primary schools in many villages that really turned out well and helped hundreds of children to finish their education and get school certificates. It was a challenge to many of those children to progress into secondary school education because the costs are high for most families living under the poverty line. That is when we decided to open MHCD secondary school in Luvungi. Most of the secondary schools in Congo provide general education but we decided that in order to help our students to be professional and self sufficient, we should create a polytechnic secondary school. Apart from general subjects like maths, physics, chemistry, they also learn technical subjects like tailoring, mechanics and IT that helps them get into professional lives after they finish secondary school. We have departments like Auto-mobile and general mechanics, tailoring, Information Technology, social studies, electricity, and Pedagogy. We have incorporated the topics so that when the students finish their studies, they can get employment. Luvungi MHCD secondary school is the only school with the above options in the whole region of Ruzizi valley and Bafuliru mountain. Its unique options attract students from the whole of Uvira District and even our neighbouring country Burundi. Every year we have more than 1000 students from different villages who come to learn. Most of these students are vulnerable from very poor backgrounds (orphans, street, and internally displaced children}.

Since we started the school, we have realised a lot of change in the community. Many children who could not afford to finish their secondary school have now completed, are working, and taking care of their siblings. All those orphaned children from villages where MHCD had primary schools and could not make it to secondary have come to the Luvungi technical school and most of them have successfully completed their studies. During the war, many young girls were raped in the DRC and could not complete their education while others were rejected by their families, but MHCD took them into school, mostly in tailoring and social work. There are those who have already finished and got their national diplomas and are now supporting their siblings and families. One of the students who was raped used to come to school with her child. MHCD supported her until she succeeded to sit the national examination and last year, she got a national diploma in tailoring. Since she was the only one with a tailoring diploma in the whole of her village, one local organisation employed her to teach single mothers and young vulnerable women. She is now responsible of more than 10 women that she trains, and she has a good life now. She testified and said that MHCD secondary school has transformed all her life. She had been living in stress and depression but through education, the whole community respects her and she now feels stronger and special. There is another young man who got a national diploma in mechanics and is now in another District called Kalemie heading an Auto mobile business. He also testified and said that through MHCD technical school, he is now able to take care of his 6 siblings and they no longer suffer as before. There are lots of testimonies that show how the education program has changed lives of so many children and families.

Every year our school is one of the top performers with several distinctions. We really thank Bethesda ministries international through Luvungi educational fund who are taking care of and supporting some of these children. Many of children who had never thought of getting into secondary school have now not only completed but have become responsible citizens and are helping the community. Your monthly support has really helped us in improving the program. We thank the MHCDASA for all their efforts and sacrifices they put in in collecting sewing machines, school chairs and tables. Through the containers they send to Congo, we have been able to give the children quality education and are now doing well in examinations. We thank also the Computers for Congo for providing computers and laptops to school. Through your support, MHCD IT students have topped national exams every year in IT. Lastly, we would like to thank Dr. Luc and Delice for their contribution in building classrooms and making sure the children get good education. The vision that God gave them to open the MHCD secondary school has had a great impact to many communities of DRC and changing their lives for better. We still have many students who do not have support and need your love, care, and support. Please feel free to join hands with us and support so we can provide education to the many students at school who do not have support.



MHCD LUVUNGI SOLAR FARM

Luvungi town is situated in Uvira Territory, South Kivu province, Democratic Republic of Congo. It has a population of more than 30,000 people. Main activities are agriculture and small business. Since its existence, it has never had electricity. Food is cooked by use of firewood from forest or charcoal. Women are the ones who go to look for firewood in the forests and it has proved to be extremely dangerous for them because of rebels who maybe lurking waiting to rape them. Another big problem is lighting at night. Most of the population in Luvungi use either kerosene lamp or candles for lighting. Due to poverty, we have some families that can not afford money for buying kerosene or candles, so they spend night in darkness. For many school going children, after school they usually help out at home with some chores then in the evening is when they have time to study and do homework but then if there is no light their education/studies are affected.

Lack of electricity in Luvungi has made it to be underdeveloped and even affected MHCD activities. At MHCD we have 150 beds Hospital that has various medical equipment's like blood bank, anaesthesia and reanimation machine, Sterilizer, incubators, and mortuary freezer requiring electricity for them to run. The mortuary freezer at the Hospital is the only freezer in the Ruzizi valley and there are only 2 in the whole of Uvira Territory. Due to lack of electricity many of the machines are not functioning meaning the cases that could have been handled at the Luvungi Hospital are being transferred. Many premature babies lose lives everyday because of lack of electricity to run incubators. At MHCD we also have secondary and primary schools, midwifery schools and university. All these schools have computers, IT laboratory, library, and a medical technical room and all this require electricity so they can run. There are other departments at MHCD too that require electricity to function well but because of lack of it, most of the activities are affected.

In solving the problem, MHCD started a project of installation of 100kw solar farm. For 2 years, Luc and Delice MULIMBALIMBA had been collecting solar panels in Australia and managed to collect 1650 solar panels that we transported to DRC in 2

40ft containers and they arrived end of 2021. In the beginning of 2022, we began the solar farm installation through the support of Dr. Luc's family and MHCD DRC. We bought metal rails, sand, ballast, and cement and MHCD technicians began the installation and reassembling of the solar farm. By April, all the groundwork was finished, and more than 1200 solar panels have been installed.

The project will supply enough electricity to MHCD to run all machines 24/7. This will help improve medical care at the hospital and most of the cases will be handled at the Hospital. Students boarding at the compound will be able to study in the evening and nights and this will improve their education. The same solar farm will provide electricity to more than 1000 houses. We shall be focussing more on lighting for the homes which is the main challenge for many families, also they will be able to charge their phones and listen to Radio because 90% of people have Radio where they listen to music and news. The Solar farm project will not only help MHCD but also positive change for the whole of Luvungi community, development, and a great example to other organisations in Congo for them to replicate the same in other communities.

We have managed to install the solar panels, but we have one challenge. For us to have electricity 24/7, we still need to have solar batteries, solar inverter, and charger controller that we have not been successful in getting because they are expensive. We have tried our best in getting all the accessories for the installation of the solar panels, we are happy because all the solar panels are on site and ready to produce power. Luvungi community contributed labour and now we are really in need of support so we can buy solar batteries, charge controller and inverter. We kindly request all well wishers reading this report to please put us in their thoughts so we can finish the last phase of the project.



MHCD Luvungi Solar Farm

LAUNCHING OF THE MHCD TAILORING TRAINING CENTRE AT THE MHCD LUVUNGI SECONDARY SCHOOL.

MHCD (Mission in Health Care and Development) has just equipped the MHCD Luvungi Secondary School with a Tailoring training centre.

This centre will help the students at this technical secondary school of the Ruzizi valley in Uvira Territory to learn cutting and sewing.

This centre will also help the students to sew clothes and sell them in order to have money to meet their needs and support their families.

The MHCD Luvungi Secondary School has a tailoring section which is the only one in the Ruzizi valley and Bafuliru Mountain, the students were very happy to see their training centre built and inaugurated in Luvungi, and to be made available to them, for this, they thank Dr Luc MULIMBALIMBA and the MHCD for building this training centre; they also thank the MHCD Australia Support Association for supporting them with tailoring machines.

Most of the students who finished tailoring have gone straight to employment through the opening of tailoring sections and workshops after graduating with a national diploma in tailoring which is a good section to help young people, especially women, to get out of poverty and become financially independent.



MHCD KIWANIS LIBRARY AT MHCD SCHOOL IN LUVUNGI.

The Mission in Health Care and Development (MHCD) located in Luvungi village, Uvira Territory, South-Kivu Province in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) inaugurated its new library on Friday 11/03/2022.

Dr Luc and his wife Delice MULIMBALIMBA collected books from Australia to help students at the MHCD Secondary School, Uvira Community University (UCU), and MHCD Midwifery and Nursing School to learn English and other courses.

The books were donated by the Kiwanis Club of Adelaide Hills in Australia where Luc and Delice MULIMBALIMBA are members.

After collecting the books, MHCD Australia Support Association put them in the container and transported them to the DRC along with other equipment.

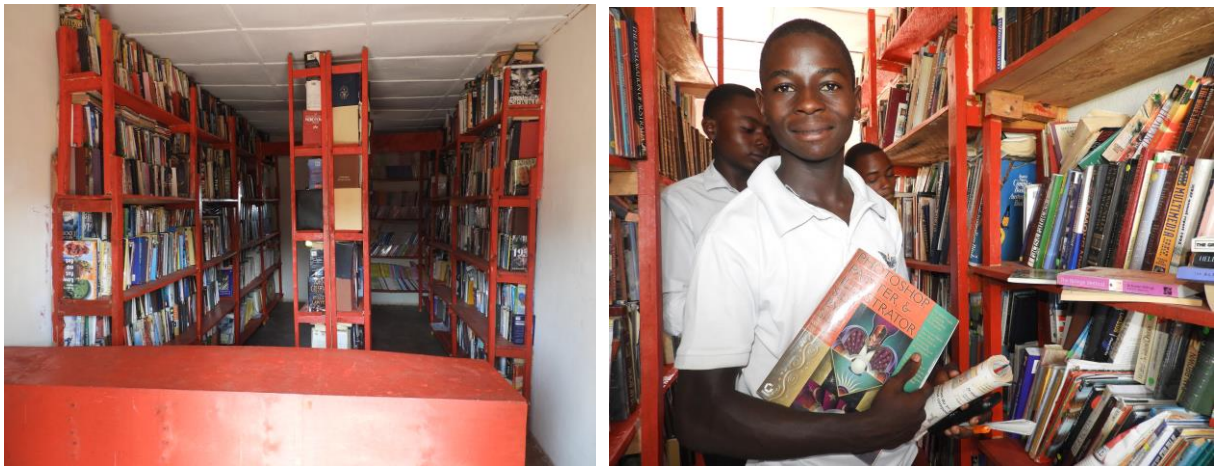
Luc MULIMBALIMBA rehabilitated the house in which the library is located, equipped the library with shelves, counter, and placed all the books there.

MHCD Luvungi received a total of 5525 books from the Kiwanis Club of Adelaide Hills in Australia. In the library we also have English and French books in different fields for students who wish to consult these books to gain more in-depth knowledge in their fields.

Everyday the library receives many students who are coming to consult and read books. They are very happy to learn English.

The MHCD is grateful to the Kiwanis Club of Adelaide Hills for supporting them with books, and the MHCDASA for covering the transport costs.

Finally, they thank Dr Luc and Delice MULIMBALIMBA for all they do to promote education in the DRC.



THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING OF 4 CLASSROOMS IN LUVUNGI

Dr. Luc Mulimbalimba, President of the MHCD (Mission in Health Care and Development) organisation in collaboration with the Luvungi community have just built four (4) classrooms at the MHCD Secondary and Technical School located in Luvungi village, Uvira Territory in Democratic Republic of Congo so that the students can learn in good conditions.

The school is one of the main secondary schools in the Ruzizi valley and Uvira Territory with technical options such as tailoring, information technology, social studies, car and general mechanics.

The population of Luvungi in particular and the Territory of Uvira in general thank Dr. Luc and Delice Mulimbalimba together with the entire MHCD Mission for the construction of this building in the community.

MHCD Mission continues to multiply quick impact development activities in the Uvira Territory.



SANGE TOILETS CONSTRUCTION

The MHCD has just built a toilet at Dietsch Academy in Sange village which is a primary school with a kindergarten section with more than 250 pupils each year, before we built the toilets, the school had only two toilets, built with temporary materials i.e grass thatched and mud. It was very difficult for the children to use two toilets and it caused many problems amongst them.

The lack of adequate toilets in our school in Sange threatened the education of children, who were at risk of falling ill due to poor hygiene and therefore could not attend school. The risks were highest for girls in grades 5 and 6.

These children sometimes held back from going to the toilet for lack of enough toilets. Holding back is not good for the body because it needs to evacuate its waste. It can lead to stomachache and can disrupt the proper functioning of the bowel or bladder.

According to the report we received after building these toilets, some children even held back on drinking water so that they couldn't have to pee at school, or they could try to go to the toilet only once during the day, waiting for the right moment so that they don't have to go again before the end of the class. This was not good for health. Difficulty in accessing adequate sanitation facilities was a major barrier to education, as children often miss school due to hygiene-related illnesses.

In solving all these problems, MHCD decided to build modern toilets at School to promote good health and education and help the children learn under good conditions without any problems. The good news is that the MHCD has just built 8 modern toilets. Now the students and their teachers can use a good toilet to relieve themselves.

We are very grateful to Nathan Dietsch and the Macquarie Foundation who contributed to the construction of these toilets in Sange village.



IMPACT RADIO UVIRA-DRC

Impact Radio is under the MHCD department of Communication. With 3 stations currently in Luvungi, Uvira and Makobola, we are covering the whole of Uvira territory. More than 600,000 people listen in to the stations every day. We are broadcasting in three languages i.e., Kiswahili, French and Kifuliru which is local to the inhabitants of Uvira territory. The program focusses on education, health, community development activities and social cohesion. When we started MHCD in DRC in 2010, we discovered that in the whole of rural parts of Uvira there was no Radio station. There were only 2 stations in the town that could not cover the wider audience. During that time, DRC was just coming out from a major war so most of the people were traumatized and had lots of depression as a result of war. When we arrived in Luvungi, we found out that most people had small radios that they could tune into some stations and listen to music, but the bad thing is that most of the stations they could listen to were from the neighboring countries, Rwanda and Burundi, and the languages were foreign to them. Also, it was very traumatizing for them more especially that the war that had just ended had originated from Rwanda. During funerals or if children got lost, the people of Luvungi could cross and go to Burundi to give out communication to be read out which was very expensive so only those who could afford it could do it. In bringing a solution to this problem, Dr. Luc MULIMBALIMBA went and bought a Radio transmitter in Kenya and brought it to Luvungi, it was installed and then started broadcasting in Kiswahili and Kifuliru which are local languages. Thousands of people started listening to Radio every day and were very happy. We introduced programs of fighting poverty, malnutrition, counselling, and health and this brought a lot of positive impact and change in the community. Another great impact was in the mobilization of the community every Saturday to make bricks that were used to construct the first building which is like the foundation of the Luvungi General Hospital today. The Radio enabled many women and girls who were raped and rejected by their families through counselling and testimonies that they were hearing, and they managed to come and seek for help from the Luvungi Hospital. Impact Radio is on the frontline in the reduction of poverty and improving socio-economic activities in Uvira territory, but the big challenge is that

the Radio does not have support to run it and this makes the journalists work in very difficult conditions. The journalists are in need of fuel to run the Radio, means of transport for them to go and record programs, rent for Makobola and Uvira Radio stations, wages for journalists and radio presenters and also change some of the old equipment's.

Kindly feel free to join hands with us in supporting any of the above activities for the Radio. Your support will help a lot in fighting poverty and malnutrition and promoting good health and socio-economic activities in Uvira Territory.



MHCD STAFF RECEIVE AFRICAN FABRICS FROM THE DIRECTORS.

The MHCD staff work day and night to contribute to the educational, health and socio-economic development of the population of the Territory of Uvira through the Luvungi General Hospital, Uvira MHCD Clinic, Ndolera MHCD Clinic, Primary and Secondary Schools and other MHCD departments.

To show our appreciation for what they are doing, Dr Luc and Delice MULIMBALIMBA bought traditional Congolese cloths called VITENGE which we distributed to all the MHCD staffs. More than 100 people received this gift of encouragement and thanks from the MHCD head office.

The MHCD staff thanked Dr Luc and Mrs. Delice MULIMBALIMBA for thinking of them and said that they would continue to work hard to support the population of Uvira Territory and continue to contribute to health, education and socio-economic activities.



UVIRA COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY ON THE FRONTLINE IN FIGHTING MALNUTRITION IN DRC.

The Uvira Community University was created to fight against poverty and unemployment among young people, to promote community development and agriculture in the territory of Uvira. 80% of the population of the DRC and especially of the Territory of Uvira is involved in agriculture. This agriculture is not modern, so it only helps them to find food to eat, which is why many of the population continues to live in poverty despite the fertile land of the DRC.

Many children continue to suffer from malnutrition while we have many species to cultivate. This is why Dr Luc MULIMBALIMBA and his organisation MHCD created the Uvira Community University in order to fight against poverty, unemployment among young people and to promote community development and agriculture in the territory of Uvira in particular and the DRC in general

This university opened its doors in October 2019 for the first academic year 2019/2020. For the moment these students are in their third year of graduation, and they will receive their graduation diploma in this academic year 2021/2022 so in October-November 2022.

We started with the Faculty of Agronomy and the Faculty of Computer Science. These two faculties are evolving very well, and the students are proud and excited to be studying at UCU.

As for the faculty of agronomy, since the first year, the students and their teachers have started to research on food that can be found locally, that can be planted and harvested in less than two months and that must be rich in protein in order to fight against malnutrition. They have been doing this research for two years and the good news is that they have found these foods.

The students first started planting these foods at the MHCD under the supervision of their teachers.

Among these foods we can mention the Amaranthe which is rich in protein, iron, etc. and which can be harvested in only 3 to 4 weeks. it is food to fight against malnutrition and anaemia in children. We inform you that many children die of anaemia in DRC which is caused mainly by the high fever caused by malaria.

These students succeeded in growing and harvesting amaranth. They ate some of it and sold some of it to help them financially. After research they found that amaranth is very easy to grow, it can be grown in any season and it's very easy to sell.



SOLAR STREET LIGHT PROJECT

Installing of solar streetlights in Luvungi and other villages is another project under the solar for life. This project helps us to fight against insecurity at night and promote small businesses. It has been very difficult for people to sell past 6pm in the markets due to lack of lighting. Most people come from farms or other activities late then go shopping in the market only to find the sellers have already gone. This project will help so much because the women doing small business will be able to sell their produce past 6 pm helping them to earn some money thus reducing poverty. In the places where we have already installed the street lights many small businesses have been successful, under every light we have people selling vegetables, porridge, fish, clothes, meat and even cooked food and coffee in mobile restaurants.

Am very happy to let you know that in this year 2022, we managed to reinstall solar streetlights in Luvungi and many other villages. The project has brought great impact in Uvira territory and people love it. Solar street lights is one of the projects that helps the whole population from men and women to children. Apart from fighting insecurity it has helped to improve lives of communities for the better.

We have many testimonies from Luvungi centre of women testifying that through the solar street lights they have been able to send their kids to school, get food every day and pay medicals for the kids. Kindly contact us if you would like to support us on this life changing project. Providing a streetlight in villages in DRC is reducing poverty and improving lives of many people.



MHCD KENYA ACTIVITIES

We are happy to inform MHCD Friends and supporters that we have reopened and restarted the MHCD activities in Bungoma Kenya. After more than 10 years during which MHCD Kenya went through many administration and management problems, last year we travelled to Kenya to restart the activities. We started with the modernization and construction of the buildings. Before, the church and conference centre of MHCD was constructed with iron sheets with the help of the Lord, I am happy to inform you that in October 2022, we have completed the construction of the buildings and launched the different projects in Kenya.

We have built a church of SLMC (Spring of Life Mission Centre) which is also a conference and training centre for youths and women. In this conference centre which also acts as a church on Sundays, we organize training in tailoring, beauty, and IT.

Every day more than 60 young people come to be trained and educated at MHCD Kenya training centre.

We also have students from Kakuma refugee camp who are studying there, they came to learn so that when they go back, they can train other refugee's youths in the refugee camp. Those youth are from DRC and Burundi. We also have Kenyan students who are coming from poor families, most of them are single mothers, orphans, and street Children.

Through the centre, we are giving them free education, food, and sometime medical care.

Our objectives is to transform them so that they can come out of poverty, become self-sufficient, empowered and help other youths who are in the same situations like them.

At the school, we have accommodation for students who are coming from far and who do not have where to stay, Currently, we have 14 youths at the centre, they are having 3 meals per day (breakfast, lunch, and dinner).

We also launched the food bank. The project is supporting the community especially vulnerable women, orphans and children, elderly person, and traditional midwives.

We give food to the poorest of poor for free and other people they purchase at very low cost. The food bank has brought great impact in the community, even Sunday we receive many people who are coming to take food from the food bank.

We also have water project that is providing water to community for free.

We really thank BMI (Bethesda Ministries International) Australia who visited us in October 2022 and launched the church, training centre and food bank. They also supported the training program and food bank. They were blessing to us, the students, and the Kanduyi Community. We really thank Graham Brown and Euro Civil Moruya NSW who supported the school with equipment's. Finally, we thank all BMI pastors and leaders who visited us and talk with students. May God bless them so much.

We also have traditional midwives' program. We restarted again the midwifery clubs and supported traditional midwives with training, food, and microfinancing program.

In Bungoma, TBA's started the chicken farm which is going on very well and in Maasai Mara they are making necklesses as microfinancing program. We also introduced Agricultural and goat faming activities in Maasai Mara which are doing very well too.

We thank MHCD Friends who supported microfinancing program.

The SLMC church is also going very well. The spiritual program is to help people to come out of depression, stress, and many other problems. Every day before training, the students have a worship moment that helps them a lot spiritually and through the program they are happy and living normal lives.

We thank all those who prayed for and supported MHCD Kenya program.

May God bless you all.



MHCD BURUNDI ACTIVITIES

After Kenya, we are pleased to inform you that we have opened a new MHCD office in Burundi.

In Burundi, we will be working in the province of Makamba where we will open a medical centre and other community development projects. The objectives of the MHCD medical clinic are to help the population to receive quality and affordable health care services as many of the population in this part of Burundi are coming back from refugee camps in Tanzania and have no means to get proper health care.

We are also going to open a training centre for young people in order to fight against the unemployment and to reduce poverty. We shall organise training courses in tailoring, IT, Beauty, and bakery.

Burundi is facing the same problems as DRC, or maybe much more. Both countries are post war and their population have been suffering so much from the war. When you visit the countries, you will see the result of the war in people's life. This is why we decided to conduct community development and health care activities in Burundi to help our brothers and sisters who are suffering.

At the end of October 2022, together with Pastor's from BMI (Bethesda Ministries International), we managed to organise one day community development and mission conference for pastors and Leaders, and it was very well received. We also organized women conference to help women come out from trauma caused by war,

we thank God because women and leaders were very open and wanted MHCD to start activities as soon as possible in Burundi.

We have plans to start micro financing projects to help women and girls to come out of poverty and become self-sufficient and independent. Most of them are going through very difficult situations whereby putting food on the table has become a luxury for them. Most of them still are homeless and single, the husband's left them so all the burden of raising the family rests on their shoulders. They cannot afford to take the children to school and because of this, many young teenage girls have resorted to early marriages that have caused them great pain and depression.

We need your prayers and support to start all these activities in Burundi and we are planning to start them in December 2022 or January 2023.

We request all those who may be interested in supporting the Burundi programme, to help change lives of the most vulnerable and less fortunate people to kindly please contact us.

Thank you very much for your prayers and support and may God bless you.



LUVUNGI MHCD GENERAL HOSPITAL

Luvungi MHCD General Hospital is a mission, community and proximity hospital located in Luvungi village, Uvira Territory, South Kivu Province in East of DRC.

The hospital was created by Dr Luc MULIMBALIMBA in 2010 after having seen the suffering of the population of Uvira in general and particularly in Luvungi.

Before the creation of the Luvungi MHCD General Hospital, there was no hospital in this area of over 30,000 people.

People who needed intensive medical care, dental, ophthalmology care and surgery went to Bukavu, Uvira town or Bujumbura to be treated and they spent a lot of money and took them alot of time to do so. It's only those who had money that managed to go to those places, poor and vulnerable people stayed at home because they couldn't afford money for transport, food, and medical care.

Also, the operations were too expensive in Uvira Territory until the poorest population had no means to be treated, which caused many problems and loss of life.

To solve this major health problems, Dr Luc MULIMBALIMBA decided to create and build a hospital in his native village Luvungi.

With the participation of the local community and the friends of MHCD Australia, Luc Mulimbalimba succeeded in building a hospital, which is today a mission, community, and proximity general hospital.

Luvungi General Hospital is a 150-bed hospital with 4 departments, namely paediatric department, Internal medicine, gynaecology obstetrics and surgery.

We also have different services like pharmacy, medical laboratory, intensive care unit, emergency medicine, dental clinic, ophthalmology, epilepsy clinic, naturopathy, medical imaging (Radiology, echography, ECG, EEG), and mobile clinics.

In the department of mobile clinics, our medical doctors and nurses visit different villages and rural areas where there are no clinics or doctors.

They do consultations, some laboratory tests like malaria, typhoid fever, etc and treat the patients.

For those who are very sick, they put them in the MHCD ambulance and transport them to Luvungi General Hospital.

Every 6 months, we organise medical campaign where we are providing free medical care to the poorest of the poor, those who can't afford medical care.

Luvungi MHCD general hospital has been in the front line to promote primary health care, reduce infant mortality and mother morbidity, reducing infections and deaths in Uvira Territory.

Since we started this hospital in Luvungi and surrounding villages, the women no longer deliver at homes, they come to the hospital. Women and men no longer die with diseases like hernia, appendicitis, caesarean section because they have medical doctors who are taking care for them 24 hours, 7 days per week.

We really reduced the deaths of children caused by malaria and anaemia and deaths caused by typhoid fever, etc.

We managed to educate the population on malaria prevention, primary health care, and other health care topics through impact radio.

We also have health community workers who visit houses and villages to teach people on primary health care, first aid and sensitizing people on immunisation and other preventable diseases.

Every day we receive patients from DRC, Burundi and even Rwanda.

In DRC, we receive patients from different provinces and territories especially the vulnerable people who can't afford to be treated in other hospitals and clinics.

Every month we save lives of many children, women, men, and elderly people.

The people of Uvira and Luvungi are proud to have Luvungi MHCD General Hospital in their village and territory. They thank God who gave Dr Luc MULIMBALIMBA vision to build that hospital in Luvungi which is now a great lake hospital (for people from DRC, Burundi, and Rwanda).

We are facing a very big challenge with medicine because we have so many patients, but we don't have enough medicines for them. This is a very big challenge to us, and the hospital and we don't have any donors supporting the hospital or purchasing medicines/ medical consumable items.

We also need to improve our buildings because most of our buildings are not completely constructed, most of them do not have ceiling board and they need new paint.

We are in need of fuel for the ambulance and our doctors, midwives and nurses need motivation too.

We are giving them wages to thank them for the good work they are doing but because they work every day (day and night), they really need your prayers and support so that they may continue to save lives of many people especially women and children in DRC.

Finally, we are in great need of funds for mobile clinic and medical campaign. For the past two years we have not organized any medical campaigns due to lack of funds, but we are planning to organise a medical campaign in January and June 2023 if God open doors for us and we get enough funds.

Please pray for us so that Luvungi MHCD General Hospital can get funds to help continue saving many lives especially for children and women.

Luvungi MHCD General Hospital has 3 other clinics under the hospital which are Uvira clinic, Ndolera clinic and the Kinshasa clinic.

Uvira clinic is helping internally displaced persons who are living in Kasenga IDP camp. They too do not have medicines. They always get medicines from Luvungi MHCD general hospital.

In helping and supporting the hospital, you will be supporting the IDP people who are in Kasenga IDP camp and who are suffering from malaria, malnutrition, typhoid fever, and many other diseases and who do not have any other hope but MHCD. MHCD has over the years managed to save thousands of lives of vulnerable children and women, raped victims, malnutrition victims and those who faced or are facing numerous other difficulties in life. We do not take it for granted but are so so appreciative to all who have prayed for us and who support in whichever programs we may come up with.

Feel free to support and pray for Luvungi MHCD hospital and MHCD Kasenga Uvira Clinic .We really need your prayers and support at this difficult moment we are going through.

For more information about the hospital or support, please feel free to contact us through: moulymasu@gmail.com

We shall be very happy to hear from you and receive your email.



Before operation



After operation



Before operation



After operation

SOLAR FOR LIFE PROJECT

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, 80% of the population do not have electricity. Thousands of people rely on kerosene lamps and candles to light their homes and they must burn wood on open fires to cook and heat water. This is dangerous, harmful, polluting, and expensive. Batteries are widely used to power radios and people often must travel for many miles to charge their mobile phones.

Many traditional midwives, trained midwives and nurses have no lighting at night when delivering babies. Those who are fortunate use traditional kerosene lamps or candles. However, it is difficult for them to get money to buy kerosene or candles because, in the DRC, 80% of the population live on under \$1 per day so life there is very, very difficult.

When expectant women go to some midwives after dark, they find that the midwives have no lights in their health centers and maternity clinics. These midwives, who do not have kerosene lamps or candles, are forced to deliver babies in darkness and this can add complications to the deliveries and makes it difficult to save the lives of the mothers and their babies.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), power blackouts can mean the difference between life and death in a healthcare situation, but a Solar Kit system is now keeping some Hospitals, Health Clinics and Birth Centre's out of darkness.

MHCD (Mission in Health Care and Development), Democratic Republic of Congo, is launching a project called **Solar for Life**. The project will have 3 main components:

SOLAR KITS FOR HEALTH:

In beginning of this year, we received a report that, in villages, many babies and mothers are dying during childbirth because due to the lack of electricity and good lighting during the night.

With access to solar energy lights, women will be able to give birth in much safer conditions.

To solve this problem, MHCD have purchased 300 solar kits of 3 bulbs with Fm Radio, Mobile phone charger and USB for traditional Midwives, Nurses, Clinics, Delivery rooms and Maternity Units in Uvira Territory, DRC. The solar kits have provided good lighting to the midwives, and they have been able to consult and conduct birthing of babies at night without any problems. It also provides lights for the traditional midwives' families and their children can study in good conditions at night thereby helping with their education.

The Solar Kits have access to Fm Radio so the midwives can listen to Impact Radio every day without having to buy batteries. They will also be able to charge their mobile phones for free. The Solar Kits have been a great solution to many of their problems and will make their work and lives much easier.

Solar kits distribution has been one of the greatest projects that MHCD has carried out. Our vision was to distribute 300 kits in this year 2022 and am so grateful to God because we achieved our goal, and we distributed 300 kits. We also gave kits to MHCD staffs to thank them for the great work they are doing in helping many people

in different ways. All those who received the solar kits really thank MHCD and they testified saying providing them with light was like giving them life again. They told us on their behalf that we thank all those in Australia who contributed to this project in one way or another. We as MHCD take this opportunity to thank all MHCD Australian friends who participated in the fundraisings and donated solar kits. You really saved lives of many babies, women, and traditional midwives. We received many testimonies and thanks from people who received the kits.



Traditional Midwives receiving Solar Kits from MHCD



MHCD Staff receiving Solar Kits



We distributed also to Nurses, Midwives and Clinics in Uvira Territory

TRADITIONAL MIDWIVES MICROFINANCING PROGRAM IN KENYA

I am very pleased to inform you that we have launched a microfinance project for traditional midwives in Bungoma and Maasai Mara / Kenya.

The Traditional midwives Microfinancing Project involves 4 main projects namely:

1. Chickens farming
2. Goat farming
3. Agriculture
4. Local Necklesses production

In Bungoma Kenya, the Traditional midwives chose chicken farming and Agricultural projects.

In Maasai Mara, they also chose goats farming and the making of traditional necklesses locally.

These projects are progressing very well. We have supported over 80 Traditional midwives in different villages.

We have not given them money, we purchased chickens, goats and seeds and we gave some money to the clubs for necklesses and Agricultural projects

We divided them into clubs, each club has 10 to 20 traditional midwives.

Working with clubs will help them to get to manage the projects well and work together for success of the projects.

This project will help them get food for their children, school fees, clothes and medical care for their families.

After more than 12 years, since MHCD stopped working in Kenya due for finances and different challenges, the traditional midwives were very happy to receive support from MHCD again. They sang, danced, and thanked MHCD for the support they received.

In Maasai Mara, they testified that this is the first time they have received goats as microfinancing support in their villages.

In Bungoma, vegetables and chicken farming are doing well, and they are very happy.

Before we go back to Australia, they would have already harvested the local vegetables because they take 4 weeks only to become ready. This is a result of

research work that we did with the Agricultural students of MHCD Uvira Community University, and we would like to replicate in Kenya the same project we are doing in DRC and is working well.

We really thank all those who supported the Kenya Microfinancing Projects especially:

1. Stella Darmondy
2. Yolanda Hass
3. Elaine and John Dietsch
4. Jenny Weaver

Thank you very much for remembering Kenyan Traditional midwives with microfinancing program again.

Those TBA's are doing good job despite living in poverty.

We visited them and saw how they are suffering, some of them are sick but they don't afford money for medical care, so the microfinancing program will help them to fight poverty and reduce hunger in their families and communities.

We still have other Traditional midwives and clubs who need support, we have not managed to support all TBAs who are working with MHCD.

We kindly please request all well-wishers reading this report to help us so that we can also support the remaining traditional midwives.



Chickens farming



Vegetable farming



Launching of the Goat Distribution Project in Maasai Mara

SAVE THE ORPHANED AND STREET CHILDREN PROGRAM DIETSCH ACADEMY (MHCD SCHOOL) SANGE

➤ PRESENTATION OF UVIRA TERRITORY:

Uvira Territory is in south Kivu Province in East of the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is the only Territory bordering four countries with are Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Zambia through Lake Tanganyika.

The geographic situation of Uvira Territory has made it prone to war. Since 1992, most of the wars in D.R. Congo began in Uvira Territory. Even the war of 1996 started from Uvira and this has caused the Territory to lag behind in development and the population living in great poverty.

As at now very many children in Uvira are suffering from malnutrition, many sick people are dying from preventable diseases like malaria, typhoid fever due to lack of finances, many children are not going to school because of lack of funds because it is expensive especially for pre-nursery and nursery education and this is the foundation of primary school and all education. The primary and secondary school education is also expensive in D.R. Congo. So many women were raped in war, many families separated and most of the people have trauma, psychological and social problems.

All these problems caused MHCD-mission in health care and development to start community development and social activities in Uvira Territory. We built a hospital that provides good, proper, and cheap health care to vulnerable people, we opened nursery and primary schools that are providing free education to orphaned children, we opened a nutritional centre that provides food to children suffering from malnutrition, we started secondary schools, community development centers, medical clinics in different villages and many other activities.

➤ **PRESENTATION OF THE SANGE VILLAGE:**

This is one of the villages in Uvira Territory. It has a population of more than 30.000 people. It is one of the biggest villages and centers in Uvira after Uvira town and Luvungi.

In 2010, a petrol tanker that was travelling from Kenya to Uvira town and by bad luck when it arrived in Sange, the driver lost control and the tanker fell off. When the villagers saw that oil was spilling from the tanker, due to great poverty, they began drawing oil from the tanker. Within no time, the tanker burst into a huge fire and burnt very many people and the grass houses that were nearby. More than 300 people died.

In 2013, Mutarule village that nears Sange suffered a massacre. Unknown people entered people's houses and slaughtered 12 people alive. Most of the villagers ran for their lives to Sange. Up today many people from Mutarule village still live in Sange, they refuse to go back to Mutarule because of trauma and all killing and bad things they saw in their village.

In 2020, we got another bad news that on the night of Thursday 30 July 2020 at night, another massacre had just been carried out in Sange village. According to MHCD Leaders in Sange, they told us that this killing was caused by a soldier of the DRC Army who was drunk, he shot and killed 9 people and several other people were hospitalized at Sange hospital.

These massacres, killings and insecurity caused by bad governance has meant that in Sange there are many widows, orphaned and street children. These children have no food, medical care, clothes and most suffer from malnutrition.

They do not go to school because of the lack of school fees and school materials like uniforms, exercise books, pencils, pens, etc.

These children suffer a lot and live in a miserable condition.



The photo of the Sange people who were burnt alive by the petrol tanker.

➤ SANGE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM (DIETSCH ACADEMY)

After all the problems we have seen in Sange, we have asked ourselves many questions. How are we going to reduce poverty, fight hunger and malnutrition and above all save the lives of these orphaned children of Sange?

After many meetings and exchanges with the local population and our investigation, we discovered that education is one of the main and major activities to fight against poverty and prepare the future life of these children.

With the support of the local community and Nathan Dietsch we have created MHCD Sange School (Dietsch Academy Sange), starting with the kindergarten (pre-nursery and nursery school) where we are taking care of the orphaned and street children from the fire tragedy, insecurity, war, and other children born as a result of rape during the war. Each year we train more than 250 pupils.

At the Dietsch Academy Sange, we provide them with free education, medical care for the sick pupils, and sometime food. We provide full medical care and food for all students suffering from malnutrition.

Since we started this program in 2010, we have helped more than 4200 students to study for free. Most of these children have finished primary school and started vocational training in carpentry, tailoring, auto mechanics, agriculture and now have a wonderful life.

The others continued with secondary school education, and they finished and got the state diploma in pedagogy, social studies, nursing, midwifery, etc. and they are doing well and enjoying their life. They also supporting their siblings and families. Other are working at the MHCD Mission in the community development department.

We are currently modernizing our school by constructing good buildings. We managed to build good toilets for our students, and we thank God for that. We are also building a community centre (Hall) for women victims of sexual violence, war trauma and internally displaced people. This centre will help widows and single mothers together with raped and petrol tank fire victims to fight against poverty and to take care of themselves.

We are very grateful to Nathan Dietsch for supporting the program and has continued to support this school, thanks a lot for all that you have done and are still doing.

I also thank Stella Darmody who supported the construction of the Community Centre (Hall). Currently the hall is under construction and hoping to finish the construction in March-April 2023.

Lastly, I thank all MHCD Friends and Supporters who are supporting microfinancing program, food and contributed to the toilets and school construction in Sange village. May God bless you all and please know that we love you so much and appreciate everything you are doing for the Sange Village.



The children in Sange village in their house where they sleep.



***The children at Dietsch Academy Sange /MHCD Sange School
(2011 school year students)***



The children having lunch in front of their class.



New School toilets



The 2022 school year students launch the new school toilettes.



2022 School Year Students



Class rooms

Thank you very much for reading our report .I would like to inform you that even if we have done a lot of achievements and helped many vulnerable children especially orphaned and street children in Sange, Please know that we still have many challenges and vulnerable children and women who need your prayers and support especially for the food (feeding) program, nutritional program(supporting children who are suffering from malnutrition) and medical care which cost a lot of money.

For more information feel free to contact Dr. Luc MULIMBALIMBA

Email: moulymasu@gmail.com

UVIRA MHCD CLINIC

The MHCD Mission has a 30 beds clinic in Uvira town. At the clinic we have departments and services like maternity, surgery, internal medicine, gynaecology obstetrics, pediatry, pharmacy, laboratory, medical imaging (Ultrasound), Dentistry and Naturopathy.

Most of the patients we receive at the clinic are vulnerable people from Kasenga, internally displaced persons from the camp and People from different villages surrounding Uvira town. Most of the villages have been affected by war and insecurity for many years, so people who are living there are very poor. They can't afford medical care, and this is why we started the clinic in Uvira town to help them.

Through the Kasenga MHCD clinic, we have been able to treat hundreds of patients every year, expectant women deliver every day, we operate patients with different medical problems and treat children suffering from malaria, worms, bronchitis, pneumonia etc every day.

Also, we receive patients who are suffering from typhoid fever, diabetes, hypertension, war trauma and women and girls who have been raped. For those who suffering from sexual violence, we give them free medical care and sometimes food if we have.

The big challenges we are facing at Uvira MHCD clinic is rental fees. The building we are using is not ours, so we are paying every month the rent which is becoming difficult for us to get money for especially because most of patients are vulnerable

people, they can't afford to pay for medical care, we are treating them for free and those who are paying are just contributing with little bit of money.

Am very happy to inform you that we managed to purchase a small plot in kiromoni/Uvira town where we are planning to build our own clinic.

We are kindly please requesting all well-wishers who are reading this report to help us with construction materials. The MHCD DRC will buy some materials, but we cannot afford to purchase all materials we need for the construction of the clinic.

Please help us to help others especially vulnerable people from Kasenga internally displaced camp.

Through MHCD Uvira clinic we managed to save lives of many women and children.

Your contribution will help us to continue saving lives in Uvira Territory through Uvira MHCD Clinic.

For any support, please contact Dr Luc Mulimbalimba through email address: moulymasu@gmail.com



MHCD Midwife carrying birthing Kits at the MHCD Uvira clinic

MHCD LUVUNGI MIDWIFERY SCHOOL

The MHCD Luvungi Midwifery School is going on well. Am very happy to inform you that every year we are receiving 10 new students. In this academic year 2022/2023 we have in total 43 students. They come from different villages of South Kivu Province. We also have students who come from the Burundian community.

We thank God because every year our students are passing with flying colours in national examination. In the year 2022, the MHCD Luvungi Midwifery School was one of the best Midwifery and nursing school in Uvira Territory.

The school is bringing a great impact in different communities because for our students, after graduation they are go back to their villages to work and helping their communities. They help deliver babies, train traditional midwives, carry out immunization, treat patients suffering from malaria, typhoid fever, worms, etc.

Every day, we receive testimonies from the communities about the great work they are doing, and we thank God for that.

We thank also all MHCD Friends and supporters who are supporting MHCD Luvungi Midwifery School especially Ivan, Yolanda, Stella, and Kim.

Through your support many villages that do not have maternity and medical clinic, now they have their own maternity and medical clinics. Everyday babies are delivered without any complications or problems. Thank you very much for that and May God bless you so much.



Midwifery Students

CONCLUSION:

We hope and believe that you enjoyed reading MHCD 2022 general report. There are also many other activities that we carried out that are not included in this report. We thank God so much who has enabled us to carry out all these activities. We thank all those who prayed for us and contributed in one way or another. Lastly, we thank the MHCD staffs on the ground who have been working so hard to see the accomplishment of this activities. Even though we have managed to carry out successfully the above activities, there are many more projects that we have not managed to do because of lack of funds. We kindly request that you please not tire in supporting the projects in the year 2023 for those projects that we could not go further with due to lack of funds. Again, thank you very much for all the efforts and sacrifices you have put in so that the activities above maybe successfully carried out. Our prayer is that you continue joining hands with us so that in the year 2023 we may do more than those in the year 2022.

Dr. Luc MULIMBALIMBA MASURURU
MHCD Director