Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)

Sustainable Pathways Commitment 2013

**Commitment Summary:**
Through Sustainable Pathways (SP) and the Football for Hope (FFH) project, the Georges Malaika Foundation (GMF) commits to provide youth in Kalebuka with skills-training in sustainable farming, offer access to opportunities in enterprise development, and to improve literacy skills. Sustainable Pathways (SP) is a twelve month pilot project that will address the lack of skills, opportunities, and hope amongst vulnerable Congolese youth by providing entrepreneurial and life skills training in the context of an operational organic farm. It will target out of school youth aged 18-24 and teach sustainable farming techniques, basic literacy, and eco-enterprise skills that address environmental threats, poverty, and poor health. The Kalebuka FFH center will serve as a model for youth-service organizations that aspire to implement projects that promote resource management and achieve economic outcomes that improve the future of youth and the local community.

**How the Commitment Came About?**
The commitment came about as an inspiration to move beyond *Georges Malaika Foundations* (GMF) founding mission to empower girls through education through the GMF Girls School project, and to extend...
our reach beyond to empowering community members and particularly youth living in the village of Kalebuka through education. The aim was to achieve this goal while addressing the current pressing needs effecting youth and the community in which they live in the areas of health, education, food security and income. In the DRC, over half the population is under the age of 18, which has created a large youth bulge. This condition accompanied by high unemployment rates has become a great cause for concern regarding the future of youth in the DRC. This is particularly true because they possess few transferable skills, hold low-levels of literacy through little access to education and have little hope of moving beyond a system dependent on income derived from subsistence farming, yielding on average, less than $2 dollars a day. Moreover, both food security and lack of proper nutrition continue to be leading causes of failing health in the DRC. Solving these problems through sustainable methods of organic farming through the SP Football for Hope project was a natural development

**Where are we at in the project implementation?**

Since the Sustainable Pathways commitment was introduced, ground preparation activities have taken place to include clearing the land on the property surrounding the Football for Hope Centre. Construction has also begun at the Centre which is set to open tentatively August 2013. The Sustainable Pathways project is due to officially launch July 2013.

**Best practices**

Through creating solutions to local problems that address multiple challenges in the area of health, education, food security and the area of income while addressing these challenges in an environmentally sound way the Sustainable Pathways project is providing a sound model in a world faced with growing environmental concerns. Through the organic farm and Sustainable Pathways project, providing green jobs for youth while also empowering the community to find locally driven solutions to local problems is key to achieving sustainability.

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**Kalebuka Football for Hope Centre SP Project Updates**
Layout of Building

Excavation of FFH Centre Site
Site clearing

Foundation work