

## Annual Report 2009

**SidEcole is still committed to the same partners:** St. Moses, Reach Out, Kuddiza, Have Mercy (Uganda), Busia (Kenya), Tafika and Chiawa (Zambia).

For the second year round **the increase of food prices on the markets has had a disastrous effect on thousands of families.** A persistent and severe drought in the north-east of Uganda has made the situation even worse: the prices of a kilo of corn flour, eggs, bananas have almost doubled. SidEcole was able to react very quickly and for the first time has given nutritional support to 10 families since March in order to prevent young children from falling ill even more often and being absent from school due to undernourishment.

### UGANDA

*Number of children girls/boys according to category of teaching*

Place	Inf.	Prim.	Sec.	Univ	place/f-g	Total
St Moses	1 /	31 / 10	9 / 6	1 / 3	42 / 19	61
Reach Out		31 / 29	4 /		35 / 29	64
Have Mercy	21 / 25	60 / 55			81 / 80	161
Kuddiza	19 / 15	41 / 43			60 / 58	118 100
<b>Total</b>	25 / 18	223 / 226	12 / 5	1 / 3	261 / 252	504



**Almost 1000 children and young people have been provided with schooling:** the aim of the project is to enable children to finish primary school. Some young students, mainly girls, continue their education in secondary schools, because they are more exposed to risks. Beside **school fees and materials, uniforms, school meals** (porridge made of millet, rice, beans, bananas, eggs), **desks and tables have been financed.**

This year the school results have been weaker, which, according to the teachers, is partly due to a lack of food. **SidEcole also supports the Saturday activities** (dancing, theatre, films, discussions, sports and games) **during which advice on aids prevention** and the young people's professional future **is given.** The "Child to Child" group has cleaned the roads of the slum, has given people information on hygiene and has taken part in the prevention of Aids. In the needlework classes at school the children have made cushions, shirts, shorts and dresses with patterns out of paper or bags used for concrete.

Some teachers follow courses in psychotherapy in order to understand and support children traumatized by their family situation.

The textile workshop (set up in 2008) has generated income which was used for repairs in the school. Unfortunately the sale of clothes suffered from the competition with Chinese merchants who have set up shop in slum areas and undercut the local prices.

### KENYA

The budget **has helped 119 children, all residents of the orphanage** ( school fees and materials, uniforms, shoes, sweatshirts and 2 meals a day) and **53 other orphans** living in host families .**The textile workshop,** set up with SidEcole funds in 2009, has made a small profit of about 200\$, which has been **reinvested** in the **breeding of chickens** since spring 2009 : they went from 5 chickens to 35 and then to 300 in December. The workshop functions thanks to mending jobs, orders and above all the uniforms for the school. It is hoped that the financial dependency will eventually diminish with these activities, which is a difficult problem in the case of an orphanage, as it is inconceivable to use children as workforce!



### ZAMBIA

The Tafika programme has come to an end. In 7 years, **24 students have finished their education or training: 17 have successfully finished secondary school, 1 has become an electrician, 3 mechanics, 1 a carpenter, 3 teachers and 1 a doctor.**

In the area of the Lower Zambezi SidEcole has provided 139 uniforms with the logistic help of Chiawa Camp.

**The programme of aids prevention and health education has taken on a new shape:** as the **Aids pandemic** can no longer be considered as the sole problem, it now **deals with all aspects of daily life.** To fight against Aids, young people must not only know about the illness, but also stop accepting it as something that is "common" or "normal". They need activities to keep them occupied and they need to believe in a possible future. **Young people are made aware of this in 5 camps** (at the Centres of the NGO Conservation Lower Zambezi), these camps are followed up by **regular visits to the village schools. A drama competition between the schools** on the subject of health and relationships between young people met with **great success.** Some young people now play an active part in group discussions with their peers in the villages. With these activities SidEcole encourages young people to believe that a different life is possible.

Anna Mary 20 years old

**"This year I'm starting to teach, so my dream of being able to help others will come true."**