

EMPOWER

Partnering for
Sustainable Growth

MALI



EMPOWER MALI

ANNUAL REPORT

2014

Partnering for Sustainable Development

Dear Friend of Mali,

Access to quality education, healthcare, clean water, clean energy and leadership training are the challenges to sustainable development in Mali. Of these, quality education remains one of the greatest and fundamental needs in Mali. With Mali having only a 31% literacy rate, 2014 was a year where we focused our efforts in the field of education by improving access to a quality education in some of the most rural areas, where schools were not within reach and access to education posed a serious challenge.

With your help and the help of many generous donors, we were able to accomplish many great projects. 2014 has been a year of exciting developments at Empower Mali, in which we brought education to more young people than ever before. Below are some highlights of our accomplishments this past year:

January 2014: Students from under-served communities in Kalabancoura, Bamako were donated Samsung tablets. These tablets come equipped with programs that help the teachers and children familiarize themselves with software and the Internet.

February 2014: Donation of 100 school kits and hygiene kits to middle schools in Kalabancoura, Bamako.

March 2014: Construction of The Building Youth Around the World Academy was completed.

April 2014: Through our partner foundation Building Youth Around the World, we dedicated the Building Youth Around the World Academy of Ferekoroba. This middle school will provide education for 150 students each year and save the children a 3-mile hike multiple times a day to the next village. The event was covered on National TV and attended by the Minister of Education, Madame Nana Jacqueline Togola.

July/August 2014: We welcomed two new Malian students to Wasatch Academy. Since 2005, Wasatch Academy, through its Principal Joe Loftin, has provided Malian students with an opportunity to further their higher education here in United States. Seven Malians have already graduated and are currently attending college or university throughout. The two girls are Dioulde Diallo and Fatoumata Diop. They joined Nouman Kanté from the village of Bananzole.

September 2014: Construction of a three building teachers/directors housing was completed in the village of Ferekoroba. The funds for this housing was donated by our partner Building Youth Around the World Foundation. The housing will allow the village to hire and retain well trained teachers.



October 2014: Empower Mali donated textbooks to the Building Youth Around the World Academy of Ferekoroba. Classes began at the BYAW Academy.

We donated 500 school and hygiene kits in the distant villages in Ouélessébougou to mark the start of school. Many of the children and families in this area do not have these basic supplies.

November 2014: We donated school kits to an orphanage in Bamako, Mali.

December 2014: We partnered with the Nomen Global Language Centers in Provo, Utah and the Ministry of Education in Mali to send four Malian students on a full 8-month scholarship to the US. The four students are Dramane Bagayoko, Odette Togola, Fatoumata Sow and Mamadou Tounkara.

The positive effect of your generosity has been reflected in the changes and advancements experienced by the children of these many villages. None of the foundation's successes could have been achieved without our donors, partners and volunteers.

Thank you for your investment in our children and people in Mali. We are grateful to have you onboard!

Yeah Samaké



Field Consultant
Empower MALI

I am driven to Empower Mali having seen the beauty of its people and the oppression they suffer from lack of access to education. I feel great purpose in lifting the poor and oppressed and making opportunities available to the least of us.

-- James Arrington

My wife and I have had the privilege of experiencing first-hand the beauty of the Malian people and their formidable environment.

We found the Malian people to be strong, proud and happy. They have much to be proud of, for they have successfully weathered a very difficult terrain for generations.

While much was different about the traditions of each village they each had much in common. Each was desperately poor and unable to provide anything for its inhabitants in the way of comfort as we know it in America. Homes were mud huts with thatched roofs built out of the dry dirt of Sub-Saharan Africa. Water was drawn from wells. Goats and chickens and occasionally dogs wandered freely about scavenging for scraps. Shade was scarce but smiles were abundant.

Education is the one thing that will bring light into the lives of the people of Mali. It is one thing that can never be taken away or destroyed and remains the most important resource lacking for the people of Mali to help them lift themselves up.

This year we as a foundation focused our efforts and your generous donations on making an impact on education in the rural villages of Mali. As a strong proponent of childhood education, I believe that the Empower Mali schools are doing more for these villagers than giving their children a place to learn how to read and write. They offer escape from the poverty of past generations. They offer the expanding of minds and relief from the darkness of illiteracy. They offer aspirations for the future. They offer hope. The minds of these village children are being filled with light, and this light can be seen in their eyes. These schools are definitely making a difference, and every year their impact grows more pronounced.

Thank you for caring!



James Arrington

Chair



Partnering for Sustainable Development



Empower Mali was created to meet the growing needs of rural communities in Mali, West Africa, in the areas of education, healthcare, clean water and clean energy.

The focus of the foundation is not to give a hand out to these communities, but rather to work side by side empowering these communities to meet their own needs by sharing with them the resources and tools to get it done. Empower Mali works closely with community leaders and the citizens of Mali to ensure that projects are self sustainable and that the work can continue even after EM leaves the village.

EM has committed its efforts and resources in the following areas:

Education:

- Building schools in rural communities. On average children will walk 7-10 miles to go to school in nearby villages.
- Equip current schools with textbooks and school supplies
- Providing teacher training
- Implementing technology programs to help Mali advance in usage of computers, tablets etc.

Healthcare:

- Bringing expeditions of doctors/nurses that can treat patients for free and also share best practices.
- Training health care professionals to serve in rural communities.

Clean Water:

- Installation of water tanks and drilling wells and boreholes.

Clean Energy:

- Installation of solar panels in villages to take advantage of the hot African sun.

Leadership Training:

- Providing opportunities and training for local leaders and youth to take charge and improve their communities.



WHY MALI?



- Population – 15.1 million.
- Annual per capita income – \$500.
- Economic base – 80% involved in agriculture.
- Average life expectancy – 54 years.
- Literacy Rate: 31%
- Unemployment: 30-35%
- Ranked third poorest country in the world
- Seven out of ten Malians live in rural areas.
- Almost two-thirds of the 11,700 rural villages in Mali do not have a school.
- 76 % of the rural population lives on less than \$1 a day.
- Only 48 % of the people in rural villages have access to clean water.
- Only 39 % have access to improved sanitation facilities.



2014 PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



FOUR MALIAN STUDENTS ATTEND NOMEN GLOBAL ON FULL 8 MONTH SCHOLARSHIP



TEACHERS HOUSING IN FEREKOROBA



SCHOOL AND HYGIENE KITS DONATION



FIRST WASATCH ACADEMY GRADUATING COLLEGE



BYAW ACADEMY DEDICATED



TABLETS FOR SCHOOLS IN KALABANCOURA, BAMAKO

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

1. LOCAL INITIATIVE

As part of our partnerships, we expect the Malian communities where we work to initiate the demand for the project and also to contribute to the project whether it is 20% of the cost of the project and/or land or labor.

2. EMPOWERMENT

We utilize the existing capacities and resources of the villages.

3. PARTNERSHIP

The collaboration with the government and community stakeholders ensures that our projects are adequately staffed and receive long-term sustained support.

By getting the communities involved in both the needs assessment and financial portion, the project becomes self sustainable. The villagers are more likely to maintain the project because of their own investment and role in bringing the project to their community.



YOUR IMPACT : BUILDING A FUTURE



FANKELE SAMAKÉ

Chief of the village of Ferekoroba

My whole village is mobilized to contribute all we can to have our own middle school. We owe it to our children and it is worth every effort to save them from the long walk. We are grateful to Empower Mali and BYAW for making this school possible.



MOUSSA SAMAKÉ

7th Grade Student, BYAW Academy of Ferekoroba

I would like to thank everyone who helped build our school. What they have done is very important and I hope they realize the help they have given me and the village.



AMADOU ONGOIBA

Teacher at BYAW Academy

In most villages I have taught, only the teacher will have access to a textbook. These textbooks give us a chance to focus more on the lesson and less on the students copying notes. Thank you Empower Mali.



JACQUELINE MARIE NANA

Minister of Education, MALI speaking on Empower Mali's scholarship program

Youth training will focus on agricultural entrepreneurship from planting to utilization. Each of us can play our role in development. With this gesture, the foundation Empower Mali strengthens investment for quality resources for our children.



MAMADOU DIAKITE

Farmer, Village of Katele

*Soon, my village will have its own middle school. Then my children will have the chance to get more education. A chance I never had. I have a lot of hope for their future. My oldest son, **Madou**, loves science and wants to be a doctor. **Amadou** wants to be a farmer and my youngest son, **Lassina**, loves going to school.*

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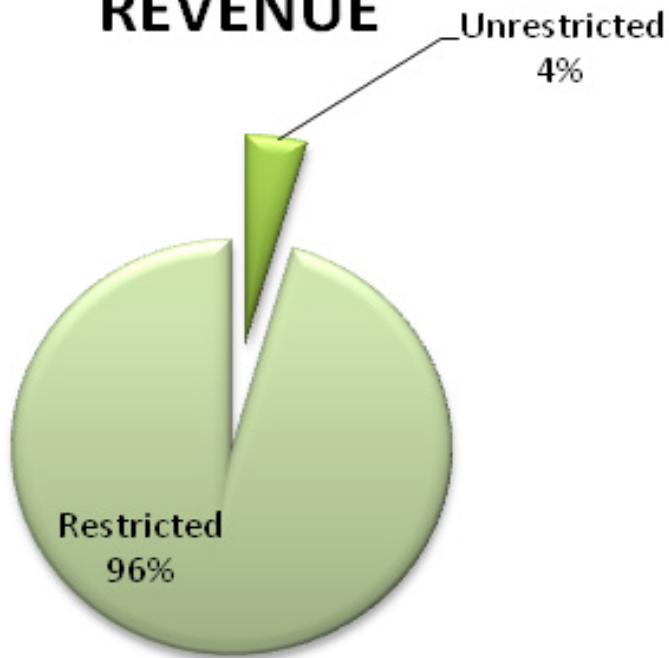
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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

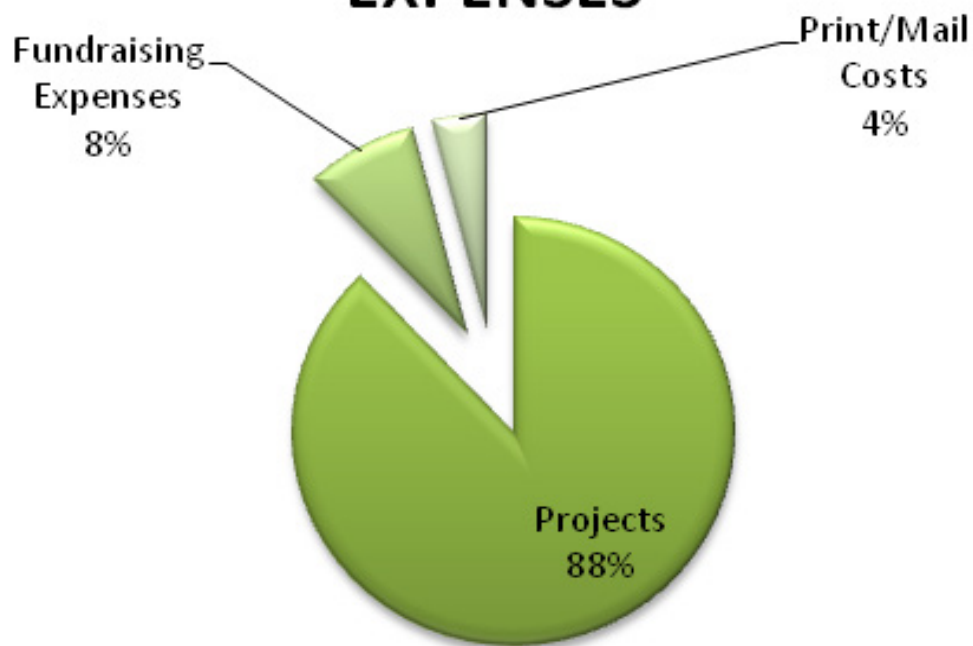
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING 2014

The Foundation's income for FY2014 was \$98,378.00 including In-kind donations.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



2015 Projects



Empower Mali has received funding to build a new middle school in the village of Falla. Construction will begin in February 2015.



Empower MALI has received 7 three-year scholarships through the Fundacion Paraguay for students to attend the agricultural school Lycée Agricole de San Francisco au Paraguay. Agriculture is the main industry in Mali and these students will learn the tools to make their communities more successful in this area.



Through Empower Mali and the City of Ouélessébougou (in Mali), Empower Mali is raising funds for a food security initiative that will impact the entire city of Ouélessébougou (Population 55K). The 1.2 million dollar "40 tractors for 40 villages" project will allow farmers to modernize their business and help increase production of staples like cotton, sorghum, millet, maize, and rice. A massive increase in productivity and output will make a decisive improvement in production, employment and increase rural incomes. Each tractor is \$25,000.00. Impact a village TODAY!

2015 Projects



We will be installing an electricity generating playground in the village of Ferekoroba. These playgrounds will light up the school and provide a great activity for the children. This also comes with 40 solar lanterns that the children and the villagers can use at night. We hope to install many more in the rural villages of Mali that have no access to electricity. Each playground, solar panel and lantern system costs \$15,000 to install.

**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY TO
MAKE AN IMPACT IN MALI IN 2014.**

**YOUR HELP WAS INSTRUMENTAL TO BETTERING
THE LIVES OF MANY MALIANS IN RURAL VILLAGES.**

WE HOPE TO HAVE YOUR SUPPORT IN 2015!!