

FORDERVEREIN
AFRIKAPROJEKT- Dr. Schales e.V.

UBUNTU SCHALES TRUST PROJECT
REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023

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1.0 PREAMBLE

The Afrikaprojekt/Ubuntu Schales Annual Report 2023, highlights the achievements realised in the year against planned activities. Thanks to the continuing donor support from Germany and the ongoing partnership with the responsible authorities of the Project. These included the Archdiocese of Bulawayo, Kusile Rural District Council, the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MOPSE). The Community of Lupane in general, benefitted immensely and continues to embrace the Work of Dr. Schales and the Project over the 21-year period in which the Project has been in existence among them.

1.1 BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

Zimbabwe's economic development is yet to fully express itself as it remains hampered by structural bottlenecks, micro and macro-economic instability and weather related phenomenon such as the 2023/24 El-nino induced drought.

Although the World Bank reported a decline in extreme poverty in Zimbabwe since 2020, poverty remains high in the context of the high cost of living against low wages, low agricultural and industrial productivity, unemployment, a high disease burden, high inflation and other economic ills.

Interventions sought by Afrikaprojekt/Ubuntu Schales Trust through Planned activities for year 2023 were affected by the above economic environment, but despite that, reasonable successes were achieved in planned activities with the following highlights during the year under review;

2.0 HOSPITAL PROJECTS

2.1 SUMMARY

St Luke's Mission Hospital had a budget provision of US\$ 375 941 for the year 2023. US\$ 333 827.00 was spent representing an uptake of 89% of planned activities. Out of the total Hospital expenditure, 56% was spent on Hospital recurrent expenditure to cover the hospital's financing gap while the reminder 46% was spent on Hospital equipment, furniture and building projects.

Expenditure on Hospital recurrent activities was dominated by human resources related expenses which took up 60% covering staff top ups, staff allowances and locums and the grocery package which was extended to all staff to assist with basic food availability in the face of diminishing incomes. This was followed by Hospital financing towards medicines, specialist clinics, patients and doctors' food provisions, fuel for operations and backup power, taking up 34% of recurrent budget.

As a percentage of the overall AP/UST budget for 2023, the Hospital accounted for 31% of the total expenditure for the year.

Below are itemised details of individual projects;

2.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Highlights on capital projects for the year included the continuation of the Waiting mothers shelter, doctors' kitchen renovations, Convent staff accommodation, School of Nursing new classroom block, landscaping improvements of the new Outpatients block. Hospital furniture for previously completed projects were procured including importation of a new dental chair and accessories from China.

2.2.1 New Waiting Mothers' Shelter: The new mothers' accommodation whose two first blocks were left at roofing level end of year 2022, were completed in 2023. Two new blocks were commenced and built to above ring beam level by year end 2023. A total of US\$ 81 075 was spent from the budgeted US\$ 60 000.00 for the year. The excess expenditure was occasioned by building material pre purchase for subsequent stages in 2024. At the time of this report, the structures had been roofed and plastering was ongoing towards completion. It was anticipated that the next phase of this project would move to construction of the kitchen, toilet facilities and guard room for the shelter before relocating waiting mothers to the new facility.

2.2.2 Hospital Staff Accommodation AMR Convent: Renovation and extension work which started in August 2022 was built further in 2023. The accommodation was floored, glazed, painted and a retaining wall built at a cost of US\$ 6 946.00. Outstanding to complete and hand over for beneficiary use was, tiling and fitting of sliding doors which was envisaged to be complete at the provision of the next budget.

2.2.3 School of Nursing New Classroom block: Part of the material for the construction of a 2nd classroom block was purchased at a cost of US\$ 12 382.00 in 2023. However, the project was parked and is to commence at an appropriate time.

2.2.4 Doctors Kitchen Renovations -Summer House: Upon completion of the summer house to be used as an outside eating facility and for meetings in 2022, work moved to the main doctors' kitchen where staff toilets, staff change room, fitting of new cupboards, restoration of the cold room, a new roof and ceiling and redecoration was undertaken. This was done at a cost of US\$ 36 207.00. The kitchen was handed over for beneficial use in October 2023.

2.2.5 New Hospital Furniture: A gap of furniture provision to previously completed service buildings which includes the new theatre, school of nursing classroom block and the new Out

Patient building was attended to with the purchase of new furniture at a cost of US\$ 8 975.00 during the year. These were distributed to departments for use.

2.2.6 Guesthouse solar geyser and Water Purifier: To counter the effects of calcification on hospital equipment due to borehole hard water, the project supported the purchase and installation of a water purifier for the new outpatient department. The newly acquired dental equipment and other equipment have added protection from the purified water.

A solar geyser was installed to the guesthouse to counter main electricity outages for added comfort for guesthouse clients.

The two were implemented at a cost of US\$ 3 390.00

2.2.7 Landscaping: Following the completion of the new Outpatients department and the proposed relocation of the hospital entrance, the Project funded the opening up of a new road and provided drainage culverts and retaining walls. Landscaping was to follow this initial exercise which cost US\$ 5 915-00 to implement.

2.2.8 Hospital garden: The hospital resumed vegetable production during the year to supplement much needed vegetables for the doctors' and patients' kitchens. Produce for the period July to December 2023.

Garden Produce Report for July – December 2023

2023	Chomolia (KG)	Spinach (KG)	Lettuce (Head)	Onions (KG)
July	27			
August	81.5			
September	83.25	27.75	12	
October	126.75	9		175
November	88.5	19.5		
December	77.25	21.75		
TOTAL	484.25 KG	78 KG	12 Heads	175 KG

The yield produce from the garden amounted to 750kgs for the period above covered 85% of the hospital need. US\$ 284.00 was spent on seed, pesticides and tools.

A total of US\$ 155 168.00 was spent on capital projects for the year. The above investment continues to provide better working and service facilities for the hospital and the community moving forward the agenda to upgrade this old hospital.

2.3 RECURRENT BUDGET SUPPORT

The Project sustained further support for the Hospital running budget in the following areas; medicines and surgicals, hospital fuel, patients' and doctors' food, running specialist doctors' clinics, maternal cancer screening and diagnostics, staff top ups, allowances and a staff basic grocery basket. These took up a total of US\$ 168 120.00 representing 50.4%, of hospital

budget during the year under review. The Infusion Project department with an expenditure of US\$ 9 915 took up 3% of the total Hospital budget for year 2023.

2.3.1 Staff Top Ups: Five doctors, the hospital administrator, 5 Red cross nurses, 1 guest house maid and monthly midwives and locum nurses' allowances, were supported during the year. A general staff grocery basket was distributed bimonthly to cover staff food shortages in their homes. Expenditure for the above summed up to US\$ 107 780.00. Hospital staff coverage and staff morale was enhanced as a result of the support.

2.3.2 Specialist Doctors' Clinics: 8 Specialist Clinics for Orthopaedic and oncological gynaecology cases were held quarterly during the year. Find summary table below;

SPECIALIST SERVICES

The table below shows the number of patients attended to and operations performed.

QUARTER	ORTHOPAEDICS		GYNAECOLOGY	
	PATIENTS SEEN	OPERATIONS	PATIENTS SEEN	OPERATIONS
1 st Quarter	32	8	15	4
2 nd Quarter	25	4	17	4
3 rd Quarter	16	8	12	8
4 th Quarter	20	5	15	6
TOTAL	93	25	59	26

Among the operations performed, there were 8 hysterectomies and 18 other minor gynaecological cases. For Orthopaedic cases, 25 mostly implants were performed. The financing model requiring a beneficiary co-payment where patients were able was sustained. US\$ 17 063.00 was committed to supporting the above clinics. The impact of the clinics to the benefiting patients is invaluable.

Further, 18 patients benefitted from cancer histology investigations at a cost of US\$ 810.00

The benefit to all the patients who received support from the Project, the visiting specialists, who provided free consultations and discounted operation fees and implants including the local doctors and staff, cannot be over emphasised.

2.3.3 Medicines and Surgicals: The budget line remained a life line to the relative availability of medicines and surgical sundries during the year. It must be stated though that the overall medicines availability for the year, other than for chronic and mostly donor funded medicines, remained at critical levels during the year. Patients were referred to private pharmacies to purchase prescribed drugs.

2.3.4 Hospital Food Provisions: Government grant funding and hospital user fees collection remained low during the year. The budget support towards food for patients and the doctors' kitchens and the revived garden, kept a semblance of nutritious meals for patients during the year.

2.3.5 Hospital Fuels: The limited grant financing left a huge gap for the acquisition of fuel to transport patients, other hospital transport service needs, and to run backup generators for lighting, water and energy. The expenditure of US\$ 14 852.00 from the Project covered the gap during the year.

2.4 INFUSION UNIT: 1 907 litres of Normal saline and 815.5 litres of Ringer lactate were produced during the year. Production was hampered by water supply issues in the month of January. The hospital experienced stock outs during the months of August, September and October. The problem of securing sodium lactate 60% reagent for the continued production of Ringer lactate persisted, posing a serious threat to the Infusion Project going forward.

Infusion Production Report for the year 2023

MONTH	0.9% N/Saline (500 ml)	5% Dextrose (500 ml)	50% Dextrose (500 ml)	Ringer Lactate (500 ml)	½ Strength Darrow's	Water for Injections (100 ml)	Other	TOTAL
January	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
February	452	-	-	334	-	-	-	786
March	361	-	-	-	-	-	-	361
April	300	-	-	320	-	-	-	620
May	529	-	-	418	-	-	-	947
June	460	-	-	345	-	-	-	805
July	300	-	-	200	-	-	-	500
August	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November	1000	-	-	-	-	-	-	1000
December	412	-	-	-	-	-	-	412
TOTAL	3814	-	-	1617	-	-	-	5431

Expenditure for the unit was in respect of wages for the operator and top ups for the assistant operators amounting to US\$ 9 915.00

Restocking of Raw materials and Spares: Reagents, raw materials and spare parts procured directly from Germany through Begeca were received during the year.

3.0 MISSION PARISH SUPPORT

3.1 Demolition and erection of Church wall: For the budget plan 2023, the St. Luke's Mission Parish benefited from extensive work on putting up a new masonry wall to one side of the church building. Work was undertaken by parishioners and a hired builder. The church wall

was removed and re-erected at accost of US\$ 4 048.00. The project had a budget overrun of US\$ 348.00.

4.0 PARTNERSCHOOLS PROJECTS

Approved Partnerschools projects were implemented during the year 2023. The number of schools in the Project increase from 17 to 20 with the admission of Elihlo and Sipopoma primary schools and the re admission of Regina Mundi Secondary school.

Apart from the 20 school project sites for the year, a pilot installation of wi-fi in two schools and the implementation of the Ubuntu Schales Schools Competition Project, in collaboration with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MOPSE) were highlights for the year 2023.

The budget for the Partnerschools Project continued to grow year on year topping US\$ 210 866.00 in 2023 up from US\$ 203 409.00 in the previous year. The budget increase resonates with the increased number of beneficiaries to the Project.

The Partnerschools programme's share of the overall AP/UST budget remains the 3rd largest taking up 20% after the Sponsorship Project 33% and the Mission Hospital at 31%.

Independent observers through the Schools assessment programme during the Ubuntu Schales Trust Schools Assessment Project attested to the impact of the above investments over the years in each of the schools in the programme.

Below, is a summary of the projects implemented in the various schools during the year under review;

- 4.1 Daluka Primary School:** The school started a new project, being construction of an 8 roomed teachers' cottage. With community and the school's involvement, bricks were moulded and the cottage built to gable level by year end at a cost of US\$ 11 603.00 by year end.
- 4.2 Elihlo Primary School:** The new school picked water as its priority. Borehole drilling, installation of an overhead water tank and pipework to water points was done. This was implemented at a cost of US\$ 11 615.00. All water requiring projects and general water use is now possible for the school.
- 4.3 Gandangula Primary School:** The school with community involvement started construction of a teachers' cottage. Work progressed to roofing at a cost of US\$ 11 388.00 with plastering and finishing outstanding to complete.
- 4.4 Mafa Primary School:** The school embarked on a new project to construct a new computer and Administration block. Brick moulding and mobilisation of quarry stones by

the community took place. Foundations were excavated and the foundation was left at box level by year end at a cost of US\$ 7 885.00.

- 4.5 Masungamala Primary School:** The school undertook to fence the school perimeter through a fix and supply arrangement. The community cleared the school boundary and fencing was installed successfully at a cost of US\$ 8 000.00.
- 4.6 Mlonyeni Primary School:** A new project was taken up, being fencing of the perimeter of the school at cost of US\$ 8 000.00.
- 4.7 Malumba Primary School:** The school also took up perimeter fencing which was implemented at a cost of US\$ 8 195.00
- 4.8 Mathambo Primary School:** The School continued with the construction of an ICT block which was previously left at gable level. Construction proceeded with roofing, beam filling, plastering and back filling for the floor. Completion was projected for the coming year.
- 4.9 Regina Mundi Secondary School:** Re-admitted into the family of Partnerschools. The school benefitted from a specific donor whose funding is accounted for separately. A new Advanced level classroom block to prepare for the introduction of Advanced level classes at the school was near complete by year end.
- 4.10 Regina Primary School:** Utilisation of building material delivered in 2022 for the new kitchen and dining hall constructed the foundations ending at slab level for year 2023. Delays with external public building inspectors were experienced. A further cost of US\$ 13 432 was spent during the year.
The new boarding school is still far below enrolment capacity. Increased marketing is being employed in collaboration with the Secondary school.
- 4.11 Somgolo Primary School:** The School embarked on the acquisition and installation of play centre equipment for infants at a cost of US\$ 5 381.00 for the year.
- 4.12 Sibangani Primary School:** Persistent community involvement issues have delayed progress on the teachers' cottage which begun in 2021. The cottage left at below window level in the previous year, was built further to gable, roofing, plastering and floors. Completion is anticipated in 2024. Expenditure for the year amounted to US\$ 7 564.00

- 4.13 Sipopoma Primary School:** In the school's first year upon joining this project, the school commenced construction of their first classroom block. Work moved to gable level by year end at a cost of US\$ 10 055.00
- 4.14 Siziphile Primary School:** The school resumed the parked project to build an ICT and administration block which commenced with brick moulding in 2022. Standard bricks were moulded in 2023 for the foundation. Construction commenced and ended at box level. There was a late start to the project. However, most materials are on site for subsequent stages to move on.
- 4.15 Tshayamathole Primary School:** The school implemented a 3kva solar installation project to power the borehole and ICT block for the year. The project was completed.
- 4.16 Ulutho Primary School:** The school's 5th classroom block built to gable level in the previous year was built to completion at a cost of US\$ 12 420.00. A further urgent project was approved to restore low yielding water at the school's old borehole at a cost of \$600.00
- 4.17 Hilltop Secondary School:** The 2nd classroom block built to gable level in 2022 was built further to completion during the year with the year's expenditure of US\$ 12 092.00
- 4.18 Mathambo Secondary School:** Classroom block number 2 built to gable in the previous year was built further and left at plastering stage during the year.
- 4.19 Amandlethu AMR Sisters High School:** The New Science Laboratory block whose structure was completed in 2022, moved to furniture and fittings for the biology, physics and chemistry laboratory sections one at a time. For year 2023 furniture and fittings for the biology section was done. Work included fitting of sinks, working tables, installation of gas systems and supply of lab stools. This was done at a cost of US\$ 10 383.00. Important to remark that the donor associated with this work was able to visit the school for their impression on the work.
- 4.20 Zwangendaba High School:** The new Home Economics classroom block which commenced in 2022 and left at window level was built to roof and beam filling level. Material for the next stages were moved to site. The school remains weak at community mobilisation and allocating own resources to speed up project completion.
- 4.21 Pilot installation of internet services for rural schools:** Five schools were selected to benefit from the pilot project before roll out, however the provided budget could only cover four schools namely Somgolo, Malumba, Mafa and Sibangani primary schools.

Installed systems have connected the remote schools to the internet. E learning is taking place and it is hoped that learning will be enhanced. The benefitting schools are managing the responsibility to pay for own data monthly and to maintain supplied equipment. The total cost for the project was US\$ 2 752.00. It is recommended that this project be rolled out to other disadvantaged schools. The recent approval of Starlink in Zimbabwe could provide advantages on costs and better services.

4.22 Ubuntu Schales Trust Schools Competition initiative: The goal for this project was to encourage Partnerschools to keep improving in the stewardship of donated assets, quality of school results, utilisation and the upkeep of school assets and property. This followed the observation that this was not happening in most schools compromising the intentions of project investments.

A comprehensive tool to assess the schools was developed by the MOPSE District office with support from the Provincial level and inputs from the Project. Three rounds of assessments by neutral selected members from various ministries conducted the assessments utilising a points scoring system.

An awards ceremony attended by all the schools and their communities, the District leadership, the chief and officiated by the Provincial Education Director was held on the 19th of November.

The 1st prize was awarded to Daluka primary school. The prize consisted of the "Hans Josef Schales Trophy for the best school" in the Partnerschools programme, plus a Certificate and prize money of US\$ 10 000.00. The prize money is earmarked to purchase a school bus. The school had begun processes to raise additional funds, through a levy, to top up the prize money to acquire the school bus.

The 2nd prize went to Gandangula primary school. The prize consisted of the "Chief Mabhikwa Shield for the 2nd best School" in the Partnerschools programme, plus a Certificate and prize money of US\$ 5 000.00. The Prize money has been utilised to fit a ceiling to the computer laboratory and purchase computers and accessories for the school.

The 3rd prize was awarded to Somgolo primary school. The prize consisted of the "The District Schools Inspector Shield for the most improved School" in the Programme, plus a Certificate and US\$ 2 500.00 prize money. The school chose to buy school furniture and repaired broken doors and windows to a classroom block. The school had scored less in infrastructure maintenance and thus chose to use funds to improve on this area.

All schools involved the community in deciding use of prize money for the development of respective schools. The cost for the Schools competition amounted to US\$ 25 910.00, out of which US\$ 8 410.00 was paid in budget year 2023 and prize money US\$ 17 500.00 for budget year 2024.

The Partnerschools project continues to make an impact to the beneficiary schools and their communities. Afrikaprojekt and Ubuntu Schales Trust are hailed in many forums for the transformation in the Partnerschools.

5.0 SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The Sponsorship programme remained the top funding cost centre for the Project in 2023 with an expenditure of US\$ 346 909.00 representing 33% of the total AP/UST budget for the year.

The cost drivers for the programme included fees price hikes by all schools and institutions from June 2022. The temporary relief measure employed by the project to alleviate the increased difficulties on parents and guardians in meeting co-payments, pushed the Project budget up on fees and tuition.

Further, 2023 had non-traditional budget items that drove the budget up, being emergency feeding for 3 months carried over from the previous year, roll out of the schools' bicycle project and the Schools trip project – these amounting to US\$ 106 361.00 or 31% of the sponsorship budget.

The sponsorship programme continues to play a huge role in providing hope for a better future for beneficiaries and their communities. Below is a summary report of the Sponsorship programme during the year under review;

5.1 Case Load: The number of beneficiaries for the year was 700 split by gender as 420 girls and 280 boys. Of whom 394 were at primary school level, 261 at Secondary and High school and the remainder 45 at University and colleges.

Sponsorship beneficiaries were spread in 15 Primary schools, 7 secondary and High schools, 5 universities and 4 colleges.

5.2 Tuition fees and Levies:

Primary Schools: Tuition fees and levies for primary schools were paid at 100% in all the main schools save for the diverse primary schools whose payment was based on the co-payment percentiles. Applicable fees were \$ 27.00 per child in day school and \$ 420.00 for those in boarding school.

Secondary/High schools: Fees and levies in secondary and high schools were paid to a maximum US\$ 95.00 per term for day scholars and US\$ 450.00 for boarders.

Tertiary Fees: Fees for tertiary students in College up to a maximum of US\$ 350.00 per term of 3 months and for universities US\$ 500.00 per semester of 6 months.

5.3 Uniform package: Uniforms based on the standard package was provided to all beneficiaries whose expenditure amounted to US\$ 17 358.00 from the budgeted US\$ 19 650.00. Parents and guardians continued to provide extra uniform requirements outside the standard project package which excluded shoes, socks, ties, hats, blazers and jerseys. These remained the responsibility of parents to cover.

5.5 Examination Results: Primary school programme students who took up final national examinations improved marginally, comparative to 2022. 37% passed for primary day scholars up from 35% the previous year. Their boarding counterparts had a 100% pass rate which can be attributed to more study and supervision time at school. Day secondary students' pass rate dropped to 10% down from 35% the previous year while their boarding counterparts had a 67% pass rate. The strict selection of students who are placed in boarding based on merit explains the disparity in results between day and boarding pass rates. A level, College and university final year students had 100% pass rate.

5.6 Educational Tours: Funding for school trips for the 20 schools was availed during the year under review. School children were afforded another opportunity to travel and learn outside the classroom area. The 20 schools chose the route to Victoria Falls visiting a number of places of learning and exposure interest along the way. These areas are required by the new education curriculum.

Places visited were Lupane State University where children were exposed to the carrier options available to them. They visited Jotsholo Agricultural and Rural Development Authority estate where the world of commercial agriculture was exposed to them. They moved to Hwange National Game Reserve for wildlife and biodiversity exposure. Victoria Falls was the crown of the visit where many were new to the falls spectacle. A detour to the Victoria falls international airport where most students saw for the 1st time, huge planes landing and taking off was a marvel. Students wrote and told stories of the visit and lasting impressions and new dreams were imparted.

A total of 1 146 students and staff from the 20 schools were afforded the opportunity for the school tour in 2023. 770 of these were from primary schools, 296 from secondary schools and 80 being staff. A total budget of US\$ 51 472.00 was spent covering accommodation, transport and food provisions.

Such a support programme in both form and extent remain novel in the country at large.

5.7 Emergency Schools Feeding Programme: The feeding programme commenced in August 2022 to mitigate food shortages affecting children in programme schools continued for a further school term in 2023. Food insufficiency in most households persisted as the next harvest was expected around May.

Feeding went on in the 17 schools that had benefited in the previous year

A total of 90.8 tons of food comprising corn meal, soya Chunks, sugar, rice, cooking oil, salt, and peanut butter were procured and transported in bulk for the feeding period. School feeding committees comprising of school staff and chosen community members managed the feeding programme. Project staff conducted spot checks during their routine visits.

School development committees organized communities to bring firewood, pots and water for the cooking.

Summary Figures of the Feeding Programme:

ITEM	VALUE
Total number of children fed in the 17 schools	5 951
Total number of days fed at 3 days a week for 14 weeks	42
Total no of meals served during the term being mid-morning porridge & lunch	499 884
Total expenditure for food provisions including transport	US\$ 36 249
Total cost for feeding one child for the 14 weeks	US\$ 6,09
Cost of feeding one child per day	US\$ 0,14

The feeding increased school attendance and participation. The harvest for season 2023/24 was low on account of the Elnino induced phenomenon. At the time of reporting, the Government of Zimbabwe had declared a state of emergency regarding food security.

5.9 Deaths: No deaths occurred in the beneficiary list during the year.

5.4 Schools Bicycle Project: Following a pilot conducted in two schools to donate bicycles to schools to assist children who travelled distances of 10km and beyond, to and from school, the full roll out of the programme took place in the year. 17 schools in total benefited from an additional 84 bicycles to sum up the number of donated bicycles to 104. Bicycles remain the property of the schools who are responsible for maintenance through school based bicycle minders. The total cost of the project inclusive of training summed up to US\$ 18 460 for the year. For the direct beneficiaries, schools reported that travel time to school has been significantly reduced having a direct impact on school attendance and classroom participation

5.10 Programme Drop Outs: There was a sharp decrease of drop outs from 56 sponsorship beneficiaries in 2022 to 9 in the year under review. All 9 were in secondary schools, 6 of them from Zwangendaba High school. Of the 9 drop outs, 6 were girls, two of whom dropped out due to pregnancies.

5.11 Special Sponsorship Support: A total of 9 beneficiaries were still receiving special support through the Sponsorship programme beyond other beneficiaries because of their special circumstances. Most of these were at Fatima Primary school, King George VI and Jairos Jiri School of the disabled. These were;

1. **Makhosi Siziba:** Case was identified and admitted into the programme by Dr. Schales with stunted growth from HIV/Aids. He continued his recovery and educational journey receiving special care through supplementary food provisions, medical support at Fatima boarding school. He was repeating primary school grade at 7 level. His physical health is much improved and school grades much better.
2. **Precious and Previous Ncube:** The twins orphaned at birth continued to receive support through Dr. Gerd Reichenbach. They turned 18 years in 2023. Precious who has a baby Ashante was assisted with the care of her baby while in school. Food provisions, accommodation and baby formula was given. This decision was made in consultation with the godparent.

Both twins wrote their O level finals. Precious passed 3 of 6 and Previous 2 of 6 subjects. These were given the opportunity to repeat at a new boarding school to better their chances to get a career path.

3. **Nkosienhle Tshuma:** Lives in Gandangula village with failure to thrive complications of HIV/AIDs. He is at Gandangula Primary school receiving special attention in class and food provisions from the Project as extra support.
4. **Bongani Ncube:** Bongani, an orphan living with an old grandmother completed Ordinary level in 2023 and is to rewrite Mathematics upon which his next step is to be determined. He received food provisions over and above support for his education during the year.
5. **Sandra Nkomazana:** A deaf and mute girl who receives special education at King George VI while resident at Jairos Jiri Association in Bulawayo. She successfully wrote her O' level examinations and passed 6 out of 8 subjects. Her next step is still pending.
6. **Life Dube:** The double knee amputee student from Ulutho primary school who received double prosthetic legs in 2021 was reassessed during the year. His prosthetic legs were adjusted accordingly. His mobility remains enhanced and he continues to live better than before.
7. **Concilia Khumalo:** The lady was admitted for support with challenges walking, cause remain undiagnosed. She received long term palliative medication through the project. The patient works at St Luke's Hospital School of nursing as a general worker.
8. **Gcinimuzi Khumalo:** The man with a walking disability who was previously assisted to acquire wood work and curving skills at Jairos Jiri Mzilikazi Centre received further assistance during the year. During the year, he was assisted with acquisition of working tools and equipment and purchase of a piece of land to conduct his business where a

shade was erected. This was done at a cost of US\$ 2 239.00. Gcinimuzi is expected to be self-sustainable and to live a better life.

9. **Nkosilathi Gumbo:** The boy who lost his mother after birth, visually impaired, had a walking disability and lives in a home for the disabled, received an open reduction and internal fixation (ORIF) operation of the right knee in April 2023. The Project with support by godparent Mandy Jobski made this possible. The total cost of the operation and follow up physiotherapy amounted to US\$ 3 142.00

5.12 Dr. Schales' special cases Currently being followed Up

Special patients currently in Dr. Schales list of beneficiaries are as follows;

1. **Glory Ngwenya:** A further year of support for Glory who lives with an auto-immune liver condition, was sustained. Glory benefits too from the sponsorship programme at Mabhikwa Secondary school. During the year, she was supported with funds for local reviews and funds to and from a South African hospital where she is followed up, together with her mother.
2. **Innocent Ngwenya:** Brother to Glory Ngwenya who was admitted into the programme in 2022, unfortunately died just as initial investigations were being commenced. The man disappeared from home following disagreements with parents over his marriage only to resurface in need of help when condition had worsened.
3. **Absalom Dube:** Now 20 years old and living with lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis) He was operated on to reduce testicular masses in 2023. As a result of equipment malfunction at the Public Central Hospital, there was a delay to operate on the legs whose swelling increased after the initial operation. By the time of reporting, the legs had been operated on and patient was recovering well at home. Overall, patient was quite positive and much better compared to his situation on admission. A colleague specialist Surgeon of Dr. Schales in Bulawayo was managing this patient.
4. **Stella Ndlovu:** Patient who was in need of double hip replacement following an accident received a hip replacement to her left leg and follow up physiotherapy during the year at a cost of US\$ 5 850.00. Patient can now walk without crutches and able to help herself.
5. **Nomanzi Ncube:** A girl student at Zwangendaba diagnosed with breast growth. She was operated on successfully in Bulawayo by Dr. Schales' colleague and is back in school.
6. **Promise Dube:** This young man had severe wounds and back injury after a mine accident in South Africa. He was on palliative care at home. Promise was supplied with

medicines and surgicals such as colostomy bags periodically. Patient unfortunately passed on in October 2023. The support he received added a bit of comfort during his last days.

7. **Sikukakuya Ndlovu:** A poor and lonely 91-year-oldman who living at Kenmaur. He continued to get supplies of food and other provisions from Dr. Schales during the year.
8. **Trust Ndlovu:** A cardiac failure patient who continued to receive palliative medications during the year. Reduced hospital visits were noted during the year under review.
9. **Qondile Thape & Legina Ncube:** Two applications for once off support for the two patients were received and granted. Qondile Thape, a general hand at St. Luke's hospital sought funding to pay for a scan as part of investigations for her back problem. Legina Ncube, a retired former hospital nurse aide approached Dr. Schales in need of top up funding for an eye operation. Support was granted for US\$ 300.00 to top up what her family had raised to cover a bill of US\$ 600.00
10. **Infants for formula milk:** Six babies were on formula. These were Gift Nyoni, who lost his mother at birth, Samkeliso Ndlovu whose mother died after birth with no known father, triplets Laura, Leroy and Larry from a poor family and Ashante Ncube, daughter of twin orphan Precious in the sponsorship programme. The infants benefitted from formula through to mid-year 2023. Issue of formula was discontinued as doctors recommended they be put on normal feed. Their wellbeing depended on formula feeding in their early stages of life through the initiative of Dr. Schales and the Project

Total expenditure on all special cases above amounted to US\$ 16 513.00 during the year.

A total of US\$ 346 909.00 was spent against a budget provision of US\$ 352 505.00 for the year on the entire Sponsorship programme. 64% of this expenditure covered tuition and school fees. The Programme, took up 33% of the entire Project budget for year 2023.

6.0 PROJECT MANAGEMENT, ASSETS AND FINANCES

6.1 Project Budget and Finances: A total budget plan for 2023 amounting to US\$ 1 149 493.00 was approved out of which a total disbursement of US\$ 1 059 421.00 was received from Germany. US\$ 14 614.00 was carried over from the 2022 disbursements, being cash and bank balances from year 2022. Therefore, cumulative total of US\$ 1 074 035.00 was availed for project activities during the course of 2023.

Out of the US\$ 1 074 035.00 available, US\$ 1 068 988.00 was spent with US\$ 20 573.00 carried forward to financial year 2024.

Despite the country operating in a multicurrency environment, Ubuntu Schales Trust used the United States Dollar as the functional currency for activities held with First Capital Bank Zimbabwe.

6.2 Project Assets: Significant non cash assets consisting of Property and equipment held for use by the Project during the year included; 3 vehicles, buildings and fixtures being the Guest house, Stonehouse and moveable assets, being 5 laptops, 5 Samsung tablet and 2 printers.

The Stonehouse received some thatch maintenance during the year.

The Isuzu Vehicle which is the primary means for project mobility in coordination activities has reached 14 years in use. It is due for replacement. The cost of its repairs has skyrocketed. Out of the US\$ 9 981.00 spent on vehicle maintenance, 81% was spent on the this vehicle on new parts replacements and major repairs.

6.3 Project Staff: A staff complement of 5 was responsible for Project implementation apart from the Project Founder and leader, Dr. Hans Schales. The team was led by the Project manager Gordon Hlatywayo, with Thadeos Ndlovu -Project Accountant, Vusimuzi Mlilo Coordinator for the Partnerschools Programme, Mthulisi Ncube Coordinator for the Sponsorship Programme and Nqobile Ngulube Coordinator for the Hospital Programme. A contract with a Hospital driver – Cephus Makunura was entered into to provide driving service for the Project leader and visitors during the year.

During the year under review, Coordinators and the Accountant were granted a second hand motor vehicle scheme in lieu of wage increments to be deferred for the next four years. These vehicles were to enhance mobility of the staff on Project business too. This project amounted to US\$ 28 000.00. Purchased vehicles remain as security for the capital outlay for this project.

Support with medical expenses for the Project manager were sustained during the year at a cost of US\$ 2 398.00. Project salaries, the staff vehicle scheme, top ups and allowances amounted to US\$ 96 403.00 during the year.

6.4 Audit of Accounts: Audit of financial statements was conducted from mid-February to mid-April by independent Auditors Ralph Bomment, Greenacre & Reynolds. The auditor issued an unqualified opinion on Financial Statements for the period ending 31 December 2023. Refer to audit Report for Financial Year Ending 31 December 2023.

7.0 CONCLUSION

Year 2023 implemented projects were a key contributor to what the Community of the District of Lupane achieved. The support of St Luke's Mission Hospital, the 20 Primary and Secondary

schools within the radius of the Hospital, the 700 sponsored children from early Childhood Development to Colleges and Universities and the St. Luke's Mission Hospital Parish and Parishners, all appreciated the work of Dr. Hans Schales and Afrikaprojekt/Ubuntu Schales Trust.

Afrikaprojekt/Ubuntu Schales Trust is a recognized Partner in development in the area of health and education in the district of Lupane.

The Ubuntu Schales staff on the ground are to be commended Project implementation. The guidance and support from the German office was invaluable throughout the year under review.

The inspiration and leadership of the Project Founder Dr. Hans Schales and the enduring support of his family and friends in Germany and beyond continued to change lives in the selected project areas.