

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program:

**Young Ambassadors for Health and
Good Nutrition in Congo**

Year: 2018



Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole rapport will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: Young Ambassadors for Health and Good Nutrition in Congo / The Matanel Nutrition Center in Congo

Year of activity: 2018

Name of the report's writer: Maya Savir

Function of the report's writer: JustSpirulina Program Director

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Number of active participants in the program: 400

Estimated number of impacted participants: 3,000

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

The CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION has now concluded its second year of activity. Two “Matanel Nutrition Centers” have been operating successfully, at the Anga-POPOF school complex, Miti Village, and at the pediatric hospital at the Centre de Recherche en Sciences Naturelles de Lwiro (CRSN-Lwiro). In October 2018, the staff of these two centers came to Israel for advanced agricultural training, and following their return to Congo are now establishing the third Nutrition Center.

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):

- Two fully-operational “Matanel Nutrition Centers” at the Anga-POPOF school complex, Miti Village, and at the pediatric hospital at the Centre de Recherche en Sciences Naturelles de Lwiro (CRSN-Lwiro)
- Production of high quality spirulina in four spirulina pools (two at each center) which has been used to feed and treat over 15 malnourished children.

- Local school pupils who have undergone spirulina training have trained over 400 pupils from 20 different schools in the region in spirulina cultivation. We now have over 400 young ambassadors in the region.
- A local women's group learned how to grow mushrooms and constructed a small mushroom farm. Products will be sold to local hotels in the city.
- School teachers and pupils received Moringa seeds and are now learning how to grow and cultivate these highly nutritious fruit trees.
- Four local staff members visited Israel and participated in advanced agricultural and healthcare training. The training included: two days of highly advanced spirulina training in the Arava, visits to different desert agricultural projects (pepper plantations, pepper processing factory, Arava R&D Center etc'), visit to citrus plantations and fruit processing and packaging factory, meetings and joint training with JustSpirulina students in Tel Aviv, a full-day visit at "Tipat Chalav" centers (early childhood development centers) and meetings with professionals from Maccabi Health services, a visit to Ben Gurion University in the Negev, Sde Boker campus, where they met with algae expert, Proff. Sammy Boussiba and visited his world-famous algae laboratory.
- Beginning of the construction of a third center, which will be the program's largest and most advanced center. This center will host numerous schools and universities from throughout central Africa, who will come to learn about spirulina production, different agricultural practices, and treatment of malnutrition.
- Establishment of "Club des Familles des Enfants Malnourris" - 20 families who receive spirulina and other nutritious agricultural products to ensure their ongoing health and good nutrition. These families also receive ongoing medical care and nutritional guidance.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...):

The program is monitored and evaluated on an ongoing basis by the program partners: the JustSpirulina team at the Herzliya Hebrew Gymnasium, the Pole Pole Foundation and the Centre de Recherche en Sciences Naturelles de Lwiro. The results have far exceeded our expectations - all planned activities were implemented successfully and even surpassed the objectives set forth at the beginning of the year. Additional activities that were not planned at the beginning of the year were added during the year, such as the decision to establish a third, larger center, the visit of the Israeli team to Congo, the Congolese mission to Israel and the establishment of the family nutritional support program. Overall, we feel that 2018 has been a crucial year in the work of JustSpirulina, in which we made a significant leap forward in both quantitative and qualitative parameters. We feel that we have reached a critical point in terms of the partnership built with our Congolese partners and the professional work being done in the field. We are certain that in the coming years we will succeed in scaling up our program in Congo and possibly to other African countries.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

In 2019 the program will include the following components:

- Continued operation of the Matanel Nutrition Center in Miti village – spirulina production, agricultural training, spirulina training for schools and feeding malnourished children.
- Continued operation of the Matanel Nutrition Center at the Centre de Recherche en Sciences Naturelles de Lwiro (CRSN-Lwiro) – spirulina production, agricultural experimentation such as Moringa tree cultivation, and treatment of acutely malnourished children.
- Establishment of the third center (in Miti village) – establishment of a large, technologically advanced spirulina farm that will produce large quantities of spirulina that will be used to treat hundreds of malnourished children. The center will most probably be the most advanced spirulina farm in equatorial Africa and will therefore serve as a regional and national training center for pupils, university students, health professionals, agronomists and community activists.
- Operation of an annual family feeding program that includes – provision of spirulina to malnourished children, provision of highly nutritious agricultural products to families, agricultural, health and nutritional guidance and medical surveillance. This program will be led by the newly established “Club des Familles de Enfants Mal Nourris”.
- Establishment of the “African Algae Bank” – a scientific center (the first and only one in the continent) that will cultivate samples of different algae types that will be used in our centers as well as other agricultural projects.

Please join the Evaluation Report, the Financial Report and the list of the participants to the program (**as PDF documents**)

Please join photos – as **JPG files** – and any link or any other document connected to the program which will seem to you relevant – as **PDF document**.

Please join a 5 minutes movie which presents your institution and the particular project supported by the Matanel Foundation. The movie should be accessible to the philanthropic world and to other potential donors.