



P.O. Box 2193  
Bulawayo,  
Zimbabwe

• REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: CF176 | 2012

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## Project Completion Report

**Title of Project:** Zimbabwe Book Project/2020

**Name of organization:** Collin Nyabadza Children's Voice Charitable Trust (CNCVCT)

**Address:** 42A Joshua Mqabuko Street  
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**Our Organization's Main Aims:** To enhance the quality of education in some of Zimbabwe's disadvantaged rural communities. We achieve this by assisting them with proper resources such as:

- a) Books
- b) Classrooms
- c) Classroom furniture
- d) Sports equipment and infrastructure
- e) Science/Computer Laboratories
- f) Reusable sanitary pads for our girl children to enable them enjoy their womanhood free from guilt and shame. At the moment due to poverty the majority is using rags, newspapers and even tree leaves as pads. This is totally unacceptable as it is a major health risk. Furthermore, this negatively affects the girls' self-esteem
- g) Teachers cottages to help these schools attract and retain better qualified teachers

### Background of this project:

The academic results in a number of disadvantaged rural schools of Zimbabwe disadvantaged are not pleasing to look at. One of the main contributory factors to this sad state of affairs is that a number of the children cannot read in English. While the majority of the teachers manning those are well equipped with lots of strategies on how to teach reading, they are however facing huge challenges emanating from the lack of reading books. Books are very expensive in Zimbabwe and on the African continent at large thereby making them beyond reach for the majority of those disadvantaged rural schools. Fuelled by this, the CNCVCT decided to partner with Books Abroad, Scotland in a bid to address the situation. In 2017 Books



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Abroad therefore sent us our first consignment, a 40ft container with 50 000 books. The project was such a huge success as we reached out to a total of 42 primary and secondary school and 2 local universities. The project impacted a total of 20 000 children and over 20 000 university students. After the success of this project, Books Abroad kindly agreed to send us another 40ft container in 2020 this time with 54 000 books.

**Number of children impacted: 30 000**

**Number of Teacher Training students impacted: 7 000**

**Number of University Students impacted: 25 000**

**Other Beneficiaries impacted such as health institutions: 5 000**

**Total Number of beneficiaries: 67 000**

### **Arrival of Books in Zimbabwe**

The books arrived in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe where the CNCVCT is headquartered on the 11th of February, 2021. We then had the consignment taken to a local girls institution, Eveline High School in the city for storage while we worked out on the modalities. The unfortunate part was that schools at the time were on lockdown and therefore getting hold of the school heads was a bit of a challenge. However, our team had to be proactive and had to use social media especially Whatsapp to connect with various heads who were dotted all over. This however worked well, as within a very short space of time we had managed to get hold of all of them.

### **Sorting & Collection**

While the CNCVCT Team was busy liaising with the school heads, part of its group together with a few dedicated volunteers was busy sorting out the books in preparation for collection. Books Abroad made our task much easier by the way they had sorted the books. This helped us a lot. School Heads then started trickling in to pick up their book allocation with social distancing in mind. Within no time all the books were successfully picked up. The process was so smooth many thanks to the CNCVCT staff. In the meantime we had sent out instructions to the schools on what we expected from them after collection their books. We insisted on beautiful pictures and thank you letters from them so that we could share these with our partners, Books Abroad. As soon as schools finally reopened the school heads quickly sent us some beautiful images which we are sharing here.

### **Challenges**



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We were unfortunate in that our consignment arrived in Zimbabwe during the ongoing world COVID-19 pandemic. We normally execute all our projects very fast but this time this was not possible. Also, we normally send our staff to handover equipment and have pictures taken in the company of our beneficiaries but unfortunately again this was not possible due to the pandemic. Nevertheless, our beneficiaries stepped up and captured some lovely images which they in turn sent to us. Other than that we did not encounter any major challenges in carrying out the project.

### **What led to the project's success?**

The success of any project lies in good communication among all project parties. The Books Abroad team did a sterling job in that aspect as they kept updating us from the moment the consignment was dispatched from the Scotland till its arrival in Bulawayo. This helped us a lot in our planning. Second, the Books Abroad did a sterling job in sorting the books as already indicated in this report. This helped our team a lot. Special thanks go to Books Abroad dedicated team of volunteers for a splendid job. Last but not least, the dedication put in by the CNCVCT team also helped a lot. The experience we garnered from the previous project came in handy as we were now fully aware of how to go about the project.

### **Conclusion/Way Forward**

These first two projects have been a resounding success. Therefore after their success we would appreciate it lots if you could continue dispatching book containers to us. We strongly if we continue with this book project, we would definitely cover a lot of ground in our aim to improve the quality of education in some our country's disadvantaged rural schools through reading. On behalf of the children and teachers of Zimbabwe, college students, university students and parents who were impacted by this project, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the Books Abroad team of volunteers who risked their health during the COVID-19 to make sure that the children of Zimbabwe received these books. It is this concept of volunteering that we are also trying to promote in our country as we strongly feel we can move mountains with it as a nation. Our aim through our work is to make our own fellow citizens realize that work is not only defined in monetary terms. May your work therefore continue to be blessed.

Compiled By



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Collin Nyabadza

Chief Executive Officer – Collin Nyabadza Children’s Voice Charitable Trust (CNCVCT)

**Our Motto: “No Child Shall Be Put Down By Poverty”.**