

FUNDING PROPOSAL

EDUCATION WITHOUT BARRIERS: SUPPORTING VULNERABLE CHILDREN FROM KARAMOJA AND TESO

A Proposal for Educational Support for Vulnerable Primary School Children at St. Angela Mericii Primary School

Submitted by:
St. Angela Merici Primary School
Soroti City, Eastern Uganda

Project Title: Education Without Barriers: Supporting Vulnerable Children from Karamoja and Teso

Project Duration: open

Annual Beneficiaries: 200 vulnerable primary-school children

Geographical Focus: Karamoja and Teso Sub-regions

Annual Cost per Child: UGX 2,500,000

Annual Funding Requirement: UGX 500,000,000

1. Executive Summary

St. Angela Merici Primary School seeks funding support to establish and implement the **Education Without Barriers Programme**, an initiative designed to provide quality education and holistic support to vulnerable primary-school children from the **Karamoja and Teso sub-regions of Uganda**.

The programme will support **200 vulnerable children every year**, comprising approximately **100 children from Karamoja and 100 children from Teso**. Each beneficiary will receive an educational support package valued at **UGX 2,500,000 per year**.

The programme recognises that vulnerable children require more than school-fee assistance. Poverty can prevent children from accessing school uniforms, scholastic materials, nutritious meals, healthcare, psychosocial support and a safe learning environment. The proposed programme therefore provides a **holistic package of educational and child-welfare support**.

The programme aims to improve **school enrolment, attendance, retention, academic achievement, child protection, health and transition to secondary education**.

Through donor partnership, St. Angela Merici Primary School will provide disadvantaged children with an opportunity to receive quality education and develop the knowledge, skills, confidence and values required to become productive members of their communities.

2. Background

Education plays a critical role in breaking the cycle of poverty and creating opportunities for children and their families.

However, children from poor and vulnerable households continue to experience significant barriers to accessing and completing quality education. These barriers include poverty, inability to pay school fees, lack of scholastic materials, inadequate nutrition, family instability, child labour, long distances to school and limited parental capacity to meet educational costs.

These challenges are particularly important in communities affected by poverty and vulnerability in **Karamoja and Teso**.

Karamoja has historically experienced significant socioeconomic challenges, including poverty, climate-related shocks, food insecurity, water scarcity and limited access to social services. Such conditions can negatively affect children's education and wellbeing.

Teso communities also contain households experiencing significant economic hardship. Vulnerable families may struggle to meet the direct and indirect costs associated with sending children to school.

St. Angela Merici Primary School, located in Soroti City, provides an opportunity to create a safe and supportive educational environment where vulnerable children from these communities can access quality primary education.

3. Problem Statement

Many children from vulnerable households in Karamoja and Teso have the ability and desire to learn but are unable to fully realise their potential because of financial and social barriers.

The major challenges include:

- Inability of parents or guardians to pay school fees;
- Lack of uniforms and shoes;
- Lack of exercise books and other scholastic materials;
- Inadequate access to nutritious meals;
- Poor access to healthcare;
- School absenteeism;
- Risk of school dropout;

- Child labour and other protection risks;
- Psychosocial challenges;
- Limited parental support;
- Limited exposure to technology and practical skills;
- Difficulty transitioning from primary to secondary education.

A child who attends school without adequate food, learning materials, clothing or emotional support may still struggle to learn effectively.

The proposed programme therefore seeks to address **the multiple dimensions of vulnerability**, rather than providing school fees alone.

4. Project Goal

Overall Goal

To improve access to quality, inclusive and holistic primary education for vulnerable children from Karamoja and Teso by providing comprehensive educational, nutritional, health, psychosocial and child-protection support at St. Angela Merici Primary School.

5. Specific Objectives

The project will seek to:

1. **Support 200 vulnerable primary-school children every year** from Karamoja and Teso.
2. Provide each beneficiary with an education and welfare package valued at **UGX 2,500,000 annually**.
3. Improve school attendance and retention among beneficiaries to at least **90%**.
4. Improve academic performance among supported children through additional academic assistance.
5. Provide vulnerable children with nutritious meals and basic health support.
6. Provide psychosocial support, mentorship and child-protection services.
7. Provide opportunities for children to participate in sports, music, drama, ICT, French and other co-curricular activities.
8. Support beneficiaries to successfully complete primary education and transition to secondary education.

6. Target Beneficiaries

The programme will support **200 children per year**

Region	Number of children
Karamoja	100
Teso	100
Total	200

7. Vulnerability Criteria

Priority will be given to children who are:

- Orphans or children without adequate parental care;
- From extremely poor households;
- From households headed by vulnerable parents or guardians;
- At risk of dropping out of school;
- Affected by displacement or family instability;
- Living with disabilities or special educational needs;
- From households unable to meet basic education costs;
- Demonstrating strong commitment to education despite difficult circumstances;
- At risk of child labour or exploitation;
- From particularly disadvantaged communities in Karamoja and Teso.

A transparent beneficiary-selection process will be established to ensure fairness and accountability.

8. Educational Support Package

Each child will receive support valued at:

UGX 2,500,000 per year

The proposed package includes:

Component	Amount per child/year
School fees and educational costs	1,200,000
Meals and nutrition	500,000
Uniforms, shoes and school bag	250,000
Scholastic materials	150,000
Health and medical support	100,000
Psychosocial support and child protection	75,000
Remedial/academic support	75,000
Talent and co-curricular development	50,000
Monitoring, family engagement and welfare support	100,000
TOTAL	2,500,000

The exact allocation can be adjusted according to the school's approved fee structure and donor requirements.

9. Major Project Activities

9.1 Scholarship and School-Fee Support

The programme will pay agreed educational costs for selected vulnerable children.

This will help ensure that poverty does not prevent children from attending school.

9.2 School Feeding and Nutrition

Beneficiaries will receive nutritious meals during the school term.

The school will also explore:

- School gardens;
- Vegetable production;
- Fruit-tree planting;
- Nutrition education;
- Partnerships with food suppliers.

9.3 Scholastic Materials

Children will receive:

- Exercise books;
- Pens and pencils;
- Mathematical sets;
- Rulers;
- School bags;
- Textbooks;
- Other essential learning materials.

9.4 Uniforms

Each beneficiary will receive appropriate school clothing .

This will reduce stigma and ensure that poverty does not prevent children from participating confidently in school activities.

9.5 Health Support

The programme will support:

- Basic health screening;
- First aid;
- Referral to health facilities;
- Health education;
- Hygiene promotion;
- Menstrual hygiene support for girls.

10. Psychosocial Support and Child Protection

The programme will establish a child-support system that includes:

- Counselling;
- Mentorship;
- Life-skills education;
- Child safeguarding;
- Child-friendly reporting mechanisms;
- Teacher training;
- Family counselling;
- Referral services.

Children who have experienced significant hardship may require emotional and psychosocial support in addition to financial assistance.

11. Academic Support

To ensure that beneficiaries do not merely attend school but actually learn, the programme will provide:

- Remedial lessons;
- Reading support;
- Numeracy programmes;
- Individual learning assessments;
- Homework support;
- Peer learning;
- Academic mentorship.

Children's academic progress will be monitored termly.

12. Talent and Skills Development

St. Angela Merici Primary School will provide opportunities for children to develop their talents and practical abilities through:

- Football and athletics;
- Music;
- Drama;
- Debate;
- Art;
- ICT and computer literacy;
- French language;
- Environmental education;
- Agriculture;
- Entrepreneurship awareness.

This holistic approach will help beneficiaries develop confidence and practical skills alongside academic knowledge.

13. Parent and Community Engagement

Parents and guardians will participate in the programme through:

- Termly parent meetings;
- Education-awareness sessions;
- Child-protection training;
- Attendance monitoring;
- Academic progress discussions;
- Parenting skills sessions;
- Community mobilisation.

The objective is to create a partnership between the school, families and the wider community.

14. Expected Outcomes

By the end of the three-year programme, the project expects to achieve:

Education

- 200 vulnerable children supported every year;
- 100 children from Karamoja supported annually;
- 100 children from Teso supported annually;
- At least 90% annual attendance;
- Reduced dropout;

- Improved academic performance;
- Improved primary-school completion;
- Increased transition to secondary education.

Welfare

- Improved access to nutritious meals;
- Improved access to basic healthcare;
- Increased access to psychosocial support;
- Improved child-protection mechanisms.

Family and Community

- Increased parental involvement;
- Increased awareness of the importance of education;
- Improved collaboration between school and communities.

16. Project Implementation

The programme will be implemented by St. Angela Merici Primary School in partnership with relevant local stakeholders.

Implementation structure

School Management



Project Coordinator



Scholarship & Beneficiary Selection Committee



Teachers / Counsellor / Child Protection Focal Person



Parents and Guardians



Community Leaders and Partners

The school will maintain appropriate beneficiary records, attendance records, academic-performance records and financial documentation.

17. Monitoring and Evaluation

The project will establish a baseline for every beneficiary.

Key indicators

Indicator	Target
Children supported annually	200
Children from Karamoja	100/year
Children from Teso	100/year
Attendance	≥90%
Beneficiaries receiving scholastic materials	100%
Beneficiaries receiving meals	100%
Beneficiaries receiving uniforms	100%
Beneficiaries assessed academically	100%
Parent engagement	≥80%
Primary completion	≥85%
Transition to secondary	≥80%

Monitoring will be conducted on a termly and annual basis.

18. Sustainability

The programme will seek to progressively develop a **St. Angela Merici Vulnerable Children Education Fund**.

Potential sustainability activities include:

- School agriculture;
- Poultry production;
- Rabbit production;
- Tree nursery;
- Skills training;
- French language training;
- Computer training;
- Holiday programmes;
- School entrepreneurship activities;
- Alumni contributions;
- Corporate sponsorship;
- Individual child sponsorship.

A proportion of income generated from school-based projects can be directed towards supporting vulnerable children.

19. Risk Management

Risk	Mitigation
Insufficient donor funding	Diversify donors and establish sponsorship packages
Beneficiary dropout	Attendance tracking and family follow-up
Misuse of funds	Financial controls and regular reporting
Child protection concerns	Safeguarding policy and referral systems
Food-price increases	School gardens and bulk purchasing
Family migration	Regular communication with guardians
Poor academic performance	Remedial education
Dependency on donor support	School income-generating activities

20. Donor Partnership Opportunities

The programme provides several opportunities for donor participation.

Sponsor a Child

UGX 2,500,000 per child per year

A donor can directly sponsor one vulnerable child.

Sponsor 10 Children

UGX 25,000,000 per year

Sponsor 50 Children

UGX 125,000,000 per year

Sponsor 100 Children

UGX 250,000,000 per year

Sponsor 200 Children

UGX 500,000,000 per year

This gives donors flexibility to support the entire programme or a defined number of children.

21. SDG Alignment

The programme contributes to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

SDG 1 – No Poverty: Reducing education-related barriers among poor households.

SDG 2 – Zero Hunger: Supporting school nutrition.

SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being: Promoting children's health and psychosocial wellbeing.

SDG 4 – Quality Education: Increasing access to inclusive and quality education.

SDG 5 – Gender Equality: Ensuring girls and boys have equitable educational opportunities.

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities: Supporting children from disadvantaged communities.

SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: Strengthening child protection and safeguarding.

22. Conclusion and Funding Request

St. Angella Merici Primary School respectfully requests for funding to implement the **Education Without Barriers Programme** for vulnerable primary-school children from Karamoja and Teso.

The requested investment of **UGX 2,500,000 per child per year** will provide each beneficiary with a comprehensive package of educational and welfare support.

With **UGX 500,000,000 per year**, the programme will support **200 vulnerable children annually 100 from Karamoja and 100 from Teso**.

The programme is an investment not only in education, but also in **children's dignity, health, protection, skills and future livelihoods**.

St. Angela Merici Primary School is committed to working transparently with donors and partners to ensure that every contribution reaches its intended beneficiaries and produces measurable educational and social impact.

Our appeal

“Give a vulnerable child from Karamoja or Teso the opportunity to learn, grow and build a better future. UGX 2.5 million can transform one child's educational journey for an entire year.”

Annual Funding Requested: UGX 500,000,000.

Annual Beneficiaries recruitment: 200 children.

Cost per Child: UGX 2,500,000 per year.

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