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**28<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Dear Mr Donaldson,

**Project Update on Seed Funding to Develop Sustainable Income Generating Food Growing for the United Polio Brothers & Sisters in Freetown, Sierra Leone.**

I am writing to update you on the above project which is supported by The Kitchen Table Charities Trust.

When we received the support from The KTCT for the project, we informed the group in Freetown and proposed to have a meeting to discuss the implementation of the work. We had a meeting in Freetown with the group in June 2017 and decided to combine the project with the distribution of mobility resources and skills training tools to help facilitate the work.

The first key stage of the work was to clear the land and remove tree stumps. This was the most difficult and time consuming for the group, as it was in the middle of the rainy season for communities that are used to slash and burn. This process was suspended until the start of the dry season in December.

At the start of December 2017, the group cleared the land, and removed tree stumps in the area where the vegetable plots, and the pen and the chicken run were to be built (see attached photos). The clearing and removing of tree stumps finished in January 2018.

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Once this was done, construction areas were demarcated, measurements were taken, and foundations were dug.



Concrete pillars were erected for the goat pen.





Work progressed in constructing the pen on concrete pillars, leaving ample space under the structure to allow the group to collect goat droppings to be used as fertilizer for the vegetable plots.





Two large and sturdy sections were built to accommodate the goats. The sections are spacious, which will provide ample space for the goats. The sturdy structure is also aimed at protecting the goats from wild animals.







What was also added to the structure was a double ramp. This is to allow wheelchair users to enter the pens and clean them.



Work on the pen is now complete, and they have started laying the foundation for the chicken run (below). Work on the chicken run will be finished in April.







The group has also cleared a large area for growing vegetables, and they are waiting for the rainy season to start in May.



The land also has its own natural spring, which is very helpful, especially for the roaming goats. The source of the spring will be cleaned and prepared for the introduction of the first batch of goats in April.



By the end of April, all construction work will be finished, and we will bring in the goats and the chickens. In early May, at the start of the rainy season, the group will sow the vegetable seeds for the new season.

A full report of the finished work, including the introduction of the goats and chickens, the vegetable farming, and the cleaning of the spring will be sent to you at the end of June 2018. You will also receive a report from the group themselves about the project.

Though there has been reported violence during the current presidential election campaigns, this has not affected our work. Nonetheless, the group is exercising caution, especially those who were mutilated during the civil war.

What has come up over the past months after receiving the support from KTCT is the enthusiasm of the disabled group. Though it takes longer to complete certain jobs because of the various disabilities they have, they are fully committed and overjoyed. One of the members commented; 'We have never had any opportunity like this. Not even from the government!'

Many thanks again for the support.

Regards,

James Fallah-Williams