

File Form 692

Purchase and running costs for one year of a bus for transporting the staff and students of the IMPACT Zanzibar / ZOP Academy for hearing impaired students to and from school Interim report for the Eagle Foundation – June 2024

Donor name: Fondation Eagle

Fondation Eagle reference: FF 692

Name of Charity: IMPACT UK

Introduction: This funding was awarded to purchase a new school bus for the IMPACT Zanzibar/ZOP (IZ/ZOP) school for deaf children in Zanzibar. The IZ/ZOP Academy is a dedicated educational facility catering for children with additional needs and hearing loss. A larger school bus was needed to take children and teachers to and from school each day and to replace the Academy's older 14-seater minibus that was too small to transport children comfortably and reliably on their route to school and on educational excursions.

Date of grant accepted: 06/12/2023 (funds received by IMPACT UK 22/12/23)

Budget amount: GBP 24,495

Conversion rate, date & amount in local currency: TSH 74,464,800 Exchange rate 1GBP = 3,040 TZS (06/11/2023)

Expenditure: GBP 21,831

Amount carried forward: GBP 2,664 - this will cover the fuel costs; annual service charge; and project management in the remaining six months of the project.

Name and exact location of the project: Stone Town, Zanzibar

Period of Project: 22nd December 2023 – 21st December 2024

Project beneficiaries: The bus is used to transport 25 pupils and their teachers to and from school - a four-hour round trip each day.



The new 26-seater school bus funded by Fondation Eagle

Details of the project:

Background: Established in 2010, the IZ/ZOP Academy was set up as a 'one-stop centre' for the education, care and rehabilitation of hearing-impaired children. Its primary objective is encapsulated in the school motto 'Matamshi na Sauti' (Sound and Vocabulary), emphasising the importance of sound and speech development through lip reading methodologies. As well as providing quality education and rehabilitation services, the ZOP Academy promotes accessibility for children with hearing impairments amongst the wider community and advocates for neonatal and early years hearing screening programmes.

The Academy moved to new premises in 2021 and on-site facilities now include:

- **School for deaf children:** Offering special needs education to children from nursery age to approximately age 11 (or until pupils are ready to enter mainstream schooling)
- **ENT clinic:** Providing medical services for ear-related health issues
- **Audiology room:** Specially equipped for paediatric audiometric tests and assessments
- **Hearing aid laboratory:** For the development, fitting and regular maintenance of hearing aids
- **Conference Room:** For meetings, training and seminars
- **Workshop:** Offering hands-on training and practical sessions for older children



Classroom learning at the IZ/ZOP Academy



Dr Nassor, the onsite Medical Officer, is responsible for fitting and maintaining the children's hearing aids

'We set ourselves high professional standards. When a child is brought to the school he/she will not only be received by the teachers, they will also benefit from our ear clinic; have regular ear checkups; have hearing assessments in the audiology room and any clinical diagnosis is reviewed regularly. In our audiology laboratory, our technicians are highly trained to prepare bespoke ear moulds, followed by hearing aid programming and fitting. It is then that the child can enter the school and start their rehabilitation' – Dr Naufal Kassim, Founding Director, IMPACT Zanzibar

The new school bus : The ZOP Academy had a modest beginning, with only 12 students and a staff of five. At that time, community awareness about the potential for hearing-impaired children to learn to speak and communicate was low. Additionally, many parents were unable to afford the transportation costs required to bring their children to school. The school has developed over the years and the enrolment at any one time now averages between 25-30 children. There are nine teaching staff; 14 administrative, support and social work staff; and an onsite Medical Officer.

Pupils live up to 20km away from the school and providing a safe, reliable and affordable means for them to

travel to school has always been a top priority. However, the Academy's previous 14-seater bus was not only small, it did not have seatbelts on every seat, meaning smaller children had to sit on the laps of a teacher or parent. Although such usage falls under Tanzanian road safety regulations, a larger vehicle fitted with safety belts on every seat was a funding priority and we are so grateful to Fondation Eagle for making this possible.

After receiving your generous grant in December 2023, the purchase order was placed and the new school bus was ready for use in early 2024. The older bus has been redeployed to Pemba for use in medical camps.

Photos showing the new school bus in use:



'We are very grateful to Fondation Eagle for the new bus! It meets all the criteria of being a school bus, as it has enough seats with seat belts and so it is safer for students. Not only that, it can also accommodate our staff as well, including teachers and supporting staff. And now, when the school plans field trips, we not need to hire any transport. As well, the IZ/ZOP academy has introduced a programme that asks the parents/guardians to come to the school once a week to see their children at a teaching session, so they can help their children at home. So the bus helps us on that as well – making it easier for the parents be involved with their schooling.' – **Dr Naufal Kassim, Founding Director, IMPACT Zanzibar**

On a typical school day, the bus leaves very early in the morning to fetch pupils from their homes and bring them to school. Some students live in villages without suitable road access, in which case parents bring their children to a pre-agreed collection point.

Currently the stops are the villages of Saateni; Bububu; Kijichi; Kijichi-Mtoni; Amani; Mikunguni; Magomeni; Mwanakwerekwe; Skuli Mtopepo; Mabata-Magogoni; Fuoni-mambosasa; Fuoni Jitimai, Kwarara; Kwamchina; Kiembe; and Samaki. This route takes approximately two hours and covers up to 75 kms each time.

Testimony from a parent:

'The bus will motivate our kids to come to school! It has a well working air-conditioning, to keep them comfortable in the hot season. I feel very reassured that our kids sit in the bus with seat belts and so they are very safe. Also it is enclosed, so kids are not able to put their heads or arms outside of the bus windows. Not like the last bus, it has enough space for students to sit without being cramped' - **Sada Mwinyi Ayub, parent with daughter at the ZOP Academy**



Testimony from a teacher:

'I am in charge of the baby class and glad about the new bus. It is very comfortable and I am so happy to see the safety of the kids has improved, as always safety is the first priority. The increased capacity now allows the teachers and staff to be carried in the bus, which helps them in reducing transport expenses and provides opportunities for us to interact more socially with our pupils. They never stop learning!' **Zainab Maulid Suwed, special needs teacher at the ZOP Academy**



Thank you

Everyone associated with the IZ/ZOP Academy is so grateful for your generosity in funding a new vehicle for the school. The benefits extend far beyond an upgrade of transport. The bus has allowed for greater engagement between children, their parents and teachers, and provided another opportunity for socialisation between the children as they journey to school. Thank you.



Expenditure statement

Budget	Budget GBP (£)	Budget TZS	Expenditure GBP (£)	Expenditure TZS
Toyota Coaster 26-seat bus	20,000	60,800,000	20,050	60,952,000
Road licence / insurance (one year)	66	200,640	384	1,167,360
Fuel (one year)	2,125	6,460,000	814	2,474,560
Annual service	1,138	3,459,520	0	0
SUBTOTAL	23,329	70,920,160	21,248	64,593,920
Project Management 5%	1,166	3,544,640	583	1,772,320
Grand Total	24,495	74,464,800	21,831	66,366,240

Exchange rate based on 1 GBP = 3,040 TZS (06.11.2023)

Budget note: The amount carried forward of GBP 2,664 will be used to cover fuel costs, the annual service charge and project management in the remaining six months of the project.