

Don du Chœur introduces its **OPERATION KENYA**

Following on from its projects in Russia, India and Cambodia, the Don du Chœur Association turns to Kenya for 2013. The sixth concert will take place at the Victoria Hall on 30 April, bringing together some 350 children from Geneva's private schools. The proceeds will go to help 600 children aged from six to 14 who are being schooled in atrocious conditions in the very poor rural area of Teso, near western Kenya's border with Uganda.

Primary education has been free in Kenya for ten years but school results in the rural region of Teso remain disappointing. The children, forced to learn reading and writing in overcrowded, dark and dirty classrooms, suffer greatly from this situation; many simply give up going to school.

Because of the scale and the urgency of the needs in Teso district, Don du Chœur has decided to commit itself to helping two state schools (Kakemer and Ataba Oburi), both of them recognised for the dedication of their teachers. Don du Chœur is working with a local NGO and a Kenyan engineer, specialized in managing building projects, to draw up the construction and renovation plans. The project aims to transform the school environment for more than 600 children, with a budget of 96,000 Swiss francs; it meets the specific objectives that were approved during a field visit in October 2012 by the Association's volunteers.



To help this new educational project succeed, Don du Chœur is committing its support for three years. You, too, can help by offering your time or your money, whether in Switzerland or in Kenya. In doing so, you will be participating in an operation that is concrete, useful, and targeted.

**With heart and soul
– your heart and the soul of the Don du Chœur choir –
we can make the project succeed!**

1. BUILD the first centre for handicapped children in the region

Designed to cater for the special educational needs of 50 handicapped children, this new centre, located next to Kakemer school, will have two classrooms, a space for children with learning difficulties and for physical re-education, an office and specially-adapted toilets.



This offers great hope for poor families whose handicapped children have until now either been left in a dirty, disused kitchen, under the responsibility of two specialist teachers; have been placed in schools around the region with no specialist care; or who have simply had to remain at home.

2. RENOVATE ten classrooms

Essential work has to be done to reduce absenteeism and improve education for 530 children who are using ten classrooms in very poor condition, split between two primary schools.



A year will be needed to reinforce and plaster the walls, lay a concrete floor so as to protect the children's feet from parasites in the bare earth ("jiggers") and put in proper windows to enable classes to go ahead even during heavy rains.

1. CLEAN UP AND RENOVATE the only boarding school for girls in the area

Kakemer primary school makes the education of girls a top priority. Girls play an essential role in fighting illiteracy, early pregnancies, high birth rates, spread of HIV, etc. To promote the girls' education, parents are encouraged to place them in the school's boarding facility which – even in its present poor state – offers them a unique opportunity: to get away from poverty and to build a new life.



The aim is to offer these 50 girls a healthy and functional living environment, by replacing the roof (asbestos-free), enabling rainwater to be used in the toilets, installing a septic tank and renewing the floors.

FOR ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Don du Chœur

is organising a concert at the Victoria Hall on

Tuesday, 30 April 2013

350 children of Geneva's private
schools will sing for the benefit
of 600 Kenyan pupils

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Le Don du Chœur
Chœur d'enfants des écoles privées genevoises