

As I See It...
page 2

Economic Development:
A Season of Sweet
Success
page 3

Rural Development:
Multiplying Livelihood
Opportunities
page 3

MicroFinance: Small
Loans Making a Big
Impact
page 4

Adelphe: Modest Loans
Yielding Big Change for
Women in Need
page 5

Current Projects
page 5

Hope Corps: Teaching
a Little and Learning
a Lot
page 6

Teaching a Man
to Fish...
page 6

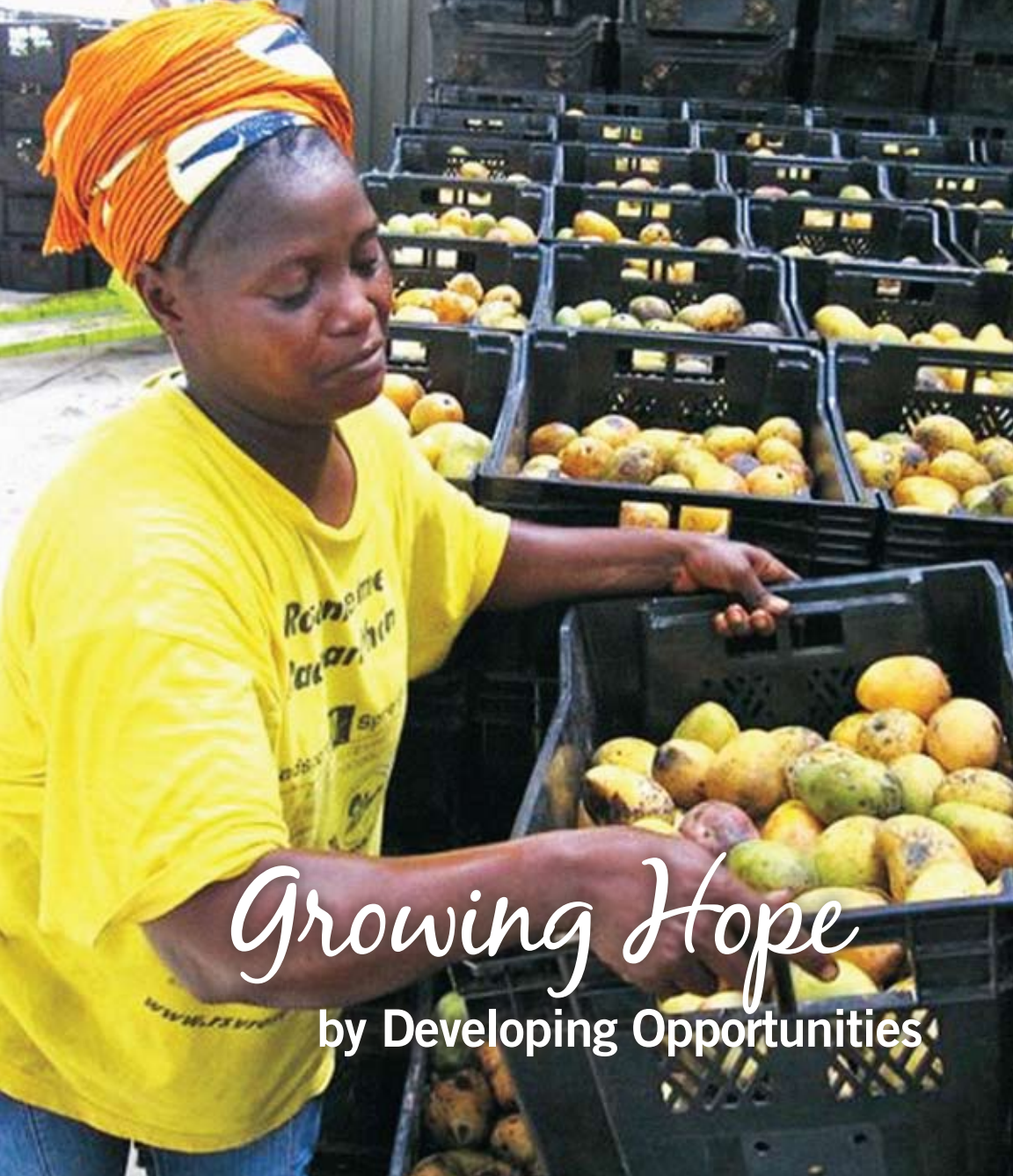
Hope for Children:
Giving a Child
the Opportunity of
Education Gives Them
a Chance
page 7

Gifts & Memorials
page 8

WORLD HOPE

Live!

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3 | *Published quarterly for the donors and supporters of World Hope International*



Growing Hope
by Developing Opportunities



Karl greets President of Sierra Leone Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma at the dedication of Africa Felix Juice, a tenant of FIRST STEP's Economic Opportunity Zone.

AS I SEE IT...

Economic Development Yields Fruitful Results

LOVE FRUIT! BANANAS, PEARS, ORANGES, you name it. I even enjoy the more unusual fruits such as figs and starfruit. When I travel in Sierra Leone, for example, I thoroughly enjoy mangos with my daily breakfast. They are a delicious, sweet fruit straight from the hands of God!

One mango per meal is good. But three tons? Per hour?? Now, I know I said I love fruit, but that's a lot of mangos.

You see, it takes three tons per hour to keep Africa Felix Juice (AFJ)—a new fruit juice processing plant residing on the property of Sierra Leone's FIRST STEP Economic Opportunity Zone—in business. World Hope International (WHI) is thrilled to be working with between 1,500 and 2,000 Sierra Leonean farmers helping to supply AFJ with their mangos. Imagine, these families are getting paid for fruit that used to fall to the ground and rot because of a lack of sales opportunity. For decades, they have watched their profits waste on the ground. That was then. This is now!

You know, WHI has a choice as to how it will provide loving care for those poor farming families. We could come around twice per month to distribute bags of rice, medicine, clothing, etc. That seems, on the surface, to be the “Christian” thing to do. However, while it may give us “goose bumps” to give food and other basic needs to these poor people, it still leaves them poor. World Hope International envisions a better way.

That better way involves giving farmers an opportunity to make their own living and buy the things they need. This strategy produces dignity for the farmer by allowing him or her to provide for the needs of their own family. It also opens up a “hope door” for their community neighbors to see, firsthand, the impact this strategy has on an economically-transformed family.

The best way to alleviate poverty is to be a supportive guide rather than their temporary crutch. It gives me goose bumps just thinking about it!

Dr. Karl Eastlack
President & CEO
World Hope International

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A Season of Sweet Success

By Rob Symons, Director of Economic Development

JUNE BROUGHT THE CLOSE OF THE MANGO season in Sierra Leone. As the last trucks filled with the fruit rolled off to the Africa Felix Juice (AFJ) plant—a tenant of World Hope International subsidiary FIRST STEP Economic Opportunity Zone—for processing, World Hope International (WHI) immediately took to task the process of evaluating its pilot Mango Outgrower Project. At its conclusion, the project organized 150 cooperatives across 114 villages in the Tonkolili District, which engaged between 1,500 and 2,000 farmers.

Some teething problems were experienced during this first season. Over the project's duration, Outgrower farmers harvested, packaged and sold more than 12,900 crates of mangos—a total weight of approximately 500,000 pounds—to AFJ. The fruit generated approximately \$11,650 U.S. in revenue for the farmers. A majority of these mangos would have rotted due to lack of demand, but instead, these farmers and their community benefited from the naturally available resource. They gained experience working together as a community, thereby building social trust and paving the way for prospective projects and greater economic development in the region.



Employees of Africa Felix Juice process the mangos supplied by Outgrower farmers.

The future is bright with possibility. AFJ intends to produce juice concentrate from a range of different fruits, providing opportunities for other farmers to join the supply chain. Also, this Outgrower model can be replicated in other districts of Sierra Leone, allowing more people to benefit from the presence of a manufacturing entity in the country. The possibilities for WHI to bring opportunities to the people of Sierra Leone through new Outgrower projects are numerous!

To learn more about World Hope International's Economic Development work in Sierra Leone and around the world, visit WorldHope.org and click *Our Work*.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Multiplying Livelihood Opportunities

by Keith Norris, Director of Rural Development & Tae Symons, Health Programs Manager

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAN TAKE A VARIETY of forms. Sometimes opportunity can be as simple as the provision of knowledge and instruction, as well as the resources to exercise them. Farming and animal husbandry are a central part of livelihood for a majority of families living in rural areas around the world. Often times, these families lack an understanding of farm management—production and marketing enhancement, creation of farmer associations and more.

As populations increase, it is crucial that new methods of maintaining soil fertility are imparted; methods that will allow farm plots to remain productive for years to come. Additionally, an understanding of livestock diseases and effective breeding practices are necessary to assist with increased production. By

optimizing each process, rural farmers can rest in the security of livelihood sustainability for their family.

Raising animals, such as goats, sheep and cattle, is important because it leads to natural assets. For example, chickens not only supplement a family's income, but they also improve the nutritional level of the household.

In July, World Hope International – Liberia hosted a veterinarian conducting a two week workshop on improved breeding practices for goats and sheep. In Mozambique, cattle raisers were taught how to form officially recognized associations, which can access government-provided extension services, such as vaccinations. Our staff members give illiterate, rural people knowledge of market prices and instruction on how to sell their animals and avoid exploitation by middle-men.

With World Hope International's assistance, rural families are improving their quality of life.

For more information on World Hope International's efforts in Rural Development, visit WorldHope.org and click *Our Work*.



Thy puts her cakes out in the sun to bake before sale.

MICROFINANCE

Small Loans Making a Big Impact

By Cammi Hanna, Program Assistant

DEEP POVERTY HAS EMBEDDED ITSELF in the Kampong Trabek district of Cambodia's Prey Veng province. Thim Thy has felt its weight for many years as she has constantly struggled to provide for her five children. With some help from her neighbors, Thy began baking and selling traditional Khmer cakes within her village. Unfortunately, her business did not make enough money to provide for her children, so she began thinking of ways to increase her profit.



Thy makes the dough for her cakes.

Thy's entrepreneurial spirit led her to CREDIT, a Cambodian microfinance institution of which World Hope International is a minority shareholder. After applying, she was granted an initial business loan of 500,000 Riel (\$125 U.S.), which she used to purchase necessary equipment and ingredients to expand her bakery business. Results quickly followed.

With her increased ability to produce, Thy's client base grew. She was able to pay off her first loan and requested a second, slightly larger, loan. This new loan allowed her to employ some of her neighbors, repaying their kindness and further enhancing her business. Now, not only is Thy able to provide daily, sustainable meals for her children, she has set aside a little bit of money each day for their education.

Thy attributes the confidence she has gained as a business owner to CREDIT; knowing that without their financial support, she would still be trapped in the cycle of poverty.

Learn more about the impact of World Hope International's MicroFinance work in Cambodia and around the world by visiting WorldHope.org and clicking *Our Work*.



Modest Loans Yielding Big Change for Women in Need

By Heather Beatty, Adelphé Team Member

I F SOMEONE ASKED ME WHAT \$25 COULD DO to change my family, I have to admit, I would chuckle and assume they were most likely trying to sell me something. I can tell you that when it comes to trips to the grocery store, the doctor, sports practice, etc., \$25 does not get me very far.

Given the society we live in, it's easy to forget that in a majority of the world a \$25 could forever change life's course for a woman struggling to support her children through poverty.

Sokheang, a young mother of two daughters, recently attended a series of Adelphé business courses, at the end of which, she was approved for a \$25 micro loan to open a stand to sell goods. Within three months, her stand generated enough income for her to repay the loan in full and made it possible for her to take out a larger loan to expand her business. Again, Sokheang's business savvy allowed her to repay the second loan, and she now proudly states that she earns enough income through her business to pay all of her living expenses, send her girls to school and save for future needs.

I believe the great thing about World Hope International is that we believe in addressing the physical and spiritual needs of the people we serve. Through Sokheang's involvement with Adelphé, she was exposed to several Godly staff members who spoke to her about attending church. She now regularly attends services and considers herself a very committed Christian.

"My participation in Adelphé gave me joy and love for other people," says Sokheang. "Before I did not care about others, but because I have become a Christian, I have learned to love others."

Visit WorldHope.org/adelphe to learn how you can become an Adelphé sister today!

- \$ _____ monthly support toward World Hope International's good work around the world.
- \$280** can train a "village vet" with skills that increase animal health and reproduction.
- \$150** can provide building materials to properly house livestock.
- \$100** provides a loan for a man or woman to invest in a small business. These small loans can generate the income needed for an entire family.
- \$100** provides rice, corn and peanut seeds for one family; key staple crops that help prevent hunger and can be sold for livelihood.
- \$36** per month enables a woman living in extreme poverty to provide for her family through agriculture and income-generating projects through the Adelphé program.

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HOPE CORPS

Teaching a Little and Learning a Lot

By Ginny Cockerill, Director of Hope Corps

IT'S THE MOST COMMON ASSESSMENT heard when our Hope Corps Teacher Mentors return from the field: Whether you're a teacher in Sierra Leone, Haiti or the U.S., the struggles in the classroom are pretty much the same. Students will be students, and, as an educator, you have to make do with what you have in order to create an engaging learning environment.

Teachers all across the globe are guiding the next generation, showing them how they can best contribute to their community based on their skill sets and amount of opportunity. They've all answered the call to help develop potential, but not always do they have the luxury of pursuing new techniques to make their classes even more effective. Hope Corps Teacher Mentoring helps counter some of that by offering opportunities for American and developing world teachers to learn from each other.

Recently, eight teachers who attend Central Wesleyan Church in Holland, MI were able to take part in this unique experience, working with educators and schools in Sierra Leone's Bombali Bana area. During the June 13-25 trip, ideas and methodologies were shared by both sets, as were classroom techniques and problem solving strategies.

"The connection between the two teacher teams was amazing," says Kathie Berens. "Our



desires for our students and our struggles in the classroom were the same even though our classroom environments were so different."

The exchange of ideas and experiences that emerged from the trip offered a tremendous chance to grow as individuals and educators. Says Kathie, "I am able to look at things I face with a new set of eyes knowing that there are many teachers who face much more difficult challenges."

Hope Corps teams are being assembled every day. To learn how you can volunteer, visit WorldHope.org and click *Our Work*.

Teaching a Man to Fish...

WHEN IT COMES TO SUSTAINABLE CHANGE within a community, time has proven the "teaching a man to fish" method is generally the most effective. Providing the knowledge and knowhow of a trade or skill fosters opportunity at both the individual and community levels.

World Hope International (WHI) regularly takes this method to heart, but it's not simply reserved for our Economic Development program work. The importance of self sustainability can be seen in the farming and livestock training we offer farmers in Sierra Leone and Zambia, the educational opportunities made available to Hope for Children-sponsored students and the supply of resources to Adelphe's hardworking women.

The element of economic development is an important one to include in the structure of WHI's programs. Livelihood is as crucial to the existence of the poor as it is to those in the developed world. World Hope International does not discount immediate needs, but ultimately, longer term solutions are what will help reverse the devastating effects of poverty.

In this issue of *World Hope Live*, you will see how the incorporation of economic development into each program is growing hope by developing opportunities and creating a well-rounded approach to alleviating poverty around the globe.



Giving a Child the Opportunity of Education Gives Them a Chance

By Dr. Lisa Marling, Director of Education and Hope for Children

HE WAS QUIET, STANDING THERE in the office doorway, watching me with his deep brown eyes. “Dr. Marling, this is Milton Baidhya. Milton is now helping me to coordinate Hope for Children. He is a Hope for Children child, himself.” David Halder’s pride in Milton was evident in the tone of his voice and the glow in his eyes.

Milton was born July 17, 1990 in Radhagonj village of Kotalipara Upazila, Gopalganj district, Bangladesh. His father died when Milton was just a small boy, leaving his mother to care for both he and his younger sister. Their land had been parsed away, bit by bit, as the father’s illness and medical needs escalated. There was nothing to be done; the children were given away in order to receive better care. Milton acknowledges that arriving at the Children’s Home when he was three changed the course of his life.



“I am so grateful to my first sponsors, Mark and Susan Black, then Bob and Jerri Cooper, and now Mark Suino, for their loving concern for my education and me,” Milton shares. “I wanted to give something back, so I asked our Uncle David to involve me in work so that I can work with the children. I collect applications, translate sponsor’s letters from English to Bengali, do reports and keep children’s data. I am fortunate to have attended the First Aid program, computer training and cultural training.”

God has been good to Milton, and through His faithful followers, Milton has received a Christian education, as well as being able to work on his Bachelor of Business Studies degree. His goal is to continue on and get a Masters of Business Administration. He wants to do child-related work and, someday, visit America. It is my hope that he realizes this goal so that I may see his deep brown eyes as he stands in my office doorway once again.

For more information on Hope for Children sponsorship, visit WorldHope.org and click *Our Work*.

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Become a Hope for Children Sponsor

YES! I would like to be a Hope for Children sponsor for \$34 per month.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

- I have enclosed \$34 for my first month’s support.
- I have enclosed \$408 for my first year’s support.
- One-time gift for Hope for Children, amount _____.
- Please send me information on the sponsorship program.

Sponsorship is tax deductible. Receipts are provided.

80% of sponsorship funds go to direct services for sponsored children.

You will receive a photo and information about the child you are sponsoring along with periodic updates.

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