

# PL Y FOR ALL

Early childhood development for the best start in life



Children growing up in the slums (informal settlements) around the world are burdened with socio-economic challenges that traps them into poverty for decades to come. Play for All is an early childhood programme, supporting ECD centres (kindergartens) and families in southern Africa with an objective to provide the opportunity for every child to have the right start in life.



of a child's brain develops before the age of 5.

Source: Havard Centre for the Developing Child

# 90% of a child's brain develops before the age of 5. Children who benefit from quality early childhood development programmes have

- better performance in school
- better health and wellbeing
- · better socio-emotional skills and life skills
- healthier relationships with less likelihood of violence
- reduced likelihood of anti-social behavior ad involvement in crime
- · more stable employment
- higher lifelong earnings

### than children who did not.

Participating in early childhood development (ECD) programmes is beneficial for all children and especially beneficial for children in a disadvantaged situation.

Early Childhood Development and growing slums (informal settlements):



Rural to urban migration

Cycle of poverty and inequality

Children growing up in stark conditions of poverty, violence, and parent absenteeism with low quality child care hindering their development

SOUTHERN AFRICA

urban slums and child development Exacerbated by climate change and loss of habitat

Leading to rapid urbanization

Growth of urban slums and informal settlements

Towns cannot respond to rapid increase in numbers

### Our response:

Play for All is a programme supporting early childhood development and early education for children aged 0-6 in the informal settlements.

#### What we do:



Teacher training



Provision of learning and teaching materials



Small grants for centres improvements



Parents support



Water and sanitation



Nutrition programme



We focus on impact with low overheads and

with relevant government ministries.

We partner with private sector.

We work very closely with the local offices of international development agencies such as UNICEF and EU.

# **Teaching and learning resources:**

Over 40,000 resources printed and distributed for children, teachers and parents to support culturally relevant early childhood development.

100 Libraries set up in ECD centres.













# Scale, Sustainability and Growth

### **Social Enterprise Approach**

To support expansion, access and sustainability we are now moving into a social-enterprise franchise model to bring quality services to more children and families living in slums (informal settlements).



Expanding services with quality from the start



Bringing Play for All to new towns and neighbourhoods



Moving towards sustainability of funding



Cross-subsidisation of programmes



# Our Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Our work directly contributes to **SDG 4.**"4.2 by 2030 ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education."

### But ECD and our work also contributes to the following goals:



**Goal 1:** Eradicate poverty – Early childhood development interventions increase adult productivity and income, and reduce inequities.

**Goal 2:** End hunger and improve nutrition – Interventions to promote nurturing care help to improve young children's growth and development.

**Goal 3:** Ensure healthy lives – Supporting early childhood development increases quality of home care practices, protects against stress, and reduces risks of chronic disease and improves mental health in adulthood.

**Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality – Early childhood development interventions improve motivation and opportunities for learning for girls, so that they can benefit equally from schooling and enter the job market.

**Goal 10:** Reduce inequality in and among countries – Early childhood stimulation and food supplementation will enable children living in extreme poverty, to attain outcomes closer to more affluent peers.

### THE ORGANISATION



### **Development Workshop**

- Namibia: Established programme with 6 core personnel and support from 7 field offices across the country
- · Zambia: In development phase
- Zimbabwe: Working in partnership with Nhaka Foundation https://www.nhakafoundation.org/
- · Switzerland: Fundraising and networking

#### **OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS:**



























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