

SOUTH PEOPLE'S PROJECTS



SOPPRO

BRIDGE

The

Divides:

Our Voices, Our Heritage & Our Memories



2017 ANNUAL REVIEW & ACCOUNT

Registered Charity 1120469

INTRODUCTION

The trustees of South People's Projects (SoPPro) are delighted to present this report of the organisation's activities in 2007. Two most important focus of this year were the delivering of "*The Congo Boys and the Congo Institute in the UK: Re-visitation*", a trans-regional project sponsored by **Heritage Lottery Fund**, and the strengthen of the links with the DRC via two main activities sponsored by two partners: **Cape Partnership**, from the UK to the DRC and **Nancy Odia & Papy Niango**, from the DRC to the UK.

The first project opened us new opportunity doors of planning to work in partnership with the **Wales Museum in Cardiff**, not only to tour our project exhibition, but also for another incredible DRC-UK common history re-visitation opportunity project: the story of **Bokani**, a Congolese pygmy brought to the UK in 1905 as his sculpted bust is displayed in the Cardiff museum.

During this year also, we experience the high pressure in term of community projects and activities demands, as, unfortunately, the cut budget austerity policy forced migrants, refugees and asylum seekers organisations either to close down or to restrict their activities.

We are then grateful to our sponsors, especially the Heritage Lottery Fund, as they boosted us with their support, and also to the CMRB (the University of East London) as they kindly allow us to be based in their office.

Our thanks to the trustees, to the volunteers and to the partners' organisations for their supports and their commitment to SoPPro's values. We look forward to the next year.

Norbert Mbu-Mputu, Coordinator.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION REFERENCE

Trustees

- Deo Gratias
- Katya Kasereka
- Natalia Ufert
- Thomas Farmer
- Fernando Sina Lona Da Silva
- Jack Liuta
- Vivienne Spoor

WELCOME
CROESO

Key Management personnel

- Norbert MBU-MPUTU: Coordinator

OUR MISSION

To bridge the communities by facilitating knowledge share and capacity building between the Francophone Africa, notably the DRC, and the UK through assistance to people in Africa and to exiled persons (asylum seekers, refugees and migrants) in the UK.



OUR BEGINNING

SOPPRO was set up in 2004 by members of the Francophone African Diaspora, mainly DRC Congolese with the vision to become an effective organisation by learning and adopting the British volunteering and NGO culture and to deliver projects and activities for our community, linking with the local authorities and other rooted organisations and charities.

OUR OBJECTIVES

1. *The relief of poverty amongst African people in the UK and Africa, including but not limited to asylum seekers, refugees and migrants;*
2. *To advance the education and training of those granted refugee status and their dependants in need thereof so as to advance them in life and assist to adapt within a new community; and*
3. *To advance the education of the public in general about the issues related to refugees and those seeking asylum.*

- Publishing an African / Diaspora newsletter
- Assisting Diaspora through at home visits
- Organising events to celebrate African culture & heritage
- Connecting Africa & Wales through cultural initiatives
- Ongoing international projects/links between DRC and UK
- Helping resolve the administration puzzles for our beneficiaries
- We were running a community sign-posting office project named "the Community Space Partnership" to link people and new arrivals (mainly asylum seekers, exiled persons, refugees and migrants) with other voluntary organisations and local authorities, to provide them with basics information needed to integrate them into the British community and society.



OUR POLICIES

1. Equal opportunity police, 12/10/2005
2. Child protection police, 12/10/2005
3. Privacy Policy, 26/2/2017
4. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), 25 may 2018.

HOW WE WORK

- We are a small charity (we would love to have more resources!). However, small can be effective. Our formula is by making small interventions which can make a big and synergistic difference.
- Our work includes doing home visits, publishing community newsletters, providing translation and interpretation services, offering advice and resource, organizing community meetings, running workshops on particular topics, especially geared to help new arrivals to the UK.

- We accompany them when needed; we help them to access training, learning and education opportunities and to assist them in employment issues.
- We organise and take part to sports and other recreational activities



LATEST ACTIVITIES & WORKS DELIVERED

- Providing interpreting (French/Lingala/Swahili) and ICT facilities
- We are providing our beneficiaries with interpreting and translating services, ICT facilities and courses,

- both to individual and to other community groups and organisations.
- We assist members in breaking the isolation they are facing by door-to-door and home visits and by organising cultural, sports and outdoor activities for them. We are involved in outreach work, specifically by encouraging and running projects for young people to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- We help and assist our members to be involved in community activities and projects (Refugee Week, Black History Month, carnivals, special cooking/catering and knitting/sewing projects for women etc.).
- We are encouraging asylum seekers, refugees and migrants to meet with others communities, to learn from British culture and heritage and to share also their own cultures and heritages, and to use their skills in volunteering for the benefit of the community which welcomed them.
- We participate in number of campaigns and events to raise awareness about the migration, asylum and refugees issues. We use our skills and knowledge to bridge the shock of cultures gaps.

PARTNERS

Believing working in partnership, SoPPro is member of some British umbrellas and network organisations and work closely with most of them:

UK

- Anti-Poverty Network Cymru/Wales.**
 - Bangor University (Archives and Special Collections)**
- 
- Centre for African Entrepreneurship/Swansea**
 - Centre for Migration and refugee Belongings (CMRB)/University of East London**
 - Colwyn Bay Town Council**
 - Colwyn Bay Community Radio**
 - Common Purpose (The Diaspora Change Maker course)**
 - Community Integration Project (CIP)/London**
 - Congo Great Lakes Initiative (CGLI)/London**
 - Congo Now/London**
 - Free Fair DRC/London**
 - Gwent Association for Voluntary Organisations (GAVO)/Newport.**
 - Harmelia Santé/London**
 - Learning Links International (LLI)/North Wales.**
 - Peace for Congo/London.**
 - Refugee Council/London**
 - The Congo and African Institute project linked with Reverend William's family/ North Wales**
 - The Henry Morton Stanley Museum/Denbigh**
 - UK Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)**
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- Multi-Stakeholder Group/Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)**
- **Welsh Refugee Council/Cardiff**
- **South East Wales Regional Equality Council (SEWREC)/Newport**
- **Sub-Saharan Advisory Panel (SSAP)/Cardiff.**

THE NETHERLANDS

- **The African Diaspora Police Centre (The Hague, Netherlands)**

DRC

- **Bana Basakata ya Kinshasa (BBK)/Kinshasa**
- **Congo Remontada/Kinshasa**
- **Institut Supérieur d'Informatique et de Programmation Appliquées (ISIPA)/Kinshasa.**

SPONSORS

UK

- **Heritage Lottery Fund**
- **The Cape Partnership/London**
- **MediaComX Ltd**

DR

- **Nancy Odia & Papy Niango/Kinshasa**

RECENT PROJECTS

Projects SoPPro run in 2017 to bridge cultural ties between the UK and the D.R. Congo.

BAMONIMAMBO

Sponsored in 2011 by the **Heritage Lottery Fund/Wales**, **BAMONIMAMBO** looked at the shared cultural ties bridging Britain and the Congo. The main output of this project was the publication of the first Britain-Congo common history book filled with

interviews from expert contributors and authors.

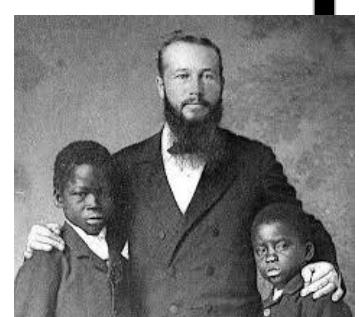
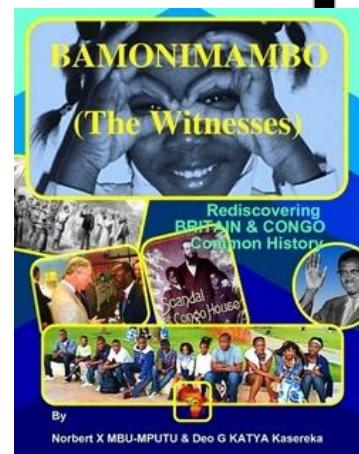
The Congo Boys and the African Institute of Colwyn Bay

Hogiau'r Congo ac Athrofa Africanaidd Bae Colwyn

One of the famous stories from that project is the unknown back story of the 19th century Welshman Sir **Henry Morton Stanley** (born John Rowland) and known in Congo as **Bula-Matari**, born in North Wales and known as the greatest explorer of Africa and Congo. Another story that emerged from the research is about the first Congolese to settle in Wales and famously known as the "**CONGO BOYS**": **Nkansa** and **Kinkassa**. They were brought back to Wales in 1884 by a Welsh pastor returning from his trip to Congo.

Rev. WILLIAM HUGHES was a friend of Stanley since they met in Congo and which Stanley advised to return back in Wales as his health condition was not compatible with the tropical environment.

With the two boys he brought back, he established in 1891 in **Colwyn Bay** the project: **The Congo and African Institute of Wales**. It aimed to bring boys and girls from Africa and America, to teach and to train them in Wales and to send them back in their native communities. The institute received support from local people and philanthropists, including Sir



Henry Morton Stanley, the greatest British explorer of Congo and of Africa. Unfortunately, some of the students, the two first Congo boys included, died and were buried in Colwyn Bay. But, no one knew any more where their graves were. With this project, we luckily found and identified them.

HONOURING THE MEMORY OF THE CONGO BOYS

As a result of the BAMONIMAMBO project, we worked with the towns of Denbigh and Colwyn Bay and the University of Bangor to rehabilitate the graves of the Congo Boys in Colwyn Bay and to forge new ties between those towns and the DRC. The Congo Boys graves in Colwyn Bay old cemetery were kindly rehabilitated by the DRC London Embassy as the then "Chargée d'Affaires", acting as the ambassador a.i., **Mrs MARIE LOUISE KAFENGE**, supported the rehabilitation fees and the celebration costs.

'THE CONGO BOYS AND THE CONGO INSTITUTE IN THE UK: RE-VISITATION!'

This is a new ongoing project, sponsored this year, by a National Lottery grant from the *Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)*. It aims to uncover the heritage of the Congo Boys, the Pastor William Hughes and the Congo Institute (1986-1911). This project supports research and exhibitions at Colwyn Bay and Bangor University in Wales and in London about the '**Congo and African Institute of Wales**'.

For this new interregional project, SoPPro works in partnership with the London based organisations the *Congo Great Lakes Initiative (CGLI)* and the *Community Integration Project (CIP)*

and the Wales based *Learning Links International (LLI)*.

The project is lead by dedicated volunteers, with expertise and support from **Bangor University** (Archives and Special Collections services), **Colwyn Bay Council**.



Commenting on the award, **Norbert Mbu-Mputu**, South People's Projects coordinator said: "We are thrilled to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and work in a partnership with organizations that have been efficient in running heritage projects.

Thanks to National Lottery players, this new grant will empower our organisations and raise the Congolese profile in Britain for futures join projects adventures. I must really mention and will be very grateful to acknowledge also the full and special support received during those last years by organisations such as *Common Purpose* and its course "*The Diaspora Change Maker*", *African Diaspora Police Centre* (Hague, Netherlands) and its course "*Diaspora Polices and organisations*", *Refugee Council/London* and other partners, *Bangor University*, the *Colwyn Bay*

Town Council, Learning Links International (Colwyn Bay), the Congo and African Institute project linked with Reverend William's family project in North Wales, the Henry Morton Stanley Museum in Denbigh and the Centre for Migration and Refugee Belonging (CMRB) of the University of East London where the project will be based; to name just few of those individual persons and organisations who agreed to facilitate our project with different collections and archives related to the Congo Institute".

Two unplanned outcomes came out from this project as SoPPro is now identified for its expertise in telling the Congo-Britain common re-visitation history:

- **Congo Research Network:** After being invited by Medias to share those stories, we participated in a high profile scientific and academic debate and exchange during the Congo Research Network Conference: Past, Present and Future at Oxford University, where we could share our researches and stories with the worldwide researches and academicians who welcomed it promise to support any further project on those topics.
- In a new link and partnership with the Wales Museum, we will now dig more about another incredible story of Mr. Bokani, a Congolese pygmy brought in Britain in 1905, as his bust was sculpted by Herbert Ward (1863-1919), a Wales artist, and is now at the Cardiff Museum, without much specification and information about his story: where he came from, who he was, what he came for in Britain.

GDPR & the Personal Data

From the 25 May 2018, the public sector, individuals and organisations

across the EU States must apply the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) legislation and follow strict data protection principles to make sure that the information kept are used fairly and lawfully, for limited and specifically stated purposes and in a way that is adequate, relevant and not excessive and accurate.

Some Steps are needed to compliant with the new GDPR:

1. **Awareness:** Make sure that decision makers of an organisation are aware of the GDPR implementation;
2. **Information:** Each organisation needs to carry an information audit and to document personal data hold, where they came from and who it is sharing with;
3. **Communicating privacy information:** Organisation needs to review its privacy notices and to implement the GDPR and to explain clearly how those information and personal collected will be used;
4. **Individuals' rights:** Organisation should ensure that individual has the right to be informed, to access, to rectification, to erasure, to restrict processing, to data portability, to delete his data;
5. **Subject access requests:** Organisation should update its procedures and take in account that the new GDPR rules will have a month to comply;



6. *Consent*: Organisation should review how it seeks, records and manages consent when dealing with personal data and whether it needs to make any changes;
7. *Children*: GDPR is protecting children's data particularly in the context of commercial internet services such as social networking. It is important to verify individuals' ages and to obtain parental or guardian consent for any data processing activity involving children as there is a need for a parent or a guardian's consent to process those data lawfully. The GDPR sets the age when a child can give their own consent at 16 (although this may be lowered to a minimum of 13 in the UK);
8. *Data breaches*: Organisation must have procedures to detect, to report and to investigate a personal data breach;
9. *Data Protection Officers*: Organisation should designate someone to take responsibility for data protection compliance;
10. *International*: If the organisation operates in more than one EU member state or carry out cross-border activities, it should determine its lead data protection supervisory authority and document it in the state where the main establishment is.

SOPPRO Theory of Change

South People's Projects is committed to contribute to the change of its communities, both in Britain and in Africa. The UK community and beneficiary of its activities are identified to be the MAR (Migrant, Asylum seekers and Refugees). They face specific issues such as the barrier

languages, the lack of confidence; they are voiceless, many of their women and children are don't know the real supports they must receive from the local authorities; they are struggling a poverty problem summarised in the concept of "**MAR poverty triangle**": they are in the middle of poverty back home of the families expected them to assist them; the community they live in Britain is also a poor community while they are themselves also poor.



But, the most important in our theory of chance if that, instead of been considering to be a problem, MAR could also become part of the solution as some among themselves are skilled and multi-talented person who could deliver, not only for themselves, but also for the hosted community.

The "**Changemakers**" and "**The Diaspora Changemakers**" training and courses by **Common Purpose**, with the sponsorship of **Comic Relief**,



DFID and **The Royal Arts Society**, will be used as the best contributions for a project to assist some MAR leaders to learn new skills,

to improve their qualifications so that they could bridge the community gaps: knowledge, information, cultural digital divides; they will solve, not only their own problems, but also the problems of their community, both back home and where they live now in the UK.

1. WoB-MARS TASK FORCE & PALM

The main objective for this coming year will be to equip SoPPRO with required

policies and venue, especially in Bristol for the West of Britain, the refugee and asylum seekers dispersal region, included South Wales and South West England. There is a need for a new **West of Britain MARS** (Migrant, Asylum seekers and Refugee Speak out) **Task Force & PALM** (Pan-African Library and Memories) project to be leading the network of former identified exiled journalists network project linked with Media Wise project and with the University of West England. They will be trained to become their communities' communicators with basic equipments to voice them using especially the now raised and launched online Medias. The last Windrush scandal just show how it important to keep memories and stories of moving and migrations alive.

This project will be designed as the model and accompanied by "**Migrants Organise**" (London), we will request to assist us, so that we will not reinvent wheel. The **PALM** dreams to collect donated printing books and to set up an audio-visual data base of stories, pictures, videos and documents, etc. so that the **MAR** with root with their hosted communities and the printed and audiovisual data will be passed to **MAR's** future generations. **PALM** will also address some specific issues affecting the **MAR**: the isolation, to campaign for their issues, to address their lack of information and communication tools, community inter-actions and activities and modern and challenged knowledge (GDPR, Internet, available health support, studying and training, etc.).

2. MBOTE (WELCOME) PROJECT: BRITAIN-CONGO RE-VISITATION HISTORY & HERITAGE TASK FORCE

The delivered heritages projects demonstrated the risen of the interest

in learning the common history of Congo and Britain, as at first glance the DRCongo could not have such historical links as it was not a former British colony. The AGM adopted for a need of a new project named "**MBOTE (Welcome)** **PROJECT: The Congo-Britain Common History and Heritage Re-Visitation Task Force**". It aims to train, during one year, 12 UK based Congolese community

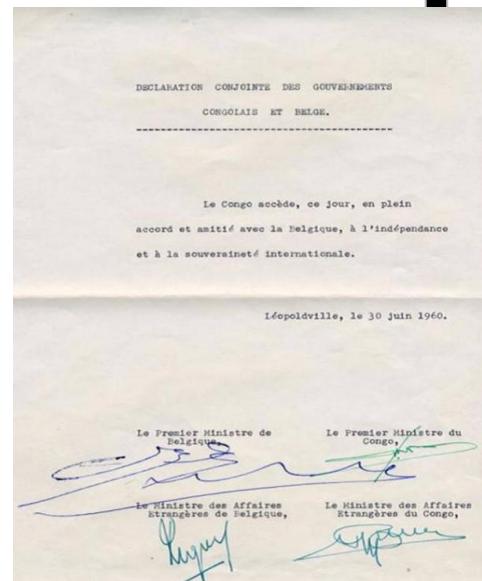
leaders for them to become their communities story-tellers and bridges of Congo-Britain Re-Visitation History and Heritage.

MBOTE will launch also of the first Congolese UK-based writers' movement: "**Moziki Littéraire of London**" with the publication of their first anthology of Congolese of Britain heritage and memory in French and in English; with a special exhibition of the first Congolese of Britain, and the Congolese and Black African

Involvement to the 1st and 2nd World Wars. "**Moziki Littéraire of London**" will assist the community in recording, saving and publishing their memories and stories and organising cultural events: theatre, music, poetry and fiction public tours.

PLAN FOR 2018-2019

The AGM adopted those projects and activities action plan for this year 2018:



1. WoB (West of Britain) MARS Task force & Pan-African Library and Memories (PALM CENTRE).

Activities:

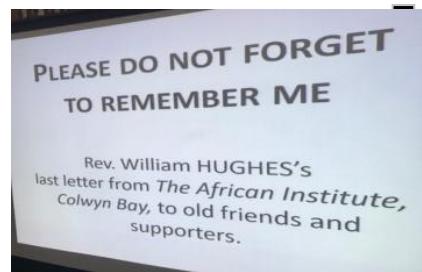
- Training of 12 Congolese UK Diaspora community leaders in various subjects and workshops;
- Former projects printing materials and books proof-readings, editing and printings.
- Infographic maps and flyers
- Bokani (Congolese pygmy brought in the UK in 1905) Re-Visitation story in partnership with Wales Museum/Cardiff.
- PALM (Pan-African Library and Memories): African books collection and donation appeal and constitution of the first audio-visual data bases and collection of African books, pictures, videos and memories.

Subjects of some required Workshops/Training/Conferences:

- a. *Re-Visiting Congolese History*
- b. *Lumumba and the Black Achievers at Liverpool Slavery Museum*
- c. *"To be with", an introduction to the Black African Religions and Negritude Literature movement*
- d. *Using Internet and Google*
- e. *The Congolese Diaspora Changemakers*
- f. *Black African Involvement in the 1st and 2nd W.W.: Re-Visitation*
- g. *Bula-Matari, I presume!: Re-Visitation H.M. Stanley, Rev. W. Hughes, The Congo Boys and the Congo Institute of Wales.*
- h. *MARS celebrations (food, costumes, hair-dressing, music, dances. Etc)*
- i. *Immigration and asylum: what have changed since?*
- 2. **Mbote (Welcome): Britain-Congo re-Visitation History and Heritage Task force:**

Activities:

- "Moziki Littéraire of London": establishment of the first Congolese Diaspora Writers association: meeting, network, list



- Black Africans 1st and 2nd Wars Participation Re-Visitation Exhibitions (online and printing)

3. SoPPro Capacity Building.

Activities:

- Proper SoPPro equipped venue/office in Bristol with learning facilities for beneficiaries (Model: Migrant London).

4. MARS (Migrants, Asylum seekers and Refugees Speak out).

Activities:

- Participating and organising migrants, refugees and asylum seekers campaigns, conferences, activities, etc.
- Setting up the first MARS online audiovisual radio/television for them to have a voice, to raise their issues, to learn about new opportunities, to learn about the changes of the laws, regulations and policies, and to avoid missing some deadlines.



5. INTERNATIONAL development partnership project: Mai-Ndombe (DRC) Development SWOT conference & pilot micro-projects



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31/03/2018.**

Income and Expenditure

	Unrestricted Fund (£)	Restricted Fund (£)	Total fund 2017 (£)	Total fund 2016 (£)
INCOME				
Grants, donations legacies	1,000	73,498.67	74,498.67	750.00
Charitable activities	333.53	0.00	333.53	210.00
Investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,333.53	73,498.67	74,832.20	935.00
EXPENDITURE				
Charity activities	733.53	48,690.45	49,423.98	985.00
Staff salary	600.00	21,577.76	22,177.76	00.0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,333.53	70,268.21	71,601.74	
2016 forwarded balance	-25.00	0.00	0.00	-25
BALANCE ON 31st March 2018	0.00	3,205.46	3,205.46	
Debt	1,250.00			
Reserves (From H.L.F. Last Grant to be transferred)	0.00	6,740.00	6,740.00	

Income from Grants and donations

N	SOURCE	NAME OF THE GRANTS	AMOUNT (£)
1	<i>Heritage Lottery Fund</i>	Congo Boys & Congo Institute: Re-visitation	60,660.00
2	<i>Cape Partnership</i>	DRC Congo Remotanda Project	9,174.29
3	<i>Donation & Fundraising</i>	Cash Flow/Unrestricted Fund	333.53
4	<i>MediacomX Ltd</i>	Coordinator Salary Contribution	1,000
5	<i>Nancy & Papy Niango</i>	DRC Radio/TV projects Equipments and items + Coordinator Salary contribution	3,664.38
TOTAL INCOME			74,832.20

Approved by the trustees
Natalia Ufert,
Treasurer

NOTES FOR THE 2017 ANNUAL REVIEW AND ACCOUNT

- Our main income for this year came from HLF grant. As it is a trans-regional partnership project, when the money came in our account, we straight met with the project board and transferred the different project activities to the mandated partner organisations. The coordinator must then work with them for the delivering of the activities and make sure that the receipts and the justifications made and provided on time recorded in our budget system.

- The Coordinator salary agreed for the HLF project was £17 x 25hrs per week for the total of £1,700.00 per month. But, as we required the coordinator to work for 32 hours so that he could spend those added times for raising money for the organisation's other activities and also as we agreed to use the coordinator salary payment via the Cash-Online (www.cash-online.org.uk) services, a special organisation with an expertise of dealing with small charities payment, we raised extra-money to cover the Coordinator salary, cash-online services fees & the Employee & Employer NIC
- We still have a debt to be paid to our Newport office (John Evans Transport Services Limited) where we do have most of our equipments and items; this money will be raised when we will organised our community unrestricted fundraising events during the HLF project exhibition in Wales this year.
- As we started increase our income and expenditure, it is also important for our organisation to submit a special capacity building application or to raise money to cover our charity account audit services for the next year.
- It is important to recruit new volunteers and to extend our activities, especially in Bristol, where are living most of our members and beneficiaries and to continue London based activities and projects, taking the now opportunity we do have to network and to learn from Migrants Organise (www.migrantsorganise.org) model, to cover and to deliver projects and activities for the West of Britain refugee dispersal area covered South Wales and South-West England.
- New partnerships need to be tired for the next year and special international grants applications need to be submitted for our Congo-DRC partners, as the needs are increasing.



HOW TO GET INVOLVE?

- Be part of SoPPro movement of change and new MARS activities and projects ideas
- Invite SoPPro to share its experiences, stories and to any conference or workshop or training you are organising
- To raise money and make donation to SoPPro for its activities and projects
- To link with SoPPro for any project and activity idea.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- To our funders and partners, especially the HLF, Cape Partnership, Nancy Odia & Papy Niango (DRC) and the CMRB for their supports.
- To individual people and volunteers who delivered activities with us,
- Local authorities and to partners organisations for their supports.

OUR MOTTO

"When you first settle into a new village, it is a big mistake to start your dance with the left leg when the inhabitants themselves start their dance with the right leg. If you are a good dancer, you need to join in their way of starting to dance with the right leg. Later, you can teach them your new way to start dancing with the left leg. The village will then become rich with the two ways of dancing" (A CONGOLESE PROVERB).

LONDON OFFICE

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