

# Kujitegemea

*March 2024*

Hard to pronounce and harder to accomplish! Kujitegemea is the Swahili word which conveys the idea of independence. With each Global Ministry Partner we support, our long-term goal is to help them develop independence. Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is one nation where this is particularly difficult. DRC is a nation with mineral and agricultural resources but due to a long history of political upheaval, exploitation, economic collapse, corruption and many other factors, the vast majority of people live well below the poverty level. A young adult completing secondary school (high school) or even graduating from university will find opportunities for employment almost non-existent. Thus, income producing activities in most cases must be created and developed.



Bill and Renee enjoy a ride in a Bajaj provided by Motoskate.

Nik, who went on the first National Community Church (NCC) mission team to Congo for Christ (CCC) has developed a creative way to help provide jobs for individuals and income for CCC. Motoskate

Foundation has purchased Bodaboda motorbikes that are used as one person taxis, and larger multi-person Bajaj cycles. The income from these bikes is helping to provide food, medical care, and education for some of the children at CCC. In addition to the income for CCC, the jobs created enable the drivers to support their families and send their children to school. CCC has also saved enough from the earnings of the bikes, to purchase an additional Bajaj to add to the taxi fleet.



This used lorry is being imported from Japan for CCC.

Thanks to the generosity of a Global Outreach donor, CCC is in the process of purchasing a lorry (truck) that will be used to provide a hauling service. They are expecting to be able to make about \$1,000 profit per month to put toward the monthly expenses of running CCC. Currently Global Outreach sends a minimum of \$10,000 monthly to meet the ongoing expenses. Of this amount, \$2,500 is for the community feeding program which feeds an average of 2,000 children each week. This new enterprise is a great step towards kujitegemea for CCC!

On the following page we share some other stories and examples of progress in DR Congo.

## Kujitegemea in Action!



The new road leading to Congo for Christ is now complete. This was a massive project funded by Sterling Church of Christ in Washington. This new road will open other opportunities for CCC to earn income, such as by renting out the chapel for weddings and other events. The new lorry and Bajaj fleet can be safely parked at CCC.



Six CCC students graduated from university in February. What an amazing accomplishment for these young adults who entered CCC about 12 years ago as very poor, vulnerable children. To God be the glory! Please pray for them as they transition into their adult lives and seek employment.



New Bodaboda taxi for CCC.

An example of the impact of Motoskate can be seen in the life of one of their drivers, Asende Espoir. He was one of several children living with a single mother who had no reliable means of supporting her family. His mother took on the arduous work of carrying water and sand for other people just to provide for her family's most basic needs. Unemployed and living at home, Espoir was hired to be a driver for the Motoskate Bajaj fleet. He was filled with joy when given this opportunity, which in turn led to him giving his life to Christ. Espoir is now an active member of the Congo for Christ Missionary Church choir and a very good singer. He is dedicated to God's work. Now he is taking care of his mother and siblings and meeting other family expenses.

Asende Espoir's experience is typical or rather similar to some of the other drivers. They work very hard and are very thankful for their employment. **It's not just any taxi job. They know that the profit from their enterprise goes to support Congo for Christ and Mango Tree School.** It helps with the cost of food for the children and has even created scholarships for 10 children to attend Mango Tree School this year. God bless Motoskate for bringing hope to the many hopeless people in the community.



Global Outreach has recently funded the purchase of two Bajaj trucks which entered service in February in Fizi, DRC. The income from these small trucks which will haul various loads and supplies, will supplement the Fizi Children's Home and Fizi Primary School. The children's home and school struggle every month to provide the most basic needs of the children they serve. Pastor Fred told us due to the very poor condition of the roads in Fizi there are no hauling services. We are expecting a good return on this investment. Pastor Fred is so thankful for this opportunity to earn some income and supply a much-needed service in Fizi. We are currently exploring other opportunities in the Fizi area to support the local churches, orphanage, single mothers, and Christian school.

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