

GRAFA PROJECT - Cultural Exchange between the International School of Geneva, La Chataigneraie Campus and the Padre Vittorio Agostino (PVA) secondary school, N'sioni, the Democratic Republic of Congo

Table of Contents

[Project leaders:](#)

1. [Aim of the project](#)

2. [Description of the project](#)

[The project will be:](#)

[Creative:](#)

[Innovative and Generative:](#)

[Budget estimated summary \(CHF\)](#)

[Appendix](#)

[Thank you for considering our project](#)

Project leaders:

- ❖ Y12 & 13 IB Business management students



- ❖ Jil Robinson jil.robinson@ecolint.ch, Business Management & Geography teacher, Humanities Department, Secondary unit, La Chataigneraie campus
- ❖ Denise Foston denise.foston@ecolint.ch, Biology & Science teacher, Science Department, Secondary unit, La Chataigneraie campus
- ❖ Jean-Paul Kuelo jean-paul.kuelo@ecolint.ch, Science Technician, Science Department, Secondary unit, La Chataigneraie campus

Project location: Geneva - La Chat Secondary

Project duration: Initially an 8-day exchange in December 2018 and long term an online tutoring platform

Target population: Internal and external stakeholders

1. Aim of the project

Cultural Exchange project between **La Chat Business Management students** and five 17-year-old **students** from the **Padre Vittorio Agostino (PVA)** secondary school **N'sioni**, the **Democratic Republic of Congo** starting in December 2018 for one week. The students will be accompanied by one of their teachers.

December is the Business Management student's idea as they think it best to bring the students in the winter as they have never experienced snow. It is also the most opportune time before our Year 13 students become too busy preparing for their final IB exams. We envisage the exchange to take place from **December 2nd to 9th** inclusive.

- **Stage one: *Students vision is to sow the seeds and to set up a cultural exchange between our two schools.***
- Our students have been inspired by JP who recently shared the work of the GRAFA project founded by his father in 1999 with our students. They feel a real connection to the students in **N'sioni** and this is a project where the students can see the benefits of their actions in real time. This is more than a humanitarian project where students fundraise and donate money. This will be a real cultural exchange with life changing results for all stakeholders.
- **Stage two: *This initial connection would be maintained long term via an online tutoring platform.***
- Our business management students would manage this platform and provide online tutoring in subjects they are passionate about. They will also encourage other EIG students, teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and alumni to offer their services to teach students online for one hour per week/month. This could also be extended on a global level to have an online teaching website.
- **Stage three: *In the long-term a group of La Chat students will crowdfund or convince a company to finance a scholarship for a University place for one or two of the PVA students.***
- **Stage four: *The student/s that gained a scholarship would go back to their village to use their skills or inspire others.***

2. Description of the project

The project will focus not only on the main principles of an International education at ECOLINT which is defined in our mission statement but also on the sustainable development goals.

The idea came about when the IB Y12 Business Management students [skyped](#) with a group of [students](#) from the **Padre Vittorio Agostino (PVA)** secondary school. Whilst conversing the students realised the vast cultural differences between the two groups but when the topic came around to soccer it was clear that both groups had something in common. The PVA students sent the La Chat students two homemade soccer balls and they are keen to have a game soon. The exchange had an immediate impact on our students and they clearly will benefit from pursuing their desire to make a difference not just in the immediate but in the long term. Please see the [attached student brainstorming doc](#) on how they think they will benefit and how they think the PVA students may benefit.



As a follow-up some of the Business Management students did a football shirt collection to donate to the school. The Matu students have also recently held a bake sale to raise funds. The year 11 students also made a very worthy donation along with many members of staff. We want to build on the student's enthusiasm for this purposeful long term interactive project.



The project will be:

Creative:

- Prior to their arrival a PVA student will have a La Chat buddy.
- Students will organise a cultural evening (dance and music) for parents, students and staff. National dress will be worn, and food will be International. We will request NOVAE to have an African food week.
- Students will collect winter clothing for the PVA students to wear (given that it will be winter).
- PVA students will wear LA Chat sweatshirts when travelling. (A logo for the sweatshirt could be designed that incorporates both cultures or school logos) The Art Department could be involved. (advertising)
- Students will do a book collection and a 'shoe-box' collection for the PVA students to bring home with them.
- An online photographic journal/blog - linked to a website.
- Shared assembly in the Aula hall.

Innovative and Generative:

- First exchange from the DRC - PVA students shadow La Chat students in lessons.
- A film will be produced - our film students could be involved in this. RTS have already been contacted and have shown an interest in the project.
- Activities organised for the students by the students.
- Meet the ambassador of the DRC at his residence. JP already has contact with the ambassador.
- Organise a tour of the UN.
- The accompanying PVA teacher can shadow La Chat teachers for PD and can take ideas back to their school to share. La Chat teachers can also learn from the PVA teacher and students.
- Long term crowd funding to further a student to go to University.
- Possibility of a teacher travelling to teach during their vacation in PVA (if safety allows this to happen).
- There will be a workshop prior to the visit - Setting up an NGO.

Budget estimated summary (CHF)

Description	CHF Estimation	Quantity	CHF
Cost of return flights from DRC Kinshasa, N'Djili International airport to Geneva December	1000	6	6000
Transport fees - to the airport and travel for passports and visas	500		500
Cost of visa to travel to Geneva	150	6	900
Cost of passports	350	6	2100
Pocket money for the 5 students & principal	100	6	600
Money for cafeteria food	50	6	300
Daily and weekend transport costs	50	6	300
Health insurance	300 (estimate)	6	1800
Permission form - guarantee - from the school			No cost
Permission from parents of students involved from both schools			No cost
JP will host the principal Mme MBIZI MABIALA Marie Sabine			No cost
Students will host students			No cost
Long term costs - web platform to be determined - hosting, maintenance - probably donation			To be determined
Scholarship for one student for university one time or bi-annually			To be determined
Estimated Total budget			12500

Appendix

1. Student input - brainstorming link to how they think they would benefit from this project and how they think the students from the PVA will benefit
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HOPCgnEbCMmt94MjuqHYNDYczoEwN2E-mgcS4hkscSw/edit?usp=sharing>
2. Link A to [skyping](#) between our two schools.
Link B to [skyping](#) between our two schools.
3. Exposé on the school from JP's visit
<https://thelachatupdate.com/2018/01/29/the-man-behind-the-lab-coat/>

4.

External stakeholders

NB: There are two registered alumni who have addresses in the DRC and these will be contacted:

- Freddy Bomele (La Chât 81): boikimex@hotmail.com
- Spyros Demetrious (LGB '92): spyros_demetriou@yahoo.com.

5. JP has contact with the embassy






<http://www.geneve-int.ch/democratic-republic-congo-permanent-mission-un-0>

6. [Contacts to be used to help promote our project](#)

- World radio Switzerland (we have alumni contacts), [WRS](#)
- La Cote newspaper, etc. (to check out)
- [Le News](#) website - co-owned by La Chat parent journalist Edouard Giraud
- John Deighan possibly to host a journalist to interview students from La Chat and Padre Vittorio Agostino.

7. Estimated flight costs


Saturday Dec 1st - this is the best one as the others have travelling times up to 20 hours with long stopovers in Brussels.

Flight	Departure	Arrival	Duration	Economy Medium Flex	Economy High Flex	Economy Max Flex
 SN0352	22:05 Kinshasa (FIH)	07:40+1 Brussels Airport (BRU)	9h 35m 1 Stop(s) Time in BRU 1h 0m			
 SN2713	08:40+1 Brussels Airport (BRU)	09:55+1 Geneva International Airport (GVA)	1h 15m Total 11h 50m	USD 476.05	USD 1,148.05	USD 1,548.05

Return flight Sunday 9th December - this is the best otherwise it's an overnight layover with extra costs.

Flight	Departure	Arrival	Duration	Economy Medium Flex	Economy High Flex	Economy Max Flex
 SN2726	07:05 Geneva International Airport (GVA)	08:20 Brussels Airport (BRU)	1h 15m Time in BRU 2h 20m	USD 421.50	USD 1,093.50	USD 1,493.50
 SN0359	10:40 Brussels Airport (BRU)	21:25 Kinshasa (FIH)	10h 45m 1 Stop(s) Total 14h 20m			

Total estimated minimum cost for flights

Your selection


Flight: Kinshasa, N'djili Airport (FIH) - Brussels Airport (BRU) - Geneva International Airport (GVA),
Geneva International Airport (GVA) - Brussels Airport (BRU) - Kinshasa, N'djili Airport (FIH)

Total USD 5,385.30

Thank you for considering our project

Dear Dr. Hawley and the Staff Grant Team

Thank you for taking the time to read our proposal to participate in the staff grant and for your kind consideration.




Y12 & 13 IB Business management students
 The Padre Vittorio Agostino (PVA) Secondary school community in N'sioni, the Democratic Republic of Congo
 Jil Robinson jil.robinson@ecolint.ch, Business Management & Geography teacher, Humanities Department, Secondary unit, La Chataigneraie campus
 Denise Foston denise.foston@ecolint.ch, Biology & Science teacher, Science Department, Secondary unit, La Chataigneraie campus
 Jean-Paul Kuelo jean-paul.kuelo@ecolint.ch, Science Technician, Science