



2004

**ANNUAL REPORT
BERNARD VAN LEER FOUNDATION**

About the Bernard van Leer Foundation

Based in the Netherlands, the Bernard van Leer Foundation actively engages in supporting early childhood development activities in over 40 countries. The Foundation was established in 1949. Our income is derived from the bequest of Bernard van Leer, a Dutch industrialist and philanthropist, who lived from 1883 to 1958. Our mission is to improve opportunities for vulnerable children younger than 8 years old, growing up in socially and economically difficult circumstances. The objective is to enable young children to develop their innate potential to the full. Early childhood development is crucial to creating opportunities for children and to shaping the prospects of society as a whole. We fulfil our mission through two interdependent strategies:

- making grants and supporting programmes for culturally and contextually appropriate approaches to early childhood development;
- sharing knowledge and expertise in early childhood development, with the aim of informing and influencing policy and practice.

The Foundation currently supports about 140 major projects for young children in both developing and industrialised countries. Projects are implemented by local actors, which may be public, private or community-based organisations. Documenting, learning and communicating are integral to all that we do. We are committed to systematically sharing the rich variety of knowledge, know-how and lessons learned that emerge from the projects and networks we support. We facilitate and create a variety of products for different audiences about work in the field of early childhood development.



Bernard van Leer named the greatest Dutch philanthropist of all time

FM Weekly, a professional journal on philanthropic and civil society organisations in the Netherlands, named Bernard van Leer the greatest philanthropist in Dutch history. The editorial board of the journal studied a wide range of Dutch private funders who donated a substantial portion of their wealth to society since as far back as the eighteenth century.

The panel defined the criterion for identifying 'the most prominent philanthropist' as an individual whose contribution not only had a lasting impact on the common good in a manner that was distinctive in his or her time, but was also timeless, exemplary and innovative in its impact. Another criterion was that the donation be made openly and transparently.

Bernard van Leer
Foundation
Annual Report
2004

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Citation

Bernard van Leer Foundation. 2005. Annual Report 2004. The Hague, The Netherlands: Bernard van Leer Foundation

ISBN 90-6195-087-2

Writers: Andrew Wright; Michelle Luijben-Marks

Copy editing: Green Ink Publishing Services (UK); Red D Publishing Services (NL)

Spanish translation: Teresa Moreno

Design: Homemade Cookies (cookies.nl)

Carrying on the legacy

Foreword by the Chair of the Board of Trustees

Carrying on the legacy

Foreword by the Chair of the Board of Trustees

Bernard van Leer was chosen this year as the greatest philanthropist in Dutch history by *FM Weekly*, a professional journal on philanthropic and civil society organisations in the Netherlands. The journal's editorial board studied a wide range of Dutch private funders who donated a substantial part of their wealth to society from as far back as the eighteenth century.

How would Bernard van Leer himself have felt about this distinction? Van Leer lived in an age when lists hadn't yet come into fashion. Certainly the media was less ubiquitous than it now is. Maybe during Van Leer's lifetime a gentleman could do his good works in private, without fanfare. That makes it all the more intriguing for us today to consider what really is the message of Van Leer's legacy for us. It's all too easy to make the mistake of interpreting bygone days through the lens of contemporary values and perspectives.

In actuality, Bernard van Leer lived in a time period when non-governmental organisations were only just beginning to emerge, when corporations did not yet reckon the 'sustainability report' to be an integral part of their annual reports and when external communications were less concerned with corporate image. In those days there was the market and there was government, with little else in-between.

Fortune brought Van Leer into intensive contact with commercial partners in the USA. There, in the half-decade prior to 1945, he saw how individual Americans through philanthropy began to fill the gap between market and government.

We will never know what Bernard van Leer's personal view would have been of the rise of the European welfare state or what opinion he would have held on the emergence of the mighty NGOs.

We can be certain, however, that in establishing the Bernard van Leer Foundation he took an extraordinary step for someone of his generation. In fact, that step was even more unusual than it would be today.

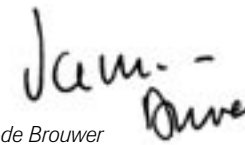
In Van Leer's days, disinheriting your children was unheard of in the Netherlands. In fact, doing so required him to move his company's holding to Switzerland, since Swiss law allowed him to establish the foundation that would be part of his legacy. From this we can conclude that Van Leer was quite serious in his intention. He took a decision and was determined to carry it out. When Dutch law changed a number of years later, he set the legal wheel into motion again, this time to bring his company's holding back to the Netherlands.

We could have no better indication that he knew exactly what he wanted and was willing to invest a lot to see it happen. This perseverance was a characteristic of Van Leer the businessman as well – you have a vision, you see the potentials, and you create a new reality.

Van Leer did reveal indirectly his comprehension that a corporation's reputation is a main factor in determining its value; and that a good reputation is built not only by delivering good products and quality services, but also by other corporate expressions. He also appreciated the pride that his employees felt when they saw the good causes to which corporate profits were being applied and the meticulousness with which he had made the arrangements for 'his' Foundation. Moreover, he realised that employees imbued with pride and inspiration would feel more emotionally involved with the company and therefore perform better at work. On this point too he was ahead of his times.

From our modern perspective, we've come to understand the importance of 'trust' in a corporate entity. Today, with more and more eyes looking on, organisations are continuously judged on the norms and values that they appear to hold. Reputation has a great deal of influence even on share prices, as research has shown. Reputation, in fact, has just as much or even more influence than hard figures on profits and losses.

Certainly trust and reputation are always linked. As Van Leer showed, reputation can be built by good works, perseverance and meticulousness. It is that legacy that we strive to live up to at the Bernard van Leer Foundation.



Trude Maas-de Brouwer
Chair, Board of Trustees

Young children's needs in
the international spotlight
in 2004 and beyond

The report of the Executive Director

The report of the Executive Director

In 2004 the activities of the Bernard van Leer Foundation continued to evolve reflecting the stresses facing our world today. International initiatives to provide a basic education for each and every child, strategies to protect child rights as enumerated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, provision of social services and care to children affected by HIV/AIDS, and pedagogic support for those working to raise awareness and appreciation of diversity are just a few of the themes that featured both in project grants and in our activities to inform and influence policy and practice.

By now there is ample scientific evidence showing how vital the earliest years of childhood are in human development: physical, cognitive and emotional. Yet early childhood remains precarious for far too many children living in socially and economically disadvantaged circumstances. Investments in programmes for these youngest members of society can return high dividends that accrue lifelong. Almost 40 years of providing project support, partnership with local implementing agencies, and gathering, analysing and sharing experiences and information on early childhood development have taught the Bernard van Leer Foundation that through concerted effort we can make a real difference in children's lives.

By supporting and facilitating initiatives of parents, teachers, governments and community organisations, the Bernard van Leer Foundation fortifies the efforts of actors – governmental and non-governmental, local and international – working to create safe and stimulating environments in which young children can grow, thrive and ultimately become healthy and productive citizens. Programmes that enable children to develop their capacities and potentials lay a strong foundation for future social and community development. Early childhood does indeed matter.

The Foundation's dual strategy

The Foundation upholds a dual strategy in working towards its goal of enhancing opportunities for young children. First, our grants programme funds culturally and contextually appropriate projects aimed to stimulate young children's development and well-being. Second, the Foundation delves into its own experiences and those of others. The idea here is to draw out, consolidate and convey knowledge and lessons to inform and influence policy and practice related to early childhood development.

Grantmaking in 2004

On a programmatic level, 139 organisations across the world were recipients of Bernard van Leer Foundation grants in 2004, amounting to EUR 17.1 million.

Many new grants were for projects to alleviate the devastating effects of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on children. Our emphasis on AIDS-related programming acknowledges the unique threat that AIDS poses to children, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa. According to UNAIDS, the joint United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS, by 2010 the disease is likely to rob more than 20 million children of one or both of their parents.

To support young children affected by HIV/AIDS, the Foundation continues to find new partners that take a community-based approach. This generally means community members monitoring that children are eating well and able to attend school or services; helping caregivers or children who are ill; cooking, cleaning, cultivating and solving household problems that impact children; and providing information and referrals where needed. This annual report presents an in-depth feature on some of our HIV/AIDS-related programming (pages 25-33).

In the industrialised West, where the multi-cultural and multi-racial nature of modern societies continues to be at the forefront of public debate, respect for diversity is shaping into a major new area of Foundation initiatives. In the USA, a Foundation-supported research project painted a picture of how young American children experience diversity. This was followed up with a project grant in the Delta region of Mississippi to study the socialisation of young children in difficult situations, where poverty, racism and exclusion are deeply entrenched and inter-generational.

Results and experiences from these and other projects on culture and socialisation, including work in Latin America, point to areas of tension between what can be considered 'cultural rights' versus children's rights. By investigating indigenous knowledge, attitudes and practices towards young children, Foundation-supported projects are providing knowledge to inform choices on how the rights of young children can be assured.

The examples in the overview of the Foundation's grantmaking in 2004 in this report (see pages 37-49) illustrate the kinds of outcomes that are taking place within the early childhood programmes

supported by the Bernard van Leer Foundation. In most cases, the Foundation is only part of the picture, as our support complements activities and resources that are independent of us or which the Foundation helped to leverage. In many cases, these projects grow beyond the practical activities described, to contribute data and knowledge that influences policy and theory-building on early childhood development. As such, the Foundation's 'dual strategy' is perhaps better understood as a continuum than as two disparate areas of work.

Informing and influencing policy and practice

Regarding focused efforts to inform and influence policy and practice, 2004 saw renewed vigour breathed into our publications programme, which produces books, reports and periodicals in Spanish and English on a wide range of child development issues. Our flagship publication *Early Childhood Matters* was re-conceptualised, becoming a more forward-oriented contribution to the literature. With its 14,000-strong readership, this twice-annual publication continues to create, consolidate and share understanding of issues vital to the development and well-being of children aged 0 to 8 (see also pages 75-80 or visit our website for a full publications list).

HIV/AIDS and young children

At the International AIDS Conference held in Bangkok in July 2004, the Foundation underlined why it is so important to focus on young children affected by HIV/AIDS (see also our theme essay on pages 25-33). In its contribution to this conference, the Foundation emphasised two areas: identifying and sharing the best ways to support families with

young children affected by HIV/AIDS, and fleshing out the concept of psychosocial support rounded in our knowledge of child development. Also, as chair of the European Foundation HIV/AIDS Funders Group, the Foundation presented a report on the scope and potential of European philanthropy in the area of HIV/AIDS.

In the six months between the Bangkok conference and the end of 2004, the Foundation followed up on these contributions, designing an 18-month series of four workshops on psychosocial support that will bring together experts and practitioners from child-focused organisations, as well as a systematic approach to improving the promotion of children's issues at the next International AIDS Conference, in Toronto in 2006. This latter effort was originally designed collaboratively with the Firelight Foundation and the International AIDS Alliance, and hopes to build a wide coalition of child-focused organisations.

Children's rights

The Foundation was pleased to take part in a special public meeting organised by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in September 2004. This 'day of discussion' focused the attention of governments, civil society representatives, individual experts, United Nations bodies and others on how child rights can and should be implemented in early childhood. The Committee on the Rights of the Child is the body of independent experts that monitors adherence to the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its State parties. Although this Convention has been ratified by more countries than any other United Nations convention, the rights of young children are still often seriously violated – particularly the right to life of young girls, the right to stable

relationships with parents and the right to care before and after birth.

Though the ideals of the Convention apply equally to all children (defined in the Convention as youths 0 to 18 years of age), there has been a lack of understanding on the rights issues particular to the very youngest age groups. For one thing, young children's rights are necessarily mediated by parents and caregivers, governments and community agencies.

Recognising the dearth of knowledge on how the Convention applies specifically to young children and following from the meeting, the Bernard van Leer Foundation took on a special role in 2004 as technical coordinator of an international task force looking into legal issues – the 'jurisprudence' if you will – surrounding young children's rights as set out in the Convention. This effort is expected to yield a 'general comment', which is a document elucidating the substance of Convention provisions, in this case, as they affect young children.

The value of the document will lie in its providing clear guidance to governments about what they should be doing for children in line with the Convention. It will also be useful for non-governmental organisations establishing platforms from which to advocate for young children's rights, as it will communicate key issues to focus on and levers to work, either in support of government policies and practices or in efforts towards improvements.

Education for all

On the stage of international policy on children's rights and early childhood development, UNESCO's Education for All (EFA) programme continues to be the foremost initiative to provide basic education to

Programmes that enable children to develop their capacities and potentials lay a strong foundation for future social and community development.

Early childhood does indeed matter

every child. The programme gained renewed impetus this year with its integration into the Millennium Development Goals and, in sync with the Millennium Goals, its renewed goalpost of provision of education for all by 2015.

Importantly for our work at the Bernard van Leer Foundation, the first of the EFA's six goals is "expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children". Early childhood care and education thus formulated might seem broad and difficult to quantify. This is also attested to by the diverse forms of daycare and preschool seen in cultures around the world, ranging from formal institutions to childcare in the shade of a mango tree. Nonetheless, this first EFA goal articulates a compelling statement of the international priority now being accorded to early childhood care and development.

We were gratified to learn this year that thanks to the work of various actors on the early childhood development stage, including our Foundation,

early childhood development will be the focus of an upcoming edition of the UNESCO EFA *Monitoring Report*, a widely read and influential annual publication on an aspect of the EFA programme. The report focusing on early childhood will appear in November 2006, setting the scene for a wide range of events in the following year, such as national and regional conferences and meetings related to early childhood care and development. In the two years leading up to the report's release we expect to see a major push by governments to align their progress, in terms of early childhood development indicators and programmes, with the goals of the EFA strategy.

This offers a unique opportunity to all those interested in early childhood development, in essence, a 'Year on Early Childhood'. This opportunity brings responsibilities as well. One is for us to plan wisely, to get our projects and publications prepared to capitalise on the extra impetus that will be given to developmental issues facing young children in that year. The Foundation is already taking up this baton, for example, with our flagship publication

Young children's needs in the international spotlight in 2004 and beyond: The report of the Executive Director

Early Childhood Matters. Presenting a sampling of theory and practice on aspects of early childhood development, our two 2004 issues focused on 'critical thinking' and 'child participation'. Further, our newly reorganised publications department will continue to hone our outreach in the form of both electronic and paper publications, bringing new developments on early childhood to both those involved in research in academia and those working in the field. Our second responsibility with regard to the EFA *Monitoring Report* is to gear up to contribute to the report itself, in the form of theoretical articles and/or statistics and commentaries.

All of this is an opportunity to better establish the role of early childhood within the EFA programme as a whole. In particular, we need to make a strong case on the benefits of preschool experiences for primary school outcomes – which is what EFA is all about: kids staying on through at least six years of primary education and learning enough to either continue on to the next level or to at least deal more effectively with their life situation.

The Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development

The continuing evolution of the Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development is also worth mentioning. This group is an overarching collective of people and organisations working to set a wide-ranging international agenda on early childhood care and development. The group, in which the Bernard van Leer Foundation is an active participant, identifies gaps, issues and emerging areas of need and interest related to early childhood care and development. We expect its efforts in awareness-raising, advocacy and seeking out new partners to gain in both momentum and impact in the coming year.

Our children are our future

Our children are our future. We at the Bernard van Leer Foundation hope that our efforts on behalf of children do justice to the promise and potential within every young life, regardless of social or economic milieu. Our aim is to help provide light to enable young children to shine. With the conviction that our work together with that of others can and does make a difference, I am pleased to present this 2004 Annual Report.



Peter Laugham
Executive Director











12 million orphans

Reaching out to
the hidden victims
of the African AIDS
pandemic

12 million orphans

Reaching out to the hidden victims of the African AIDS pandemic

Six-year-old Irine likes writing and singing, excels at maths and enjoys her social studies classes. She's known to her schoolmates as "doctor" after her favourite role in drama sessions at her daycare centre in Lunjre, western Kenya. When she returns home in the afternoons, she enthusiastically tells her grandmother about the lessons she's learned and the games she's played.

It ought to be a mundane and unremarkable story, but an enthusiastic Irine is a sight Granny Josephine would never have expected to see two years ago. That was when she first learned about the Lunjre daycare centre at a community awareness forum hosted by the Christian Children's Fund (CCF). "Irine grew up as a dull, sad child," she tells Rose Waringa of the CCF. "Now, as you see, she's strong and courageous, very jovial and always talking. She brings us hope and happiness."

Hope and happiness had been in short supply in Granny Josephine's house. Her husband is paralysed. Of her five children, only Irine's father is still alive, and he is sick. Over the years, Granny Josephine has been left responsible for raising 12 of her grandchildren, the youngest of whom, Celine, is now aged only 18 months. Having no help with the family's plot of land, she struggles to produce enough food. Without the balanced lunch Irine receives at the daycare centre, she would be vulnerable to malnutrition.

This is a situation repeated across Africa, the continent which has borne the brunt of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. The UN estimates that over 12 million sub-Saharan African children have been left without parents by HIV/AIDS. While debates about condoms and anti-retrovirals understandably dominate the headlines, the Bernard van Leer Foundation aims to keep the spotlight on the effects of the pandemic on orphaned and vulnerable children by bringing together

a group of international and national child-related organisations to lobby for a place for young children on the agenda of the XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto in April 2006.

The first of four Bernard van Leer Foundation workshops to prepare for Toronto was held in Johannesburg in December 2004, with two more in 2005 and the fourth scheduled for April 2006. The workshops promote an understanding of the place of psychosocial support in programming and forge links between conference organisers and the early childhood community to keep children high on the Toronto agenda. They are part of a spectrum of responses by the Foundation which go well beyond grantmaking to individual partners. In cooperation with the Regional Psychosocial Support Initiative (REPSSI), we have arranged for training of partners in sensitising caregivers to the importance of young children's psychosocial well-being. In early 2005, we also published a series of three working papers on HIV/AIDS.

Grantmaking to local partner organisations remains, of course, at the heart of our approach. CCF uses a "jirani" or neighbourhood group model, with trainers helping caregivers like Granny Josephine to form groups of 20–25 for mutual support. Across the border in Uganda, another Foundation partner, Action for Children, does similar work but with an even more explicit focus on assisting the older generation. The

The Foundation's HIV/AIDS Initiative

The Bernard van Leer Foundation adopted HIV/AIDS as an Initiative in its 2002 five-year strategic plan because we believed that the impact of the pandemic on young children was insufficiently recognised by the development community. The consequences of malnutrition and the loss of interpersonal contact and environmental stimulation in the early years can be profound and long-lasting, with orphans especially vulnerable.

The Foundation's Initiative is intended to serve as a bridge between the early childhood development community and the HIV/AIDS community – our aim is not only to fund projects which will improve young children's developmental opportunities in areas impacted by HIV and AIDS, but also to develop, document and share models of best practice and to improve advocacy and communication strategies about young children and HIV/AIDS.

As such, our efforts fit squarely within the five key strategies of *The Framework for the Protection, Care and Support of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Living in a World with HIV and AIDS*, issued by a broad spectrum of organisations in July 2004 – strengthening the capacity of families, mobilising communities, ensuring access to essential services, improving government policies and legislation, and using advocacy to create a supportive environment.

"Grandparents as Caregivers" project grew out of a study in Kyanja community in the Kampala district, which found that 80% of orphans were being looked after by their grandparents.

Action for Children trains grandparents and helps them to form "action support groups" which meet weekly to discuss their problems. Many of these groups have also started to cultivate their fields and work on income-generating projects together. As AFC's Lydia Nyesigomwe explains, it is not an easy task: "Many of the grannies are old and frail, and some are blind or deaf. They can easily lose their memories, so we have to make sure trainings are

repeated frequently." But the changes in children reached by the project are visible: they go from being "dull-faced to joyful, happy and responsive," Lydia says.

Restoring hope to the grandparents is a critical first step in improving the lives of the children. When the AFC chairperson and community leaders in Kyanja village went to visit 72-year-old Lazia Nalubege for the first time, she threw stones to chase them away. Though neighbours viewed her as a madwoman, the group persisted: on their second visit, she at first angrily accused them of coming to laugh at the graves of her four dead children, but finally broke down in tears and accepted their comfort.

The grandmother – Rehema’s story

With six of her seven children dead from HIV/AIDS, Rehema Mayega was left with nine orphans to take care of but without a source of income. They all lived in a one-roomed house, with no proper beddings or medical care, unsure of their next meal. The children were sickly, malnourished, neglected and isolated; they had never been to school and had no prospect of ever going there.

Rehema herself had lost all hope for life, and simply waited for her own death or her grandchildren’s. One day she contemplated suicide because “I did not want to see my grandchildren starve to death in my house.”

Workers from Action for Children’s “Grandparents as Caregivers” project visited Rehema regularly to give her counselling and training. They gave her household utensils, bedding and mosquito nets. The community contributed bricks and constructed a permanent house for her, with AFC buying the iron sheets for the roof.

All of Rehema’s nine young children are now enrolled in the early childhood development programme, where they receive nutritional support and medical care. Three of the nine are HIV-positive. The eldest child is attending universal primary education in a nearby school.

Now Rehema is the chairperson of her action support group. With the support of AFC, she has started to grow vegetables and bought turkeys and a cow, sources of both income and milk. Rehema has bought a plot of land in the nearby trading centre and hopes to construct a shop where she can sell her produce. She asks: “Singa Action teyejja nandibadewa?” (“If AFC had not come, were would I be?”).

Once they succeeded in gaining Lazia’s trust, they found she was living in a ramshackle one-room house with her two grandchildren, aged 5 and 6. The children had no clothes and slept in a hole in the ground without bedding, and the only utensils in the house were one old stool and a plate.

Now, Lazia lives in two-roomed house built by her neighbours and with utensils, bedding and a mosquito net provided by AFC. The children were initially enrolled in daycare centres which gave them medical care and adequate nutrition, and they now attend the local primary school. Lazia earns a small income by weaving and is a very active member of her action support group, attending all the weekly meetings.

“Action yazzijja mu Ddungu” (“Action got me from the wilderness”), as Lazia puts it; at the top of Lydia’s list of rewards from a job that is frequently traumatic is “seeing grandparents hopeful of the future and strengthened as caregivers, with a welcoming attitude and joy in their faces.”

In common with all the foundation’s partners, CCF and AFC take a holistic approach to early childhood development. This includes recognising the importance of educating and supporting caregivers, helping them to grow food and find ways to earn an income. It also involves awareness of the importance of psychosocial support, a concept which the Foundation is popularising through the REPSI trainings. The idea is that while nutrition and health care are central to the wellbeing of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS, so too are a sense of emotional security and the social space to express themselves and work through the trauma of bereavement.

Take for example the story of Francis “Franco” Onyango and his new foster parent, Willimina Agutu.

At 10 years of age, Franco is unusually old for children attending the Naviyu Early Childhood Day Centre, one of ten such community centres run by the Kenya Orphans Rural Development Project (KORDP) in the district of West Bukhayo. But that’s because he slipped through social safety nets at an earlier age. KORDP’s Kathleen Okatcha tells how Franco came to be involved with their project:

“Up till the age of 6,” she says, “Franco had a happy and relatively prosperous childhood in Nairobi, with both his parents gainfully employed – his father a driver, his mother selling vegetables. At 6, his mother died and his father took him to the village to live with his elderly grandmother. Franco decided he would stay at home rather than go to the local school so he could take proper care of the ailing old lady.

“When Franco was 8, his grandmother passed away and shortly afterwards his father was tragically murdered. Franco was left with an uncle and aunt, but they were often absent. Though he knew about our Early Childhood Day Centre, he attended only irregularly and frequently disappeared. He took to running wild and stealing food. Neither his aunt nor the village elders knew how to handle him.

“One day, Franco turned up bruised and upset at the centre and in front of the class he pleaded with the teacher, Alda Aboo, to find him somewhere new to live. He explained that his aunt had beaten him and he would rather fall into the pit latrine than ever go back there.

“With her own home already full of orphans, Alda decided to approach Willimina, a grandma who had volunteered her time to make the children’s lunchtime meals. Willimina is known to all as “Mama Jikoni”, after the Kiswahili word for kitchen. She agreed to take Franco on – with seven other abandoned children

The grandfather – Kato's story

In Uganda, it is normal for a grandmother to take care of orphans but rare and difficult for a grandfather. But when his wife died, and with six of his seven children lost to HIV/AIDS, Kato was left with three children he had to take care of, two of them younger than 8.

When Action for Children visited Kato, who is aged 83, they found him living in squalor, struggling to fetch water or firewood, and shy of human contact: he didn't want to see people, he explained, because it reminded him of the burial ceremonies of his children and his wife.

If you visit Kato's home today, he would confidently show you around. The house is clean and he has a backyard vegetable garden from which he earns a small income. The youngest two orphans are in the ECD centre, where they receive medical and nutritional support.

Kato is an enthusiastic member of the ECD committee and his action support group, through which he meets weekly with five other grandparents to discuss their well-being and their children. Though he is old and frail, he always crawls down to do some gardening and clean his compound.

Support group members and neighbours visit him regularly to help with chores and to cultivate his land with crops and vegetables, which they will share after harvest.

at her house, she said, one more would make no difference."

Within three months, Kathleen relates, Franco had undergone a remarkable transformation and become a happy, responsible and popular child: "Franco's younger adopted siblings at Mama Jikoni's look up to him, and he helps to look after the cow and take sorghum from the field to the granary. At the day centre he tries hard to catch up on the lessons he's missed, while the other children have voted him to help the teachers keep time and serve the lunchtime meals."

The key to Franco's transformation lies not in the day centre's provision of lessons and meals – these were available to him before – but in emotional security, specifically in finding someone he could confide in about the confusion of bereavement. This was exacerbated by the priest's words about his parents at his father's funeral: "They are not dead," the priest had said, "they are only asleep and time will come when they will rise again." Why, Franco wanted to know, were they taking so long?

When asked what she gives her children that can explain Franco's transformation, Willimina replies "love, and the assurance that I am there for them. Above all, a hug and a touch." When she serves food to the 112 children at the Naviyu Day Centre, she makes a point of holding each hand as it stretches out the plate for food. "They are seldom touched," she says. "Let me do it."

Projects like KORDP don't give people like Willimina their caring instincts, but they do give them an outlet. Similarly, as Lydia Nyesigomwe explains, the kind of "tremendous friendship" unleashed by the support groups in Kyanja will remain lying dormant without an organisation like AFC coming along to mobilise people

and put the necessary support systems in place.

In Zimbabwe, the "Community Fostering" project run by the Child Protection Society (CPS) places the aim of fostering community spirit at the centre of its work. The CPS has shifted from housing orphans in large institutions and formal adoptive families to a model of "community houses" in which groups of 6–8 children live with a volunteer "house parent." Not only does it benefit the orphans to be based in their own communities, it also makes it easier to mobilise networks of neighbours in their support.

Sometimes communities can be regenerated in surprising ways. One of the ways in which the Foundation has experimented with supporting children in Africa is through the Lewis Hine Documentary Initiative, which involves postgraduate students from Duke University documenting the work of our partners; actively involving children in documenting their communities is a part of the strategy. Sarah Leeper, a Hine Fellow at the Children's Rights Centre in Durban since 2004, has seen children respond with maturity and enthusiasm as their projects take on a life of their own. After attending a weekend workshop, a group of 12–18 year olds – many of whom have been left responsible for the care of their younger siblings – set out to document through photographs and interviews the problems caused by widespread unemployment in their community. But it didn't stop there, as Leeper relates:

"They came to one house where an unemployed mother lives with her six children," she says. "None of them are in school, and the oldest, who is 13, works with a neighbour selling fish. There was no food in the house – 'not even a pot to cook food', one of the children told me. Not only did the group resolve to

The trainer – Beatrice’s story

Thirty-four-year-old Beatrice Obare is the single parent of three children, having lost her husband two years ago. After training at the Kisumu District Centre for Early Childhood Education, she works with the Christian Children’s Fund in western Kenya as a carer and trainer.

Her day starts at 7.30 when she reports to the early childhood daycare centre in Lunjre. When the children arrive she leads them in learning – languages and mathematics – and in playing, outdoor games and singing or drama or drawing. The children have porridge in the morning and a nutritionally balanced lunch made by parent volunteers from local foods such as soya, sorghum, beans and fish.

“It really becomes difficult to train children,” Beatrice says, “since most of them come from poor backgrounds and their parents have difficulties in paying school fees. The epidemic of HIV/AIDS has left many children staying with grandparents who are unable to support them fully. Most are also not treated effectively for diseases such as measles and malaria, which is very common. Caregivers need training and counselling to help them understand children.”

The children rest after lunch and leave around 4 o’clock, and by 4.30 Beatrice closes the centre and returns home to attend to her own children and domestic chores. She gets to bed at 10, exhausted. “At times I find it very difficult to be the breadwinner as every burden is on me. But this career is good because I know I am helping people to take care of their children well.”

help the household to set up a garden, they used the photos they took as an awareness-raising tool and scheduled meetings to lobby the local social worker and school principal on the family’s behalf. The group’s leader is excited – ‘we’re learning so much’, she tells me.”

While side-effects like these are an added bonus, the main idea of the Hine Fellowships – as explained by co-coordinator Alex Harris – is to find ways to “see beyond the statistics to the individual lives affected” and generate material for use in advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns. An example is the photo exhibition “Children’s Visions and Voices: Rights and Realities in South Africa”, put together by Alex Fattal, who also works with the Children’s Rights Centre in Durban, which toured South Africa to critical acclaim in 2004 and is now being turned into a book.

The need for awareness-raising campaigns is apparent across the continent. Beatrice Obare is Irine’s teacher at the Lunjre daycare centre in Kenya; she has been working as a teacher for seven years and also trains parents and communities in caring for children. She sees every day the need for caregivers to have more training which will give them a better understanding of the needs of their children: “Some people in the community may have negative ideas,” she says, “and it takes time to convince them.”

Even when caregivers are trained and counselled, there remains the underlying problem of wide-scale poverty – and here the foundation’s partners are strictly limited in what they can achieve. Lydia Nyesigomwe finds it hard to explain to communities why AFC can help only some households when most are desperate. Land security is a major problem, with many of the Kyanja grandparents having only small plots or squatter status, limiting the amount of food they can produce. While the early childhood day centres “bring joy and happiness to the children,” she says, “their life after the centres is difficult.” Nonetheless, “Action for Children believes that as long as there is life, there will always be hope.”

It’s a sentiment that would be echoed by Beatrice Obare and CCF’s Rose Waringa, who have watched Irine develop unexpectedly into such a gifted and outgoing child. Irine herself says she hopes to become a doctor for real, “so I can treat my grandfather.” Then she looks around at Granny Josephine’s small kitchen and has another thought: “Or perhaps I will become a mason, so I can build us all a bigger place to eat together.” The triumph is that she has any ambition at all.

Supporting young children's needs

The Foundation's grantmaking in 2004

Supporting young children's needs

The Foundation's grantmaking in 2004

The Bernard van Leer Foundation supports early childhood development programmes in the form of grants to local partner organisations, who are a range of public, private and community-based agencies. They range from small, innovative organisations for whom we are the main source of funds, to large national actors for whom we are one donor among many.

To maximise our effectiveness we focus our resources on a limited number of early childhood concerns across the world. Around 30% of the Foundation's funds are currently allocated to programmes grouped into three themes: young children affected by HIV/AIDS, growing up in indigenous societies, and learning to respect diversity.

The projects that we fund have common elements: they take a holistic rather than sectoral approach to early childhood development; concentrate on building the capacity of caregivers, communities and institutions to support their children's development; seek to include children's perspectives within the design of programmes; and foster local ownership. They may also include elements of public education and advocacy on behalf of vulnerable children.

We aim to fund projects that will have a lasting and tangible effect on the lives of children around the world. And the benefits should go both ways; we invest in activities that will also add to the Foundation's knowledge and understanding, which is in turn shared with a wider audience. By contributing to our own publications and advocacy work, the projects we fund can ultimately have an influence that extends well beyond their local communities.

Grantmaking in 2004

In 2004, the Bernard van Leer Foundation made 139 grants in 45 countries – a total of

EUR 17.1 million – with most grants in the region of EUR 200,000–250,000. The majority of the money (70%) is spent in low-income countries, and funds are distributed relatively evenly in five regions worldwide: Africa (22%), Asia (23%), Europe (20%), Latin America (25%) and the USA/Caribbean (10%). The Foundation provides different kinds of grants depending on the stage of the project cycle: planning grants, new project grants and project extensions. Expenditure across these categories is 4%, 47% and 40% respectively. The remaining 9% is in the form of supplementary grants and one-time grants.

Based on the categories mentioned previously, the outcomes of projects and programmes generally follow a pattern according to what stage they are at. The phases most easily identified are:

1. conceptualisation/planning phase, which may include an assessment of needs, a feasibility study and local mobilisation (planning grant);
2. pilot phase, where implementation begins on a limited scale to test ideas (new project grant);
3. consolidation and/or expansion phase, which extends the coverage of the programme and addresses weak areas (project extension grant);
4. final phase, where objectives are achieved and Foundation funding phases out (project extension grant).

The Tsunami Support Fund

Together with millions of individuals around the world, the Bernard van Leer Foundation responded to the tsunami of 26 December 2004 by asking how best it might be able to help the millions who had lost homes, livelihoods and loved ones. The immediate response was a grant to an existing partner organisation, the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), to support relief work in the Andaman Islands, among the areas closest to the epicentre of the earthquake.

The Board of Trustees also allocated EUR 1 million in addition to the Foundation's regular annual budget to address issues of longer-term rehabilitation and development in tsunami-affected regions of South and South-East Asia. The Foundation has prioritised the following areas:

- support to parents directly affected by the disaster in their caregiving role;
- support to (para)professionals such as midwives, childcare staff and healthcare staff;
- creating safe and normal environments for young children, such as opportunities for play and social interaction.

The Tsunami Support Fund will make grants available to local organisations – some of them existing partners – in India, Indonesia and Thailand, the affected countries in which the Foundation already has strong local knowledge and links with local organisations.

Areas affected in India, Indonesia and Thailand are generally not ones which would previously have been regarded as most disadvantaged: fishing communities tended to have relatively stable livelihoods, while tourism brought cash to many areas not affected by conflict. It will take a long time for the devastated areas to regain the capacity to exploit the natural advantages of coastal proximity, but there is also a risk of other areas of affected countries being left to languish if aid efforts remain highly concentrated on coastal regions for too long.

Grants from the Foundation's Tsunami Support Fund will therefore generally take a long-term, country-wide view and seek to support activities which have the potential to replicate and expand their benefits. Funded projects will commonly centre around social and emotional support, seeking to ensure that the psychological needs of young children and their caregivers are not overlooked. A visit to the stricken area took place in early 2005 to explore the Foundation's strategy for disbursing the money.

Generally, the Foundation is seeking to coordinate its efforts with other Dutch and European foundations, through the Dutch Association of Foundations and the European Foundation Centre, and to place those efforts within the larger relief and rehabilitation frameworks being put together by national and international agencies.

Selected outcomes

Planning and piloting stages

In 2004, two planning grants were awarded to organisations in Brazil – the Instituto da Infância (IFAN) and the Centro Popular de Cultura e Desenvolvimento (CPCD), both of which promote children's participation as integral to their development¹. In Europe, a number of new grants were made to programmes that also work actively towards increasing children's participation and strengthening the quality of early childhood provisions, partly by ensuring that both children's perspectives and respect for diversity are built into prevailing notions of 'quality care'.

It is these sorts of Foundation-supported programmes – which place great emphasis on including children's perspectives in their work – that are very important in helping us study the best ways to put a child's development at the heart of new programmes. By building these lessons into our own policy strategies and sharing them with other organisations, we can learn to include children as integral stakeholders in any early childhood development programme.

In Poland, two first-stage grants were concluded in 2004. These projects built on experience from other parts of Europe, notably Germany, and aimed to boost the quality of children's early learning by developing teaching methods that are more child-friendly and less adult-centred, and then providing training on them. At this early stage, programme results take the form of process documentation, training materials and pedagogical material. Both Polish projects – "Where there are no preschools" and "A friendly kindergarten" – have moved on to major grants, where the new methods are being extended.

Extending and deepening impact

Following first grants, the next stage of a project is usually either one of dissemination – reproducing the results on a larger scale – or concentration, where the process is taken further to produce deeper insight and knowledge and, hopefully, greater impact. This duality can be thought of as either an improvement in quantity (coverage) or quality (depth). While most projects attempt to achieve both, it is usually necessary to find a balance.

For instance, in 2004 the Foundation extended its support for a programme run by the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India, which enhanced its coverage by expanding to cover more than 100 (formal) childcare centres serving around 5,000 children. At the same time, depth was improved through an ongoing effort to train teachers, supervisors, the spearhead team and the technical team – all of whom play a role in upgrading the programme. SEWA has developed material that these different groups can use, and staff as well as parents make toys and develop games that stimulate children's imagination and learning capacity.

On the other side of the world, we also provided further funding to the Caribbean Support Initiative (CSI). Study and planning for this programme started in 2001, and the CSI was approved by the Foundation's Board of Trustees in November that year. It is a five-year programme designed to support parents and raise challenging questions about some of the child-rearing practices and ideas in relation to perceived well-being of young children. Three years into the Initiative, the Roving Caregivers Program – a successful part of the CSI operating in Jamaica – has started replication on four other islands in the eastern Caribbean, following feasibility studies in each site.

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The Program has established a system that can place graduates from the University of West Indies into internships within Foundation-supported projects across the region and has also created mechanisms to facilitate networking between projects, including a process of peer review. Thanks to our financial support, the CSI now has a newsletter up and running, as well as a website and a brochure.

The Initiative has also produced strategic documents that aid programme development, such as a regional framework for parenting education and a study on child-rearing and socialisation approaches in the Caribbean. In addition, it has organised events on specific childcare topics and has taken part in regional events (co-)hosted by players such as national ministries, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Caribbean Development Bank and the Pan-American Health Association. To help spread its messages, the CSI has supported popular materials such as radio dramas; booklets or brochures; music CDs; videos about parenting, youth and sexuality; and a storytelling project. Currently, the main challenges

facing the CSI are to plan for a cost-benefit analysis of the Roving Care Program and a CSI-wide evaluation. The structure of the CSI is also going through review, and there are plans to form an international advisory group. The Foundation has created a Rapid Response Fund, administered by the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD), to make available small one-time grants that respond flexibly to unexpected opportunities or solving problems.

Another of the Foundation's long-term funding commitments that is also in a growth phase is a project with pastoral and nomadic children in Kenya, which we have supported together with the Christian Children's Fund (CCF) for the last seven years. It centres around *loipi*, or enclosures in the community, where children aged 0–4 years and carers – mainly grandmothers – gather to learn and play. Each *loipi* is unique in the way it is set up and in the activities it provides, but a number of elements are common to most if not all: games, storytelling, singing, local toy production, construction of play equipment, health monitoring, supplementary feeding and immunisation. Altogether, about 4,000 children are directly included

¹ See *Early Childhood Matters* 103 for more information on the CPCD project.

Grantmaking in 2004: Selected outcomes

in the *loipi*. In the same district there are broader activities that are also supported by agencies such as CCF. These cover hygiene and availability of clean water, and offer education to parents on health, hygiene, nutrition and household food security. These wider activities benefit 27,000 children and their families in Samburu district.

In Venezuela, “El Maestro en Casa”, implemented by the Fundación Apoyo a la Familia ya la Infancia (AFIN) together with the Ministry of Education, is now in its third phase. In its first phase, which began in 1998, the project developed and started to disseminate family support methodology, expanding its coverage from 750 families in 35 communities distributed throughout 11 states to 1,033 families or some 1,488 children. In that time it also developed a cooperative network of 40 organisations from both government and non-governmental sectors. This rate of expansion can be partly attributed to the project’s support for non-formal approaches to service provision for young children. This allowed the programme to bring eclectic and flexible solutions to diverse circumstances. During its second phase (2001–03), emphasis was put on documenting experience to date and consolidating the gains that had been made. Because the project covered such a broad range of experiences, it needed to develop an equally wide-ranging but also organised communication strategy to put across its messages.

El Maestro en Casa’s network currently covers 60 municipalities in the country. Despite political tensions, at least six states have shown consistent support for the programme. In the current phase, the project is stimulating networks of peers from programmes and services across the country in order to disseminate good practices related to child-raising,

the quality of child–adult interaction, the continuous process of documenting, monitoring and evaluating outcomes, and the significance of social networking. It is expected that these networks will reach 30,000 families (50,000 children) in 650 communities.

Final phase

As a project or organisation matures, it increasingly diversifies funding sources. In some cases, this means that the Foundation will support the development of a fundraising strategy or allow partners to use our name and funding as ‘collateral’ in negotiations with others.

The relative success that partners may have in sustaining a programme depends greatly on the kinds of alliances they have built over time. It is important that their institutional track records in terms of credibility, effectiveness, competitive edge, skills, knowledge and vision are known for them to be useful in fundraising. This is where monitoring, evaluation, documentation, communication, advocacy and other related activities become so important.

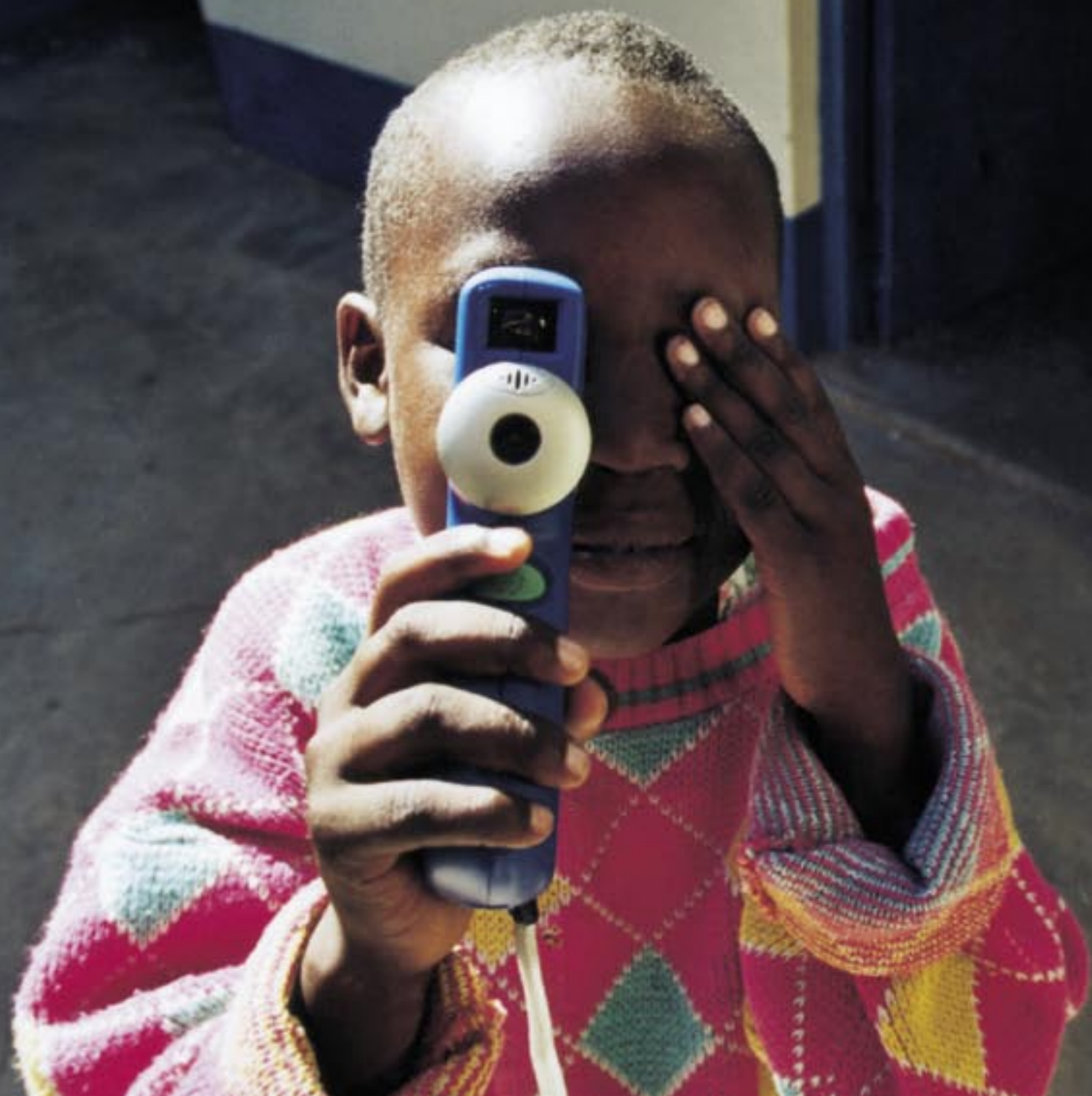
Returning to India, SEWA runs its childcare centres in collaboration with the government’s largest early childhood programme, known as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). An important aspect of SEWA’s work is to increase the relevance of ICDS’s policy and practice for sections of the population living in disadvantaged circumstances. To achieve this, SEWA works with a range of local (*panchayat*), municipal and state actors in the government as well as public programmes such as the Minimum Needs Programme and the Central Social Welfare Board. They are supported by a range of international donors covering diverse activities, including women’s banking, which supports their savings and credit

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union. Through these alliances, SEWA has built a good relationship with the private sector. For instance, it has agreements with private insurance companies that support its social security scheme for informal workers. Childcare is considered a basic plank of social security and is an integral feature if the cycle of poverty is to be broken.

We end this round-up with one final success story. In 1984, the Moroccan “Alliance de Travail dans la Formation et l’Action pour L’Enfance” (ATFALE), which has a strong framework of children’s rights, organised the first national conference on preschool education in Morocco, together with the Ministry of Education and Youth and the Bernard van Leer Foundation. The original idea was to work within the existing system of Koranic preschools to improve educational quality. In 2004, ATFALE passed a landmark event; the Ministry of Education and Youth declared that preschool education will be a national priority by the year 2006–07. The government’s aim is to provide preschool education for all children, and ATFALE will have a major role in the process to build in quality standards.

ATFALE currently represents a network of resource centres that provide teacher training and develop resources. In terms of early childhood services, ATFALE is a main national reference point. Rather than

resting on its laurels, it continues to develop new approaches to working with parents, particularly young mothers, from economically poor backgrounds where literacy rates are very low. One idea that it is currently working on is a pedagogical *valise* that can easily travel. ATFALE’s work on children’s rights and citizenship education takes on increasing salience as civil society unfolds in Morocco.

Conclusion

Individual projects, and their accomplishments, each contribute to overall objectives that the Foundation strives to achieve as a whole. They represent a range of approaches and ideas that the Foundation supports in the belief that they increase opportunities in the first years in terms of realising the rights of children as equal citizens, strengthening the social fabric that provides for caregiving of young children, increasing access to and quality of early education, and supporting young children as they develop identities and relationships in complex, difficult situations. Whether big or small, innovative or mature, the range of local actors have each in their own way become part of the Foundation’s knowledge about ways we can improve the situation of young children that we hope others can use.

Programmes that enable children to develop their capacities and potentials lay a strong foundation for future social and community development

An overview by region

ASIA/MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Cyprus

Project title: Early Childhood Care and Development Programme

Partner organisation(s): Arab Resource Collective Ltd

Location: Middle East/North Africa region

Grant amount: EUR 260,000

Overall objective(s): To contribute to improving the quality of young children's lives throughout the Arab region by enhancing the capacities of key early childhood professionals in the various countries, and by collecting, processing and circulating relevant information and resources for practitioners working with young children in diverse contexts.

Egypt

Project title: Children of the Nile, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): The National Union of ECD in Egypt

Location: Nine Governorates: Delta, Greater Cairo & Upper Egypt

Grant amount: EUR 348,900

Overall objective(s): To make a significant contribution towards quality early childhood practices, thereby promoting the importance of the early years in children's lives.

India

Project title: Developing an ECD tool for Jharkhand

Partner organisation(s): People's Institute for Development & Training

Location: Jharkhand and Chhatisgarh

Grant amount: EUR 91,400

Overall objective(s): To build bridges between the socialisation practices of indigenous peoples at home and the school environment by developing a culturally sensitive and appropriate parent support tool.

Project title: Taking Care of Our Children, Phase IV

Partner organisation(s): Mahila Sewa Trust (MST)

Location: Ahmedabad; Gujarat

Grant amount: EUR 595,900

Overall objective(s): To enhance the quality of the existing childcare programme; and to expand the childcare services towards groups that are particularly disadvantaged.

Indonesia

Project title: BKB Program

Partner organisation(s): Yayasan Kusuma Buana

Location: Jakarta

Grant amount: EUR 44,900

Overall objective(s): To develop an appropriate community-based small-scale model using a new paradigm to improve and revitalise the government ECD programme.

Project title: Gender Equity and Cultural Diversity in ECE

Partner organisation(s): Isppa

Location: Yogyakarta

Grant amount: EUR 61,000

Overall objective(s): To create a positive and equal learning environment for young female and male children through the capacity building of kindergarten teachers from a gender equity and cultural diversity perspective.

Israel

Project title: Building Resilience in the Preschool Classroom

Partner organisation(s): Israel Center for the Treatment of Psychotrauma

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 62,100

Overall objective(s): To raise awareness within the educational system in Israel of the long-term effects on young Arab children of exposure to trauma, and to provide

models and resources that bolster these children's resilience in a troubled environment.

Project title: Children, Context and Curriculum in Multicultural Education

Partner organisation(s): The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 158,000

Overall objective(s): To document social and emotional outcomes when children are educated in and exposed to a mixed school environment, and to feed the lessons learned back into practice.

Project title: Creative Materials for Children in Transition

Partner organisation(s): The Shabtai Levi Home

Location: Haifa

Grant amount: EUR 1,000

Overall objective(s): To enhance the quality and supply of play and creative materials available to children who have to move out of risk or crisis situations at home.

Project title: Early Childhood Education and Respect for Diversity

Partner organisation(s): Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish Arab Education

Location: Wadi Ara

Grant amount: EUR 317,844

Overall objective(s): To encourage young children in Israel to contribute to respect for diversity through integrated education.

Project title: Educators in a Multi-Cultural Society

Partner organisation(s): Differences and Multi-Cultural Institute

Location: Givataim; Israel

Grant amount: EUR 126,400

Overall objective(s): To enable early childhood educators in Israel to reflect productively on their role in a diverse and unequal society, and to provide them with skills and techniques whereby they can create educational environments that respect difference.

Project title: Extending Animal Care Therapy to Arab Children

Partner organisation(s): The Therapeutic Riding Center of Israel

Location: Tel Mond; Israel

Grant amount: EUR 77,600

Overall objective(s): To extend animal-assisted therapy to Arab children in Israel, to expose Arab professionals to such therapy, and to sensitise Arab parents and communities to the important contribution that animals can make to children's social and emotional development.

Project title: Hungry Children, Economic Downturns and State Stringency

Partner organisation(s): Yad Elie

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 1,000

Overall objective(s): To draw attention to the increased risk of hunger among poor children in Israel in consequence of economic hardship.

Project title: Learning to Live Together

Partner organisation(s): The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 21,000

Overall objective(s): To enhance out-of-home care for toddlers, and to sensitise their caregivers to the potential for

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

social and emotional development within such care situations.

Project title: Outreach Activities Associated with Sesame Stories

Partner organisation(s): Sesame Workshop (NY)

Location: Israel

Grant amount: EUR 83,792

Overall objective(s): To support a shared electronic space where young Jewish and Arab children in Israel – and their parents and teachers – can see each other as peers and counterparts, in order to promote positive perceptions and counter negative stereotypes.

Project title: Play and Connect

Partner organisation(s): Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development

Location: Beer Sheva

Grant amount: EUR 33,600

Overall objective(s): To enhance opportunities for play, recreation and leisure among young Bedouin children in and around Kseife and Arara, and thus encourage the all-round development of these children.

Project title: Play to Belong

Partner organisation(s): The Maccabim Association

Location: Tel Aviv

Grant amount: EUR 50,000

Overall objective(s): To enhance opportunities for play, recreation and leisure among young Bedouin children in and around Kseife and Arara through organised soccer.

Project title: The Bible as Common Space in Israel

Partner organisation(s): The Bible Lands Museum, Jerusalem

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 4,035

Overall objective(s): To encourage understanding and respect between Arab and Jewish children and adults, through learning about a common heritage.

Project title: Thinking Beyond the Text

Partner organisation(s): Masar Institution for Education

Location: Nazareth

Grant amount: EUR 44,800

Overall objective(s): The project enables young children in circumstances of disadvantage – and the adults who support them – to use reading skills and textual materials to participate more fully and critically in the world around them as well as in their immediate environments.

Project title: Young Children and the Human

Dignity Initiative

Partner organisation(s): Sikkuy

Location: Jerusalem

Grant amount: EUR 310,000

Overall objective(s): To make young children in various school settings in Israel aware of human dignity as a fundamental value, and to translate that awareness into relationships based on mutual respect within school and outside it.

Morocco

Project title: ATFALE in the New Millennium, 3

Partner organisation(s): Association ATFALE

Location: Morocco, nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 325,000

Overall objective(s): To assist the mainstreaming of preschool education in Morocco; to support parents in bringing up young children; and to develop sustainable organisational strategies.

Thailand

Project title: Child in Motion

Partner organisation(s): Child in Motion

Location: Bangkok

Grant amount: EUR 9,025

Overall objective(s): To develop skills and enhance creativity in various fields of art among underprivileged and abused children and youth in order to explore their potential, increase their self-esteem and enhance their social skills.

Project title: Footholds in the Hills, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): Inter-Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand (IMPECT) Association

Location: Chiang Mai and surrounding villages

Grant amount: EUR 293,400

Overall objective(s): To create and facilitate a positive learning and developmental environment for young children, whereby cultural identity and a sense of security in their own culture are instilled, thus enabling them to act within Thai mainstream society.

Project title: My Baby's Second Home, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Foundation for Slum Child

Location: Bangkok

Grant amount: EUR 400,000

Overall objective(s): To improve the quality of life for babies and young children in the informal settlements of Bangkok.

EUROPE

European region

Project title: International Fellowship Programme for CEE Foundations and NGOs

Partner organisation(s): Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH

Location: Europe

Grant amount: EUR 30,000

Overall objective(s): The International Fellowship Programme for CEE Foundations and NGOs aims at strengthening civil society in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as international cooperation of NGOs by means of fellowships.

Belgium

Project title: Activities International Committee

Partner organisation(s): European Foundation Centre (EFC)

Location: Belgium

Grant amount: EUR 4,000

Overall objective(s): To support the activities of the International Committee of the European Foundation Centre for the year 2004.

Project title: Support to EFC – Maecenas project

Partner organisation(s): European Foundation Centre (EFC)

Location: Belgium

Grant amount: EUR 160,000

Overall objective(s): To support core activities of the EFC with a special interest in the EFC's international funding with the aim to secure its European funding base and to contribute to the professionalisation, accountability and transparency of the European foundation community.

Czech Republic

Project title: Growing from Bottom up!

Partner organisation(s): Network of Mother Centres in the Czech Republic

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 50,300

Overall objective(s): The 18-month planning phase aims to support a broad-based regional consultation process among the network of Mother Centres and to build capacity at regional and central level.

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

France

Project title: Respect for Diversity Resources

Partner organisation(s): Les Amis du Furet

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 34,200

Overall objective(s): To enrich the documentation resources for early childhood trainers and practitioners by contributing to the production and dissemination of French language editions of key Respect for Diversity resources.

Germany

Project title: Demokratie Leben, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): INA gGmbH

Location: Eberswalde and region

Grant amount: EUR 475,100

Overall objective(s): To consolidate the in-service training programme instituting learning for democracy principles in childcare centres and to disseminate the know-how to all childcare centres in the region.

Project title: Kinderwelten, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): INA gGmbH

Location: Berlin and (four regions) nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 167,600

Overall objective(s): To implement a consultation and selection process with a variety of childcare providers to prepare for a national dissemination.

Project title: Kinderwelten, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): INA gGmbH

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 579,100

Overall objective(s): To develop respect for diversity principles at the level of childcare centres and service providers and to create a national network.

Ireland

Project title: Eist, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Pavee Point

Location: Ireland

Grant amount: EUR 46,500

Overall objective(s): To develop an agreed strategy to mainstream diversity and equality and an anti-bias approach for training within the ECCE sector throughout Ireland.

Netherlands

Project title: Celebration Human Rights Day

Partner organisation(s): Liga voor de Rechten

van de Mens

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 1,000

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the celebration of the 17th anniversary of Human Rights Day on 10 December 2004, organised by the Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens (League of Human Rights, the Dutch chapter of the Fédération Internationale des Droits de l'Homme), and the human rights organisation J'Accuse.

Project title: Hart voor Kinderen met Diabetes

Partner organisation(s): Diabetesvereniging Nederland

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 2,000

Overall objective(s): To organise educational and recreational events for children with diabetes as well as provide these children with opportunities for sharing and coping with their problems.

Project title: Opvoeden: zó!

Partner organisation(s): NIZW (Nederlands Instituut voor Zorg en Welzijn)

Location: Locally and nationwide in the Netherlands

Grant amount: EUR 28,000

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the updating process of the parent support programme Opvoeden: zó!

Project title: Projectdag Gescheiden Kinderen

Partner organisation(s): BV Uitgeverij SWP

Location: Netherlands

Grant amount: EUR 3,000

Overall objective(s): To contribute, in cooperation with other Dutch child protection organisations, to the organisation by the Publisher SWP, of a series of national networking activities focussing on children of divorced parents and on the effects of the divorce on those children's lives.

Project title: SamenRekenen, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Schooladviescentrum

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 133,600

Overall objective(s): To stimulate and support cognitive development focused on language and mathematical insights of – particularly though not exclusively – young immigrant children within the context of the Samenspel methodology, which brings children, playgroup leaders, teachers and parents together.

Project title: Sinterpiet & Zwarteklaas

Partner organisation(s): Stichting Wolkentheater

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 5,000

Overall objective(s): To organise a series of puppet shows for children living in centres housing people seeking asylum, to offer them a positive experience and to stimulate them to participate in Dutch culture-related activities.

Poland

Project title: Friendly Kindergarten, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Association for Creative Initiatives

Location: Poznan area

Grant amount: EUR 295,300

Overall objective(s): To create a culture around needs of young children in the local community by focusing on participatory in-service training for preschool teachers and leadership support to directors of public preschools.

Project title: Where there are no Preschools: Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Comenius Foundation for Child Development

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 274,200

Overall objective(s): To consolidate alternative early education and development services for children aged 3 to 5 living in rural and remote communities.

Spain

Project title: Meeting on Respect for Diversity and Equity in EC

Partner organisation(s): Associació de Mestres Rosa Sensat

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Grant amount: EUR 37,200

Overall objective(s): To extend the Respect for Diversity thematic approach within the European region, by holding a meeting at which the Foundation and the DECET Network will share experiences related to Respect for Diversity with a number of organisations in Spain and Portugal.

United Kingdom

Project title: Documentation Approach to Learning

Partner organisation(s): Early Learning Associates

Location: Scotland

Grant amount: EUR 101,000

Overall objective(s): To promote the documentation approach to children's learning developed by Stirling Council.

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

Project title: European Partner Meeting on Children's Participation
Partner organisation(s): Coram Family
Location: Europe
Grant amount: EUR 48,270
Overall objective(s): To hold a meeting with European partner organisations on 'listening to young children'.

Project title: Fathers Plus, Phase III
Partner organisation(s): Children North East
Location: North East of England
Grant amount: EUR 157,500
Overall objective(s): To ensure that the role of fathers is included in planning services for children and families, and that the development of specific effective approaches to parent support which particularly take fathers into account, are continued.

Project title: Living Spaces
Partner organisation(s): Thomas Coram Research Unit
Location: United Kingdom
Grant amount: EUR 214,600
Overall objective(s): To investigate how young children's views can inform the planning and development of both indoor and outdoor spaces in early years provision.

Project title: Opening Your Doors to Early Years
Partner organisation(s): Playtrain
Location: United Kingdom
Grant amount: EUR 181,400
Overall objective(s): To improve the quality and increase the amount of services available for early years children and their families in arts and cultural settings.

LATIN AMERICA**Argentina**

Project title: Agenda Indígena
Partner organisation(s): Obra Claretiana para el Desarrollo
Location: Andean region
Grant amount: EUR 6,577
Overall objective(s): To formulate the conceptual and methodological foundations for an indigenous agenda for young children in the Andes.

Brazil

Project title: A Responsabilidade Social no Sertão Paraibano
Partner organisation(s): SESI – Paraíba
Location: Sousa, Sertão Paraibano; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 79,500
Overall objective(s): To test a cooperative approach among three institutions (SESI, SENAI, SENAR) geared to providing integral services that enhance young rural children's development in a context of family and community support.

Project title: Cidades Educativas
Partner organisation(s): Centro Popular de Cultura e Desenvolvimento
Location: Araçuaí; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 23,460
Overall objective(s): To formulate a three-year proposal that would address young children's participation in the planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of an educational programme for young children in the municipality of Araçuaí.

Project title: Crianças: Sujeitos de Direitos
Partner organisation(s): Instituto Promundo
Location: Rio de Janeiro; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 123,429

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the integral development of children, through actions that reduce the level of domestic violence and eradicate physical punishment.

Project title: ICDP Training in Santo Ângelo
Partner organisation(s): CELUAN – Centro Ludico Angelus
Location: Santo Ângelo; Rio Grande do Sul
Grant amount: EUR 19,538
Overall objective(s): This project aims to train 60 community workers from the poor area of Santo Angelo in the ICDP early psychosocial intervention programme. They will monitor and evaluate the impact of this project on nearly 200 families, through the application of a set of tools developed in cooperation with the local University of IESA, Santo Ângelo.

Project title: Prevenção à Violência Doméstica Infantil
Partner organisation(s): CECovi – Centro de Combate à Violência Infantil
Location: Fortaleza; Ceara
Grant amount: EUR 2,621
Overall objective(s): To prevent domestic violence against children and teenagers.

Project title: Programa Infância Rural
Partner organisation(s): IFAN – Instituto da Infância
Location: Maranhão, Piauí, Ceará, Ríó Grande do Norte, Paraíba
Grant amount: EUR 908,846
Overall objective(s): To develop a small scale regional intervention programme that fosters early childhood development, and is based on the participation of the young children who grow up in the rural Northeast of Brazil.

Project title: Programa Ludicidade
Partner organisation(s): Prefeitura Municipal de São Paulo
Location: São Paulo; Brazil

Grant amount: EUR 21,400
Overall objective(s): To provide recreational activities for young children and their families as a means to build citizenship in a context of social violence.

Project title: Projeto Primeiros Passos
Partner organisation(s): Prefeitura Municipal de São José de Mipibu
Location: São José de Mipibu; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 16,300
Overall objective(s): To learn from practice about children's and young people's participation and leadership in the implementation of an ECD programme in the rural context.

Project title: Semente do Amanhã
Partner organisation(s): Prefeitura Municipal de Arez
Location: Arez; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 17,500
Overall objective(s): To learn from practice about children's and youngsters' participation and leadership in the implementation of an ECD programme in the rural context.

Project title: Trocando em Miúdos - Investindo no Futuro
Partner organisation(s): Centro de Criação de Imagem Popular
Location: Rio de Janeiro; Brazil
Grant amount: EUR 34,943
Overall objective(s): The project aims to improve the quality of ECD services for children aged 3 months to 6 years, through the training of staff, the involvement of family members, and the documentation and dissemination of the methodology to municipal and community institutions.

Project title: Workshop on Children's Participation
Partner organisation(s): IFAN – Instituto da Infância
Location: Beberibe, Ceara, Brazil

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

Grant amount: EUR 10,106

Overall objective(s): To contribute Latin America experiences to the international debate on young children's participation and to develop a framework for a good practice guide on programming for participation in the early years of childhood.

Colombia

Project title: 1er Congreso: Educación, Cuidado y Compasión

Partner organisation(s): Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 8,221

Overall objective(s): To support a National Conference on Ethics, Care and Compassion.

Project title: Acuerdos Comunitarios

Partner organisation(s): Fundación Caminos de Identidad – FUCAI

Location: La Chorrera

Grant amount: EUR 4,200

Overall objective(s): To ensure involvement of the Uitoto communities in decision-making processes concerning educational practices in the college as well as in project-related activities in the communities focusing on young children.

Project title: Derechos de los Niños Vulnerables: Víctimas de la Violencia

Partner organisation(s): Universidad del Norte

Location: Costa Atlántica

Grant amount: EUR 13,957

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing of young children who live in vulnerable environments and who are victims of intra-family violence, by developing and implementing a

programme based on creativity and using games and plays as methodology.

El Salvador

Project title: Forjando Futuro

Partner organisation(s): Asociación CINDE para el Desarrollo y Promoción

Location: Mejicanos, Soyapango, San Salvador

Grant amount: EUR 282,065

Overall objective(s): To provide daycare and educational services for children (0–6 years) of street vendors, in three centres in two marginalised municipalities of San Salvador; to offer after-school care for children of primary school age; and to initiate a variety of action research activities aimed at transforming the daily environment of children and reducing violence and maltreatment.

Guatemala

Project title: Jardines Infantiles

Partner organisation(s): APEDIBIMI

Location: Nebaj; Guatemala

Grant amount: EUR 289,776

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the recognition of needs and opportunities in the Ixil region to implement preschool services for young indigenous children taking into account the views and the history of the parents and the community, and involving them in shaping and strengthening the Jardines Infantiles programme.

Project title: Los Niños en la Comunidad con los Niños, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): Fundación Esfuerzo y Prosperidad – FUNDAESPRO/COINAP

Location: Guatemala City; Guatemala

Grant amount: EUR 293,112

Overall objective(s): To provide integrated daycare and

educational services in marginalised urban areas, in close collaboration with the national programme Hogares Comunitarios; to lobby for financial and technical support from national and municipal authorities and agencies to set up large-scale daycare services; and to influence policies that seek to transform adverse conditions for children living in situations at risk.

Mexico

Project title: Los Derechos Humanos de la Infancia en el Estado de Oaxaca

Partner organisation(s): Niño a Niño México AC

Location: State of Oaxaca

Grant amount: EUR 94,028

Overall objective(s): To create an institutional, legal and social framework in the State of Oaxaca that is favourable to children and guarantees that children can exercise their rights as established in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Project title: Somos las alas del Viento

Partner organisation(s): Integranat AC

Location: Cintalapa, San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas

Grant amount: EUR 162,684

Overall objective(s): To develop an educational programme for children of indigenous origin in the municipality of Cintalapa, taking into account their traditional and cultural background, in order to provide them with opportunities to develop their potentials and establish a basis for improving their chances to build up a healthy and respectful existence.

Nicaragua

Project title: Atención a la Infancia en situación de Desventaja

Partner organisation(s): CANTERA Centro de Educación y Comunicación Popular

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 16,365

Overall objective(s): To ensure the collaboration between agencies of the civil society (NGOs) and the public sector in realising the goals of 'educación inicial' (early childhood education) among the 0–5 age range.

Project title: Fortalecimiento del Desarrollo Infantil – Ciudad Sandino

Partner organisation(s): CANTERA Centro de Educación y Comunicación Popular

Location: Ciudad Sandino

Grant amount: EUR 305,849

Overall objective(s): To contribute to the development of children aged 4 to 10 years in Ciudad Sandino by supporting the expansion of the Ciudad Programme through improved child participation and improving its advocacy and project dissemination strategies.

Peru

Project title: Advocacy for Children Wellbeing

Partner organisation(s): Save the Children – UK

Location: Nationwide

Grant amount: EUR 69,151

Overall objective(s): To improve the quality of life of children aged 0 to 6 by enhancing the interactions between children and adults through a radio information campaign.

Project title: El Niño Emprendedor

Partner organisation(s): Paney y Silva Consultores

Location: Communities of Costa and Sierra

Grant amount: EUR 56,879

Overall objective(s): To promote the holistic development of children aged 0 to 5, emphasising six characteristics related to children's natural enterprising capacities.

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

Project title: Protagonismo Infantil en el Ande Peruano, Phase II
Partner organisation(s): Consorcio para el Desarrollo Integral de la Ninez y la Familia Andina (CODINFA)
Location: Apurimac, Ayacucho, Huancavelica
Grant amount: EUR 420,000
Overall objective(s): To contribute to the inclusion of children, from 2 to 12 years old, as active participants in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of services and activities for them in 20 Andean rural communities.

Project title: Qatari Wawa
Partner organisation(s): Ministerio de la Mujer y Desarrollo Social
Location: Ayacucho and Huancavelica
Grant amount: EUR 309,015
Overall objective(s): To promote early childhood development by improving the patterns of child–adult and child–child interaction around the understanding of the young child’s needs and opinions.

Project title: Ser y Decir Para Estar Feliz
Partner organisation(s): Ministerio de Educación de Peru
Location: Huaura and Cañete; Lima
Grant amount: EUR 370,405
Overall objective(s): To implement a pedagogy based on young children’s participation as a building block for citizenship in non-formal preschool programmes (PRONOEI) in rural and informal urban settlements.

Project title: Wiñaq Muhu (niños-semillas que brotan en la comunidad)
Partner organisation(s): WARMAYLLU
Location: Cajamarca, Sam Martin, Callao, Apurimac
Grant amount: EUR 22,941
Overall objective(s): The project aims at designing a

proposal of intercultural initial education for children living in rural and urban-shantytown communities, based on art and children’s participation.

Venezuela

Project title: Red de Contrapartes y Amigos 2005
Partner organisation(s): AFIN – Asociación Fundación Apoyo a la Familia
Location: Nationwide
Grant amount: EUR 8,000
Overall objective(s): To enable ‘Red de Contrapartes y Amigos 2005 Venezuela’ to write up a document outlining the outcomes from the 10 years of cooperation with the Foundation; as well as to undertake a brief situation analysis of young children.

NORTH AMERICA/CARIBBEAN**Caribbean region**

Project title: Caribbean Internship Project
Partner organisation(s): Centre for Population, Community and Social Change
Location: Caribbean region
Grant amount: EUR 202,300
Overall objective(s): To use the concept of student internship to build rapport between institutions for higher learning and local parent and child support agencies in devising a regional mechanism for matching resources and needs in culturally diverse settings in the region.

Project title: CSI Support Functions Budget 2005
Partner organisation(s): CARICAD
Location: Caribbean region
Grant amount: EUR 196,000
Overall objective(s): To make small and medium-sized

grants and contracts for programme development functions such as documentation, training, networking and learning, and communications and dissemination.

Project title: Replication of the Roving Caregivers Programme in St Vincent
Partner organisation(s): SVG Save the Children Fund (VINSAVE)
Location: St Vincent and the Grenadines
Grant amount: EUR 161,900
Overall objective(s): To replicate the concept and methodologies of the Roving Caregivers Programme in St Vincent and the Grenadines. This objective falls under the Caribbean Support Initiative’s goal of increasing good practice in parent support.

Project title: Story Telling and Early Childhood Parenting Support (STEPS)
Partner organisation(s): Arts in Action
Location: Caribbean region
Grant amount: EUR 348,400
Overall objective(s): To address developmental needs of children at risk in the Caribbean region using storytelling as the primary tool.

Canada

Project title: Communication Initiative
Partner organisation(s): The Communication Initiative
Location: Canada
Grant amount: EUR 40,000
Overall objective(s): To expand the number of people and organisations within the Communication Initiative (CI) network that have a focus on ECD programmes and issues; and to give support to Foundation partners in the area of communication.

Dominica

Project title: Public Awareness Programme
Partner organisation(s): Christian Children’s Fund – Dominica
Location: Dominica
Grant amount: EUR 8,000
Overall objective(s): To educate parents and the public about enhanced child development and parenting skills.

Grenada

Project title: Disaster Relief Grenada
Partner organisation(s): CARICAD
Location: Grenada
Grant amount: EUR 10,000
Overall objective(s): To provide emergency assistance to families and roving caregivers in the Roving Caregivers Programme who have been affected by the recent hurricane and are in immediate need of housing, food, security, water and sanitation.

Project title: Mobile Caregiver Programme, Phase II
Partner organisation(s): Grencase
Location: Grenada
Grant amount: EUR 185,400
Overall objective(s): To replicate the concept and methodologies of the Roving Caregivers Programme in Grenada; and to promote good practice in parent support in the Caribbean region.

Jamaica

Project title: Relief Assistance Hurricane Ivan
Partner organisation(s): Rural Family Support Organization
Location: Jamaica
Grant amount: EUR 10,000
Overall objective(s): To provide emergency assistance to children, their families, students and roving caregivers in the

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

Roving Caregivers Programme who have been affected by the recent hurricane and are in immediate need of housing, food security, water and sanitation.

Trinidad & Tobago

Project title: Toco Parenting Project

Partner organisation(s): Toco Foundation

Location: Toco; Trinidad

Grant amount: EUR 97,000

Overall objective(s): To reduce the vulnerability and increase the parenting skills among deprived families and caregivers in a remote area of Trinidad.

USA

Project title: Early Childhood and Socialization Initiative

Partner organisation(s): Professional Associates

Location: Mississippi Delta; USA

Grant amount: EUR 136,100

Overall objective(s): To lay the foundation for a five-year research-based initiative in the Mississippi Delta that will improve educational outcomes for children (0-2nd grade) through the bridging of effective socialising and early childhood development strategies.

Project title: Lewis Hine Documentary Initiative, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Center for Documentary Studies

– Lyndhurst House

Location: USA

Grant amount: EUR 94,500

Overall objective(s): To support a process of documentary work that is participatory and reflective, the results of which have the potential for wider impact; and to feed into the Foundation's learning agenda by linking the placements more closely to its thematic and communications interests.

Project title: Preschool in Five Countries

Partner organisation(s): Arizona State University

Location: France, Germany, Italy, UK, USA

Grant Amount: EUR 390,300

Overall Objective: To fund a video research process on migrant children in early childhood programmes in France, Germany, Italy, UK and the USA, which is to result in discussion among the various stakeholders and audiences on service provision for migrant children.

Project title: Remembrance Margaret Hassan

Partner organisation(s): Care USA

Location: USA

Grant amount: EUR 10,000

Overall objective(s): To contribute (in memory of Margaret Hassan) to the re-establishment of the lives and livelihoods of men, women and children living in marginalised countries affected by war and violence, through financial support to the Countries in Crisis Fund.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**Kenya**

Project title: Capacity Building and Early Childhood Development

Partner organisation(s): Kenya Community

Development Foundation (KCDF)

Location: Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 215,777

Overall objective(s): The overall aim of the project is to contribute to the improvement of the situation of young children in Kenya through the strengthening of ECD as an integral part of community development programmes.

Project title: Community Support to AIDS Orphans,

Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Kenya Orphans Rural Development Programme

Location: Nyanza Province; Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 156,508

Overall objective(s): To strengthen the capacity of caregiving families to improve the living conditions of orphaned children.

Project title: Improved Communication

Partner organisation(s): Wamba Community Development Programme

Location: Wamba, Samburu district; Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 4,168

Overall objective(s): To enable the Wamba Community Development Programme to have access to e-mail, internet, fax and direct telephone services.

Project title: Improving ECD Practices, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): Samburu Aid in Africa (SAIDIA)

Location: Wamba, Nyiro, and Baragoi divisions; Samburu district

Grant amount: EUR 156,600

Overall objective(s): To equip communities to set up sustainable ECD programmes for young children between the ages of 0 to 5 in Wamba, Nyiro and Baragoi divisions, Samburu district, Kenya.

Project title: Loipi Impact Evaluation

Partner organisation(s): International Extension College (IEC)

Location: Samburu district; Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 20,000

Overall objective(s): To carry out an impact evaluation of the community-based ECD programme in Samburu district.

Project title: Orphans and Vulnerable Children

Care and Support

Partner organisation(s): Maasai AIDS Awareness Programme (MAAP)

Location: Kajiado; Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 50,000

Overall objective(s): To increase HIV/AIDS information and education in order to strategically communicate issues relating to prevention, while assisting communities in effectively responding to challenges of care and support for the infected and affected families, with special emphasis on children 0-8.

Project title: Using Our Traditions

Partner organisation(s): Trust for Indigenous Culture and Health

Location: Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 31,350

Overall objective(s): To undertake research and collect information on traditional herbal remedies and traditional food that are effective in managing AIDS-related illnesses and share that information in bookform with families affected by HIV/AIDS. The book will include a focus on the health needs of young children under 5 and will endeavour to document, assess and share useful information based on traditional and nutritional knowledge and plant medicines.

Mozambique

Project title: Coastal Rural Support Programme ECD

Partner organisation(s): Aga Khan Foundation – Mozambique Office

Location: Coastal region; northern Mozambique

Grant amount: EUR 231,600

Overall objective(s): To improve the overall well-being of infants and children below 8 years, by addressing their

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

developmental needs through organised activities at the family and community level.

Project title: Fala Coração

Partner organisation(s): Coopimagem

Location: Mozambique

Grant amount: EUR 161,700

Overall objective(s): To equip young children with the social skills to express and handle their emotions.

Namibia

Project title: Total Child, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Total Child

Location: Omaheke region; Namibia

Grant amount: EUR 247,055

Overall objective(s): To promote a dialogue among the stakeholders in the child development programme towards the protection and affirmation of children; in order to lead to a human rights framework for the socialisation of children and for achieving social transformation and justice.

Nigeria

Project title: Community Partnerships for ECD

Partner organisation(s): Development Research and Projects Centre

Location: Kano State

Grant amount: EUR 169,000

Overall objective(s): To empower community-based organisations to improve the quality of life of girls and boys aged 4 to 10 years in poor urban and rural communities in Kano State.

Project title: Strengthening Community Action for ECD

Partner organisation(s): The Pastoral Resolve (PARE)

Location: Kaduna State; Central Nigeria

Grant amount: EUR 95,800

Overall objective(s): To strengthen and support pastoralist communities to plan and implement comprehensive early childhood development interventions in Kaduna State, Central Nigeria.

Project title: Sustainable ECD in Kano State

Partner organisation(s): Women Farmers Advancement Network (WOFAN)

Location: Kano State

Grant amount: EUR 92,200

Overall objective(s): To enhance the capacity and participation of community members to provide support and care to vulnerable young children in four communities in Kano State.

South Africa

Project title: Coordinated Orphan Response, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Durban Children's Society

Location: KwaZulu Natal

Grant amount: EUR 275,500

Overall objective(s): To ensure the protection and development of orphans and vulnerable children in KwaZulu Natal.

Project title: Grant Awareness and Empowerment, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): ACESS

Location: South Africa

Grant amount: EUR 113,400

Overall objective(s): To improve access to existing grants, services and benefits for children through an integrated, effective, efficient and compassionate social security service delivery system.

Project title: KZN Multisectoral ECD Partnership Development

Partner organisation(s): University of KwaZulu-Natal

Location: KwaZulu Natal

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Grant amount: EUR 50,000

Overall objective(s): To develop an integrated vision and implementable plan for the future of early childhood development through a proactive multisectoral partnership of major stakeholders in the province of KwaZulu Natal.

Project title: Restrategising FCM Masikhule

Partner organisation(s): Masikhule Early Childhood Development Centre

Location: Eastern Cape

Grant amount: EUR 50,600

Overall objective(s): To secure the effective and efficient delivery of the Masikhule Family and Community Motivator Programme as an example of effective practice in meeting the needs of young children and families living in poverty.

Project title: Rural Family Support Project, Phase III

Partner organisation(s): Lesedi Educare Association

Location: Tweespruit; Ladybrand; Excelsior; Chocolan; Rosendal; and Marquard, South Africa

Grant amount: EUR 120,000

Overall objective(s): To enable parents to take better care of their children by reinforcing and validating the vital role they play as the first teachers of their young children.

Project title: Siyafundisana Project, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): TREE

Location: South Africa

Grant amount: EUR 187,800

Overall objective(s): To strengthen and consolidate the sustainability of the programme by phasing out support in the current programme-supported communities.

Project title: Speak Free Project

Partner organisation(s): ABC Ulwazi

Location: KwaZulu Natal and Eastern Cape; South Africa

Grant amount: EUR 179,500

Overall objective(s): To increase knowledge and awareness of rights, issues and needs of young children by 'children for children' radio broadcasting with the South African community radio sector in specific provinces.

Tanzania

Project title: Building the Foundations of Development, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Amani Early Childhood Care and Development (Amani ECCD)

Location: Tanzania

Grant amount: EUR 133,800

Overall objective(s): To facilitate civil society participation in the development and initial implementation of the national ECD and HIV/AIDS initiative and to strengthen Amani's organisational capacity and to clarify its long-term strategic plans as a resource organisation.

Project title: Coping Mechanisms for HIV/AIDS Affected Families

Partner organisation(s): KIWAKKUKI

Location: Kilimanjaro; Tanzania

Grant amount: EUR 184,800

Overall objective(s): To enable 600 families in Kilimanjaro that are affected by HIV/AIDS to provide holistic care to orphans and vulnerable children aged 0–8.

Project title: Improving Child Health and Psychosocial Development

Partner organisation(s): UNICEF

Location: Tanzania

Grant amount: EUR 48,200

Overall objective(s): To develop sustainable strategies for addressing the needs of young orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) from birth to 8 years and their caregivers,

Grantmaking in 2004: An overview by region

families and communities; and to strengthen the capacities and partnerships of national, district and village authorities and civil society organisations working on early childhood, HIV/AIDS and OVC issues.

Project title: Pastoralists' Community Preschools

Partner organisation(s): Monduli Pastoralist Development Initiatives (MPDI)

Location: Sepeko Ward, Monduli; Kenya

Grant amount: EUR 49,900

Overall objective(s): To carry out an analysis on the situation of ECD and preschool education of pastoralist children in Sepeko Ward, Monduli district; and to support existing community daycare arrangements for young children with grandmothers, as well as further develop preschool classes.

Project title: The Rapid Funding Envelope for HIV/AIDS

Partner organisation(s): Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS)

Location: Tanzania

Grant amount: EUR 400,000

Overall objective(s): To provide funds for re-granting to the Rapid Funding Envelope (RFE) aimed at projects that address the problems of children aged 0 to 8 affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Uganda

Project title: ECD in Karamoja, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Save the Children in Uganda

Location: Karamoja; Uganda

Grant amount: EUR 200,000

Overall objective(s): To improve early childhood care and education through a strengthened community-based ECD programme among the Karimojong pastoral communities in Uganda.

Zimbabwe

Project title: Child Welfare Programme, Phase II

Partner organisation(s): Inter-Country People's Aid (IPA)

Location: Harare

Grant amount: EUR 53,200

Overall objective(s): To consolidate community-rooted childcare in the three peri-urban informal settlements of Harare.

Publications in 2004

Bernard van Leer Foundation publications are made available free of charge in both paper and electronic formats. You can download PDF files and order hard copies via our website <www.bernardvanleer.org>.

Books and monographs

Introducing tracer studies: Guidelines for implementing tracer studies in early childhood programmes

Ruth N. Cohen

Introducing Tracer Studies is based on the experiences of studies that have followed the 'footsteps' of former participants of early childhood programmes. Participants in these programmes included children, adolescents, parents, teachers, community members, and others, and many were followed up between three and 20 years after they had completed a programme. The emphasis in this publication is on the approaches and methods that were used to study programmes, that operate in very diverse settings, have varied programme approaches, target different populations, and have their own unique aims and objectives.

103 pages | ISBN 90-6195-070-8

Introducción a los estudios de seguimiento:
Guía para implementar estudios de seguimiento en programas de desarrollo infantil temprano

Ruth N. Cohen

Este documento se basa en experiencias de estudios que siguieron las huellas de anteriores participantes de programas de primera infancia (adolescentes, padres, maestros, miembros de la comunidad y otros), entre 3 y 20 años después de su paso por el programa. El énfasis de esta publicación radica en los distintos enfoques y métodos utilizados en los estudios de los programas que operan en

muy diversos contextos, tienen diferentes grupos de beneficiarios y unos fines y objetivos únicos.

107 páginas | ISBN 90-6195-076-7

Stories we have lived, stories we have learned about early childhood programmes

Robert Zimmermann (editor)

This publication is one outcome of the Foundation's Effectiveness Initiative, and is based on reports and additional documentation produced by teams that observed early childhood programmes. See also "The Effectiveness Initiative: A story worth telling" on page 79 below.

213 pages | ISBN 90-6195-073-2

Practice and Reflections

Supporting fathers: Contributions from the International Fatherhood Summit 2003
Practice and Reflections 20

Various authors

The International Fatherhood Summit 2003 brought together practitioners and academics from 20 countries to discuss practical work, policy issues, the state of current research, and areas of international concern around fathers. They discussed issues such as: What are the current economic, social, cultural and political factors and trends that affect what fathers do? What does research tell us about the effects of fathering on child development? What lessons can be

Flagship publication *Early Childhood Matters* gets a new heart

The Bernard van Leer Foundation has implemented a major re-conceptualisation of its long-standing flagship publication *Early Childhood Matters*. The twice-yearly review continues to serve its 14,000-strong readership – in both English and Spanish in about 150 countries – with articles related to early childhood from perspectives within and outside of the Foundation's network. This is a niche which researchers and practitioners have long looked to *Early Childhood Matters* to fill. Now, however, the journal has become more outward-oriented. Guest editors and contributions are a regular feature of the publication 'new-style', and the English and Spanish language versions have been made mirror images of each other.

Each issue of the new *Early Childhood Matters* is built around a central theme that provides the heart of the publication. The theme is forward-looking and the content aimed to provoke debate and discussion. The idea is to offer various angles on the theme in such a way as to inspire reflection rather than simply reporting project results or taking a position. The theme of the June 2004 issue, for example, was *Critical thinking* and that of the November 2004 issue was *Young children's participation*.

Themes planned for 2005 are *Responses to young children in post-emergency situations*, with special attention to issues facing young children in the tsunami-affected areas of Asia, and *Young children without parental care*.

learned from existing experiences in addressing fatherhood issues? Supporting fathers provides a basis for further discussion and exploration on providing the best possible environment for the development of children by explicitly placing fathers within the concept of 'parenthood'.

155 pages | ISBN 90-6195-069-4

Working Papers

Beyond Fishing: KCDF's approach to capacity development

Working Paper 32

Nora Mwaura

In this Working Paper, the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) documents its experiences as a local capacity-building and grantmaking organisation and describes how it supports community-based projects in developing their organisational capacity. The Working Paper first concentrates on the value of capacity building and grantmaking as a strategy for development in general. The paper then explains KCDF's view on the value of a holistic development approach to improving the well-being of children.

52 pages | ISBN 90-6195-072-4

Las Escuelas Familiares de Colombia:

Una reflexión con el paso del tiempo

Cuadernos Desarrollo Infantil 31

Fundación Fesco

Este cuaderno presenta la evolución del programa que la Fundación Fesco ha desarrollado a favor de la infancia y la familia en la región central de Colombia. Tomando como referencia a la familia, el proyecto Escuelas Familiares propicia procesos de interacción y diálogo en el interior de

la misma y con la comunidad. De este modo se pretende construir conjuntamente alternativas de convivencia pacífica, a partir de la reflexión sobre la vida cotidiana y estableciendo compromisos entre los distintos participantes y la infancia.

42 páginas | ISBN 90-6195-071-6

Early Childhood Matters

Young children's participation:

Rhetoric or growing reality?

Early Childhood Matters 103

Young children's participation: Rhetoric or growing reality?

raises the importance of providing participative environments to children in which they can express themselves readily, knowing they will be listened to. It presents an overview of current thinking at an international level on how young children can effectively play a role in programming and in decisions that affect their lives.

60 pages | ISSN 1387-9553

Critical thinking

Early Childhood Matters 102

The ability to think critically is widely fostered as part of the holistic development of young children. Activities that require children to engage in looking, understanding, reflecting, judging, and making choices will guide them through the many dilemmas, decisions and choices they will have to face in life.

44 pages | ISSN 1387-9553

The Effectiveness Initiative: A story worth telling

The year 2004 saw the conclusion of the Foundation's Effectiveness Initiative, which began in 1999. The aim was to explore the attributes of a group of early childhood development programmes and ask why they were effective. Each programme was widely recognised as 'effective' in the broad sense that they were meeting the basic developmental needs and enhancing the health and welfare of young children and their families, and they had shown a good track record for a minimum of ten years. Teams were put together to observe the programmes in practice and to talk with staff and participants. After several years of activity, including the collection of a great deal of data and substantial documentation of the programmes, the teams drew up reports on their findings for the Foundation.

Stories we have lived, stories we have learned about early childhood programmes is based on those reports and additional documentation created by the teams and the Foundation during the exploratory studies. The book is solidly grounded on the philosophy that gave rise to the Effectiveness Initiative: "if effectiveness is tied to a programme's impact, then a fruitful approach to the examination of effectiveness is to provide programme stakeholders with the time, the space and the means to reflect on and give expression to their perspectives and opinions about the programmes".

To support this publication, a companion piece, *Small ideas that work*, was published in early 2005. It contains examples of some of the many straightforward, practical schemes implemented through the programmes involved in the Effectiveness Initiative. *Small ideas that work* is essentially a practical guide to the kinds of innovations originating in the programmes. Much of it may already be familiar to practitioners in the field. But by collecting these individual ideas and sharing them with a wider world, the Foundation hopes to encourage fresh thinking and enhance collective learning about practical problem-solving among other programme stakeholders in the field.

Both publications are of special interest to practitioners as well as academics concerned with qualitative research. They can be ordered from the Foundation free of charge and can be downloaded in PDF format from the website.

Espacio para la Infancia

La participación infantil:

¿Retórica o una creciente realidad?

Espacio para la Infancia 22

En este número se intenta ir más allá de reconocer la importancia de abrir espacios participativos a los niños para que puedan expresarse, con la seguridad de que sean escuchados. Para ello se presenta una visión general de distintas perspectivas de vigente actualidad a nivel internacional sobre cómo los niños pequeños pueden desempeñar un papel significativo en los programas y en decisiones que afectan a sus vidas.

60 páginas | ISSN 1566-6476

Pensamiento crítico

Espacio para la Infancia 21

La facultad de pensar de forma crítica es de hecho defendida como parte del desarrollo holístico de la primera infancia.

Las actividades que requieren que los niños observen, comprendan, reflexionen, juzguen y tomen decisiones les orientará a través de los numerosos dilemas, decisiones y elecciones que tengan que afrontar en la vida.

44 páginas | ISSN 1566-6476

Corporate publications

Annual Report 2003

This Annual Report reviews the work and interests of the Foundation and those of the projects it supports in 2003.

It includes a foreword on accountability by the Chair of the Board of Trustees, a financial report and a list of projects that the Foundation funded during the year.

38 pages

**Publications Catalogue (Catálogo de Publicaciones)
1994–2004**

The 1994–2004 Catalogue of Publications lists all official Foundation publications currently in print. Publications are listed by series and indexed by title. Our publications are available free of charge for single copies (up to a maximum of five) to organisations and individuals working in the area of early childhood development. Restrictions may apply depending on availability. The most recent publications can be downloaded free of charge from our website.

102 pages

Financial report 2004

Income and expenditure

The 2004 income and expenditure of the Bernard van Leer Foundation are shown in table 1.

The Foundation's income

The regular income of the Foundation in 2004 amounted to EUR 23,744,700. The largest part – EUR 23,151,000 – came from the income from Bernard van Leer's legacy, the investment of which is managed by the Van Leer Group Foundation. About 2.6% of the Foundation's income came from interest on current accounts (EUR 248,800) and from the co-funding of projects (EUR 344,900).

Non-regular income, which is budgetarily unpredictable, totalled EUR 20,200 and came from currency differences.

Expenses exceeded income in 2004 by EUR 400,100. This amount has been deducted from the Foundation's reserve (the amount available for grantmaking in future years), reducing it to EUR 7,175,300.

The Foundation's expenditure

The Foundation's goal over the period 2002–06 is to spend at least 75% of its budget on programmatic expenses (grants and Foundation-managed projects), and up to 25% on administrative and programme services. Actual programmatic expenses accounted for 74.4% of expenditures in 2004. Thus, at 25.6%, administrative expenses in 2004 were higher than the targeted 25%. When the administrative spending is corrected for one-time costs (restructuring and other non-recurrent labour costs), it amounts to 23.6% of total expenditure in 2004. This is somewhat up from 22.5% in 2003, but comfortably lower than the maximum amount of 25% (see table 2).

The work of the Bernard van Leer Foundation is fairly personnel intensive. The Foundation employs professionals who not only make grants but actively monitor and support the funded projects, who work to make sure that impact reaches beyond the projects to inform policy and practice, and who share the lessons learned within the broad community of those working for the development of young children.

These staff provide the Foundation with the profile it wishes to have: not just a funder but an organisation that adds value to its funding, learns from its own experiences and those of others, and shares the lessons learned widely. The Foundation puts all its salary expenses, including those of its programme staff, into its administrative budget. A list of names and positions of staff is shown on pages 101–103 of this report. The Foundation remains energetically committed to balancing the twin goals of adding value through its professional staff and keeping non-grant costs at a reasonable level.

The Foundation's grantmaking

In 2004 the Foundation made grants for a total of EUR 17,127,000 in 45 countries. This amount is approximately the same as in 2003 (EUR 17,148,400). Table 3 shows the country distribution of this grantmaking.

Details of the main grants made by the Foundation in 2004 can be found in the overview of the Foundation's grantmaking in 2004 (pages 50–74), which includes a list of all grants approved in 2004.

Distribution of Foundation grantmaking over developing and industrialised countries
 Since the Foundation makes grants largely in the countries where the former Royal Packaging Industries Van Leer used to do business, we support activities in both developing and industrialised countries. Over the last two years the Foundation awarded approximately 68% to projects in developing countries (see table 4).

The Foundation follows the United Nations system for categorising its grantmaking into developing and industrialised economies, with one exception: we place Israel in the industrialised category. In the United Nations system, Central and Eastern European economies in transition are classified as industrialised.

Grants by amount

Table 5 gives an overview of the sizes of grants made by the Foundation in 2004.

Table 1: Foundation income and expenditure in 2004 (amounts in EUR and rounded)

Income		Expenses	
Regular	23,744,700	Grants	17,127,000
Non-regular	20,200	Foundation-managed projects	851,100
		Administration	6,186,900
Total	23,764,900	Total	24,165,000

Table 2: Expenditure in 2003 and 2004 (amounts in EUR and rounded)

	2003	% of 2003 total	2004	% of 2004 total
Grants	17,148,000	73.7	17,127,000	70.9
Foundation-managed projects	880,000	3.8	851,000	3.5
Administrative and programme services	5,245,000	22.5	6,186,900	25.6
Total	23,273,000	100.0	24,165,000	100.0

Financial report 2004

Table 3: Amounts granted per country in 2003 and 2004 (amounts in EUR x 1.000.000 and rounded)

	2003	% of 2003 total	2004	% of 2004 total		2003	% of 2003 total	2004	% of 2004 total
Belgium	0.604	3.522	0.164	0.958	Morocco	0.013	0.076	0.325	1.898
Botswana	0.180	1.050	0.000	0.000	Mozambique	0.251	1.464	0.433	2.528
Brazil	0.156	0.910	1.258	7.345	Namibia	0.669	3.901	0.247	1.442
Canada	0.000	0.000	0.040	0.234	Netherlands	0.552	3.219	0.174	1.016
Chile	0.070	0.408	0.000	0.000	Nicaragua	0.000	0.000	0.322	1.880
Colombia	0.900	5.248	0.138	0.806	Nigeria	0.398	2.321	0.357	2.084
Cyprus	0.000	0.000	0.260	1.518	Palestine	0.012	0.070	0.000	0.000
Czech Republic	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.292	Peru	0.358	2.088	1.255	7.328
Egypt	0.055	0.321	0.349	2.038	Poland	0.450	2.624	0.605	3.532
El Salvador	0.000	0.000	0.282	1.647	Slovakia	0.040	0.233	0.000	0.000
France	0.157	0.916	0.074	0.432	South Africa	1.031	6.012	1.046	6.107
Germany	1.021	5.954	1.298	7.579	Spain	0.000	0.000	0.037	0.216
Greece	0.155	0.904	0.030	0.175	Tanzania	0.000	0.000	0.817	4.770
Grenada	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.058	Thailand	0.673	3.925	0.712	4.157
Guatemala	0.144	0.840	0.583	3.404	Trinidad & Tobago	0.106	0.618	0.097	0.566
India	0.474	2.764	0.743	4.338	Turkey	0.280	1.633	0.000	0.000
Indonesia	0.000	0.000	0.106	0.619	Uganda	0.364	2.123	0.200	1.168
Ireland	0.020	0.117	0.047	0.274	United Kingdom	0.414	2.414	0.713	4.163
Israel	1.214	7.080	1.291	7.538	USA	0.266	1.551	0.249	1.454
Italy	0.000	0.000	0.013	0.076	Venezuela	0.688	4.012	0.168	0.981
Jamaica	0.765	4.461	0.010	0.058	Zimbabwe	0.502	2.927	0.090	0.525
Kenya	0.567	3.307	0.657	3.836	Regional, etc	2.141	12.485	1.528	8.922
Malaysia	0.400	2.333	0.092	0.537					
Mexico	1.058	6.170	0.257	1.501	Total	17.148	100.000	17.127	100.000

Table 4: Grantmaking in developing and developed economies in 2003 and 2004 (amounts in EUR and rounded)

	2003	% of 2003 total	2004	% of 2004 total
Developing economies	11,696,000	67.8	11,662,000	68.1
Developed economies / Economies in transition	5,452,000	32.2	5,465,000	31.9
Total	17,100,00	100.0	17,127,000	100.0

Table 5: Size of grants in 2004 (amounts in EUR and rounded)

Grant size	Number of grants	Amount	Amount as % of total
0 – 20,000	34	280,000	2
20,001 – 70,000	39	1,619,000	9
70,001 – 140,000	19	1,962,000	11
140,001 – 230,000	21	3,719,000	22
230,001 – 450,000	22	6,988,000	41
450,001 – >	4	2,559,000	15
Total	139	17,127,000	100

Note: Some projects received more than one grant during 2004. Each of these is included separately in this table.

However, in the overview of the Foundation's grantmaking in 2004 (pages 50-74), entries for each of these projects have been consolidated to cover all grants made during the year.

Foundation-managed projects

In 2004, the Foundation spent EUR 851,100 on activities that fall under the heading 'Foundation-managed projects'. Of this, EUR 273,400 (32.1%) went to producing and distributing a variety of publications and other media which are provided free of charge to a wide audience. EUR 395,200 (46.4%) went to support three Foundation initiatives in specific areas of interest: the Effectiveness

Initiative; the Young Children and HIV/AIDS Initiative; and the Respect for Diversity Initiative. The remainder – EUR 182,500 (21.5%) – supported the development, evaluation and documentation of work funded by the Foundation, networking opportunities to bring Foundation grantees into contact with each other and with sources of knowledge and know-how, and the development of the philanthropic sector.

Resumen ejecutivo

Resumen ejecutivo

Las actividades llevadas a cabo por la Fundación Bernard van Leer durante 2004 continuaron desarrollándose en áreas programáticas que reflejan tanto las oportunidades como los retos a los que hoy en día se enfrenta la humanidad.

La Fundación mantiene una doble estrategia para conseguir fortalecer las oportunidades de los niños pequeños:

- Un programa de subvenciones y apoyos a programas cultural y socialmente adecuados para promover el desarrollo del niño y su bienestar.
- La Fundación profundiza en sus propias experiencias y en las de otros para extraer, consolidar y transmitir conocimiento y lecciones aprendidas con el fin de informar e influir sobre la política y la práctica relacionada con el desarrollo de la primera infancia.

Para optimizar sus recursos, la Fundación se concentra en un número reducido de prioridades relacionadas con el desarrollo de los niños pequeños. Los temas que en concreto son abordados, tanto en el programa de subvenciones como en el de difusión, incluyen: niños pequeños afectados por el VIH/SIDA (más ampliamente presentado en esta Memoria Anual), niños que crecen en sociedades indígenas y, por último, el respeto a la diversidad. En el ámbito internacional, la Fundación ha continuado participando activamente para contribuir a la provisión de educación básica para todos y cada uno de los niños. Y promoviendo y defendiendo la protección de los derechos de los niños, tal y como proclama la Convención de los Derechos del Niño.

En 2004, la Fundación concedió 139 subvenciones en 45 países, con un total de 17,1

millones de euros. Estos fondos fueron distribuidos en cinco regiones con un relativo grado de dispersión entre las mismas: África (22%), Asia (23%), Europa (20%), Latinoamérica (25%), Estados Unidos/Caribe (10%). La mayor parte se destinaron a países de renta baja (70%) frente a los distribuidos en países de renta alta (30%).

La Iniciativa VIH/SIDA

El énfasis de la Fundación en el trabajo relacionado con VIH/SIDA reconoce la insólita amenaza que esta enfermedad supone para los niños, especialmente en el África subsahariana. Para apoyar a los niños pequeños afectados por el VIH/SIDA, la Fundación continúa identificando a contrapartes que trabajan con base en la comunidad. Esto generalmente significa organizar a la comunidad para asegurarse que los niños están comiendo bien y que pueden acudir a la escuela; ayudando a los cuidadores o a los más pequeños que estén enfermos; cocinando, limpiando, cultivando y solucionando problemas del hogar que puedan afectar a los niños; y proporcionando información y especialistas cuando es necesario. Según estimaciones de Naciones Unidas, 12 millones de niños subsaharianos han perdido a sus padres como consecuencia del VIH/SIDA, lo cual genera una presión enorme sobre sus parientes y comunidades.

Irine, una niña de seis años, es huérfana. Le gusta escribir y cantar y es muy buena en matemáticas (que también puede ser considerado como un

(continúa en la pág. 97)











(viene de la pág. 88)

El Fondo de Apoyo al Tsunami de la Fundación Bernard van Leer

Junto a millones de personas en todo el mundo, la Fundación Bernard van Leer respondió al tsunami de diciembre 2004 preguntándose cómo podría ayudar de la mejor forma posible a aquellos que habían perdido sus hogares y sus seres queridos. La respuesta más inmediata fue conceder una subvención a una contraparte, *Voluntary Health Association* de la India (VHAI) para contribuir al trabajo de emergencia en las Islas Andaman, una de las áreas más cercanas al epicentro del temblor.

El Consejo de Dirección de la Fundación Bernard van Leer también decidió destinar un millón de euros adicionales a su presupuesto anual con el fin de dirigirlo a aspectos de reconstrucción y desarrollo a más largo plazo en las regiones afectadas del sur y sureste de Asia. La Fundación ha priorizado tres áreas: apoyo a padres directamente afectados por el desastre, en su papel de cuidadores; apoyo a (para)profesionales tal como comadronas, personal de cuidado y salud infantil; la creación de entornos seguros para niños pequeños, con posibilidades de que los niños jueguen e interactúen socialmente.

disfrute). Pero hace apenas dos años, como muchos otros niños de su ciudad natal de Kenia occidental, se sentía apagada y triste. Su abuela, Josephine, acredita esta positiva transformación al centro de cuidado diario Lunjre, que ofrece alivio a los niños a pesar de la sofocante pobreza y el entorno familiar en el que viven. En el centro de cuidado, a los niños se les provee de comida decente, atención médica básica y tiempo para el juego y la interacción social. Josephine supo sobre la existencia del centro en una sesión de concienciación comunitaria organizada por el Fondo Cristiano para Niños (CCF), contraparte de la Fundación. Actualmente, cuando Irine regresa a casa, cuenta contenta a su abuela sobre lo que aprendió y lo que jugó. “Ahora –dice Josephine- ella está fuerte

y animosa, muy alegre y siempre está hablando. Nos transmite esperanza y alegría”.

Con los proyectos de VIH/SIDA, la Fundación espera hacer de puente entre la comunidad para el desarrollo de la primera infancia y la de VIH/SIDA. El objetivo no es sólo financiar proyectos para mejorar las posibilidades de desarrollo de los niños en contextos afectados por el VIH/SIDA. También el desarrollar, documentar y compartir modelos de buenas prácticas y mejorar las estrategias de comunicación, promoción y defensa sobre los niños pequeños y esta enfermedad.

Mientras que, comprensiblemente, los debates sobre temas médicos y de salud dominan los titulares, la Fundación Bernard van Leer trabaja para

reunir a un grupo de organizaciones nacionales e internacionales en favor de la infancia para reivindicar un espacio en la agenda de la Conferencia Internacional de Sida que tendrá lugar en Toronto en abril de 2006. Los talleres preparativos organizados por la Fundación con vistas a esta conferencia forman parte del rango de sus respuestas ofrecidas, yendo más allá de su programa de financiación otorgado a contrapartes individuales.

Aun así, el programa de subvenciones sigue siendo el foco de la Fundación. CCF utiliza un “jirani” o un modelo de vecindario, con formadores ayudando a los cuidadores (como la abuela Josephine) para crear grupos de 20 a 25 personas que se presten apoyo mutuo. Al otro lado de la frontera, en Uganda, *Action for Children* desarrolla un trabajo similar pero con una atención más específica hacia los niños de una generación mayor. El proyecto “*Grandparents as Caregivers*” (Abuelos como Cuidadores) surgió de un estudio llevado a cabo en el distrito de Kampala, en el que se supo que el 80% de los huérfanos están siendo atendidos por sus abuelos.

Las contrapartes de la Fundación practican el enfoque holístico del desarrollo de la primera infancia, que incluye la concienciación sobre la necesidad del apoyo psicosocial, un concepto por el que la Fundación está abogando en los cursos de formación impartidos a través de la Iniciativa Regional de Apoyo Psicosocial (REPSSI). La idea es que aunque la nutrición y la salud son cruciales en el bienestar del niño huérfano como consecuencia del VIH/SIDA, también lo es su estado de seguridad emocional y el espacio social donde poder expresarse y trabajar sobre el trauma del fallecimiento.

Promoviendo los derechos de los niños

En el ámbito de la política internacional, fue un motivo de satisfacción el participar en una reunión pública organizada por el Comité de los Derechos del Niño de Naciones Unidas el pasado mes de septiembre de 2004. Este “Día de Debate General” centró la atención de gobiernos, representantes de la sociedad civil, expertos, órganos de Naciones Unidas y otros, sobre cómo los derechos del niño pueden ser puestos en práctica en los primeros años de vida de un niño. Posteriormente a la sesión, la Fundación asumió la función de coordinador técnico de un grupo de trabajo internacional que analizaría los temas legales que giran en torno a los derechos de los niños pequeños, tal y como dispone la Convención. La ‘observación general’ que surgirá de este grupo de trabajo dotará de una clara orientación para los gobiernos sobre qué deberían estar haciendo por los niños en relación con la Convención. También será de gran utilidad para que las ONG establezcan plataformas a través de las cuales promuevan los derechos de los niños pequeños.

Educación para Todos

El programa Educación para Todos (EPT) de UNESCO continúa siendo la iniciativa global más destacada con el fin de proporcionar educación básica para todos los niños. La Fundación celebra que gracias al trabajo de varios representantes en la esfera del desarrollo de la primera infancia, ésta será el centro de atención de la próxima edición del Informe de Seguimiento de Educación para Todos, una publicación anual ampliamente extendida y con gran influencia sobre los aspectos del EPT. El informe sobre primera infancia saldrá publicado en noviembre de 2006, presentando el escenario de una serie de eventos que tendrán

Bernard van Leer, el filántropo holandés más importante de todos los tiempos

En reconocimiento al buen trabajo de Bernard van Leer, o mejor aún, de la Fundación que constituye su legado, la revista holandesa especializada en organizaciones filantrópicas y de la sociedad civil, FM Weekly, ha distinguido a Bernard van Leer como el filántropo holandés más importante en la historia de los Países Bajos. El jurado a cargo de la distinción, no sólo subrayó la contribución de Van Leer con efectos duraderos sobre el bien común sino que también resaltó el impacto de sus actos como perdurables, ejemplares e innovadores.

lugar durante el año siguiente en torno a este tema. En los años precedentes a la publicación del informe, se espera apreciar un importante dinamismo por parte de los gobiernos para ponerse en línea en su progreso, en términos de indicadores y programas sobre desarrollo de la primera infancia, de acuerdo con los objetivos de la estrategia del EPT. Esto supone una oportunidad única para aquéllos interesados en nuestro ámbito, en definitiva, un Año de Primera Infancia.

Early Childhood Matters/ Espacio para la Infancia

En 2004, junto a algunos cambios efectuados en el departamento de documentación y publicaciones, la Fundación ha remodelado su publicación más difundida, *Early Childhood Matters*. Esta revista sigue contando con un total de 14.000 suscriptores repartidos a lo largo de 150 países, con artículos sobre el desarrollo de la primera infancia procedentes tanto de experiencias de la Fundación como ajenas a la misma. Con este rediseño, la revista pasa a estar más orientada hacia el exterior. Colaboraciones externas son ahora más frecuentes y su homóloga en

español, *Espacio para la Infancia*, recoge los mismos contenidos. Cada una de las ediciones se genera en torno a un tema que constituye el eje de la revista. Los temas a tratar en 2005 son “*Respuestas a niños pequeños en situaciones de postemergencia*”, con especial atención a los aspectos que afrontan los más pequeños en las zonas afectadas por el tsunami, y “*Los niños pequeños sin cuidado parental*”.

La Iniciativa de Efectividad: Una historia que vale la pena contar

En 2004 concluyó la *Iniciativa sobre Efectividad* de la Fundación. Este proyecto se inició en 1999 con el fin de saber por qué ciertos programas de desarrollo de la primera infancia funcionan para las personas y comunidades que en ellos participan. Se formaron distintos equipos para que observaran de cerca a diez programas e involucraran activa y significativamente a sus actores en el proceso de investigación. Después de unos años, los equipos redactaron y entregaron sus informes a la Fundación.

Para optimizar sus recursos, la Fundación se concentra en un número reducido de prioridades relacionadas con el desarrollo de la primera infancia: niños pequeños afectados por el VIH/SIDA, niños que crecen en sociedades indígenas, y el respeto a la diversidad.

"Historias que vivimos, historias que aprendimos" se basa en estos informes y su documentación. Como complemento, un pequeño texto, *"Pequeñas ideas que funcionan"*, fue publicado en 2005. Contiene varios de los numerosos esquemas, directos y concretos, puestos en práctica por los programas participantes en la Iniciativa. Ambas publicaciones se pueden obtener a través de nuestra página web.

Para más información

Las restricciones de espacio impiden que podamos ir más allá de una breve selección de actividades de la Fundación. Información adicional sobre los proyectos puede ser encontrada en las tablas y listas en la sección en inglés de este informe. Para más datos sobre proyectos en países concretos, regiones o temáticas, consulte nuestra página web <www.bernardvanleer.org> o póngase en contacto con nosotros en la dirección que figura en la contraportada.

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Kenya: Kenya Orphans Rural Development Programme (KORDP)

Children in a village in Busia district, western Kenya, where a new early childhood development centre is being built. The Bernard van Leer Foundation helps KORDP strengthen the capacity of care-giving families to improve the living conditions of orphaned children.

Photo: BvLF/Wendy Stone



Chile: Junta Nacional de Jardines Infantiles (JUNJI)

Girls having fun with a jungle-gym made of painted tyres. Stimulating children's sense of humour is one way strengthening their resilience (the capacity to thrive in spite of adversity). The "Circo del Mundo" project provided activities and opportunities for young children living in poor communities to use humour in coping with the challenges of their environment.

Photo: JUNJI/Mónica Bravo Mercado



Kenya: African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN)

Teacher Jane Atieno Ogutu is working with children in a classroom in a new early childhood development centre. The Foundation supports ANPPCAN in its work with the community to improve early childhood care, raise awareness on HIV/AIDS and provide legal assistance on inheritance issues and will writing.

Photo: BvLF/Wendy Stone



Malaysia: Partners of Community Organisations (PACOS), Tandek

A woman weaving palmleaves with her child beside her. The Foundation supports PACOS in improving early childhood education and development for indigenous children in rural areas, to better prepare them for primary and later education. The Foundation has worked with PACOS for over 10 years.

Photo: Center for Orang Asli Concerns/Colin Nicholas



Turkey: Geçeköndü Childen Project

"Face painting" for the "I can do it" programme at Dernekkiri Women and Children's Centre. The Foundation has supported the development of community-based childcare.

Photo: Geçeköndü/Sevil Üzrek



South Africa: "Family in Focus" programme of the Western Cape Foundation for Community Work (FCW)

A home visitor sensitises a parent to young children's need for stimulation. FCW established the programme in order to reach out to young children and their families living in marginalised communities, where there is limited access to early childhood development services.

Photo: BvLF/Nyambura Rugoiyo



Photo credits

Kenya, Rangala: Christian Children's Fund (CCF)

Grandmother at home with a daughter and one of the seven grandchildren in her care. CCF Kenya has designed an effective community-based, integrated family-support and orphan-care programme based on research carried out in an earlier Foundation-supported project.

Photo: BvLF/Wendy Stone



Mexico: Centro Interdisciplinario para el Desarrollo Social (CIDES)

Children from an urban housing estate play games before a lesson in their homes. They often work on the streets, where they risk getting involved in drugs and prostitution. CIDES provides a range of educational and recreational programmes for these children to provide them with alternatives.

Photo: Sara Hannant



Morocco: Alliance de Travail dans la Formation et l'Action pour L'Enfance (ATFALE)

A preschool class in the Er Rachidia region in West Morocco. The Foundation supports ATFALE in improving the quality of preschool practice. ATFALE cooperates closely with the Moroccan Ministry of National Education in this effort. The Government of Morocco aims to provide preschool education across the country, and ATFALE will have a major role in the process to build in quality standards.

Photo: BvLF/Rita Swinnen



Guatemala

The Foundation supports the Fundación Esfuerzo y Prosperidad (FUNDAESPRO) in implementing the Los Niños en la Comunidad y la Comunidad con los Niños project. The project provides integrated daycare, education and health services in marginalised urban areas. FUNDAESPRO lobbies at national and municipal levels for policies on integrated childcare and education services for disadvantaged families and children.

Photo: Angela Barrau-Ernst/BvLF



Uganda, Mubende

In a community school, an instructor talks with community leaders about the causes and problems of HIV/AIDS. The lack of education and information is often seen as a major cause of the rapid spread of the pandemic.

Photo: BvLF/Jim Holmes



Indonesia, Banda Aceh

Muhibuddin HS and Rizal (9) deliver water on a becak to one of the many tsunami-stricken households in Suak Timah. The Foundation's Tsunami Support Fund (see page 37) addresses issues of long-term rehabilitation and development in tsunami-affected regions.

Photo: Jim Holmes



Photo credits

South Africa, Eastern Cape: Masekhule ECD Program

Children capture their families and friends and their everyday lives on video in a project aimed at enabling young children to have a voice in interventions on issues affecting them.

Photo: Peter Jordan, former Foundation-supported Hine Fellow of Centre for Documentary Studies at Duke University, USA



India: Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)

Children in the Khodianagar childcare centre play a game as their teacher looks on, waiting to pass out the afternoon snack. With support from the Foundation, SEWA expanded its coverage to more than 100 (formal) childcare centres serving around 5,000 children.

Photo: Sara Gomez, former HART Fellow of the Centre for Documentary Studies at Duke University, USA



Ireland: Pavee Point Travellers' Centre

A traveller-father feeds his infant on a visit to a faith healer in rural Ireland. Within its early childhood programme, Pavee Point works to improve the lives of children of Irish Travellers (an indigenous ethnic minority) in line with the UN Convention on Rights of the Child.

Photo: Caroline Mullen



Ireland, Dublin: Eist Project, Pavee Point Traveller's Centre

A boy of Asian origin learns Irish in a bi-lingual preschool that promotes respect for diversity. The Foundation supported the development of a strategy to integrate diversity and equality in training in the early childhood care and education sector in Ireland.

Photo: Derek Speirs



Israel: Stichting Hope, the Netherlands

Palestinian child from the West Bank plays with marbles. The Dutch Stichting Hope helps Palestinian children traumatised by violence through, for example, art therapy, telling stories and library activities. Games are a vital part of the approach.

Photo: Sake Elzinga



Saint Lucia: Roving Caregivers Programme

A female roving caregiver is reading pictures with children during a home visit in a fishing village on the eastern coast. The rovers offer stimulation activities for children aged 0 to 3 years, work on interpersonal development and communication skills and conduct parenting group sessions. Local implementation committees meet periodically to review progress and consider the implications for future expansion.

Photo: Roving Caregivers Programme/Lawrence Thomas



Photo credits

Kenya: Samburu ECD Programme, Christian Children's Fund (CCF)

Creative play materials in a *loipi*, an enclosure in a community, where children aged 0 to 4 years and their carers – mainly grandmothers – gather to learn and play.

Photo: BvLF/Tanja van de Linde



Uganda: Children teaching children in rural Uganda

Teachers in Uganda earn very little, so they often have a job on the side, often out of school. The community has no funds to rebuild this school building.

Photo: Jim Holmes



South Africa: Family in Focus programme with the Western Cape Foundation for Community Work

With a home visitor in the background, children show off their art work.

Photo: BvLF/Nyambura Rugoiyo



Indonesia, Banda Aceh

Thirteen-year-old Fariz lived on this spot with his parents and siblings. Their home was smashed by the tsunami. Fariz and his sister were adopted by their neighbour, who had miraculously survived with all her children.

Photo: Jim Holmes



Zimbabwe: Child Welfare Programme, Inter-Country People's Aid (IPA)

A father is taking a child to the local early childhood development playsite. The Foundation helps IPA consolidate community-rooted childcare in three peri-urban informal settlements of Harare.

Photo: IPA/Parke Wayisva



Egypt: The National Union for Early Childhood Development, Children of the Nile project

The Egyptian National Union for ECD builds institutional and professional capacity to deliver quality early childhood development services, both in the government-supervised preschools and among a national network of 30 NGOs, spread over nine governorates. The project's main components are training, strengthening the institutional set-up, and networking at various levels.

Photo: Wim Monasso/BvLF



Photo credits

Germany, Berlin: Kinderwelten

As part of promoting respect for diversity, children learn about differences in appearances by looking at themselves in the mirror.

Photo: Kinderwelten/Kornelia Ben Messaoud



Uganda

Ten-year-old Frances Mwenba blows the flames from a cooking fire she is lighting to help her mother prepare dinner. Girls are often taken from school to help with domestic chores, and their duties can be heavy work.

Photo: Jim Holmes



Brazil, Minas Gerais: Crianças do Sementinha de Araçuaí project

Conceived and implemented by the Centro Popular de Cultura e Desenvolvimento, the Sementinha ("little seed") project focuses on educating children aged 4 to 6 years by teaching them about their immediate environment. Teachers and children meet in places known to them all, such as a church, a community hall or somebody's house.

Education is inspired by the community's own culture.

Photo: Sementinha/Rosangela Guerra





Bernard van Leer  *Foundation*

Eisenhowerlaan 156, 2517 KP The Hague, The Netherlands

P.O. Box 82334, 2508 EH The Hague, The Netherlands

Tel: +31 (0)70 331 22 00, Fax: +31 (0)70 350 23 73

Email: registry@bvleer.nl Web: www.bernardvanleer.org