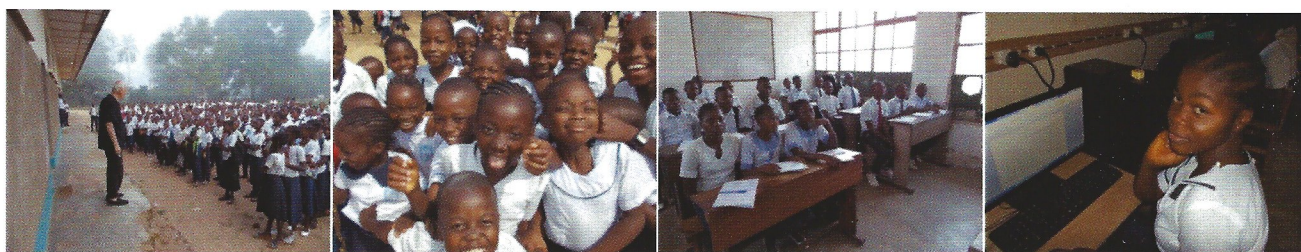




St Joseph's African Aid

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES | CHANGING LIVES



## Newsletter 2020



*Sewing School, Ilebo. 400 Pupils.*

## The Annual SJAA Newsletter

SJAA is at the service of our donors. Our annual Newsletter is intended not only to thank our donors for all they have achieved but also to let them know how their donations are spent. In reality the annual Newsletter is only a snapshot of what we have achieved during the last 12 months.

## The SJAA Website ([www.sjaa.org.uk](http://www.sjaa.org.uk))

It is by means of the SJAA website that we aim to give our donors and all those interested in the Charity information about what has been achieved over many years. We endeavour to keep the web site up to date as best we can. We invite you to consult our web site to discover the wonders our donors have achieved.

## Small photos on the front page

The small photos on the front page show:

The Chairman addressing pupils in Domiongo.

Primary school pupils in the playground posing for the camera in Ilebo.

Pupils in their classroom in Bulongo

A pupil at work during an IT lesson in Ilebo.

## Whereabouts in Africa does SJAA support local communities?



SJAA is active in 3 different countries of Africa. (DR Congo, Gabon, Cameroon).

These countries are very different and SJAA has to work in different ways in each country. For example; some have a banking system which can be easily used. Others do not. SJAA uses US Dollars in the Congo and Euros in the Cameroon and Gabon.

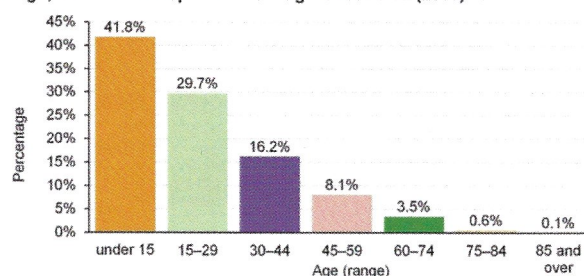
One thing they do have in common is the use of French alongside their local languages.

## Why is education so important in the Congo?

The work of SJAA in the field of education needs to be understood in the light of an analysis of the population by age.

This diagram shows that nearly half the population of the D.R. Congo are of school age. Over the last decade SJAA have built classrooms and equipped them with desks in the schools we support in the Western Kasai. As a result the number of boys and girls receiving an education in these schools has risen from 2000 to 3000.

Congo, Democratic Republic of the age breakdown (2017)





## What has been achieved in the last year?

### **Cameroon**

Water well at Matshekiedi.

Toilets in the new school in Koza

### **DR Congo**

New Classrooms and school desks in Ilebo and Domiongo.

Anti-rust paint for new buildings.

Repair of existing buildings in Bulongo.

Toilets for schools in Ilebo.

Medicines for the Medical Centre in Bulongo.

These improvements might seem somewhat banal but they are essential to the ongoing development of schools in the Western Kasai: two of them (Bulongo and Domiongo) are in the equatorial rain forest.

All these projects employ local work men and provide an income for their families.



*Medical Centre in Bulongo*

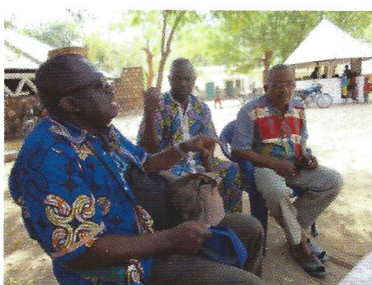
## How does SJAA ensure that money sent to Africa is properly spent?

To ensure that money sent to Africa has been spent properly regular visits are made by a Trustee to the different African countries where SJAA is active.

Over the last 18 months all three countries where SJAA is active have been visited by a Trustee. These visits are paid for by the Josephite Congregation.



*The Project Director in Gabon*



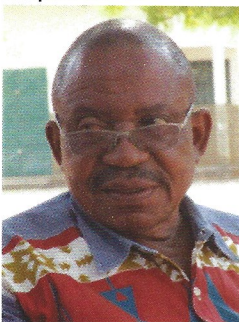
*Fr Jacob in Cameroon*



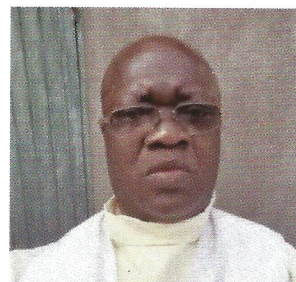
*The Chairman in DR Congo*

## Two valiant collaborators

SJAA is totally dependent on the collaboration of colleagues in Africa. Two of them are especially important.



**Fr Roger Beya** has over the years overseen the construction of 7 SJAA water wells in the North Cameroon. See more pictures on the website.



**Fr Georges Minga** has over the years built and equipped 12 SJAA classrooms in the Western Kasai. Reports and photos of these new buildings have been reported on the website.



## Sewing Schools.

These schools are very popular with girls. There are now 440 pupils in the sewing school in Ilebo. Sewing schools have been established in all the secondary schools in the Kasai supported by SJAA. It is important to note that in these schools the girls are taught the same academic syllabus common to all schools in the Congo. On leaving school some girls will go on to further studies at a university in Kinshasa, some will set up shop in a local market selling their wares.

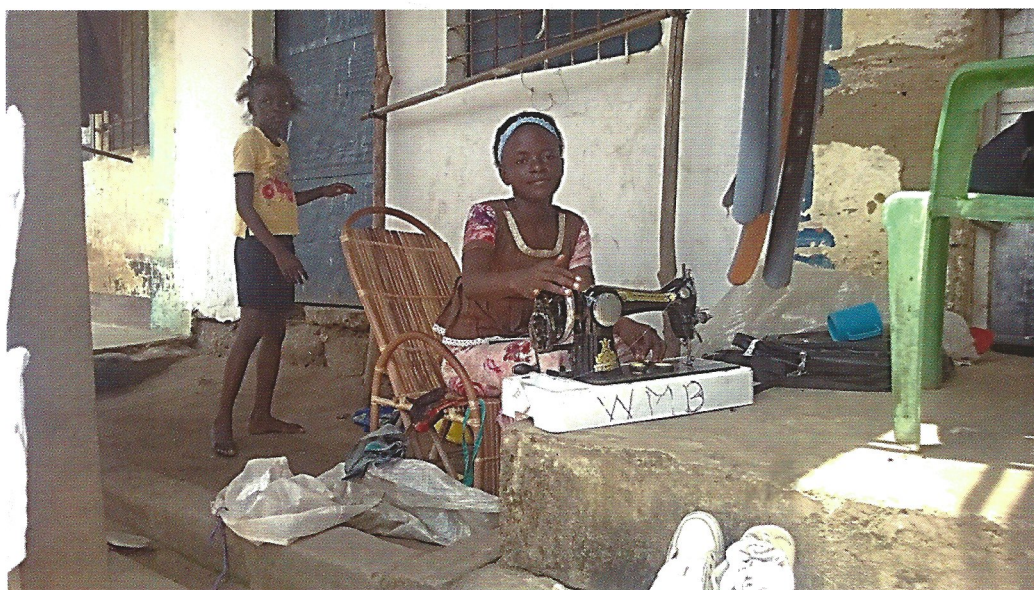


*Pupils at work in the school ...*



*A finished product*

*... and one of several former pupils with her own business in the local market*



## Please help us if you can.

Your donations are the foundation of our work. Every donation, no matter how small, is valuable. Money goes a long way in Africa.

Donations can be sent by post to SJAA 131 Horton Road. Staines. TW19 6AF

Donations can be made online through Virgin Money Giving.