ANNUAL REPORT 2024









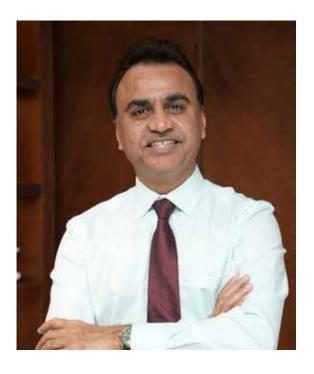


Message from the Chairman

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been facing consistent humanitarian and health crises impeding its development and stability, with issues such as armed conflict, displacement of populations, and outbreaks of diseases like Ebola and cholera, exacerbating the situation. Though it is being the largest country in Sub-Saharan Africa and is blessed with exceptional natural resources, it remains among the poorest nations in the world. The plight of women, children and elderly citizens is particularly dire, as they often bear the brunt of violence and instability, facing challenges such as limited access to healthcare, education, and basic necessities.

During the review period, RAF Global made consistent effort in ensuring nutritious meals for underprivileged children, everyday, in childcare institutions. In a significant leap forward in 2024, RAF Global launched its early childhood programme in four government schools in Kinshasa, offering free, early foundation classes for children from underprivileged families which remarkably attracted more than two-fold growth in the enrolment for children. Further, under the initiative of safe water provision, 23 water tanks were constructed along with boundaries for safety and ease of water collection.

RAF Global's livelihood programme in DRC embarked on a new journey with Vodacom Foundation by opening avenues for women and youth in mobile banking under M-Pesa training programme. In another significant partnership with Operation Smile, RAF Global helped patients' families during the cleft surgery camps gain valuable skills through interactive workshops on detergent-making and organic farming.



Looking ahead, we remain deeply committed to creating meaningful and lasting change in the communities we serve. This progress would not be possible without the incredible dedication of our team in RAF Global in DRC, alongside our valued partners, donors and stakeholders. Your support drives our mission and strengthens our resolve to push boundaries and achieve greater milestones.

Resum Adata
Rizwan Adatia

Rizwan Adatia Founder & Chairman RAF Global

About RAF Global

RAF Global is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international organisation committed to improving the quality of life primarily in selected countries across Africa and Asia. RAF Global has branches and affiliates in six countries. It works with the most marginalised individuals, families, communities in the poorest areas of Asia and Africa to improve their quality of life by acting as a catalyst that brings together resources, technology, systems, and effective grassroots strategies, giving better choices and control to people for lasting change. In pursuit of its mission, RAF Global endeavours to make longterm, strategic and systemic investment around the key sectors of health, nutrition, education, and sustainable livelihoods along with advancing good governance at the subnational level. Operational in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) since 2017, RAF Global is registered by the Ministry of Social Affairs in the category of ASBL/ NGO/EUP of a social nature, under Law No. 004-2001.

Vision

A resilient society that is free from poverty and where every woman, man and child leads a fulfilling life with dignity, peace and security of rights.

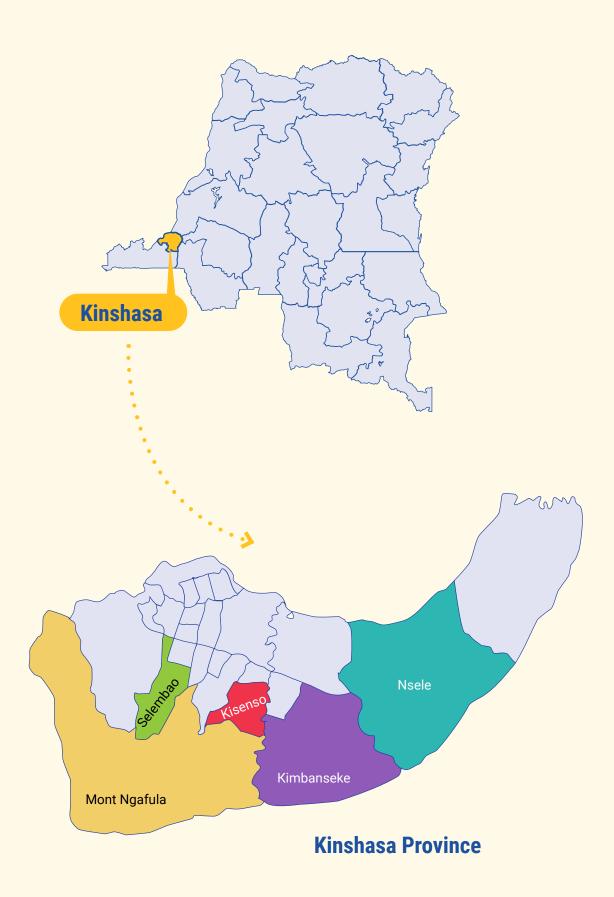
Mission

RAF Global works with the most marginalised individuals, families and communities in the poorest areas of Asia and Africa to improve the quality of life by acting as a catalyst that brings together resources, technology, systems, and effective grassroots strategies, giving better choices and control to people for a lasting change.

Global Presence



Programme locations in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)



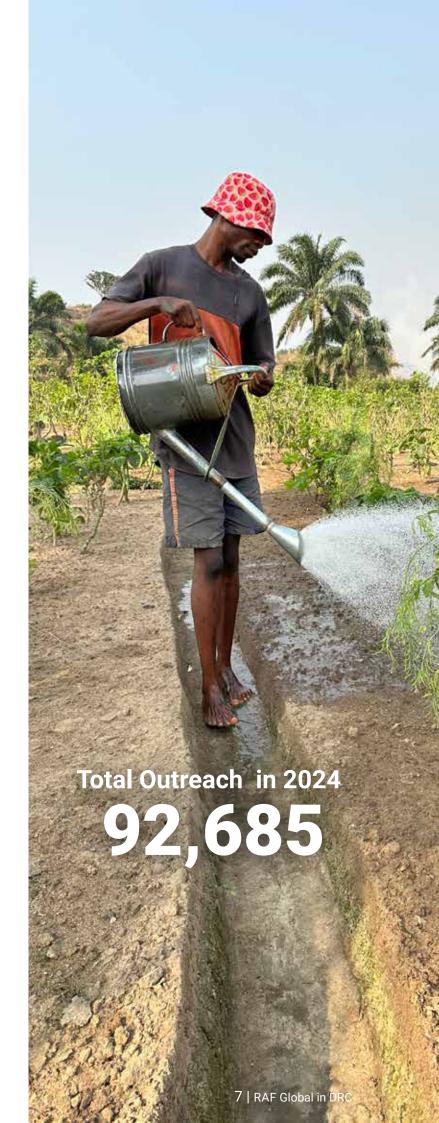
RAF Global in DRC

Overview 2024

Since 2017, RAF Global has remained steadfast in its mission to enable marginalised individuals, families, and communities, in the face of adversity. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) continues to battle recurring health crises, including the recent mpox outbreak, alongside cholera, Ebola, polio, measles, and COVID-19. Already burdened by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, DRC grapples with both communicable and non-communicable diseases. This range of ongoing health challenges severely impact daily life, making it difficult for people to secure necessities such as food, education, healthcare, and sustainable livelihoods.

RAF Global's multi-sectoral, programmes address these critical needs by evolving contextual strategies, ensuring progressive outreach and making collaborative efforts, focusing on both immediate humanitarian aid as well as long-term, socio-economic development. Its strategic intervention techniques that drive multifaceted benefits, expand both the scale of outreach and the range of services within its programmes.

A notable example is RAF Global's partnership with EP Mbengo School in Selembao, where infrastructure support in 2023, jointly facilitated by funding partners Zarina Foundation and Kin Marche, significantly enhanced the learning environment. The school has undergone complete refurbishing of infrastructure and facilities—renovation of boundary walls, washrooms, roofs, classrooms, drinking water facility and new furniture (benches and tables). In 2024, the synergistic partnership with EP Mbengo School, enabled enrollment of children from Les Cris des Enfants orphanage, referred by RAF Global.



The year in review

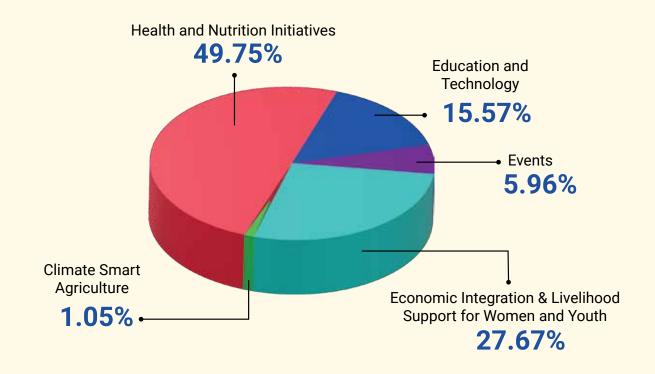
During the period under review, a total of 92,685 individuals benefitted from the organisation's initiatives. Among them, 1.7 per cent benefitted from more than one initiative of the organisation. A reported 54 per cent people drawing benefits from the programmes were women. The following table shows the spread of its impact on the community through a range of programmes.

	Programmes	No. of persons reached	Of them, proportion of people who have benefitted from other programmes as well
(4)	Health and Nutrition Initiatives	66,546	-
	Economic Integration & Livelihood Support for Women and Youth	1,797	11%
	Climate Smart Agriculture	409	80%
	Education & Technology	23,933	4%

Women's participation across programmes

	Programmes	No. of persons reached	Of them, number of women reached
(4)	Health and Nutrition Initiatives	66,546	55%
	Economic Integration & Livelihood Support for Women and Youth	1,797	80%
	Climate Smart Agriculture	409	55%
	Education & Technology	23,933	52%

Investments across programmes





01



66,546
Total programme beneficiaries

23 water tanks constructed

3,620 children supported with nutritious meals

582 cataract surgeries conducted





Programme Account



RAF Global is committed to transforming lives through sustainable health and well-being initiatives. In this domain, its efforts focus on strengthening healthcare in underserved communities, including free cataract surgeries, and ensuring food security for children. Additionally, the organisation works to enhance water and sanitation infrastructure, for access to clean water and hygienic living conditions. By integrating these initiatives, it strives to create healthier, more resilient communities, empowering individuals with the essential resources they need for a better future.

In the reporting period, RAF Global positively impacted **66,546** lives through its healthcare initiatives.

Women represented **55 per cent** of the total individuals benefitted through healthcare initiatives.

Strengthening the healthcare system

Nutrition care for underprivileged children

In the period under review, RAF Global served 3,620 children through its nutrition aid programme. The initiative comprised nutritious meals at Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre and monthly grocery supplies at Centre for Nutritionnel Soeur Vernoquie Natival (a child care facility catering to malnourished children in Nsele commune) and at two orphanages – Don De Marie and Mama Koko.





Since 2019, the children at Orphanage Mama Koko have enjoyed fresh bread daily through an in-house bakery unit, run in collaboration by RAF Global and its nutrition aid partner, Ste. Fourways Sarl. The bakery employs four salaried bakers, all of whom are former residents of the orphanage. Additionally, the unit is leveraged for skill-building initiatives, offering a three-month certification course in baking, introduced in 2023. So far, 100 youth, including residents from Orphanage Mama Koko, have been trained, to help them convert their passion for baking into economic ventures. Through this partnership, the need for nutrition as well as skill development for income generation are expected to be addressed.



Enhancing healthcare infrastructure

As part of its ongoing effort, RAF Global invested in procurement of essential medical equipment to the under-resourced healthcare centres in Kinshasa province. In addition to last year's efforts of procurement of ophthalmology microscope, incubator, photography lamps and other essential medical equipment at CH Etonga Hospital in Nsele commune, RAF Global provided three oxygen cylinders for neonatal intensive care unit at the same hospital during the review period.

Cataract treatment

During the period under review, under the cataract treatment programme, in collaboration with funding partners Devimco and Biso na Biso, 582 individuals diagnosed with cataract underwent free surgeries. Of them, 17 were operated on both eyes. The surgeries were conducted at



CH Roi Baudoin and at its four branches in Kinshasa province. Alongside, cataract camps were conducted in four communes of Kinshasa to help community people with awareness on early signs and detection, and information of hospitals offering free cataract surgeries. RAF Global coordinated with Bureau Doicesain des Oeuvres Medicales Hospital, CH Likabo, CH Saint Joseph and Clinique Pax in Kinshasa province for organising cataract camps, providing free clinical diagnosis for eye diseases. Nearly 60 per cent people diagnosed with cataract during these camps were referred to hospitals for treatment. More than half of those who received treatment were women.

Nsola Biyela, a 65-year-old resident of Nsele commune, was living with cataract for eight years. Initially affecting one eye, the condition gradually worsened, impacting her second eye as well. As her vision deteriorated, she struggled to cook, identify food colours, and travel independently. She was unable to make her frequent 10 km trips to another commune to buy ingredients for Kwanga (bread made from fermented cassava dough) which she sold. In 2023, she learned about RAF Global's free cataract treatment and enrolled for surgery. The organisation helped restore her vision completely by treating each eye separately in 2023 and 2024. With her restored vision, she has regained independence, resumed her business, and is now able to financially support her husband and five children.



Improving water and sanitation infrastructure

Almost 65 per cent of the population in the DRC does not have basic access to clean water, while 84 per cent lack access to basic sanitation services¹. It is common for people in rural DRC to travel miles to fetch clean water.

RAF Global constructed 21 water tanks and two water wells during the year, which is estimated to ensure access to basic water supply and sanitation for 61,913 people in villages of Nsele, Kimbanseke, Mont Ngafula and Selembao communes.





¹ Albert Zeufack and Saroj Kumar Jha. June 10, 2024. 'Democratic Republic of Congo: In the water sector, taking stock of challenges leads to new solutions'. WORLD BANK BLOGS. https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/africacan/drc-water-sector-taking-stock-challenges-leads-to-new-solutions-afe-0624 (Accessed: 6 January 2025).

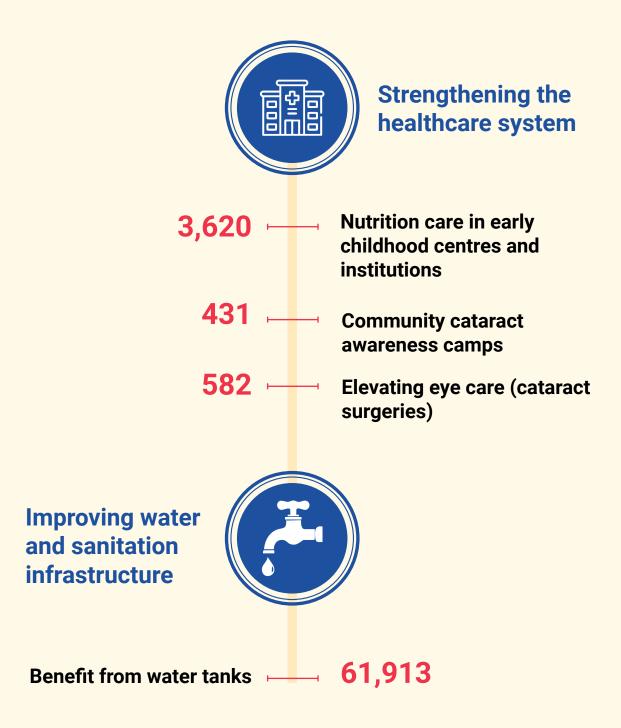
Sustainable water solution

In a concerted effort to provide affordable and sustainable water solutions, RAF Global initiated the development of a first-of-its-kind, water supply infrastructure in 2019, in Kinshasa. The solution comprises capturing small streams of water emerging from the ground and flowing from nearby water bodies, and directing them into a concrete water tank built above the source. This tank collects and stores the water from natural outlets, distributing it through two taps installed at different levels, for ease of access. Earlier, people used small utensils to collect water from these streams and employed makeshift barriers, such as cloth bags, sticks, and plasticsheets, to help with collection. To direct the flow, they dug wide holes at the water sources and inserted small PVC pipes or plastic bottles. This complicated and labour-intensive task was compounded by the need to address water contamination.

The viable water infrastructure set up by RAF Global, costs between USD 1,800 and USD 2,000, offers a significant cost-saving compared to the USD 18,000 to USD 20,000 required for a borehole water supply system. Additionally, it requires no power supply. From 2019 until the review period, the initiative has improved access to clean water for a total of 4,88,548 villagers.



Outreach through Health and Nutrition Initiatives



02



1,797
Total programme outreach

1,445
women and
youth trained in
employable skills

10 skill-building centres offered certificate courses in eight trades

157 individuals received seed capital







Economic Integration and Livelihood Support for Women and Youth

RAF Global's Economic integration and livelihood support programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo focuses on empowering women and youth through skill-building and entrepreneurship initiatives. Operating in the communes of Kimbanseke, Nsele, Mont Ngafula, Kisenso and Selembao in Kinshasa province, the programme offers vocational training in diverse trades. From 2017 to 2024, nearly 8,000 individuals have graduated from skill-building courses, potentially enhancing their income-generating capabilities. Additionally, RAF Global provides seed capital support to facilitate the establishment of micro-enterprise, fostering self-employment and creating further employment opportunities within these communities.

In the year in review, **1,797** women and youth participated in Economic Integration and Livelihood Support initiatives, of whom, nearly 11 per cent received benefits through other initiatives as well. Women represented **80 per cent** of all programme participants.

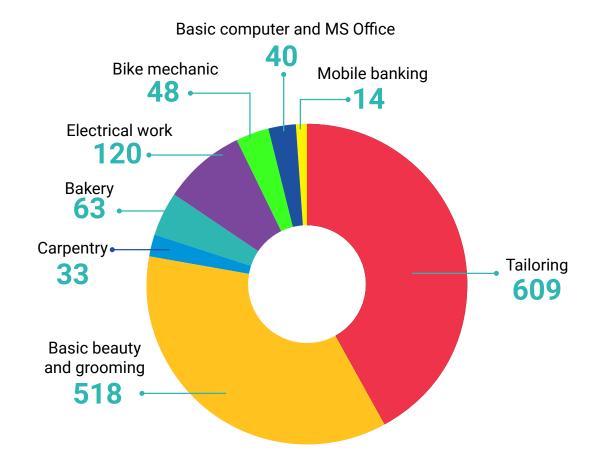
Skill building

During the year, 1,445 women and youth from marginalised families participated in free vocational courses, run by RAF Global, in collaboration with partners and donors. Three new centres were set up, offering courses in basic beauty and grooming, tailoring, carpentry, electrical work, and bakery. Additionally, the M-Pesa (mobile banking) course was introduced in collaboration with Vodacom Foundation, and in the first batch of ten men and women successfully completed the training. Of the total students who participated in skill building programmes, more than 80 per cent were women who largely opted for basic beauty, grooming, and tailoring courses.





Number of students across courses





In collaboration with Operation Smile, RAF Global launched skill building workshops for families of patients who were enrolled in cleft surgery camps. While waiting for patients' turn for surgery, 145 family members learnt the skills of natural farming and detergent making, as a way for potential income generation.

Social enterprise fund

To facilitate small-scale entrepreneurs, RAF Global distributed capital assets to 157 students of skill building programmes. These assets in the form of business tools and practice kits (like sewing machines, cosmetics kits, electrical kits), have enabled them to set up their own start-up enterprise. The students who score the highest in the evaluation tests, receive the assets. Nearly 93 per cent of recipients, during the year, were women.

Distribution of seed capital across courses











Christian Mabeka joined a basic electrical course in 2024 at RAF Global's Skill-Building Centre in Mpasa, Nesle commune. Three months after completing the programme, along with three fellow trainees, he received capital assets worth USD 100 from the organisation to launch a start-up enterprise.

Utilising part of the capital, they began manufacturing extension boards, earning USD 63.25 per month from sales. Each board, costing USD 1.32, was sold for USD 2.64, generating substantial profits that enabled them to cover rent, electricity, and other operational expenses, while also setting aside 20 per cent of the profits as business capital. RAF Global's mentorship in financial management and business strategy further helped them develop essential entrepreneurial skills, ensuring long-term sustainability and competitiveness.



Expanding capacity of processing centre for tailoring

RAF Global ensures continuous support for its tailoring students by providing free access to sewing machines at the organisation's skill-building centres. This enables them to continue practicing and stitching clothes for their customers. Nearly 50 women have benefitted from this facility.





Outreach through Economic Integration & Livelihood Support for Women and Youth



03



409Total programme outreach

304 smallholder farmers received training in organic farming

105
rural people
benefitted
from kitchen
gardening
training







Climate Smart Agriculture

RAF Global aims to promote sustainable livelihoods and food security among marginalised communities in Kinshasa. Through training programmes in natural farming and kitchen/backyard gardening, it is envisaged that farmers will cultivate seasonal vegetables both, for personal consumption and for the market, ultimately enhancing their well-being and economic stability.

In all, **409** people were supported under the Climate Smart Agriculture initiative during the review period, with 80 per cent receiving assistance through other initiatives as well.

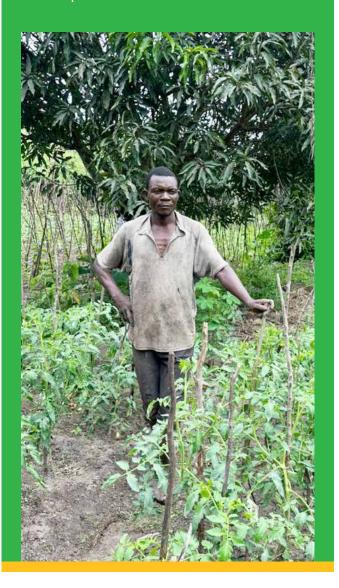
Of the total participants, **55 per cent** were women.

Organic farming and kitchen gardening

Over 400 people from marginalised families, of whom around 300 are smallholder farmers, received training in kitchen gardening and organic farming, respectively. Participants learned how to cultivate vegetable crops using organic fertilisers made from vegetable and poultry waste. The crops included amaranth, spinach, sorrel, cucumber, pepper, eggplant, and okra. The trainees participated in interactive sessions and demonstrations on organic farming. Some of them also received seeds.



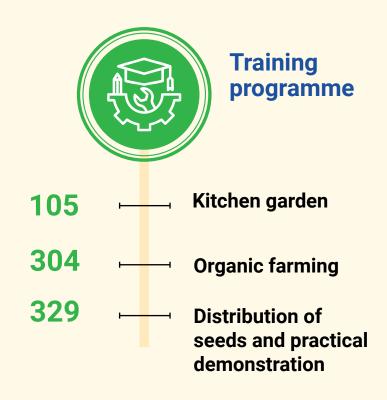
Papa Emmanuel, a farmer in Mont-Ngafula, practices joint cultivation on a small plot with a team of 10 farmers. In April 2024, he participated in organic farming training by RAF Global. After receiving high-quality seeds and hands-on demonstrations, he cultivated cucumber and okra using organic manure and bio-pesticides on a plot of 20 x 20 metres. On harvesting, after 3 months, he found a 65 per cent increase in productivity and profit from sales boosted by USD 2.44 to USD 3.48 per 50 kg. Motivated by the improved quality of his produce, he has transitioned from chemical farming to natural farming on a rented piece of half hectare land.







Outreach through Climate Smart Agriculture





04



23,933
Total programme outreach

Launch of RAF Global's ECD Programme in four government schools



More than two-fold enrollment growth of preschoolers in ECD programme

22 schools received supply of learning material







Education and Technology

RAF Global works closely with communities, schools and stakeholders with the aim of bringing long-term and scalable impact by fostering an accessible and equitable educational ecosystem. It uses tailored school improvement programmes in Kinshasa that address: local challenges; specific needs of underprivileged children; and, gaps in under-resourced schools. The organisation offers a range of supportive services – early learning programmes, educational grants, learning resources, enhanced school infrastructure, and access to digital learning classrooms.

During the review period, RAF Global has reached out to **23,933 children**, among whom over 950 benefitted from at least one more initiative as well.

Of all the children impacted, 52 per cent were girls.

Education Scholarship

RAF Global awarded educational scholarships to 10 students from low-income families who completed foundational learning at its Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre in Mpasa, Nsele commune, enabling their integration into the formal education streams at EP Awa School. Additionally, scholarships were continued for seven children from the Les Cris des Enfants orphanage in Selembao commune enrolled at La Palmier Private School. Two children from the same orphanage were brought under the umbrella of the initiative during the review period.



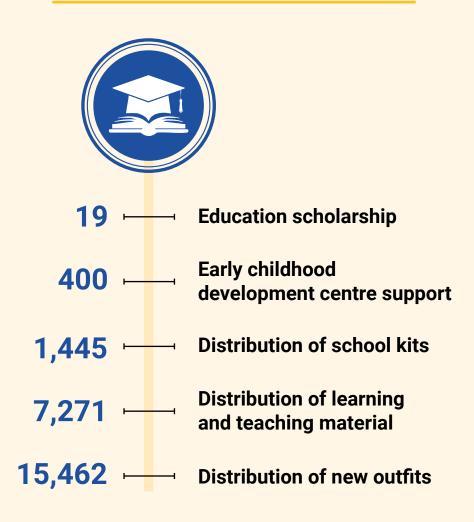


Supply of educational resource

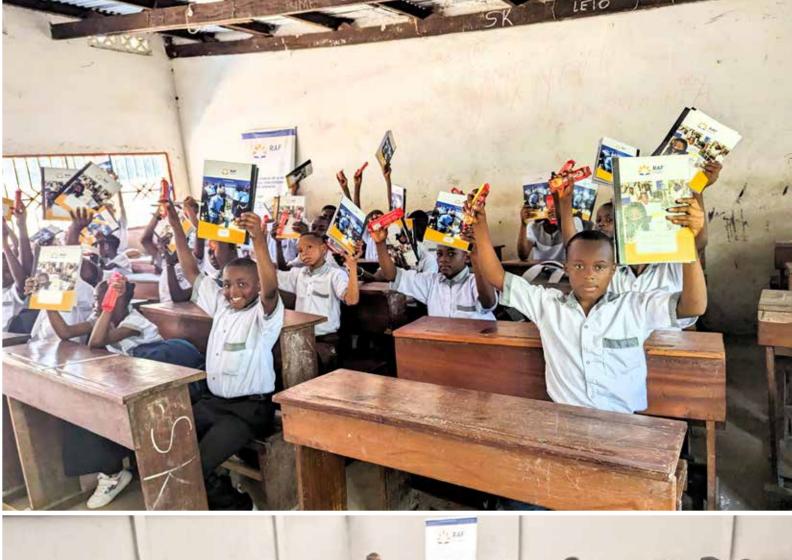
RAF Global distributed school kits – school bags, notebooks, lunch boxes, water bottles, and stationery items – to over 1,445 primary school students in Kinshasa province. The efforts were complemented by donors, Winner Impex and the International Women's Club, benefitting an additional 6,607 and 664 students with writing notebooks and stationery, respectively. Donor Threads – Dressing Future Leaders helped provide new outfits to children across 15 schools and 14 childcare institutions, benefiting 14,937 children. The initiative also extended to 147 senior citizens in old age homes and 378 youths in RAF Global's skill-building centres.



Outreach through Education and Technology









Events and celebrations



Events



International Women's Day

Vocational Training Centres in Mont Ngafula, Nsele, Kisenso and Kimbanseke hosted 256 rural women for interactive workshops focused on empowerment and financial autonomy, encouraging them to take control of their economic futures.



World Malaria Day

600 students and 212 vocational trainees were made aware about malaria and given mosquito coils for protection.



Menstrual Hygiene Day

1,400 girl students from 7 schools in Kinshasa province attended informative sessions on menstrual hygiene and care where sanitary napkins were also distributed.



Global Handwashing Day

Informative sessions on hand hygiene were conducted for 400 ECD children and 6,430 school students in Kinshasa province.



International Children's Day

A party with games and refreshment was organised for 383 students from ECD and government schools.



International Day of Older Persons

Essential food items were distributed to 58 senior citizens at the old age home of CS Biyela in Kimbanseke commune.



Christmas Celebration

RAF Global hosted a Christmas party for 1,926 children in 25 orphanages across Kinshasa province and provided essential food supplies to the orphanages.

Partnerships

Partners	Partnership Domain
L'institut De L'Amitte, Nsele	Livelihood Centre (Training)
Monastere Benediction de Mambre, Mont Ngafula	Livelihood Centre (Bakery)
Mama Koko Orphelinat, Mont Ngafula	Bakery Early Childhood Development Livelihood Centre (Tailoring, Beautician and Bakery)
Mere Marie Augustine School, Nsele	Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day
College St. Frederic, Kimbanseke	Provision of learning resources
St. Joseph Turin, Kimbanseke	Livelihood Centre (Tailoring and Carpentry) Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day
EP Mpiutu, Mont Ngafula	Early Childhood Development Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day and Menstrual Hygiene Day
CS La Palmier, Selembao	Educational Sponsorship
EP Mbengo, Selembao	Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day and Menstrual Hygiene Day
Monastere Benediction de Mambre, Mont Ngafula	Livelihood Centres (Tailoring and Beautician and Bakery) Early Childhood Development Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day
Espoir Congo – SABEC, Kikimi, Nsele	Provision of learning resources
Centre Nutritionnel Soeur Veronique Nativel, Nsele	Livelihood Centres (Tailoring, Beautician, Electrical works and Mechanics) Nutrition Aid Kitchen Garden Early Childhood Development
Kithulu Kandundu Irene, Nsele	Kitchen Garden

Partners	Partnership Domain
Roi Baudoin Hospital, Masina	Cataract treatment
CH Etonga, Nsele	Cataract treatment
Bureau Doicesain des Oeuvres Medicales, Lemba	Cataract camp
CH Likabo, Ngaliema	Cataract camp
CH Saint Joseph, Kimbanseke	Cataract camp
Clinique Pax, Lemba	Cataract camp
Dynamique pour le Devéloppement de Kisenso	Livelihood Centres (Tailoring, Beautician, Electrical works)
EP Pasteur Mayele et Monseigneur Nyamuke, Nsele	Provision of learning resources
E.P Mikonga, Nsele	Provision of learning resources Celebration of Global Handwashing Day
Ste. Marie, Selembao	Livelihood Centre (Beautician) Provision of learning resources
Mutuella de Sante et de Developpement Communautaire, Kimbanseke	Livelihood Centres (Electrical works, Mechanics)
Centre Maman Omoyi, Nsele	Computer Training Centre
Vodacom Foundation	M-Pesa training



Acknowledgement

Change is a collective effort, and we are grateful to all who stand with us in driving sustainable solutions. RAF Global sincerely appreciates its private and institutional donors, whose generosity has been instrumental in advancing initiatives in Kinshasa. Their support has enabled meaningful progress, improving access to essential services and uplifting vulnerable communities. We also acknowledge the invaluable collaboration with government bodies and private institutions, whose partnership has strengthened our mission and amplified our impact.

A special thanks to our dedicated team, many of whom work tirelessly in challenging environments to ensure our mission reaches those who need it most. Your passion and commitment are the foundation of our success. Most of all, we honour the resilience and unity of the communities we serve. Your strength and determination inspire us every day.

Key Partners





























We are also thankful to Mr Mehboob Jindani, Mr Salim Hemnani, Mr Alim Adatia for their invaluable contribution in advancing RAF Global's Mission.

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