



# local development catalyst network

## LDCN OVERVIEW

Founded in the spring of 2011 by American Zachary Lager, [Local Development Catalyst Network \(LDCN\)](#) is a community based 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit whose mission is to work together with Mozambican communities to identify local challenges and needs and subsequently develop culturally relevant, environmentally sustainable, and economically viable solutions to those challenges and needs. Using a bottom up, participatory approach that puts local community members in the forefront of the development process, LDCN seeks to empower and encourage the local community to become involved in the development process and find solutions to the daily challenges and struggles their community faces. Instead of imposing solutions on local African communities, LDCN's role is to seek out, facilitate, and support community lead initiatives. Our long term mission is to demonstrate to local communities that they possess the tools and resources necessary to foster meaningful development in their community.

Currently, LDCN is working with the community of Nguinea, Mozambique to facilitate and raise money for 3 main projects:

1. **Access to Early Education**: Early education is the foundation for children to develop the cognitive and problem solving skills necessary to be successful later in life. In order to improve access to early education in the community of Nguinea, Mozambique, LDCN and the community are working together to build a Primary School for the more than 350 children who have little to no access to formal schooling. We have already completed the foundation of a three room school house and our goal is to finish building the school by November of 2014.

**Fundraising Goal: \$10,000**

2. **Access to Clean Water**: Waterborne diseases are one of the leading causes of infant mortality and death in Africa. Addressing the need of providing clean water is fundamental in improving quality of life and fostering development in Mozambique which has one of the lowest percentages of access to clean water and sanitation in the world. LDCN is currently raising money to train local people on a manual borehole drilling technique and provide the tools and materials to drill 5 boreholes throughout the community.

**Fundraising Goal: \$10,000**

3. **Sustainable Agriculture**: The vast majority of rural Mozambicans continue to earn their livelihood from subsistence agriculture but due to environmental, political and social factors it is becoming increasingly difficult for farmers to provide for the needs of their families. To this end, LDCN is working with local communities to demonstrate improved sustainable agriculture techniques on our demonstration fields and furthermore help organize community agriculture cooperatives.

**Fundraising Goal: \$2,500 +**



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If you would like to support LDCN but for whatever reason are unable to become an individual sponsor there are many ways that you can still help.

1. **Make a secure donation that fits your budget.** Any size donation is greatly appreciated and will go directly to our community development initiatives. There are two ways to make a secure donation:
  - a. Send a check payable to LDCN, 21 Worthen Rd, Suite 102, Lexington MA, 02421.
  - b. Make an online donation using the PayPal Link on our website ([www.ldcn.org](http://www.ldcn.org)).
2. **Make a Team and become a Team Sponsor for TEAM TIRI PABODSI.** Working as a group can be an effective way to raise money and reduces the financial burden put on each individual!
3. **Ask your employer if they would like to become a Corporate Sponsor for TEAM TIRI PABODSI.** It is a great way for a business to not only to give back to a great cause but also is a means to market themselves as a social aware and responsible company.
4. **Initiate a Matching Donation Program.** Many businesses and employers have matching donation programs where they will match every penny you donate to LDCN. Inquire in your place of business and start your matching donation program today.
5. **Organize your own LDCN fundraiser.** To date LDCN has volunteers have hosted a variety of fundraisers including a Mozambican Cultural Day, a Garden Party, Bowling for LDCN event, and most recently a LDCN Charity Cornhole Tournament. Organizing a fun event for a great cause is a great way to raise money and bring people together.
6. **Volunteer with LDCN.** LDCN is constantly looking for passionate and dedicated volunteers to help with a variety of our on the ground and administrative work.

If you have any questions or would like to get involved please contact Zachary Lager at [zach.lager@gmail.com](mailto:zach.lager@gmail.com).