

**Monthly Report**  
**February 18th to April 28th**

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## **Introduction**

As one of T5's main projects the T5 Star Events School of English is proving to be a vital resource for the youth of Guinea-Bissau. A principal objective for T5 has been to expand English Language Teaching and Learning and to give opportunities to vulnerable groups in Guinea-Bissau. The T5 Star Events School of English has now established a well-earned reputation for quality thanks to the expertise and dedication of its staff and the support of Star Events Group. The school has now got one hundred and twenty three students (123). We anticipate that this figure could rise to more than 300 by the end of June, the beginning of the vacation for state school pupils. Currently we are operating throughout the day (morning, afternoon and evening) with a total of 10 classes.

## **Student Profiles**

T5 Star Events School of English now has one hundred and twenty three students whose ages vary from 14 to 45.

87% of those students are aged from 15-26 and 80% are unemployed; none of them have had any form of Higher Education due to financial constraints; their last graduation certificates vary from primary to high school.

Approximately 45% are living on their own because their parents have died. Most are not working and they can hardly afford to pay their school fees. 23% of students are girls, 4% are victims of "early marriage". Some of these students even run away from courses for fear of being sent out of the school if they can't afford their school fees!. In fact, most of our current revenue comes from students living on less than a dollar a day. According to the results of a survey completed at enrolment some of them can't even afford three meals daily.

## **Course Access Facilities**

Due to students' financial situations and lifestyles, we have strategically been forced to adopt some policies to facilitate their access and motivate their eagerness for education.

Accessibility policy:

1. If you are aged 12-17, you are allowed to start the course paying only 1000 cfa for enrolment and signing legal papers committing to pay all fees by the end of the course.
2. If you are aged 18-24, you are allowed to start the course paying only enrolment and committing to pay school fees three weeks after the end of each month.

3. If you are aged 25-32, you are committed to paying your school fees one week after the end of each month.
4. If you aged 33-45, you are committed to paying your school fees two days after the end of each month.

## Expenses/Revenue and Funds

Revenue table

Order	Amount	Derivation	Services
01	173,000 cfa (£183.40)	School fees	English courses

Funds table

Order	Amount	Derivation	Services
	200,000 cfa (£212)	Star Events Groups	Funding

obs: this is the rest of money from Star Events Funding

Expenses table

Ord	Amount	Derivation of the amount	Descriptions	Expenses	Credit
01	173,000 cfa (£184)	School revenue	<b>Management support</b>		
			Chalk	3,000 cfa (£3.20)	
			Computers/internet/copies	15,000 cfa (£16)	
			Fuel	22,500 cfa (£24)	
			Phone	(£8.50)	
			Generator purchase	35,000 cfa (£37)	
			Generator maintenance	13,500 cfa (£14.30)	
			Radio ads/transportation	14,000 cfa (£15)	
			Pen drive (Memory stick)	20,000 cfa (£21.20)	
			Reams of paper	3,500 cfa (£3.70)	Amount left
					38,500 (£40.80)
<b>Total</b>				134,500 cfa (£142.60)	
02	200,000 cfa (£212)	Star Events funds	<b>School repairs</b>		
			Painting	46,550 cfa (£49.35)	
			Electricity installation	20,000 cfa (£21.20)	
			Sign board design	35,000 cfa (£37.10)	
			Teachers' Subsidies/transportation	51,000 cfa (£54)	Amount left
					63,450 cfa (£67.25)
<b>Total</b>				136,550 cfa (£144.70)	

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## **Opportunities**

The school has been successful so far for a variety of reasons and has been able to maintain a competitive advantage with the aid of Star Events Group funding. Strengths to build on include:

- Qualified and well-trained teachers
- Charitable Status – enabling us to peg school fees at 30% below those of our competitors.
- Secure tenancy on accommodation due to Star Events Group funding.

## **Threats**

T5 Star Events School of English is currently facing some threats which could seriously affect its progress and existence:

### **Internal Threats**

- Lack of learning and teaching equipment. Teachers are under-resourced and this is clearly affecting the quality of learning. The school is still awaiting the outcome of funding applications to Premier Oil (UK) for a curriculum and materials production project.
- Teachers are currently working as volunteers without salary. Although a very small proportion of funds has subsidised teachers' transportation, it remains a major fear for the Administration that this situation can only continue in the short-term..

### **External Threats**

- T5 Star Events School of English is located directly opposite the long-established (12 years) National English Language College. We need to monitor developments arising from such close competition.

## **Priorities**

**We have prioritised the following as an Action Plan to June 2006:**

- 1. Expanding the School and increasing the number of students.**
- 2. Creating partnerships with different charitable organisations**
- 3. School repairs**
- 4. Creating a small students' library**
- 5. School decoration including Star Events poster**

## **Partners**

- **Star Events Group**
- **AJD (Youth Development Association)**
- **High School ELT Co-ordinators**
- **VIP Connections Group**

## **Potential Partners**

- **BCEAO- Banque centrale des Etats d’Afrique de l’Ouest**
- **RJ-Radio Joven – Youth Radio**