Harvest Hope AFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT

2026

CONTENTS

2 **Bringing Hope Today**

5 **Our Story**

8 **What We Believe**

9 **Our Values**

11 **Empowering Lives, Creating Possibilities**
Message from the Chair

12 **Training with Purpose, Transforming Lives**
Message from the CEO

15 **Highlights**

16 *In Democratic Republic of Congo*

19 *In Tanzania*

20 *In Australia*

23 **The Year Ahead**

24 **Together, Transforming Lives**
Message from the Treasurer

25 **How You Can Help**
Contact Details

BRINGING *Hope* TODAY

At Harvest Hope Africa, our mission is to equip, transform, and empower disadvantaged people in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.

We believe education and vocational training are powerful tools to break the cycle of poverty. Through our key programs, we help individuals and families build brighter, more independent futures, restoring dignity, growing skills and bringing hope.

Our cornerstone programs are:

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- Sewing and business training for young survivors of sexual violence
- A graduate co-operative program supporting students launch and grow their sewing businesses

TANZANIA

- A primary school educating children in a remote region of Tanzania

This year your support helped us achieve lasting impact:

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Ongoing Training
Delivered continued sewing and business training to empower young women.

Graduation Success
Graduated our sixth intake of students, ready to begin entrepreneurial journeys.

Graduate Support
Continued to provide a co-operative hub, offering mentorship, quality equipment and a safe workspace for graduates.

Business Start-Up Kits
Gifted 26 sewing machine kits to graduates, enabling them to launch their own businesses.

New Students
Welcomed our seventh intake of students.

Humanitarian Support
Provided emergency psychological support for survivors of the heightened regional conflict.

"The training here is very good. The teachers are patient and compassionate. It made it possible for me to learn new skills and find a new family."

BARAKA,
STUDENT

TANZANIA

Investing in Educators
Sponsored teacher salaries.

Enhanced Learning Environment
Resourced the school with new teaching and learning materials.

Building Partnerships
Cemented collaborative relationships with the nearby local government school to share resources, and leverage improved professional networks.

Looking ahead

Together with our supporters, we remain committed to:

Expanding the reach and capacity of our programs.

Deepening the quality of vocational training.

Strengthening partnerships to build thriving communities.

Together, we are building pathways to hope, restoration, and transformation for individuals and families across both nations.

RESTORING DIGNITY,
REBUILDING FUTURES.

Our STORY

At Harvest Hope Africa we believe in the power of hope and opportunity to transform lives. Our work is grounded in a vision to see vulnerable individuals and communities empowered to build brighter, more independent futures.

Founders, Patrick and Rebecca bring deep personal experience, cultural understanding and an unwavering commitment to hope, restoration, and transformation.

MEET THE FOUNDERS

Patrick, born and raised in the Democratic Republic of Congo, witnessed firsthand the country's long history of conflict, political upheaval and instability. His life's work has been dedicated to helping communities recover and rebuild.

Between 1990 –2012, Patrick trained leaders and worked with organisations across Africa, including six years of helping rebuild communities in the Great Lakes Region of Eastern Africa post the Rwandan Genocide. Fluent in many languages and trained in community development and education, Patrick is passionate about helping people believe in and build a better tomorrow.

Rebecca grew up in Australia, where from an early age she was inspired by the work of charities to serve communities in need. Determined to one day contribute to transformative change in Africa, she trained as a teacher and eventually moved to Tanzania where she served as a teacher trainer for nine years. Through this experience and travel throughout the continent, Rebecca developed a deep understanding of the needs to strengthen African communities. She brings over 15 years of educational leadership and a heart to help others thrive.

THE BIRTH OF HARVEST HOPE AFRICA

In 2012, Patrick and Rebecca moved to Australia with their children, but their commitment to Africa never left them. In 2019, they founded Harvest Hope Africa to create a platform for others to join the mission; supporting sustainable, community-led change.

Donations to Harvest Hope Africa fund capacity-building initiatives. These programs empower individuals to become self-sufficient, fostering long-term impact for the individual and their community. Every initiative reflects the core belief that sustainable change begins with equipping people with skills, education, and hope.

WHERE WE WORK

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Harvest Hope Africa operates in the eastern city of Goma, a region deeply affected by decades of conflict. Amongst the many innocent victims are girls and young women who face not only disrupted access to education, but also tragically high rates of sexual violence. This often leaves girls and young women alone and desperate. Working in partnership with a locally registered charity, we invest in training programs that provide young women with the tools, confidence and support to rebuild their lives.

In Tanzania our work focusses on an isolated Masai community near Arusha, where families live in traditional housing and face barriers to education, employment, healthcare and access to clean water. The school we support was founded with a vision to empower the community through education; improving quality of life and creating new opportunities for children and their families.

Patrick and Rebecca have been deeply moved by the generosity and encouragement of supporters. As an organisation we are seeing hope restored, dignity reclaimed, and communities transformed.

Together, we bring hope.

HOW HOW WE WORK

At Harvest Hope Africa, we believe effective work depends on strong partnerships led by local expertise and guided by respect for the communities we serve.

We collaborate with locally registered organisations in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania. These partnerships ensure that our programs are relevant, accountable, and responsive to real needs.

Our management team brings experience across education, human rights, international development, finance, healthcare, and community support, working closely with local leaders to design and deliver impactful projects.

On the ground, Gentil Kasongo (Africa Programs Director), together with Daniel Kalimbiro (DRC) and Amani Rukyaa (Tanzania), provide trusted operational leadership. They work together with Patrick to oversee projects, manage resources, and support participants' wellbeing.

Rebecca provides educational and leadership guidance and is a member of our finance team, ensuring strong financial management to maintain strong governance and program quality.

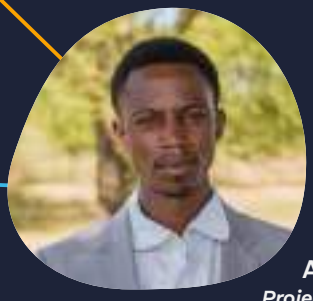
At every level, we are committed to supporting and equipping communities in ways that are ethical, locally owned, and accountable to deliver lasting impact.

Patrick Lubilanji
CEO

Gentil Kasongo
Africa Programs Director

Daniel Kalimbiro
Project Manager, DRC

Rebecca Lubilanji
COO



Amani Rukyaa
Project Manager, Tanzania

We Believe

1

A better future is possible.

2

Education and vocational training opportunities are key to success.

3

With opportunity, everyone can succeed.

4

Through our deep local partnerships, skills, and experience, we deliver programs that create lasting impact.

We Value

RESPECT

We listen first, honour local culture, and this informs our decisions. We communicate respectfully and with consideration.

INTEGRITY

We act with honesty, transparency, respect confidential information and are hard working.

COMPASSION

We work together with empathy and purpose to achieve greater impact. We value community and strong relationships. We acknowledge that we are better together.

CONNECTION

We strive to understand our participants' challenges and potential and equip them to thrive.

STRUCTURE

Harvest Hope Africa is a Company Limited by Guarantee, with a constitution that defines the organisation's mission, purposes, and powers.

Harvest Hope Africa is registered with Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) as a Public Benevolent Institution and is accountable to the ACNC's External Conduct Standards which cover:

- Activities and control of resources (including funds)
- Annual review of overseas activities and record keeping
- Anti-fraud and anti-corruption
- Protection of vulnerable individuals

Harvest Hope Africa is governed and overseen by a voluntary Board of Directors. The Board is comprised of 5 members, each bringing diverse experience in international aid, community development and professional expertise to strengthen the organisation's governance and impact.

Pascar Chitsaka
Board Chair

Denis Zimba
Treasurer

Patrick Lubilanji
Director

Rebecca Lubilanji
Secretary, Public Officer

Eugene Tshibangu
Director

Harvest Hope Africa holds Deductible Gift Receipt status, granted by the Australian Taxation Office, meaning donations of $2 or more are tax deductible in Australia.

Empowering Lives, CREATING POSSIBILITIES

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This year has been a year of commitment at Harvest Hope Africa.

Having continued to face crippling regional conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and more recently, a severe Ebola outbreak, our programs have continued to bring hope and practical support to those who need it most. From young women gaining vocational training and building sustainable businesses in the Democratic Republic of Congo, to children gaining access to education in remote parts of Tanzania, the stories of this year's participants, and their restoration of dignity are powerful reminders of the impact made through our work.

Harvest Hope Africa was founded with a vision to equip vulnerable women and children with the skills and opportunities they need to create a better future. As you will see in this report, this year's outcomes demonstrate that vision in action through practical, life-changing programs.

I want to thank our Board for their dedicated leadership and acknowledge Patrick and Rebecca Lubilanji for their tireless commitment. Their leadership continues to drive this impact forward with integrity, compassion, and respect for the communities we work with.

To our donors, thank you. Your support this year has not only enabled programs to continue, but has brought hope and stability in a time of great uncertainty. Your partnership truly changes lives.

As we look ahead, the Board is excited about the opportunities to continue our impact and build pathways for hope and transformation in the communities we serve.

Thank you for standing with us. Together we are equipping lives and empowering futures.

Pascar Chitsaka
Board Chair

TRAINING WITH PURPOSE, *Transforming Lives*

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This past year has been one of both challenge and resilience. As our community in the Democratic Republic of Congo faced ongoing conflict, displacement and a severe Ebola outbreak, our team, partners, and donor community remained unwavering in their commitment to bring hope, restoration, and transformation to those we serve.

Continuing Impact Through Adversity

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, our students demonstrated remarkable resilience as they navigated a continued season of uncertainty.

Through the generosity of our supporters and the courage and dedication of our local team our programs remained a place of stability, support and opportunity. We journeyed with young women as they pursued education, skills and a pathway towards greater independence by providing:

- **Ongoing vocational training** to 50 young women through our sewing and business program.
- **Business start-up support** for 26 graduates, including our tradition of gifting sewing machine kits to help launch their businesses.
- **Emergency assistance** including psychosocial support for students and their families affected by the conflict.

In Tanzania, we continued to invest in education for **55 vulnerable children** in a remote region of Masailand. Your support made it possible to provide the salary of the head teacher and a foundation for brighter futures through quality education.

I want to thank our team in Africa, particularly our incredible program managers, for their tireless work through complex and often unpredictable circumstances. Their dedication and heart for this mission make our impact possible.

"Through the generosity of our supporters and the courage and dedication of our local team, our programs remained a place of stability, support and opportunity for those who need it most."

PATRICK,
CEO

To our donor community, **thank you**. We recognise this year brought challenges for many families, and yet you chose generosity and compassion. Your support has transformed lives, enabling us to continue our work and provide stability and hope as our participants faced enormous challenges.

Looking Ahead

Harvest Hope Africa remains a grassroots organisation with a growing impact and bold vision for the future. As we move into the year ahead, we are **prioritising vocational training opportunities in the Democratic Republic of Congo** to develop vocational skills and support needed to rebuild lives.

Together, we will continue to bring **hope, restoration, and transformation** where it is needed most.

Patrick Lubilanji
CEO, Harvest Hope Africa

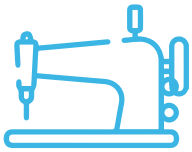
SKILLS THAT
EMPOWER

7 Years of Impact

HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past year, we have walked alongside young women, students, and communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania, supporting their journeys toward dignity, opportunity, and lasting success. In this section, we share just some of the stories and milestones your support has made possible.

OUR IMPACT OVER THE LAST SEVEN YEARS



166
YOUNG LADIES GIFTED
A SEWING MACHINE

105
ACCESSING
A CO-OPERATIVE

385
CHILDREN
EDUCATED

295
YOUNG LADIES GAINED
SEWING TRAINING

10
PEOPLE EMPLOYED
AS LEADERS
IN THEIR COMMUNITY

3
SPONSORED
UNIVERSITY
PLACEMENTS

Highlights in

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

SEWING TRAINING PROGRAM, GOMA

For seven years, our sewing training program in Goma has empowered vulnerable young women, many survivors of sexual violence and young mothers, to rebuild their lives with practical vocational skills.

In a year marked by significant and complex challenges, including ongoing conflict in Eastern Congo and a severe Ebola outbreak, many families have faced loss of life, displacement, insecurity, increased sexual violence and profound hardship. Our program remains a vital lifeline providing hope for vulnerable young women and their communities.

We began the training year with 50 courageous students, and reflective of the local climate, each one has held firmly to this opportunity. They are now preparing to sit exams that will lead them toward greater independence.

These young women continue to face the challenges of trauma and motherhood, yet their commitment to learning a new trade remains inspiring.

Graduates are welcomed into our **co-operative program**, where they receive mentorship, access to professional tools, and a supportive space to develop their businesses.

> ***"In a year where our community has suffered so much, I have been lucky enough to secure this training. Now I can provide hope and assistance to my family and my community."***
>
> ***IMANI,***
> ***STUDENT***

PSYCHOLOGICAL THERAPY

Recognising the deep trauma our students have faced and live with, we offer regular psychological therapy sessions to aid in their recovery.

We prioritise those with complex trauma and this year, increased the sessions offered due to the complexity of the regional conflict and the effects on our students. Our psychologist, Norbert, offers group sessions and encourages family involvement to better support students at home and in the community.

"I thought my life was over, I couldn't see a way forward, until I came here. Now I know I am worth something. I believe in myself and feel confident about my future and the future of my baby. This course has changed my life."

REHEMA,
STUDENT

"Everyone is welcome here. It doesn't matter what has happened to us before, we are offered training that makes it possible for us to be independent. A better future is coming."

NEEMA,
STUDENT

GROWING LEADERS

We are also proud to support several students with leadership potential through university sponsorships.

Elizabeth, who graduated with honours in fashion design, now leads the cooperative and mentors her peers. Due to local complexities created by the ongoing conflict, securing practical placement opportunities for the 50 students in their final months of study was challenging. In response, Elizabeth welcomed a record number of students to complete their placement under her leadership with the support of other cooperative members. Elizabeth demonstrated natural leadership and compassionate understanding as she embraced the opportunity and guided her peers as they mentored the students.

Katerine (pseudonym), once an orphan living with AIDS, is pursuing her fourth year of Computer Engineering, a testament to what sustained support can achieve.

"I want to convey my deep gratitude for the continued support of these girls in such a critical situation. Thanks to the training, they can now support their families. Ladies who didn't have any hope are now happy and confident, and full of hope for the future."

DANIEL KALIMBIRO,
PROJECT MANAGER

Highlights in TANZANIA

EBENEZA PRIMARY SCHOOL

We partner with a *remote Primary School* in the Longido region of Tanzania. The families from the Masai tribe, live in traditional housing in nearby villages. Due to the costs involved and the demands of cattle herding, many children face barriers to accessing education.

This financial year we supported the school of 55 children by providing a consistent salary for the head teacher.

Learning through play

We continue to observe long term benefits of the playground we installed which provides valuable opportunities for students to develop their gross motor and cooperative skills through play.

Highlights in AUSTRALIA

This year, we are especially grateful for the generosity and commitment of our long-standing Australian community, whose support has sustained our work through some of our most challenging times.

Whether through financial contributions or the gift of time and talent, your support has been instrumental in the impact we've made across the past 12 months.

To those who joined our donor family this year, welcome! We're so glad to have you on this journey with us, whether that be through monthly donations or semi-regular donations. This kind of support helps us plan more confidently, knowing we can sustain our programs over time. Your partnership is already helping to equip, empower, and transform lives.

"It is an honour to support the programs offered by Harvest Hope Africa. I could never make this kind of difference on my own. Giving regularly to Harvest Hope Africa makes it possible to make a lasting difference in the lives of those in need."

RICHARD,
DONOR

"We continue to give to the work of Harvest Hope Africa because it is a grassroot charity that demonstrates genuine commitment and transparency. It is a privilege to financially support opportunities that bring hope and develop skills for a better future."

JANE,
DONOR

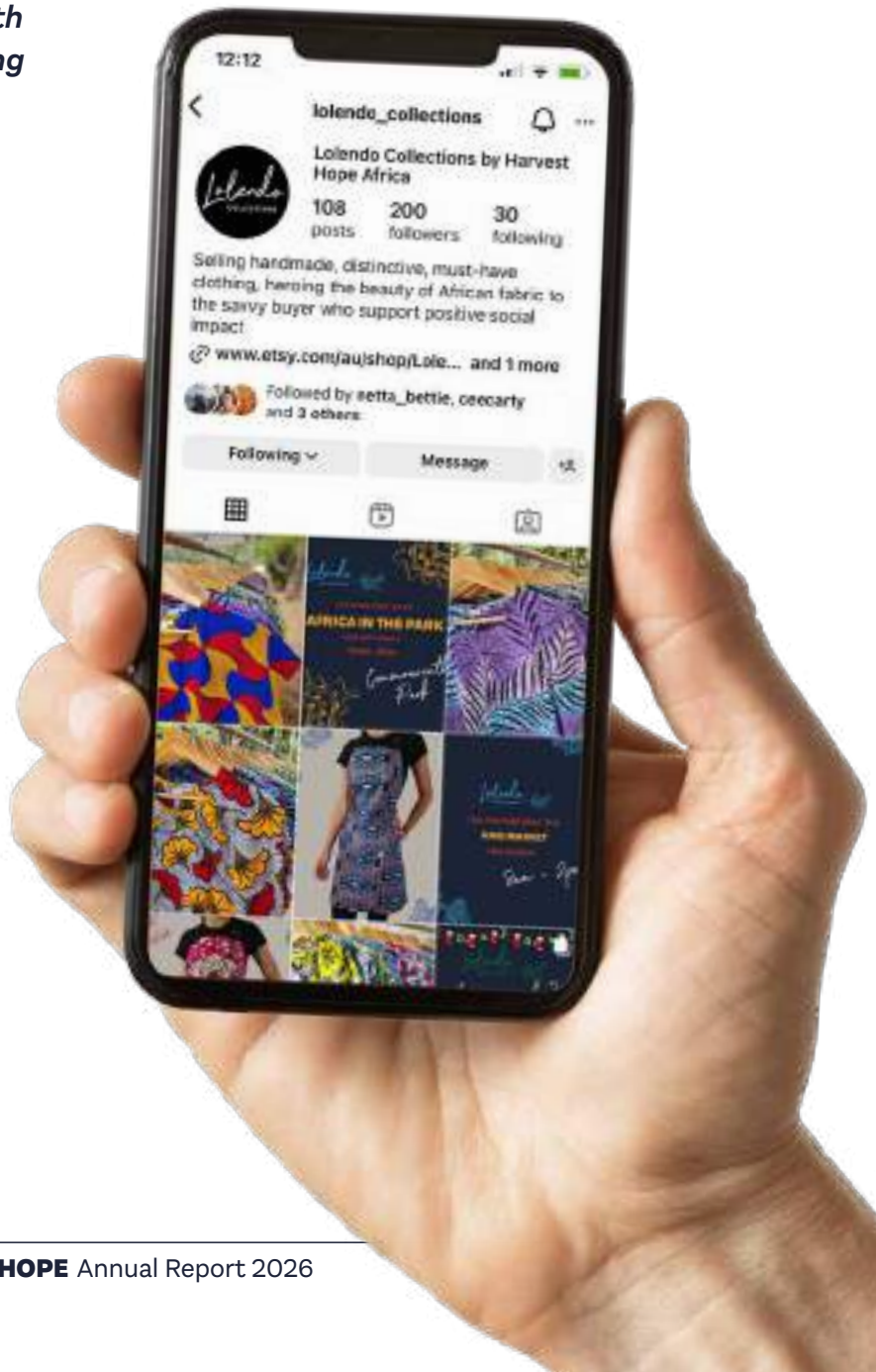
LOLENDO COLLECTIONS

Lolendo Collections is our social enterprise with a vision to make both local and global impact by promoting culture for a more equitable world.

We celebrate African culture through our handmade, African-inspired products, each one unique, high-quality, and crafted with care. These items are available for our community to purchase and wear with pride, every item representing something bigger, with profits supporting our revenue stream and creating opportunities to share the work of Harvest Hope Africa.

Lolendo COLLECTIONS

CLICK HERE TO CHECK OUT OUR INSTAGRAM!



TOGETHER, TRANSFORMING LIVES.

THE YEAR AHEAD

The ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo continues to cause widespread displacement, trauma, and deepening poverty, especially among young women.

Combined with the current Ebola outbreak, these challenges have made our programs more urgent than ever.

Meanwhile, in Tanzania, we continue a gradual release model of support, offering oversight and guidance to empower local leaders. This model enables us to scale our impact more sustainably by building local capacity over time.

"We believe every person deserves the opportunity to rebuild, to grow, and to dream again."

PATRICK LUBILANJI
CEO, HARVEST HOPE AFRICA

IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Our priorities include:

- **Provide *psychological therapy*** to each intake of students, addressing the trauma caused by ongoing conflict and displacement
- **Graduate our seventh cohort** of sewing program students
- ***Train students* from the eighth intake** of students in the Sewing Training Program
- ***Gift sewing machine kits*** to all graduating students, empowering them to launch their own businesses
- **Reinstate the *food program*** to support students' nutrition and create an optimal learning environment
- **Provide ongoing mentoring and resources** to the participants of the sewing co-operative
- ***Continued support for university sponsored students*** who demonstrate leadership potential and academic excellence
- **Strategically planning for the launch of a hospitality course in Goma**, expanding vocational options in response to local economic needs

Together TRANSFORMING LIVES

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

I'm pleased to present this year's Treasurer's Report on behalf of the Harvest Hope Africa Board.

In FY 2025-26 we worked diligently to navigate a complex global economic climate which significantly affected our revenue. As a result, we made the difficult decision to reduce financial support in Tanzania and strategically focus our impact in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a region facing ongoing conflict and a severe Ebola outbreak.

We are proud to say that through the dedication and generosity of our community who believe in our vision of equipping, transforming, and restoring lives in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania we have continued to create meaningful impact.

In Australia, our administrative and fundraising efforts have continued to be run by volunteers, allowing us to keep overheads low and channel more funds directly into program delivery. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, our team, comprising of a small number of paid staff and a large cohort of volunteers, continue to carry out life-changing work with great diligence and commitment during exceptionally challenging times in the country's history.

Key Financial Highlights:

- **Ongoing commitment from donors:** Long-term donor giving enabled our programs in Democratic Republic of Congo to continue reaching communities in need.
- **Core Programs Maintained:** Despite political turmoil and increased conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, we maintained the operations of our major initiative of our **Sewing Training Program**.
- **Psychological Support**: We continued access to trauma counselling in response to the increased displacement and trauma caused by ongoing conflict in Eastern Congo.
- **Sewing Machine Campaign:** Gifted sewing machines to program graduates, equipping them with essential tools to begin their own income-generating businesses.

On behalf of the Board and our participants on the ground in Africa, I extend heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed financially this year. Your continued investment brings hope where it's needed most and fuels our shared vision: **to equip, empower, and transform vulnerable lives through practical, lasting support.**

Denis Zimba
Treasurer

WITH YOUR HELP *Transformation* IS POSSIBLE

Every action makes a difference. Here are ways you can be part of this life-changing work:

CONTACT DETAILS

office@harvesthopeafrica.org.au

PO Box 368
Jamison Centre ACT 2614

www.harvesthopeafrica.org.au

Facebook
/harvesthopeafrica

Instagram
@harvesthopeafrica

LinkedIn
/company/harvest-hope-africa

Linktree
/harvesthopeafrica

Follow us on social media *to stay connected and help spread the word*

Sign up for our regular updates *to see the impact your support makes*

Give financially, *as a one-time gift or through regular giving to help sustain our programs*

Partner with us as a corporate sponsor *and create shared impact through business*

Volunteer your time *and help at fundraising events or behind the scenes*

Contribute your professional expertise *and use your skills to strengthen and grow our impact*

Invite us to speak *to share the vision at your workplace, school, or community group*

Leave a legacy gift in your will, *to help build lasting impact for generations to come*