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educo is registered in Ireland (CHY17147) and India (Bombay Public Charitable Trust Number E- 25425)

#### **About educo**





educo is a charity, founded in Ireland in 2006. It's **aim is to educate children in India**. A fully registered charitable trust in India since 2009, educo India is run by volunteers who oversee several programmes throughout the country, which in total provide education for some 4,000 underprivileged children.

Even though literacy figures have increased in recent years, India still has the largest number of uneducated children of any country in the world - two-thirds of whom are girls. Just under 40% of the country is illiterate with 37% of all primary school children dropping out before Standard 5. Government reports indicate that some 60 million children between the ages of 6-14 do not attend school, at all.

# **LEV**pillars

#### educo's 4 Key Pillars:

- 1) Education is given through **English** providing the students with the best chance for economic and social mobility.
- 2) educo puts great emphasis on keeping girls in full-time education helping to redress the **female education** gender imbalance proven to be the most important factor in a country's economic development.
- 3) educo undertakes the **training of teachers** from the areas local to its schools, thus providing direct investment back into the local community.
- 4) **Computer training** is actively promoted ensuring the most underprivileged children are given the skills necessary for modern employment environments.

Ceo and chairman



Tom McGovern

Tom McGovern became CEO of educo in 2017, following 2 years of significant fundraising. Tom has visited the educo sites in Kolkata, Assam and West Bengal - where the recent and future schools are planned.

Grattan Boylan is Chair and one of the founding members of educo in 2006 along with Declan O'Donnell & Juerg von Geitz.



Grattan Boylan

### educo projects

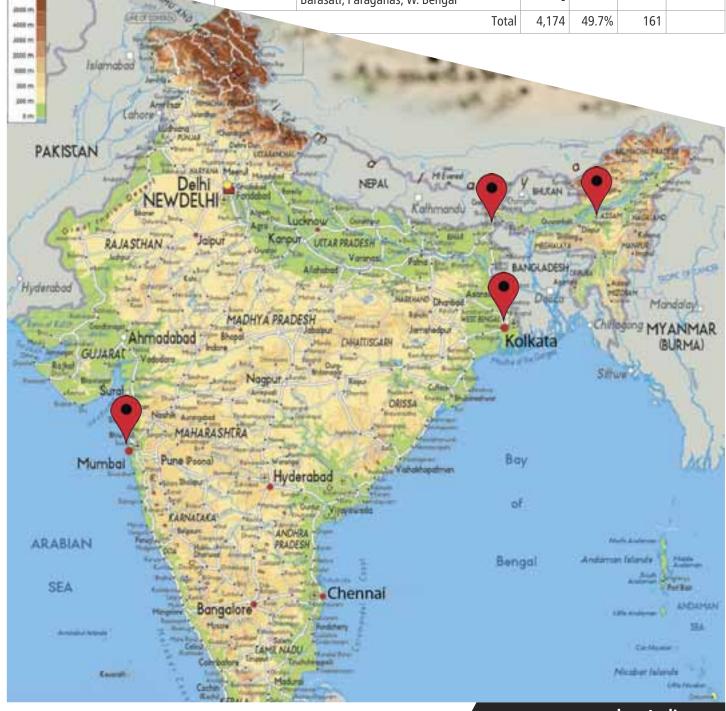
#### **Total pupils:**

4,000+



District	Project	Pupils	Girls %	Teachers	Ratio of Pupils to Teacher
Mumbai	Saibaba Path, Mumbai	920	50%	46	26
	Sahar, Mumbai	400			
Assam	St. Stanislaus, Assam	81	46%	9	9
	St. Xavier's, Assam	632	38%	24	26
	Prabhat Tara Bogapani, Assam	298	40%	16	19
West Bengal	Hope Life-Skills, Kolkata	407	81%	12	34
	St. Conleth's, Jalpaiguri District, W. Bengal	225	40%	8	28
	St. Peter & St Paul's, Malbazar, W. Bengal	194	45%	8	24
	St. Thomas's, Chamurchi, W. Bengal	194	48%	7	26
	St. Mary's, Washabari, W. Bengal	195	53%	7	28
	St. Patrick's, Kalchini, W. Bengal	188	46%	7	27
	St. John's, Nagrakata, W. Bengal	274	48%	9	30
	Digambar Pur Angikar, W. Bengal	281	55%	11	26
	Barasati, Paraganas, W. Bengal	-			
Total		4,174	49.7%	161	

educo Projects



Saibaba Path Central Mumbai

**Leader:** Ms Meenal Srinivasan **Principal:** Ms Shivani Kanakia

**Location:** Saibaba Path Mumbai Public School, Lalbaug,

Central Mumbai

**Started:** June 2009

**Teachers:** 42 (Support staff: 15)

**Pupils:** 920 [Junior, Lower & Senior Kindergarten,

Standards 1 -10]

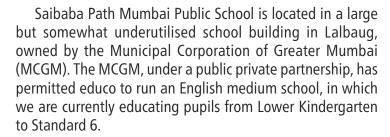
No fees are charged at this school.



Ms Meenal Srinivasan



Ms Shivani Kanakia

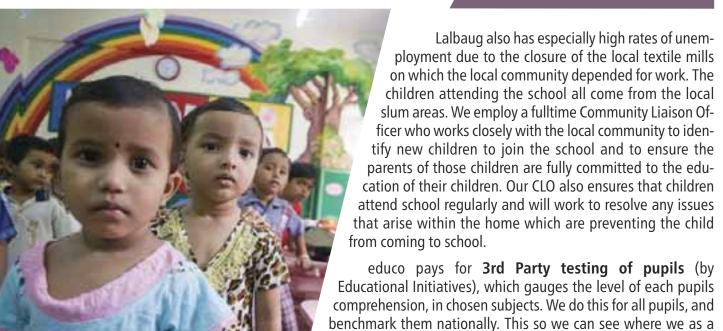


educo has extensively renovated and furnished the classrooms provided by the MCGM, including laying new floors and painting colourful murals on the walls. We also provide additional teaching materials and class supplies, including books, games and musical instruments.

educo fully manages and funds the running of the school while the basic infrastructure is provided by the MCGM. Our teachers are recruited from the local slum areas and we provide them with an intensive year's teacher training, in partnership with the Muktangan organisation. Central to the Muktangan method is the impressive teacher-pupil ratio — one teacher for every 20 pupils. This encourages close tuition and remedial education to the children who need it. educo Saibaba Path also teacher-trains 2-3,000 municipal teachers every year.







school can improve our teaching.



Prabhat Tara School

#### North East Assam

**Leader:** Fr. Telesphore Lakra **Principal:** Mr Simon Tirkey

Location: Bogapani, Digboi, (near Dibrughar),

North East Assam

**Started:** June 2011

**Teachers:** 63

**Pupils:** Currently 298 [Lower Kindergarten -

10th Standard]

Partner: Jesuit Order

educo has built a large new school on land donated by the community and one of the local tea companies, in the midst of tea gardens. The school is laid out over 4 acres.

Currently educo has funded the ground floor concrete structure, English-medium school. The school is powered by solar. Vocational classes started in Autumn 2023.

91% of pupils are from the 'untouchable' Adivasi tribes - so a good education will have a major impact here. There is good demand for this new English-medium school amongst the local Community, with children in the Digboi area currently having to travel for an hour to get to other schools.



Fr. Telesphore Lakra



St. Stanislaus School

North Fast Assam

Leader: Fr. Telesphore Lakra Principal: Mr Anith Billung

St. Stanislaus School, Konapathar, Tinsukia, Location:

North East Assam

Started: January 2007

Teachers:

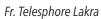
**Pupils:** 81 [Lower Kindergarten to 6th Standard]

Partner: Jesuit Order

educo partners with the Jesuit order to run this Englishmedium school for the children of the impoverished local tea pickers. St. Stanislaus is a primary school which acts as the feeder school for the secondary St. Xavier's school in neighbouring Pengaree (18km away). It is in a very remote village in North East Assam - there is no town nearby and children come from many miles away to attend the school.

educo and the Jesuit priests saw the great need to found a school in this area to educate the children living in the local community. Most of the parents of these children are illiterate tea-pickers, whose priority is to satisfy their basic everyday needs of having food, shelter etc. There are no government-run schools available to these children in this remote area of Assam, leaving these children with no other means to lift themselves out of this poverty.







Mr Anith Billung





# St. Xavier's School

Pengaree, North East Assam

**Leader:** Fr. Telesphore Lakra

**Principal:** 

**Location:** St. Xavier's School, Pengaree, North East Assam

**Started:** January 2003 in mud building; 2007 in new

building

**Teachers**: 23

**Pupils:** 632 [Lower Kindergarten - Standard 10]

Partner: Jesuit Order



Fr. Telesphore Lakra

As with the St. Stanislaus School in nearby Konapathar, educo partners with the Jesuit order to run this Englishmedium secondary school for the children of the impoverished local tea-pickers.

In this very remote part of North East Assam, educo funded the building of a large brand new school with a capacity for 1,000 to educate local children up to Standard 10. educo recognised the need to build this school after witnessing the success of the original Jesuit school which was run out of a mud building.

The children who attend this school come from families of originally migrant workers from other states in India or from Nepal or Bhutan. As such, they have minimal rights in Assam because they are neither Assamese nor a recognised minority. This means they are excluded from state-run schools, and local private schools are too expensive for the parents of these children who typically only earn 6,000RS per month (€55).

The Jesuit order has a long proven track record of providing high quality education in India. In all three (non-denominational) schools we jointly run in Assam, they fully share our









#### **Pengaree School Kindergarten**

Opened 2017

**Leader:** Fr Roshan Bage SJ

Capacity: 160

The kindergarten schooling facility has become necessary as the main school at Pengaree has grown, with many other schools in the greater region (10 mile radius) now becoming feeder schools to Pengaree. Feeder schools are good to establish that there is demand for education, but it does mean more travel for those transitioning pupils. Having a 4 class kindergarten within the Pengaree school grounds is a great move forward for this school. This kindergarten was substantially funded from funds raised and donated by Clonkeen College, Dublin.



#### **Goals:**

1) To improve quality of teaching

To get parent and pupil buy into the idea that pupils only progress to the next year on the basis of their academic ability

- 2) To ensure some students go on to graduate from college, to provide much needed rolemodels for the children
  - To fully develop the sports facilities the school is on a 4-acre plot & has many underused playing fields

Life-Skills Training Centre North East Assam

Leader: Ms Maureen Ferrest

Location: Panditya Road, East Kolkata

Started: August 2008

**Teachers: Pupils:** 407

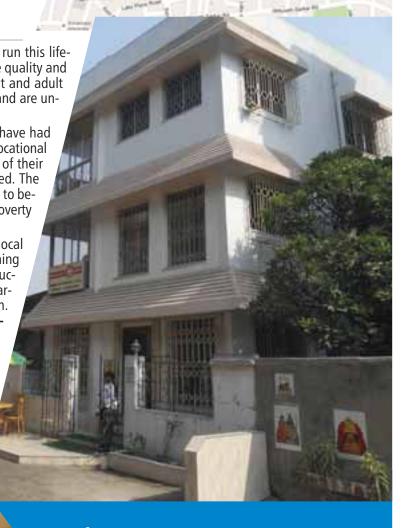
Partner: The Hope Foundation

educo partners with the NGO The Hope Foundation to run this lifeskills training centre in Kolkata. The aim of this is to provide quality and professionally designed vocational training to adolescent and adult males and females, who are living below the poverty line and are unable to access vocational training from state-run institutes.

The majority of workers in the informal sector in India have had limited formal education and typically have never received vocational training. Current state-run skills training courses, because of their educational entry requirements, exclude the underprivileged. The main objective of this project therefore is to enable trainees to become more employable and to therefore break the cycle of poverty in which they have found themselves.

The majority of the trainees come from the slum areas local to this part of East Kolkata. The centre consists of three training units (Food & Beverage, Pattern Making & Garment Construction, Computer Training) which allow the students to learn various life-skill activities, all through the medium of English. Such skills include culinary and waitressing, craft-making and garment construction, as well as of course the **English language** itself and **computer skills**.

After completing their training, the students (under professional supervision) run each production unit, which includes a restaurant and clothing shop. The production units secure orders from the market and are also responsible for the delivery of goods. In the long term, the goal is for each production unit to be self-sustainable and to be run as a cooperative.



**Goals:** 1) To continue to develop contacts between the centre and local businesses to generate a higher level of income for the goods and services produced by the Production Units. 2) continue to provide the necessary training to underprivileged girls allowing them to generate a decent level of income when they leave the programme.

St. Conleth's English School

West Bengal

Leader: Fr Sebastian Martis Principal: Ms Supriya Gupta

Location: St. Conleth's English School, Chalsa,

Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal

March 2018 Start:

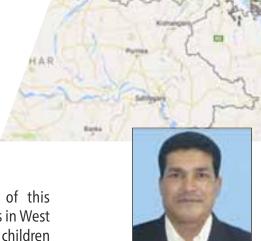
Teachers: **Pupils:** 225

Partner: **Chakra Society** 

educo has fully funded the building of 3 phases of this primary and secondary school. It is located in the tea gardens in West Bengal, near the border of Bhutan and Sikkim. Only 15% of children in the area are enrolled in the Indian educational system. Our schools will improve these statistics in the coming years.

This school opened its doors in March 2018.

This school has accommodation for boarding pupils and teachers.



Fr Sebastian Martis

**West Bengal** 



St Peter & St. Paul's School West Bengal

Leader: Fr Sebastian Martis **Principal:** Ms Ruma Barua

Location: St. Peter & St. Paul's School,

Malbazar, West Bengal

Start: March 2018

**Teachers** 194 **Pupils:** 

Partner: Chakra Society



Fr Sebastian Martis

Like its sister schools St Conleths and St. Thomas, this school is located in the tea gardens in West Bengal. educo France has fully funded the building of phase 1 of this project. We partner with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. In 2019, educo built phase 2 of this project by adding an additional floor to the existing school building. Our aim is to add a third floor in 2024, which will being the student capacity to 450 pupils. Our aim in this region is to increase the number of children in education as the number is currently at an extremely low 15%.

educo France has funded the playing fields. Vocational training is also offered here.





St. Thomas School Chamurchi

West Bengal

Leader: Fr Sebastian Martis Nur Mohammad **Principal:** March 2018 Start:

**Teachers: Pupils:** 194

Partner: **Chakra Society** 



Fr Sebastian Martis



St. Mary's English School

Washabari, West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis **Principal:** Ms Sunita Chhetriv

Start: 2021 Capacity: 195 Teachers: 7

**Partner:** Chakra Society

In 2021, educo opened phase 1 of this school. educo has partnered with David Lewis in Ireland who along with friends and family raised funds for this project. In India, educo has partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. The school will be surrounded by 5 tea estates and 4 villages with 20,000 families living in close proximity to the school. Many of the population are Nepalese refugees.



Fr Sebastian Martis

#### **Construction early 2021**



St. Patricks's School Kalchini, West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis

Principal: Elishiba Minj Start: January 2022

Capacity: 188 Teachers: 7

**Partner:** Chakra Society

St Patrick's English School, Kalchini was significantly funded by donations from Delhi Duty Free. The school campus is based on a large 3 acre site. The intent is to provide primary and secondary education, but also to provide vocational training, including agricultural training.



Fr Sebastian Martis



St. John's School

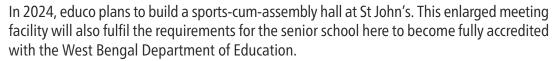
Nagrakata, West Bengal

**Leader:** Fr Sebastian Martis

Principal: Amrit Minj Started: 2006 Capacity: 274 Teachers: 9

**Partner:** Chakra Society

St John's School was the first school that Sebastian Martis and Chakra Society set up in this region, to bring English-Medium teaching to underprivileged children. Today, including St John's, there are 6 educo schools in this area which are run by Chakra. In 2023 we introduced vocational training courses in the evenings to help teach useful life skills to adults. This will help reduce to the overdependence on tea picking – which is low paying and seasonal work.





Fr Sebastian Martis



### Barasat Paraganas

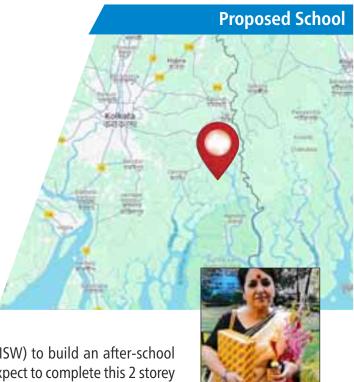
West Bengal

**Leader:** Ms. Nupur Sanyal

Principal: TBC Start: 2023 Capacity: 300

**Partner:** Institute of Social Work (ISW)

educo is also working with the Institute of Social Work (ISW) to build an after-school coaching facility in Barasat, Paraganas, outside Kolkata. We expect to complete this 2 storey coaching and vocational training school, in late 2023. The family situation is often one of domestic violence. The pupils here are 'first generation learners' — meaning that their parents did not receive schooling. As such, there is little tradition of studying nor the appreciation of the life & work benefits that education brings. This is a major challenge to get pupils to attend and to study. It will weigh on the likely success of this facility, particularly in the early years.



Ms. Nupur Sanyal



#### **Proposed School**

## Silliguri

West Bengal

Leader: Fr Sebastian Martis

**Principal:** TBC Start: 2026 Capacity: 500

**Chakra Society** Partner:

In 2026, educo plans to build phase 1 of this school. educo has partnered with the Chakra Charitable Society to manage the school. This area has a diverse population with Tribal, Nepalese, Rabhas, Islamic, Rajwanshi, Bengalis, Bhirais and Marwaris living in the area. Like all educo schools, Silliguri will be non-denominational with children from all backgrounds welcome. This school is closer to the city that has a population of 513,264 - so uptake in enrolment is expected to be strong.



Fr Sebastian Martis

#### **Proposed drawings**





#### **Proposed School**

Digambarpur Angikar

Sundarban, West Bengal

Leader: Mr Sourav Sannigrahi

**Principal:** TBC 2024 Start: 300 Capacity:

Partner: Digambarpur Angikar

In the Sundarban delta region, south of Kolkata, educo plans to build both a school and vocational training centre.

We plan to reach 300 pupils. These will be primarily marginalised children of trafficked parents. The intent is that once we provide the building the tuition fees that re paid will cover the teachers salaries - making this a self-sustaining school.

We will also have a second building aimed at vocational training: to give computer classes, tailoring and mechanical skills development. Furthermore, because Digambarpur Angikar (educo's local partner for this facility) has land here, we will provide agricultural training: producing cereals and breeding goats and chicken for sale in the marketplace.



Mr Sourav Sannigrahi



# Muskaan School

Central Mumbai

Chris Way & Krishna Pujari **Leaders:** 

Muskaan, Kumbharwada, Dharavi, Central Mumbai Location:

Started: June 2009

Teachers:

**Pupils:** 90 [Junior & Senior Kindergarten]

Partner: **Reality Gives** 

educo runs a Kindergarten school jointly with the NGO Reality Gives in Dharavi, the largest slum in Asia and one of the most deprived areas of Mumbai. The school is run out of a building provided by the local community, who recognise the need for a quality Kindergarten in their area.

We use the Muktangan method of teaching in this school, which encourages children to think for themselves - teachers facilitate rather than teach. Central to the Muktangan method is the low teacher- pupil ratio: typically there is 1 teacher for every 15 pupils, thus encouraging an excellent level of tuition. The teachers all come from the local community, we facilitate their training with the Muktangan centre and are committed to maintaining the high standards of teaching within the school. As well as this quality teaching, we provide the children with a nutritious meal every day.

When the children graduate from the Muskaan school, we plan for them to join our school run out of the



**Past Projects** 

Bhar

Jai Durga Mara Mand

Sion Link Road, Dharavi. educo and Reality Gives plan to recreate the model of the Saibaba Path school in nearby Lalbaug, which has proven so successful. This involves engagement with the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (formerly the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation or BMC) to allow us to use classrooms in their underutilised Kala Kila school. We already have a good relationship with the management of the school where our teachers from Muskaan assist the BMC teachers with their English classes. We plan to have our first class of Standard 1 ready to start in Kala Kila by June 2012.



### Kerala Region West India

**Leader:** Tom McEnaney

**Year:** 2009

**Project:** In 2008 IODP (International Orphanage Development Programme) and educo placed a library of 100 books and English language courses into 450 orphanages across Kerala. The books were chosen by librarians and teachers from Kerala, were in the local Malayalam language. They were primarily aimed at the most disadvantaged children in Kerala to promote a love of reading.

In all, two copies of 49 books and a cassette-based English-language course were presented to each school, along with clear plastic to allow the orphanages to cover and thus protect each book. The books chosen were a selection of Indian and western classics. They were mainly works of fiction and poetry with a few dictionaries and other language-based reference books.

The books and their distribution was funded by educo. IODP administered the project. The books were supplied by DC Books, a local publisher (founded by D.C. Kizhakemuri, a well-known writer, activist, freedom-fighter and book publisher).





Sahar Vasai School

Mumbai

**Leader:** Sr Paulette **Principal:** Sr Eliza Baretto

Capacity: 400

**Project:** This school is run by the handmaids of the Blessed Trinity which is led by Sr Paulette.

www.handmaidsorphanages.org



## Tangra East Kolkata

**Leader:** Mr Arvind Sinha **Principal:** Ms Shazia Khatoon

**Location:** 35 B/1 Christopher Road, Tangra, East Kolkata

**Started:** August 2010 (Closed April 2020)

**Teachers**: 9

**Pupils:** 229 [Crèche, Junior & Senior Kindergarten,

Remedial, Teenage & Adult Education Classes]









Ms Shazia Khatoon



This project was born from a comment Shazia made when Arvind filmed her for a documentary about living in the slums of Tangra. Shazia, then 17, said she dreamed of one day running a school. educo partnered with Arvind to make that dream a reality and now the school in Tangra educates over 200 pupils.

Tangra, a predominantly Muslim slum in East Kolkata, is an area with one of the lowest literacy rates in Kolkata. Our school is non-denominational, and whilst many of the pupils are Muslim, there are also Hindu and Christian children enrolled. The pupils come from families earning a combined monthly income of between 2,500RS - 4,000RS, with parents working as auto & manual rickshaw drivers, shoe-makers and cleaners etc. Most children in this slum area generally do not get the opportunity to go to school and certainly most don't get the opportunity to be educated in English and computer skills, so there has been a huge impact so far on the

local community from our school. Shazia, our Head Teacher, and all the other teachers and helpers come from the local community and therefore understand the issues the pupils and their families face on a daily basis.

educo has funded the rental of the school building until such time as we are able to buy or build a more permanent structure in the area to be able to accommodate Standards 1-10. In the long term, our aim is to make this school self- sustaining by charging parents a nominal fee of 200RS per month per child. Currently the school includes a crèche, Kindergarten classes (which use the Montessori teaching method), and remedial classes for children aged 5-6 who are finding it difficult to get admitted into Standard 1 in local schools. Additionally the school offers teenage and adult education classes, in English, Computer Skills and Tailoring.



#### **Goals:**

To locate a nearby building to buy or plot of land where we can build a larger school to accommodate the demand for Standard 1-10

2) To actively encourage the enrolment of girls to redress the lack of female education in the area

3) To encourage more adults from the local community to avail of our adult life-skills education programme, with English, computer and tailoring classes

HowYOU can help:

#### **Volunteer:**

#### **Fundraise in Ireland**

- Personal Collections: Collect for educo. If you have a group willing to collect for educo, we would be delighted to make a 30 minute presentation (5 minute video, 15 minute talk and 10 minutes Q & A)
- 2) **Corporate Donations:** ask your company to donate to educo: Some companies give a percentage of their profits to a charity such as educo.
  - Other companies will match whatever their staff raise for a particular charity.
  - Why not make educo your company's longterm CSR partner?
- 3) Sponsorship: Get Sponsored e.g. run a mini-marathon and raise funds for educo.
- 4) Teach: Teach some of our classes from your own home, using Skype to help children improve their English pronunciation. It only takes 2 hours a week. Contact Jim Boylan
- 5) **Teach in India:** educo has opened a dozen schools in Mumbai, Kolkata, and Assam. While we pay neither volunteers nor their costs, we are delighted to have them share their infectious enthusiasm, goodwill and knowledge.



### **Sponsorship:**

Sponsorship	Cost	Comment	
Sponsor a Pupil for a year	€300	This covers school tuition, books, uniform and boarding. (Various Educo schools offer boarding).	
Sponsor a Teacher for a year	€1,500	This covers the typical rural teacher salary & training for 12 months.	
Sponsor a Principal for a year	€12,000	This covers the cost of a hghly qualified principal's salary for 12 months in a city centre.	
Sponsor a School (running costs)	€20,000	This covers the typical cost of a rural school: teachers and support staff electricity, school books, uniforms, school bus running costs.	
Sponsor a Sports facility	€5,000	This is a once-off capital cost to eg put in a basketball court or playground or football pitch.	
Sponsor Equipment for Vocational Training	€10,000	This is a once-off capital cost to eg put in eg sewing machines, wood-turning equipment, mechanical repair facilities.	
Sponsor equipment for Computer Lab	€10,000	This is a once-off capital cost to eg put in a 10 desktops, fast broadband (eg Starlink), audio visual equipment and an IT Teacher for 1 year.	
Sponsor a School bus	€25,000	Cost to buy and run for a year a Tata 18 seater school bus - to collect pupils and bring them to and from the school daily.	
Sponsor Phase 1 of a school build	€50,000	This is a once-off capital cost to eg build 4-6 classrooms and toilets etc. (No land cost).	
Sponsor an entire school, in your name	€250,000	This covers the cost of rural land purchase build works include 2 floors of classrooms, toilets and school desks & equipment.	



#### chairman



Grattan Boylan

#### ceo



Tom McGovern

#### trustees







Ann Flannery, Declan O'Donnell & Conor Mulhall

#### educo france







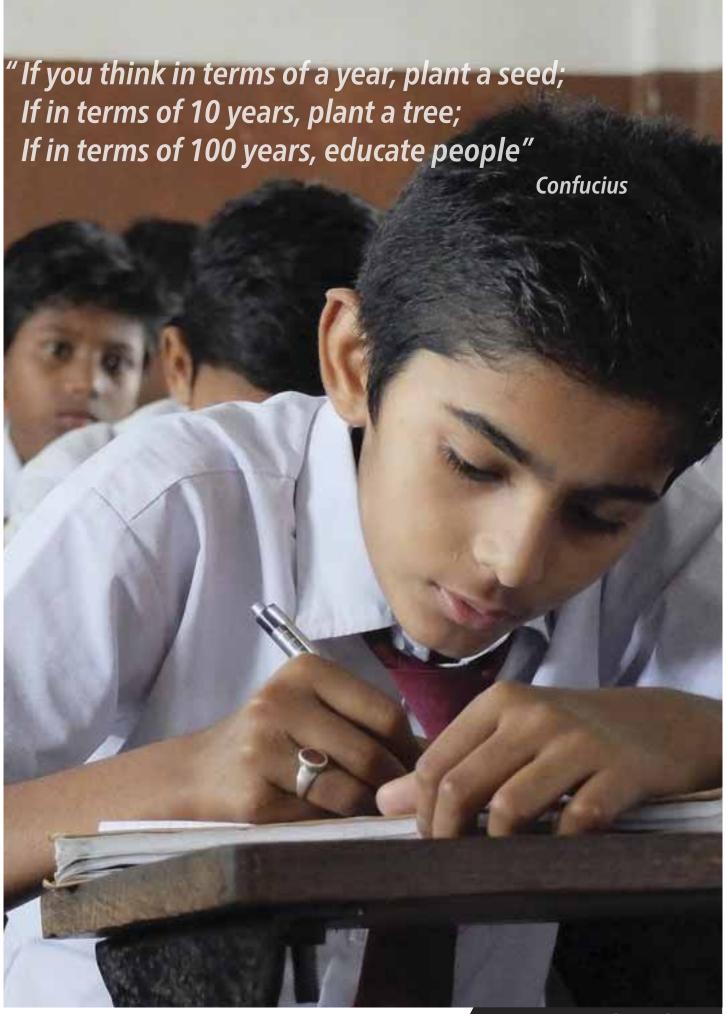
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#### educo india





Meenal Srinivasan, Vibhahkar Kelkar



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