



Miller Center

for Social Entrepreneurship

Name of social enterprise: Emerging Farmers Initiative, a project of the Religious Sisters of the Holy Spirit

Mission statement: Educate the youth of Zambia out of poverty

Webpage: <https://www.facebook.com/RSHSZambia> and <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rshszambia/>

Headquarters: Monze, Zambia

Location(s) of research: Zambia

Video of several presentations about this project

<http://replication-millercenter.org/mod/page/view.php?id=220>

The Fellowship will run in 2021, but due to the ongoing ambiguity caused by the Covid pandemic, international action research projects are designed to be conducted remotely (e.g., via Zoom), as was done in 2020. While we remain open to the possibility of travel (should circumstances allow), this project can be successfully completed without an immersive component. We will decide the 2021 placements and in-person versus remote engagement on March 1, 2021, and issue award letters to students on that date.

Background: For registered secondary-school-age pupils and local young school drop-outs, the Emerging Farmers' Initiative imparts, through an eco-friendly agricultural production unit, hands-on knowledge and skills in integrated farming methods. Unlike other institutions and local subsistence farming methods which trap people in poverty, the EFI teaches the learners to be ecologically sensitive entrepreneurs and prepare them to succeed in life while raising consciousness on preserving and replenishing Mother Earth. The EFI participates in the Sisters Blended Value Project, sponsored by the Association of Consecrated Women of Eastern and Central Africa. For a prior, comparable agroforestry project in Zambia, see Program Assessment and Content Guide here <https://www.millersocent.org/portfolio/lifeline-energy/>

The challenge: This initiative launched operations in late 2019 and is establishing production units in poultry, pig production, fish farming, and crop production. It is launching its training program in eco-friendly agriculture in 2021, and has requested help developing and improving a curriculum program that integrates social entrepreneurship with agroecological learning.

Action research products needed:

1. An eco-friendly, climate smart agroecology curriculum program that integrates principles of social entrepreneurship.

Student skills needed. Teaching and training, curriculum development, agroecological farming, entrepreneurial leadership formation, learning assessment.

Keywords: Social entrepreneurship, climate resilient agriculture, agroecology, farming education, sustainable agriculture, value creation through agriculture, entrepreneurial leadership formation.

