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**Trip Reports 2014**

**The Malawian Teachers visit to the UK**

**Kaputu linked to Hollingbourne**

**RE: AN EDUCATION VISIT TO UK AT HOLLINGBOURNE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

I write to report about my visit to the UK at Hollingbourne Primary School done on 18th to 25th June 2014. I went to share experiences and learn from our partner school on biodiversity as per our collaborative project.

I observed lessons from various learning areas like English, Music, mathematics and Science. The methods they use in teaching were so similar to us here in Malawi. They mostly used group work, role-­‐play, dramatization, discussion and explanation. The work is learner centred. I noted that they are dedicated to duty and time conscious. Classes are smaller about 15 to 20 learners in a class. They have assistant teachers who assist to organize learners. The teaching and learning resources are so many to make teaching and learning simple and effective. Learners go to cafeteria for lunch. Teachers love the learners.

While there, I presented lessons in all classes on diversity in Malawi, threats to diversity and how we are trying to combat them. The diversity in Malawi includes plants and animals. Threats include Habitat loss, Over-­‐exploitation, Pollution, invasive species and climate change. Ways of combating include:

 Loss of habitat: Protecting habitats to avoid bush fires and making of firebreak around our natural and protected area by planting and caring trees and grass.

 Over-­‐exploitations: We are trying to respect wildlife and learn to share our environment by avoiding poaching and over fishing in our rivers and lakes.

 Pollution/ invasive species: By getting rid of waste responsibly, minimizing the use of fertilizer and pesticides for these make the soil less fertile over time therefore we are focusing on permaculture.

 Climate change: We are also reducing the use of resource from firewood, electricity and water. We are using briquettes made from recycled materials instead of firewood and eco stoves that use less fuel. Reuse wasted water for watering plants

We are also telling people about the importance of biodiversity and how they can protect it to benefit the people of the globe and wildlife.

Finally I appreciate the efficient work of Starfish Director and his staff for being generous here in Salima and in UK. I would be grateful if this continues

Yours Sincerely

**M.S. Chipalamwazani**

