



MOZAMBIQUE OUTREACH



PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION





TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
EDUCATION MANDATE	2
EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT	2
CORE BELIEFS IMPACTING OUR EDUCATION	3
OUR EDUCATIONAL VALUES.....	3
DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF OUR EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE	4
OBJECTIVES	5

INTRODUCTION

This document presents the mandate, mission, values, beliefs and objectives of Mozambique Outreach that govern the introduction and development of Christian education in the nation of Mozambique.

In the development of strategic and educational objectives, consideration has been given to the Government of Mozambique's Education Sector Strategic Plan II (ESSP II, 2005 – 2009). The development of Christian education by Mozambique Outreach seeks to support the vision and strategy of the Education Sector Strategic Plan in providing:

Basic education (including early childhood development, primary education, non-formal and adult basic education)

Secondary education (including both academic, technical and vocational education and training and preparation for entry into the labour market)

Teacher training

Gender equity in education and addressing the HIV/AIDS pandemic

Enhancements to education (including school sports and the use of information and communications technology).

The presentation of strategic and educational objectives is predicated by:

1. A statement of the mandate, mission, values and core beliefs that form the foundation of a philosophy of education, and
2. The presentation of distinctive features of educational practice that are an expression of that philosophy of education.

EDUCATION MANDATE

To make disciples of Jesus Christ who are:

- **Educationally competent**

To create a learning community dedicated to achieving local, national and international levels of excellence in Christian education - teaching, research and scholarship, one that

- *assists the development of the whole person – spirit, mind and body*
- *provides a broad and balanced academic curriculum in which students are challenged to do their best*
- *makes significant contributions to the intellectual, cultural, social and economic life of Mozambican and international communities.*

- **Spiritually alive**

To cultivate the spiritual awareness within the internal community; which encourages faith in action and develops a community inspired by the Bible and the Christian faith.

- **Strong in character**

To foster an environment that will facilitate lifelong learning by optimising opportunities for leadership, sportsmanship, excellence and participation for every student

- **Intellectually equipped**

To develop attitudes, skills, and a base of knowledge as a foundation for critical intelligence, imaginative and creative powers, effective communication and the capacity and enthusiasm for independent, life-long learning.

- **Culturally relevant**

To strengthen the sense of responsibility, and the appreciation and understanding of internal and external communities in order to prepare students to become responsible, effective, creative, enterprising and content members of society

- **Practically skilled**

To combine academic strength, practical engagement and civic responsibility by strengthening and extending strategic partnerships with professional, industrial, commercial, governmental, and the broader external community and securing significant commercial and practical outcomes.

EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide quality Christian education that educates the whole person – spirit, mind and body.

CORE BELIEFS IMPACTING OUR EDUCATION

We believe that:

1. Education is the right of every individual regardless of gender, nationality, age or socio economic status.
2. The universe is the result of intelligent design, created by an omnipotent, omniscient and ever-present God.
3. God-given laws govern the physical and meta-physical realms and the process of education is the discovery and understanding of these laws.
4. The Creator God is a personal God who can be known personally in a relationship through His Son Jesus Christ.
5. Jesus Christ is the author and focus of all wisdom, knowledge and learning.
6. Humans were created with the ability to learn, create, reason, value and discriminate and these processes distinguish humanity from the rest of creation.
7. Each individual possesses a God consciousness, a self consciousness and a world consciousness and that effective education engages and develops all of these areas.
8. Education involves the spiritual, moral, social, intellectual, vocational and physical development of an individual.
9. Education occurs within community for the benefit of both the individual and the community in which the individual interacts.
10. The family is the primary agency of socialisation and education and is the basis on which society develops.
11. Education is a personal process of life long learning, in which schooling and educational institutions play an important role.
12. Each individual has a God-given purpose for life and that education assists in the discovery of that purpose.

OUR EDUCATIONAL VALUES

We value:

1. The Bible as the basis for all education.
2. Education focused on the whole person – Spirit, mind and body.
3. The responsibility and integrity of the family in the nurture of children.
4. Teaching as a ministry and a call of God.
5. Students who have a willingness to learn, and who demonstrate the potential to engage with, and impact their internal and external communities.
6. A protected learning environment that is a physically and psychologically safe, supportive, disciplined, aesthetic and healthy learning environment which supports a balance between life and work.
7. Responsible participation by each individual in their internal and external communities.
8. Education that produces service orientation and capability responsive to the needs of both the education facility and relevant external communities.
9. The pursuit of excellence to achieve God-given potential as an acknowledgement of an excellent God
10. Integrity in personal conduct and external practise.
11. A spirit of experimentation, innovation, entrepreneurialism and client service.
12. Faith in God, in responding to life's challenges.
13. Ethical personal and organisational conduct established, developed and expressed on Christian principles.
14. Respect for government and authority.

DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF OUR EDUCATIONAL PRACTICE

THE NATURE OF TRUTH AND KNOWLEDGE

The practical expression of our education is founded on an understanding that:

- The Bible is the authentic source of knowledge providing the perspective and meta-physical framework for the understanding of truth and knowing.
- There is absolute truth which is resident in, and created by an infinite Creator God.
- All creation has been created by and for Jesus Christ, the third person of the Godhead.
- Humanity is the discoverer and not the originator of truth.
- The search for knowledge and the act of knowing is the recognition of the Creator and His work in Creation.
- Scientific enquiry is the process of discovering pre-existent truth and pre-determined God created natural laws and processes.
- Human reasoning alone is an insufficient agent of truth.
- Truth is not an abstraction and has a practical application in an individual's daily life.
- The acquisition of truth and knowledge will be evidenced in an individual's actions.

THE METHOD OF EDUCATIONAL DELIVERY

Our education and learning experiences are enabled by individuals who believe that they have a call from God to teach. Our teaching approach:

- Engages both teacher and student in a learning experience.
- Values the teacher as a facilitator of student learning.
- Motivates students to discover knowledge and learning as an individual pursuit.
- Encourages teachers to model Godly behaviour and a love of learning to their students.
- Encourages the internal development of Christ-like character, values and ethics that are expressed externally in Godly behaviour within the student.
- Fosters the development of compassion and concern for God's world and those in it.
- Expresses Christ-like character, attitudes and actions.
- Seeks competence and currency in inclusive teaching styles.
- Values a commitment to life long learning and communities of learners.
- Is individually, culturally and nationally relevant.
- Promotes effective communication between the home and educational facility.

OBJECTIVES

1. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Our strategic objectives provide quality Christian education that will impact the nation of Mozambique. To do so, strategic objectives have been formulated at a local, regional and national level.

1.1 Local Strategic Objectives

- 1.1.1 Develop and deliver adult literacy programs to local communities.
- 1.1.2 Establish primary and secondary schools within local communities able to sustain their development.
- 1.1.3 Foster the development of literacy programs and schools as an expression of the ministry of local Christian churches.
- 1.1.4 Establish an emphasis on academic, technical and vocational education within local primary and secondary schools according to the identified needs of local communities.
- 1.1.5 Provide networks for governance, curricula, human & financial resources, professional development and training to encourage local operational autonomy and sustainability.
- 1.1.6 Develop local facilities that express excellence without ostentation.

1.2 Regional Strategic Objectives

- 1.2.1 Provide regional facilities servicing and serviced by schools from a number of local communities to develop post secondary, technical and vocational education, health care and teacher training.
- 1.2.2 Develop regional facilities that reflect comparable world standards.
- 1.2.3 Develop networks of communication, professional development, student interaction amongst regional centres and between regional centres and their contributing schools.
- 1.2.4 Develop professional, learning and technological networks to engage other national and international professional identities and communities.

1.3 National Strategic Objectives

- 1.3.1 Develop national tertiary facilities catering to the educational and vocational needs of students.
- 1.3.2 Develop national facilities that reflect comparable world standards.
- 1.3.3 Develop national networks of communication, professional development, student and staff exchange.
- 1.3.4 Develop a national organisational structure to ensure systemic responsibility, accountability and resource management.
- 1.3.5 Develop a national organisational structure that will liaise with individuals, national and international governments, agencies and organisations for the development of Christian education in Mozambique.

2. EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

These educational objectives endeavour to develop recognised quality Christian education from pre - literacy to tertiary level by developing educational programs whose philosophical foundations, beliefs and values, educational expression and personal outcomes are founded on Christian faith.

Mozambique Outreach seeks to develop educational programs that:

- 2.1 Understand and respond to the local, regional and national needs of Mozambicans.
- 2.2 Assist Mozambicans to become intellectually, spiritually, financially, vocationally and socially capable.
- 2.3 Are culturally relevant and provide gender equality.
- 2.4 Engage and involve Mozambicans in the development and delivery of their education.
- 2.5 Foster a love of learning through an understanding of life long learning.
- 2.6 Encourage the development of leadership skills for their expression in service at local, regional and national levels.
- 2.7 Reflect recognised best practice in their content and delivery.
- 2.8 Develop a sense of identity in a global community.
- 2.9 Promote the development of strong, spiritual, educated leadership.
- 2.10 Facilitate change in communities.

3. RELATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Through the development and delivery of its educational programs, Mozambique Outreach recognises and values the dignity of each individual. In the development of relationships amongst and within individuals and organisations, it seeks to:

- 3.1 Develop personal integrity through an understanding and expression of the character of Christ in each individual's life.
- 3.2 Encourage the development and expression of individual values and beliefs.
- 3.3 Develop educators with a sense of Christian vocation, commitment to excellence, love of learning,
- 3.4 regard for the integrity of individuals and responsiveness to the needs of their community and nation.
- 3.5 Facilitate individual, systemic and organisational relationships reflecting Biblical values and morals and expressing respect, integrity, honesty and fair dealing.
- 3.6 Develop respect for those in positions of authority and responsibility.

4. ORGANISATIONAL OBJECTIVES

In the pursuit of its objectives, Mozambique Outreach seeks to develop organisational systems of authority, accountability, management, sustainability, efficiency and financial development that:

- 4.1 Are an expression of Christian values, ethics and morals.
- 4.2 Develop the life skills of those involved.
- 4.3 Provide for the expression of authority, responsibility and accountability at a local, regional, national and international level.
- 4.4 Reflect a commitment to excellence and an expression of recognised best practice.
- 4.5 Are responsive to the local, regional and national needs of Mozambicans.