

Establishment of the Centre of Agricultural Education in Bié Province (Angola)

Havrland B., Holeček P., Holíková P., Špička M., Ferreira S. V.,
Hejkrlík J., Mazancová J., Jopková M.

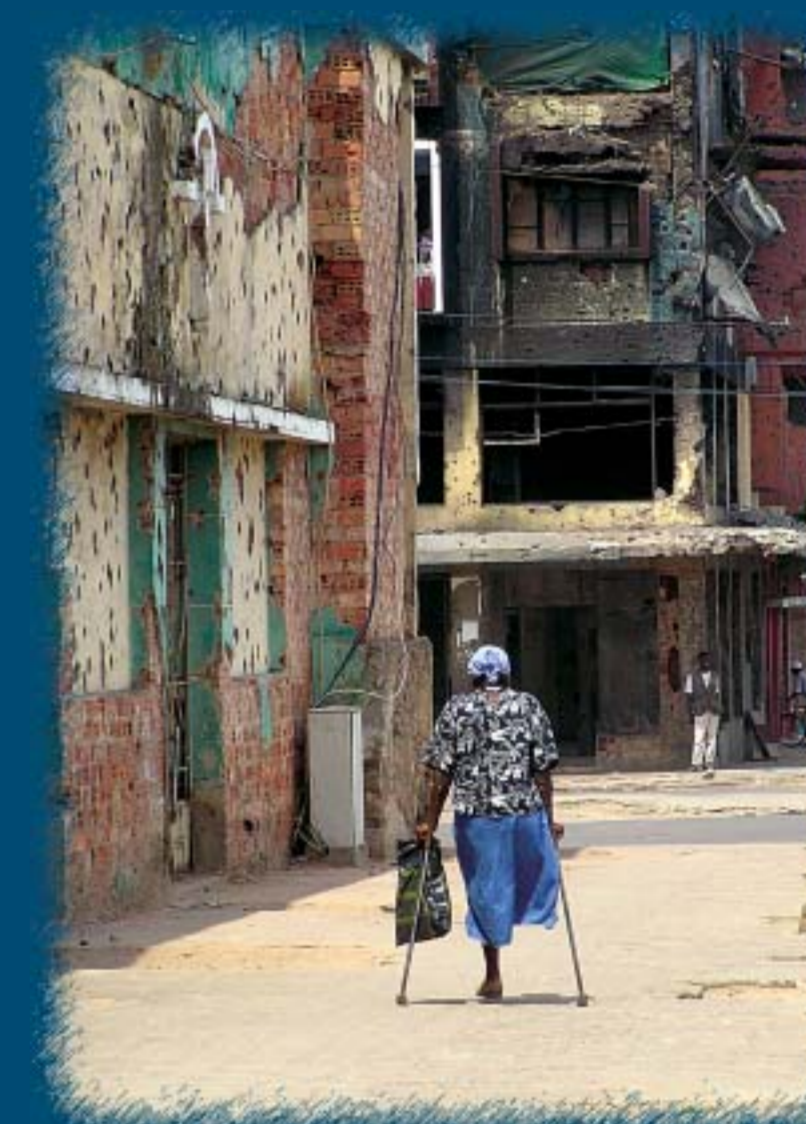


Czech University of Agriculture in Prague
Institute of Tropics and Subtropics
Kamýcká 129, 165 21 Prague 6, Czech Republic



Bilateral Development Project of the Czech Official Development Assistance

Coordinator: Institute of Tropics and Subtropics
Target country: Republic of Angola
Donor: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic
Duration: 3 years (1/2003 - 12/2005)
Budget: 222,300 €



Partners in Angola:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Government of Bié Province



Introduction:

The armed conflict, one of the longest in the world, has caused a deep humanitarian crisis. Angola has the highest percentage of war-displaced people in the world - almost 30% of the total population, or 4.1 million people. A very high proportion of the population is extremely vulnerable and dependent in one form or another on external aid. The food insecurity is associated with the absence of opportunities for any regular productive activity, namely in agriculture. Moreover, it has been extremely difficult to mobilise external emergency aid, particularly in terms of access to critical areas. These humanitarian concerns will, however, remain a top priority, at least in the short term.



Aims of the project:

The aim of the project is to establish Centre of agricultural educational and develop training and extension services for local farmers in the Bié province (located in the central Angola and occupying 72 000 km²). The Bié province is one of the provinces worst affected by the four-decades long civil war. Up to the establishment of the Centre the province had lacked any secondary agricultural education. The establishment of the Centre will help in solving food problems and at the same time in generating new labour opportunities. The educational activity of the Centre will also support intensive effort of local government to solve the socio-demographic problem, i.e. depopulation and the consequent decline of the whole region whose natural predisposition for agricultural production is unique.

Present situation:

The preparation phase including localization of a suitable place for the Centre in Kuito, provision of teaching materials and equipment for theoretical and practical training and preparation of syllabus and study programs of the Centre was finished. The four-membered Czech team, together with several Angolan teachers, has started teaching 100 students in March 2004.

The Centre offers four-year duration courses for the local applicants with concluded basic education. In the third and fourth year students can specialize either in plant production or animal production. After the final examination, graduates will be the first technical experts educated in the province.



Associated activities:

- Preparation and publication of study materials and textbooks
- Practical training of students on the adjacent grounds
- Construction of poultry house for establishment of the poultry breed
- Organization of seminars and practical training of the poultry production for students and farmers
- Organization and publication of a school journal with student participation
- Establishment of chemical laboratory, computer classroom and school library
- Research in fishery production in the province including collection and preservation of fish samples

contact: projektangola@centrum.cz