



Education for Children.
Since 1990.

Information brochure



**Cunina means
'Goddess of the cradle'.**

**The spot where your
cradle stands
often determines which
chances you get in life.**

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Preface

The first time I travelled to Haiti was in 1989. It completely changed my life. I realised that I had the will and the opportunity to do more for underprivileged children and that education is the key to a better future.

I often say, 'Cunina is my child'. And that is exactly the way it is. In 1990 Cunina was launched and I have seen it grow into an independent, professional organisation. Over the years Cunina has sent more than 12.000 children to school and has realised more than 90 projects.

Since 2004 Cunina is recognised as an ngo. However, it has preserved its small-scale, pragmatic and authentic family character. Cunina does not aim being the biggest, but instead the most energetic exemplary organisation. In this, we highly value transparency, credibility, authenticity, efficiency, innovation, sustainability and professional structure.

"Education is the most powerful weapon to make a difference in the world." Nelson Mandela

Sophie Vangheel

Managing Director, Founder and President
Cunina Belgium - the Netherlands



Where does Cunina work?



Cunina has a mission

Cunina is a Belgian certified development organisation. In partner countries Brazil, Haiti, Nepal, the Philippines, South Africa and Uganda, Cunina focuses on improving the access to and the quality of primary and secondary education, irrespective of any political, religious or social beliefs.

Cunina subscribes to the millennium goals, in particular to the second goal: every child has a right to free primary education.

Cunina has a dream

Cunina believes that every child is unique, is talented and deserves a chance to develop these talents.

Education is of vital importance, for it lays the foundation of individual and social development.

*“You cannot save all the children in the world,
but you can save the world of one child”.*





Cunina sponsorships

"I can go to school every day"



Investing in a child is the foundation of a prosperous and sustainable society. This is the basis of the personalised "1 on 1" Cunina sponsorship.

Worldwide 75 million children do not attend school. Poverty is often one of the most important reasons. Although primary education is basically free in a lot of countries, a uniform, pencils, notebooks, a schoolbag and school trips are very expensive for poor families. Often they can't bear these school costs, let alone send their child to a quality private school.

In secondary school, the costs are even higher, which makes that children often have to drop out of school before they can graduate.

In 2015, all children, girls as well as boys, must have access to primary education. This is one of the 8 millennium goals leaders from all over the world have agreed upon at the UN Millennium Summit of 2000, in order to banish poverty from this world.

According to the UN, this goal is currently a priority for all countries. "Education is the key to everything the UN wants to realise", says Ban Ki-Moon, secretary-general of the UN. After all, education for every child contributes to the realisation of the other goals such as reducing child mortality, improving health and developing a sustainable society.

A child who can go to school on a daily basis thanks to the support of its Cunina godparent, can take its future in its own hands and can make a contribution to a prosperous community.

To a child, a Cunina sponsorship means nothing more or less than a way to a better future.



"I can go to school every day"

A Cunina godparent pays a monthly contribution of 30 euros. The way in which this money is spent, depends on the godchild's whereabouts. After all, the tuition fees vary from country to country, from region to region and from school to school. This is why the sponsorship money for a godchild on the Philippines or in the capital of Haiti doesn't meet all school expenses. In South-Africa or in central Haiti, on the other hand, there are surpluses which are used to finance projects that enhance the quality of education.



"I write a letter regularly"

The Cunina sponsorship is a "1 on 1" sponsorship. This means that every child is assigned a godparent whose contribution is intended for that specific child. In every school or region godchildren gather 2 times a year to write a letter to their godparent. In this way a bond is created between godparent and godchild and godparents can monitor school results of their godchild.



"I study from my new books"

Proper school supplies are essential to a child who goes to school every day. Cunina gives the godchildren a proper start by purchasing books, notebooks, writing material, a calculator... In short, everything the child needs to make its school career successful.



“I wear a beautiful school uniform”

In the partner countries of Cunina, all children wear a school uniform. It's a way to lessen (external) differences between children of wealthy and poor parents as much as possible. In reality however, one still clearly notices the differences. Poor families often can't afford a school uniform, which makes that children wear a worn-out uniform or are even denied access to the school. Therefore, Cunina buys every year a completely new school uniform for all Cunina godchildren (trousers or a skirt, a shirt, a sweater, a tie, a belt, shoes, socks and underwear).



“I proudly wear my school bag”

The godchildren can put away their school materials neatly in a sturdy school bag. In some countries, they have even got a genuine Cunina school bag with the logo of Cunina.





Cunina projects
"I get quality education."

Creating access to education alone is not sufficient. It has to go hand in hand with the improvement of the quality of education.

This is why Cunina continues to work towards a better infrastructure, is constantly training new teachers and provides solid school materials.

After all, proper education motivates teachers, as well as students and parents, and in this manner early school dropouts are tackled.

Cunina chooses a quick and direct approach: within 3 months' time we have been able to build ready-made classrooms in the desolate Himalayan regions of Nepal.

Ever since 1990 Cunina has realised over 90 projects in 6 partner countries. On the right, you will see an overview of some of the projects which have been realised by Cunina during the last few years.

On the next pages, we take you to 3 partner countries to show you a few examples of the ongoing projects of Cunina.

Nepal

- Construction of 2 primary schools
- Construction of a kindergarten
- Medical Assistant training for 40 students
- Construction of a library
- Training of teachers
- Construction & management of a hostel
- Construction of a well
- Literacy courses
- Construction of a health post

The Philippines

- Construction of 60 houses
- Cunina-Global Teenager Project

South Africa

- Construction & furnishing of classrooms
- Family houses for orphans
- Construction of skill centre: sewing, woodwork and computer classes

Brazil

- Educational Centre for street children
- Care of street children

Haiti

- Student home
- Construction & furnishing of classrooms

South Africa



Family homes for orphans



Construction of a Skill Centre



Computer Class



Purchase of uniforms



Sewing Class



Woodwork Class



Nepal



Hostel for 90 children



Medical Assistant training for 40 students



Construction of a primary school in Num



Before



Construction of a primary school in Sekha



After

Haiti



Construction and furnishing of classrooms

Before



After



Painting of a school in La Victoire



Purchase of the student Cunina-Mamosa home

What makes Cunina stand out?



Cunina has an experience of over more than 25 years in development cooperation.

- The personal approach of Cunina.
- Cunina is a certified, small-scale ngo.
- We are not being funded by the government which grants us our full independence.
- For over 25 years we have been making an essential contribution to the realisation of the "Millennium and Education for All" goals: free & quality education for each child, wherever on this planet.
- Cunina keeps its operational costs very low in order to invest as much as possible in godchildren and educational projects.
- We use our own media as a promotional tool so paying publicity is reduced to zero.
- In each of our partner countries a professional structure has been developed, led by well trained local managers who, together with the strong team in Belgium, steer Cunina in the right direction.
- Cunina pursues an extremely transparent financial policy in accordance with the standards of the AEF (Association for Ethical Fundraising).



*“Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world.”*

Nelson Mandela



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Since 1990.**

**www.cunina.org
www.facebook.com/cuninango**

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