

**3 footballs for school class**  
**10 footballs for a school**  
**Establish a football factory**

In sub-Saharan Africa, the footballs currently on offer are imported, synthetic and, once punctured, cannot be repaired. Locally produced leather balls are a much more sensible alternative. The solution: setting up football factories in Zambia, South Africa and Kenya. The balls are sent to schools and clubs all over Africa.

These factories provide durable leather balls at not-for-profit prices; balls that last much longer in these harsh conditions and that can be repaired. After its first year of production, a football factory becomes self-financing.

In addition to the obvious benefits of sport and exercise, every ball carries HIV/AIDS, malaria or TB messages, as appropriate for the area. Introducing health issues in this way, they can be followed up by support workers promoting information and awareness. So, the stitching factories act not only as a hub for employment but also provide essential health education and medical services.

The demand for the balls is vast, and the potential for expansion of the programme is considerable. At present Alive and Kicking factories employ 210 stitchers in disadvantaged areas, with the potential to expand just as fast as funding permits.

And the gift of footballs and netballs is really appreciated. The Mwambashi Community School in Zambia said: "This gesture will really help in developing sports and in availing health education to our pupils and there is now not a dull boy or girl in the playground".

Thank you, Good Givers, for your part in this success story. It's a gooooooal!