



Newsletter 1

Bangladesh School Desk Project

Education in a country like Bangladesh is extremely important. For many children it offers an escape from poverty or child labour and a chance to develop their own lives.

On my recent trip to Bangladesh in November 2013 I visited a local school in Balaborhati, a small village in the northern part of Bangladesh. What I saw was 120 children following class while sitting on the clay floor. The school had literally zero facilities and the teachers asked if I could help providing them with school

desks. I explained that I had experience with a previous school desk charity project in Cambodia in 2010.

I visited a carpenter for having the desk constructed locally and agreed on the design and price for 65 school desks + benches. This way I would be able to help not only the school, but also the local villagers of Balaborhati, Bangladesh.

This newsletter is about the first results of the project.

“83” school desks - a great success!!



The fundraising for the school desks for Bangladesh has been a great success. You have donated 83 school desks. Thanks to all of you!!

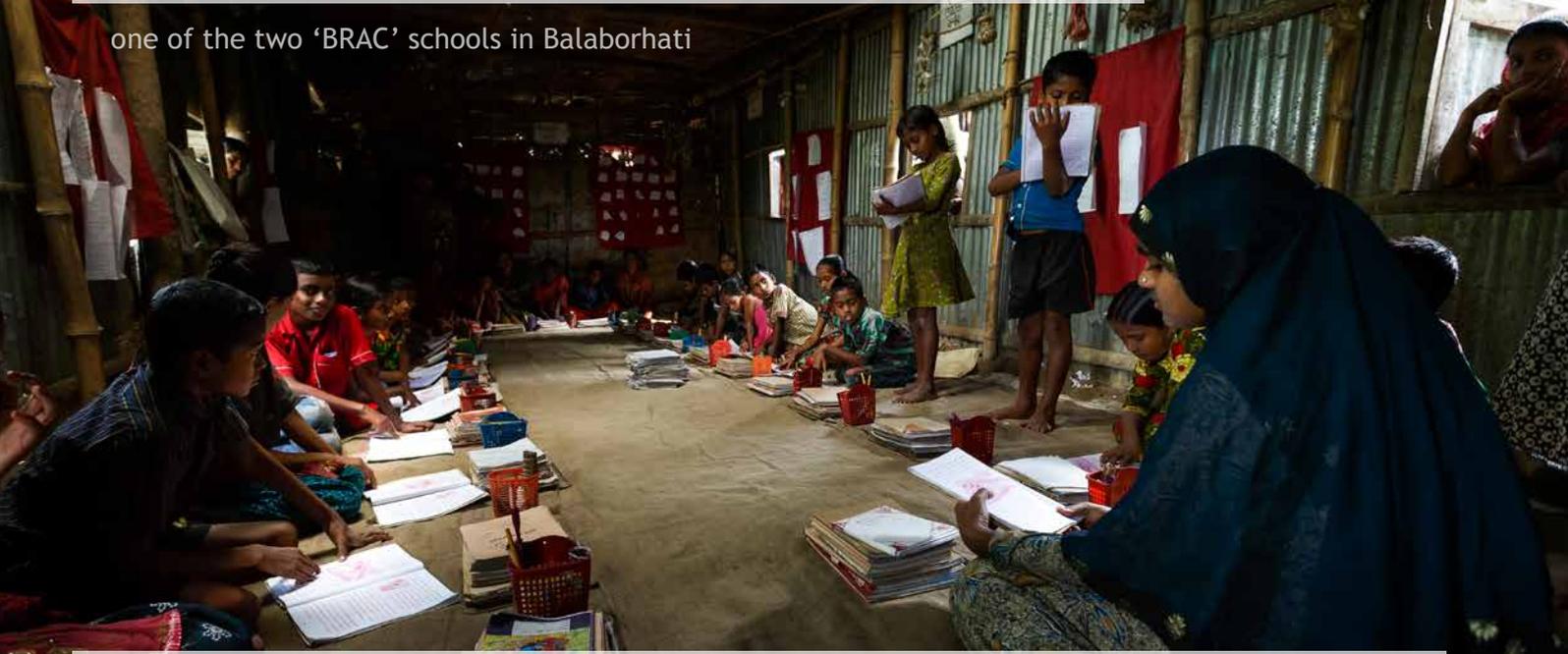
During my first visit to Bangladesh in November 2013 the head teacher initially requested for 60 school desks and 5 teacher desks. Because the experience I had of a similar school desk I did in 2010 in Cambodia, I knew that it would be fairly easy to get it done. I

started promoting the project to colleagues, friends and relatives by the end of November.

Today, four months later, you have donated USD 3,244, more than enough to purchase the requested school desks. You, 59 Sponsors originating from 12 different countries, have supported this project with your generous donations. Thank you very very much!!

90 School uniforms

one of the two 'BRAC' schools in Balaborhati



You have donated more than I needed to purchase the 65 school desks. With the excess donations I will purchase 90 school uniforms for the pupils of two "BRAC schools" in the same village.

ry schools specifically target children who are at high risk of dropping out of primary school, and seek to prevent this by preparing them for success. The photo above shows one of the "BRAC" schools.

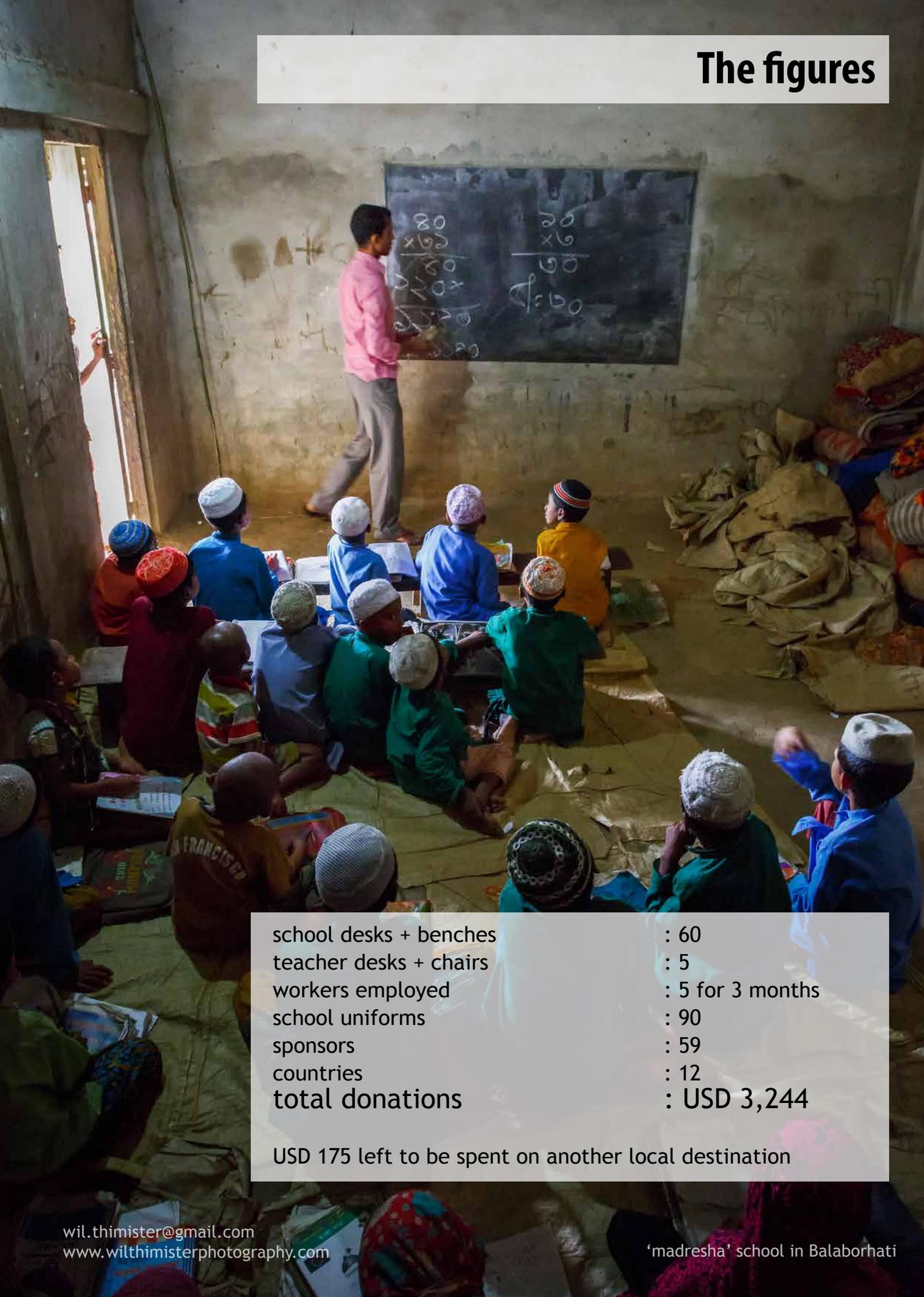
These "BRAC schools" can hardly be called a "school". It is actually not more than a single classroom. BRAC is an NGO providing pre-primary education in a 1-year program targeting students from disadvantaged and non-literate families. These pre-prim-

The school that will receive the school desks (photo below) is a "madresha" school where the education system has a more religious Islamic context. This school receives no funding from the government or any NGO.



'madresha' school in Balaborhati

The figures



school desks + benches	: 60
teacher desks + chairs	: 5
workers employed	: 5 for 3 months
school uniforms	: 90
sponsors	: 59
countries	: 12
total donations	: USD 3,244

USD 175 left to be spent on another local destination