



2014

building businesses
scaling success

sparkventures
business driven philanthropy

for her...

Spark Ventures' unique model focuses on developing emerging market businesses. But the end goal is to endow the sustainable provision of nutrition, education and healthcare to vulnerable children.

In 2014 Spark Ventures supported high-impact community programming for over 500 children.

Social impact partners have a stated commitment that more than 50% of their beneficiaries will be girls, including Osiris in León, Nicaragua.





a note from Spark's CEO...

Thank you for your partnership in 2014. You helped us build on the success of our business driven philanthropy model. A over 15,000 combined staff and volunteer hours and \$748,588 in financial contributions were invested for significant impact:

- ◆ The Zambian poultry farm employed 20+ workers and produced and sold 75,000 chickens with an increasing allocation of profits funding our partner's high impact programs for children.
- ◆ A conclusive land search, in-depth crop research, incorporation of a new entity and a growing list of prospective business partners provide the foundation for a successful 2015 launch of our Nicaraguan agribusiness.
- ◆ Compelling new language and visuals improved how we now share the Spark story and impact. For a clear example, don't miss our completely re-vamped website (www.sparkventures.org).

Please enjoy the stories, statistics and images in this report. Know that your investment made it possible. You have many philanthropic opportunities and I thank you for choosing to support Spark Ventures.

With gratitude,

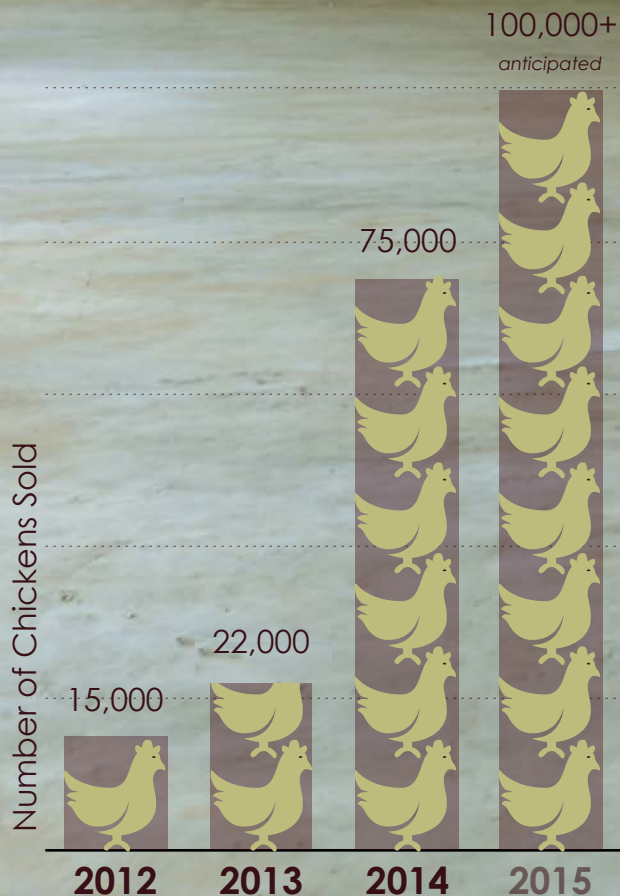
Richard A. Johnson

CEO & Cofounder, Spark Ventures

business driven philanthropy



At Spark Ventures, we invest financial and human capital to launch businesses in emerging market countries. These social enterprises are an economic development engine that produce locally consumed goods and create jobs for base of the pyramid families. Our return on investment, the profits, stay within the community and provide sustainable revenue for high-impact health and education programs to benefit the poorest children.



for him...

In 2014 the Hope Ventures poultry farm in Zambia raised and sold 75,000 chickens with impressive financial *and* social returns.

In addition to providing \$15,000 in revenue in 2014 to sustain high impact programs lifting children out of poverty, the farm also provides a living wage to 10 full-time and 12+ seasonal workers in a country where the unemployment rate reaches 15%.

grassroots, social
program partners...

Las Tías
León, Nicaragua

Hope Ministries
Ndola, Zambia



leveraging contributions for impact...

At Spark Ventures we treat contributions as **investments**, expecting a social and financial return. We measure the success and impact of our investments in three ways:

- ✦ **Net Income of Business:** Spark's investment of human and financial capital in emerging market Businesses should result in profitable social enterprises.
- ✦ **Sustainable Revenue Funding Social Programs:** Spark's Business ROI should become a growing endowment funding high-impact programs of Spark's social program partners.
- ✦ **Jobs created and sustained:** Spark's investments should create and sustain an increasing number of living wage jobs, helping to lift communities out of poverty.



nutrition...

Hope School meal programs,
serving 350 youth, proven to
increase school participation
and performance



education...

Hope School achieved 100%
primary school graduation rate
for 4th consecutive year vs. a
88.5% national average



healthcare...

Bi-annual clinics at Hope School
provide de-worming medication,
proven to improve school
attendance by 7.5%



Hope Ministries
Zambia



nutrition...

Las Tías centers provide robust daily meals to 150 youth from homes without resources for needed nutrition



education...

Las Tías achieved 100% primary school graduation rate for its beneficiaries vs. a 75% national average



healthcare...

Staff Psychologist and Social Worker address abuse and mental health challenges of the most vulnerable children

Asociación Las Tías Nicaragua

seeding success...

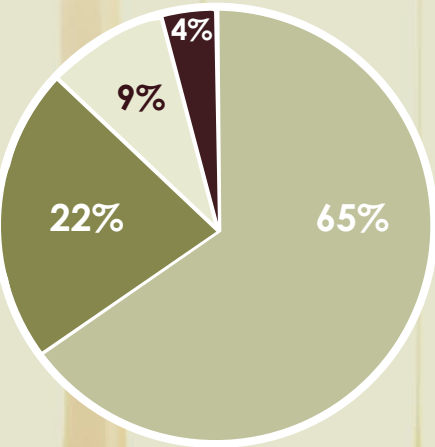
Spending an impressive seven months of 2014 in Nicaragua, building partnerships and conducting in-depth market research, Spark Ventures' Director of Social Impact Investments, Lucy Jodlowska, has developed a robust understanding of the agricultural ecosystem Spark Ventures is entering.

Spark's business investment in Nicaragua will include operating a 175 acre farm, whose production will eventually include cacao, coffee, chilies and honey. Both local consumption and exporting are in the plans. At full scale, the farm is expected to provide 12 permanent staff positions and hundreds of seasonal workers, along with thousands of dollars in net income, which will fund critical programs benefiting hundreds of Nicaraguan children.



agriculture
products

FY2014 Revenue & Other Support



Total: \$993,215

- Individual Contributions
- Corporate & Foundation
- Ticket & General Sales
- In-Kind Contributions



travelers...

2014 brought 77 travelers to engage with Spark’s social-impact partners in Zambia and Nicaragua.



investors...

The 2014 Spark Ventures’ investing community included over 840 supporters.



By the numbers...

Full audited financials included in financial inserts here and available online, along with Spark Ventures’ 990 Form, at www.sparkventures.org/annualreport.

2014 Board of Directors

Tasha Seitz | Chair

Partner, JK&B Capital

Patti O’Neil | Vice Chair

Treasurer and Assistant Professor,
Rush University Medical Center

Nancy O’Leary | Treasurer

CFO, JK&B Capital

Gary Vlk | Secretary

Co-Founder and Executive VP,
One Smooth Stone

Scott Barbeau

Cofounder, Spark Ventures
Professional Musician

Molly Baskin

Managing Director,
Ansley Consulting Group

Marisa Daley

President, HPT Advisory Services LLC

Steve Gant

Managing Director,
Modulo Security Solutions

David Goldstein

Founder and Attorney,
David Goldstein & Associates, LLC

Michael Komaskinski

Chief Operating Officer,
Razorfish North America

Dan Marcus

Investment Advisor, Marcus Capital, LLC

Ross Parr

Vice President, Global Sales,
SaskTel International

Jeff Plaisted

Senior Director Global Ad Sales and
Strategy, Skype at Microsoft

Jochen “Joe” Renz

Founder & President, SalesEnablers

Nick Schoewe

Cofounder and Manager Member,
CSS, LLC

Stacy Wells

Senior VP, Relationship Manager,
Wells Fargo

Brian Wu

General Manager,
College Park Athletic Club

Leadership Team

Rich Johnson

CEO & Cofounder

Lucy Jodlowska

Director of Partnerships

Stephanie Denzer

Program Manager

Marcia McDonnell

Finance Manager



sparkventures
business driven philanthropy

134 North LaSalle Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, IL 60602
(773) 293-6710

www.sparkventures.org