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.
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
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.
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%.
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.
**FY2014 Revenue & Other Support**

**Total:** $993,215

- **Individual Contributions**: 22%
- **Corporate & Foundation**: 9%
- **Ticket & General Sales**: 4%
- **In-Kind Contributions**: 65%

**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](http://www.sparkventures.org/annualreport).
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