



# III GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM UNISERVITATE

SERVICE-LEARNING AND GLOBAL COMPACT ON EDUCATION:  
EDUCATING FOR FRATERNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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UNIVERSITÀ LUMSA - ROME (ITALY)

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## IngénieursSud

Study, design and installation of  
street lighting and a nursery  
in Dwale, Democratic Republic of Congo

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# IngénieursSud

- 4 Belgian students from the Sector of Sciences and Technologies
- work during one full academic year
- with 4 local students in Southern countries
- to figure out an appropriate and sustainable solution to a technical issue. That technical problem is identified and defined by associations, cooperatives, NGOs,... which are in direct contact with the local population.



# IngénieursSud

- Students (8) in group work all together from October until June
- via emails, Skype, WhatsApp, etc.
- They are supervised by scientists and experts of Northern and Southern institutions.
- Then, they all meet in the field to implement the technical solution during one month in Summer.



# What was the problem?

The community of the village named Dwale, on the Bateke plateau, in DRC was facing two major issues:

- Aggression along the road at night
- Deforestation of the region



# What did the service consist of?

The installation of public lighting in order to ensure the safety, the study of the students as well as the organization of celebrations





# What did the service consist of?

A nursery to supply a wide variety of trees





# What was the relationship with the organization or community like?

- Technical issues defined by the community
- Congolese and Belgian students interact with the community to co-build appropriable solutions and to implement them
- One outcome of the project: concrete job opportunities for the most vulnerable members of the rural population





# What did you learn from the experience?

- The techniques are not neutral and they are only one aspect of any complex problematic
- A holistic approach must be adopted to design appropriate, appropriable and sustainable solutions
- A balanced partnership between all the stakeholders is crucial and is not obvious