

kivuli NEWS

EDITION 29 – September 2012 *GDG Project J606N Update*



Kivuli Project Inc is proud to be a project partner for J606N with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) www.globaldevelopment.org.au



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jambo friends,

As we reflect on our last six months in Australia, we are once again in awe of how God has had His hand on Kivuli. It has always been hard to leave the project for such a long period of time because of the desire to be in control, to know the 'everyday' details and to do things our way, but each time we have seen God put people in place. Not only did He provide Holly and Leigh to manage the project for five of these months, but He also provided Anyembe to join us as our Kenyan Project Manager. What a comfort!

It's been wonderful to have Anyembe manage the project with Anne over the past six weeks in the absence of 'wazungu' (white people). They have done a tremendous job and it was a great practice for our long-term goal of nationalisation; when Kenyan nationals will completely manage the project without any foreign assistance.

This month we also welcomed our Social Worker, Loise, back from maternity leave. She is well into the swing of things now and the children are very grateful for her return. Loise has been busy working with



managers from some of the other children's homes in our district this month, planning for another Social Worker's conference scheduled for next month. We look forward to sharing more about this with you in the October news.

We trust you'll enjoy reading Anyembe's updates, so much happening as usual. We are looking forward to seeing the shamba's (farm) progress in just a week's time, not to mention the children!!

Signing off from Australia,
Dan and Dee

from our project manager, anyembe...

It's time again to let you in on what's happening and what we've been up to at Kivuli. As is our tradition we shall delve in to, inter alia, activities at our farm, children's issues, our home-based care program, and construction plans.

children's schooling

Following the lengthy nationwide teacher's strike, we had a modicum of home schooling for the first three weeks of September. Although we let some of the children go back to their relatives, we engaged those who remained in home schooling. You haven't met Stanley, our tutor. We engaged him as an evening tutor, but he happily changed his schedule to work full day from morning up to 2pm when Loise (our social worker) took over. He did a fantastic job engaging the kids in all subjects. As much as the teacher's strike disrupted normal learning, I am happy to report that our children did not lose much, thanks to Stanley and Loise. That's why I always say that the biggest and most important resource for any project is its staff.

building plans

I am sure that everybody wants to know the progress of the building plans. Up to now all the authorities have approved them – public health, physical planner and county council. What remains is a license from the National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA). This is a body that is mandated to carry out an environmental impact assessment of any major construction before allowing the project construction start. The whole process takes about six weeks, so we hope to be ready to go by mid November. By the way, I am already having a taste of life on the farm, living in the already existing farmhouse. Lots of fresh air, space, trees under which one can relax when it gets hot. That, honestly, is where I belong.



shamba update

There is a lot of activity going on at the Kivuli 'farm'. Our maize crops look excellent and we hope it will be ready for harvest by November. Maybe I should also tell you that it's the only one in our neighbourhood that's nearing maturity, a great blessing indeed. After harvesting potatoes, we have planted a new plot to make optimum use of the farm. We have also established a fresh plot for carrots, sukuma (leafy greens), cabbage and spinach, plus some herbs have been planted in the nurseries. All have germinated and are looking great. We intend to have sufficient supply of these

during the December holidays going into Christmas and part of January.

Our napier grass (for cow food) is establishing really well. We don't want to end the year 2012 before we have a dairy cow or two on this farm. I can't be done with farm updates without talking about the poultry coup. For starters, let me admit that it's going slower than I thought. Some of the construction materials took some time to acquire. That notwithstanding there is commendable progress. One good thing is that we have rocks for ballast on our farm.



The challenge was getting someone who will do the crushing. You see, as this is a small construction, we couldn't hire a machine, as it would be unreasonably expensive. Then we got Mutua, a guy who is

famed in Ndaragwa for his expertise in crushing rocks to make ballast. We now have enough ballast for the job. We should get it completed this week, God willing.



home-based care

I have previously mentioned here about our support for the guardians of the children in our home-based care program to establish profitable dairy farming. The three that we want to use as our pilot are in the process of establishing napier grass plots. One Grandmother is almost ready to receive her cow. It's quite encouraging. Working with a local dairy consultancy firm, we are also encouraging them to establish other fodder crops. We are particularly interested in desmodium and sesbania, which are easy to establish and have very high protein content. Look, we don't just want them to have good cows; we want the cows to be high yielding. Should all go well, as we hope it will, at least one of those guardians should have a Kivuli cow before end of 2012.

We pray that our good God will see us through all these great plans.

Thanks guys, Anyembe

for those that pray

Praise God for

- Fertile land!
- Loise's return to work after maternity leave
- The provision of wonderful committed staff at Kivuli

Please pray for

- Quick approval of the NEMA license for the building plans
- The Rutherford's as they arrive back in Kenya on the 7th Oct
- The Social's Worker's Conference next month

to donate

Gifts to Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) with a preference for this approved aid and development project J606N Kivuli Project are tax deductible.

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skydive for kivuli

We previously mentioned in an earlier edition of Kivuli News that Eva Youssef, one of our sponsors, was planning to skydive for her 50th birthday and used the event to raise money for Kivuli. Well, on the 1st of September Eva jumped out of a plane for her birthday and managed to raise over \$3000 for the project. What an effort! A HUGE thank you to Eva for her support and HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY!



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