

kivuli NEWS

EDITION 38 – June 2013 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



Kivuli Project Inc p: +254 719 300 423 Kenya – dee@kivuliproject.org Australia – corinna@kivuliproject.org www.kivuliproject.org

jambo friends

Welcome to the June newsletter. Kivuli Project has been taking great steps towards achieving its set goals despite the many unexpected challenges that come. Things like the untimely rains which have made it difficult to construct the septic tank, delays in receiving building materials (timber), and the continuing battle for Dan and Dee's work permits are but just a few.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters, in conjunction with GDG, for

having the heart to help the needy children in central Kenya. We have a variety of children living with us including those from poor families, the sexually and physically abused, the neglected and those who have been affected by HIV/AIDS.

We hope you enjoy reading this news. Your feedback, feelings, and positive contributions are always welcome, just email us!

Thanks,
Wairangu (Isaac)



former assistant minister visits kivuli

It is unusual for such big men to visit far away, rural areas (apart from their own villages). But this is not so in Kivuli, the former assistant minister for special programs, Mr Mohammed, drove all the way to Kivuli led by Mr Karimi who guided us in planting the garlic onion in our greenhouse. They came to see our greenhouse and while he was there he turned our home into a resource center, where he learnt more about growing the garlic in the greenhouse. Mr Mohammed's partner accompanied him and they were both very happy with the progress of Kivuli.

recycling of water

Dan set up a system for recycling the bathroom water using three collection points. The first one collects water from the washrooms, in the second pit we add some ash to fight any soap and chemicals in the water and then water proceeds to the next collection point, where it is let out to drip irrigate the napier grass or any other crops in that area of the farm. The Public Health Officer was most impressed with the outcome and would like many of the local people to adopt this system. We plan to use it as a demonstration model for the community.

the shamba (farm)

In the past different communities had different occupations; the Bantus were farmers, the Cushites and Nilotes moved depending on grazing and fishing, and Kivuli has taken after all of these communities in Kenya as we have farming, grazing and fish rearing.

At the beginning of the month we prepared the silage (food storage for cows), which we approximated to be between 8-10 tonnes of napier grass. Silage needs to have plenty of napier which is 60 centimetres to one metre tall, cut into small pieces while very green and watery. You spread a water-

proof plastic underneath, put your chopped napier in a layer of about one metre, then roll a heavy drum or weight on top to compress the grass, leaving no space for air. You then add some molasses and water to add an amount of sugar in the feed and once you are done cover with plastic and place soil on top of it. After three months the silage is ready for use. For more information you'll simply have to visit the project on the site!

Our potatoes are ready for harvesting; the starch is now available here. Our children were enjoying peeling some potatoes from our shamba. If you need to taste the Kivuli pumpkin dish please book up before the harvest is over! Pumpkins are very nutritious and help in deworming – Kenyans believe this strongly.

The sunflowers are proving to be good in this shamba. These can be of great use, for the plants will be very helpful in



preparing the chicken and cow feed. The seeds from this plant can also be pressed to produce cooking oil for domestic use.

We are about to harvest the first yield from the Rhodes grass, which will act as a supplement to our cow feed. The grass has high level of nutrients needed by the dairy

cows for that matter. The maize – fodder is doing well. The plan now is to grow more and sustain our animals with our produce.

The yellow and purple passion fruit seem to do well in our shamba. If this proves to be so we are most likely to engage in a fruit project as a part of our regular diet and for commercial use.



biogas

Finally the gas has been lit – Anne, our Children's Home Manager has warmed tea for the first time using biogas! The company responsible for this has also deposited a rebate cheque to our account worth ksh 22 500 (\$290) excluding the maintenance fee of ksh 2500 for a period of one year.

When we increase our animals we might have to do away with firewood altogether, as the manure should be enough for all of our cooking and water heating needs. This will be wonderful as our kitchen staff will no longer have to deal with smoke in the kitchen, which can be especially bad when it rains and the wood gets wet.



strike

Kenya's teachers have once again put down their tools as they strike for a salary increment. Needless to say that they are also bitter for the new government's plan is to give every child starting class one (aged 5-6 years) a laptop next year and initiate e-learning. The teachers are arguing that this money is enough to increase their salaries, forgetting that our children too have the right to have the project roll out in their favour.

Following the strike, our children from high school left for their mid-term break, not knowing when to report back to school. The primary students have used the opportunity to visit their families, and the few that were left behind have joined in the daily home chores.

The African child used to learn through apprenticeship, looking and observing, and our boys have taken this opportunity to learn how to place tiles on the floor. The girls were not left behind for they are being trained in the skills of salon (hairdressing). Our prayer from the deepest point of our hearts is that the strike comes to an end, as education is one of the most powerful weapons we can use to change the world.

work permits

The temperature changed from the left to right atmosphere of our brains as we tried to pursue work permits for Dan and Dee on a 'gratis' basis. The concerned 'offices' gave a deaf ear to our request, despite the fact that they had asked for so many supportive documents, which we submitted. They responded by granting work permits which are payable – a huge amount of money that could pay for 21 students to attend high school for one year! This reminded me of Nelson Mandela's words when he said

'if you tell a person through a language he understands, the information goes to his head, but if you tell him in his language, the information goes to his heart'. Some 'offices' in the immigration sector may not be easily told in the language they can understand best. We are beefing up our prayers as we press on until God grants us fee exempted permits for Dee and Dan. Once we have them, the Rutherfords will be ready to return to Kenya – please join us in praying that this will happen soon!

children's cottage

Thanks to God and all who have participated in almost completing the first of the intended cottages. In just one week's time the house will be ready for children to come and lodge in. The children are asking who will go in first, girl or boys? You know they are so excited about living in these new homes! But for the meantime, they will have to be patient, for this is where Daniel and Dee

will lodge with their family as they wait for their house to be built. We feel humbled in our spirit for the generosity that came out of the trivia night. God did provide money enough to build another cottage through those who attended. May this big God reward them and bless them with the good things in His glorious kingdom.



from chicken to fish

Our fish are enjoying the feed from the manure collected from the chicken house. This feed contains high level of urea, which facilitates the healthy growth of the fish; this has also reduced the cost of buying much of the feed from the shop. The chickens are proving for two main commodities; eggs and fish feed.

trivia night

On Saturday the 22nd we held our annual trivia night at Our Lady of Perpetual Hall in Ringwood (Melbourne). It was again a wonderful night and over 200 people were in attendance. We had an ambitious fundraising target of \$15,000, which would cover the cost to construct one permanent cottage on the Kivuli, which will accommodate eight children and one housemother. The total amount raised was just over \$17,000!!

Our God is so big and so faithful and always has more than enough for His people.

We would like to thank our fundraising group, Marafiki, for all their assistance in the planning and coordination of this event. We would also like to thank all those individuals and businesses that contributed to our silent auction by donating a large variety of items and vouchers. May God bless you!



for those that pray

Praise God for

- An extremely successful trivia night
- So many wonderful supporters of the project
- His blessing upon Kivuli and the progress being made on the shamba

Please pray for

- Dan and Dee's work permits, and that the fee exemptions will come through
- Peace in the education system so that students can continue learning at school
- Kivuli, that it can be a beacon of God's love to the local community and beyond

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. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

ANZ Bank
Account Name: Kivuli Project Inc.
BSB: 013 403
Account Number: 3692 81295

Please email kate@kivuliproject.org with your name, address and amount deposited to claim your tax deductible receipt, or for additional payment options.

Donate Online
www.gdg.org.au/Give2Kivuli



No evangelistic activities are a part of or are funded by the GDG aid and development project. If excess funds are received they may be applied to other approved project activities.