

Sweet Success

Kaloko Trust has been running beekeeping projects for many years, bringing vital income to local subsistence farmers. Since beekeeping is practised by small farmers, increasing the production and sale of honey helps lift Zambian people out of poverty. Beekeeping also encourages biodiversity and stops people desperate to make ends meet from cutting down trees to make and sell charcoal.

However, the project's ongoing success means that local honey production now exceeds local demand! Kaloko's community partner, New Renato Community Society (NRCS), recognised the need for improved marketing, and worked with the Kashitu Beekeepers Group to improve the grade of honey produced, so that it meets the higher standards required by the regional markets. They networked with potential middlemen and intermediaries who had transport and contacts further afield, and successfully negotiated an excellent deal to expand their market. The local bee farmers were delighted with the price they were offered and brought over 3000kg of honey to the collection points. The project continues to provide a vital component to help poor farmers tap into the growing honey market and thus better support their families.

The project last year also trained more experienced 'contact beekeepers' to teach others and share their skills, deepening their knowledge of beekeeping management and how to produce better quality honey and its by-products – which helped them to access the new markets. Common challenges for which 'contact' farmers provide support include catching swarms, controlling bee activities within hives, pest and disease control, safe harvesting, and honey grading and storage.

The trained contact farmers have held community meetings, smaller beekeeper study groups and individual monitoring and training visits to share lessons learned. They have worked with other beekeepers to promote tree planting to support a bee-friendly environment.



Honey collection point - for sale to new markets

Food Security

Maize is grown in 46 of the 53 countries in sub-Saharan Africa; with an estimated 50% of the population depending on it, the crop plays a crucial role in the region's food security. Zambia's maize growing season runs from planting in October/November to harvest in April/May, and while it is a vital staple, both for nutritional balance and to maintain soil fertility it can help to grow other crops too, eg soya beans, groundnuts, cassava and sorghum.

In 2017 Kaloko went back to its roots and ran an in-depth agricultural training project, for 12 elderly women heads of households looking after HIV/Aids orphans. The women joined a 10-day agriculture workshop with follow up technical farming advice, covering subjects such as soils, crop rotation, pest and weed control, seed selection and nutrition. Kaloko also gave the women agricultural inputs including 5kg each of maize for planting, along with adequate fertiliser. Latest reports say the crops are looking good and when they are harvested in May we anticipate better yields for the large families these women support. The project is designed to be self-sustaining so the harvested maize should provide income and seed for the next planting. Some of the new information has significantly increased the efficiency of the women's farming efforts, for example many were using too much fertiliser. This new knowledge will clearly be of long term benefit.



A gathering of some of the women trained in agriculture

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Certainly the growth in confidence and reduction in social isolation for these women has been a major sustainable benefit of the project. Learning and working together created a reason for them to visit and support one another and they say this will continue.

Help us keep on rolling

Thank you so much for being a friend and supporter of Kaloko. It makes a huge difference to the communities in Zambia knowing that there are people thousands of miles away who care about the challenges facing their families and communities. However, we have a problem and would like to ask for your help.

In recent years our programme has gone from strength to strength, and in 2018 we are sending the most project funding to Zambia we have raised for five years. With this expansion, we increasingly work further from our main base in Luansobe, often with the remote and vulnerable communities who are in the greatest need.

While our funding for projects has remained high, last year our 'unrestricted' general funding support was the lowest for five years. These are the flexible donations that we can use for important costs like renewing worn-out parts of our infrastructure, like vehicles or IT, and for important project monitoring.

Transport, for example, is vital for our whole range of projects from providing clean water and building classrooms, to supporting beekeeping and goat rearing projects, because:

- The Zambia team goes to assess which communities most need a project.
- We deliver projects on sometimes remote sites (up to half a day's travel on bad roads) which we have to continually visit to supervise progress.
- The UK Director travels to Zambia to give essential support to local staff and projects, and to talk to communities about any new initiatives like improved school sanitation.
- We collect data to demonstrate the changes our work is making – which in turn significantly helps us secure more funding for projects.



Kaloko's 1997 Canter delivers school desks

At the moment we have some very tired and worn-out vehicles in our six-strong fleet, with an average age of 21 years! Visiting 27 rural locations takes its toll, and every year the vehicles get older, more difficult to repair, and less fuel-efficient.

The bottom line is that without further investment in transportation and monitoring support, the wheels will, quite literally, begin to come off at Kaloko! And this is where we hope you might be able to help us. We are constantly impressed by the generosity of spirit of our supporters and we hope you appreciate our values and approach, and the fact that we keep our administrative and fundraising overheads as low as possible. So now we want to ask if you would be willing to contribute to our appeal to fund the transport and monitoring costs that go into each project. We are asking for donations large and small towards our 'Keep on Rolling' campaign.

We hope you understand the challenge we face running projects across three districts to reach thousands of people with much-needed practical support to improve their lives, their health and their opportunities. If you can help to keep the wheels turning, it would be fabulous.

Please donate by sending a cheque to the Kaloko Trust to our Brighton office; through the website; or by bank transfer (sort code: 30 92 32 and account number 01137312) - with a note that you would like to give to our 'unrestricted' funds.



Testing the newly-delivered desks at Malembeka School

We can't help grannies like Ethel

There are still many locations which would benefit from our Nannies for Grannies goat rearing project. Ethel Matubo, a 65 year old widow, lives with four HIV/Aids orphans on her homestead out past Minkempwe in a distant, hard to reach location.

We have been forced to decide that in 2018 we must keep the goat project closer to home as one of a number of measures to reduce transport costs. Sadly this means we won't be able to support Ethel and women in her area with this fantastic project, even though one of the major advantages of the project design is that it reduces social isolation for women living furthest from the village centres.

Kaloko's core values include partnership and the empowerment of rural Zambian communities, but we can't maximise our impact and support if the team can't reach into the communities that most need our help.

Another Busy Year in 2018

Kaloko Trust UK has gained funding from many generous donors, trusts and foundations for our planned 2018 activities, and helping school-aged children is a main focus.

Our **school sanitation programme** at Bwembelelo last year was a big success, significantly reducing absenteeism due to diarrhoea and menstruation. With your help we provided four toilet blocks with changing areas and handwashing points, plus sanitary equipment for over 450 pupils, including sanitary towels for girls. The school has around 50 girls who have reached puberty, and thanks to the sanitary towel distribution project, most now attend school throughout the month. In 2018, we are expanding the project to Kwesha Community School, also in dire need of infrastructure, and due to the generosity of our supporters, we also plan to start a similar project at Luansobe Upper Basic School.

Although many parents died of HIV/Aids, many young people in the Copperbelt don't understand how people catch the disease. Community schools in the Luansobe area have nearly 3,000 students; Kaloko is re-launching its **peer education project for HIV/Aids awareness** where peers will talk to other students aged between 10 and 16 about the causes of HIV, prevention, life skills and choices about their future.

Since 2014 Kaloko has been assisting groups of women to generate income through our '**nannies for grannies**' scheme, and this year another 20 households will benefit. Our **beekeeping** project will be training more bee farmers and helping them to sell their honey, and the **agricultural project** continues to help the poorest families.

Safe water is always critical to health and wellbeing, particularly of small children and the elderly and vulnerable in our communities. Our **borehole project** will provide safe, potable water to six more communities this year.

As well as sending another **3,000 bicycles** from our partners at Re~Cycle, this year we are **refurbishing a bicycle maintenance training workshop** and will train mechanics to offer a higher quality repair and maintenance service than is available in the local markets. The servicing of bicycles is generally poor and we are addressing this to ensure that bicycles continue to be the most sustainable and efficient means of local transport. We will also be continuing our project to distribute more bicycles further afield.

Our highly successful **class sponsorship** programme will continue to support children's educational development by providing schools with additional resources of their choice, along with funding to offer the children additional opportunities such as participation in competitions and sports at district and provincial level.

Once again Kaloko Zambia will be delighted to host a team of students from Varndean College, Brighton to work on several projects that assist practically while **supporting cross-cultural relations** and understanding UK to Zambia!

Water Works

Due to the continuing success of Kaloko's borehole project, UK NGO Just a Drop generously funded five more safe water projects in Luansobe/Kashitu in 2017. Kaloko staff visited communities throughout the area and selected Funte, Shibangwa, Kawanga, Wila Wila and Mukwemba, with a combined population of 905 people. Each community formed a Water and Sanitation Committee (WSC), to look after the boreholes once installed.

Forty-six WSC members attended a ten day workshop to learn about sanitation, hygiene and borehole maintenance and repair. A local government environmental health technician, Abraham Chomba conducted the first part and then local mechanic, Evaristo Kasabila gave maintenance and repair lessons. The participants gained practical experience when they fixed boreholes in neighbouring villages and Evaristo's knowledge impressed participants and Kaloko staff alike. He is now known as the 'man on a bike' and travels to all the boreholes to check that the WSC is active and can manage any problems.

Before the borehole was installed, each community contributed to a 1,500 kwacha capital fund to cover the cost of any major repairs. The community members contribute 5 kwacha a month for ongoing maintenance. The capital funds and ongoing contributions keep the clean water supply sustainable.

The borehole project also benefits pupils who may miss classes to fetch water. One of many who benefit is Desire Kasokela, aged 12, and the seventh child in a family of 10. Desire lives in Shibangwa village and studies in grade seven at Luampesa Community School. Desire said, 'I can go to school on time now that I have water near; I used to cover a very long distance to get water from the stream.' She also knows that water from the stream was contaminated since livestock also drank from it, but the borehole water is clean and safe.



Collecting water at Shibangwa

Don't lose touch

In light of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into force this month we wanted to reassure you that we look after any information we hold on you, and to introduce our new privacy policy.

We're also keen to keep in touch with you! So that we can continue to update you on our activities we need your permission, on paper, by email or by phone. Hence the extra slip of paper enclosed with this issue of *Kaloko News*. If you still want to hear from Kaloko please respond soon, and things will continue as they did. If we don't hear from you we'll keep trying to contact you for a limited period, but then we will be obliged to remove you from our database. We'd be sorry to lose you.

Our privacy policy sets out:

- Why we gather and hold information on you: so that we can communicate with you.
- How we look after your data: carefully, using security tools, only keeping information for as long as it is needed, and only sharing where necessary.
- What to do if you'd like to see what data we hold on you: ask to see it.
- What to do if you want to update your details or not hear from us: tell us please.

There is a little more detail on all this in the privacy policy itself, which is enclosed and on our website.



A grateful new beekeeper

Please let us know that you want to still hear from us – we'd like to emphasise how important this is to us. The details of how to do this are on the form, or just contact the Brighton office.

This is also an opportunity to consider opting to receive this newsletter by email instead of by post. We will continue to produce a printed edition, but of course email is much cheaper!

Again please just let us know and we'll update our records accordingly.

You can email admin@kalokotrust.org or phone the office on **01273 766 660** with this information and we can make a record of your responses.

Printing:

Kaloko News is printed three times a year on Revive 50:50 silk paper by our local, long-time printers, **One Digital**. See www.one-digital.com or call 01273 887575.

Kaloko Trust works with local partners and communities to improve access to sufficient food, water, health, education and income for some of the world's most vulnerable people, through effective, appropriate and sustainable development projects.

We have been working to relieve poverty in the Luansobe area of the Copperbelt Region in rural Zambia since 1989 and believe that long-term sustainable development can only occur where the issues that cause poverty are addressed through an integrated approach, harnessing the power of partnership.

Established in 1995 as a registered charity (No. 1047622), The Kaloko Trust UK supports the activities of our partner organisation Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) by securing funds for KTZ programmes and providing management support and capacity building. Kaloko Trust UK also offers technical assistance, recruits specialist volunteers and publicises KTZ's activities. In 2017, 96% of funds raised were spent on charitable activities with the rest used to generate further funds.

KALOKO
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Empowering
Zambian
Communities

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