

Project in Focus 2017: School Sanitation

Welcome to Kaloko's Spring newsletter, where we are launching a series of 'briefing notes' on our new projects. First up is our recently developed School Sanitation Programme, which we are piloting this year at Bwembelelo, where we built a double classroom block in 2016. Here we look at why this new programme is so important and why we hope to roll it out to other schools in future.

The background: For all children, unsafe water at school can lead to outbreaks of diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and dysentery. This also affects their families, as family members need to stay at home to care for sick children, which means time away from their jobs and losing precious income. Poor sanitation in schools impairs child growth and development. It also limits school attendance and the retention of students, negatively affecting their ability to concentrate and learn. Open defecation remains a problem in many schools, allowing flies to transmit diseases from faeces to food; diarrhoea and ill health are a direct result. Stopping open defecation by providing latrines has a dramatic impact on health and wellbeing. Reducing diarrhoeal diseases saves lives.

Girls are already marginalized in accessing education, but are also affected by inadequate sanitation facilities with no privacy, particularly important during their menstruation period. The lack of appropriate sanitary facilities discourages school attendance and contributes to the drop out of girls at puberty. The low level of literacy among women, as a result of the exclusion of girls, reinforces prejudice based on inferiority and superiority complexes between men and women. By promoting girls' attendance and retention in school, the sanitation project influences sound cultural patterns of conduct for the future.

The project: The key elements of a school sanitation project (as recommended by the World Health Organisation) are child and female-friendly sanitation, handwashing, menstrual hygiene management and drinking water.

Bwembelelo Community School has been chosen for this project as, despite being a relatively poorly-funded school, it has a good track record of engaging effectively with infrastructure projects. The teachers, school management and Parent-Teacher Association are well motivated and concerned for the interests of their pupils. There is already drinking water from a borehole at the School but the goal of Kaloko's pilot project in 2017 is to further improve the health and educational attainment of pupils there, particularly girls, and as such we will:

- Construct four latrines with two handwashing points
- Distribute disposable sanitary pads
- Pilot the creation and distribution of appropriate reusable sanitary pads
- Ensure appropriate health and sanitation education in the school and local community

We are extremely pleased to have funding from the Chalk Cliff Trust and The Levellers (see back page) to start this project in May 2017 and look forward to updating you on progress in our next newsletters.

If you would like to donate and allow us to expand the school sanitation project we'd love to hear from you. You can donate via our website or by sending a cheque to the Brighton office, mentioning this project.



Photo: Jill Flowers

Finnish beekeeping

One of the things that we are most proud of as Kaloko Trust UK is that the investment and support that we have provided over the years is now allowing the team in Zambia to build their own programmes and access funding and project support from other donors.

A current successful example of this is a beekeeping project sponsored by the Finnish government under the remit of a large environmentally-focused programme that they are running across Zambia, the civil society environmental fund.

The project is training and supporting over 600 beekeepers over a large geographical area centred around Luansobe. It is just about to enter its second year and the initial review and assessment report gave the team a score of B+, excellent for a brand-new initiative.

It is only through your UK support over the years that Kaloko Zambia has developed the capacity and resources to manage projects of this scale. In many ways this is the ultimate aim of our work, to establish a professional and credible Zambian-led organisation. It's almost like seeing kids grow up and start to leave home - and much the same, at the moment we still need to be around to guide, advise and provide financial support!



Practical training to make mud hives

Kaloko has trained many beekeepers over the years but the local population at Luansobe continues to grow, putting increasing pressure on the fragile local ecosystem. The forests around Luansobe play a vital role in people's lives, but the more we can help farmers gain value from the living forests through activities like beekeeping the less likely people will be to resort to indiscriminate charcoal production to help make ends meet.

The Finnish-funded beekeeper training has been completed and the majority of the hives distributed. Kaloko Zambia will be purchasing the raw honey from the bee farmers so the next stage is for them to develop a honey processing plant. The team are in negotiations with two large organic producers in Zambia to ship and sell the honey both within Zambia and overseas. Who knows, it could be that one day soon Kaloko honey will appear on the shelves of our local Sainsbury's!

Plans for 2017 activities

In the Christmas *Kaloko News* we reported on the successful completion of our 2016 projects. Below are our plans for 2017. There'll be news and updates over the year both here and on our website.

We will drill **five boreholes** and equip them with hand-pumps. We will form local water management committees and train them in borehole maintenance. The project will give up to 1,250 people new access to clean water.

At Malembeka Primary School we will build one much-needed **teacher's house**, expanding to two houses, funding permitting.

We will provide Bwembelelo Primary School with **desks and chairs** to improve the learning environment for 200 pupils and staff.

We are expanding our **help for grandparents** with a larger Third Age Agricultural Support Project so 12 female heads of households looking after HIV/Aids orphans will be supported to **improve sustainable production of basic food crops**.

Kaloko will further expand the Goat Restocking and Pass-on Project and **train up to 30 elderly women to rear goats** at their own homes which, when sold in their nearby markets, will generate much-needed household income.

Forty beekeepers in the Kashitu area will be trained and supported to produce quality honey and gain the business skills to access the Zambian market.

Alongside our partners Re~Cycle we will ship five containers with **2,500 donated second-hand bicycles** collected in the UK to Zambia. There the bicycles will be assembled, checked, repaired and sold locally at affordable prices. The bicycle project will also develop to **support small scale farmers' access to markets**.

Kaloko will start a **Schools Sanitation Programme**, building latrines / sanitation blocks, handwashing points and providing a fund for sanitary towels and sanitation materials at Bwembelelo School.

The sponsorship programme will continue in LUBS, the Crèche and Kandulwe and Kwesha Primary Schools to **assist 1,400 children**, contributing classroom equipment, teaching materials and making improvements to the school buildings.



Ready for 2017 work!

The Farming Cycle



Re~Cycle bicycles arrive at Luansobe

Kaloko has been receiving generous donations of second-hand bicycles supplied by UK partner Re~Cycle since 2009. Kaloko Zambia sells the bicycles at prices well below the market rate to ensure that they are affordable to the local community, and the funds raised cover the transport costs of the next shipment and help support our projects.

In 2017 we are starting a new Bicycle Distribution Project to specifically help small-scale maize farmers and improve their access to markets. Currently, although the farmers may produce good quantities of grain, they are being offered a very low price by the locally-nicknamed 'briefcase businessmen', roaming entrepreneurial characters who have transport to move produce to market and exploit this advantage to offer unfairly low prices for the grain. Kaloko hopes to empower these farmers and break this cycle. For this new phase of our Bicycle Distribution Project we will target a district where this practice has been particularly prevalent and Kaloko has not provided low cost transport before.

The subsistence farmers who haven't previously been able to afford the investment cost will be able to buy bicycles extra cheaply and bicycle ownership will significantly improve their ability to move produce to bulk buying centres which offer a much higher price for their produce. Although the farmers won't be able to ride their bikes loaded up with sacks of maize they will be able to use them as trolleys to push their grain harvest to the centres, and they should be able to ride home afterwards!

This year we will also be tracking the impact of bicycle distribution on attendance at the local health centre. We know from informal qualitative analysis that bicycles enable sick children and adults to access the health centres when they may otherwise be too poorly to walk the required distance. Although we have been distributing bicycles within the communities for some time, this is the first year that we are specifically tracking the effects of sustainable transport on the health and poverty levels of community members.

Kaloko Zambia Team Profile: Martin Jere

Martin Jere, 43, has worked at Kaloko Zambia for 14 years and holds a key role overseeing the natural resources projects. He's involved with managing new borehole projects, beekeeper training and goats for grandmothers. In the past he has overseen the building of health outposts as well as dams to create rainwater catchment tanks.

Martin is the eldest of ten children and is married with five children of his own, aged from 3 to 15. While he stays in Luansobe during the working week, his wife and children live in Kapiri Mposhi so he only gets to see them at weekends. It would be challenging and expensive to commute back and forth each day.

Martin says he loves solving problems in his vicinity and helping the community to develop in a sustainable way by working on the variety of funded projects. The assortment of projects keep him engaged and excited about his job as he interacts with the community where he was born and bred.

Martin is ambitious and offers inspiration as a local role model, embodying the success that can be gained from hard work and education. Indeed his dedication and keen interest in community work has motivated him to further his education. He is currently in the first year of a bachelors degree in Development Studies at Mulungushi University, Zambia.

Martin says: 'It is amazing to contribute to the many developments that have taken place in the Luansobe community at large through our work at Kaloko Trust Zambia.'



*Martin Jere, Kaloko Zambia's
Natural Resources Management Officer*

Music to our ears

Legendary rock band The Levellers formed in Brighton in 1988, a year before Kaloko was founded in Zambia. We are proud to report that they have recently chosen to support Kaloko and our School Sanitation Project. In December they handed over a fantastic £742 raised through requesting donations from people on the guest list of their autumn tour. We'd like to give a special thank you to them and everyone who gave so generously.

We're also excited to announce that we have been chosen as one of four charities that will benefit from money raised from guests at The Levellers' own longstanding festival Beautiful Days, to be held in Devon this summer.



The Levellers

Photo: Ami Barwell

NEW WEBSITE

We are delighted to announce that we've updated our website and given additional colour and zing to the description of our activities in Zambia! We are still at the same address www.kalokotrust.org and invite you to come and browse our selection of stories and updates. The site is still under development to some degree as we are fitting this in between our other project-focussed activities, so please do forgive any lack of polish at this stage, but we feel it is ready to release into the world!

The look and feel are more contemporary and in particular we have been able to convey a much better sense of the local people and the work that we do within the communities through clearer and larger images. We are particularly indebted to Jill Harbord and Alrik Green, teachers at Varndean College, who have provided many of the beautiful new photographs. Please do let us know what you think!



SEARCHING FOR SPONSORS

Thank you to our fantastically supportive class sponsors, but we'd love to help pupils in more schools!

£15 a month supports a class at Kwesha School, providing basic teaching materials, classroom furniture, school meals & pupil fees.



If you, or someone you know, can help by sponsoring a class, giving more children a better education, please contact Kaloko.

Pauline Hopper

We were sad to learn recently that one of our most longstanding and committed supporters, Pauline Hopper, died in March. With her husband Alan she visited Kaloko Zambia a number of times, particularly in the early years. Their son Rob volunteered there in 2008 and they have continued to support Kaloko generously.

Printing:

Kaloko News is printed three times a year on recycled paper by our local, long-time printers,

One Digital.

See www.one-digital.com or call 01273 887575.

The Kaloko Trust UK works to relieve poverty and raise livelihoods in rural communities in Zambia, southern Africa. Promoting local development of agriculture and self-help projects to generate income, it encourages the sustainable and responsible use of natural resources. The Trust promotes education and healthcare through improved access to schools, clinics and clean water.

Established in 1995 as a registered charity (No. 1047622), The Kaloko Trust UK (KTUK) supports the activities of our partner organisation, Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) by securing funds for KTZ programmes and providing management support and capacity building. It also offers technical assistance, recruits specialist volunteers and publicises KTZ's activities. In 2015, 97% of funds raised were spent on charitable activities with the rest used to generate further funds.



HELPING RURAL ZAMBIAN COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES

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