
KASIISI PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT



October 1st 2013-September 30th 2014

www.kasiisiproject.org



DryCreekCharity.org

The Lalor Foundation
Advancing Research and Innovation in Reproductive Health



the Jane Goodall Institute

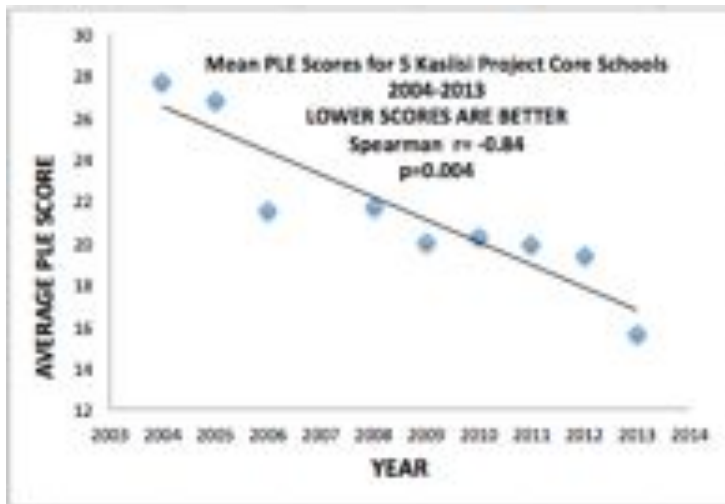


Summary

Over the past year, The Kasiisi Project has both maintained current programs and started new ones. With the guidance of school principals, teachers and parents we have invested in initiatives that are important to students and the community. We have solidified partnerships with local and international organizations and added new ones. The year has been a bumper one for volunteers. From social entrepreneurship, to cooking lessons, yoga and bee keeping, marketing and accounting, they have helped make our schools among the best in the district. Our first scholarship student graduated from medical school and a third library was built. Students took lessons learned in the classroom into their communities and built 60 improved cook-stoves and Wildlife Clubs strengthened and grew. For all these and many other wonderful programs we thank everyone who has contributed to the project: generous donors, active volunteers and the foundations and zoos, which gave us grants – Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, Lalor Foundation, Cleveland Zoo, Columbus Zoo, North Carolina Zoo and the Jane Goodall Institute.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The trend continues and for yet another consecutive year scores on the Primary Leaving Exams improved. The average PLE score in our 5 core schools – those where the bulk of our programs are carried out – continues to improve and in 3 of these schools girls outperformed boys.



Independent research shows that Kasiisi Project schools outperform their peers and that girls do significantly better than in non-project schools.

ADMINISTRATION

Debi Hoege stepped in as acting Field manager for 6 months and was followed by Jim Fenton in July. Both had previous experience in Uganda, which has been of great benefit to the project.

Long time board member of the Kibale Forest Schools' Program and former Headmaster of Kasiisi Primary School, Rwabwiso Eriasibu Atwooki resigned from the board in June.

A farewell party was given in his honor.



Plaque presented to Rwabwiso Eriasibu Atwooki

We began the arduous process of changing our status from CBO to NGO.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Wildlife Club Development



Wildlife Club Patron residential training



Students learn about chimpanzees through board games with Princeton in Africa Volunteer Max Sugarman.

With funding from Disney's Worldwide Conservation Fund we made the main focus of our conservation education strengthening and supporting the school's Wildlife Clubs through training, group meetings and conservation activities. Collaborations with Ugandan conservationists brought games, expertise and fun facts to our children

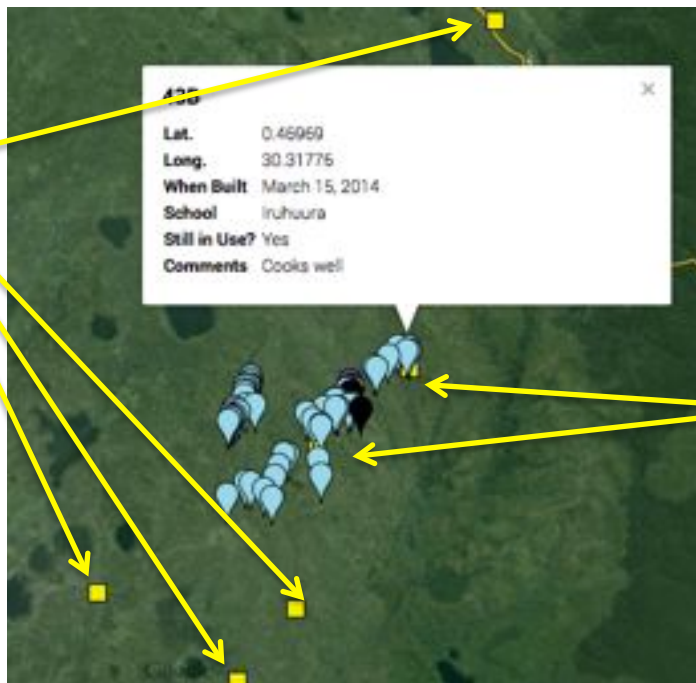
Clean Stove Project



Students learning to build stoves - taught by peers

Students from Iruhuura continued to build stoves in their communities bringing the number of fuel-efficient, clean-burning stoves to 60. The Kasiisi Project has supplied some technical know-how and soap. Otherwise this project continues to be run by students and now that 4 other schools have asked Iruhuura to teach their students how to make the stoves, there is a potential for substantial increase in stove use.

Rweteera
Kasenda
Rwenkuba
Nyabweya
Schools
Interested
In program



Pere Atche
and Iruhuura
Primary Schools

Map showing distribution of student built cook stoves around Iruhuura and Pere Atche schools (Yellow Squares). Interactive map contains information about each stove.

Elephants



Park Wardens butcher elephant poached for tusks



Elephant Foot Trap

Increasing pressures on Kibale's elephants from local and commercial poachers have led to a change in conservation education policy to focus on elephants as much as chimpanzees. Programs for 2015 will primarily address conservation of Elephants

Enrichment Project

Funded by Columbus Zoo students from 5 Wildlife Clubs learned about the role of sanctuaries and then made enrichment articles for the chimpanzees living at the Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary in Lake Victoria. The enrichment articles were then delivered to the chimpanzees by the children.



**Ngamba chimpanzees "fishing" for honey and peanut butter
In puzzles made by Kasiisi Project Children**

Great Ape Education Project

In the first 6 months of 2014 we completed the Great Ape Education project and carried out post-project evaluations. Students watched the final of 3 films and continued to work on activities related to great ape conservation.



Turyasingura Brian, Kiko I thank Francis for taking us for a nature walk, I saw colobus monkey white, I have learned how to conserve wild life, through the following, avoid poaching because when you set a snare you want to trap a bush pig, you end up trapping chimpanzees. Deforestation if you cut trees you don't get oxygen and chimpanzees will not get fruits to eat and will come and destroy your crops.

Evaluations showed a significant increase in knowledge about the great apes and a much better understanding of conservation measures needed to protect them

Kahunde Olive, Rweteera. I will teach other children to plant trees and stop snaring animals because if you want to snare other animals the chimps are the ones who get in the snare. Stop it.

Water Project



As the Water Project entered its third year funded by Cleveland Zoo and the Dry Creek Foundation we took it to the next level.

This year we provided 7 experienced schools with preliminary training and the equipment needed to measure water quality, and left the schools to actually carry out the fieldwork themselves with minimal support. 2 additional schools were added bringing the total to 9. All training and assistance for these 2 new schools has been provided by an experienced school making the project self-perpetuating and virtually self-

sustaining.

Students competed for the Kibale Chimpanzee Project Debate Cup and the Brevard Zoo Sports Cups and members of the Kibale Chimpanzee Project Snare Removal team gave talks in 9 schools.



Kiko Student competes in Kibale Chimpanzee Project Debate Cup



Iruhuura Netball Team – the winners of The Brevard Zoo Netball Cup 2013



GIRLS PROGRAM



In 2014 we again ran our annual residential Peer-Education workshop assisted by Rachel from the Jane Goodall Institute (Uganda). 14 schools each sent 2 students and a teacher to learn how to be a sexual health resource for their peers. Thanks to a grant from the Lalor Foundation we were able to hire Kasiisi Project Scholar and recent nursing school graduate, Basemera Eve, for a more in-depth initiative to teach life skills and promote self esteem and accurate sexual knowledge aimed at keeping girls in school. Students planted gardens, wrote and performed original plays, music and poetry and wrote essays on topics such as female empowerment and avoiding early pregnancy.

Acting on concerns from schools that boys were even more ignorant of sexual matters than girls we began our first workshops for boys.



Skits on the importance of parental care and education for girls

Girl Guides

In 2014 we sent Kasiisi Girl and Boy scouts to local camp and then to the national camps at Kazi in Kampala.



GUESTHOUSE



In 2014 we have been able to repay, from income generated by the guesthouse, the money we spent on updating, equipping, maintaining and improving the facilities, and to generate a small profit. This income came predominantly from volunteers and field courses. We are now working with local tour operation, Kabarole Tours, to market the guesthouse and the school experience to tourists.

All future profits will help cover project running-costs.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Brookwood School, MA

For the third year Brookwood School in Manchester, MA engaged with Kasiisi Project schools in collaborative learning projects. Using e-mail and Skype students from Brookwood and Iruhuura schools designed and built fuel efficient stoves, compared challenges to girls in both cultures and discussed threats to chimpanzees following a talk by Kibale Chimpanzee Project researcher, Dr. Zarin Machanda on her research.

Brookwood also partnered with Kigarama School and The Urban Assembly School in the Bronx in an extended photography exhibition featuring photographs from Uganda, The Bronx and Manchester, MA.



Harvard University

Students from the Harvard Kasiisi Project Group worked on new environmental, nutrition and health initiatives and sent a member of the group, Clara Chen, to Uganda in the summer to investigate the feasibility of putting their ideas into action in the schools.

MIT

For a third year the Kasiisi Project helped guide students of the DLab Education class interested in fostering innovative ideas linking education and development. The Kasiisi group worked on social entrepreneurship and in July student Nai Kalema visited Uganda to take their ideas to the school

University of New Hampshire

University of New Hampshire Post-doctoral researcher, Lisa Tieman, worked with the 5 Grade science class and the Agriculture Club at Kasiisi to enrich their soil science curriculum.



Kasiisi Students test soil

Brookwood School, MIT and the Kasiisi Project sponsored a visit to Boston in April for Muhimbise Elius, teacher and Wildlife Club Patron from Iruhuura Primary School. Elius spent time at MIT helping with Improved Cook-Stove design and at Brookwood forging closer links with the Kasiisi Project.



Elius teaching Brookwood students how To make 16-Brick Rocket Stoves



Rwabuhinga Francis demonstrating a lemur walk at Dr. Zarin Machand's talk at Kasiisi

Franklin Park Zoo

Members of the Franklin Park Zoo youth group shared books they had written about lemurs. Dr. Zarin Machanda who works with the group talked about lemurs with students from 5 schools.

KASIISI PROJECT FARM

The Kasiisi Project Farm added accommodation for interns and a further chicken house. Eggs and piglets continue to be produced and the first steps towards developing an Eco-Campsite have been started.



New accommodation for interns and visitors at the Kasiisi Project Farm

Approximately 1200 students from Kasiisi and Kyanyawara schools received lunch.

LITERACY

Book groups, libraries and reading circles continued at Kasiisi, Kigarama and Kyanyawara schools.

The project has partnered with the African Storybook Project, an online resource for culturally appropriate stories. Staff members teaching literacy attended workshops on story writing and phonetics.



Grandma's bananas
by Ursula Nafula, in English



I enjoy Ninafurahia
by Ursula Nafula, in Kiswahili

PRE-SCHOOL

The Kasiisi-Weston Stars Pre-school graduated its second class in November 2013 and continues to grow. In 2014 it obtained its first playground equipment – a swing set.



Swing set at the Kasiisi Nursery School Graduating Class 2013

NEW PROJECT HOUSE

We completed construction of our new Director's House in 2014. A duplex, one side houses the project Field Director and the other the Princeton in Africa and Peace Corps Volunteers.



SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2014 the Kasiis Project, thanks to support from The Dobbyn Foundation, The African Orphan Foundation and many generous supporters, sponsored 50 students in secondary school and college. 20 graduated out of the program to go on to further education and jobs as nurses, agricultural technicians, doctors and teachers.



Dr. Zahura Adolf



Namara Godwin

Namara Godwin who excelled in his 12th Grade exams obtained a government scholarship to University and Zahura Adolf became the first Kasiisi Project scholar to become a doctor.

VOLUNTEERS



Oliver Bradley, Clara Chen, Kayla Bruce, Ann Finkel, Matt Stolz

As always we would not have been able to do what we do without all the wonderful support we get from volunteers working both in Uganda and at home. We calculated that in the fiscal year 2013-2014 we benefitted from over \$200,000 worth of volunteer help.

Kasiisi Project Scholars including Ategeka Christopher, Tuhairwe Patience, Bagambisa David, Akugizibwe Charles and Kirungi Francis worked for the project during their school holidays.

Sarah and Erik Brote, Long time supporters visited bringing the first experience of yoga with them. They also gave talks about their native Sweden and helped in teaching English.

Yvonne Pemberton, a teacher from the UK, and her daughter Meghan, taught math games and coached netball, recorder music and dance.



Yvonne Teaching Math Games in Kasiisi Library



Yvonne and Kasiisi Netball Team

Harvard Junior Clara Chen trialed a nutrition-enrichment program with the Boy Scouts and helped with reading groups and this year's Photography Project.



Clara leads cooking class for Boy Scouts



Matt Stolz and Lisa Tiemann at Kasiisi

Matt Stolz, another Harvard Junior, interned with the Kasiisi Project farm, helping develop clear financial policies and taught an after-school class on soil quality with the Kasiisi School agriculture club.

MIT student, Nai Kalema introduced concepts of social entrepreneurship and worked on a pilot venture to engage students in working to effect positive change in their communities.



Ann Finkel setting up data collection



Nai Kalema talks to teachers

Ann Finkel, collected data for her Harvard honors thesis, designed to look at how children think about resource distribution.

Oliver Bradley, a recent Yale graduate in Architectural Design, is a longer term volunteer. In his 6 months with us he is working on marketing the Guesthouse, starting a bicycle loan program for girls, and bringing his design talents to the proposed Eco-Campsite at the farm.



Bikes for girls



Oliver working on the guesthouse fire pit



Kayla and Eve

Kayla Bruce from Tulane University worked with our Lalor Foundation funded Girls' Program to improve access to sexual health information, education and life skills.

Sara Callan, Harvard '14 put her experience as President of the Harvard Undergraduate Bee Keepers, to work, learning about bee keeping in Uganda, with a view to introducing beehives to the Kasiisi farm. She is also investigating the possibility that bees can be used to prevent crop raiding by elephants on farms bordering Kibale National Park.



Beehive Elephant Fence at Queen Elizabeth NP



*Katelyn Wigmore and Basamera Eve –
Project nurse*

In 2014 the Kasiisi Project received its first Princeton in Africa volunteer. **Max Sugarman** will be with us for a year, dividing his time between working as an assistant to the Field Manager and helping with our conservation education projects.

We also welcome a new **Peace Corps Volunteer, Katelyn Wigmore** who will be working with our health programs.



*Project Director Jim Fenton PiA volunteer
Max Sugarman and KFSP employees*



Hanne Haugen

Hanne Haugen, from London advertising agency Wieden+Kennedy, volunteered a month of her time to generate a business and communications strategy to help us market our income generating programs e.g. the Kasiisi Guesthouse, and increase awareness of the work we do, both locally and internationally.



Volunteer team lines up against the Kasiisi Soccer Team – Kasiisi won!

WEST POINT

For a third year cadets from the environmental engineering school at West Point Military Academy visited us in Uganda. This year they built rainwater catchment systems at 3 schools and began the first stage of a 2-year project to pump water from the river at the lowest point of the Kasiisi Project farm to the pigs and chickens at the top. Since there is no power at the farm the water will be pumped using the energy generated by the river's flow.



River measurements



Building rain tank bases



Measuring stove emissions



Visiting Katwe Salt Pans



Fixing project motorbikes

INCOME

Unrestricted Donations	94,063
Restricted Donations	
Bursaries	1,400
Community Health Worker	1,430
Conservation Education	86
Director's House	17,000
Guesthouse	8,914
Girls' Program	47,488
Great Ape Education Project	11,207
Literacy	5,968
Porridge Project	352
Salaries	200
Scholarship	50,951
Ugandan Intern	4,518
Water Project	7,500
West Point	19,813
TOTAL	270,890

EXPENDITURE

Administrative Expenses	5,986
Travel	3,856
Program Expenses	294,253
Total Expenses	304,095
% Spent on administration and fund raising	2.20%
% Spent on travel	1.40%

