
KASIISI PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT

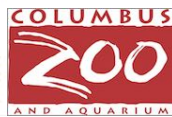


October 1st 2015-September 30th 2016

www.kasiisiproject.org



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SUMMARY

Since October 2015 the Kasiisi Project has maintained or adapted existing programs and begun new ones. We have built classrooms and latrines and we have a good year raising money through grant writing, generous donations and by leading a fund raising trip to Tanzania. Our academic scores continued to improve and we have had 5 Peace Corps Volunteers working in our schools supporting health, literacy and agricultural development and outreach. Our third and fourth Princeton in Africa volunteer began 12-month stints with us in August and we have had help from short-term volunteers in marketing, education and project supervision. 3 Kasiisi Scholars are working in our office earning the money they need towards further education. Our Wildlife Clubs continue to grow and improve and our health education programs have become an increasingly integral part of the school curriculum. We have shifted our conservation education focus towards elephants. We have provided staff and funded operating costs for the Kibale National Park Mobile Health Clinic. Our scholars continue to enter the work force with the qualifications they need to get jobs, and our teachers are upgrading their qualifications with funding provide by the Kasiisi Project.

KASIISI PROJECT TEAM



Back Row L-R: Emily Otali (Project Director, Corey Dickinson (Princeton in Africa Conservation volunteer 16-17), Amanyire James (Accountant), James O'Keefe (Volunteer), Faye Maison (Volunteer).

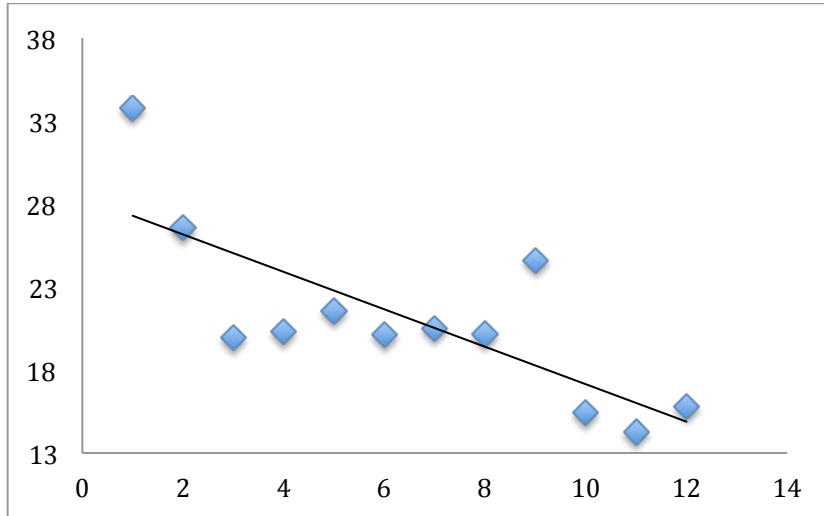
Middle Row L-R: Atuhairwe Patience (Office Assistant), Tuhiase Consolata (Project nurse). Aly Passante (Princeton in Africa Health volunteer 16-17), Tusiime Patrick (Health Program Coordinator),

Front Row: Goret (Conservation Assistant), Ezra (Farm Manager), Rwabuhinga Francis (Conservation Education Coordinator)

Absent: David McHolland (Farm Peace Corps Volunteer)

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 progress and in 3 of these schools girls outperformed boys.



Mean Exam results for Kasiisi Project Schools showing significant improvement between 2004 and 2015

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Mobile Clinic



We continued to provide 2-3 members of our staff as clinical officers - a nurse, a medical officer and a lab technician - 2 days a week to the *Kibale National Park Uganda Wildlife Authority Mobile Clinic*. The clinic delivers health care to villages around Kibale National Park, which are far from other medical resources. Initially Funded by the Kibale Health and Conservation Project the Mobile Clinic was supported for 2015-2016 by the Kasiisi Project.



Patients wait for Mobile Clinic



Kasiisi Project Health Coordinator sees a patient at the clinic



Kasiisi Nurse Consolata with Clinic Patient



Francis with clinic on-lookers

Parent Open Days

We have help facilitate parent open days in our schools to share with parents and local officials the activities their children are engaged in.



Displays at Kasiisi School Parents' Open day and Rwabuhinga Francis, Conservation Education Director, Giving a presentation to parents about The work of the Kibale Forrest Schools Program/Kasiisi Project



Parents watching a sack race at Kasiisi School Parents Day

Village Health Workers

We are building a growing relationship with village health teams who are starting to partner with our schools to make our programs more sustainable. We provide them with resources and training and engage them in our programs.



*Village Health Team member observing as Kasiisi Project Nurse Consolata talks to a patient at the Mobile Clinic
Kasiisi Project Health Coordinator Tusiime Patrick addressing the Kasiisi Village Health Team*

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Wildlife Club Development

With funding from Disney's Worldwide Conservation Fund we continued to make the main focus of our conservation education program strengthening and supporting the school's Wildlife Clubs, through trainings, group meetings and conservation activities. We shifted our main focus from chimpanzees to elephants and schools engaged in an average of 6 activities a term.



Elephant Art Project with sand



Reading about Elephants

Clean Stove Project

We continue with our clean stove project directed by Muhimbise Elius. 14 schools have enrolled in a program to train stove building teams, and thanks to funding from National Geographic we are teaching members to collect data using tablets and to map stoves with GPS units. With help from short-term volunteer John Stember all existing 90 stoves already built, have been mapped.



Learning to use a GPS unit



Using a Tablet to collect data

Community Birding

In 2016 our community birding program continued to grow. 9 Schools asked for this activity and we have hired a local bird guide to lead them

Field Trips

We took both students and teachers on 3-day trips to Queen Elizabeth National Park



Kasiisi Project Field Trip to Queen Elizabeth National Park



On the Kazinga Channel and Ngamba Island Enrichment Project



First time on the Equator!



Thanks to funding from Columbus Zoo, students from 7 Kasiisi Project schools learned about the role of sanctuaries in the protection of chimpanzees, made enrichment articles and delivered them to the chimps on Ngamba Island. Follow up exchange visits between Ngamba Island staff and the Kibale Snare Removal Project are planned for November 2017.

Talks from Ngamba Island Education Staff



Late night art projects on Ngamba



Watching the chimpanzees from the human enclosure

CONSTRUCTION

Latrines



New Girls Latrines and Washrooms at Iruhuura Primary School

Thanks to funding from The British and Foreign School Society to the Kasiisi Porridge Project we completed 5 blocks of girl friendly latrines with washrooms at 4 Kasiisi project Schools – Kiamara, Kasenda, Iruhuura and Nyabweya Primary School. And generous donations from our supporters allowed us to build new latrines at Kasiisi when one of their blocks collapsed during an earth tremor.



Dormitory

Thanks to friends of the Conway family who did another sponsored walk we raised the funding to complete construction of the boys wing of the Kasiisi School Dormitory

Boarders Term 2 2017

Classrooms

Thanks to a generous private sponsor we built a new 3-classroom block at Kigarama primary school with a staff room and a girls mentorship room.

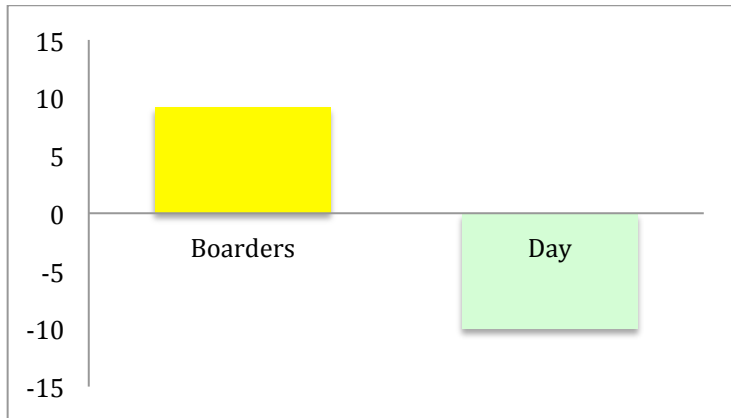
New Kigarama Classroom Block



BOARDING FACILITIES

The Kasiisi School Dormitory opened in February 2014 with 8 girls continues to grow. By September 2016 the number of current boarders numbered 77 – approximately 2/3 girls.

Boarding facilities provide students with more study time, regular food, academic support and tutoring resulting in much better exam results than day students.



Graph showing mean class ranking changes: Boarders gained on average 10 places whereas Day students lost 10 places.

GIRLS AND HEALTH PROGRAMS



Peer Education



Learning to use and repair mosquito nets

We ran our annual health Peer-Education training workshop in March. For the first time this included boys. Students learned proper use and repair of mosquito nets, how to build hand washing stations how to make gardens intended for intensive agriculture, and how to act as sexual health resources for their peers.



Learning to make Perma-Gardens for intensive cultivation of vegetables



Making and using tippy-tap hand-washing stations



Health programs for girls and boys were expanded and included, along with sexual health-classes, instruction covering general hygiene, nutrition, life skills and malaria prevention. A recent ban by the Ugandan government on comprehensive sex education in schools (for which read “we think that foreign programs include coverage of homosexual issues”) makes us very grateful that we have been so careful to talk about only those reproductive issues pertinent to primary schools.

Kasisi Nurse Consolata teaching a hygiene lesson and Health Education



Coordinator Tusiime Patrick looking at the children's drawings of germs

We provided a regime of tetanus vaccinations to all the schools stove-building teams in partnership with local health clinics.

Currently we are unable to bring the full range of health programs to all 14 schools so we are working on binders of lesson plans and activities enabling schools to run these programs themselves.

Tetanus Vaccinations



Girl Guides



In 2016 we sent Kasiisi Girl Scouts to the national camp at Gulu in Northern Uganda.

Kasiisi Girl Guides showcase their activities at the Kasiisi School Parents Open Day

Music, Dance and Drama

We held a music, dance and drama competition where students – girls and boys highlighted the challenges of early marriage, teen pregnancy and HIV-AIDS through skits, poems, songs and dance.



Sanitary Pads

We continued to provide sanitary pads to girls in 5 schools We also continued teaching schools to make their own reusable menstrual pads (RUMPS).



Girl's Soccer

Thanks to coaching from Harvard volunteer Layla Joudeh and Princeton in Africa volunteer Aly Passante, the Kasiisi girls soccer team made it to the sub county level of the Kabarole girls soccer tournament.



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Brookwood School, MA

For the fifth year Brookwood School in Manchester, MA engaged with Kasiisi Project schools in collaborative learning projects. Using e-mail and Skype students from Brookwood and Kasiisi Schools, 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.

Urban Assembly School, Bronx, NY

Students from the Urban Assembly School in the Bronx made books for Kasiisi Project schools

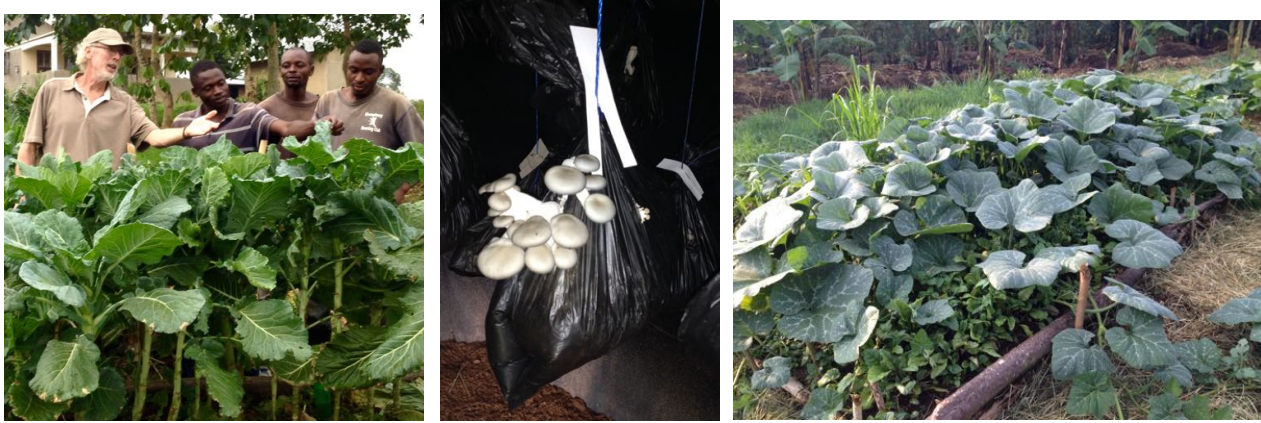
Harvard University

Students from the Harvard Kasiisi Project Group worked on new environmental, nutrition and health initiatives.

MIT

We continued our collaboration with MIT to develop sensors to measure emissions and use of improved cook-stoves.

KASIISI PROJECT FARM



Kale, mushrooms and squash – some of the crops grown in 2016

The focus this year continued to be on increased arable farming and bees.

We planted also mango trees, passion fruit, bananas, herbs, eggplant and green peppers and have been selling produce in the local markets.



Digging Farm Well and the first water through the taps.

We introduced a new water system to the farm by digging a deep well and installing a pump and large tanks. Water reaches the taps all over the farm by gravity feed. We now have plentiful clean water through the 2 annual dry seasons.

We began construction of an eco-campsite at the farm – putting in a road and leveling the area and planting grass.



Leveled Camp Ground

Kasiisi Project Scholars worked on the farm as part of a new program to earn support for further education.

KASIISI PORRIDGE PROJECT

Approximately 1200 students from Kasiisi and Kyanyawara schools continued to receive lunch.

LITERACY

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

We had Peace Corps Volunteers at Kigarama, Kyakatara and Kyanyawara primary schools working to improve literacy in all these schools.

13 Kasiisi Project schools competed in a regional spelling bee and Kasiisi Primary School was one of 20 schools to compete in the National competition, going through to the semi-finals. Komyampere Primary School won the regional local language competition



Daphine competing in Kampala



Kasiisi Project Team

PRE-SCHOOL

The Kasiisi-Weston Stars Pre-school graduated its fifth class in November 2015. The numbers of students has remained static over the past year but the nursery school continues to break even

SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2015 the Kasiisi Project, thanks to support from The Dobbyn Foundation, The African Orphan Foundation and many generous supporters, sponsored over 50 students in secondary school and college. 9 graduated out of the program to go on to further education and jobs as nurses, agricultural technicians, doctors and teachers.

Kasiisi Project Scholar Akandwanaho Dominic graduated from Harvard College with a major in neuro-biology.



*Akandwanaho Dominic
Kasiisi Scholar 2005-2011
Harvard Class of 2016*

VOLUNTEERS



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.

Peace Corps Volunteers

Katelyn Wigmore started her second year working with our health programs before leaving to go home. David McHolland continues as an agricultural volunteer on our farm, working to increase production and to share new intensive cultivation techniques with our schools.

Patrick, KFSF Health Coordinator, students from Kyanyawara Primary School and David McHolland at a Peace Corps sponsored workshop on training student leaders.

Princeton in Africa Volunteer



Farewell party for Martha Beirut, working with our conservation education team. Martha was our Princeton in Africa Volunteer for most of 2015-2016. She was replaced in August by Aly Passante and Corey Dickinson, working with our health and conservation programs respectively.



Aly Passante with the Mobile Clinic



Corey Dickinson with students at the Katwe Salt Lakes, QENP

Short-Term Volunteers



Laylah Joudeh with the Kasiisi Girls' Soccer Team



Andy Connolly in an egg and spoon race

Maggie a student at Makerere University interned with the health and conservation teams for 6 weeks in June and July as part of the requirements for her degree.



Maggie (Makerere Intern), Consolata (Project Nurse), Goret (Conservation Education Assistant), Patrick (Health Coordinator) and Maureen (Research Assistant)

Andy Connolly from UK advertising firm BBH, helped set up marketing for the Kasiisi Guest House. Faye Maison and Jim O'Keefe came and helped supervise redecoration of the guesthouse and help develop new menus.

Layla Joudeh, undergraduate from Harvard College worked with us during the summer, collecting data on Village Health Teams, coaching girls soccer and entering data.

Educators Yvonne Pemberton and Jacque Cook volunteered with Kasiisi and Kigarama Primary Schools.



Australian Tourists Bonnie and Heather, traveling with safari company RAW Africa, returned after their tourist trip, to volunteer with us for a week, organizing library books and helping out with coaching the Kasiisi Spelling Bee team.

RESEARCH

Teams from Yale and Boston College spent several weeks studying cross-cultural cognitive development of students at Kasiisi and Kyanawara schools.

Financial Report 10/15-9/16

2015-2016 was a successful year for grants. We obtained funding from the Disney Conservation Fund, The African Bird Club, Columbus Zoo, The International Elephant Foundation and the National Geographic Society. In addition we were granted funding for latrines from the British and Foreign Schools Society and for a borehole drill from The Waterloo Foundation, UK and The Dry Creek Foundation (USA).

In addition we ran a fundraising trip to Tanzania for 11 clients to raise unrestricted funds.

INCOME	
Unrestricted	\$161,345
Interest	\$46
Restricted	
International Collaboration (Brookwood School)	\$569
Girls Program	\$26,235
Bursaries for teachers	\$100

Conservation Education	\$49,353
Dormitory	\$18,054
Farm	\$355
Guesthouse	\$1,245
Kigarama Classroom	\$30,312
Latrines	\$9,737
Literacy	\$5,000
Nursery	\$100
Scholarships	\$43,259
Volunteer House	\$2,573
Water	\$4,550
TOTAL	\$352,833
EXPENDITURE	
Administration	\$3,299
Fund Raising	\$2,340
Programming	\$206,830
TOTAL	\$212,469
Admin costs as % expenditure	1.6%
Fundraising costs as % expenditure	1.1%