
KASIISI PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT



October 1st 2017-September 30th 2018

www.kasiisiproject.org



SUMMARY



In the year 2017-2018 the Kasiisi Project continued its growing contribution to local education, health and conservation objectives. Working with Ugandan partner Kibale Forest Schools' Program, we have maintained or adapted existing programs and begun new ones with an increasing focus on sustainability and community engagement.

We started the year with a planning meeting of 115 teachers, health care workers, and representatives of protected area, education and local government authorities.



**Tusiime Patrick,
Health Education
Coordinator
addresses start of
year meeting**



**Kagoro Wilson, Warden
Community Conservation
representing the Uganda Wildlife
Authority at the meeting**

Our seventh and eighth Princeton in Africa volunteers began 12-month stints with us in July and September and we have had help from short-term volunteers in health, conservation, beekeeping and education. We continue to employ Kasiisi Project Scholars in our office to help them earn the money they need for further education. Two current members of staff are pursuing higher degrees on a part-time basis. Our Wildlife Clubs continue to grow and improve with a focus this year on Kibale National Park and its Elephants. We have continued to provide 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 provided by the Kasiisi Project.

THE KASIISI PROJECT TEAM



The Bosses: Dr. Emily: Project Director Kibale Forest Schools Program, Dr. Elizabeth: Kasiisi Project Executive Director



The Team: Shamil-Farm Manager, Tusiime Patrick- Health Education Coordinator: Emma Ruskin and Gabriella Bragoli- Princeton in Africa Fellows: Amanyire James – Project Accountant: Tuhaise Shamilh – Project Nurse, Nyabutano Goret – Conservation Education Assistant, Rwabuhinga Francis – Conservation Education Coordinator

We offer our employees opportunities to learn new skills – everyone must to learn to type and to be proficient with Microsoft Office. The conservation and health teams use tablets to design questionnaires and collect data which is uploaded to the cloud for analyses.

3 staff members attended specialized training courses in 2018 – Tuhaise Shamilah –project nurse- spent a month at a course in Kampala to train peer-educators, Tusiime Patrick - health program coordinator- attended the 3rd annual conference on *Child Behavioral Health in Sub Saharan Africa* in Masaka, Uganda and Emily Otali – Project Director – attended a seminar on High Performance Management



Tuhaise Shamilah at Peer Education Course.



Tusiime Patrick at Smart Africa Conference



NEW SCHOOLS

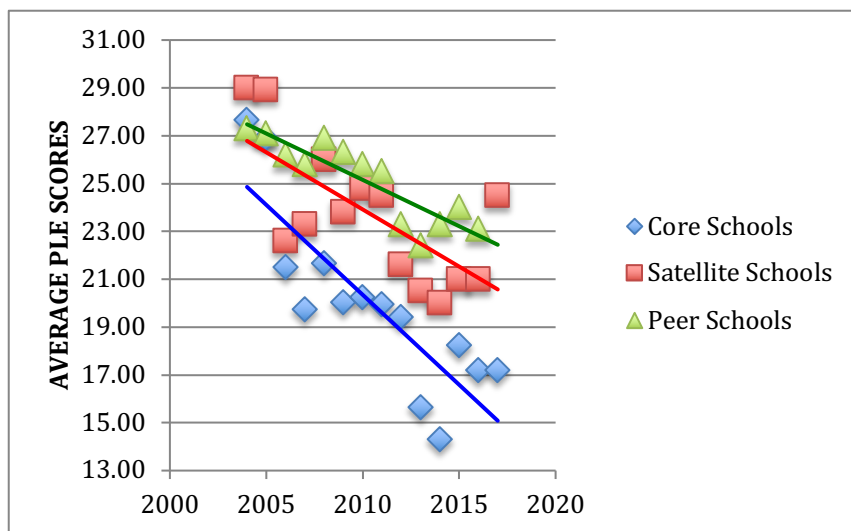
Two new primary schools joined our program, Mituuli and Rutooma, both within the 5km border with the forest boundary that defines our operating area. This brings the total Kasiisi Project schools to 16, serving over 11,000 children and their communities.



Map of Kibale National Park showing existing Kasiisi Project Schools  and new schools, Mituuli and Rutooma.  added in 2018

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The trend of significantly better PLE scores in KP schools (lower the score the better) than in demographically similar non-PLE peer schools continues. All district schools are improving but KP schools are improving faster. Core schools which receive the bulk of our programs do the best with satellite schools which receive some of our programs falling between them and the peer schools that receive no programs.



Mean Exam results for Kasiisi Project Core schools, Kasiisi Project Satellite Schools and non- project Peer Schools between 2004 and 2017

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 2017-2018 by the Kasiisi Project.

Parent Open Days

Students showed parents what they have been learning through drama and demonstrations. Kyanyawara Primary Schools shared what they had learned about healthy diets and then presented a balanced meal to their parents.



Kyanyawara parents being served a "balanced" meal by the school health club



Kigarama Wildlife Club presented to their parents about threats to elephants and the dangers of hunting them

Village Health Workers and District Health Authorities



We continue to building a strong relationship with village health teams who are partnering with our schools and communities to make our programs more sustainable. We provide them with resources and training and engage them in our programs. A program to help parents become better sources of sexual information for their children, funded by the Conservation Food and Health Foundation, has been well received by parents and schools and is supported by district health authorities and local government.

VHT member gives health lesson at Kiko Primary School

BORE HOLES



Kasiisi Project borehole team replacing washers and checking the bore hole at Kiko Primary School

The bore-hole project, providing clean water to schools and communities, has built 2 more wells and thanks to additional funding from Neil Richardson, who ran the Boston Marathon and a Super Marathon in Scotland in 2018 to raise money for the water project, we are currently building 2 more.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION



Wildlife Club Development

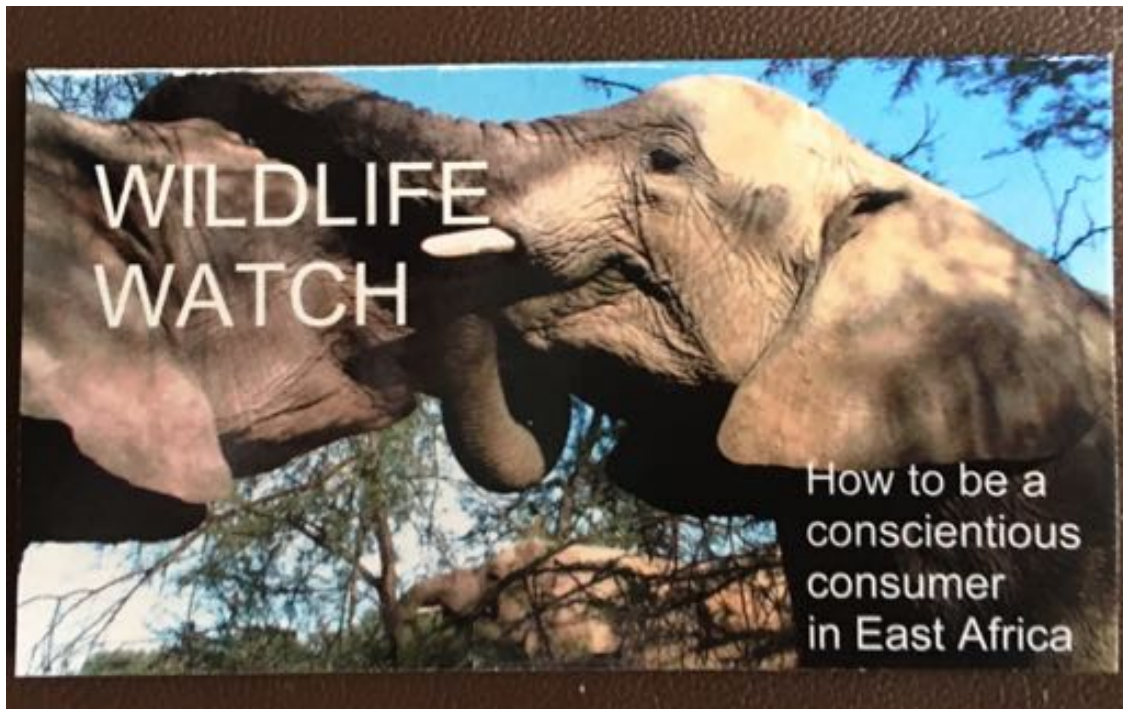
With funding from International Elephant Foundation in 2018, we made the focus of our conservation education program the natural history of Kibale National Park and its resident elephants, through trainings, group meetings and conservation activities. In 2018 14 Clubs more than 1100 children carried out over 100 conservation activities around elephants.



Kasiisi Students making elephant models

HCCS

The Harvard College Conservation Society collaborating with the Kasiisi Project made power points covering elephant biology, social systems and the threats to their survival for use by our education team. They also designed Wildlife Watch cards to inform tourists about the dangers of buying souvenirs made from animal teeth, skins and hair. These are being distributed in Uganda and by the Harvard Alumni Travel Program.



Elephant Pride Day



In July we held an Elephant Pride Day. 3 groups of students from 16 school Wildlife Clubs (a total of 330 children) accompanied by banners and brass bands each visited 3 villages and trading centers in the north, central and southern areas of the park, covering about 30km of the park boundary. At each village talks were given by representatives of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (who fielded sometimes aggressive questions from farmers whose crops had been destroyed), the Kibale Chimpanzee Project and the Kibale Snare Removal Project. Students then performed skits, poems, plays etc. about elephants and the threats to them to an audience of over 1600 people in a day of joyful celebration focused on elephants. Both children and audience appreciated that this kind of outreach was brought to villages that don't often experience this type of attention. Funding was provided by a Tufts Alum who likes Zarin's conservation talks.



***Rutoma Primary School
Wildlife Club Girls***



Villagers watch performances by Kasiisi Project Wildlife Clubs at Elephant Pride Day

World Chimpanzee Day –

The first of its kind was celebrated in 2018. Kasiisi Project Wildlife Club members gave talks on the local radio about chimpanzee conservation and badges were distributed to all Wildlife Club members. More activities are planned for 2019. Funded by JGI Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland



Rwandan Intern Musabe Sheillah teaches a class on chimpanzees

Clean Stove Project

School Wild life Clubs have continued to send stove building teams into their communities. The number of mapped stoves built by our children has now reached almost 600.



Zach Manta shows Iruhuura School Stove Team Members how to use tablets for data collection



Iruhuura WLC Clean Stove Team

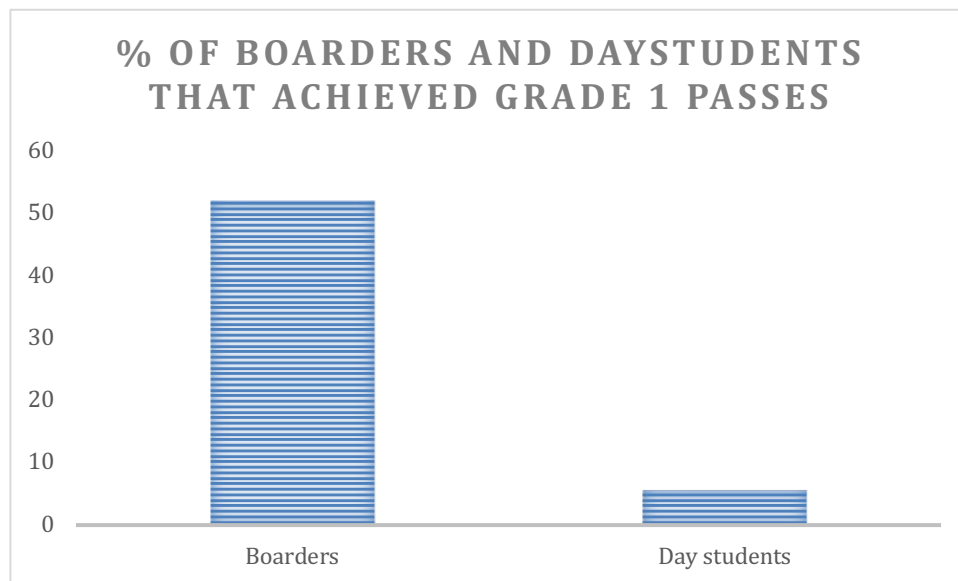
Community Birding

In 2017 our community birding program continued its popularity with 8 schools asking for this program led by a local bird guide.

DORMITORY

In 2017 the Kasiisi dormitory continued to thrive

The number of boarders grew to 131 in 2018 – 77 girls and 54 boys and outperformed day students in the Primary Leaving Exams by 13%. Mean score boarders=13.4 vs day students=15.4. **Lower scores are better.**



GIRLS' AND HEALTH PROGRAMS



Tetanus Vaccinations

The Kasiisi Project continues to provide staff and operational funding for the Kibale Mobile Health Clinic. Our partnership with Village Health Teams (VHT) continued. We provided training for VHTs and included them in all our meetings with the result that they began giving health talks in schools helping us towards our goal of self-sustainability. The District Health Authorities became a strong supporter of our programs and with the help of local health clinics we continued with our goal of a comprehensive tetanus vaccination program. We held workshops in several schools to teach students and teachers to make reusable menstrual pads (RUMPS) and began a survey of comparative benefits of RUMPS and manufactured pads. The results have led us to suspend providing commercial pads, which we can only afford for 5 schools, and focus on teaching girls to make reusable menstrual pads. We continue to build girl- friendly latrines and to support Girl Scouts.



Kasiisi Primary School Girl Guides

Our health team continued to teach, hygiene, nutrition and reproductive health through their afterschool health programs. Health clubs have been established in all schools under the guidance of our Health Education Team to promote healthy behavior in children and parents.



Health Coordinator Tusiime Patrick gives talk to parents on sexually transmitted diseases



Jesse helping with health class



Rutooma Girls learn to make RUMPS



Teachers from Kiamara Primary School starting a business making RUMPS

Girls' Soccer

The Kasiisi girls' soccer team was coached by Princeton in Africa Volunteers Clara Jessup and Zach Manta

KASIISI GUESTHOUSE



“We were welcomed with open arms” “So warm and welcoming” “Staff stayed late for our arrival” “Quality is amazing” “Great food” “Clean and comfortable”

We did some additional upgrading to our double rooms and renovated the kitchens.

With the help of a new brochure and flyers we have expanded our marketing for the Kasiisi Guesthouse to Ugandan tour operators. We had a 3% occupancy rate – we have a way to go but we are close to breaking even!

We continue to develop cultural and volunteer experiences for tourists and in August 2017 hosted a family of 3 for 2 weeks. They helped with data entry for the mobile clinic, went out with the health team, harvested maize on the farm and built racks for storing animal feed and fuel-efficient stoves.

Feedback from tourists gave us a 4.9/5 rating. Mains water pipes have reached the GH and the meter has been added but the water had not yet been turned on. Once we have running water we intend to install solar showers and flush latrines.





Tourists staying at the guesthouse building “Tippy Taps”, caring for piglets, harvesting maize, building fuel efficient stoves and racks for storing animal feed

KASIISI PROJECT FARM



Egrets flying over Kasiisi Farm



The farm continued to produce pigs, eggs, honey and produce. We also raised our first batch of broiler chickens and continued to act as agricultural consultants to other NGOs. Hard work by Clara Jessup has brought our farm close to being profitable.

Princeton in Africa volunteer Gabriella Bragoli joined us in July to work primarily with the farm. Following in Clara Jessup's footsteps she will continue to support an efficient system for tracking income and expenses and figuring out the most effective time to sell pigs and chickens.

2017-2018 was a good year for our bees. Our apiary has stabilized. With help from our new part-time beekeeper, Valense, and Harvard College Intern Dylan Ryals, we now have >50 colonized hives, absconding is down and we started successfully splitting hives. In July we harvested 25.5 Litres of honey and 5kg of wax that can be used to make candles and to bait uncolonized hives.

Dylan also got our Broodminders working properly. With help from Broodminder he was able to place them where they measure internal hive temperature and humidity. We are placing them in our farm hives and along the forest edge.

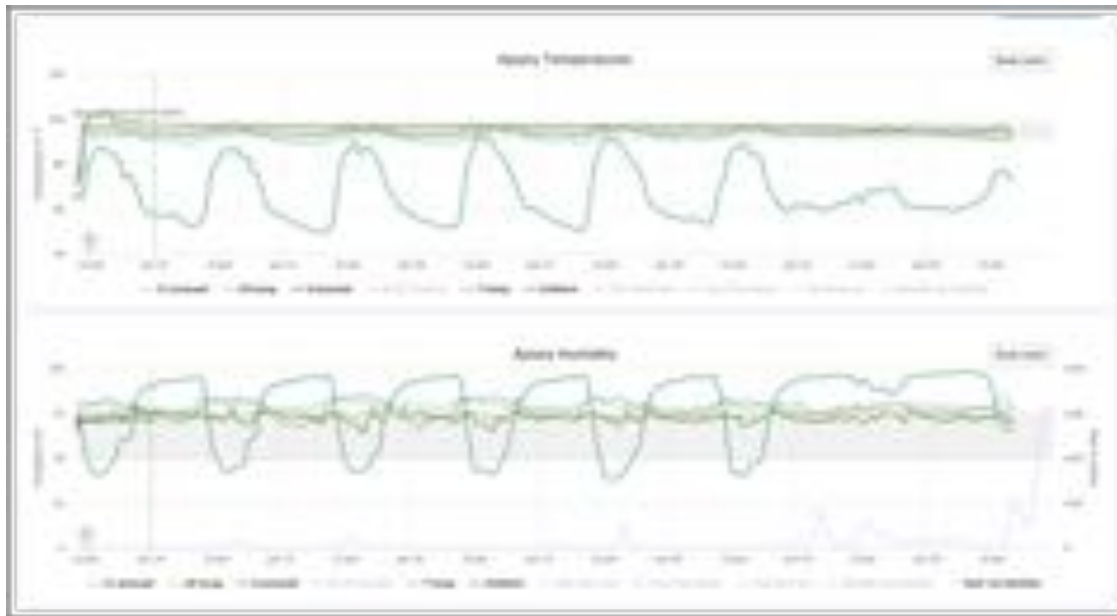


Valense moving a bee swarm from a capture box to their new hive



Farm Manager, Shamil, bottle feeding a piglet





Broodminder data showing bees controlling temperature (top graph) and humidity (lower graph) in their hives. The up and down green lines are control hives with no bees in them. The bunched lines in a more or less straight line show data from colonized hives. Data from split colonies showed bees able to control their environment again after 2-3 weeks.

Surveying and construction began on the farm eco-campsite. We are starting with a shower and latrine block. Next will be a kitchen area.



Aerial photo of the farm showing cleared ground for campsite in far-left hand corner



Builder, surveyor and Elizabeth discuss plumbing and septic systems - Police, the farm dog, keeps watch!



KASIISI PORRIDGE PROJECT

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

This program will end in December 2018. We have some alternate funding which should cover most of 2019. The schools are making plans to try to continue the program themselves.

Students line up for porridge at Kyanyawara

LITERACY

Book groups, libraries and reading circles continued at Kasiisi, Kigarama and Kyanyawara schools. Schools held inter-house spelling bee competitions and Kiamara Primary School sent students to the finals of the National Spelling Bee in Kampala

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to individual sponsors, the African Orphans Foundation and the Dobbyn Foundation, The Kasiisi Project supported 52 scholars in secondary and tertiary education and 3 for postgraduate degrees.

Goodhart Prize

In August, we awarded the second Goodhart Prize for girls who excelled in math and science.

Endowed by the African Orphans Foundation in memory of board member Brad Goodhart the prize is conferred on the two best female students in sciences in Kabarole District.

Presented at Nyakasura School the 12th Grade award went to Kirabo Rebecca from Kibito Senior Secondary and the 10 Grade award to Kabatuku Nesta from Nyakasura. Rebecca is attending Lira University for a Degree in Midwifery – only the second person in Kabarole to study midwifery at degree level. Nesta has 2 more years to go at high school but wants to be a software engineer.



Kirabo Rebecca and Kabatuku Nesta – winners of the 2018 Goodhart Prize



***Nyakasura Secondary
Schools where the boys
wear kilts!***

VOLUNTEERS



Jesse, Dylan and Marianne take a walk

In 2018, we had 2 Princeton in Africa Fellows, Clara Jessup who worked with the farm and Corey Dickinson who joined our conservation education team.

During the summer, we hosted a health intern, Jesse Greenfield, from Tufts University who worked on our “Parents as primary sources of sexual education” research project.



Jesse helps students make RUMPS

Dylan Ryals, member of the Harvard Student Beekeeping Association came with experience in commercial beekeeping to work with our apiary and give talks to the Wildlife Clubs.

Marianne Staniunas who is directs our honey program came to help Dylan get familiar with the bees.

Sheillah Musabe, from Kigale in Rwanda worked as a conservation education intern for 3 months.

Julia Fissore-O’Leary from Dartmouth College helped out the health-team.



Sheillah in the classroom, Dylan ready to tackle bees, and Julia and friends watching the Elephant Pride Day parade

GRANTS

In 2018 we received grants from the Disney Conservation Fund, the International Elephant Foundation, Zoos and Aquariums Committed to Conservation, the Conservation, Food and Health Foundation and the Columbus Zoo

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME

<u>Unrestricted Donations</u>	\$162,293.00
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Restricted Donations

Donation-AG3	\$3,025.00
Donation-Mobile Clinic	\$4,000.00
Donation Conservation Education	\$78,900
Donation-Construction	\$5,350.00
Donation-Farm	\$5,000.00
Donation-Guesthouse	\$4,760.00
Donation-Girls Program	\$15,874.00
Donation-Harvard Alumni Association	\$3,087.00
Donation-Kyumuhendo James	\$1,597.00
Donation-Scholarships-Ndali	\$1,328.93
Donation-Pan African Sanctuary Alliance	\$1,791.00
Donation-Personal	\$946.29
Donation-Road Less Travelled	\$11,050.00
Donation-Scholarships	\$42,614.00
Donation-Volunteers	\$6,450.00
	\$185,773.22

TOTAL INCOME	\$348,066.22
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EXPENSES

Admin	\$5,682.00
Fundraising	\$69.00
Board Development	\$2,562.00
Bank Charges	\$263.23
Adjustment	\$234.00
Program	\$229,368.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$238,178.23
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% Fundraising and Administrative overheads	3.6
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