



The Uganda International Marathon Impact Reports

Sep' 2015

The Uganda Marathon 2015 has now raised over £73,000 for projects in Uganda, we are Uganda's second largest fundraising event ever and the charities and projects that the money is going to are doing some incredible work in the community.

Following is our impact report from June to September. Andy Bownds has continued to work tirelessly to make sure that your fundraising money is properly allocated and spent by the projects in the way that was proposed. These updates give an insight into just how much it means to the community and how much your work has changed the lives of so many.

Whilst we have made incredible progress with these projects, there is still a long way to go to enable them to fulfil their visions. With each report, we have outlined what still needs to be done and what would happen if you were to donate further money to support these amazing causes, or if you would like to run for these projects in 2016 to help make more of a difference then we would love you to talk to you!

If you want to know more about these charities and the work that we're doing, then please email us on runners@ugandamarathon.com.

The projects that we have supported with the 2015 marathon are:

- 1. The Bugabira School**
- 2. Kitovu Mobile AIDS Organisation**
- 3. Kiyumbakimu Children's Village**
- 4. Knowledge for Children**
- 5. Masaka Vocational and Rehabilitation School**
- 6. Masaka School for Special Needs Education**
- 7. Support for the Elderly Person**
- 8. Treasureland High School**
- 9. Youth with a Vision**



BUGABIRA PRIMARY SCHOOL Sep' 2015

The One That Started It All!

[This school](#) was the original Shauku foundation project. It has been supporting the local community and its 300 children for years, by providing quality affordable education that gives the kids a boost in life that would otherwise be completely unreachable.



Schooling in Uganda costs money and there is absolutely no infrastructure for any kind of free education. This means that children whose family cannot afford to send them to school have no opportunity to learn and get a basic education. The Bugabira School subsidise the education of all of its kids, offering free education for those most in need. They give disadvantaged children a vital start in life by giving them an education that they cannot afford elsewhere.

This project was chosen by the Uganda Marathon because of the incredible resolve shown by the staff, despite its continuing financial struggle. Also because of their unwavering commitment to, not only providing the kids with an education, but also bettering their lives.

Where your money has gone

Bugabira was quiet over the summer months with the school closed due to holidays. This has meant that planned developments are now only really kicking in with the new term.

The chicken coup structure is complete with the perimeter fence up and ready for the chickens to graze in. Now it's time to get it fully ready for chicks with roosting poles and layers boxes being installed and a small store for feed being created nearby. This work is set to take place this month and full budgeting has been completed for the first 6 months of chickens life until they start to lay and the project becomes self sustainable.



Completed chicken coop structure!! Soon there will be chicks!!

Tom Tisay has been put in charge of this project and has experience of working with 500+ chickens in the past. His skills and determination is what will make this a successful program. And with Tom's guidance, once the chickens start to lay he coup will bring in a total profit of approximately 180,000 UGX per month of income to the school.

But this is not the only purpose for this project as students will also be able to have vocational classes learning hands n what it takes to rear chickens. And it will also act as important food supplement for the kids.

Thanks again for your support!!



Kitovu Mobile AIDS Organisation Sep' 2015

The One That Fights the Spread of AIDS!

Kitovu Mobile aims to create an empowered community with the ability to cope with HIV/AIDS and its impact. To improve the quality of life of people affected by HIV and AIDS, Kitovu Mobile works with communities in the areas of prevention, care support and capacity building.



Kitovu started in 1987 in response to the overwhelming impact of HIV/AIDS in Masaka district. Initially the main purpose of Kitovu Mobile was to care for people with HIV and AIDS and conduct preventative education. Today its operations have expanded to include the communities affected by the disease not only the patients themselves.

Today Kitovu cares for over 4,000 people living with HIV and AIDS, as well as training 2,000 disadvantaged youth in modern sustainable agriculture to ensure they have a source of income. Uganda is such a rich and fertile land that farming is actually extremely difficult to manage, Kitovu works with the farmers from disadvantaged communities, who do not have the knowledge to farm effectively, to help them turn their land into a sustainable source of income. This helps the communities live with AIDS and support themselves.

Where your money was spent

Thanks to your money, and for some of the runners labour, Kitovu has successfully built a dairy structure, which is now occupied by not one cow, but one cow and her calf! This is amazing and the calf upon reaching mature independence will be passed on to support another community.



After meeting with Charles about how the UGM can support Kitovu Mobile further it became clear that what was required was money for necessary operational improvements. The system currently is outdated and makes recording and storing the immense amount of data they gather from their operations almost impossible. But not anymore as, with your fundraised money, we are able to support Kitovu Mobile with 10 new computers!

These computers will be used across all departments improving record keeping, accountability and their capacity to fundraise. This has only been possible with Kitovu Mobiles commitment to train staff on how to use technology to develop the organisation.



Kiyumbakimu Children's Village Sep' 2015

The One That Is Full of Love!

Kiyumbakimu Children's Village (KCV) is a Community Based Organisation providing full care and a secure upbringing for vulnerable children living in Masaka District. They provide hope to orphaned, abandoned and destitute children, creating new families and giving its children the best possible start in life.



KCV believe in providing as natural and stable environment as possible for all of the children who call it home. Each child lives within a family of eleven, comprising of ten orphaned or

destitute children who are housed together as brothers and sisters in a family home, headed by a 'Mother'. The Mother cares and loves for her children as if they were her own, ensuring their well-being and development along with fostering a real sense of family.

As well as providing a home for the children, KCV ensure that they have a nutritious and balanced diet, receiving three healthy meals, porridge and fruit every day. All of the children receive health care when needed, as well as regular check ups, vitamin supplements and education on issues such as HIV/AIDS. The project provides clothes, toiletries, games and books, as well as care and love – everything a child should expect from a caring family.

Where your money was spent

Every time I travel to KCV it is always catches me unaware how remote this great centre is. It takes one hour down worsening dirt roads to drive there, but when you do arrive, you are immediately rewarded with fantastic views and the beaming smiles of 30 children calling your name.

And it was even better to arrive this time, loaded with all the materials to build the vital perimeter fence. With your money we have now started construction on the 313m fence that will surround KCV's land providing security to 30 children and Mama Rita (manager) who call KCV home.



Pias standing next to where the gate is going to be fitted with fence poles already erected in the background

The fence is a government requirement for any institution that supports children and Stuart (Director) has already informed me that they will be inspecting again soon. So the fence has provided both a physical and a technical based security, as now the centre does not have the constant fear of being shut down hanging over it.

The fence consists of 17 roles of wire mesh, 43 angeline poles, 15 bags of cement, 1 truck of sand and stone, 16 metal poles, 8 pieces of timber, 10ft gate and 2 small one person gates, 350m barbered wire, 350m plain wire, 1 role of binding wire and nails to keep it all

together. All this material was transported by Vincent, who has become my trusted driver, over two trips.



Vincent and Tome loading up the pick for the second trip.



Everyone has come to help off load the fence materials at KCV



Knowledge for Children Sep' 2015

The One That Gets Kids Reading!

Knowledge for children Uganda operates to invest in the quality education for children in rural areas. Their vision is to invest in the knowledge of children and the knowledge of teachers, parents and the local community as a whole, they work tirelessly, contributing to communities' self-reliance and improving the quality of education. In corporation with and support of the government and their partners, they want nothing more than to raise the level of education to a structurally higher level in the rural areas of Uganda.



Where your money was spent

We left Knowledge for Children starting off their 3 year book program in 3 schools. As it has been the school Summer holidays the team have only been able to complete their first initial sensitization meetings explaining the program to both the PTA and SMC of the school.

The sensitization has gone well as all 3 primary schools Lukalu, Mpanga and Kitagobwa have signed contracts in front of the PTA meaning they have officially started on their journey to improve education for their students for years to come.

We have also started the next stage of the UGM support and have donated 15 million UGX (£2,827) to enable Knowledge for Children to cover the vast majority of the costs for all the books for each school for a whole years program. This cost comes in as shown below meaning Knowledge for Children are contributing 1,761,618 UGX (£332):

School	Total Cost	K4C (85%)	Schools (15%)
Kitagobwa	UGX 7,563,600 (£1,425.50)	UGX 6,429,060 (£1,211)	UGX 1,134,540 (£213)
Lukalu	UGX 9,806,600 (£1,848.24)	UGX 8,335,610 (£1,571)	UGX 1,470,990 (£277)
Mpanga	UGX 2,349,350 (£442)	UGX 1,996,948 (£376)	UGX 352,403 (£66)
Total UGX	UGX 19,719,550	UGX 16,761,618	UGX 2,957,933
Total in pounds £ ((exchange rate 5/10/15)	£3,513	£2,986	£526

This means that once the schools are able to find their 15% contribution we can guarantee a better education for 1,240 children of the next generation, with interactive teaching methods being utilised in their primary school.



Children at Mpanaga Primary School



Children playing at Lukalu Primary School



Masaka Vocational and Rehabilitation Centre

Sep'2015

The One That Creates Ability From Disability!

The Masaka Vocational and Rehabilitation Centre aims to assist mentally and physically handicapped youths learn a vocational skill so that they may be able to support themselves economically. Its mission is to promote the economic and social integration of young people with disabilities.



MVRC opened in 2000 and has educated hundreds of youths to help them integrate into society and support themselves. Many of the graduates now own businesses across the region. Often, children who are handicapped are not provided the same opportunities as their peers, nor entered into school. MVRC management goes directly into rural areas to find youth who are either being withheld from living a full life or have not been given opportunities that the centre can provide them.

Where your money was spent

In the last couple of weeks since being back in Masaka I have been focusing on re-energising the neglected metal works and blacksmith program in MVRC. This program has been left locked and empty for the last 10 years when a VSO volunteer left without a working sustainable plan.

Just look at how dirty it was before we went in and gave it a full clean up. Yes that is bat droppings all over the floor and walls.

Before Clean:



After Clean:



With these new and improved photos I, Boaz (director) and Otto (workshop manager) have been able to devise a sustainable program and present it to the districts Community Development Officer. The plan is to invite a local established metal works business to use the fully equipped workshop to increase their production in line with demand. In return they pay rent directly to MVRC and also allow students to have practical lessons in the workshop for 2 hours a day during school term. The rent money covers the buying of scrap metal for the young people to practice on and also provides an extra income for the benefit of the centre as a whole.

So far we have two business' ready to start bidding for the workshop one in Ssaza and one in Masaka town. Both have shown a real interest in the idea as did the district when we presented who said *"this new innovative makes a lot of sense and is a great idea, thank you"* Lillian community development officer.

Your money is going towards ensuring any extra tools required can be purchased for the workshop at the request of the business within their first month of operating. This creates a huge pull for the business as they can customize the workshop at no extra start up cost for them.

If the program proves to be a success then it can also be replicated in the other workshops leather, carpentry and knitting changing the face of vocational teaching in MVRC in line with sustainable practice for years to come.



Masaka School for Special Needs Education Sep' 2015

The One That Talks Through the Silence!

The Masaka School for Special Needs Education used to be called the Masaka Deaf School, they accept all kinds of disabled students and begin by teaching them how to communicate so that they can learn. They have a dedicated team of specially trained teachers who support the children so that they are not cast aside because of their disabilities.



Unsurprisingly, the kids are so keen to learn and the ones who are deaf are as close to fluent in sign as you can be within just 4 weeks. Whilst we visited the school, they came up with a new sign for Liverpool Football Club.

As in many countries, the disabled community within Uganda has been marginalised and open to stigma for many generations. But, within this centre you get a real sense for how this attitude is changing for the better - I was fortunate to witness this wave of change at the schools world record attempt for the most amount of people signing across the world in the Sign2Sing event on the 19th Feb 2015.



Where your money is being spent

On my last visit back in June to Masaka SNE your money brought vocational tools and equipment to increase the teaching capacity in the hair dressing, tailoring and bakery departments. The plan now is to really start developing these departments into sustainable income generating programs.

And I am happy to report this has started, if only on a small scale. Christopher (vocational manager) and I have approached neighbouring institutions such as the large Primary Teachers College (PTC) and agreed that the children from SNE can go periodically to sell the bakery goods they make to their students.

We have also been into town promoting the goods made at SNE through tailoring lessons and one shop has agreed to sell them on behalf of the school. In fact her daughter is a deaf teacher and she is so keen to help she is not even taking a profit for herself from the sales!

These small steps are a start to making SNE more sustainable allowing them to continue teaching practical skills to the most vulnerable members of the community. Thank you for your support.



Young people showing off the place mats and chair covers they made that are now being sold in town



Equipment for making mats that your money helped to buy



Support for The Elderly Person (STEP) Sep' 2015

The One Where Age is Just a Number!

Elderly folk are one of the groups in greatest need in Uganda. There is no welfare or support structure for them, many have lost their entire families through HIV/AIDS and charity funding is concentrated on more 'photogenic' children's causes. This means that they are often left to fend on their own.



STEP offer a sustainable lifestyle for these elderly people who have nothing left. They offer them support, shelter, work and an income so that they have the means to carry on living. Using low labour intensive occupation, such as pig farming, STEP offers dignity to these people that are in such danger of being forgotten.

Where your money is being spent

So we left this program back in June with an amazing piggery and two female pigs, so you can guess where this is going. Yep you got it the females are about to burst and are expecting to have litters of 9 each!! That's 18 little piglets running around, ready to be feed up for 3 months before being sold off to bring money into the Kyabakuza Bakadde Twekwembe Association.



UGM runners building the piggery

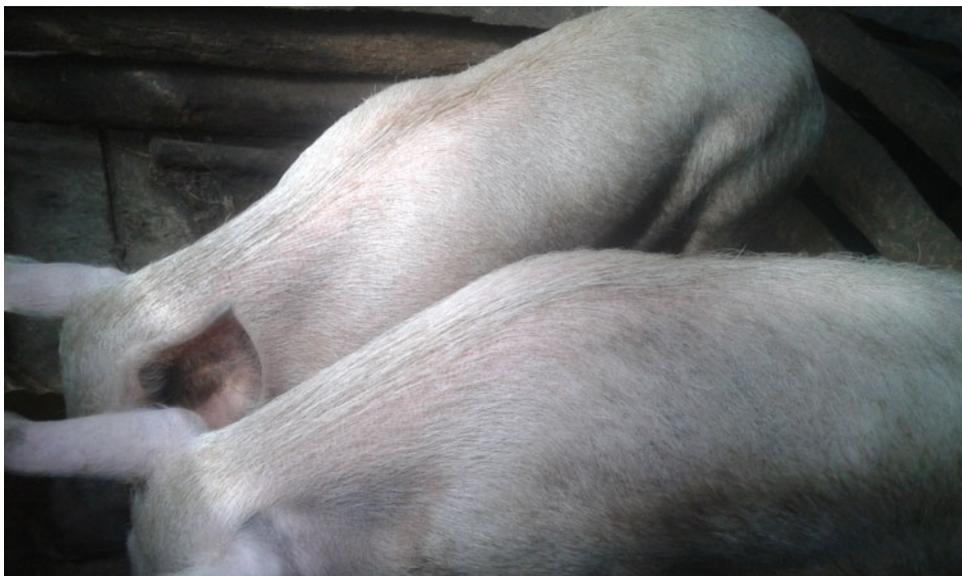
Your money (400,000 UGX - £75) will help with the first 2 months of high protein feed after suckling is complete and the vital vaccinations to ensure they get the best start in life. The association will then sit together and with guidance from Beatrice decide on the best course of action, how many pigs to sell? How many females to keep? How should the community benefit from the money made? And which pig to pass on?

Yes that's right, the Kijjabwemi elderly association is coming to visit the piggery and meet with the group leaders so as to fully understand the UGM piggery project. After this sensitization has taken place we will be able to start the program again in Kijjabewmi helping them build a piggery before they buy their own and one of the Kyabakuza groups.

This simple pass-on system has been pioneered successfully by many organisations but where ours is different is that we are supporting the elderly. The forgotten group that get overlooked by their own government and by international aid! Well not anymore!

There is no reason that with funding from the Uganda International Marathon runners that this program can't just keep on growing helping more and more elderly people be independent and have a voice in their community!

In the video you will see Emma (chairperson) and Salongo (treasurer) discussing how the piggery has helped them and will continue to do so in the future. Thank you Runners!!





Treasureland High School Sep' 2015

The One That Talks Never Gives Up On a Child!

The Treasureland High School is a phenomenal institution that teaches over 50 disadvantaged children between 13-20 years. All of the students of the school have been unable to continue secondary education because they have not had the money to do so.

Schooling in Uganda costs money and there is absolutely no infrastructure for any kind of free education. This means that children whose family cannot afford to send them to school have no opportunity to learn and get a basic education. Treasureland High School subsidise the education of all of its kids, offering free education for those most in need. They give disadvantaged children a vital start in life by giving them an education that they cannot afford elsewhere.

Where your money was spent

The well at Treasureland has now been completed and has already made a huge difference to the lives of the 50 children that attend the school. Water is something that can so easily be taken for granted but for this school before now it really had been a burden. Pupils who would have been completing the 3km walk to fetch water each morning are now able to gather water from within the school grounds from the well that has been dug with your money!

The well has also started benefiting the local community who are daily coming to use the well for a small fee of 1,000 UGX (£0.19). This makes it a sustainable entity that will provide water to the area for years to come.

The digging of the well is an incredible engineering feat with all 90ft of the well being dug by hand! The workers in true African style worked to overcome oxygen shortages and hazardous working conditions to complete the work. A huge thank you to them all. But an even bigger thank you to you for making this possible!!

“We can’t forget our dear participants in the recent Uganda Marathon especially Runners both from the international backgrounds and the local ones – that may your hearts of helping the needy grow stronger each day that comes.” Director George



The well starting to be dug back in June



As men reached 75 feet down the ground, oxygen supply became minimal and hence Lime (Hydrated Calcium) had to be brought down to improve on aeration & oxygen supply by absorbing carbon dioxide.



Some students celebrating having a fresh water supply



The first jerry can of water being brought up from the well

The entire students body was filled with joy because this was a dream come true as to the institution. It was God answering the long put forward prayer of having a safe and clean water source at school.

A statement from George (The Director of Treasureland) about the well



YOUTH WITH A VISION

Sep' 2015

The One That Stands Against Injustice!

[Youth with a vision](#) is a community based youth network in Masaka district, solely and comprehensively embracing young people from all backgrounds. Their objective is to advance the education of young people and their communities in areas of academic, health/HIV/AIDS awareness, environment, human rights, poverty reduction strategies, job creation and employment skills, civic engagement, provision of facilities for recreation and other activities in the interest of social welfare.



Where your money has gone

Coming back to meet with John Mugabi and hear about how the UGM Youth with a Vision internship program had gone was a meeting I had been really looking forward to as the reports he had been sending me spoke of good work. But what I didn't expect was to meet and hear that the internships had gone even better than anyone could have expected!

So to recap, £200 of your money had gone to providing expenses for 10 young disadvantaged people to complete internship placements in relevant businesses that linked directly to their own entrepreneurial aspirations. Well all 10 completed these internships keeping daily diaries of what they learnt and wearing their UGM Youth Financial scheme 2015 badgers with pride.



And they impressed as the bosses of the internship placements have agreed to stay on as mentors for each of them as with your support they take on the next step of starting their own businesses.

And if that wasn't good news enough 4 of the placements turned into jobs!!! So thanks to you:

Anothony Kiweewa is now working at Sekamu Engineering Services

Ivan Serugo has paid work with Villa Maria – Hospital Home Care Program- ICT Department

Nassuuna Prossy is employed with Kiooro Hill View Primary School- Kyazaya

Namuddu Winnie has an income through Image Solutions Kampala



On top of that these 4 have also opened up their first ever bank accounts through DTB and are saving for their future.

In next month's update expect to hear the breakdown of the UGM youth financial loan scheme and, which of the entrepreneurs businesses have been selected to receive their loans to buy the start up equipment. Your money is really changing lives!!



3 young people learning from mentor Dr. Sserwadda of Ssaaza Farm

Name: Lubega Fred
Email: lubega.fred.563@facebook.com.

RE: REPORT ON PIGGERY TRAINING HELD AT VET. SSERWADDA'S FARM.

I have personally attended the training which started at 07:00 am.

Today's subject has been about feedings and he has taught several aspects regarding piggery. We have visited the feeding stove and we found the following;

- Silver fish
- Shells
- Sunflower
- Premix
- Common salt
- Maize bran

Feeders.

All these make up a ready feed stuff for pigs. He added that we should have record books to help us balance the business.

He also told us to love the business and be part of the work in the business.

A diary from one of the UGM Youth financial interns