

# Annual Report 2017



Dear Friends

With the support of many friends in Germany and the UK we were able to continue our support for many partners, particularly in Uganda and Kenya. Our partners impress us with their dedication, commitment and hard work, which have led to improvements in standards of nutrition and hygiene and a decline in the incidence of common diseases. Our small annual budget of 20,000 Euro bears an astonishing amount of fruit!

## Work with schools

Eric Kihuluka and his colleagues in Kaliro District, Uganda, developed an ambitious programme to work with all 220 schools in the district. They have made an excellent start. With quizzes, debates and competitions they have caught the interest of teachers and children alike. The education authorities have recognized the improvement in health, nutrition and hygiene and have even written to Discover expressing their appreciation of our work. The work continues! A central demonstration



A teacher has clearly caught the interest of his class with questions about nutrition, hygiene and sanitation

garden is being established as well as gardens at each school. Training events have been held with clan leaders, village elders and traditional healers. The King of Busoga has also written to express his appreciation of Eric's work; he is a positive force in encouraging all members of the communities to take Eric's work seriously.

In Kasese, Uganda, BioGardens have trained many teachers and pupils and are establishing school gardens. As school children become more aware, their parents also take notice!

## Coping with drought

Rain failure is a major challenge to many Discover partners and their communities. Many families suffered during the terrible drought in 2017. In response, the



An essential part of hygiene is handwashing. Where water is short, then one needs a tippy tap. All children in Kasese schools now know how to construct and use tippy-taps.

Kasese Network in West Uganda ran training for farmers in how better to survive long dry periods. This included how to care for the soil, how to preserve fruits, vegetables and herbs and how to conserve water. We at Discover are taking this challenge very seriously and will continue to work on ways to reduce the devastation that drought brings.

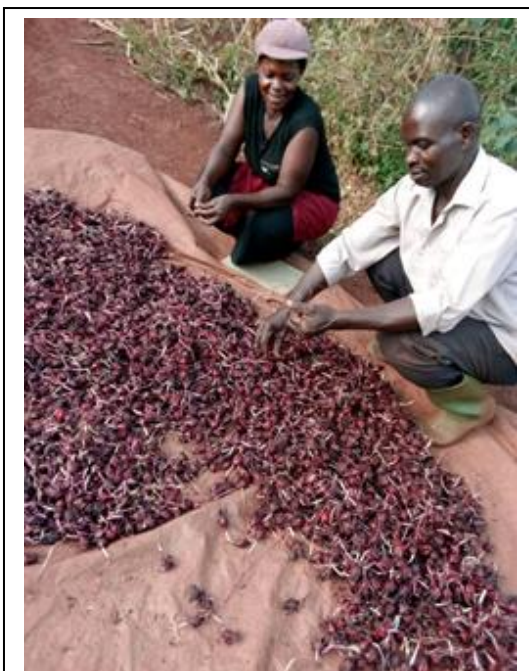
## Typhoid

In Maliba Sub-County near Kasese there was a typhoid epidemic. The 52 members of the local Discover group, Bumbura Maliba, visited 102 households, inspected their toilets and made appropriate recommendations. They found a close correlation between the condition of the toilet and the incidence of typhoid in that family. Then early this year (2018) the Discover group convened a two-day conference for representatives of all relevant agencies at which they developed a coordinated campaign to improve health and hygiene in the Sub-County.

We are delighted that Discover groups are playing such a positive role in encouraging and enabling many community leaders to work together.



Greatly contrasting toilets in Maliba



Andrew and his wife drying hibiscus

## Intensive week-long seminars

In 2016 Andrew Kyambadde attended a training seminar run by Rehema Namyalo. He said, *“the training acted as a catalyst. I had been thinking of starting a farm. Now I have done it. And the whole community is benefitting. They come to me for fruit, vegetables and herbs, and they ask me to teach them how to make fuel efficient stoves and how to process soya milk.”*

In 2017 Rehema invited Andrew to join her and Evelyne Nakamatte as a trainee trainer, for a seminar of 6 full days for 30 people in Kaboyo, near Masaka, Uganda. Twenty members of the local community benefitted, as

did 11 people from different parts of the country. Again, the feedback from the participants was very encouraging.

Rehema and her team will run such training seminars twice a year. Each will be based in a local community which has committed itself to integrating what they learn into their village programme. The local community, which usually has a high degree of poverty and is thus unable to contribute financially, contributes some fruit and vegetables. We also invite other NGOs to sponsor 10 representatives in total from other parts of Uganda at £225, (250 Euro or 320 USD) per person. In this way we need no additional external funding.

## Water

Although Uganda has abundant fresh water, relatively few families have easy access to clean water. The situation is exacerbated by the increasingly irregular rainfall patterns.

From September 2017 to January 2018, Discover ran an appeal for £8000 for the construction of two 10,000 litre water tanks in Nyirivu village, near to Arua, and 50 individual household water tanks in villages of members of the Kasese Network. Thanks to many friends and supporters, we achieved our aim!

The water tanks in Nyirivu have been constructed by the USA based Uganda Water Project. The villagers are delighted. Christopher Nyakuni coordinates the village organisation dealing with care and maintenance of the tanks, and the usage of the water. Christopher has also established a village savings scheme. He reports that the scheme, together with the improvements that the water tanks provide, are contributing to a reduction in domestic violence and to a reduction in the animosity between the two clans, the Nyirivu and the Erivu.

The tanks for the Kasese villages are due to be installed in April 2018 by the UK based organisation DRIP.

## Self-help groups in Kenya

In 2016 Discover was awarded a grant of 8200 Euro by the "Stiftung Entwicklung Zusammenarbeit" in Baden Württemberg, Germany, to enable the Fweny Natural Medicine Network in South Nyanza to train four more self-help groups, and to provide further training for the coordinating group of about 15 people.



A very happy community in Nyirivu. They are also proud of their new water filters.



Members of the Central Kachuonyo self-help group, a member of the Fweny Natural Medicine Network, proudly display their liquid soap, dried artemisia and dried chilies.

In January / February 2017 I visited Fweny and many of the 12 self-help groups in their network. I was very encouraged by what I saw. The Fweny team, led by Tamima Omondi and an executive committee of 6, have done an excellent job in training these groups in natural healthcare. The groups I visited very proudly showed me their gardens and income generating projects. Their work makes a significant contribution to improving levels of nutrition, health and general welfare in this poverty-stricken area.

## Visit to Zimbabwe

In December I combined a personal visit to my son in Zimbabwe with visits to projects with which I have worked in the past. I was impressed that Dr Joachem Nyamande, Director of the Diocese of Mutare Community Care Programme (DOMCCP), had been awarded a trophy as the best NGO Director of the year 2017. DOMCCP works with people who are living with HIV and aims to enable them to develop skills and a means of generating income. Their target is to enable the region to become AIDS free.

## Final comment

In a new book entitled “The new migration: whoever wishes to protect Europe must save Africa”, the Ethiopian author, Asfa-Wossen Asserate, comments “Development is only really useful when it stimulates the people to work on their own initiative”.

I believe that Discover can be proud to work with very competent and committed partners in Uganda and Kenya, who certainly have lots of initiative and who work tirelessly to meet the most urgent needs of their communities in the ways that they, not we, judge best.

I thank all our friends who give us encouragement and financial support. Thanks too to our local team here in Winnenden who help to make Discover, our work and objectives, well-known locally. I sincerely hope you too have confidence in what we do, and that we can look forward to your ongoing support in the future.

Keith Lindsey

Chairman of Discover

April 2018



Members of a DOMCCP group keep bees as an income generating project which also protects the environment. They planted flowering trees in pouring rain, and then presented their honey and honey wine