

Discover Newsletter

March 2020

Fishpond Project



Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generosity, Discover has been able to support the three projects of the Kasese Network over many years. The Network has held many training activities and, two years ago, were able to build 46 rainwater collection tanks. On my visits I have been delighted to see the results, big improvements in the health and nutrition of the villagers, flourishing kitchen and school gardens and smiles on the faces of many people.

But challenges remain. One major new challenge has been presented by the Chinese, who have been granted fishing rights by the Ugandan government in the big Ugandan lakes. This has caused major problems for the villagers in this district, who for generations have relied for their protein intake on fish. Today they are not allowed to catch fish, and the fish on the market is very expensive.

Thomas Kenja, the leader of the IPOA widows and orphans' group, appealed for help. We are grateful to Land Baden-Württemberg, who donated 11.344 Euro. To that sum Discover must add 2238 Euro, which is 15% of the total amount.

Thomas and his team from the village, with the technical support of the local Fisheries Officer, have made a cracking start. They have constructed the first 17 tanks, and each has been stocked with about 500 fingerlings (tilapia). The tiny fish are thriving and after three weeks were the size of three fingers. The first fish should be ready for eating after 3 months.



Enthusiastic participants in a training day prior to the construction of the second wave of 47 fish tanks

The 47 families to receive the next batch of tanks took part in a training day, which profited from the experience already gained in the construction of the first 17. Of these 47, 31 have already been built. Each has a filtration unit of sand and gravel and a simple hand-pump to circulate the water. The support of the local Fisheries Officer and his department contributes a lot to the success of this project.

Thomas and the entire community are working very hard, but they are already seeing the results and, according to Thomas, "they are overjoyed"!

Tree planting initiative

Further to our January newsletter, this year we aim to support the growing of 25,000 trees in Africa, that is by three projects, two in Uganda and one in Zimbabwe. On the 21st March, the International Day of Forests, 14 partners and friends of Discover in six African countries will plant trees, mostly in the grounds of schools, with the aim of raising awareness in their communities of the importance of trees – to the climate and micro-climate under the trees, soil fertility, shade, fruit, timber and the preservation of indigenous species.

Please invite your families and friends to support us in this action by making a small compensation for their carbon footprint.

With my best wishes,

Keith Lindsey

