

Annual Report 2021

and up to March 2022



We are coming to the end of an era! At the end of March 2022, after nearly eight years, we have brought the work of Discover in its present form to an end. Our work will continue for four more years in supporting four tree growing projects, and for 6 months more in supporting the Green4Life Eco-Farm in Zimbabwe.

The last year has been particularly challenging for our partners:

- The Climate Crisis, the effects of which have included extended periods of drought, storms and floods
- The impact of the COVID pandemic: the restrictions led to poverty, hunger and even domestic violence. In Uganda, schools were closed for two years, contributing to a big rise in teenage pregnancies.
- An increase of the bribery and corruption of the police and courts
- Lack of finance, especially for transport to enable our partners to keep in touch with their communities.
- Our partners are themselves growing older and have their own health problems which demand treatment, which is especially difficult because they have no health insurance.

However, we are pleased to report two major developments:

- During 2021 and up to the end of March 2022 we have helped our partners to take significant steps towards becoming self-reliant. This means that they can continue the valuable work they do in their communities without further support from Discover.

As a result of their work, which Discover has supported, many partners have become leading and influential people in their communities, while still remaining totally committed and modest about their achievements.

- Starting in 2021, thanks to the support and encouragement of Winnenden town council, we started a five-year programme of supporting three partners in Uganda and one in Zimbabwe to grow trees in their communities.



Members of the Kasese Network visited Makabuli Yusuf at Salem Uganda to learn more about tree growing. Exchange visits provide the opportunity for an exchange of ideas and experience and help to strengthen the network of active, committed people.

Examples of some activities and moves towards self-reliance

1. Rehema Namyalo, Uganda. After years of support during which she has led seminars in many rural villages and personally gone through some very hard times, Rehema has now almost completed building a new home, training centre and herbal clinic and has a very impressive demonstration garden. Rehema and her Vumbula Masaka training team have established a good reputation for week-long training seminars in organic gardening,



Nursery beds in Rehema's green house in the demonstration garden.

natural healthcare and income generating projects. They are now being called upon to run training seminars for other NGOs. Their brochure can be downloaded [here](#).

Rehema featured in the film "The Fever" produced by Katharina Weingartner of Podoks in Austria. The film has been acclaimed for its clear presentation

of the benefits of *Artemisia annua* for preventing and treating malaria, and of the unhelpful roles played by the World Health Organisation and international organisations.



Training in animal feed production for farmers at the Farmer Field School in Kaliro.



The foundation for the water tank outside Rehema's new training centre



Rehema, centre, teaching a seminar group the basics of compost production

2. Eric Kihuluka of the Mikwano project in Kaliro, Uganda: with support from Discover, Eric established a Farmer Field School for training farmers in Kaliro District in climate smart farming and nutrition, animal feed production and animal husbandry. The school has three employees and maintains itself financially, primarily through raising and selling pigs.



Preparing the nursery bed at Kasokwe Primary School in Kaliro District

Eric and his team have worked with 200 schools in Kaliro District and supported them to establish school vegetable gardens and to provide school lunches. Many schools have initiated programmes of music, dance and drama to enable children to think critically about cultural traditions, especially those traditions that are chauvinistic or limit the ability to overcome poverty.

The Mikwano Project has developed a herbal medicine for the treatment of the symptoms of COVID which is going through the final stages of registration.

Eric has received

visits from several Discover partners, financed by Discover, who have learnt from Eric's projects and as a result implemented new ideas in their own communities.

3. Christopher Nyakuni of JAFORD in Nyirivu, Uganda: following his visit to Eric, Christopher added a chicken house to his farm where he was already growing vegetables, sesame and pine trees. He also was able to get the community together to improve the road and water supply to the village. Here the need for conflict resolution is still very great.
4. The Kasese Network: the three projects of Bumbura Maliba, BioGardens and IPOA Women and Orphan's Group visited Mikwano in Kaliro and Makabuli Yusuf at Salem Uganda near Mbale. They had lively exchanges about work with schools, growing trees



The Nyirivu community came together for the new water supply. Men dug the trench and women provided lunch

and animal keeping. They are providing additional training for the 6 Discover clubs in local primary schools. IPOA received funding for another solar pump to further support the fish farming project.

5. Gideon Obaikol in Soroti Uganda: Discover financed the construction of a particularly large solar drier, which is used to dry cassava, fruits and herbs. The income generated helps Gideon to continue his support to community groups in the Teso region.



Robert Bwambale, leader of Bumbura Maliba (right), in conversation with members of a primary school Discover club

6. Makabuli Yusuf of Salem Uganda: Makabuli received support for the community indigenous seed collection project, which helps the reforestation activities on the Elgon Mountains.



Seeds are collected by women and children in communities on and around Mount Elgon being delivered to Makabuli Yusuf for sorting and supplying to community tree nurseries

7. Joseph and Milly Grace Ogwal of Discover Northern Uganda: they were given support for their bee keeping /honey producing project in Lira

8. Daniel Twesige of the Scope Foundation in Jinja: Daniel made a training visit to Judith Bakirya of Basaino Fruits and Herbs and received support for the production of natural nutritional supplements. Their sale helps Daniel to support his work with the families of prisoners and the supplements boost the health of the families.

9. The Green4Life project of Discover Zimbabwe: this is led by Joachem Dr Nyamande in Manicaland,

Zimbabwe. We were granted support from Rems-Murr Kreis for a community “Eco Farm” in Marandona West which includes tree planting, natural regeneration, fruit and vegetable growing, bio-gas units and honey production.

The Makono Tonic, a treatment for COVID based on Artemisia annua, the resurrection plants and other herbs, is going through the final checks in national institutions before being made available nationally, when it will hopefully bring great relief to many patients and be a source of income for the project.

10. Tamina Omondi of Fweny in South Nyanza, Kenya: support was given for the 12 most active self-help groups that they help.

11. Nelson Moyo of Discover Chongoni in Malawi: support given for the community tree nursery.

In the eight years since Discover was founded, many communities have forged ahead in many respects:

- Communities have become more cohesive and men and women are beginning to work together much more. The contributions of women are better recognised and valued than previously. This is very significant; often the women are expected to do all the work with home and family while the men abandon their families’.
- Discover groups work in partnership with many local authority departments, such as health, education agriculture, fisheries, forestry. Discover partners are valued for their contributions to the community in both taking the initiative to bring people together in times of crisis and for their practical activities.



The large solar drier of Gideon Obaikol under construction

- Several partners are valued for their skills in resolving conflicts in the community.
- Through countless training activities, communities in many parts of Uganda have developed skills in organic gardening, natural healthcare and small income generating projects.

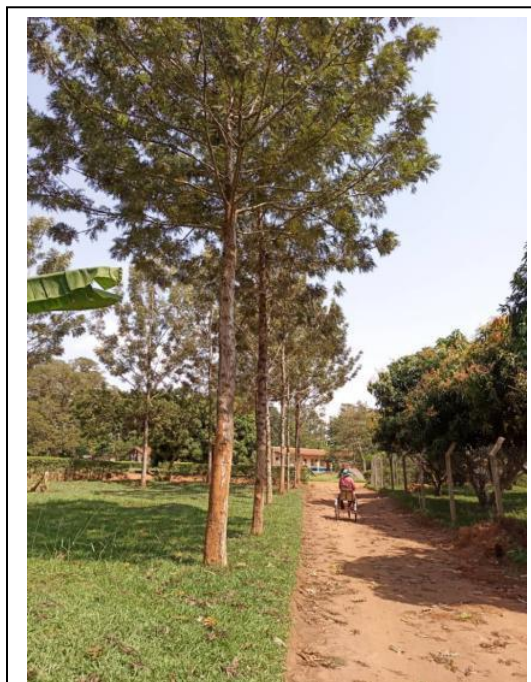
Tree growing

We are grateful to the Winnenden Town Council who, in July 2021, agreed to support our “tree growing” programme with 15,500 Euro per year for five years.

In 2021, the following four major initiatives planted a grand total of 44,000 seedlings. An absolutely splendid achievement.

Christopher Nyakuni in Arivu held planning meetings with church leaders and schoolteachers and won their commitment to an extensive programme of planting seedlings in the grounds of 20 churches and 7 schools. The aim is to green Arivu! The trees will provide shade and fruits. The indigenous trees planted include shea butter and mahogany, trees that urgently need protecting and replacing after extensive cutting for firewood.

Eric Kihuluka in Kaliro planted the indigenous tree musizi and jackfruit and avocado seedlings on small farms and school, church and health centre compounds. The fruit trees will help with nutrition and, after a few years, provide a source of income.



Kaliro District is being transformed by the planting of trees



Teachers and pupils are fully involved in planting trees in Zimbabwe

The Kasese

Network supplied seedlings to farmers in their communities. Indigenous trees planted included threatened species such as *Prunus Africana* and *Warburgia ugandensis*, but they found that they need a lot of care to ensure that they survive. *Grevillea* trees were planted for timber as a source of income for the future.

The farmers in the communities of both the Kasese Network and Kaliro practice agroforestry.

The Green4Life project in Zimbabwe planted a wide range of indigenous trees and fruit trees together with the teachers and pupils of several schools. They aim to create a green belt for the city of Mutare. The project has fenced an area of land for the purpose of natural regeneration.

Given that the survival rate was about 75%, this year our partners will concentrate more on quality, on the care of the planted seedlings and on the training of the farmers and volunteers who plant and care for the seedlings.

Final note

We thank all our friends and supporters for your support.

Without you, our successful work would not be possible.

We look forward to enjoying continued success over the next four years.