

Discover Newsletter – December 2022



Dear Friends,

Zimbabwe and Malawi

First of all, many thanks indeed to those many people who have made donations to support our work since my last newsletter. Without such support, the valuable work of our partners would have to stop.



installed and 10 biogas units have been constructed.

The picture shows Locardia Makosana, who is absolutely delighted with her new cooker. It is clean, there is no smoke to affect her eyes or lungs, she does not have to spend hours searching for and carrying firewood and the cooker can be easily controlled.

The second picture shows biogas from a unit being compressed into a cylinder. Each biogas unit produces enough biogas to serve 4 households. That means, with the necessary additional cylinders and compressors, the ten biogas units that are in use could serve 40 households.



In the town of Mutare we visited two primary schools where the

project has been very active. The children in both have planted many trees: they have already established an orchard of fruit trees, have fenced an area for natural regeneration and set up

beehives. The picture shows Martha with two pupils of Fern Valley Primary School planting a “lucky bean Tree.”

In November I visited the Green4Life project in Zimbabwe, which is led by Joachem Nyamande and Martha Nyaganga. At the EcoFarm many indigenous trees have been planted and an area has been fenced to protect existing trees and allow natural regeneration from buried roots. In addition, 65 beehives have been





I then flew to Malawi to visit my old friend Nelson Moyo, with whom I, and Joachem, had run seminars in Zimbabwe in 2008 and 2010. Nelson lives and works under the Chongoni Mountain with its very beautiful forest reserve.

I was absolutely astonished at the number of individuals and groups

with whom he works, and the incredible number of tree seedlings in his own nursery (see the first picture) and in the nurseries of many of his groups. The second picture shows the Gwengwere Chongoni Heritage Group when we met on a small hill-top overlooked by the Chongoni Mountain. The main activity of this group was also to plant and protect trees.



I wished I could have stayed much longer there. So many people have been made aware of the need to plant and protect, and are so enthusiastic to do so, but they are all suffering poverty. If only they could learn from colleagues in Uganda, who, with agroforestry and animal husbandry, now benefit nutritionally and financially from the work they have invested over the past years.



Finally, many thanks again for the financial support that enabled Makabuli Yusuf in Uganda to buy a motorbike. This has facilitated his programme of collecting seeds of indigenous and fruit trees from communities in the Elgon Mountains. These will produce seedlings in community nurseries and be then planted on the slopes of the mountains to prevent flooding and landslides. The picture shows youths carrying seeds they have collected from jackfruit trees.

We wish you a blessed Christmas and a very happy and peaceful New Year. At a time when the cost of living is soaring, in case you are able to further support our partners, I have put a few suggestions about their needs on the next page.

Best wishes, Keith Lindsey

Support being sought for Green4Life in Zimbabwe and Nelson in Malawi

Zimbabwe

For the development of the biogas project:

- 4 Compressors are required at £300

- 4 gas cylinders at £18

For the training facility:

- 50 chairs at £9 each and 10 tables at £27 each

Fencing materials for the final 200m to protect the garden and tree plantation: £210

Bee keeping:

- 10 bee trapping units at £10 each.

- 2 beekeeper's suits at £30 each

- Honey extractor at £90

- Honey packaging materials (buckets, brushes, jars £100

- e) Honey labelling £70

- f) Transport £50

Malawi

Construction of 2 beehives at £25 each

Branding materials for tree seedlings in Nelson's tree nursery at £36

Finance for a group to make a study visit to a successful agroforestry centre, £270

Completion of the herb drying room, fuel-efficient stove, shelves and paint, £250.