



### Since we embarked on this project:

- There has been an increased community and public trust in our honest and transparent approach. We've had a good response from the youth in the community to make a voluntary contribution towards the production of local building materials such as bricks and stones.
- The local authority now plan to pipe water to this district which we hope will encourage other utility companies.
- In an effort to protect the environment, significant local contribution has resulted in the planting of over 2,000 pine trees in the area of Kikangahara and more will be planted.
- Programmes to sensitize youth about HIV/ AIDS awareness are being drawn up to address the issue of safe sex and HIV / AIDS prevention.



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Christian vision Uganda

Helping to provide  
*skills* to the  
orphan's in  
Kibaale Uganda



Through our local church we have been supporting the work of Christian Vision Uganda at the Kijabwemi Orphanage. In January we visited Uganda to look at a new Project that they are undertaking in the remote Kibaale district in the northwest, 140 miles from the Kampala, which like many areas in Africa was badly hit by Aids/HIV.

The district has a population of school leavers as well as large numbers of orphans who hardly move beyond primary education, which leaves a high percentage of youngsters left to roam the villages often with very little to do and no hope for the future. Consequently, the district continues to suffer from lack both of sufficiently skilled manpower and of employment opportunities. Many orphans have not attended school, while the few who tried dropped out for lack of financial support. Unemployment continues to rise because vocational training is often not recognised as a government priority. It is for this reason that Christian Vision Uganda are proposing to build a Vocational Skills Training Centre which should offer opportunities for young people to acquire basic practical skills in various trades. Being a very green and fertile land fruit is plentiful but, with the high number of widows, and 85% of the labour force in agriculture being women who also constitute the greatest

mass of illiterate people, this is affecting the methods of farming and the yield which ultimately determines the market. The Centre will also be able to offer support to these women to acquire business acumen needed to prosper.



The local church already has a primary and secondary school and have donated a piece of land to Christian Vision to build the Vocational Skills Training Centre. We would like to do all we can to help them get this project off the ground. The estimated cost is £60,000 so we have set up a Committee to help us raise as much, if not all, of this amount.

We aim at developing a unique practice of equipping the orphans at school and the youth in skills training, with farming skills while helping them to cultivate their own food and raise their pocket money. We intend to



allocate plots of land to the students and let them cultivate crops such as beans, maize, vegetables, cassava, and fruits either as individuals or in groups. We will provide them with seeds for planting. It is hoped that when the crops are ready, the school will purchase the produce which will in turn be used to feed them thus minimizing the feeding costs.

Once the skills training centre has been established, those in training will provide services of different trades such as motor-mechanics, electrical installation, brick laying and tailoring within the local area. In addition we intend to create a market for the finished products made by those in training.

All proceeds from the sale of services, farm products and hiring charges will contribute to 40% of the costs needed to keep the centre

running. Regular appeals to those willing to make donations and grants will be carried out in order to meet 60% of the running costs.

The vocational centre will provide a venue for those groups and organizations who will need to hire space to run various causes, conferences and seminars.

All of us; central and local authorities, the local community, voluntary agencies, have a role to play in creating a society to which everyone can contribute and from which all can benefit. Our involvement in the UK beyond the raising of funds is entirely up to the individual, for the time being we will be concentrating our efforts in getting this Centre built and making sure of its sustainability for the future. We are not handing a "gift on a plate" we are encouraging people to gain pride and dignity by working towards achieving a lifestyle that we are all entitled to. The centre will encourage people who have left the area seeking employment to return to work in Kibaale, possibly as teachers, lecturers or local business. Opportunities that were not available to the older generation especially the women can be encouraged by evening classes.

