

Kaloko News



HELPING RURAL ZAMBIAN COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES

Summer 2008

THE growth CYCLE

The Ubiquitous Bike: it is a phrase that applies to Asia where 85% of produce is said to be carried at some point on a bicycle. In Africa, however, it is a different tale.

Few in rural Zambia can afford this simple means of transport. Moving goods to market is always a problem for small-scale farmers and producers. Here, many children walk for up to three hours a day to get to school and back. And there are the ill and the elderly who cannot get medical help because they cannot reach the nearest clinic on foot. A bicycle would make such a difference to so many.



Eunice Malekana carries a barrel of 50 scones to market three times a week. Supporting six children and four orphans, this is vital income.

And you can help. 400 second-hand bicycles, collected and repaired by the UK charity Re-Cycle, have been offered to The Kaloko Trust. Now we need your help to raise the initial £6000 to pay for their transport from Britain to Zambia.

Once in Zambia, the bicycles will be sold locally at very reasonable prices. The revenue generated will be used both to fund future shipments of cycles and to establish at least two local bicycle repair shops, offering small-business opportunities to people in the area. This is one effective way of developing self-supporting and sustainable communities. Please help.

If you are able to donate, please make cheques payable to **The Kaloko Trust**. Please send donations, or requests for more information, to the KTUK office or you can donate through our secure web page at www.kalokotrust.org, using the 'Donate Now' button.

Carpentry without crutches

With the focus on Kaloko projects becoming independently viable and operating without subsidy, UK volunteer Nick Frost has been working with the Luansobe Carpenters' Cooperative (LCC) since April this year to improve operations and accounting methods.

Consistent product quality has been one goal and Nick has successfully developed tools to speed up production. Training carpenters on how to quote for jobs and estimate labour, timber and operation costs, he has also worked with Kaloko Trust Zambia on standard charge-out formulae for use of larger machinery which it now leases to the cooperative. Local demand for LCC's skills are growing, especially with a rising need for wooden hives for the beekeeping cooperative as well as a contract from Luansobe Upper Basic School to repair school furniture.



Alex Nwenda, 69, works on wooden swarm boxes for the beekeeping cooperative.

Bees to the Honey Pot

Beekeeping is an increasingly popular means of generating income, with membership of the Luansobe Beekeeping Cooperative Society (LBCS), supported by Innocent Foundation, now reaching 141.

A further 24 beekeepers graduated recently after completing training in June and, with another group which trained in late 2007, have received start-up sets which include a wooden hive and swarm box.



Martin Jere, Natural Resources Management Project Officer, pointing to bee entrance holes in mud-hives. Once dry, the hives need wooden tops fitting.

New beekeepers are given follow-up support from a Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) technician and an experienced beekeeper who make quarterly visits. LBCS committee members also visit bee farmers in different areas each week to monitor progress and production, and to plan honey sales. Meanwhile, KTZ has trained another four cooperative members and six contact farmers in extension work, and further courses are planned for later in the year.

With work on the new LBCS offices nearing completion, the focus is now on market development. The cooperative is also investigating more efficient ways of moving honey produced in remote locations, and is looking to buy its own honey press. The supply of wooden hives has improved dramatically, with carpenters producing ten quality hives a week.

Producers are presently selling their honey, and LBCS hopes to buy 2000kg by the end of the year.

BBC at Kaloko

The Kaloko Trust Zambia recently welcomed British beekeeper Roy Dyché who visited Zambia to record material for a BBC World Service radio programme on beekeeping in Africa.

Involved in Bees for Development and Bees Abroad, Roy is particularly interested in hive technology which encourages women's involvement in beekeeping. While at Kaloko, he spent time with local beekeepers Thadeus, a larger-scale keeper who owns 30 hives, and Priscilla Senga (pictured below).

The Luansobe project, funded by the Innocent Foundation and individuals, already attracts significant female participation, with 50% of contact farmers and two of the executive committee being women. Priscilla is one of Luansobe's success stories. Trained by Kaloko in 1998, the mother of five is a contact farmer owning four hives and two swarm boxes. Like many beekeepers, she sees success in diversity on her 10-hectare farm where she keeps a cow and chickens, and grows maize and several vegetable crops.



Priscilla and her children inspect a swarm box.

Bright Future

SOMETHING IN RETURN

A former sponsored pupil at Luansobe Upper Basic School, Lewis Longwani now works as a volunteer teacher at Kandulwe Community School. Taking a class of 27 children, Lewis, 24, would like to qualify at teacher training college.



Two hard-working students, Mulenga Kalulu and Golden Musonda, both of whom were sponsored by Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) until they completed their education at Mpongwe High School, are now looking to a bright and fulfilling future. This year, Mulenga embarked on a university degree in Education, while Golden was accepted to study Medicine at the University of Zambia having achieved nine points in Grade 12 last year, the highest results in the country.

Meanwhile, McMillan Chissano, a sponsored LUBS pupil who moved on to Chiwala High School with a KTZ scholarship, has completed his City & Guilds Certificate in motor vehicle systems thanks to financial assistance from UK sponsor Sylvia Jones. Expressing his gratitude, particularly to his sponsor, McMillan, 23, says, 'Only through Kaloko Trust have I been able to reach where I am today.'

Introducing Medan...

Medan Kolala bears the weighty responsibility of managing the sponsorship, scholarship and gift programmes for The Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ). The scheme helps over 1200 children through class sponsorship at Luansobe Upper Basic School, Kandulwe Community School and the Luansobe Crèche. It also provides direct contributions towards fees for 40 children in Grades 8 and 9 and scholarships to 36 Grade 10 to 12 pupils attending Copperbelt secondary schools.

A Lamba-speaker from the Copperbelt, Medan completed Grade 12 before starting with KTZ in 1996 as a supplementary teacher, and later as a storekeeper. Now the sponsorship officer, she sees

the Trust's support for education as crucial to development at a local and national level. Married with two young children at LUBS and the Crèche, Medan is also busy farming the family's one-hectare maize small-holding where they keep pigs and chickens.



*Versatility is an essential skill at Kaloko where four UK volunteers have worked in a range of practical fields this year. Left to right: **Rebecca Zausmer** taught English to LUBS pupils for a term as well as investigating the use of dams and small-scale irrigation schemes, while **Nick Frost** focused on improving production at the Luansobe Carpenters Cooperative. LUBS staff received basic IT skills training, thanks to **Emma Iavarone** who worked on food security, helped Crèche staff plan and measure pupil progress and, with Rebecca, ran a teachers' workshop. **Rob Hopper** worked mainly on health and food security development as well as making a video of beekeeping training.*

GOING SOLAR

Solar panels have now been fitted at Luansobe Upper Basic School, with electrician Shadrack Phiri busy installing wiring and conduit provided by the school. The two-panel system will provide power to eight classrooms and three teachers' offices for two hours at night, allowing children living in the hostel to do their homework and teachers to prepare lessons.

***Kaloko's Rural Health Clinic (RHC)** is now able to store patients' records, reports and immunisation data, thanks to the gift of a second-hand computer from Mrs Juliet Bullock and Mr Alan Hopper of the UK. On his visit to Kaloko in June, Kaloko Trust UK Director Renato Gordon presented the computer to Nurse-in-Charge Chisah Mulenga, with colleagues Osman Mutabishi and Rosemary Kawina. Alan Hopper's son, Rob, also attended the handover.*



Linking Luansobe

Local infrastructure developments are set to give a boost to residents of Luansobe and the surrounding areas. Work is scheduled to start on tarring the Mpongwe road, which runs 6km south of Kaloko, creating better access to the area and, residents hope, leading to improved and cheaper transport services. Director of KTZ, Lewis Jere, said, 'We are delighted. Farmers and other producers will find it much easier to get their goods to market. This helps in the community's drive towards self-sufficiency.'

Meanwhile, plans to extend electricity power lines to the Kaloko site are moving ahead. Surveys have already been carried out, and the construction of pylons from the main Ndola-to-Kabwe road has been put out to tender.

AND IN OUR BRIGHTON OFFICE...

Mark Whitaker is the most recent addition to the Kaloko Trust UK (KTUK) team, taking up the challenging post of UK administrator in February this year.



Moving to Brighton last year, Mark saw KTUK as an exciting opportunity. 'I wanted to use my administrative and charity experience for a worthwhile grassroots cause, where I could see the impact of my efforts,' he said. Impressed by the committed core of Kaloko supporters, Mark went on to say that he particularly enjoys learning about development issues in Africa, and is excited by the prospect of seeing at first-hand Kaloko's work in Zambia later this year.

Mark has long experience in administration and information support. As a graduate, he worked in

education administration and finance before joining the Soil Association as administrator and events co-ordinator and, later, managing the Food and Farming information division. He has also worked on a range of other projects, including conservation with the Wildlife Trust, and is a trustee of Green & Away, Europe's only tented environmental conference centre. Outside work, his allotment, cycling and badminton are his great joys.

CLASS SPONSORSHIP

£15 a month for class sponsorship at LUBS or Kandulwe CS, £10 a month for a class at the Crèche

Regular donation rates for existing sponsors are unchanged



What can we do with a tenner?

In Zambia...

£10 buys a full set of school books for a Grade 8 pupil.

£20 buys a full school uniform and shoes.

£30 gives a child permanent access to clean water.

£50 buys enough seed and fertiliser to grow food for a family of eight for a year.

Through Kaloko you can really make a difference!

e-news

Kaloko News is not only appearing in colour for the first time, but will now be offered to readers in email format. If, like us, you believe in saving on paper, postage and labour, please email Mark Whitaker on mark@kalokotrust.org to sign up.

The Kaloko Trust is a small charity with little surplus for advertising. Our Christmas cards are one way that you can really help. A Kaloko card to friends and family will spread the news of who we are and what we do, and every penny you spend will help to provide income for the Trust.



Make it a Kaloko Christmas

The cards, at £2.50 for a pack of 10 (postage included), are available from our UK office now. Cheques should be made payable to **The Kaloko Trust** and sent to the address below with a note of the quantity required and your address.

The Kaloko Trust UK works to relieve poverty and raise livelihoods in rural communities in Zambia, southern Africa. Promoting local development of agriculture and self-help projects to generate income, it encourages the sustainable and responsible use of natural resources. The Trust promotes education and healthcare through improved access to schools, clinics and clean water.

Established in 1995 as a registered charity (No. 1047622), The Kaloko Trust UK (KTUK) supports the activities of our partner organisation, Kaloko Trust Zambia (KTZ) by securing funds for KTZ programmes and providing management support and capacity building. It also offers technical assistance, recruits specialist volunteers and publicises KTZ's activities. 88% of funding raised is used for direct project costs, while 12% is used for support and fundraising in Britain.



KALOKO
trust

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