



**RAISING THE VILLAGE**

# **IMPACT REPORT 2013**

**KISORO**





## RAISING THE VILLAGE

Raising The Village is a registered, Canadian, not-for-profit organization that partners with some of the most remote villages in Sub-Saharan Africa to design and implement sustainable projects that provide communities with the support they need to escape the cycle of extreme poverty forever.

### OUR MISSION

**EMPOWER COMMUNITIES SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN FUTURES AND FOSTER SELF-SUFFICIENCY TO ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR FUTURE AID AND FUNDING.**

### OUR IMPACT

To ensure that our projects have long-lasting impact and that we remain accountable and true to our mission, Raising The Village's methodology places great emphasis on Monitoring and Evaluation. Through regular monitoring and evaluation of our work, RTV is able to address challenges quickly and make necessary changes to enhance projects, as well as harness successes and adopt best practices across all relevant initiatives. The Impact Report is an annual publication that presents the results of our monitoring and evaluation work.



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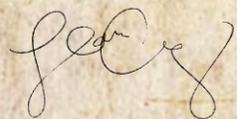
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## FROM SHAWN

This past year could be best described as one of growth, transition and promise. Raising The Village is growing up before our very own eyes, and with it, making the necessary changes to meet the priorities of our partner communities. Our team has grown in number, our processes and procedures have been enhanced, our reach has been extended and in the field, we've laid the groundwork to impact an increasing number of remote rural communities throughout Uganda.

And as our partner communities begin to reach project completion and head out on their own, we are witnessing villages achieve incredible successes. Empowered and full of pride, they are multiplying the impact in their own communities and making giant strides in positive change. But along with the success, we have also seen communities stumble; a truly difficult process for everyone involved. So as we move forward, we will continue to ask questions to better understand and address challenges and strive to improve our programs for the present and future success of the villages we partner with.

I have never met a team that cares more deeply, or is more willing to make personal sacrifices to see our partner communities succeed. With many thanks to the hardest working team I know and their relentless commitment to serving communities in places forgotten, I am proud to present the third edition of Raising The Village's Impact Report.



**Shawn Holden Cheung**  
Founder and Chair of the  
Board of Directors



# \$100 TO CHANGE A LIFE

**1.2 billion - an almost incomprehensible number.**

Yet 1.2 billion people worldwide live in extreme poverty.

And that means 1.2 billion people struggle daily to meet the most basic of human needs.

Imagine - trying to live your life with less than \$1.75 to spend each day. \$1.75 for food, shelter, water, education, healthcare, transportation, clothing - everything.

The consequences are very real; an impossible cycle of malnutrition, disease, illiteracy, indignity. There are no choices. There is no way up.

But at Raising the Village, we invite you into a story that ends with the eradication of extreme poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. Our unique model, which prioritizes partnership, empowerment and building capacity locally focuses on fostering prosperous and sustainable communities through projects that include initiatives such as goat cooperatives, agricultural training and rainwater harvesting systems. A one-time investment of just \$100 is what it costs to fund our innovative work for one person. As unbelievable as it sounds, \$100 is all it costs to change a life forever.

We envision a future where struggling communities not only have access to their most basic human rights, but where their independence and dignity are restored and the need for future funding is eliminated.

Your commitment to join us will shape a future where the place we are born doesn't determine whether we live or die.

Are you ready?



# WHAT WE DO

Our innovative spirit and commitment to doing whatever it takes to help break the cycle of poverty allows us to work effectively where few others will venture.

**1 COMMUNITY SELECTION**  
 The challenges of extreme poverty limit a community's ability to reach out for support. At Raising The Village, we rely on our network of local NGOs, community leaders and local government for referrals to communities that are faced with the most significant challenges and that have a real desire to help themselves. After a thorough assessment, we formalize a partnership with those villages that: have a clear need for support; are ready and eager to partner with us; demonstrate full community participation and commitment; and have strong community leadership.

**2 PLAN AND DESIGN**  
 Every project is customized to respond to the needs and priorities as identified by the village. Discussions and workshops are held to identify the villagers' strengths, assets, challenges and areas of expertise. Everyone in the community is given a voice. We then integrate these findings into a comprehensive project design. Projects are comprised of solutions which address issues from our 5 Impact Areas: Healthcare, Water & Sanitation, Agriculture & Nutrition, Community Development and Education.

**3 IMPLEMENTATION**  
 Once funding is in place, we're ready to break ground. We provide support through: infrastructure construction, capacity-building and training, facilitation of community problem solving, collaboration with the government and procurement of resources such as seeds and tools. Meanwhile, the entire community pulls together its resources and commits to the work; from providing land for the school to actually laying the bricks to build the school itself, everyone plays a role in bringing the project design to life.

**4 COMPLETION, EVALUATION AND NEXT STEPS**  
 Once the project implementation stage has been completed, the 'keys' to the village are symbolically handed back to the community, an important gesture indicating the completion of Raising The Village's direct partnership responsibilities and handing over of the maintenance and growth of the program back to the community. Our team continues to track the community's progress and provide them with coaching and guidance where necessary. The objective is always to achieve community goals and drive the project to sustainability, eliminating the need for future outside intervention.



# HOW WE DO IT

**RAISING THE VILLAGE'S CORE PRINCIPLES ARE WHAT MAKES US SO DIFFERENT AND SO EFFECTIVE.**



**HARD TO REACH**  
 We work off the beaten path in communities that others cannot or do not want to work in due to remoteness or complexity of issues. Simply put, we work with villages that receive no assistance from the government or other organizations.

**ONE-TIME INVESTMENT**  
 Our projects are designed to be funded once and only once. Initiatives are implemented in a way that ensures both financial self-sustainability and the perpetuation of community development and social change.

**LOCALLY DRIVEN**  
 We believe that in order to end extreme poverty, change must come from within. Our work is built upon the fundamentals of empowerment, capacity building, village ownership and local leadership.

**INNOVATIONS**  
 Whether it's our methodology or an issue with marauding mountain gorillas, we're always looking for innovative ways to improve our work and resolve issues on the ground. As such, we have our own team of MacGyvers dedicated to research and solution development.

**TAILORED SOLUTIONS**  
 Every community that we work with is completely unique - there are so many considerations - from clan and family organization to the physical landscape; from cultural traditions to a community's vision for the future. Raising The Village is committed to working in collaboration with each community to identify their specific needs and implement long-lasting solutions that are right for them.

**EVALUATION**  
 In order to remain accountable to ourselves, to our partner communities and to our supporters, we have a rigorous evaluation method that ensures that we are making an impact. In our opinion, it's important to know what went right and what went not-so-right so that we can continue to improve our processes.

**COMPREHENSIVE PROJECTS**  
 We take a comprehensive approach with our work and believe that while providing a single solution - such as ensuring reliable access to clean water - will improve a community's quality of life, we can do so much more. We have identified 5 Impact Areas that are critical to a community's success. By ensuring multiple impact areas are addressed in every village, we develop and deploy a solution that substantially increases a community's ability to pull itself out of extreme poverty.

# WE'RE ALL ABOUT RESULTS

Monitoring and Evaluation is not for the faint of heart. It involves meticulous record-keeping, mind-boggling number crunching and spreadsheets galore. Not to mention the added difficulty of doing all of this with daily power outages, sweltering heat and torrential rain. Despite these challenges however, Raising The Village's methodology places great emphasis on Monitoring and Evaluation, conducting monthly, quarterly and annual evaluations to track progress and measure impact, in accordance with the Results-Based Management approach.

The Monitoring & Evaluation process uses indicators that have been selected to evaluate results in each of our 5 Impact Areas. Indicators are chosen for their ability to qualify and quantify achievement in relation to a specific project's targets and goals, which often vary from village to village.

This year's report presents the indicators and results that best depict the work being done in each village.

## 5 IMPACT AREAS

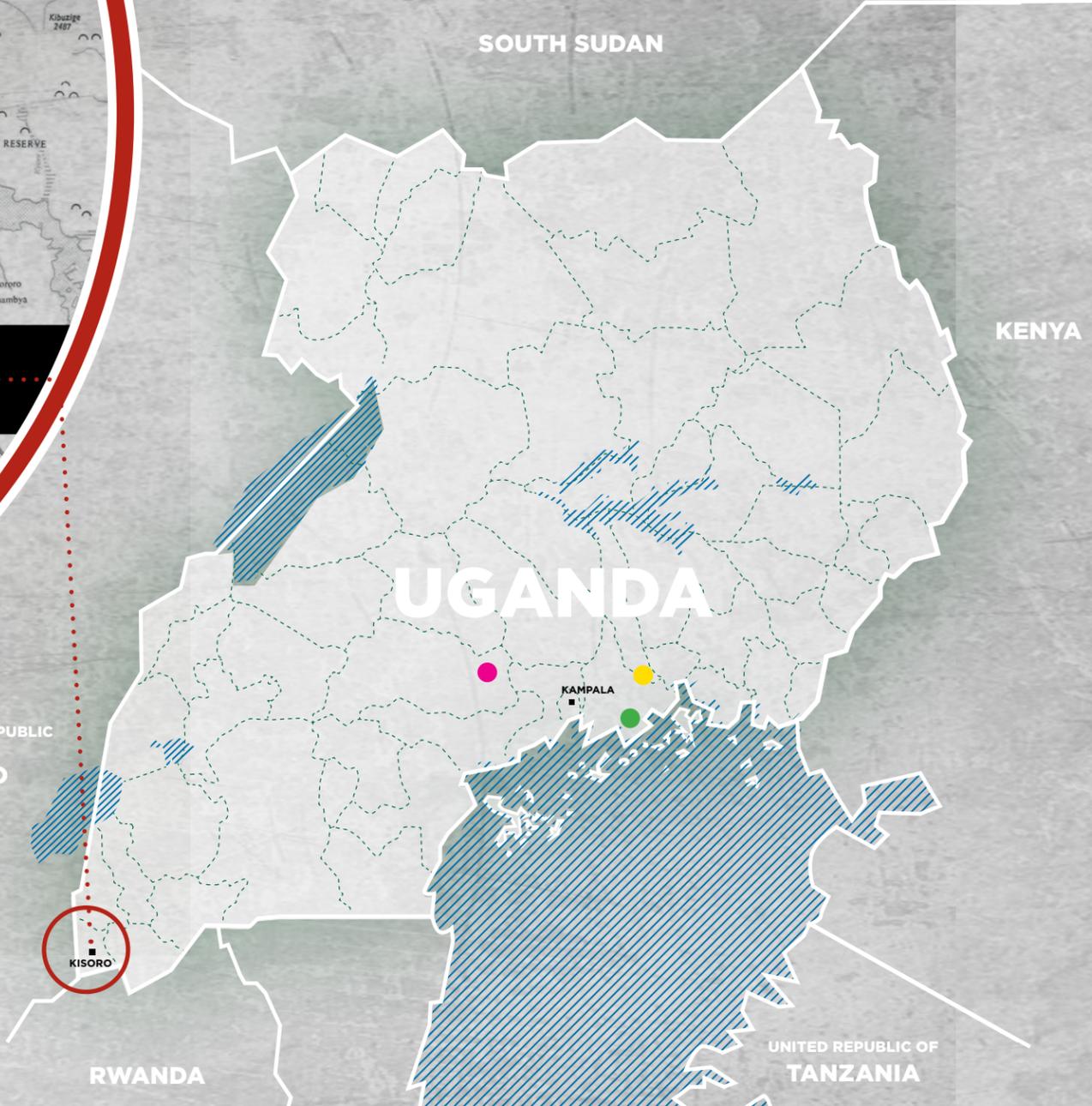
- 1 EDUCATION:** Access to quality education for children and youth
- 2 WATER & SANITATION:** Access to a reliable source of water, sanitation facilities and training
- 3 AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION:** Increase in agricultural outputs and improvement in community nutrition
- 4 HEALTHCARE:** Access to health-care for community members
- 5 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** Social stability, opportunities to raise household income and access to adult education and skills training

GPS  
ELEVATION  
POPULATION

- **MUROLE**  
S01.05308, E029.61603  
1,907 m  
415
- **RUSHABARARA**  
S01.11735, E029.63153  
1,798 m  
791
- **KANYAMAHENE**  
S01.12640, E029.71872  
1,918 m  
350
- **KAGEZI**  
S01.16230, E029.61893  
1,824 m  
581
- **BUCECE**  
S01.19387, E029.66070  
1,794 m  
517
- **BITONGO**  
S01.32311, E029.64933  
2,063 m  
450
- **RUGONGWE**  
S01.15523, E029.71975  
1,983 m  
706



- **NANGA (GRACE)**  
N00.51450, E032.0951  
1,141 m  
681
- **SSANGA**  
N00.43486, E033.05999  
1,276 m  
580
- **KANGA**  
N00.191594, E032.960642  
0 m  
610



# KISORO

## A LAND OF EXTREMES

In 2013, the majority of Raising The Village's partnerships were with remote villages in the district of Kisoro. We invite you to experience the great communities that have inspired us to continue the work that we do.

Kisoro district in Southwestern Uganda is a world of unimaginable contrast. People who visit the region for the first time are often struck with its immense beauty – the steep, verdant, terraced hills rolling across the horizon, deep blue lakes shrouded in morning mist, dense jungle fringing the towns and farmland, and the bright crimson earth turning streams into rivers of red in the rainy season and baking, cracking in the intense summer sun.

Making the journey to visit our partner villages, however, new visitors are affronted with an altogether different impression – crumbling homes, poverty-stricken families, eroding farmlands, clear-cut forests, men, women and children working for hours on end under the blistering sun. The closer you get to our partner villages, the more this abject poverty becomes apparent. The immensity of the problems faced by these communities is a genuine shock.

But Kisoro is a complex place, and first impressions invariably don't show the whole picture. Dig a little deeper; meet with our partner villages; speak with community members; walk around the villages; get a real sense for the place and its people and a third impression

begins to take form. There is an undeniable sense of strength and resolve that is almost palpable, a feeling of optimistic excitement that the communities are on the edge of something great and new. This deep feeling of hope can be felt throughout our partner communities, and it is contagious.

And it is this juxtaposition of sheer determination of the community in the face of extreme poverty that inspires us all – volunteers, donors, staff, and supporters alike – to be a part of Raising The Village's work. Thank you to everyone who has come along on this incredible journey with us.

**Sheona McGraw**  
Executive Director

# BITONGO

INITIATED 2011

Located approximately 15 km from the nearest town, the village of Bitongo, or 'abandoned place' as it is known locally, rests at the foot of Mt. Muhavura in Kisoro district. Prior to its partnership with Raising The Village, Bitongo's agricultural conditions resulted in low yields and collecting enough water for their families meant that village women were required to travel an average of 30 km daily during dry season.

However, paired with the determination and strong leadership of the community, Raising The Village was able to help Bitongo identify a number of priorities to address, including: access to clean water, improvement in crop yields, the empowerment of women and an increase in household income.

A Rainwater Harvesting System was constructed to provide reliable, local water during the dry season, which continues to generate enough income not only to ensure its ongoing maintenance but also to create a savings and loans program. Moreover, a community centre was constructed to provide a facility for events, community meetings and training workshops. Agricultural and goat cooperatives were formed to improve crop yields and increase household income and various training workshops were offered to community members.

## RESULTS

- 2012
- 2013

### AGRICULTURE

#### Value of crop yields from community demonstration plot

► Target: 800,000/season

\$534,050 \$604,000

Climate change has resulted in excess rain and unpredictable growing seasons causing decreased crop yields.

#### Farmers who adopted improved agricultural practices

► Target: 40

20 40

#### Farmers using improved seeds

► Target: 40

20 40

#### Improved seed varieties

► Target: 3

3 Potato, Bean, Cabbage

#### New crop varieties

► Target: 4

4 Carrot, Cabbage, Pumpkin, Onion

### GOATS

Total projected number of participants in goat cooperative: 90

#### Number of goats

28

42

#### Participants with goat in cooperative

► Target: 29

21

31

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### Formal leadership positions

► Baseline: 14

42

#### Number of training workshops offered

► Baseline: 0

5

1

In 2012, RTV successfully conducted all 5 of the planned training workshops. In 2013, the members of Bitongo began conducting their own training workshops.

#### Number of new cooperatives in community

3

4

Agriculture, Goat, Savings, Rainwater Harvesting System

**BITONGO'S RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM REDUCES WATER COLLECTION TIME BY 3,250 HOURS, OR 406 WORK DAYS EACH YEAR. BECAUSE WOMEN DON'T HAVE TO WALK THE EXTRA 27,000 KM, THEY ARE ABLE TO FOCUS ON INCOME GENERATION AND CARING FOR THEIR FAMILIES.**

### WATER

#### Hours required for water collection

► Baseline: 4 hours

► Target: 0.5 hour

0.5

### SAVINGS

#### Amount accumulated by the savings and loans cooperative (UGX)

\$2,370,000 \$2,789,800

#### Number of loans granted

19

13

### 2013 IN REVIEW

Bitongo continues to see success in all of its projects. The Rainwater Harvesting System has greatly increased the community's reliable access to water throughout the dry season and additional latrines were constructed to improve sanitation and hygiene practices. Having initially begun with only 10 households in 2012, the agricultural program has since expanded to benefit 40 households in the village and is expected to grow steadily. Bitongo's goat cooperative has also shown positive growth with a well-established communal committee to oversee its development. All the projects underway in Bitongo remain on a path to sustainability as the village continues to re-invest in its efforts through a savings and loans initiative.

# KANYAMAHENE

INITIATED 2011

The village of Kanyamahene is nestled next to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Perched on steep hillsides, the community's isolation had augmented its struggle with extreme poverty. Located 15 km from the nearest hospital, poor access to healthcare had resulted in some of the highest birth related mortality rates in the country. Due to the combination of water contamination and steep terrain, women were spending 4-6 hours per day collecting water. Climate change and forest elephant raids threatened food security and opportunities for income generation were virtually non-existent.

In addition to infrastructure construction, numerous community-operated cooperatives were introduced to provide solutions for the community's key issues. These self-sustaining cooperatives also provide a way for villagers to generate income which can be reinvested in their households and community. To date, cooperatives have been introduced for: agriculture to improve yields and soil fertility, a bicycle ambulance to facilitate travel to healthcare facilities, beehive fences to protect crops from elephants, a Rainwater Harvesting System to decrease time spent collecting water and goat rearing to improve soil fertility and provide a sustainable source of income. Skills training and regular visits from a health outreach clinic were organized to complement the cooperative programs.

## 2013 IN REVIEW

Our partnership with Kanyamahene had great success in 2013. While the excessive and unpredictable rains negatively impacted crop yields, cooperative members continued with the improved agricultural methods learned from their training. We are confident that this commitment will be instrumental in coping with the effects of climate change in the area. The goat cooperative continued to grow towards the inclusion of all households in the community. Meanwhile the Rainwater Harvesting System, bicycle ambulance, beehive fences and skills training continued to have a positive impact in promoting economic growth and an improved quality of life.

**PREVIOUSLY, AS A COMMUNITY POLICY, ALL 55 VILLAGE MEN WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ACCOMPANY THE PATIENT EVERY TIME A TRIP TO THE HOSPITAL WAS NEEDED IN ORDER TO SHARE THE PHYSICAL BURDEN OF CARRYING THE STRETCHER. EACH TRIP WOULD TAKE UP TO 2 DAYS. THANKS TO THE BICYCLE AMBULANCE AND COOPERATIVE, ONLY 4 MEN ARE NOW REQUIRED TO GO.**

## RESULTS



## GOATS

Total projected number of participants in goat cooperative: **60**

Number of goats



Participants with goat in cooperative

Target: 29



## BEEHIVE FENCE

Number of confirmed deterred elephant raids:



Feedback from villagers have confirmed that the beehive fences have been extremely successful in deterring elephant raids. However, due to the difficult nature of monitoring and missteps in our evaluation planning for this project, the effectiveness of these fences is not reflected in the numbers presented. We are working on ways to improve our monitoring in order to accurately quantify the results of this pilot project.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Formal leadership positions

Baseline: 14



Number of new cooperatives in community

Target: 5



Agriculture, Goat, Bicycle Ambulance, Beehive Fence, Rainwater Harvesting System

Hours of adult training conducted



15 hours financial literacy, with 56 participants; 24 hours WASH with 42 participants

## WATER

Hours required for water collection

Baseline: 2-3 hours

Target: <1 hour



## AGRICULTURE

Value of crop yields from community demonstration plot (UGX)

Baseline: 0



Farmers who adopted improved agricultural practices

Baseline: 0



Farmers using improved seeds

Baseline: 0



Improved seed varieties

Baseline: 0

Target: 4



Cabbage, Bean, Potato, Tomato

## HEALTH

Trips to healthcare facility using bicycle ambulance



Health outreaches

Target: 3



# MUROLE

INITIATED 2013



Perched on steep mountain faces in Kisoro district, the village of Murole is completely isolated from neighbouring villages and trading centres due to the lack of a road. Murole's struggle with extreme poverty is compounded by the difficulties presented by the steep and rugged terrain and its proximity to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

The difficulties faced by Murole were evident in the community's 98% illiteracy rate and the 10 cents/day average household income. Residents were forced to trek 8 km in order to obtain clean water, medical attention and schooling. Consequently, closer but unprotected streams were used, resulting in a high incidence of waterborne illness; residents waited until they were severely ill to seek medical attention; and children did not attend school until they were able to travel there on their own, usually at the age of 10. As subsistence farmers, the villagers' food security was constantly threatened by mountain gorilla raids, climate change and exhausted soils. September 2012 saw the beginning of a partnership between Murole and Raising The Village with the goals of implementing agriculture training, establishing a goat cooperative, improving access to safe water and healthcare, constructing a primary school and protecting crops from mountain gorillas. The scope and intensity of the project poses many challenges but the community members are extremely passionate and committed to seeing it succeed.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Health outreach visits
- Water source protection (2 springs)
- Completion of 2 classrooms
- Mountain gorilla deterrence
- Financial training and loans from savings cooperative



## 2013 IN REVIEW

The first year of Raising The Village's and Murole's partnership was characterized by determination and commitment. The goat cooperative has seen continual growth with the initial 20 goats doubling in number. The agriculture program was met with much excitement with its members appreciating the training that has previously been unavailable due to the village's isolation. A community and individual plots have been prepared, initial crops have been planted by 20 households and the project is now on track to have seeds harvested and passed on to new households in the next phase. The construction of 2 permanent classroom blocks and an office has begun and a latrine has been constructed for the existing community school.

### AGRICULTURE

#### Farmers who adopted improved agricultural practices

Target: 20

20

#### Farmers using improved seeds

Target: 20

20

#### Improved seed varieties

Target: 3

3

Cabbage, Potato, Bean

### GOATS

Total projected number of participants in goat cooperative: 58

#### Number of goats

Target: 35

40

#### Participants with goat in cooperative

Target: 20

20

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### Formal leadership positions

Baseline: 18

32

#### Number of training workshops offered

Baseline: 0

1

#### Number of new cooperatives in community

Baseline: 0

2

Agriculture, Goat

# KAGEZI

INITIATED 2013



Picturesque rolling hills and steep valleys form the backdrop to the village of Kagezi, located in close proximity to North Kivu and the volatile border of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The risk of armed rebels passing through the village poses a constant threat to the community.

Kagezi has faced a number of challenges including unproductive agricultural techniques, a scarcity of livestock for income generation, unclear and unreliable water sources and an illiteracy rate of approximately 80%. Poor soil and seed quality were negatively impacting the subsistence farming that the community relies upon and waterborne disease was a major issue for Kagezi, especially given that the nearest health facility is located 4 km away. The lengthy distance to the nearest school also meant that many of Kagezi's youngest members were unable to attend classes. The village was in need of a nursery school for children aged 3-6.

Determined to set itself on a positive and progressive path, the community worked in partnership with Raising The Village to identify its needs and Kagezi continues to move towards its goals of establishing a goat cooperative, repaired water springs, agriculture cooperative, medical supply aid post, community hall and nursery school for its people.



## 2013 IN REVIEW

A total of 4 community water springs were reconstructed or repaired in Kagezi, to prevent water contamination. Having started with 32 goats, the village's goat cooperative has boosted this number to 52, which indicates a steadfast observance to the goat management training that was received. As the goats reproduce the cooperative will continue to expand and increase household income. Thirty households in Kagezi were trained on improved agricultural practices. Emphasis was put on compost and manure making to improve soil fertility, the use of improved seeds and seedlings, terracing and disease and pest control. Also, despite some minor delays, construction of the school is very near completion and includes classrooms, office space and a community centre.

### BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Initial needs assessment completed and analyzed
- ✓ Project verified and adapted with community
- ✓ Formal collaboration agreements signed with RTV and Community
- ✓ Land clearing/preparations for community agriculture training completed



### AGRICULTURE

#### Farmers who adopted improved agricultural practices

► Baseline: 0



#### Farmers using improved seeds

► Baseline: 0



#### New crop varieties

► Target: 3



#### Improved seed varieties

► Target: 2



### GOATS

Total projected number of participants in goat cooperative: **106**

#### Number of goats



#### Participants with goat in cooperative

► Target: 50



### WATER

#### Number of water sources protected

► Target: 4



Households served:  
10 with water source 1,  
50 with water source 2,  
15 with water source 3,  
30 with water source 4

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### Formal leadership positions

► Baseline: 14

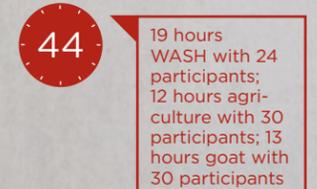


#### Number of training workshops offered

► Baseline: 0



#### Hours of adult training conducted



### HEALTH

#### Health outreach visits

► Target: 6



# RUSHABARARA

INITIATED 2013



Set among lush green hills, the village of Rushabarara is located in the northern part of the Bufumbira region of Kisoro district which is adjacent to the borders of both Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The predominant livelihood in the village is subsistence farming but due to insufficient food production, crop diversity and lack of livestock, the average household income is 10 cents per day and malnutrition is a major issue. The nearest health facility is located 7 km away; due to the difficult terrain, the trip takes a 4-6 hour hike so villagers avoid seeking care until their condition becomes extremely serious. Access to a reliable source of uncontaminated water is also a major issue for this community.

Raising The Village and Rushabarara are looking forward to a collaboration which will secure a brighter future.

## BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

- ✓ Initial needs assessment completed and analyzed
- ✓ Project verified and adapted with community
- ✓ Formal collaboration agreements signed with RTV and Community
- ✓ Land clearing/preparations for community agriculture training completed
- ✓ Community infrastructure completed (2 of 4 completed)

## AGRICULTURE

### Farmers who adopted improved agricultural practices

► Baseline: 0

40

### Farmers using improved seeds

► Baseline: 0

40

### New crop varieties

► Target: 1

1 Cabbage

### Improved seed varieties

► Target: 3

3 Cabbage, Bean, Potato

## GOATS

Total projected number of participants in goat cooperative: 133

### Number of goats

► Target: 40

41

### Participants with goat in cooperative

► Target: 40

40

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Formal leadership positions

► Baseline: 14

24

### Number of training workshops offered

► Target: 4

2

### Number of new cooperatives in community

► Target: 3

2 Agriculture and Goat

### Hours of adult training conducted

► Target: 17

20 6 hours agriculture with 40 participants (all women); 14 hours goat with 40 participants.

## 2013 IN REVIEW

The partnership with Rushabarara began successfully in 2013. Projects implemented thus far include agricultural training and the establishment of a goat cooperative. The community is eager to continue participating in the implementation of the projects and overseeing their success.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Water source protection (2 springs)
- Bicycle ambulance program
- Health outreach visits



# RUGONGWE

INITIATED 2013



The village of Rugongwe is an extremely isolated community located in the district of Kisoro. Surrounded by difficult terrain and without a road, travel to access markets, outside employment, schools, medical centres and even to collect water is very difficult. The predominant livelihood in Rugongwe is subsistence farming. However, steep terrain, poor agricultural methods, climate change, inaccessible markets and the absence of livestock hamper any efforts of community members to move forward. Average household income remains at 20 cents/day. Four water sources are currently used by the villagers of Rugongwe, the nearest one being 2.5 km away. None of these sources are protected which means that water-borne diseases such as typhoid are very prevalent in the community. Poor sanitation and lack of health education also contribute to high rates of disease. Large groups of young children can be seen wandering around the community unsupervised, as there are no schools that are accessible to the community.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Project components will include an agricultural cooperative and training on improved agricultural methods; water source protection and Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) training; a goat cooperative; a bicycle ambulance program, regular visits from a health outreach clinic and the construction of a road.

### BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

- Initial needs assessment completed and analyzed
- Project verified and adapted with community
- Formal collaboration agreements signed with RTV and Community
- Land clearing/preparations for community agriculture training completed

### COMMUNITY ROAD

In 1978, the construction of a road to Rugongwe was approved by the government. It has still yet to be built.

Raising The Village has committed to working alongside the village to ensure that this road, which will be a lifeline for the community, is completed. And just how passionate are villagers about this project? They have already begun digging...by hand.



# BUCECE

INITIATED 2013



Located in Kisoro district, the village of Bucece is surrounded by mountainous landscape that while beautiful, is very isolating to the community. Travel by land to markets, schools and healthcare is arduous due to the steep terrain and absence of roads. And while Bucece is located on the shores of Lake Mutanda which offers a short-cut to the nearest town, this option is extremely dangerous, due to the instability of the traditional canoes used and strong winds. Nonetheless, villagers continue to make the journey by boat in order to sell their produce at the market, to access healthcare and education services, and to generate enough income for their families. This results in numerous drownings every year, usually of women and their children.

The predominant livelihood in Bucece is subsistence farming. However, excessive deforestation, poor agricultural methods, climate change and the absence of livestock are severely threatening the wellbeing of community members. Malnutrition and low household income - which is currently 10 cents/day - continue to keep the village trapped in the cycle of poverty.

### BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION

- Initial needs assessment completed and analyzed
- Project verified and adapted with community
- Formal collaboration agreements signed with RTV and Community
- Land clearing/preparations for community agriculture training completed

## LOOKING AHEAD

In late 2013 we began our partnership with the village of Bucece and have collaborated to design projects to address their most significant challenges. Agricultural tools and training will be provided to improve crop yields; a boat cooperative will be established to ensure villagers can cross the lake without the high risk of drowning; a goat cooperative will be established to provide additional income and manure; a bicycle ambulance and regular health outreach visits will be provided to ensure improved health of the community; and disease rates will be lowered through the protection of water sources and the provision of Water and Hygiene Sanitation (WASH) training.

# GRACE

INITIATED 2007

Grace Daycare and Orphanage in Nanga village was opened in 1996, with the vision of providing care and education for children orphaned by AIDS. But the deteriorating school buildings, great loss in adult population due to the AIDS epidemic and effects of extreme poverty presented a great challenge to keeping the school open.

Raising The Village's partnership with Nanga village began in 2007. Leadership, administration and management training was offered and a sustainable agriculture program was implemented to support the orphanage and school meals program. Additionally, school buildings, latrines and staff quarters were constructed. Grace Daycare and Orphanage is now financially self-sustainable and contributes to the improvement of Nanga village by caring for community orphans and providing some of the best education in the area.



## 2013 IN REVIEW

This past year, a piggery was constructed to house a pig-rearing cooperative for community members. The school continued to be successful with 120 students enrolled and all receiving a tuition subsidy through the school and 8 orphaned children living at the school and receiving a full tuition subsidy. All nine Primary 7 students sat for their graduation exams. Additionally, a Menstrual Hygiene Management pilot was implemented for the girls in the community. What a great year for Grace.

## DIGNITY FOR ALL. PERIOD.

In 2013, Raising The Village implemented a Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) pilot project at Nanga village that offered a sanitary and sustainable option for feminine hygiene. Many women in our partner villages use old clothing and rags to manage their monthly periods. The objectives of this pilot project are to: reduce the incidence of urinary tract infections, dispel myths and stigma associated with menstruation and increase the number of girls remaining in school.

RTV partnered with *Days For Girls*, an organization that produces MHM kits, which include hand sewn pads, underwear, soap, Ziploc bags, and washcloths, as well as sanitation and health training manuals.

Infrastructure was constructed to ensure that the pilot would be culturally appropriate. This included an enclosed pad washing and drying station as well as a tippy tap hand washing station.

Our team then conducted MHM training at Grace Daycare and Orphanage. The training included a lesson on hygiene and reproductive health, as well as the distribution of reusable pads and explanation of how to use them properly.

The most recent update indicates that the pilot participants are using the pads properly and maintaining a clean, hygienic kit. Moreover, they have found that the girls are more comfortable during menstruation, avoiding leakages, and grateful for this new sanitary option. It has been reported that since this pilot began, there have been fewer cases of urinary tract infections, an increased knowledge of hygiene management, and a significant reduction of absenteeism from school. The success of this pilot project will result in distributing these kits to more of our RTV villages and offering the same MHM training.



# KANGA

INITIATED 2009

In 2009, RTV was invited to collaborate with Kanga to construct two classrooms and a latrine and complete school administration and management training. An agriculture program was implemented to generate income to cover administrative costs and grant tuition subsidies.

Although Kanga had tremendous results initially, the village faced many struggles in 2012. Following the unexpected passing of a beloved teacher, the community's traditional healer pronounced the school as cursed. School attendance dropped sharply as community members chose to keep their children at home and reductions in income and community participation posed a great challenge to the community school.



## 2013 IN REVIEW

The struggles faced by Kanga's school in 2012 continued in 2013 and despite the perseverance of community leaders, the level of commitment from community members was not sufficient to keep the school open. Raising The Village has decided that a continued partnership with Kanga is not in the best interest of the community or of the organization. We are exploring the possibility of having the local government re-open and manage the school, providing children with an opportunity to receive an education within their community. And while the situation in Kanga is extremely difficult for us at RTV, we take this as an opportunity to learn from our experience and improve our future projects.

# SSANGA

INITIATED 2011



The village of Ssanga lies in the heart of the Mabira rainforest, over 30 km away from the nearest town. Life had become desperate for the village due to population stress, high levels of unemployment, contaminated water and high rates of alcohol and substance abuse. However, the community remained hopeful that educating its children would offer a better future. In 2011, Raising The Village entered into a partnership with the community to build and establish a school and install a Rainwater Harvesting System.

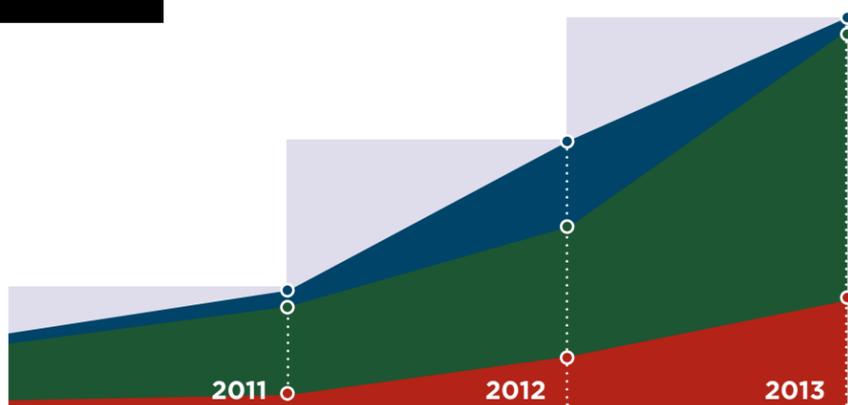
## 2013 IN REVIEW

This past year, Ssanga struggled with school management and administration and as a result, the school was forced to close. Raising The Village has continued to provide guidance to this committed community and will be working with the villagers to re-establish the school in 2014.



# OUR FINANCIALS

We strive to be transparent and accountable to our supporters, making sure your money is spent in the best possible way.



## BY THE NUMBERS\*

### REVENUE

Donations	79,196	141,265	233,595
Grants	0	29,137	21,342
Other	0	8,247	5,101
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 79,196</b>	<b>\$ 178,649</b>	<b>\$ 260,038</b>

### EXPENSES

<b>Program expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 58,680</b>	<b>\$ 86,121</b>	<b>\$ 178,884</b>
<b>Non-program expenditures</b>			
Fundraising	264	7,072	10,439
Administration	9,169	22,164	50,342
Marketing	481	6,244	11,820
<b>Total non-program expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 9,914</b>	<b>\$ 35,480</b>	<b>\$ 72,601</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 68,594</b>	<b>\$ 121,601</b>	<b>\$ 251,485</b>
<b>FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PROGRAMS</b>	<b>\$ 10,602</b>	<b>\$ 57,048</b>	<b>\$ 8,553</b>

RTV continues to grow. In 2013, **revenue increased by 46%** and programs spending more than doubled at 107%. **Programs Ratio was 71%**.

**\$5,659**

### FUNDRAISING

While \$10,439 was spent on fundraising in 2013, nearly half (\$4,780) was directly recouped from event ticket sales. RTV is committed to reducing donor funds spent on fundraising (\$5,659) so it can be spent where it's needed the most - in our villages!

**\$50,342**

### ADMINISTRATION

In 2013, we increased our admin costs by a small but substantial margin. While in previous years, we relied on casual and voluntary staff, this year we made an exciting leap forward and hired several staff members in Canada. It is critical for us to remain accountable and fiscally responsible as we grow, ensuring that your donations are managed professionally and used effectively.

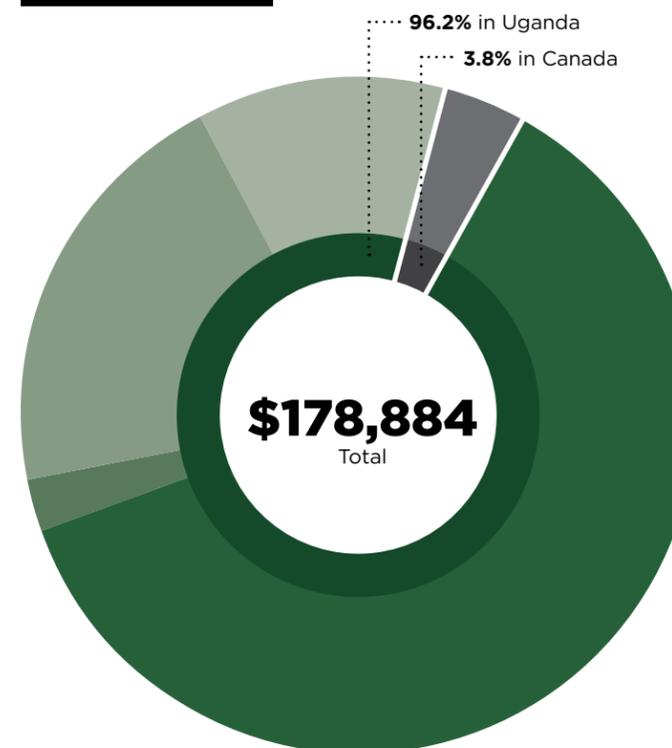
\$29,515 STAFF

\$6,965 OPERATIONS (Insurance, IT, Legal, Accounting, Supplies)

\$8,587 RENT

\$5,275 CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

## PROGRAMS



UGANDA	\$109,883	VILLAGES
	\$4,484	NEW PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS
	\$36,561	MONITORING & EVALUATION
	\$21,139	PROGRAM DESIGN
CANADA	\$6,817	PUBLIC AWARENESS

**\$21,342**

### GRANTS

Our major funder, Segal Family Foundation, continued to support RTV in 2013, and has committed to increasing their funding in 2014.

RTV is excited to welcome Spirit in Action and GlobeMed as funding partners.

Thank you all for your generous support.

# IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

It is only with financial and volunteer support that Raising The Village is able to effectively work with our partner communities. Here are the costs† of just some of the items that go into an entire village project. For more information about our projects, visit [raisingthevillage.org](http://raisingthevillage.org).



**\$50**

Provides one goat as part of a community goat rearing cooperative. As few as 20 goats can quickly increase incomes and provide a source of fertilizer for an entire community.



**\$150**

Provides 2 beehives and 10 metres of fencing as part of a larger beehive fence which uses elephants' natural fear of bees to prevent crops from being trampled.



**\$800**

Funds the construction to properly protect and tap a natural water spring which decreases contamination and provides reliable access to water.



**\$1,500**

Supplies agricultural tools and improved seeds. Along with training in new techniques, this provides villages with a means to permanently improve nutrition and increase household income.



**\$15,000**

Funds the construction of a Rainwater Harvesting system, which uses a roof and 10,000 L tanks to collect a supply of easily accessible water, saving women and children hours each day.



**\$35,000**

Funds an entire infrastructure project for a village of more than 500 people, holistically addressing a community's most pressing needs in education, water, agriculture, healthcare and community development.

†Average costs of materials, construction and direct training expense and does not include staff and office support expenses.



# THANK YOU

## FUNDING PARTNERS

GlobeMed  
 Segal Family Foundation  
 Spirit in Action  
 The Funding Network Toronto  
 Tides Canada Foundation

## MAJOR SPONSORS

Modo Design  
 Reebok  
 Treadmill Factory

## DONORS

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 Matt & Joanna Rivard

**\$5,000-24,999**  
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 Patrick & Joy Cheung  
 Peter Smith  
 Wilson & Delores Look Kin  
 Winston & Dr. Stephanie Ling  
 2 Anonymous donors

## \$1,000-4,999

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 Anita Tong & Dr. Kevin Ho  
 Anna May & Gordon Young  
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 Tracey Cheung-Mori & Taketo Mori  
 Vinh Yang  
 Will Wong & Karen Uy  
 2 Anonymous Donors



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 Alex Kuo  
 Amber Garratt  
 Andre Ng  
 Andrea Dyer  
 Andrea Herrera  
 Andrea Tyler  
 Andrew Fraser  
 Ashley Macey  
 Aurelie Olives  
 Barry Hill  
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 Chris Cronin  
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 Claudia Hung  
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 Debbie Schwab  
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 Harris Switzman  
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 Sepideh Kharazizadeh  
 Sheryl Minnett  
 Susanna Yau  
 Tim Chung  
 Tyler Ashby

# OUR 2013 TEAM

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 Bryony Sinclair  
 Clement Mugisha  
 Daniela Kiszti  
 Esther Ageno  
 Hosanna Aughtry  
 Ilona Biran  
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 Moses Ndawula  
 Naomi Ayot  
 Nicole Cheung  
 Rennie Kaggwa  
 Shawn Holden Cheung  
 Sheona McGraw  
 Solome Kavuma

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 Dr. Rohit Ramchandani



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*Director of Marketing & Communications*

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Clement Mugisha  
*Programme Coordinator*

Esther Ageno  
*Administrative and Financial Officer*

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*Regional Consultant*

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*Project Officer*

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*Project Manager*

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**RAISINGTHEVILLAGE.ORG**

