Gua Africa
Educate a child – Develop a nation

GUA Africa Annual Site Visit Review 2024

Dates Visited: 3rd July - 10th July

Team in Attendance: Imoit Ekuwam, GUA Field Manager | Sue Mulholland, Chair of Board and Education Coordinator | Tania Campbell- Golding, Director | Camilla Robinson, Development Manager

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Introduction to Site Visit Review

‘polepole’ - Gua Africa 2024
(polepole in swahili means *slowly)*

Gua means ‘Walk in your Purpose’ and at Gua Africa we have learned it is best to do this ‘polepole’. We work with those affected by conflicts and persecution as well as their host communities developing provision and support for inclusive holistic learning and enterprise that will - in time - become self-sustaining. Fast track parachute programs may in the short term appear impactful, however, without solidarity, partnerships, consistency and the time invested on solid foundations these are at high risk of failure. Our aim is to move the community from surviving to thriving and equip the young people with the creativity, ambition, skills and independence to lead and contribute in their communities. To walk ‘slowly slowly’ in their purpose for better futures.

Our annual visit to Kakuma Refugee Camp combined reviewing work in progress at the Gatwitch Hub (which is now entering its third year), and visiting connecting projects our Mystart alumni are leading and involved with.
For quality assurance we are committed to annually delivering ‘in person’ training which includes Safeguarding and EDIB (Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging). Further to this we offer specialised training relating to our strategic development plan and this year our core focus included more provision for women leadership and an Early Years & Infants program.

Visiting Unity Primary school for MyStart postcard project

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Core Aims and Objectives

- 360 degree review of all programming, management and logistics in the Hub
- Safeguarding training
- EDIB training
- Early Years & Infants training and implementation
- Deliver and catalogue new Library books, implement systems, timetable and train librarians
- Develop Library access for wider community including parent and children groups
- Review IT skills provision classes for younger learners
- Develop provision for more women in leadership roles to attract a more inclusive uptake within the community.
- Garden development and planning
- Sustainability and Climate Change - review provision and projects with a view to embedding in academic and holistic learning program

Summary of Actions 24/25

- Developing women as leaders and teachers in the Gatwitch Hub
- Developing Early Years & Infants provision and training (online follow up) - fundraising required
- Design and creation of the ‘Gua Garden’ - further fundraising required
- Essential improvements, maintenance, H&S, business model and security to the shop
- Flooring for both classrooms - fund raising required
- Increasing number of women, girls and children attending programming
- Increase rental of rooms for community meetings when not being used for programming
- Library timetable and staffing
- Reading circles as part of Library sessions
- Develop IT provision and lessons
- Security and safeguarding in all areas to fully comply

Targets for next site visit

- Review all actions listed and progress made
- Review all programming, workshops and academic provision
- Ensure shop and cafe are running profitably
- Develop womens textile enterprise because Early Years took the priority this time





Imoit, Gua Africa Field Manager



Rwon, Gatwich Hub Manager

Site Visit: Day by Day

- Develop opportunities for community meetings and events including film screenings - projector and 'white' banner screen required
- Develop Gua Garden projects
- Testimonies - Gatwitch Hub and Mystart and Gua Africa Alumni

Date	Activities	Key notes	Further Action and follow up
3/7/2024	**ARRIVAL DAY** • Arrival in Lodwar • Tour of camp • Meeting DRA and RAS for full access and permissions to operate in the camp	Kakuma is an open camp albeit special permissions are required to operate. Whilst Kakuma is a relatively peaceful camp there is potential for discord and this can escalate quickly. Kakuma is under-resourced and has poor provision for water, sanitation and living conditions are challenging. The climate is harsh and changeable with both extreme heat, desert storms and heavy rain at times. Illness is common, in particular stomach conditions, malaria, typhoid and scorpion stings.	A good relationship has been developed with RAS (Refugee Affairs Secretariat) who are pleased with the quality and consistency of our work in Kakuma. It is critical we maintain this relationship to ensure smooth operations in the camp. A special mention and thank you to Imoit our Gua Africa Field Manager who ensured all transportation, permissions and accommodations were sorted out efficiently and effectively.
4/7/2024	• James - photographer and videographer and fully briefed on aims and objectives for the week. • First visit to Gatwitch Hub - Kakuma 4 - meeting with Rwon (Manager) • Onsite meeting with Unity Primary - follow up on Mystart Project postcard chain - London, Kakuma, Kibera.	James is a South Sudanese refugee who was introduced to us via alumni of Mystart Project - he has been trained by our past students in film and photography and currently works with FilmAid International. Our initial visit was to look at the upkeep and physical environment. • The water has now been successfully installed allowing for the next stage of the **Gua Garden** initiative and clean latrines that are operational. • The cafe is being managed efficiently and whilst there is room for further improvements provision is good for the community and programs. • The classrooms are beautifully painted on the outside - part of the Art workshops led by Joseph and Mary - there are art displays in classroom 1 and the library space has been maintained. However, there are books	• **Gua Garden** - work with a specialist gardner identified in the Turkana community - Alex. Develop Art projects with Mary and Joseph for young people to design garden ideas. • **Shop** - Shop to be cleaned and fully stocked by the beginning of August. Imoit and Ruon will carry out a full inspection to ensure it meets with the expected standards. • **Classroom maintenance** - please refer to Gatwitch Hub routines.Gatwitch Hub Routines • **Furniture and equipment** - chairs will be replaced - a projector and screen (banner) are desirable. • **Flooring** - We will look at fundraising for new floors in both classrooms - these will be tiled as that will be the best long term solution. 3 x quotes for

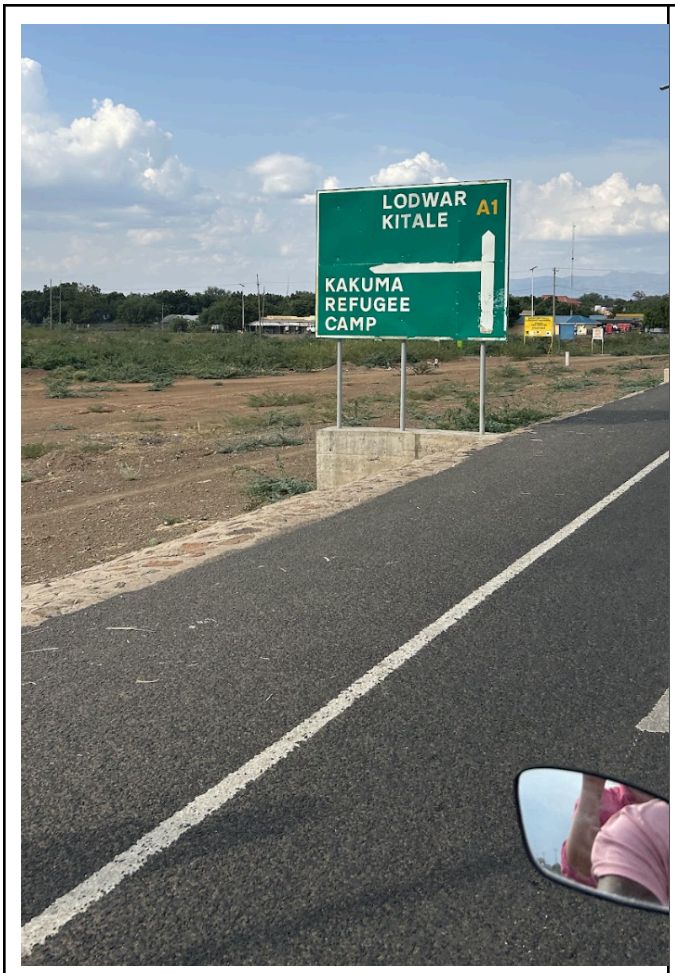
		missing from the previous visit. Cleaning the classrooms is challenging due to the dust levels, in particular the floors which are crumbling. • The tables are maintained however, chairs (plastic) are easily broken and used a lot in lessons and meetings. • The shop is problematic and not well maintained and not stocked. • The outdoor space is kept clean and there are now trees planted along the boundary of the Hub. These are being looked after and nurtured to aid growth.	tiles and the building work are required. Temporary solution is the plastic hard wearing mats purchased during this visit. • **Accounts** - Accounts are being well managed, however, there has been default on the shop rent - please see above. Any profits from letting spaces including the classrooms for community meetings, the shop and the cafe can go towards maintenance, repairs and equipment needed. This is part of the journey to being fully self-sufficient.
5/7/2024	**TEACHER TRAINING DAY 1** Led by Sue Mulholland **Morning sessions:** 1. **Safeguarding** Safeguarding training for Gua Africa.pptx 2. **Diversity and Inclusion** Inclusion and Awareness training GUA Africa.pptx 3. **Early Years & Infants** Early Years and Infants training session part 2 Gua Africa Early Years training structure.pptx Copy of Questions that tutors or parents can use to ask reading focused questions.pptx Copy of Copy of Reading workshop.pptx Copy of Tips for Sharing Picture Books with Young Children.pptx **Afternoon sessions:** 1. Library training and set up Library catalogue records	Gua Africa is committed to quality assured best practice across all aspects of: • Safeguarding and Pastoral care • EDIB - Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Further to this an identified need for the Hub was to develop leadership opportunities for women and Early Years and Infants classes.	• Feedback from the training sessions was positive with 17 teachers, teaching assistants and instructors in attendance. • Four participants in the training are Mystart Project Alumni, with their training with Mystart as a springboard they are now working with Gatwitch Hub and wider community outreach programs including 'Empowering Young women and mothers', I_Am_Art and VDPA - Voice for Disabled People Association. • Following on from the provisional training we have implemented online support for 24/25 specifically for Early Years & Infants.

	2. Reading circles - practical sessions		
6/7/2024	**Gatwitch Hub** - observation day	The Hub visit included observing and reviewing workshops - Yoga, Dance and Art and lessons including Literacy, Numeracy and IT classes. We have identified the need for further provision for women, girls and children. We have scrutinised how to make this possible and have surveyed the community, teacher and student voice.	The programming is running for predominantly children and teenagers outside of school hours. **Provision:** ● Dance - excellent provision and an engaged and dynamic dance teacher. Next steps will be engaging more females on the program. ● Visual Arts - The art program runs during school holidays. We planned with the teachers, Mary and Joseph for the 3 weeks in August - to include Garden designs, installation and Purpose Pebbles ● Yoga & Fitness - Excellent provision from both instructors and the demand is growing. We have identified a need for a women only group. ● IT - We have a teacher volunteer running IT literacy for young people 10 yrs - 18 yrs. The level is high with students learning programs including powerpoint, Excel and coding. We re looking to engage him further with a paid incentive. ● Remedial Studies - The progress for youth in Years 5 & 6 is excellent - supported by 2 teachers and support given to those most vulnerable in their communities. The average class size is between 40-60 in most primary schools so this extra focused support in smaller class size sessions has been essential for these students before they springboard to secondary school. **Next Steps:** ● **Reading circles** with young children led by volunteers, and then paid Early Years teaching classes. ● **Library timetable** to include parent and children groups, women only, adults and teenagers ● **Early Years & Infants** sessions 2x weekly - 40 children between 2yrs - 6yrs from the most vulnerable parts of the community with porridge provisions for all children. ● **Expand Yoga** to more women and girls - female only sessions ● **Expand Dance** to more women and girls and children - female only sessions ● **Visual Arts** - Stage 2 on sustainability projects - Plastic recycling installation. ● **Visual Arts** - Garden design including sculpture and mosaic ideas ● **Visual Arts** - Lead the Purpose Pebbles for wellbeing and peace project.

			Key actions - Women and children By ensuring more women are teaching and leading on our programs in the Hub we can increase uptake. Inclusion training for all teachers and managers has equipped our community providers with strategies and support - supporting each other and the wider community - in this endeavour. By providing learning for young children more women will feel encouraged to come for other classes - eg Library sessions, Yoga, reading circles.
7/7/2024	**Lunch and meeting with Mystart Alumni** **Observing Dance classes and IT Excel classes - All - Gatwitch Hub**	A celebration and thank you to the Art Collective, a group of 20 young artists who have been part of Mystart projects over the last 13 years. It is a pleasure to see volunteers in the community come forward to initiate and teach classes for young people - one of these is the IT provision. We were delighted to observe IT lessons through the week led by volunteers.	• Continue to work with and support Mystart Alumni in art projects they are leading in the Gatwitch Hub and wider community. • A link has been established with VDPA who are an inclusive learning centre integrating children with disabilities. We hope to nurture this link and possible partnering in the future in particular on Arts projects and lessons. Currently Mystart alumni Bhiem is teaching after school art classes in the Kakuma 2 centre. • Develop Art classes in the Gatwitch Hub to include other Mystart Alumni as/ when appropriate. • Our Dance teacher has made a huge impact on engaging the community and is committed to expanding the reach to more younger children and girls.
8/7/2024	**Morning Lockdown** • Interview with Gardener • I_Am_Art - Turkana Cafeteria	Due to protests at UNHCR we had a morning lockdown - this provided reflection and review time. We were also able to plan a meeting with a prospective gardener to help with the design and planting of the Gua Garden at the Gatwitch Hub. Alex is a 21 year old from the Host Community. He is passionate about gardening with excellent knowledge and experience. We were able to visit I_Am_Art which are after school classes for children from all communities in Kakuma 1. Initiated and led by Mary and Juma these classes are oversubscribed and under resourced. Projects include sustainable art posters and sculptures, collage, drawing and painting from still and real life.	• **Community Gua Garden** Design projects led by the Art team - Mary and Joseph. • Garden Design Gatwitch Hub 2024 • **Purpose Pebbles** project linking into Gua Garden • **Growing the garden** - Work with gardener Alex to create the garden - stage 1 • **Sustainability art installation** based on natural forms and raising awareness about littering and plastic issues
9/8/2024	**TEACHER TRAINING DAY 2** Led by Sue Mulholland Early Years and Infants training session part 2	A practical session led by Sue - establishing routines, structures for learning and play and demonstrating activities. Completing postcards for Mystart Project. We observed lessons in Art and the beginning of a literacy lesson.	**Early Years & Infants Groups - actions** Our Early Years & Infants teachers will lead 2 - 3 hour morning sessions per week at the Hub. There will be space for 20 children in each group between ages 2 yrs - 6 yrs. It is important we provide a snack as part of these morning sessions. The model for learning is based on:

	Afternoon: • **Unity** Primary School visit • **VDPA** - Voice for Disabled People Association - Sue and Imoit • **Yoga and fitness** classes Gatwitch Hub - Tania and Camilla	Yoga and fitness classes are oversubscribed in the Hub and high quality with expert fully qualified teachers from the refugee community.	- Responsive teaching - Learning through play ' Busy Learning' - using balls, building blocks etc… - Reading circles - Counting **Each session follows a similar structure to the below:** - Come into the hub in shoes neatly put away sit on the mat in a circle - Hello songs and wake and shake - each child says their name and is welcomed 'How are you today'? - Songs and actions - movement - Busy learning on rotation eg. ball games, building blocks and plant watering and pouring. - Reading circles - Story sharing - Yoga/ dance and movement - Rest time - can include card games and looking at books - Snack and depart **<u>Developing further links and partnership work through Mystart Alumni</u>** This is the positive by-product of 13 years of Mystart Project operating with consistency and integrity in the camp. As a result of the high quality workshops led annually and sometimes twice a year the Mystart Alumni are now active leaders, teachers and creatives in Kakuma. They have set up small studios, enterprises and work with a 'give back' mentality. They are positive role models in their own and wider community. Progressive thinkers, makers and doers. This is evidenced in all the programs we visited and through our alumni stories we are in the process of collating.

Photo Library from site visit - July 2024


LODWAR
KITALE
A1
KAKUMA
REFUGEE
CAMP




WELCOME TO KAKUMA
On arrival at Kakuma, ensure you go to the DRA offices(Camp Manager).
After Registration at DRA is done, a vehicle will carry you to UNHCR compound
DRA Offices
UNHCR Offices
You will be transported to the Reception center for temporary accomodation.
Reception Center
Short inte view conducted
Photos, fi ger prints taken
Issued w h a racke
At a later date you will be called for the Eligibility Process. Look out for notices in the n tice boa ds
Settlement Areas
Reasons for fleeing will be asked
Photos, finger prints taken.
Will be issued with an Asylum Seeker Pass and a DRA Registration Referral Slip
Issued with Token card
Children get vaccination from IRC
Given temporary accomodation
NCCK will transport you to the settlement area
Issued with cooking pots,utensils, water jerricans.
Sanitary towels given to women and girls.
Issued with food and cooking oil.
UNHCR
FilmAid










ARLY YEARS
ADULTS: MEN & WOMEN
Lala Land
STRONG Like ME
AMERICAN DIRT
SANKOFA
HOW TO
Sapiens
A Brief History of Humankind
THE SEX LIVES OF AFRICAN WOMEN
GRIT
LONG WALK TO FREEDOM
21 Speeches That Shaped Our World
We should not Steal
ACTS IN A POLITE WAY
YOUNG READERS 6-10
Big Book of the Body
with 4 giant Fold-outs
ADAM KAY
KAY'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE
BIG Picture Board Book
Vild Animals
Big Pancake
HAPPY FAMILIES
Dr. Seuss's Book OF
SNAP!
YOUNG READERS 11+
TABLE MAT PACK
Busy Digger
The Wheels on the Bus
Peekaboo Jungle
Baby's first wobbly eye book
SITUATIONSHIP
ONYEKA
BEASTS of RUIN
BEASTS of WAR
BEASTS of PREY
BOOKED
HERO
POSITIVE THINKING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
NORMAN VINCENT PEALE


PHONICS
REDEYETEK




Genje




VDPA
Sigló Sport


Art.
Nyathiaro












My
BIG
Book of
THINGS THAT MOVE


MESSI
10




Ethiopian








The Early Years Foundation Stage Formula
Prime Areas
Communication & Language
Physical Development


bermuda
Team Viewer


FILMAID
FILM
FESTIVAL



