



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2015

Usually our newsletters go through the Adelante Africa projects giving the news for each one but as the NGO has grown and more projects have been added it becomes impossible to write about all of them! ... The newsletter would be so long that few would have the patience to read to the end! So we have decided just to tell you the most recent and most interesting news. If a project is not mentioned it just means that it is chugging along well and there is no outstanding news to give.

Omwaana Tugende Children's Home

The Home was recently recognised by The Sunrise OVC project (a 5 year project linked to the Ugandan Ministry of Labour Gender and Social Development) as one of the 12 success stories in Uganda!

We would like to thank Florence Ayo (speaking at a meeting in the photo below) and Fred Ngabirano for their help and advice over the past few years! We wish them both the very best for the future. Please stay in contact and remember the welcome for you at Omwaana Tugende will always be warm!



Home made water tanks.

40 tanks have already been built, 30 are in the process of being built and there is a long waiting list of families in the process of obtaining one.

In March we visited a village, Kibuuku, where nine water tanks had just been finished. We met with the members of the project, most of them elderly or with many small children. The tanks will make a big difference to their lives and their happiness is clear from the photos of our visit which you can see below. Many

thanks to our partners, the David Garnett Foundation and Leaping Frog Publications whose funding has made this possible!



The green vegetables project

Again in March we were able to see the first fruits (or rather vegetables!) of a new project. Eight groups of single women from different villages, each living precariously with a number of children in their care, made cooperative groups under the guidance of the Sub-county Development officer and the Adelante Africa social worker. They have been growing vegetables for their families to eat and to sell. Here is a photo of the results and of a member of one of the groups.



These women are not the only beneficiaries of the Green Vegetable Project. There are 17 additional co-operative groups and another 5 waiting for seeds in total over 200 families. We hope this project will make a lasting change to the diet of the families in the area, which up to now has been almost exclusively based on carbohydrates.

F.A.L Functional Adult Literacy



A new F.A.L. class has officially started in Rwebegaga (see photo) bringing the total number of F.A.L. groups in Igayaza to 3. There are 2 other villages that have requested a F.A.L. group, one of these is Kibuuku, the village where Adelante Africa has recently been working with a group to make water tanks (see above). The group want to continue working together, this time to learn to read and write.

The Sunflower oil press project

We are hoping that this project is finally going to get off the ground this season! We visited the Rural Electrification Agency in Kampala who promised us a transformer for the oil press. The machines are now in Igayaza (no easy feat given the weight of the machines and the state of the roads!). They are ready to be hooked up to the electricity and many farmers in the area have planted sunflowers this season. Hopefully August should see the first sunflower cooking oil in Igayaza!



The Beekeeping project

Last year Jacob, a young bee keeper who had missed out on secondary school, asked us to support him so he could go back to school as a mature student. He offered in return to start some beehives on the Omwaana Tugende farm. He has got together with other beekeepers to form an Association. This March we enjoyed the first Adelante Africa honey! Here is Jacob on the far left in the photo of the beekeeping association and with two children from Omwaana Tugende with the first bucket of honey.



The hand held mechanical plough

Life in the Omwaana Tugende gardens and on the farm is going to be revolutionised by a gift to the Children's Home from Jose Luis López Sanchez , Vice-President of Adelante Africa, who saw these machines in Kampala last summer and decided to donate two to Adelante Africa. Here are photos of the technician who came from Kampala to teach the farmers and care workers how to use the machine.



Meetings with local chairpersons and Judith, the Village Chief

Igayaza is made up of a trading station and 23 small villages. Each village has its own chairperson who deals with legal and other community affairs. There is a Village Chief with responsibility over all the villages. In March we held important meetings with the chairpersons. They filled in a questionnaire we had made and translated into the two prominent local languages. We wanted to know if the Adelante Africa projects had reached their villages and how they evaluated them. We also wanted to sound them out to see how much support there was for an Adelante Africa Secondary School in the area. The response was overwhelmingly positive. A number of chairpersons commented about the chicken vaccination programme "now the chickens in our village are not dying". There were also very positive comments on the Green vegetable project, on the homemade water tanks and on the Vitamin A and Albendazole campaigns. About the community loans many of them said "Can there be more?"

What's more all of the chairpersons offered practical help from their villages as the local contribution to the building of the non-denominational and non-profit secondary school that Adelante Africa is going to build in Igayaza.

Here is a photo of some of the filled in questionnaires and of one of Judith and some of the village chairpersons at one of the meetings.



Secondary school sponsorship programme

This year Adelante Africa has found 15 new sponsors to pay all or half the school fees of children who did well in the Primary Leaving Exam this year so that they can go to boarding school. Below are photos of two of these children. We are also supporting 16 children who did not do so well but are orphans or come from very poor backgrounds. These children are studying as day pupils at nearby schools.



News about the model and non profit Adelante Africa Secondary school

Our efforts to raise money for the Adelante Africa secondary school continue. We have received a number of donations from people attached to education. Many of the members of Adelante Africa are teachers, writers and people who work in publishing as well as those from all walks of life who have a special commitment to education. Notably, a group of ex-alumni from Mayfield school in England have got together to raise money to build the "Mayfield classroom". We thank you all very much on behalf of all the children present and future who will benefit from this school and would very much appreciate any further donations or charity events to help us raise the money to build the school.



Lastly, but not least, we would like to thank three groups of young people who have raised money for Adelante Africa during these months.

Katie and Dick Fanstone ran in the London (Katie) and Manchester (Dick) marathons to raise money to send Ronald (the boy in the photo in the secondary school sponsorship section above) to secondary school. Dick finished the race in 3 hours and 48 minutes and Katie in 3 hours and 55 minutes! Very impressive!

A member of Adelante Africa did a presentation of Adelante Africa's projects in English at a Escuela Oficial de Idiomas (a state adult language learning institution) in Madrid. The staff and students, made donations and bought a lot of the bags, aprons and tablemats made by the Igayaza Women's Group, which we bring back with us on each trip.



The EOI choir also sang two African songs they had prepared which we filmed and showed to people in Uganda, much to their delight! (see photo)

A group of students from Middlesex University in the U.K. held a Bake to Change Day at their college. They invited people to come along and decorate cup cakes in return for a small donation. Altogether they raised more than 500 euros! They chose to use this to send 3 children from the village for much needed operations. The children of the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home drew pictures to support them, which were displayed, on the Bake to Change Day. Here is a photo of the event and another of one of the children they are helping.



Finally, thank you everyone for your interest and support! The volunteers in Africa are always asking us to pass their greetings on to you so from all of them over in Uganda to everyone here ... Webale muno (thank you very much) and Okale Kurungi (Have a good day)!

Jane Cadwallader (Secretary Adelante Africa, Spain)
Joachim Kisakyamaria (Secretary Adelante Africa, Uganda)