

ADELANTE AFRICA UGANDA

Adelante Africa Uganda is becoming more of a truly Ugandan organisation. Two years ago we became registered at national level. Now we are audited every year and have begun to pay social security for the workers on our three big projects, the secondary school, the oil press and the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home.

We are lucky to have met John Mary Ategeka, a Kampala accountant who comes from our area and who is helping us to organise the financial and reporting systems as a volunteer.

The Adelante Africa volunteers in the village have monthly meetings where they discuss any of the projects that need attention and suggest how to share the workload and solutions for any problems that have arisen.



Adelante Africa volunteers reading the minutes of the previous meeting

DOCTORS IN UGANDA

In February a team of Spanish doctors led by Dr Guillermo Serrano came out again for ten days to operate in the rudimentary theatre of the government health centre in Kakindo, Kakumiro district. They attended to 150 patients and operated on 65. The most common operations were on hernias and tumours.



The team of doctors from Spain with their Ugandan counterparts

Among the patients were 7 children, including one with a cleft lip and one badly burnt baby. They also saved the life of a mother with a complicated birth and managed to save the hand of a young boy who had been attacked for stealing pineapples.

Dr Alba Galdon, an endocrinologist from the Fundacion Jimenez Díaz hospital in Madrid met with the Diabetics Association that she had helped to set up a year earlier. She talked to them about diet and exercise and answered their questions.



Dr Carlos Tiscar (anaesthetist) preparing a child for surgery



Dra Alba Galdón and the Diabetics Association

OMWAANA TUGENDE CHILDREN'S HOME

Omwaana Tugende is very settled with 65 children living happily there. The age of the children is younger than before. Many of the older children have been resettled back with their families or with foster families in the surrounding villages and the children coming in tend to be younger. There is also a notable increase in the number of children being admitted to the Home with HIV. At present we have 8 positive children.

Tugume

Tugume is a child in the Home with mental and physical disabilities. When he came to the Home he could only drag himself along the ground on his bottom and couldn't feed himself or communicate with others except by banging things on the ground or crying.

Thanks to an NGO near Fortportal called Kyaninga CDC (Child Development Centre) we realised that Tugume's life could change radically. A number of people gave donations to help him and now Tugume can walk, feeds himself, understands simple instructions, can say the name of many of the children in the Home and even sings songs along with them. Needless to say he is a much happier child!



Tugume when he came to OTCH...

and now



THE ADELANTE AFRICA SECONDARY SCHOOL

The secondary school started their new year in February with one class more. There are now 56 children in Senior 1, 63 in Senior 2, and 35 in Senior 3, making a total of 154 children at the school.

It now has 4 classrooms, a fully equipped laboratory, 5 computers, 4 huge dormitories (two for girls and two for boys) with their adjacent bathrooms and latrines and 1 staff quarters block. The third phase of building is well underway with the library and a second block of teachers quarters, with room for volunteer teachers, scheduled to be opened in June.

Some of the books for the library are being donated by Oxford University Press and a special computer room has been built which will house 4 more computers, bringing the number to 9. The target is to have 15 computers at the school for computer lessons.



One of the girls' dormitories



The complete science laboratory

THE SEWING COURSE AND THE HAIRDRESSING CLASS

For some time we have wanted to help girls coming out of Primary education by giving them an alternative to early marriage. Many children don't go on to Secondary education as Secondary schools are mostly private and the families cannot afford the school fees. We have set up two projects to help girls to learn a trade so they can support themselves.



The women's sewing group

The sewing course

2017 was the first year we ran this course. It is held twice a week for 9 months. There are two teachers and at present 25 girls who are learning to sew traditional clothes as well as shirts, skirts, dresses and children's clothes.

The main teacher, Gladys uses the children at the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home as models to help the girls learn to measure and then make the clothes. The children love this as they get new outfits!



Children from OTCH in the clothes made by the sewing class

The hairdressing class

This project just started this year in March 2018. There are 23 students and one teacher who shows them how to do different types of braiding and then corrects them as they set out to copy these. The idea is that the girls study for 6 months and then work for 6 months using the saloon and equipment of Adelante Africa. They put some of their earnings back into the saloon to provide gels and threads for the next course. Some of the girls offer their services to the surrounding schools to shave the children's heads. This way they can make a bit of extra money. There are two children from the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home attending the hairdressing class.



The hairdressing saloon and students plaiting braids

THE OIL PRESS

As is normal for a new venture it has taken time for the local farmers to take up the idea of growing sunflower. These figures show the steady increase in seed production:

December 2016: 19 tons

June 2017: 24 tons

December 2017: 34 tons

June 2018: 45 / 50 tons expected.



The management of the oil press has changed with two local enterprising farmers (and Adelante Africa volunteers) taking over at the helm.

We have also employed a financial and office administrator who helps with all things administrative and produces regular reports on the progress of the Press.

We really believe that given time the press will pay back in benefits all the efforts put in. Here is a short note from an Adelante Africa member and friend who recently went to pick up her oil:

"I really hope that you can sort out the oil situation because there is such a difference between Bunbura and palm oil. The food is much tastier for one thing, and I don't feel that all our arteries are getting clogged up."

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

All the community projects are doing well with the chicken vaccination project and the Vitamin A and Albendazole (de-worming) projects well established as six monthly campaigns. In February 5,562 chickens were vaccinated by FAL members in 14 villages and in April 4,430 children were given vitamin A and 9,896 children were de-wormed in 11 local schools and 19 villages.



F.A.L. members
vaccinating chickens



Planting green vegetables



Constructing a
water tank

Four F.A.L. (Functional Adult Literacy) groups are very active planting green vegetables as part of the Green Vegetable Project and 7 new water tanks are in the process of being constructed bringing the total to 271. That means 271 families who no longer have to struggle to the well or a contaminated stream to collect their water, at least when it rains!

FUNDRAISING

The Escuela Oficiales de Idiomas (government run adult language schools) continue to be great supporters of Adelante Africa with talks taking place this Spring in Madrid in Las Rozas, Morataláz and Leganés. After the talks the participants bought the bags, backpacks, cushion covers, aprons etc. made by the Igayaza Women's Sewing groups thereby giving them much needed support.

There were also talks at a secondary school in Getafe, Madrid and the secondary school, I.E.S El Burgo de las Rozas put on their annual musical with the proceeds going to help the Adelante Africa Secondary School in Igayaza.

This year they announced a change in the name of the school to El Burgo Ignacio Echeverría. Ignacio was killed by a terrorist in London in 2017 as he went to the assistance of a woman who was being attacked. He is an old boy of the school and they decided to honour him adding his name to the name of the school. Adelante Africa joined this initiative by announcing that a plaque will be put up in one of the classrooms of the secondary school in his memory and at the same time as thanking the Secondary school, which has raised money to help the children of Igayaza for the past 7 years!



The musical at IES el Burgo Ignacio Echevarría

A big thank you to them and to everyone else in Europe and Uganda who makes our projects possible!

Jane Cadwallader (Secretary Adelante Africa Tugende Omumaiso)