Sponsorships

Congratulations!!!

JangiliBox - Christmas in a Shoe Box

Situation Before Building the Social Innovation Academy (SINA)

Purchasing Land

Facilitator Training

Upcycling

Constructing Dormitories

Entrepreneurship, First Students and First Social Business

From Orphans for Orphans: Linking Educational Sponsorships to SINA

Awards and Media Response

Acknowledgments
Thanks to your ongoing support, our educational sponsorships enabled all our children and youths to successfully attend secondary school in 2014. At the beginning of the year, eleven orphans from the Kankobe Children’s Home finished their primary school. We accepted them into our programme and were able to find a sponsor for each one of them. They are now attending different boarding schools and day schools and have managed to blend in quickly. All in all, we look after 65 children and youths in different parts of Uganda and see to their sponsors from Germany, Austria and other six countries.

We would like to cordially congratulate Augustine, Cissy, Damali, Goretti, Helen, Irene, Kasujja, Joseph, Paul and Wasswa on passing their O-level exams in November! Another highlight is our second generation successfully passing their A-levels in December.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Nalubega Joan
Ruth Nabembezi
Josephine Nalubowa

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO OUR FIRST THREE SPONSORED YOUTHS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED VOCATIONAL TRAINING:

Julius Basangira (primary school teacher)
Monica Nampijja (catering and hairdresser)
Ddungu Peter (carpenter)

The Jangu team in Uganda 2014
(Easter in Kankobe)
JANGUBox – Christmas in a Shoe Box 2.0

For the fourth time, the German volunteers have arranged a special Christmas present event at the Kankobe Children’s Home. It is originally based on the idea of a “Christmas in a shoe box”. However, it was innovated into a kind of modular online system last year already.

Supporters were able to design an individual gift box on www.jangu.org and pack it digitally. These gift boxes were then prepared for each child by the volunteers in Uganda. In December and January, while the majority of the children in Kankobe spent their school holidays with their remaining relatives, the shopping was done: school supplies, clothing, biscuits, soap, toothbrushes, fruit, sweets... In order to avoid waste of paper, fabric was bought to sew bags. In doing so, the presents could be wrapped and the children continued to use the bags as school bags.

At the beginning of February, the gift bags were handed out ceremonially during a late celebration and accepted by the children with great pleasure. The children, as well as the volunteers and the orphanage staff were excited: This event provided school supplies for the first months of the school year for every child.
Jangu e.V. has promoted orphans from Uganda since 2007 through educational sponsorships. The first year of sponsored youths, having grown up in the meantime, passed their A-levels in 2013 – and once again faced a huge challenge:

According to the World Bank, youth unemployment in Uganda amounts to 83%. Only 5% of the population are employed. Since the population is growing rapidly and already today 50% of Ugandans are under 15 years old, considerable social problems are arising. The educational system emphasizes memorizing information instead of promoting creativity, initiative and entrepreneurship. The result is thousands of young people without a perspective who are looking for work and who are not in a position to create jobs.

A first incentive towards solving this problem came from the first Jangu-sponsored graduates themselves. In 2013, they founded an organization called “Bakuze Uganda” – “They have grown up” in order to combat this problem. In cooperation with Bakuze Uganda the idea arose to create a place where youths and young adults can create their own jobs and apply knowledge directly and practically.
In order for the idea of an innovative educational concept to take shape, a suitable plot of land had to be found in Uganda. This critical endeavour started in December 2013. Since the beginning of March, our chairman Etienne Salborn had been on site to take all necessary steps. In April, our members Martin Anhut, construction engineering student, as well as Philipp Mäntele, engineer and vocational school teacher, followed suit. After meeting many challenges (e.g. Non-Ugandans or foreign organizations cannot possess land in Uganda) as well as consulting lawyers and dealing with plenty of Ugandan bureaucracy, we managed to purchase five hectares of land via Bakuze Uganda by the end of April. It is located on top of a wonderful hill, roughly 35 km from the Ugandan capital Kampala. Bakuze Uganda and Jangu e.V. subsequently concluded a lease agreement for a period of 99 years.
Facilitator Training

An educational concept stands and falls with its teachers. At SINA, teachers above all are coaches who rather develop existing potentials and empower youths to work independently than teach. According to the SINA philosophy, they do not prescribe subject matter. Instead, students broaden their horizons during workshops and activities and work autonomously on projects and project ideas to become social enterprises. Students at SINA do not leave with a certificate, but the goal is, that they leave with their own employment established. For this reason, in SINA the guiding persons are not referred to as “teachers”, but are called “facilitators”.

In order to find suitable persons, the Ugandan-German team reached out to organizations which are active in the field of education. They presented the idea and concept of SINA and managed to win over new partners. Thus, the SINA team comprises Jangu members and local as well as international experts and partners. The team inquired after persons who had proven to be dynamic and innovative and who were facing a major change in their lives (e.g. between studying and career entry). Almost 200 persons were referred to by partners as potential facilitators. 100 of whom were invited to three assessment days in Kampala. The SINA team got to know the applicants with the aid of various activities, personal presentations, discussions and interviews. Finally, the team picked 10 young women and young 10 men from different parts of the country and with diverse backgrounds on the basis of their strength of character.
The three month training of the facilitators started in June. Activities made up 80 per cent of the programme. No ideologies or solutions were imposed on the participants. On the contrary, the activities facilitated gaining personal experiences. In the course of these activities, all participants were given the opportunity to call into question their own behavioural patterns and to decide for themselves whether they want to approach things differently. The training was led by an amazing group of Ugandan, German and international volunteers. Among those were Ted Cuevas (Mexico/USA), who already founded and built three project-based schools, Ambrose Kibuuka (Uganda), who runs workshops, e.g., to develop the potential of US embassy staff, as well as Mansi Panjwani (India), a professional facilitator. Furthermore, Johnson Akampa (Uganda), who organizes and conducts workshops, and youth masses, as well as Israel Katongole (Uganda), who set up “Local Skills Development Centers” for the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and later through his organization “NICODI” assumed responsibility for the centers consistently enhancing them, were involved.

Etienne Salborn was able to contribute content from his MA program “peace and development” at the UNESCO chair, University of Innsbruck, as well as “peace education” at the United Nations mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica. In addition, Philipp Mäntele introduced aspects and concepts from his teacher training progamm and his international pedagogical experience.

After only a few weeks, changes among the participants were noticeable, which they themselves described as extremely positive. Typical learning by means of lectures, listening and learning by heart was increasingly rejected. Instead, learning by experience was valued because knowledge can be memorized longer and applied thereby.

After three months, the 15 facilitators were trained. They have strong personalities and live a working atmosphere and an organizational culture characterized by respect, equality as well as mutual support and trust. This development also became observable among the 15 pioneering students who have been coached and supported on their path to independence by our facilitators since the end of July. The unique educational concept of SINA has taken shape.
The SINA facilitators learned how to construct a house with plastic bottles as part of their training during an upcycling workshop. The bottles are filled with soil, compressed, tied together with string and stacked up. The gaps are filled with mortar. Durable walls are the result. A stable, low-priced and environmentally friendly building emerges from useless and annoying waste.

This construction technique allows structures to withstand earthquakes because the bottles swing and do not break. Another advantage is a constant temperature of about 20 degrees Celsius inside. However, the biggest asset lies in the cost effectiveness. Thousands of plastic bottles can be collected for free and there is no lack of loamy soil either.

The inventor of this technique was invited to Africa for the first time in 2011 to hold a workshop for the Ugandan NGO “BUVAD”, during which an outhouse was built jointly. Subsequently, the NGO refined the construction technique and built two additional houses and a rain water tank.

Upcycling represents an important aspect of the training and of the SINA concept. As opposed to recycling, resources and alleged garbage are not only reused but something of higher value is created. Plastic bottles, for instance, are transformed into buildings and old car tyres are turned into roofs.

Building materials are expensive in Uganda and resources are scarce. Given an annual population growth rate of 3.3 %, 150,000 new houses are needed every year. The conventional building style requires the use of bricks, which need to be burned. For the production of approximately 4,000 bricks, which are piled up to form a pyramid, roughly 100 logs are needed as fuel. This contributes to the expansion of rain forest clearance in the country. The combustion process generates CO2 emissions. In addition, a tenth of the produced bricks are rejects and cannot be used.
The global production of plastic bottles amounts to a total of 500 billion per year and counting. According to studies by the United Nations, most bottles eventually end up in the ocean. Since Uganda has neither access to the sea nor a waste handling system, the majority of plastic bottles are simply burned. In the process, toxic and hazardous gases are released. Environmental consciousness in Uganda is at a low level.

Many Ugandans are not aware of the harmful effects their actions may have. Moreover, there’s a lack of alternatives. In 2014, major beverage manufacturers (Coca Cola, Pepsi) have begun to replace recyclable glass bottles with plastic bottles because that way they can generate higher profits. Plastic bottles do not need to be returned for cleaning. The immense negative impact on the environment is neglected in the interest of profit maximization.

**Plastic Bottle Construction Begins**

Kick-off for the upcycling construction was in July. BUVAD was invited to SINA and held a three-week workshop. During this time, a building was constructed using 14,000 plastic bottles. In the course of the joint construction efforts, the facilitators conveyed the technique to the students. The learning process at SINA was thus tested and applied for the first time. In October, the second building was completed single-handedly, i.e. without support from BUVAD. It was refined visually and constructed in such a way that it is considerably more robust with respect to the statics. The skills the participants acquired during the construction workshop can contribute towards making a living. The effects are duplicated socially when they pass them on to other communities. Almost all construction materials can be found free of cost, when no funds for high-quality materials are available. In this vein, cement may be substituted for loam.
The first finished upcycling learning room made from plastic bottles with a roof made from car tyres. Each of the 10 to 15 prospective learning huts is to be used for a different activity, e.g. woodwork, internet or group work for the student projects.

First and foremost, we raised awareness of possibilities to utilize putative waste sensibly. We internalized that monetary profit should not be based on harming the environment or the society and that there are other possibilities. The plastic bottle building technique represents an environmentally compatible solution, which at the same time stimulates creative thinking beyond conventional norms.
CONSTRUCTING DORMITORIES

While the education team organized the training, Martin Anhut, in collaboration with Ugandan engineers and construction workers, was in charge of the construction of two residential buildings with a total of 18 rooms, which will accommodate up to 80 persons, toilets, showers, a 125,000 litre rain water tank, a small office and a multi-purpose building. Construction was completed in December 2014, although the final electric installations, painting and furnishing will be carried out until February 2015.

Water supply posed a tremendous challenge. The SINA premises are situated on top of a hill, which cannot be supplied with water by the nearby town of Mpigi due to insufficient pressure. A water conduit was built but no water came. Unscheduled costs arose due to the fact that over several months, a truck had to deliver water, which was needed not only for everyday consumption, but mainly for construction. Several solutions to the problem were elaborated. Eventually, the SINA team opted for the 125,000 litre rain water tank which collects and stores rainwater underground. The tank likewise was finished in December. Unfortunately, the next rainy season will not start before March 2015. From that point on, SINA should be able to supply itself with enough water.
At the end of July 2014, the first 17 students were accepted to SINA. Nine of those grew up as orphans at Kankobe children’s home and have been sponsored through Jangu since 2007, which allowed them to finish secondary school taking their A-levels. During the first weeks at SINA, they went through a short version of the facilitator training and subsequently, guided by the facilitators, began with the realization and elaboration of project ideas.

First attempts included drafts of an oven and a solar cooker as well as making briquettes from biomass, jewellery from plastic waste, organic juices and a football table. An innovative entrepreneurship concept generates incentives to create not only financial, but also social and environmental value added through the projects. In less than one year, the students are to leave SINA with an established social enterprise instead of a certificate, through which they create their own job.

After five months, the first project was already waiting in the wings to become a social enterprise solving a social and an ecological problem. It is a terrazzo floor made from plastic bags and eggshells mixed with cement. In November 2014, the project of facilitator and inventor Godfrey Sengonzi and two students was launched as the first official social enterprise. The project already managed to obtain an order to lay the flooring on a roof terrace in Kampala. At the moment, the team is working on collecting and processing the plastic bags and eggshells. After laying the flooring in our buildings they will have gained experience and will be prepared to accept further orders.
In the long run (2 to 3 years), SINA’s operating expenses are to be financed via a share of the profits from the newly formed businesses, which would render SINA independent of external donations. Small economical businesses within SINA as income generation like the producing and selling of biomass briquettes will contribute to that as well. With this surplus of income a second SINA in another part of Uganda can be formed. The vision of Jangu e.V. is to develop several Social Innovation Academies in whole Uganda, Africa and last but not least all around the world so that someday all youth can be empowered to use their potential to come up with a social business – with positive impact on society and environment. A small amount of the financing can already be covered today by the gardening and the biomass production. By 2015 this part shall be expanded.
The first generation of sponsored students through Jangu e.V. has successfully completed their A-Levels in 2013. Now together with Jangu e.V. they are building up the Social Innovation Academy (SINA). Furthermore on the 31/08/2014, SINA together with the graduated Jangu e.V. students has hosted a day of unleashing potentials for all current students which are part of the Jangu e.V. sponsorship program. With a variety of different activities, the day was very well structured and successful. The best part was: it was completely organized and carried out by our first generation of sponsored youth, who are in SINA. The students received all of the school requirements and were able to catch up with their old friends from the Kankobe Children’s Home. From now we will offer such a day to the students 3 times a year, every time before the new term starts.

It made us proud to see, that the whole day was organized by our first generation of students sponsored through Jangu e.V. Each of them had One-to-One conversations to the current students. By that they were able to listen to their individual problems, trying to find solutions together. The administration of the sponsorships can now slowly be handed over to the former Kankobe children who already graduated and are now at SINA. They successfully went through the whole sponsorship program and know from their own experience how to deal with certain problems. It was our goal to create a circle where sponsored kids start to sponsor their own brothers and sisters, which becomes more and more reality. Seeing the process going in this direction makes us all very happy!

Also Bakuze Uganda again arranged an activity to support all of the children of the Kankobe Children’s Home. For that they went to the orphanage for 5 days to do voluntary work like painting the gates and fixing different things on the compound. They were able to share and exchange their thoughts and experience with the younger kids. With the team spirit Bakuze Uganda is showing, they give a lot of inspiration to the children to reach their goals even though most of them grow up without having a biological family.
In 2014 there were several media reports about Jangu e.V. as well as awards. There was an article in the Berlin newspaper on Easter, another one in the Africa-Magazine “LoNam” and also in Uganda they wrote about the work of Jangu e.V. and SINA. The Civil Academy announced Jangu and SINA to be a “light-house-project” for civil engagement.

http://www.civil-academy.de/service/projekt/8069280.html

On the 30th of June our chairman Etienne Salborn, facilitator Geoffrey, partner Ambrose and scholar Phibi got the honour to meet the Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni. They presented the work of Jangu e.V. and SINA, but especially the upcycling of plastic bottles by constructing houses. Even though Museveni reached SINA very late, he was impressed with the innovative work of SINA in Uganda.

On the 5th of September our chairman Etienne Salborn as well as Jangu e.V. Co-founder Geraldine Salborn were invited by the federal president of Germany Joachim Gauk to the Bellevue castle in Berlin. The main reason for the invitation was appreciating the work of people who have shown a huge honorary engagement in common welfare in Germany. Besides the federal president, the mayor of Berlin Klaus Wowereit also attended this event.

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Without your help, our work in Uganda would not have been possible, thank you very much!
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