

'Gwassi-Kenya Harambee' is a project of self-development and international, cooperation, from 1983 promotes the social, cultural and economic development, in the Nyandiwa peninsula, one of the poorest areas of Kenya. The collaboration between the volunteers of 'Brownsea Foundation onlus' (NGO organization) and the local population allows successful interventions in a large area, from the shores of Victoria Lake to the surrounding hills, with aid diversified, both social, economic and educational.

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In swahili language, 'Harambee' means 'working together': is the project name, that expresses the willingness to share each activities, efforts and successes. Not held the charitable actions, always aiming self-development.



to avoid any form of 'charity' and support the local population to independent development. 20 years ago, the first problem to be solved was the water: the construction of the aqueduct brought drinking water and wellness to about 20.000 people and, consequently, the decrease of infectious diseases. In 2013, the aqueduct will be improved.

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a continuous work that requires a great effort to give everyone the opportunity to study and grow together!

Since 2002 is active a Twinning project between Italian and Kenyan schools, which realizes

exchanges of experiences, story books and eBooks made in Italy. You can find them online: http://www.conguistaweb.it/harambee/ebook.htm The next stage for 2013 is the exchange of educational materials online with the IKSDP College for the training of new teachers.

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a very important task of the project 'IKSDP Harambee Gwassi'. So was born the College for teachers, the first of its kind in the

Suba District, established to provide new employment opportunities to young people.



Thanks to good teachers and the great management, the Enrollments are increasing and our future teachers reach a true academic excellence. Our graduates are always more quickly find work.

The next targets for 2013 are: the 'E-learning program' between the IKSDP college and Italian-Kenyan Universities; the construction of new dormitory for the students and improvement of 'Sports Center structures'.

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villages and from across the region: have computers, two printers and a photocopier,



powered by solar panels. While before it was necessary to take a long trip to find these services, our specialized staff helps the visitors to use the network and the Internet Mail service. The population of Nyandiwa shows great interest in the services offered to the public, especially administrative and commercial use: in the Internet Point you can write and print a variety of documents, make photocopies and Fax.

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The Tailoring Laboratory of 'IKSDP Creative Centre' is an example of efficient and sustainable local enterprise, created to develop and exploit local crafts and self-sustaining the projects of the Centre. In the laboratory work six employed people and are manifactured the uniforms for schools and for Scouts of Kenya, in addition to the bags and home accessories of Harambee Collection, that are sold locally and internationally.

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Dining Room & kitchen, to provide breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Can be hosted families, individuals and groups. Among the services of public utility, there is the 'Social Hall' which, besides being a place of aggregation for the local community, is available for conferences, meetings and conferences. The Social Hall can accommodate about 500 people, with sound system and computers with Internet Connection satellite broadband. There are also classrooms from 20/30 seats for seminars and meetings.

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project and are self-managed by the local community with specialized staff. The Dispensary on Kiwa island, particularly isolated, has solar panels. In the Nyandiwa Dispensary, which provides medical care each day and the the structures of the Scout Centre held specialist interventions with Kenyan doctors (such as the Eye Clinic provisional) and educational activities and prevention, such as the major campaign against the diffusion of virus AIDS.

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Crops, livestock and fishing are always difficult in this area, with serious problems for the feeding of the community. For this reason we seek new solutions, such as breeding in catfishes, to opposite the decline of fish in the lake, caused by overfishing of large fishing vessels. In Kitawa, among the jatropha trees, has been expanded the vegetables cultivation and continues the breeding of 'egg laying hens' and milking cows, with a consequent great increase of foodstuffs available.

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Since 2009, close to Kitawa, has started an experimental cultivation of Jatropha, a plant that grows easily in arid lands and fighting the desertification. The oil produced from the seeds can be used for lighting, cooking food, producing biogas and biodiesel. From waste are derived soap, glycerine, candles and agricultural fertilizers.



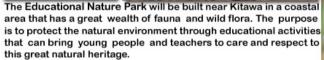
In the area was built an irrigation system and a building for the processing of seeds. Since 2011, among the trees of Jatropha Curcas has been initiated the cultivation of vegetables, with encouraging results.

In addition, a portion of land was given to the creation of a Educational Park to enhance the rich variety of flora and fauna. An example of 'sustainable development' which will be fully operational in the coming years.

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In the photos: 1) Flower of the family Labiatae or Lamiaceae
2) White Herons on the lake



3) Hammerhead (Scopus umbretta) of the family of Pelicans, known for the shape of the head
4) Scarlet-chested Sunbird which feeds on the nectar of flowers (Chalcomitra senegalensis)

6) Wester (Pleasus bagleforb)

5) Weaver (Ploceus baglafecht) known for the construction of large nests.

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