

2015 Calendar 'Harambee Gwasssi Project'

Brownsea NGO Foundation

www.brownsea.it www.iksdpanyandiwa.net

www.conquistaweb.it/harambee

www.youtube.com/KenyaHarambee



We're very grateful to our Volunteers and Supporters for the invaluable help! Special Thanks to the Students of the Bocconi University of Milan (Italy) for their amazing work.



<http://www.facebook.com/IksdpProgettoHarambeeKenya>



2015 Harambee Calendar

'Gwasssi-Kenya Harambee' is a project of international cooperation and solidarity of Brownsea NGO Foundation that, since 1983, promotes the social, cultural and economic self-development in the Nyandiwa peninsula, one of the poorest areas of Kenya.

Volunteers and local people work side by side and realize successfully interventions in a large area, from the shores of Lake Victoria to the surrounding hills.

'Harambee' in Swahili means 'working together': it indicates an effort in common, is the cry used by fishermen to pull the nets... This is attitude that moves our actions, not just 'aid' but many shared actions which are always self-development of the community. Italians and Africans working together sharing efforts and successes.

We're very grateful to our Volunteers and Supporters for the invaluable help! Special Thanks to the Students of Bocconi University (Milan) for their work and the amazing photos.

Our links: <http://www.brownsea.it> <http://www.iksdpanyandiwa.net>

<http://www.conquistaweb.it/harambee>

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FaceBook page: <http://www.facebook.com/IksdpProgettoHarambeeKenya>

Harambee in Second Life: <http://bunnyisles.blogspot.it>

Brownsea NGO Foundation, via Burigozzo 11, 20122 Milano (Italy)

Donations: Banca Popolare di Milano, agenzia 3 Milano

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Reason for payment: Harambee Gwasssi Project

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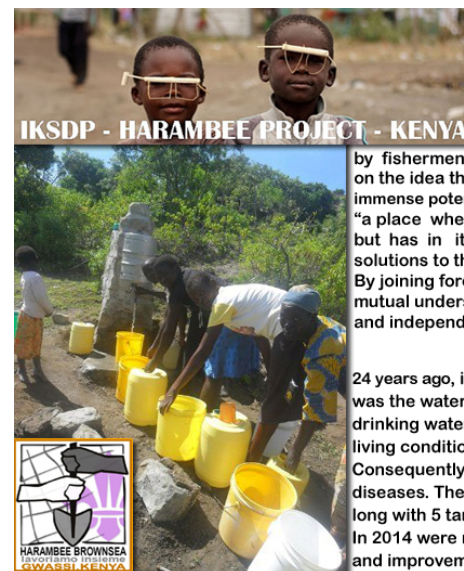
**Nyandiwa peninsula
Gwasssi - South Nyanza**

The "IKSDP-Harambee Project" was started in 1983 in Nyandiwa village, on the shore of Lake Victoria (one of the poorest areas of Kenya), and still is going on. During these years, the Brownsea Foundation in partnership with the 'Kenya Scout Association', the 'World Scout Bureau-Africa' and local population, has realized many projects and provided a lot of services. Volunteers and local people work side by side, realizing successful interventions in a large area, from the shores of Lake Victoria to the surrounding hills.

"Kid's smile it's the home foundations" (Swahili proverb)

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JANUARY 2015



Main features of an 'Harambee' event are: join forces, sharing & taking on responsibility. Little by little, a little becomes a lot!

Harambee means 'working together' in Swahili language: is the cry used

by fishermen to pull the nets. Harambee is based on the idea that every person and community has immense potential within. A community is not simply "a place where there are problems to be solved" but has in itself the capacity to work towards solutions to their issues.

By joining forces it's possible to grow together in mutual understanding, working for the sustainable and independent development.

Gwasssi Water Project

24 years ago, in this area the most pressing problem was the water: the aqueduct construction brought drinking water to about 20,000 people, improving living conditions in Nyandiwa and nearby villages. Consequently decreased the spread of infectious diseases. The IKSDP Aqueduct Project is 20 km long with 5 tanks and 14 fountains.

In 2014 were made of the works of maintenance and improvements to the entire system.

"The earth and the water we have, not have been given by our fathers, but borrow it from our children" (Swahili proverb)

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FEBRUARY



The first of its kind in the whole of Suba District, it's 2nd in the annual ranking of the Ministry of Education among all colleges in Kenya. Thanks to the excellent management and to the great capacity of its professors, it has every year more and more students and graduates, which reach a true academic excellence. Our young teachers have so great and immediate job opportunities. Opened the new female dormitory and in expansion the facilities of Sports Centre, from 2014 the IKSDP College, in partnership with the Rongo University, has opened new and very appreciated courses.



"To live long is to see much" (Swahili proverb)

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MARCH



Improve the level of education is a great and continuous work!
The reconstruction of Kitawa School, collapsed in 2010, was completed with the help of volunteers and supporters. The graduates of IKSDP Teachers Training College are many, some of them were really the children who attended school in built in the early years of the project! With them & the Italian schools have made the African storybooks and eBook we would like to reactivate soon:
<http://www.conquistaweb.it/harambee>

2014: XII International Competition Graphic Arts and partnership with Domenico Chiesa Found.



"One drop after another fills the glass" (Swahili proverb)

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APRIL



<http://dbrpeters.wix.com/iksdpcreativecentre>

The IKSDP Nyandiwa Creative Centre was created with aim of promoting local arts and crafts, as an example of efficient and sustainable micro-economy. Special attention is given to the most vulnerable groups: young people and women. The Creative Centre works as cooperative Self-help group and produces bags, traditional African costumes, miniature statues, baskets, furniture and paintings made with local natural resources or recycled materials. The bags are crocheted with banana leaves or plastic bags cutted into strips. An original recycling eco-friendly and a creative source of income!



"If you want something under the bed, you have to bend over"
(Swahili proverb)

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MAY



<http://dbrpeters.wix.com/iksdpcreativecentre>



The Creative Centre has been officially registered at the Ministry of Social Affairs of Kenya; the name is: IKSDP-CC Gwasssi Artists Self Help Group. The adhesions are growing as well as artworks. Since 2014, the Art Gallery exhibits and sells the products of Creative Centre and it excite much interest and agreement in community. In fact, the participation is increasing and also the productions: from objects craft to furniture, to real works of art, such as paintings that decorate the biological tanks of the Scout Centre.

"Do today what is to do today" (Swahili proverb)

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JUNE



Many initiatives contribute to self-finance the IKSDP Center activities: the Social Hall is the meeting point of the community and a public service, ideal for conferences, meetings, Drama festival and weddings (with smaller rooms for seminars, voice amplifiers and internet connection). The IKSDP Hostel of Nyandiwa can host families, individuals and groups, with comfortable rooms. At the market are sold agricultural products and are rented the wedding dresses donated by 'Calabria for Harambee' (confiscated to companies linked to organized crime) for Nyandiwa brides, to support the project.



"Knowledge is power" (Swahili proverb)

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JULY



The IKSDP Internet Point of Nyandiwa, since 2004 provides its services to neighboring villages and throughout the region, powered by solar panels. The specialized staff helps users to use the internet, to write and print documents, photocopying, fax and e-mail. The success of the services and the Computer courses for the community and the College students, the need to know how to use ICT is becoming more widespread.

Thus was born the IKSDP - CMC (Community Media Centre) between IKSDP, Rongo Univ.

(Kenya) & Brighton University (UK). A training project to make better the Internet opportunity: Rongo Univ. and IKSDP College will work together coordinated by Dr. Jerry Agalo (University of Rongo - School of Information & Communication Studies).

> In the picture: Prof. Peter Day (Brighton Univ.) visit the IKSDP Computer Training Center laboratory.



"Everyone should contribute when collection is made." (Swahili proverb)

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AUGUST



In the IKSDP Kitawa area is currently setting up, from March 2014, a cultivation of sunflower plants, with the aim of producing edible oil, in partnership with the Kenyan society 'Wefi', that is already operating in the sector. The plants are grown so very exceptional and the sunflowers cultivation in Kitawa has yielded 570 kg of seeds, which have been used to produce 125 litres of oil.



"If you want to get first run alone. If you want to go far, walk together"
(Swahili proverb)

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Agriculture and breeding are always very hard to practice in this area, due to the arid climate, with very serious repercussions on the entire population. For this reason we try to repeat some sustainable models of micro-economy

managed by cooperatives of young people and women.



A new tank extends the breeding of catfish and tilapia, initiated for many years to tackle the crisis caused by overfishing of large multinational vessels. Continues keeping laying hens, milk cows and the vegetable cultivations: these activities were considered impossible for long periods of drought and are now feasible thanks to the experimental equipments of irrigation.

"They is no distance that has no end" (Swahili proverb)

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Since 2009, was launched the 'Kitawa Environmental Project' (6 km from Nyandiwa), with an experimental cultivation of Jatropha; the plant grows in arid land fighting desertification. From seeds produces fuel oil, used for lamps, cookers and for production of biogas and biodiesel; from waste are derived soap, glycerine, candles and agricultural fertilizers.



The plantation grows on about 17 hectares of never-before cultivated, arid and stony land, with irrigation system and structures for seeds processing. Since 2011 the production of vegetables planted between the jatropha trees has been carried out with encouraging results.

On the coast, we're working on a Natural Park, which aims to appreciate the wide variety of flora and fauna: a great project for the next few years.

"Follow bees and you will get honey" (Swahili proverb)

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30	NOVEMBER					



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