

Westminster College MO(Fulton MO)
Goat Breeding Economic Sustainability Project
Ian Meyer and Jephthe Ngendo
Uganda June 25th- July 18th

Project Background and Need

Our team has taken a women empowerment approach as a possible solution to support many vulnerable families in the Kyangwali refugees settlement. Our project will be contributing to a previous goat breeding CIYOTA project in Kyangwali refugee settlement in Kikuube District in Western Uganda. CIYOTA representatives have told us they have done very similar projects to what we proposed but aren't currently doing one because of lack of funding. COBURWAS International Youth Organization to Transform Africa (CIYOTA) according to their website "is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization established by refugee youth in December 2005 in Kyangwali refugee settlement, Uganda." The organization which we are partnering with CIYOTA is an economic development project specifically aimed at helping women who have been widowed from the result of conflict. The project is an animal husbandry project where members raise animals and share the benefits. Many women in the refuge settlement were widowed by the regions various conflicts and are in need financial support.

-Project Details

Our team will meet in Chicago and fly out of O'Hare. We intend to fly into Entebbe international airport and then spend the night in Kampala in preparation for our morning journey to the refugee camp. The next morning, we will take the public bus from Kampala to Houma district in western Uganda, and then taxi for the rest of the distance to Kyangwali Refugee camp. Public buses will be our primary means of transportation and we will only use taxis to get to the more rural areas the buses don't stop at. We will travel by public bus and taxi to Kyangwali where we will meet with CIYOTA community building representative Claude Dusabe with whom we have been in touch. We intended to do a goat breeding project that will allow women in need to receive a goat with the intention of breeding the goats and use the benefit for family support, education for children, or health care. We have received information from one of the executive directors of CIYOTA (Ntakamaze Nziyonvira) about how they do their goat projects and how impactful it has been. We also learned how it is extended to more families when baby goats are born. 30 widows in Kyangwali have received aid since 2017 allowing 75 children to attend school. The organization will provide us housing during the course of the project in Kyangwali that way we can save more money to buy more goats and to reach out to more members of the community. The price of a goat is around 30-45 USD, this means we will be able to buy about 145 goats at the least. Communal grazing land for the goats is available for free in the refuge camp. The refuge camp is made up of over 100,000 people and many different villages. Each village has a different market day. We intend to use this to our advantage when buying the goats. For example, if we know we will be giving out 20 goats in a certain village we will wait till their specific market day and buy the predetermined number of goats. This will eliminate us having to hire drivers to move the goats for us. We will make the determination of who gets the goats with the help of our local partners. It is a great hope of ours to be able to send as many children to school as possible with this project. To help in this we will all be arriving with school supplies which have been donated to us. Items such as pencils, notebook, sharpeners, erasers, and shoes.

Project Goals & Objectives

Our team identified four main goals for our project. The first being economic empowerment for the people of the refugee camp, specifically widowed women in need. Additionally that the community at large benefits by the added money in the economy that the goats will provide. Our Second main goals that we hope to achieve by providing goats is the education ripple effect. The mothers who receive the goats will be able to use some of their extra income to support their children's education. Our goal is that by proving extra income for these women their lives are made easier and more of their children are able to attend school. Sending single parent children to school has been a goal of CIYOTA in the past when they

do projects like the one, we are doing. Our third goal is also to further CIYOTA mission which is to improve the lives of the refugees arriving in the camp. We seek to improve the general quality of life for those living in the camp. The last and perhaps most important goal of this project is sustainability. We believe this to be of the highest importance in creating an independent project that stands on its own after our departure. For the goat breeding project, our sustainability plan is organized through the help of CIYOTA. Additionally, since the goat project is a breeding program it already has a sustainability aspect to it.

Project Timeline

June 25th leave from O'Hare airport.

June 27th Arrive in Uganda spend the night in Kampala

June 28th Travel to the Refugee camp meeting the CIYOTA team, and surveying project site

June 29th-July 12th Purchasing & distributing goats, recruitment of members, and formulation of groups with COBURWAS

July 13th evaluate our work and meet with CIYOTA leaders again

July 15th return to Kampala for a night

July 16th fly out of Entebbe

July 18th return to O'Hare airport.

Group Dynamic and Qualifications

Jephte Ngendo - Jephte Ngendo is a MasterCard scholar at Westminster College, studying Human Rights and Conflict Resolution, and a minor(s) in Public Health and Transnational Studies. He is a member of COBURWAS International Youth Organization to Transform Africa and can speak more than two languages widely spoken in the refugee community where we intend to start the project, and helped in translation during our 2019 summer internship with the Humanity for Children in Tanzania and Rwanda. He was one of the Westminster students that started a preschool in Uganda after winning the 2018 project for peace grant. He initiated a group of five boys who started a community-based nursery school in the Kyangwali refugee camp in western Uganda where he grew up, and where we are doing our women empowerment project.

Ian Meyer – Ian is a political Science Major and international business and comparative politics double major and is a Junior at Westminster college. Ian has been to east Africa before when he went to Rwanda and Tanzania with the non-for-profit Humanity for Children in summer 2018. Humanity for children's work involves safe birthing, education, and economic empowerment. Since Ian will be returning to Westminster in the fall, he intends to share his experience with his peers.

<https://coburwas.org/>

<https://www.humanityforchildren.org/>

<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2013/09/office-of-the-united-nations-high-commissioner-for-refugees/>