



## News Update Autumn 2023

### Our Purpose

EACP works with very deprived communities in East Africa to empower children, including abandoned orphans, through education and community support to escape debilitating and persistent poverty. Our last news update was Spring 2023 which is available from our [website](#).

### Our Work

Founded in 2009, EACP supports small, manageable projects in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. We believe that working together with carefully selected long-term trusted partners produces the best results, drawing on their initiative and participation, and on shared learning. Our projects are managed by local leaders working within their communities to achieve real change. EACP is run by volunteers who maintain professional standards and procedures to ensure effective operation, and 95% of funding goes direct to our projects. We also try to ensure that project spending is on locally produced goods which generates income multiplier effects in poor communities. We always seek good value for money and ensure that all project spending is fully accounted for with receipts and pictures. We aim to visit all partners every 3-years and seek to maximise the impact of our work through ongoing evidence based monitoring and long-term evaluation. On our recent monitoring and review visit in June 2023 Trustees were very impressed with the work of all our partner schools, including our new partner Rossholme Primary.



To support children we also invest in families and communities. By cultivating a sense of ownership, as well



as promoting accountability and responsibility, our projects seek to achieve sustained local development through training, work and health awareness. We are confident that this holistic approach produces sustained long-term benefits. Over the past 6-months we have been working on several new projects.

### Schools and Education

**School learning resources** – The new two storey science and IT block at Joy Primary School, located in a slum district of Nairobi, continues to progress well. The block replaces two dilapidated primary classrooms and the new facility will enable the school to begin

## Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty



offering access to selective lower secondary education to local children who would otherwise be excluded due to family poverty.

To support student learning we have been investing in science equipment and ICT as schools get access to cheaper power from solar panels, or connect to mains electricity. Web access enables schools to raise the quality of educational provision through downloading updated government learning materials and to explore the wider world. In the past 6 months we have also funded new books and learning materials at three of our partner schools who

continue to improve overall educational primary attainment enabling an increasing proportion of children to qualify for entry to selective secondary education, conditional on them accessing funding to pay for school books, equipment etc.

### School attendance, nutrition and attainment –

There is good evidence that better nutrition improves educational outcomes for deprived children ([World Bank, 2016](#)). Our school lunch programmes aim to keep poor children in school, and raise nutritional levels and educational attainment. Basic nutritious, locally grown school meals of maize, rice and beans are produced in simple school kitchens. This one meal a day encourages school attendance, promotes educational development and is vital for many families.



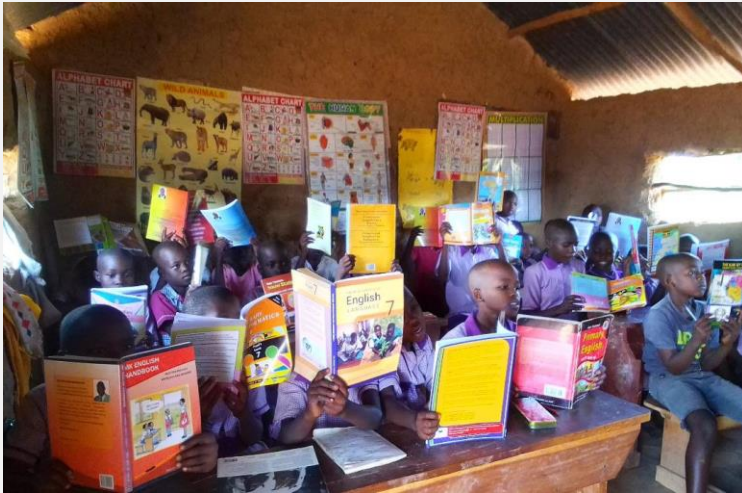
Primary school tuition costs are state supported in East Africa, but families still pay for additional school

fees, uniforms, stationery and books. It costs around £25 to equip a child for primary school. A lack of school uniform leads to stigmatisation. To support school attendance at Faith school in eastern Uganda, we provided funding for simple school uniforms to around 300 deprived children attending the school. These



simple uniforms cost around £3 each and are produced locally, mainly by women, which directly raises income in poor communities. Access to secondary education typically costs at least £230 (inc. fees) each year. This discourages many families and children. In Uganda, for example, less than 10% of children attend secondary school in the poorest regions. To promote educational opportunity, we support a small number of academically able children from our supported schools to attend secondary school. Four abandoned orphans who came to Joy School at around age 4 are now in their final year of University, including Brian who is studying aeronautical engineering.

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**Support for abandoned and abused children** – Two of our partner primary schools are also home for around 180 abandoned orphans or children in care, who have suffered abuse. Since 2022 our partner schools have been working hard to re-establish effective schooling following the very disruptive and lengthy school closure programme in Uganda and Kenya for up to 2 years. During 2022-23 East Africa has also been hit by the global cost-of-living crisis as food and energy prices have soared. This particularly affects poorer families who spend most of their income on food and energy. There is no additional government support here, unlike in more affluent economies.

During this economically challenging period we have been supporting schools to provide food and support for these children. In rural East Africa £9 will keep a child in food for a whole month.

To support the 50 girls and boys who currently live at Faith school we have just started a project to replace two stick and mud dormitories (see picture below right), with more permanent brick built accommodation with doors and windows to keep out wind, rain, and wild animals. To support the health of these children we have also purchased mosquito nets which need regular replacement over 2-years.

### Looking Ahead

We are currently working on several new project proposals which we hope to develop in the coming months. These include:

**Training and enterprise:** EACP is currently supporting a training programme in garment making, managed by Faith school and the Masafa Foundation in eastern Uganda, for around 50 women, including young teenage mothers who were forced to leave school, seeking additional skills to support their young families.



**School sustainability** – we are currently working with several partner organisations to seek to secure the future of Rossholme Primary School (Nairobi) which is threatened due to the potential sale of the school land. Rossholme’s mission is to provide education to the most deprived children living in the heart of the slum district of the city, including the many children who are not in school (street children). On our most recent monitoring and review visit in June 2023 EACP Trustees were very impressed by what they saw and considered the overall work of the school to be outstanding.

**School attendance** – we have budgeted for books, uniforms and school fees to support deprived but academically able children to attend primary and secondary school to achieve their potential and improve their life chances.

**Electricity, solar lighting, and ICT** – more investment in basic infrastructure is needed as it’s often lacking or non-existent in poor rural schools which hampers children’s learning. Families in East Africa often spend up to a quarter of their weekly earnings on kerosene. Kerosene lamps are dangerous, expensive,

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and have serious adverse health and environmental effects (WHO, 2020). A small solar study lamp costing around £6-8 is great for a schoolchild, while a larger lamp will light a whole family room. Solar lights improve education, family productivity, reduce indoor pollution and make people feel safer after sunset.

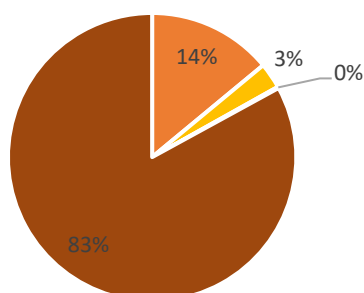


### FINANCIALS

### FINANCIALS Annual Accounts 2022-2023

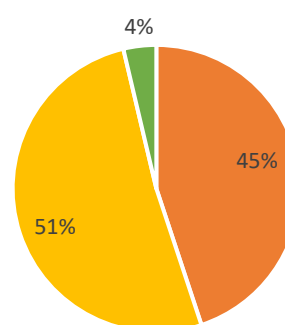
The latest [EACP annual trustee report and accounts](#) are available on our website and from the [UK Charity Commission](#). A snapshot of our income and expenditure last year is shown below. Some of our income is put aside to fund our longer term projects such as new buildings and 4-years of secondary education.

Income: £81,547



■ Personal Regular Donations ■ Gift Aid  
■ Other Donations ■ Trusts and Foundations

Expenditure: £86,492



■ Kenya Schools 45% ■ Uganda Schools 51%  
■ Fundraising and Admin 4%

If you wish to find out more about our work, please do contact us.

Pieter Lagaay (Chair) and EACP Trustees