



News Update Autumn 2024

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 update was Spring 2024 and is available from our [website](#).

Our Work

Founded in 2009, EACP supports small, manageable education, training and relevant health 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 spending supports key [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#), focussing on areas where there is strong evidence of a [high benefit-to-cost ratio](#). Projects are managed by local leaders working within their communities to achieve real change. By cultivating a sense of ownership, as well as promoting accountability and responsibility, our projects seek to achieve sustained local development through education, training, work and health awareness. We are confident that this holistic approach produces sustained long-term benefits.



EACP is run by volunteers, who maintain professional standards and procedures, to deliver effective operation. We ensure that 95% of funding goes direct to our projects. We also seek to ensure, where possible, that project spending is on locally produced goods and services, which generates income multiplier effects in poor communities. All project spending is fully accounted for, with receipts and pictures provided from transparency. 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 last monitoring and review visit in June 2023 Trustees were very impressed with the work of all our partner schools.



We are also making good progress building partnerships our 3 new schools: Bukamba Primary (720 children, rural northern Uganda); Joshome Pre-school and Primary (110 children, Dandora slum district, Nairobi) and Baba Gurston Primary (520 children, rural eastern Kenya).

(New dorm for 24 orphan/abandoned boys, Faith primary)

Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty

Recent Projects

School learning resources – After successfully completing several school building projects, the focus of the last 6-months has been on the provision of school teaching and learning materials to support child learning, and to raise school performance outcomes. This includes providing essential reading books, exercise books, pens and pencils at Bukamba school and Rossholme Primary School (520 children, Kiambiu slum, Nairobi). These resources support children from low-income families who struggle with the cost and provision of educational materials, in an underfunded educational sector.

To support student learning we have also invested in ICT as schools in East Africa connect to mains electricity or get access to cheaper power from solar panels. Web access enables schools to raise the quality of educational provision through online access to government learning materials and explore the wider world. In the past 6 months we have funded 5 PCs, a laptop and a printer at Faith school (265 children, eastern Uganda) which can be used in the day by the school, and then hired out in the evening to the local community (including secondary school students) who lack ICT and internet access. At Baba Gurston primary school we have funded a 3-in-1 photocopier to provide printed worksheets for classes.



School attendance, nutrition and attainment

– There is good evidence that better nutrition improves educational outcomes for deprived children ([World Bank, 2016](#)). Since 2022, East Africa has 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. Our school meals programmes for around 1,700 children provide a locally grown nutritious school meal of maize, rice and beans, produced in simple school kitchens. This one meal a day improves child nutrition, encourages school attendance, raises educational attainment, and supports low-income families.

Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty



As our partner schools continue to improve attainment in primary education, they enable an increasing proportion of children to qualify for entry to selective secondary education, conditional on them accessing funding to pay for school books, fees, equipment etc. 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 ([UNICEF, 2020](#)). To promote educational opportunity, we support a small number of academically able children from our supported schools

to attend secondary school, although, following the [benefit-cost evidence](#), our focus remains on primary and pre-school provision.

Support for abandoned and abused children – Two of our partner primary schools are also home for around 140 abandoned orphans or children in care who have suffered abuse. Faith school cares for around 50 children, and we have replaced two dilapidated stick and mud dormitories with more permanent brick built accommodation with doors and windows to keep out wind, rain, and wild animals. The new girl's dorm was built and in use in the Spring, and the boy's dorm has just been completed. Joy School (350 children, Nairobi) home to around 90 orphans, also provides a caring and supportive environment for these vulnerable children. We help to support the cost of a diet of maize, beans and rice at both these schools for these children. In deprived areas of East Africa £7 will keep a child in food for a whole month.

Training and enterprise: We are supporting a garment-making training programme, managed by Faith school and the Masafa Foundation in eastern Uganda. This programme benefits around 50 women seeking additional skills to support their young families, including young teenage mothers who were forced to leave school. As the project progresses we are seeking evidence on the economic and social benefits of the intervention, as participants find employment in the local economy.



(A new home for 24 orphan, abandoned or abused boys at Faith school)

Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty

Looking Ahead

We are currently working on several new project proposals, alongside progressing some existing initiatives, which we hope to develop in the coming months including:



Lower-secondary education at Joy School, Nairobi - A new Year-9 classroom will complete our investment in lower secondary education at the school, which will offer access to lower secondary education to local academically able children, who would otherwise be excluded due to family poverty.

School meals and attainment – We will be continuing with our school meals programme which currently provides around 1,800 school children with a nutritious locally grown meal of maize, beans and rice each day

Assessing the needs at our three new approved partner schools (Bukamba, Joshome,

Baba Gurston), including access to clean water, sanitation, and basic school infrastructure.

A new brick classroom block at Faith school will replace a dilapidated stick and mud classroom which is infested with termites and suffering from age and weather damage. It will vastly improve the teaching and learning school environment for the girls and boys above.

Electricity, solar lighting, and ICT investment in basic infrastructure is needed as it's often lacking or non-existent in deprived 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, and have serious adverse health and environmental effects ([WHO, 2023](#)). A small solar study lamp costing around £7 is great for a schoolchild, while a larger lamp will light a whole family room. Solar lights improve education, raise family productivity, reduce indoor pollution and make people feel safer after sunset.

FINANCIALS: Annual Accounts 2023-2024

The latest [EACP Annual Report and Accounts](#) is available from the [UK Charity Commission](#) which gives details of our 2023/24 income (£82,043) and expenditure (£66,410). Part of our income is set aside to fund our longer term projects such as buildings and supporting 4-years of secondary education.

If you would like to know more about our work, please feel free to contact us.



Pieter Lagaay (Chair), Barry Harper (Sec), EACP Trustees and the EACP Team.