



## News Update: Autumn 2025

### Dear Friends and Supporters,

The East Africa Children's Project (EACP) partners with disadvantaged communities in East Africa to help deprived and vulnerable children escape debilitating poverty through education and community support. Our previous update in Spring 2025 is available from our newly revamped [website](#).

In Section 1 we report back on our project work over the past 6 months. Section 2 looks forward and an overview and restatement of our work processes and financials is presented in Section 3.

### 1. Recent Projects (last 6 months)

**Teaching and learning resources** – The provision of classroom learning materials is a key element in improving educational outcomes for children in very under-resourced schools. Over the past 6-months we have provided around 6,800 essential reading/exercise books and 5,000 pens/pencils to our partner schools, to keep children actively learning through their school day. We also provided ongoing funding for 4 teaching posts at Joy School (Nairobi), as it is home to around 90 orphan and vulnerable children who have no means of support.



New tables and chairs: Joshome School

**New school facilities** – We have completed the construction of a 2 classroom block at Faith Primary School (eastern Uganda), replacing a deteriorating stick-and-mud building, which will significantly improve the children's learning environment. At Joy School we have completed the construction of a new 2-classroom block, fitting it out with lighting, desks, tables, and cupboards, to offer 3-years of lower secondary education to academically able deprived children living in a slum area of the city, where provision is limited. At Joshome school, located in Nairobi's infamous [Dandora slum district](#), we provided 24 tables and 126 chairs, all locally produced, costing around £1,400. Joshome is a newly established school which currently provides nursery and some primary (P1, P2) education to around 160 children.



**Nutrition and primary school meals** – There is good evidence that better nutrition improves educational outcomes for deprived children ([World Bank, 2016](#)). The ongoing global cost-of-living crisis has severely affected poor East African families, many of whom spend most of their income on food and energy. Our school meals programme provides locally grown daily nutritious meals – typically porridge, maize, rice and beans - for over 1,800 primary school children. These meals improve health, attendance and learning outcomes, and support

## Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty

low-income families. Each meal costs around £0.50 per child per week, or 10p a day. We also work in partnership with schools and the community, who typically provide cooks, cooking fuel, cups and plates. Two partner schools are also home for around 140 orphan and vulnerable children. A more nutritious diet for these children, which includes occasional chicken and fish, costs around £1.15 per week.

### Indoor air pollution and primary school kitchens –

Reducing indoor pollution has been highlighted as a [high yield development intervention](#) by economists. In East Africa, people cook and keep warm inside homes and schools by burning dung, firewood and coal – filling their living and cooking spaces with smoke and life-reducing pollutants. We have now completed our programme, with our partner schools, to install cleaner cooker stoves and venting. The recent school kitchen clean-air upgrade at Faith Primary School, including 8 new clean-cooking stoves and ventilation shafts, cost just £1,400 and offers long-term benefits to cooks and children. At Rossholme school we have installed a 400 litre stainless steel energy saving Jiko cooking pot, with improved ventilation via a vented chimney, to provide school meals for around 530 primary children attending the school located in the [Kiambu slum district](#) of Nairobi,



School lunch on the go:  
Baba Gurston school



**Solar lighting** – Families in East Africa often spend up to a quarter of their weekly earnings on kerosene. Kerosene lamps, commonly used in East Africa, are dangerous, costly, and have serious adverse health risks ([WHO, 2023](#)). Over the past 6 months we have completed phase 1 of our school solar panel programme installing 4 solar panels with an inverter and 2 batteries at Baba Gurston school (rural western Kenya). Solar lighting enables teaching on dull days (especially in winter); permits evening study and class preparation; reduces indoor pollution; and makes people feel safer after sunset. Each school solar project costs around £1,700 and provides lasting

value for the school and wider community.

**School attainment and student progression** – As our partner schools continue to improve attainment in primary education, more children qualify for entry to selective secondary education. However, annual costs (books, uniforms, fees) of around £230 per student prevent many from attending. In Uganda, for example, less than 10% of children attend secondary school in the poorest regions ([UNICEF, 2020](#)). We are currently supporting 9 very academically able but deprived children, who obtained top grades at Faith and Joy school, to attend secondary school. This is life-changing for these children, raising aspiration



New toilet block: Bukamba School



## Empowering Children – Reducing Poverty

among younger children. However, following the [benefit-cost evidence](#), our focus remains on primary and pre-school provision.

**Support for vulnerable children and girls –** [UNESCO](#) reports that more than 20% of children aged 6-11 in Sub-Saharan Africa are out of school, with girls particularly affected. To help address this we provided 1,800 packs of disposable sanitary pads to support 300 girls at Bukamba School, helping them stay in school during menstruation. We also supplied mattresses, bedding, and wheelchairs for 20 disabled children living at Baba Gurston Primary School, enhancing comfort, dignity, and access to education. Our school meals programme also draws children into school.



**Sanitation and hygiene –** Over the past 6-months we have constructed 3 new toilet blocks, each with 4 cubicles, at Bukamba School (northern Uganda). Pit latrine toilets in poor rural areas of East Africa are very basic. Water for handwashing is available from nearby rainwater capture water-tanks also provided by EACP.

## 2. Looking Ahead

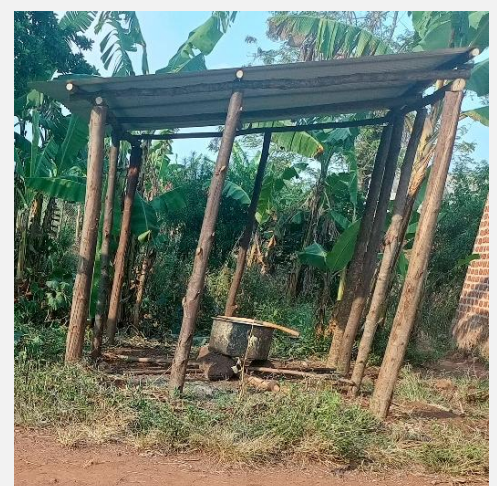
Our priorities for the coming months include:

**School meals and attainment –** We will continue to provide a nutritious locally grown school meal of either porridge, maize, beans or rice to around 1,800 school children each day. We also plan to invest in a new simple kitchen at Bukamba Primary, which will replace a very basic large pot heated by burning firewood.

**Conducting needs assessments at new partner schools and organisations –** we will begin assessing the needs of a new recommended school in western Kenya and a youth training centre relating to access to clean water, school materials, girl's education, basic school infrastructure and sanitation, and training equipment.

**Solar lighting –** we hope to begin phase-2 of our solar programme and install more solar panels on school roofs to provide lighting and energy through the school year, including during winter months and evenings, and permit increased ICT access, which all contribute to raising learning outcomes.

**Girls' access to education and sanitary pads –** we plan to expand our provision of offering disposable sanitary pads to girls from very low income households, who might otherwise struggle with menstruation and remain at home. The programme would support around 390 girls who attend our partner schools, and would cost around £2,500, or £6.30 per child, for 6-months.



Current kitchen at Bukamba School

## 3. Overview of Our Work and Financials

### Our Work

Founded in 2009, EACP currently supports small, manageable education, training and relevant health projects in Kenya, 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 and buy-in, 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 for transparency. Trustees 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 all schools received very positive evaluations.

### Financials: Annual Accounts 2023-2024

Our latest [Annual Report and Accounts](#), available from the UK Charity Commission, give details of our income (£82,043) and expenditure (£66,410). We reserve a portion of funds for long-term commitments, including building projects and multi-year secondary education support.

If you would like to know more about our work, please do get in touch.

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

