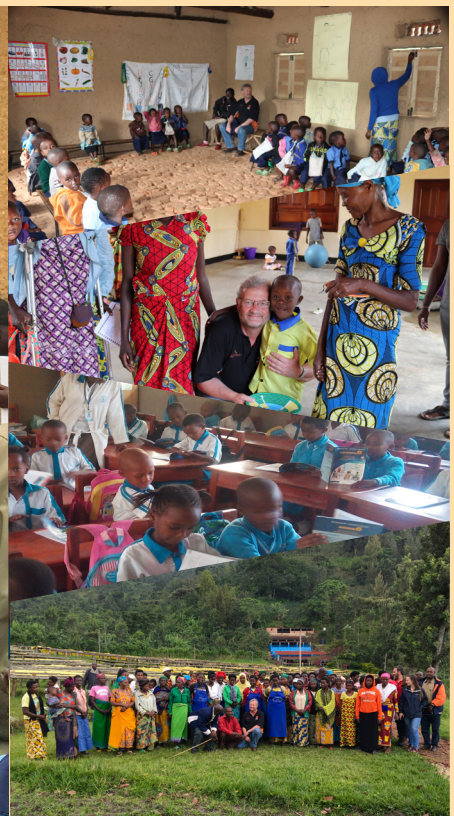


CAFFE PRAEGO

RWANDA TRIP 2019

Team Praego have just returned to the UK from a very successful two week trip to Rwanda visiting our community projects & the washing stations, where we buy our green bean from. One of the highlights on arrival was meeting up with Frank Setto – our Rwandan artist who has previously designed artwork for our coffee bags. During our 2018 visit, we commissioned three new paintings to show the ‘washing, drying and milling processes’ and were delighted to be presented with these amazing paintings on the first day of this trip. The paintings safely made it back to the UK in our luggage and are now with the framers & photographers for new foils. Once complete these will be proudly hung in Caffè Praego’s Coffee Academy and available in prints.





WASHING STATIONS

Transport to our two primary coffee washing stations located by Lake Kivu was in a wooden fishing canoe as this is the only means of access. It takes 3 hours across the lake to travel south to Nkora Washing Station where we buy a significant amount of very high quality grade 1 Arabica green bean. Harvesting had started a few weeks earlier and the team were impressed with the fantastic quality of green bean. Travelling back north on the lake for an hour we visited the Ingoboka washing station where we received the warmest of welcomes with dancing and singing from co-operative women. Again the Ingoboka green bean quality was superb and we look forward to the cupping sessions to taste both Nkora and Ingoboka beans later in the week & confirming our orders for 2019. It's essential to quantify orders quickly while in Rwanda to guarantee the best crop from the early harvest!

HOW YOU ARE HELPING

The Point Foundation today gets £3 from every case of Caffè Praego coffee and 100% of these funds go to helping communities and projects in some of the most desperate areas in Rwanda. We focus our funding on orphaned & vulnerable children, whether this is through our 3 schools or our disability projects.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

IZERE COMMUNITY CENTRE:

The team spent a wonderful morning at this small therapy centre which supports 80 special needs children, many with Cerebral Palsy. Further funding projects here will include a new play area, school books and materials. Long term, we aim to build a small refectory to replace their current corrugated iron building which becomes so hot the children can't sit in it.

GERMAINE'S NURSERY SCHOOL:

Here we were swamped by the 97 exuberant pre-schoolers all wanting to see the 'umuzungu' (white people). The play area installed 2 years ago was in full swing and we were pleased to see the 10 desks and 100 chairs donated last year are in good use. Head teacher Germaine requested 10 mattresses and sheets for children to use during their afternoon naps, as well as additional school materials & educational toys. These will be delivered this month.

KIGEYO NURSERY, PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL:

Many of the Ingoboka coffee farmer's children attend these schools. We took 200 nursery school books plus education posters with us. Current funding initiatives for these pupils include 2 water tanks for fresh water, 2 blackboards and play items. At the main school a new project will help support a self-sufficiency programme as school lunches are expensive to buy in. A vegetable growing area is being developed and we've committed to buying 10,000 plant seedlings.

HOUSE OF CHILDREN NURSEY & PRIMARY SCHOOL:

There 840 pupils here & it's always a joy to visit. We sponsor 82 special needs children and 4 specialist teachers and spent the day in classrooms with them. It's a growing school and a leading pioneer of inclusive education in Rwanda, supporting children with a wide range of disabilities. This year Caffè Praego will fund a further 2,500 school books as well as school materials.

UBUMWE COMMUNITY CENTRE:

The centre provides support & welfare for adults with disabilities & special needs. It focuses on skills training for PWDs in sewing & crafts and developing co-operatives for income earning. It's a very special place where those with disabilities are treated with equality & respect. For 2019 we have committed to fund a further 10 sewing & 10 knitting machines and 4 braille machines.

JESSIES WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION:

70 women with disabled children meet weekly at a rented building to produce superb handmade baskets & bags, selling them to help feed their families. Their children also receive physiotherapy sessions here. We supported them last year with 2 sewing machines and mattresses and this year we have committed £500 for them to invest in materials.

UBUMWE VOCATIONAL

TRAINING CENTRE AT MWOGO:

Mwogo is in Bugesera district, one of the poorest areas in East Rwanda, with few opportunities for young adults to get skills training or jobs. This newly established centre opened this February and our team attended its inauguration ceremony during the trip. 45 vulnerable youth are training in hair & beauty and tailoring – two skilled jobs that are in constant demand. Last year we supported the buildings' refurbishments and this year will commit £5,000 to the centre's running costs.

