

Ukraine conflict causes concern



Enoch

We recently asked Heads of Department in Kabubbu Development Project for comment on how the conflict in Ukraine was impacting them. They're tough! As children, they experienced unimaginable hardship themselves. Often, they had only one or two bowls of maize porridge and beans daily and struggled to find fees to educate themselves to qualify in their profession. The responses from the nine educated men and women was disturbing and revealing.

Kabubbu Development Project Executive Director, Enoch said, "Here in Uganda a bar of soap that was 84p in January now costs £1.77. Fuel price rises and increased transport costs have resulted in many having restricted access to essential health services". With no NHS in Uganda, this is a cause for concern. Enoch informed us that the health centre budget of £2,666 for medicines for two months is now £6,666, but they can't increase patient fees, because people don't have money to pay.

Trust High School Headteacher Innocent, said, "As if to add salt to an injury, the Ugandan government decided to impose a 10% tax on raw materials, these were previously zero-rated. This has made the business community ride on the backs of poor consumers and that's where the majority of us now belong. A year ago it cost £1.11 to travel to Kampala and back, but now the same journey costs £4.44.

Few schools in Uganda provide free education, and everywhere the fees have risen by over 33%. Innocent said, "Education has been affected by this war as most items for education like paper, chalk, pens and pencils are imported. As a result of this increase some had challenges in raising the new school fees as well as buying scholastic materials for their child. Some removed their children from school, and this affects the school enrolment." Uganda is one of the poorest 30 countries in the world, and affordable quality education is a vital element in determining future prosperity.

Innocent continues, "Worst of all as a teacher, one is expected to wake up every morning to go and teach other people's children, but when at the same time, the wages received can't sustain one's dependants in the schools they go to, it's so demoralizing! Staff salaries have stagnated whereas individual demands keep increasing. The daily workload has increased with a new curriculum in Lower Secondary, then complications from the pandemic, There's no ray of hope for a pay rise in the face of the destructive Ukraine War. It now looks like the compounding effects have put the last nail in the coffin for a possible staff pay rise." Each head of department earns and survives on wages of £166-£266 a month.

Pastor Peter agreed with those comments and added, "I found it difficult to buy enough school materials for all my children because the stuff had doubled in price. The school fees in all the schools have doubled making it harder to pay when my income didn't increase."

Innocent further commented, "As a head teacher I have to depict a positive mental attitude in the face of difficult circumstances, But the truth remains that energizing staff in the face of uncertain circumstances is the most challenging thing I've encountered in my leadership role. I have often picked myself up and told myself and others that there's a better tomorrow, but now I find it difficult to continue with the same tune as my colleagues throw disturbing questions regarding the better tomorrow that I tell them about. The stone quarry in Kabubbu used to employ half of the people here. It's been largely sold off and many workers moved away to quarry sites out of the village."

Enoch sums it up, "To make matters worse, the foreign exchange market collapsed in April- May, so the Kabubbu Development Project had less money from the exchange, it's impossible to fulfil our budget."

Resty, head of the welfare department, supports many in the community who were denied an



Innocence



Pastor Peter

education earlier in life. For the first time in their life some now can access a TV in the village centre. She said, "The pictures the people see on TV from Ukraine instilled fear and some wanted to riot while others were in tears when seeing the real impact of war. Some lost hope of living longer when they saw how people in Ukraine just vanished. Others lost their motivation to succeed when they saw that what they worked for vanished in just the blink of an eye."

A final positive comment from Resty, "It's drawn more people to God in fear of what they see happening in Ukraine and strengthened their relationships with God". Being close to God is hard on an empty tummy or when a child is in pain, but it's the only place to go!

Your support has provided the community and its people so much over the years and again we want to reach out to you today, in hope that you will support the people of Kabubbu by making a gift at this time of concern. To make your donation go further we have a generous donor who has donated £10,000 to match-fund any donation made towards this appeal. So for every £1 donated (up to £10,000), your gift will be doubled, ie, £25 will become £50, £45 will become £90. Thank you!

Your donation will help the community purchase maize, garden tools, seeds, milling, sacks, medicines and support Street Business School – the social enterprise training programme for women, all aimed at income generation. Your gift today will help the people of Kabubbu improve their ability to generate income, sow crops for tomorrow and meet their sustenance needs for today. Thank you.



Resty

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TO DONATE NOW**

*Or send a cheque (payable to Quicken Trust) to:
Summer Appeal, Quicken Trust, PO BOX 113, Hailsham, BN27 4US*

Finding Fun in Fundraising

1st Slough Boys Brigade raised £422 for their Quicken Trust sponsored child in Kabubbu. The boys, with parents and leader Sonia Smith (pictured), set off on a two-and-a-half-hour sponsored trek, kindly organised by Slough Rotary Club. The walkers followed the Jubilee River, crossed country fields to Eton Wick then trekked along the River Thames and through Eton School's playing fields before returning to Slough.

Sonia said, "It was good to be in the fresh air with the boys. We listed all the nature we saw, including the lovely horses. It was a wonderful way to raise money for the Quicken Trust and in particular for Shafic – our sponsored senior pupil. Quicken Trust's child sponsor scheme is a great way for us to share with our group how a small gift can make a big impact on a child in one of the poorest countries in the world."

For details about Quicken Trust Sponsorships and regular giving, please email: admin@quickentrust.com



Events for you

13 Aug 2022
Saturday, 2pm-5pm

Open Garden – Old Town House, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6AH
A naturalistic garden in the heart of the village's conservation area, plants, teas and dogs welcome.

17 Aug 2022, Weds,
Wednesday, 10am-4pm

Open Gardens - Bates Green Garden, Arlington, E. Sussex, BN26 6SH –
Free entry to café, raffle and stalls in aid of Quicken Trust, pre-book garden and woods via batesgreengarden.co.uk

29 Oct 2022,
Saturday, 7pm-9.30pm

Harvest Quiz Nite - St Wilfrid's Church, Eastbourne, BN20 9RA. Teams of 6.
Tickets £12 inc. Ploughman's. Email admin@quickentrust.com to reserve your table.

If you have a fundraising activity coming up, have an idea for an event or would like further information about our work to pass on to a family member, friends or work colleague then please email: admin@quickentrust.com