



2022 ANNUAL **IMPACT** REPORT

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CEO

Happiest regards from Okere City!



2022 has been a rollercoaster. We rose over and above our expectations, making sure that indeed, we continue to ensure that a living wind continues to blow in Okere as our motto reminds us.

Our 2022 started on the highest note because schools were finally reopened after been closed down for over 90 weeks as a COVID-19 prevention procedure. We didn't only re-open our early childhood development center but also opened a primary school and welcomed 150 children as our incredible learners. Despite many challenges, such as, drought which threw many of our community members into difficult financial challenges making them unable to afford school fees,

we still persevered and prospered. Thanks to Segal Family and Tenacre Foundations that significantly lifted many burdens off our shoulders and gave us the wings to fly to make sure that children in Okere continues to receive excellent educational services.

2022 also saw the birth of seven amazing initiatives at Okere City. Firstly, we started Aero-Kwan Functional Adult Literacy Project that is providing adult education opportunities to 150 rural women in Okere. Secondly, we also started Yaa-Malu (RISE-UP) Tailoring Center that in 2022 gave 30 female youth in Okere the opportunity to receive vocational skills in tailoring, fashion and design. Thirdly, we also started the expansion of our health center to start providing laboratory and maternity services thanks to a meaningful donation from Stanbic Bank. Fourthly, we also started the Yei-Okere Peace-building Camp brought through a partnership with Yamora, a local NGO in Yei County, South Sudan and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Uganda and South Sudan. Fifthly, we started the #ExploreOkere project to strengthen Okere City as a top community tourism destination in Lango sub-region in Lango subregion in particular and Northern Uganda in general. Sixthly, our Shea trees' planting campaign enable us to plant 1,000 shea trees in 2022 as a pilot Shea parkland initiative. Lastly, we also started Okere SDGs Summit through a partnership with

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung which is intended to demonstrate our attempt towards the attainment of the sustainable development goals in practice. Many infrastructural projects were also started including the construction of 3 classroom blocks, a school toilet, sports grounds and health center.

Our work also continued to receive spotlights both on international and local media. Among others, CNN featured our work in their Africa Change Makers' series; Climate Tracker wrote about our Shea tree planting initiative; Urban TV and Africa News documented our post-conflict reconstruction agenda. National Newspapers such as, The Observer, Daily Monitor and The Independent also elaborately featured our community transformative efforts.

If you are an African or passionate about Africa, may you flip through the pages of our 2022 Annual Report and be inspired to join our efforts in making African villages more prosperous and sustainable by doing something small for your village. For other across the world, our noble community transformation efforts need your emotional, physical and financial support. Please be a part!

Ojok Okello

Community Voices



Ajacin (Jacinta), Adult learner

"Being a learner at Aero-Kwan FAL class is one of the best things that has happened to my life. I am acquiring life skills, such as, learning how to read, write, comprehend, and networks which are crucial for my success. I have made significant strides since I started my adult education classes at Okere City"



Ajina Amuge

"I have accessed several opportunities that have significantly improved my wellbeing and family at large due to Okere City. I and my family are doing everything we possibly can to make sure that the project succeeds"

School Pupil

"I love studying at Okere Community School because the school gives me the opportunity to explore and develop my passion for singing and dancing"



HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN 2022

1.

Okeme Festival

Okeme Festival is slowly emerging as our flagship community entertainment initiative in Okere. In addition to the festival, we also produced our first Okeme Music album called #OkemeMix Vol.1. The album is a recording of 10 songs produced by two different local Okeme groups in Okere. The groups were supported to go to Lira City to professionally record their songs in a music studio. The songs are freely accessible via www.soundcloud.com/okerecity.

Okere City is slowly emerging as the cultural capital and top tourism destination of Lango Sub-region due to the Okeme Festival. Moreover, the local Okeme groups within our locality are growing stronger and are becoming more enthusiastic because they regard the festival as a cultural and economic development opportunity.



We organized four different #OkemeFestivals in 2022. The festivals attracted 8,000 people, most of them local community members in Otuke District.





#OkemeFestivals



2.

Okere Community School

We started a primary school in 2022 and welcomed 135 learners attending P.1-P.6 classes. We also recruited 10 teachers, and 3 non-teaching staff. The community school continues to be one of the most important facet of our operations as it gives unique opportunities to rural children in Okere to receive a quality and holistic educational service. Apart from the academic activities, the school also participated in the district level MDD competition, although we were the worst performing group.

The underperformance arose due to the fact that we had very few children we couldn't effectively participate in all the categories of the competition. Additionally, we were inexperienced and lacked proper instructors to guide and support our children during rehearsals. We also organized graduation ceremony for 20 of our nursery children who were graduating to primary school.



Tr. Luis Ochen holding a class session with P.4 pupils.



“

“I have no doubt that Okere Community School is going to emerge as one of the leading schools in Lango sub-region in the near future because of the comitment of the school vision bearers, administrators, teachers and community members”

– Luis Ochen

”







3.

Okere Shea Butter

After introducing Okere Shea Butter to the marketplace in 2020, we continued soaring reaching more clientele and selling up to 3tons of Shea butter. With its oils extracted from Otuke's nilotica shea nuts, Okere Shea Butter has the smoothness and finesse that is unbridled. It is an organic, natural and perfect solution for most of your hair and skin care needs. In total, we sold 3 wtons of Shea butter worth \$30,000 registering a net profit of \$10,000 in 2022.



Hello, I'm an Okere City Shea Butter convert.

By [Byagaba Roland](#) · 2 months ago

★ 84 Views



"I loved the Okere Shea Butter massage experience. My entire body was gently pampered with this Shea butter and I was comforted by its subtle smell"
Roland Byagaba

4.

Okere Leadership Lab

In 2022, we continued training our local political councillors and community leaders on three key topics, namely; taking climate action, fostering collective action, conflict resolution and making/implementing bylaws. All together we trained up to 100 community leaders, unfortunately, 90 of them were men and only 10 women. Fewer women participated in the training because we are working with existing leadership structures which structurally have insignificant female representation. Going forward, we are taking radical efforts to ensure that more female community members are supported to seek leadership roles and responsibilities and are empowered to emerge as a new breed of local leaders in Okere.



“ I have significantly improved towards the fulfillment of my duties and responsibilities as an LC1 Chairperson of my ward because of the political leadership training programme organized at Okere City. Among others, the training enabled us to resolve community conflicts more effectively compared to the past. This year, my council has been able to settle all the cases brought before our local council court compared to last year when we just use to refer all the cases because we didn't have the technical capacity to handle them

Robert Odany, LC1 Chairperson, Ayiloi 'A' Village, Okere Parish.

5.

Planting Shea trees

Okere Parish lost 80% of her Shea trees' cover between 2000 and 2020. Yes, in 20 years, our community members destroyed the Shea trees which have the capacity to transform our community to make cheap charcoal. But that has to change and we have to take responsibility. Resultantly, we are working towards restoration and regeneration of Shea trees in Okere by planting more Shea trees. In 2022, we planted 2,000 Shea trees, a practice we shall keep doubling each year that passes.



Susan Nanduddu, a leading climate change advocate in Uganda participated in one our Shea tree planting campaigns.



6.

Okere Boxing Club

Okere Boxing and Kickboxing Club continues to be an important activity for engaging 50 rural youth in Okere to train and productively utilize their skills. In 2022, we organized four boxing tournaments inviting other local boxers in neighbouring villages. Increasingly, boxing as a sporting activity is being appreciated and the tournaments provides an exciting and reinvigorating space for gathering community members.



7.

Okere City Supermarket and Pub

Our supermarket served 10,000 clients in 2022! The business continues to be the magnet that attracts community members in Okere and being a one-stop-spot for grocery products in the village. The shop sold goods worth \$40,000 in 2022.



10,000 clients



\$40,000



8.

Okere Community Health Centre

In 2022, OkereHealth Centre successfully provided health care services to 7,000 community members.

Key health services provided include; testing and treatment of infectious diseases like malaria, typhoid, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs). We have also provided voluntary guidance and counselling, especially to 200 HIV/AIDS patients, in addition to conducting 150 free and voluntary HIV/AIDS testing. However, our health facility still struggles with many challenges, such as limited medical like laboratory services, inadequate drugs which disable us from providing the best medical services to the rural community. But we are grateful that in 2022, Stanbic Bank gave us a small grant to start up a laboratory which shall facilitate the health to do proper diagnosis of diseases to enable us be positioned as a crucial and essential health service provider in Otuke District.



9.

Adult Education

Among the many of the programs Okere City, functional adult literacy is part of it. Aero-Kwan functional adult literacy class bring together 100 rural women in Okere to acquire relevant knowledge and skills through a functional adult literacy curriculum. The class is facilitated by Mr. Munu Samson, a renowned and experienced adult educator. Already, the project has started reigniting hope and giving rural women of Okere the opportunity to learn, relearn and unlearn to become more prepared in shaping a better future for themselves, families and community at large. Apart from attending regular class activities which happen twice every week, Aero-Kwan learners also had the rare opportunity to travel to Kampala to receive a special recognition event where they were awarded by GiZ for emerging as second runner-up of the photo competition held on the International Day of the Rural Women. Additionally, members of Aero-Kwan also visited the Presidential Demonstration Agricultural farm to learn about modern methods of commercial farming.



Class session at Aero-Kwan

10.

Okere Summit for Sustainable Development

The inaugural Okere Summit for Sustainable Development was organized from 26th-29th May 2022, in Okere City, Otuke district. This flagship summit centered on the theme: "Reimagining Rural Futures in Africa". The summit was organized by African Centre for Trade and Development (ACTADE) in collaboration with Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and Okere City. The summit brought together a total of 50 participants from Kampala to have a free exchange of ideas on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 200 rural people of Okere parish, Adwari

Sub-County, Northern Uganda. The main objective of the summit was to generate and increase more interest in rural futurism as one of the ways to drive the attainment of the SDGs. Opening the conference, Susan Nanduddu, the Executive Director of ACTADE of noted that, "if we make sure that opportunities for listening to rural people's voices and understanding their realities are created, we could address many complex challenges that the rural people find themselves trapped in. I hope that Okere Summit for Sustainable Development becomes a platform for knowledge sharing that can meaningfully inform policies that work for the rural".



"Any social development project needs to create mechanisms to facilitate greater community participation very early in the process, and work towards "buy-in" of the people"

Constance Okollet, from Osukuru Development Initiative while speaking during the summit.

"From the Summit, I understood that rural initiatives, communities, and places can significantly contribute towards the creation of alternative, or even a potentially more helpful, future"

Maren Bjorgum



11. RISE-UP Women's Tailoring Centre

In 2022, we started RISE-UP or Yaa Malu (in the local Leb Lango dialect) Women Tailoring Hub where young girls and women are equipped with relevant and vital skills in tailoring and knitting. We have been able to train 50 young women between June to Nov 2022. Training normally takes place from 11am - 05pm from Monday to Friday. Class sessions start late to give the women the opportunity to do garden work and perform other household chores before coming to the hub. At the moment, our oldest trainee is 26 years of age and the youngest one is 16 years old. The program is non-residential and the ladies commute from the neighbouring villages, parishes, and Sub County within Otuoke district. Daily, most of them walk on foot for distances of more than 10KMs to come to the training centre.



Special Highlight

Okere Women Wins an International Rural Women's Day Award



The 2022 International Rural Women's Day shall forever be etched in Okere women's memory. A group of women who belong to Aero-Kwan Functional Adult Literacy Center, a project started and supported by Okere City was selected as the second prize winners of a competition organized by GiZ to celebrate rural women doing incredible work to transform their communities in Uganda. The competition which attracted 89 submissions was a unique opportunity for the rural women of Okere to be recognized and appreciated for their deserved hard work amidst impossible odds.

The group sent four of their representative to receive their award during an extraordinary event comprised of incredible rural women championing rural reforms in Uganda. Held at the Goethe Centre in Kampala, the ceremony was solemnized by H.E Matthias Schauer, the German Ambassador to Uganda. The award to Aero-Kwan also included a UGX 2M cash prize which shall go towards the construction of Aero-Kwan Centre, a premier functional adult

literacy home in Okere.

Whilst receiving the Award, Scovia Awili, the Chairperson of Aero-Kwan didn't only appreciate GiZ for recognizing Okere women, but she went so far as to emphasize that the award was special to the women of Okere because it means that the whole world is watching the little efforts they are doing to become better women and responsible citizens. Re-echoing why she is passionate about adult learning, Scovia, a mother of seven children noted that she didn't have the opportunity to go to school as a child because of the insurgencies in Northern Uganda. She also said that the patriarchal nature of her culture successfully enabled the boy children of her generation to be educated to the disadvantage of the girl-child. "Moreover, our parents forced us into early marriages so that dowry paid for our marriage could be used to enable our brothers to get married", Awilli said. "This was like a double punishment" she lamented.

But for Awilli and 150 other rural women in Okere who attend classes at Aero-Kwan Centre, age is just a number. Their dedication and determination to learn basic numeracy and literacy, and get exposed to the world beyond their village is a gift they do not take for granted. They do not only see the world differently but in fact, also aspire to become better. They are also taking bold steps to invest in educating their children to receive the education they didn't get the opportunity to attain.

Presenting the award to Aero-Kwan members, Luigina Blaich, the Coordinator of GiZ's Rural Development Programme encouraged the women to be relentless in their pursuit of education because learning is a life-long process and it comes with enormous benefits. "As a trained adult educator myself, I want to let you know that the education you are receiving at this stage of your adulthood shall not go in vain because you are getting it and directly applying the skills and knowledge to improve the wellbeing of family and community", Luigina comforted the women.



Started in 2022, Aero-Kwan Functional Adult Literacy Class aims to build an empowered and visionary mass of constructive adults in Okere village. Adult illiteracy is a thorn in the progress of Okere, a village still reeling from the devastations of the LRA conflict that lasted for over 20 decades. Due to conflict, people were displaced and had to reside in IDP camps making them miss out on a unique opportunity to access quality early childhood and

primary education. Indeed, data from the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) indicate that Otuke District, where Okere City is located has one of the highest illiteracy rates in Uganda at 72%. Of course, creating a sustainable future can be so difficult for a society still trapped in ignorance because they lack basic numeracy, literacy and reasoning capabilities and the exposure they need to re-imagine better futures for themselves and their families and communities.

12. Yei-Okere Peacebuilding Initiative

As 2022 came to an end, we collaborated with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and Yamora, a local NGO in Yei, South Sudan to convene a peacebuilding camp. Drawing a parallel between our small community that found itself in the wrath of war and civil strife for over three decades and now trying to rebuild itself, and Yei which is currently in the storm of such challenges, the Yei-Okere Peace-building Initiative sought to exchange lessons, networks, and strategies for advocacy, organizing and lobbying with local leaders from Yei, South Sudan. This was intended to supplement their existing grassroots efforts toward bringing peace to their region. Yamora identified 30 local leaders in Yei who travelled by road for over 1,000KM to Okere, Otuke District, northern Uganda to be part of the inaugural participants of the peace-building camp



OUR SPECIAL 2022 GRATITUDE GOES TO LANGO WOMEN'S ASPIRATIONS (LWA)



As we closed down the curtains of 2022, a group of incredible Lango women on a journey to support each other and give back to communities called the Lango Women's Aspiration (LWA) made their maiden and a purposeful trip to Okere. The group arrived just in time for lunch and they were treated to a sumptuous lunch with dry and roasted duck meat, kwon kal, and sweet potatoes as main meals. Immediately after lunch, they entered our community hall as Coo-loye, okeme choir performed a welcome song. Aero-Kwan Women's group later performed an electric traditional abuda dance to cheering excited guests and 80 community members in attendance. Welcoming the guests, Ojok Okello gave a brief background of Okere City,

listing some of the major projects, such as the community school, tailoring center, shea butter cooperative society, and health center, among others. He also noted that Okere City's success over the past three years stems from a reciprocal and respectful relationship with the community members which is purely based on trust. "Trust is our most important currency", Ojok said, adding that, "Okere City simply adds value and projections to the authentic community voices and ideas of the people in the village". He also expressed his gratitude to the team from LWA before inviting Janet Abaneka, an educationist working with UNICEF who led the group.



Mrs. Janet Abaneka was impressed with Okere City's bold vision of building a sustainable village. More so, she took the audience through the SDGs which are boldly painted on the side wall of our community hall. From Goal 1 which aims to end extreme poverty to Goal 17 which aspires to strengthen global partnerships and collaborations, Janet was optimistic that Okere City is providing a practical example that these lofty SDGs aren't just about UN and government bureaucrats and politician to understand, but also for local communities to appreciate and fully comprehend. "I have witnessed for myself that Okere City is indeed a community of practice that everyone who cares about the attainment of the SDGs must be interested in", she said.

Furthermore, Janet highlighted in her remarks that LWA was proud to be associated with Okere City because one of the platform's cardinal objectives was to support and give back to rural communities in Lango, especially to rural girls and women. "That's why we are here today. To let the women in Okere know that they are not alone in their struggle and quest to uplift themselves out of despair and hopelessness caused by the LRA war, Karamojong cattle rustling, among others", she reiterated. It is on this premise that she announced that LWA members had donated dozens of clothes and shoes to the women and children of Okere. This was received with thunderous applause and ajira from the women of Okere who were in attendance. Moreover, a cash gift of UGX

600,000 (\$150) was also handed over to the women to be utilized as a start-up grant for an income-generating activity of their choice.

While receiving the gift, Scovia Abwango, the Chairperson of Aero-Kwan Women's group didn't only express her gratitude but also reiterated that the support means that the small efforts of the ordinary women in Okere to reimagine a better future for themselves and their children is being appreciated and recognized by the outside world. "This means that we are also now going international", Scovia jokingly stated.



Scovia Abwango, Chairperson of Aero-Kwan Functional Adult Literacy Class.

Very importantly, the team also donated 200 books to our community school. The books will go a long way to enrich our community library and enable the children in Okere to access quality learning tools.



LWA members donating books to Okere Community School

The “formal talks” quickly ended to pave way for more exciting activities in the evening. Mr. Okello took the guests around the “city” giving more details and responding to questions. Questions revolved around the inspiration behind the project, source of funds, key successes, and major challenges thus far. Ojok ably answered the questions, noting among others that Okere City is indeed on a journey to build a sustainable rural city and hopes to present a practical case study and success story by 2030

as the world comes together to take stock of the progress towards the attainment of the SDGs. He also noted that whilst initial investments injected into the project came for a family trust, major donors, such as the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Segal Family Foundation and Stanbic Bank are finding noble reasons to invest in the project albeit still minuscule in nature. “But we hope that soon, major donors and investors shall find more reasons to invest in our cause as the value for money as clear to see”, Ojok said.

were exchanging punches. But thanks to our local musicians whose okeme, adungu and drums played some of the most amazing cultural tunes that endeared the guests to join the local community as we traditionally danced the evening away! The evening was spent at Guum’s Kitchen drinking spice tea and telling tales about the village and the magnificence of Shea butter. It was a long day, but certainly not the end of business!

The evening ended with a boxing tournament, although some of the guests tried to cover their eyes not to have a full glimpse of how the boxers



Practical soap making session. Kay Achak serving liquid soap

In the morning, even before breakfast, Kay Achak, another member of LWA, who actually proposed the Okere Community Outreach project idea to the group had better plans. The previous evening, we invited our women to come and participate in a practical liquid soap-making process. By 9 am, 80 women had descended to Okere City and they had already filled the community hall. Kay started the theoretical session by taking the women through each and every step and spelling out what items were required and in which quantities. Then the women were brought to an open space to start the practice of liquid soap making. After two hours, the process had ended and soap was made. But it had to be left to settle for 1 hour for the final product to come out really well. The break time was used to grab a cup of milk tea, fried Irish potatoes, and 'rolex'. And oh, the remains of boyo from the previous evening added a traditional touch to the breakfast.



“We are full of gratitude to Lango Women’s Aspirations for epitomizing the meaning of generosity and choosing Okere City as a recipient of their heartfelt kindness.”

Our Special 2022 Guests

“

Tony Otoa, the Executive Director of Stanbic Bank Business Accelerator,

you didn't just pop in once, but you visited us twice. And you became a bridge that shall see our health center upgraded with laboratory and maternity units. The world needs more stars like you. We are indebted and filled with immense gratitude.

”



The team from enjuba led by Aaron Kirunda paid us a courtesy visit to learn and offer professional advice to improve our early childhood development initiatives. We are looking forward to a possible partnership in the near future.

We are delighted and thankful to Kitabu Buk for donating 500 storybooks to our community school. This isn't just a gesture of solidarity but a formidable push to enable us provide better and quality educational services to our children.





Letellier visited us and took incredible pics. Now he's printed some of the epic documentary photos for a photo exhibition. Call it giving back but it means a lot to our community members when they see guests return with priceless gifts. Thank you Mr. Letellier



Jjumba Martin also visited us twice to capture epic photographic moments of and in our community. See you again, in 2023!

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

In 2022, our work was made possible through a special collaboration with amazing partners, such as;

1- Stanbic Bank



Stanbic Bank, a member of the Standard Group and Uganda's biggest bank has taken a leap of faith to invest towards improving maternal health outcomes in Okere. The bank has supported the establishment of a maternity and health lab units at Okere Community Health Centre.

2. Segal Family Foundation



In 2022, we joined the portfolio of Segal's partners in Uganda. Segal is investing to improve educational outcomes at our community school. Additionally, their support also enables us to strengthen the operations of Okere Shea Co-op. According to SFF, "Okere's model is especially exciting because it is tied to a core belief in using local and indigenous knowledge and resources as part of development efforts to transform society".

3. Future Generations Trust



Future Generations Trust support is core to our administrative functions and investment in major projects. In 2021, the Trust invested in the construction of Umutesi House, a dormitory for our girls at the community school. The Trust also provides continuous support towards our staff and institutional development.

4. Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



Future Generations Trust support is core to our administrative functions and investment in major projects. In 2021, the Trust invested in the construction of Umutesi House, a dormitory for our girls at the community school.

Together with the Uganda and South Sudan Office of Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), we are equipping the grassroots community and political leaders in Okere with leadership skill through “Okere Leadership Lab” project. Similarly, KAS also supports Okere Summit for Sustainable Development, an annual gathering that re-imagines rural futures.

5. Civsource Africa

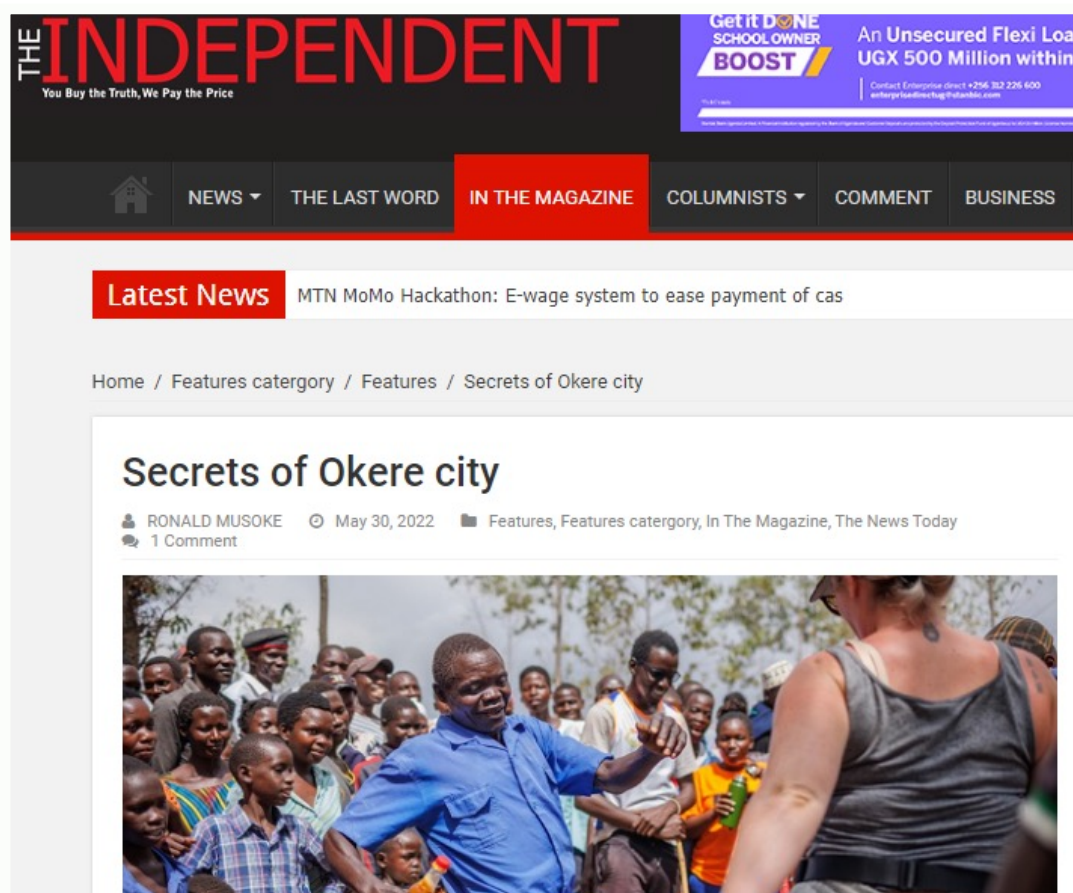


Zishaye Fund's \$3,000 grant was the first ever external resource that we received in 2020. Civsource Africa continued to work with us on 2022 to work with local government authorities in Okere to enact bylaws against the destruction of shea trees. Overall, the partnership with Zishaye Fund enabled us to lay a formidable foundation to raise awareness and sensitize the community against the destruction of Shea trees. The fund also enabled us to conduct research to understand the significance of Shea trees for ecological and economic development in Okere.

SNIPPETS OF OUR WORK ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA

1. CNN AFRICAN VOICES CHANGEMAKERS







A FACE IN THE SUN

Ojok's Okere City, The Long Awaited Breath In An Abandoned Land

As part of #WorldEnvironmentDay2022, ACTADE went out to celebrate a few individuals who are out to conserve the environment. Ojok Okello is building Okere City in the middle of Otuke district in northern Uganda. He has come up with a self-sustaining model through which Okere will build its fortunes and this is through planting and preserving the Shea nut butter tree. Ojok sold a dream to the community ... [Continue reading](#)

JULY 6, 2022 / 2 COMMENTS

The Observer

NEWS BUSINESS EDUCATION VIEWPOINT SPORTS TOPICS QUIZ SEARCH

Okere city is a social enterprise, not charity

March 2, 2022 Written by SAMUEL MUHINDO

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NBS Television  @nbstv · Dec 18, 2022

...

On tonight's episode of the [#LateNitesWithJK](#) show, specialists like Ojok Okello, the creator and CEO of the Okere City Project, Lydia Nakayenze-Schubert, from the shea butter business will discuss how to maximize your profits. Don't miss the show starting from 10 PM.

[#NBSUpdates](#)



WELCOME OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER, ^{TIM}

Timothy Masembe is a Thought leader in Sustainable Finance; currently working with United Nations Federal Credit Union (UNFCU). He previously held leadership roles in Digital Financial Inclusion Ecosystems and Value chains programing at Barclays Bank, Stanbic Bank, Equity Bank, Bank of Africa and Centenary Bank. He studied Master of Laws in International Trade Law from the University of Leeds as a Commonwealth Scholar. Timothy brings his passion for Sustainable Finance, Impact Investment and integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives in Okere City.



SOME OF THE KEY LESSONS WE LEARNED IN 2022

a)

Building on existing community assets is key for community development: Whether they are our natural resources like shea trees or the cultural and social activities that bind us together, we have cautiously invested in them and used them as key ingredients for our success.



b)

Always listen to the authentic community voices:
Listening to local and authentic voices is a key prerequisite for any community development effort to succeed. We thus invests and organize community engagement platforms just to listen because it creates a basis for lasting social change.



WE ARE EXCITED ABOUT 2023. HERE'S WHY AND HOW;

1

We shall further strengthen Okere Village Bank and position it as a financing arm of the Okere City project.

5

We shall establish a cultural museum, in addition to starting up the operations of the Okere Arts Residency Programme.

2

We shall triple the enrolment at our community school from 150 in 2022 to 450 children by the end of 2023.

6

We shall train 300 local councilors in Adwari Sub-County, up from 100 trained in 2022 through our political leadership lab project.

3

We shall have a functional maternity and laboratory unit and increase the average patient visit to the facility from the current 25 patients a day to 35 patients a day.

7

We shall prioritize investment in key infrastructure, such as school toilets, libraries, and classroom blocks.

4

We intend to increase the sale of Shea butter from 3 tons in 2022 to 10 tons in 2023.

8

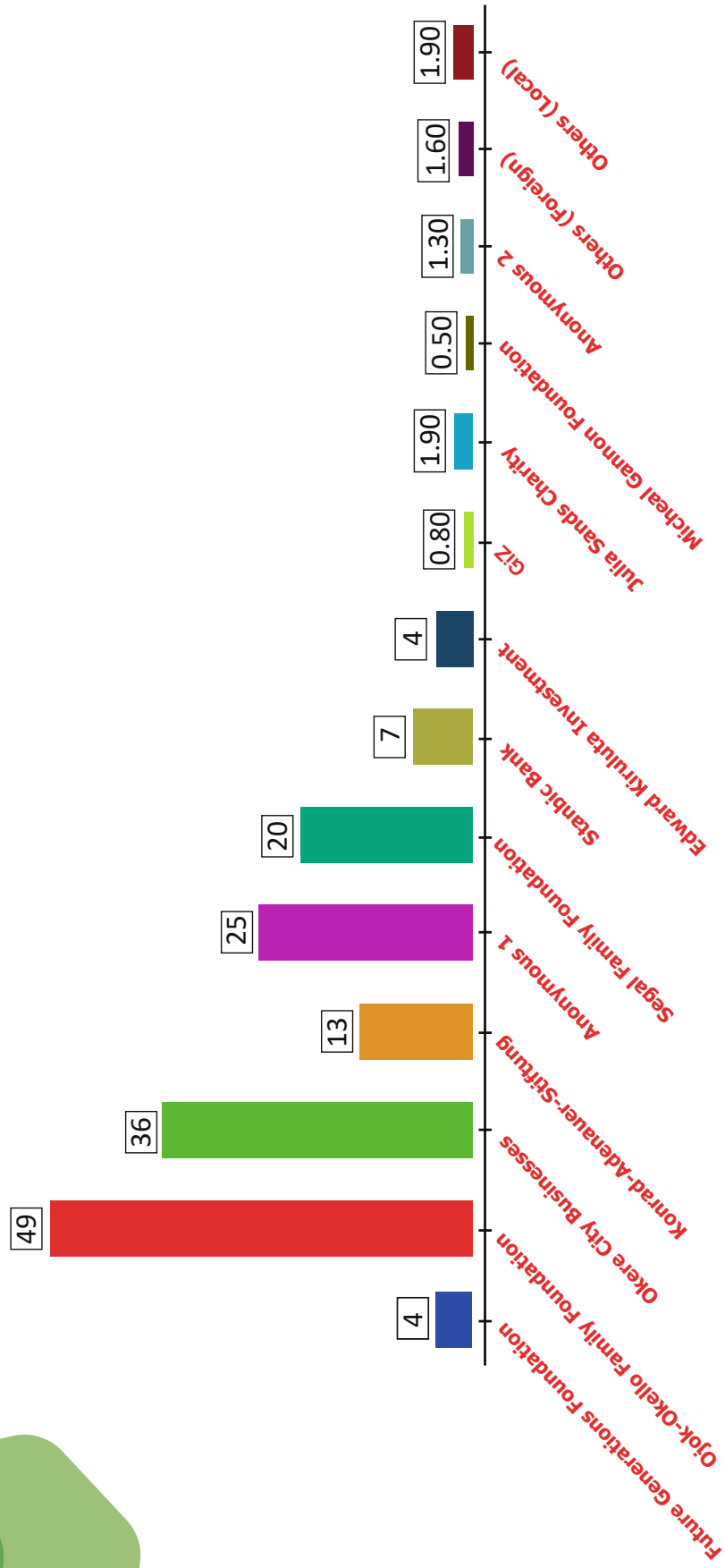
We shall strengthen our adult and vocational educational possibilities through investments in study tours and exchange visits.



Revenue and Funding Sources in 2022

(In Thousands Of USD)





Total Revenues + Donations = \$164,400