

The dream of helping the pygmies achieve education realized.



In 2003, Samuel Mwangi travelled to Goma city in the eastern part of DR Congo as a speaker in a leaders' conference. He had traveled for three days from Nairobi, Kenya through Kampala, Uganda and Kigali, Rwanda. This was the

longest trip by road with several stop overs. The journey was definitely tiring but very exciting. This being his first visit to the war-torn country, Samuel was curious to see the famous short forest people whom he had read about in school. He wondered how they coped in the forest and how they lived in harmony with the ecosystem.

The Pygmies are an ethnic indigenous people in Africa. In the DR Congo, this community is treated as semi-human and with full knowledge of locals and government officials, the pygmies are preyed upon like animals by armed rebels, who kill them, rape their women and eat them.

Since his first visit to DR Congo, Samuel returned regularly every year and stayed for weeks and months among the pygmy people learning their way of life and helping them resettle and improve their economic situation.

In August 2004, Samuel was full of joy when he met the shortest people on planet earth for the first time. However, the visit had mixed feelings-happy to meet the pygmies but sad to witness the poor living conditions. The two-hour journey into the forest was mostly quiet with a few people passing by. There was sounds from birds in the green trees that covered the path. When we approached a small open ground, they heard beautiful drumming from the few families that were gathered outside their huts. They were singing in excitement and expectation of the visitors. We had a gracious welcome with excitement. Our excitement changed significantly when we sat to introduce ourselves and share our desire to partner with the forest people. The group of men, women and children narrated to us specific challenges that they had faced in the forest. Women had been raped, children killed and eaten by interahmwe soldiers in the forests. Men had been reduced to beggars. The story was sad and hurting.

Having grown up in the village in Kenya and having travelled extensively in many parts in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania samuel had witnessed poverty and hopelessness. However, the stories from the pygmies elicited worst imaginations that Samuel had ever seen or heard. He was talking to one of the most marginalized people on earth-who were simply referred as “forgotten people”. They were isolated, forgotten, enslaved, exploited, raped, killed and eaten and no one seemed to be bothered by these situations.

“I felt an urge to do something about the situation I had just witnessed” Samuel said, the words of Jesus to his disciples after multitudes followed and listened to his teaching and were now hungry resounding in my mind- “You feed them”. Since then, my goal and purpose has been clear, “to serve indigenous and vulnerable children and communities in Africa”

In 2011, Samuel came to USA and registered Partnership for Indigenous Peoples-PIPES International, a 501 (c) (3) organization. Samuel and his wife Esther travel extensively to different parts of Africa to serve indigenous peoples and other vulnerable communities. Today, 13 years since Samuel first met the forest people the passion of serving the isolated people group is even stronger. Our work has now extended to Kenya, Rwanda, and Pakistan among other countries.

Together we can achieve much more!



With your
partnership, we
serve
indigenous
pygmies,
vulnerable
children, and
marginalized
people groups
and help
provide
opportunities
and hope

through education, health awareness, resettlement, food security and missions & outreach programs. The aim is to alleviate poverty by empowering communities and initiating sustainable social-economic developments.

BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT PROJECT

Provide education to 500 pygmy children and other vulnerable children in DR Congo

	ITEM	Quantity/Frequency	Total
1	Build two classrooms at a cost of 5,000 each class	2 classrooms	\$10,000
2	Pay \$60 monthly to 12 teachers for one year	12 months	\$8,640
3	Feed 500 children once a week for 40 weeks of school	40 weeks	\$8,000
4	Provide Sanitary towels for 20 girls for one year	12 months	\$600
5	Buy uniforms for 200 children at a cost of \$8 per child	1 year	1,600
6	Miscellaneous		\$1,160
	TOTAL		<u>\$30,000</u>

PIPES INTERNATIONAL

www.pipesinternational.org