



Statistics

- Since the inception of the Program 250 Batwa children have been enrolled and still at School in Primary.
- Twenty Five Batwa children are now in Secondary School none in University.
- 54 Children are in Vocational Training schools.

All statistics provided by Girl Effect and CARE International

How Can You Help?

Spread the Word

Like our page, “<https://web.facebook.com/volunteersuganda/>” on Facebook.

Keep updated on our latest news, and spread the word to your friends and family.

Donate

Many families do not have the resources to send their kids to school, and so batwa pigmies are forced to drop out. The Project helps provide batwa pigmies kids with the necessary resources to stay enrolled. Your donation could make all the difference.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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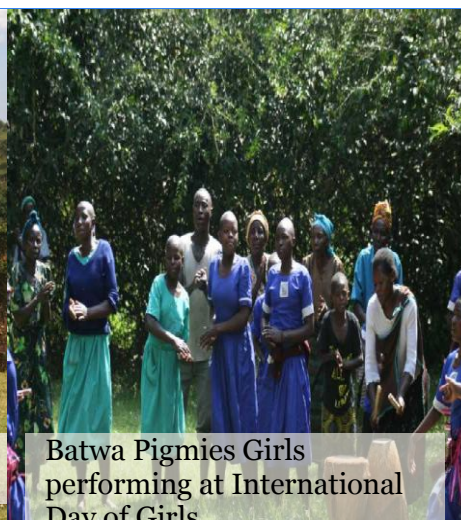
Sending Batwa At School



*Addressing economic,
social, and emotional
challenges girls face to
keep them motivated and
confident in class*



A project meeting at Nombe Village in Kisoro with Donors



Batwa Pigmies Girls performing at International Day of Girls

Educating and Empowering Batwa Children

The Ugandan government enacted a policy that provides all Ugandan children with primary fee-free education. Yet, batwa children are still dropping out of school at far higher rates than their majority community counterparts. **The challenge is keeping batwa children in school.** Batwa children are discouraged from attending school for many reasons. Some are financial. Education may be fee-free, but **families still have to pay for uniforms, supplies, and small bonuses** to supplement teacher salaries. Sanitation issues also prevent batwa children from attending school, as the **lack of basic needs** makes it impossible for them to attend class when not clean enough. **Familial responsibilities** also prevent batwa children from attending school. On

average, reducing batwa children's chores from 28 hours or more a week to 14 hours resulted in a 20% increase in attendance. Batwa children are **often unaware of their rights and how to exercise them**, and so their voice is muted during dialogues on education.

The program works with batwa children to overcome these issues and **make the transition from lower to upper secondary school.** The project hopes to eliminate this gap through its threefold approach, which **pairs batwa children with mentors, organizes savings and loans groups, and implements community score cards.** Keeping batwa children at school empowers a new generation of batwa children, and builds a foundation for a more stable community.

PROJECT Process

How does THE PROJECT work?

Together with The Government of Uganda, Gorilla Close Up Lodge, and Bwindi Backpackers Lodge, AFRICODE is implementing the following programs at schools throughout the Southern West of Uganda.

Amasiko Program

Mentors meet with batwa children to help them through school. AFRICODE developed the model in 2015 as a culturally relevant, community-based, cost-effective way to meet the emotional and psychological needs of children in Uganda.

Village Savings and Loans Groups

THE PROJECT installed village savings and loans (VSL) groups to help improve the financial situation of batwa children. The VSL methodology brings communities together to save and loan money, and also encourages the creation of small businesses for the community.

Community Score Cards

Community Score Card (CSC) brings duty bearers like mentors and schools together with rights bearers like young batwa children to reflect upon quality of service within its context. In Uganda, THE PROJECT is using this methodology to give batwa children a voice in their education and provide a place for them to express concerns with safety, sanitation, and curriculum.