

www.AliamoS.org
**Empowerment Opportunity
Assessment Form**

1. General Details

1.1. Name of the opportunity -:

1.2. Theme of the opportunity -:

- Food
- Water or Sanitation
- Education
- Health ✓
- Housing
- Economic Empowerment
- Social Empowerment

1.3. Nature of the opportunity -:

- Assisting
- Donation ✓
- Both

1.4. Geographic Zone -:

- Australia
- Asia
- Africa ✓
- Europe
- Latin America
- Nth America
- Oceania

1.5. Political Zone -: Uganda

1.6. Specific Locality.

1.7. Katuulo Pineapple Farm Co-operative

Katuulo is located approximately 300 kms from Entebbe international airport in Uganda. From the Entebbe airport, take the main South West Highway. This Highway passes through the town of Masaka (approximately 220 kms from Entebbe). After you reach Masaka, you continue along the South West Highway for another 35 kilometres. You reach the town of **XXXXX** (the name of this town has alluded us but will forward it asap) at this point on the South West Highway. From here you turn left, and travel along the dirt road for 18 kilometres, following it straight. After 18 kms turn right onto a dirt road, just after the dam. Follow this dirt track for 500 meters and you will reach the trading centre for the Katuulo community.

1.8. Project Coordinator (full name and email) -:

Samantha Neal (Samantha.neal@uq.edu.au) & Kristen Lyons (Kristen.lyons@griffith.edu.au) on behalf of Mukwano – supporting health care in organic farming communities (www.mukwano-australia.org)

1.9. Community Contact (name and nominal position in community) -:

Mpora Emmanuel, Ugandan Co-ordinator
Kyomugasho Jolly, Katuulo Pineapple Co-operative

In the following sections please consider each question and answer briefly with sufficient supporting information to justify the proposal. Supporting information should include photos and diagrams if appropriate.

2. Empowerment

2.1. What is happening now in the community? What are the immediate concerns? What is missing?

The Katuulo Organic Pineapple Cooperative is located in the Kyazanga Sub County, about 300 kilometres south west of Uganda's capital, Kampala. There are around 25 families who are members of the Cooperative, however there are at least 1500 households in the Katuulo parish – and nearly 2000 children under five years of age.

Katuulo is a rural community where most people are engaged in agricultural related work. Farm families grow pineapples and bananas using organic farming methods, and sell these on both the local and international markets. Farmers also produce diverse fruit and vegetable crops to feed themselves. The Katuulo community rely heavily upon subsistence production to ensure food security, and have a limited income to purchase additional food supplies, including salt, rice and cooking oil.

Access to water is limited in Katuulo, with community members walking long distances to collect water from small dams. There are very limited transport options, and most people walk or ride a bicycle to the trading centre. Most critically, there is currently no health care service within the local region.

The Katuulo Co-operative has been saving communal moneys from the money they make selling dried organic pineapples for export to Europe. Mukwano is an Australian based group who has travelled to Katuulo on a number of occasions and developed a relationship with the Co-operative. In 2006, Mukwano commenced fundraising in Australia to support the Co-operative's goal to build a local health care centre for the members of their Co-operative and wider local community.

Communal land has been purchased by the Katuulo Co-operative to locate the health care centre. Initial plans for the health care centre have been drawn up by the Co-operative. Mukwano has supported the Co-operative to commence construction of the initial building which will house two treatment rooms and an office/store room.

While construction is well underway, limited funds have halted completion of the health care centre. Funds are needed to purchase bricks and cement to complete the structure. Following this, annual on-going funding will be required to ensure training to keep a local community member skilled to work

in the centre, as well as funds to stock the centre with basic medical and health equipment.

2.2. What empowerment outcomes are proposed? (what is possible from this project) :-

The purpose of this application is to seek funding to complete construction of the building to house the health care centre. Initial construction has seen a cement slab poured and walls started. Windows and some other fittings have also been purchased.

Completion of construction will enable the Katuulo Pineapple Co-operative and Mukwano to focus on fundraising to source funds to provide training for staff and equip the healthcare centre.

Women in the Katuulo community still die of preventable complications during childbirth. This causes significant distress and disruption to community life. When people are ill, they are also required to travel long distances – and spend considerable absences from their family and community – so as to seek medical help.

The location of a health centre within the Katuulo community will enable families to stay together, particularly during birth and times of ill-health. The health centre will make a significant contribution to improving the health and livelihood prospects for both adults and children within the community.

In short, the outcomes of this project will include:

- completion of the health care centre facility
- initial training to a local community member to work in the health centre
- health care support for pregnant women and unwell community members
- enabling family members to stay together during times of ill health

2.3. How will these outcomes be manifest? :-

These outcomes will be manifest in the follow ways:

- completion of the health care building
- the achievement of health care qualifications amongst a local community member

- employment of a local community member to work at the health centre
- weekly visits by a fully qualified medical doctor

2.4. What other outcomes could be possible from this opportunity? -:

Ensuring healthy communities does not rely solely on the provision of adequate health care facilities. Healthy communities also depend on secure access to: clean water; healthy food; a sound public education system.

Alongside the construction of a health care facility, this project has the capacity to provide general health education to local community members, including information related to preventing water and food borne, as well as sexually transmitted diseases.

In regard to water, the health care facility will be equipped with a guttering system, enabling a rainwater tank to collect water from the roof. We also anticipate in the medium term that a number of local community members will be trained in public health (covering topics related to diet, lifestyle and sex education). These local community members will be key players in terms of educating their broader community on these issues.

3. Resources

3.1. Will the Empowerment Opportunity require funding in stages?

yes no

Please detail stage when filling out Question 6 Budget Breakdown

3.2. Will materials be needed to support this opportunity? Please describe what the materials will be used for-:

yes no

The Katuuloo Pineapple Co-operative has provided the budget in Question 6 and have identified the need for the following materials:

- Iron Sheets for the roof of the building
- Bricks & cement – to complete the construction of the building's walls
- Timber and Nails to construct the roof
- Carvings and Tiles to finish the interior to the building

3.3. Will local assistance (including labour) be needed to support this opportunity? Please describe the roles local people will be fulfilling.

yes no

The Katuulo Pineapple Co-operative have indicated that approximately 20 days of labour is required to complete construction of the building. Labour will be sourced from within the Katuulo community or the surrounding local area if expertise in local building techniques is required.

3.4. What skills are missing within the developing community and are essential to cause this opportunity? (what outside skills and/or training is required) -:

The Katuulo community have the skills required to complete construction of the building.

A member of the local community has been identified who has training in nursing. She is interested to work at the health care centre. In order to support this person to provide the range of services needed within the community, she will require regular and on-going training in public health and nursing. This training can be undertaken with annual visits to Kampala. Funding is required for training programs, as well as transport, accommodation and food during the training period.

3.5. What other outside assistance (including labour) would support this opportunity? (include volunteer opportunities) -:

For the long term sustainability of the health care centre it is important that the Katuulo Community be involved in the running and staffing of the centre. In the long term, perishable medical supplies will be required on an ongoing basis as well as the continuing health care training in public health and nursing. A vehicle for the transport of medical professionals into and out of Katuulo and the transport patients requiring more specialised treatment would be a valuable resource for the community. Other outside assistance which could support this opportunity are detailed in question 4.7.

In the following section supporting information MUST include quotes and testimonials from several members of the target developing community.

4. Community Support

4.1. Is there general support within the community at all levels for this empowerment opportunity? (does the community want empowerment) :-

yes no

How? Please provide quotes and testimonials.

Construction and establishment of a local health care centre in the Katuulo region has been a long term goal of the Katuulo Pineapple Co-operative. Using communal profits from the sale of their organic pineapples the Co-operative saved enough to purchase a plot of land on which to build a health care centre.

We have spoken to countless women in the community about the need for a health care centre, with one woman stating: ‘Women are still dying during childbirth from problems that could be fixed if we had some support. We are losing women and babies in our community, it is just not right’.

Farmers themselves have a strong desire to see the health care centre come to fruition. When we visited Katuulo in January 2007 to present some funds to begin construction, the President of the Katuulo Farmers Cooperative said: ‘Thank you very much for what you are doing for the community of Katuulo. Words cannot express our gratitude’.

Meanwhile, in a recent phone conversation with our Ugandan Coordinator, he stated: ‘The farmers are very proud, and very grateful for what you are doing’.

At the same time, we have been working with Amfri Farms, the organic pineapple export company who purchase pineapples from Katuulo. When we met with them in June 2006, the director Amin stated: ‘This is an excellent initiative. I understand how important good health care is. I also know that alongside health, it is important that farmers and their families are educated. For that reason me and my company are happy to donate solar powered lights. In this way the health care centre can also act as a community centre where people can meet during the evenings. With lights, community members will be able to read, and do other work, during the evening’.

4.2. Why does the local community want this? (what are the community aims from this project) Please provide quotes and testimonials:-

Members of the Katuulo Pineapple Co-operative and the surrounding community have extremely limited access to health care facilities and suffer from a number of preventable and easily treatable illnesses and health conditions. Rates of malaria, as well as a number of water and food borne diseases (including hepatitis and typhoid) are prevalent in the Katuulo community.

The community has a number of aims associated with the establishment of the health centre:

1. provide health support to women during pregnancy and birth, thereby reducing the unnecessary risks associated with childbirth
2. provide public education on prevention of common disease, including malaria, hepatitis and typhoid
3. provide sex education to minimise the transmission to STDs

We have spoken to countless women in the community about the need for a health care centre, with one woman stating: ‘Women are still dying during childbirth from problems that could be fixed if we had some support. We are losing women and babies in our community, it is just not right’.

One woman in the community explained: ‘If a woman goes into labour, and something goes wrong, there is nothing we can do to help, especially if this happens at night. We live more than 20 kilometres on a dirt road, with no transport. It is often not possible for a woman to walk to get the kind of medical help she needs, and we are just not equipped to deal with some of the childbirth complications a woman experiences’.

The president of the Katuulo Organic Farmers Cooperative stated: ‘While we earn a price premium for growing and selling our pineapples as organic, it is still not enough money to ensure our community has reasonable access to health care. This health care centre will provide the health support we desperately need’.

4.3. Does the community have long term commitment to the sustainability of this project?

yes no

Details

As a community, the Katuulo farmers have been saving communal funds to establish a health care centre. They have already identified a local community member with nursing skills to work in the centre, and are very enthusiastic to support her to continue her training. Not only are the farmers committed to the long term future of the health care centre, they are also committed to

ensuring that local community members have the opportunity to gain meaningful employment within the centre.

4.4. What additional environmental or social opportunities (spin off effects) will this project generate for this community, for the surrounding communities, for the world?

Only when community members are healthy are they able to direct their energies into other projects. This project, which will ensure the long term health of the Katuulo community, will in turn support other positive initiatives within the community. To begin, farmers in Katuulo converted to organic farming practices 8 years ago. Since that time, they have developed export market links, thereby receiving a price premium for their organic produce. Organic farming practices also remove dangerous agricultural chemical from the environment, thereby minimising the risks of polluting local water supplies. Numerous studies on the development of organic agriculture in Africa also point to the increase in rates of productivity, thereby increasing food security for communities engaged in organic agriculture. This is the case in Katuulo, with farmers reporting increases in both their cash crops and subsistence crops since converting to organic farming.

By increasing the health care services in Katuulo, this project offers opportunities to further support the development of organic agriculture across the area. Neighbouring communities are already aware of the environmental benefits arising from the adoption of organic farming methods. The provision of a health care centre will complement this, by also offering improvements in the social conditions of communities. This will further encourage other communities to adopt organic farming methods.

In addition, the Katuulo community represents a demonstration model for real “fair trade” for other export companies. The Katuulo project will demonstrate to exporters establishing trading relations with African small holder farmers that the provision of a health facility provides enormous social benefits. The Katuulo project will provide a benchmark for an alternative model for fair trade – that not only includes a price premium to farmers, but also the provision of services to ensure farming communities can live happy, healthy and fulfilled lives.

4.5. What are the possible negative environmental or social impacts of this project for this community, for the surrounding community, and for the world? How are they being managed?

While there are many positive outcomes to establishing a local health care service in Katuulo, ensuring equitable access to health services within the Co-operative’s community and the wider Katuulo community may arise as an issue

that the Co-operative and Mukwano will need to address. The role of the Ugandan Co-ordinator is essential in providing Mukwano and Aliamos any information regarding the operation of the health care centre and any resulting environmental or social impacts. Disposal of medical waste is one factor that will need to be planned for in consultation with the Co-operative, as is the dispensing of pharmaceutical supplies. The Project Co-ordinators are planning to travel to Uganda and Katuulo in the first half of 2008 to provide support to the Co-operative to assist in developing procedures for these issues and others that are identified by the Co-operative or that may arise.

4.6. What other alternatives have been considered to achieve these outcomes?

We have been working with organic farming communities in Africa since 1999. During this time we have identified a range of different approaches to improve the livelihoods of farm families. Throughout our experience, it has become strikingly obvious that it does not matter the level of economic resources farm families have, if they do not have access to health care facilities within reasonably close proximity to where they live, their health suffers. For this reason, it is imperative that health care facilities are located **within** communities. We have visited a number of local health care facilities, and from our assessment of these, believe our approach is culturally appropriate. It will meet the basic health care needs of local community members, without requiring significant resources.

4.7. Are there any additional empowerment opportunities the community want which could build on this opportunity?

Following completion of the health facility, we have identified a number of additional empowerment opportunities, which will complement the health centre:

1. construction of local water harvesting technologies, including water tanks
2. on-going training in organic farming
3. supply of solar drying facilities to enable farmers to value add their own organic produce (eg. sun-dried pineapple and paw paw)

5. Coordinators Agreement

Aliamos provides funding that expands local economies by benefiting the recipient community directly. Aliamos will not fund foreign expenses. Please use your personal income, grants, or fundraising to fund your expenses. Disadvantaged individuals may apply to Aliamos for grant scholarships separately.

5.1. Do you agree to provide for personal expenses such as travel, labour, accommodation etc.?

yes no

5.2. In registering your project with Aliamos do you agree to submit quarterly updates and a completion report that details the actual expenditure including invoices and/or expenditure statements together with a photographic journal and testimonials from the recipient community?

yes no if no you will be unable to receive a grant from Aliamos

5.3. Do you agree that your report, updates and photos will become the property of Aliamos to be used for any purposes as decided by Aliamos?

yes no

5.4. Do you agree to upload these to the Aliamos website to enable donators to witness and participate in the community empowerment opportunity?

yes no

5.5. Is the empowerment opportunity receiving or have applied for funding from other sources?

yes no

If yes please specify organisation applied to and include a copy of the budget with this form.

5.6. If you receive funding for items included in budget from another organisation, do you agree to declare these funds and reimburse Aliamos any paid money?

yes no

Signature *Samantha Neal*

Date 22 October 2007

Use this form to publicize your developing community empowerment opportunity through the online Aliamos Empowerment Opportunity Register.

Inclusion of a project on the Aliamos Empowerment Opportunity Register does not ensure funding.

A project is included in the Aliamos online register until project updates indicate it is complete, the project coordinator requests it be removed, or Aliamos reviews its support.

Aliamos Empowerment Opportunity Register Guidelines

1. The project coordinator is defined as the individual who takes on ensuring all information submitted to Aliamos is correct, regular (minimum quarterly) updates are submitted, assisting opportunities are coordinated, calls on funding are submitted, and funds are spent on project expenses as detailed in the approved application.
2. Project information must be submitted on this Empowering Opportunity Information Form. Please type all information and attached digital photos and diagrams.
3. The project coordinator must notify Aliamos immediately upon project completion, if the project coordinator changes or if any other project information changes.
4. The project coordinator must respond to all inquiries about the project promptly.

Waiver of Liability (Please read carefully)

The undersigned project coordinator, to the full extent permitted by law, hereby releases and agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Aliamos, Aliamos Ltd, and Aliamos Global (Australia) Ltd, including their directors, officers, trustees, members, committee members, employees, any Aliamos volunteer(s), agents and representatives, ("Indemnities"), from and against all claims, including claims of subrogation, demands, actions, damages, losses, costs, liabilities, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and other legal expenses), awards, judgments and fines asserted against or recovered from Indemnities, arising out of any act, conduct, omission, negligence, misconduct or unlawful act (or act contrary to any applicable governmental order or regulation) during, or as a result of, participation in the **Aliamos Empowerment Opportunity Register or any other service, program or project offered by Aliamos, Aliamos Ltd, and Aliamos Global (Australia) Ltd.** The foregoing includes, without limitation, injury or damage to the person or property of Indemnities or any third party.

Agreement

As project coordinator, I hereby certify that all funds and materials that I receive in support of this project will be properly applied to the project and will be promptly acknowledged. I will send regular reports to Aliamos in the requested format and I will coordinate all assisters on this project.

Project Coordinators Signature *Samantha Neal*

Date 22 October 2007

Aliamos Directors Signature

Date

Budget Breakdown

5.7. Materials

please consider locally produced materials which the community will be familiar with and be able to repair or replace easily. This applies especially to traditional building materials. Please attach separate justification for any equipment or machinery not normally found and serviced locally.

Item	AUD\$	Stage
Iron sheets x 33	\$355	
Cement x 12 bags	\$230	
Bricks x 6000	\$230	
Timber	\$31	
Nails	\$20	
Carvings	\$27	
Tiles	\$67	
Total	\$960	

1.1. Transport

(please consider locally sourced materials. Also consider the possibility of foreign assisters carrying necessary materials with their luggage)

Item	From	AUD\$	Stage
Delivery of materials on site		\$350	
Total		\$350	

1.2. Local assistance (within the community) :-

Assistance	Days	\$/day	Stage
Local Labour for construction work	20	\$19	
Total		days \$380	

1.3. Local assistance (from surrounding communities) :-

Assistance	Days	\$/day	Stage
Costs (travel, communication & wages for Ugandan based co-ordinator)	10	60	
Healthcare training for local community members	10	30	
Total		days \$900	

1.4. Total :-

AUD\$ 2590

Nb. Through a system of trial and error we have learnt that the only reliable way to send funds to Katuulo and Uganda in general is directly to individual bank accounts. Western Union transfers and credit/debit cards are not accessible to the Katuulo Co-operative.