



2021 continued to be a challenging year for creating sustainable responses to developing communities. The COVID-19 pandemic threatened to set back the progress achieved in areas such as access to health and education around the globe.

Since 2020, the Giving Back Program continued supporting initiatives that sought to minimize the socio-economic impact of the pandemic, and 2021 wasn't going to be an exception.

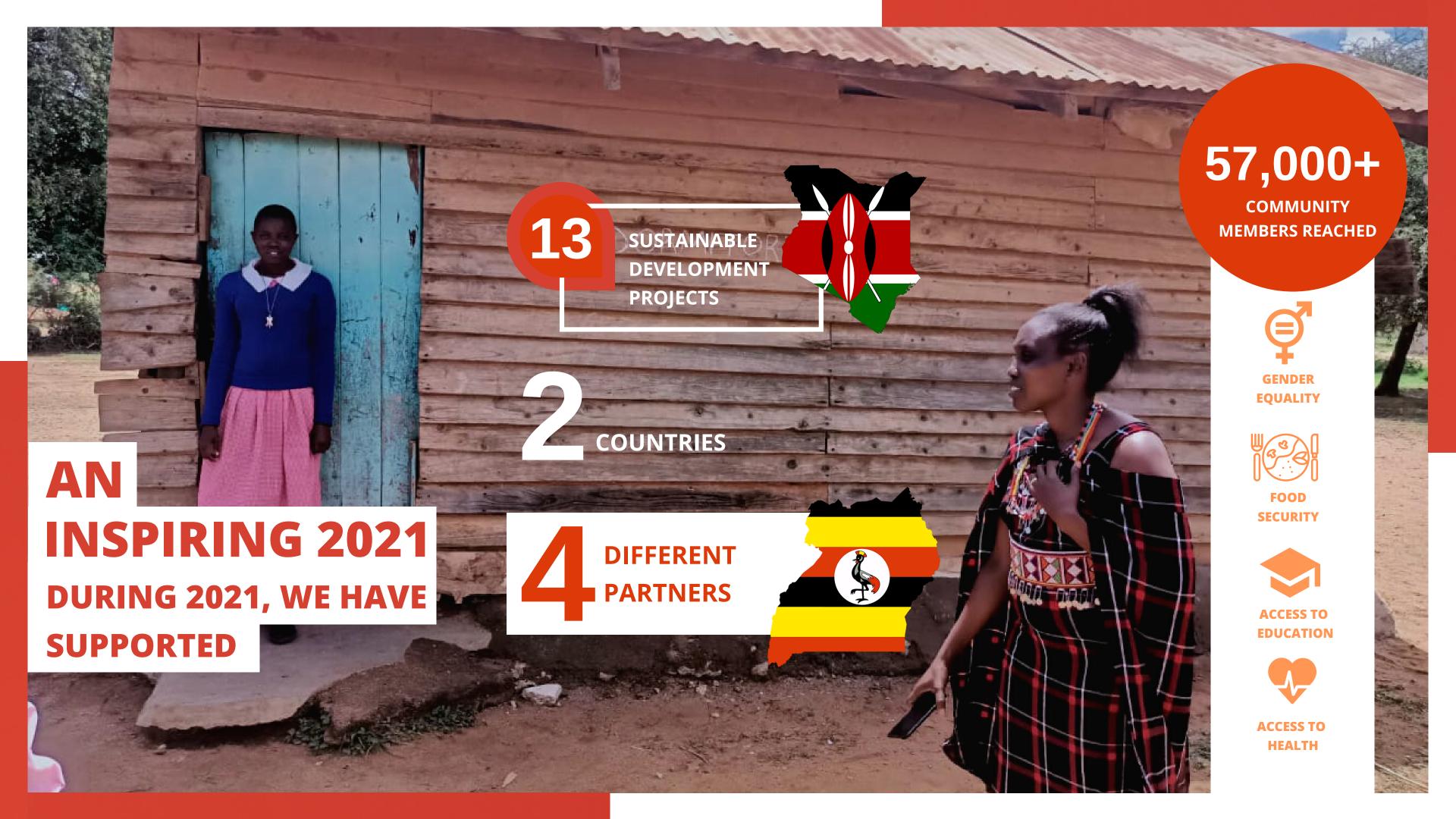
In 2021, we supported our partner's innovative and creative ideas to continue attending their communities' needs. Through 13 projects dedicated to ensuring food security, gender equality, access to quality education, and safe water,

we are proud to say that our 4 partners have reached more than 57,000 community members.

This Annual Report represents the Makaye InfoSec's commitment to supporting developing communities and empowering local change-makers to build a better world.

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# CREATING LASTING CHANGE

**PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT** 



### **Shirat**

Shirat participates in the Girls of Tomorrow Foundation Out Of School Program. During the Menstrual Health Outreaches, Shirat learned how to make reusable pads that would be distributed to community members. Her dream is to use the skills she learned at GOT to become a designer and provide a better future for her baby.



### **Naserian**

Naserian is the Founding Director of Maasai Mara Women Empowerment Organization. As part of Nashipai's Media Campaign Outreach to raise awareness on HIV and Gender-Based Violence, Naserian answered some of the questions listeners had on reproductive health.



### Kelvin

Kelvin is one of the Project 10 participants. Through Project 10, participants benefit from a full scholarship covering school expenses, as well as room and board. Kelvin is currently in Form 3 (11th grade of high school) and will be the first member of his family to finish grade school. His dream is to be a pilot.



### **Natukunda**

Natukunda was one of the Ssamba Foundation's Water Project beneficiaries. Prior to this project, her community didn't have a clean water source. They had to rely on swamps that were located at a 3-hour walk and usually provided contaminated water. The Water Project provided a clean and proper source of water located at a walking distance from her community.





# CREATING LASTING CHANGE

PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT



### Namanda

Namanda is one of the Girls of Tomorrow Foundation Computer Program participants and a University student. When the pandemic started, Namanda decided to enroll in computer classes to improve her tech skills. As a result of the Computer Program, Namanda has been able to succeed in her studies and work as an office attendant with GOT to support her studies.



### Nanjeru

Nanjeru is one of Girls of Tomorrow's Permaculture Program participants. This project consists of building a permaculture garden in local schools to provide a more nutritious diet to students while they also learn about gardening. So far, Nanjeru has learned how to create and manage nursery beds.



### **Sylvia**

Sylvia is one of the 3,000+ beneficiaries of Joy Divine's Food Program. Located in Nairobi, Joy Divine serves the most vulnerable neighborhoods where food insecurity is still an everyday reality. Through this project, Joy Divine provides in-school meals and articulates homeless outreaches to target as many community members as they can.



# WHAT IS GROWTH FOR IF NOT TO HELP ORDINARY PEOPLE THRIVE?

WINNIE BYANYIMA





### THE GIVING BACK PROGRAM & JOY DIVINE





3 PROJECTS





**FULL SCHOLARSHIPS** 

### SAYING NO TO FOOD INSECURITY



The COVID-19 pandemic represented both a health and sustainable development crisis for low and middle-income countries like Kenya. With the economic strain that the Kenyan economy has suffered since 2020, where nearly 1 million Kenyans have lost their jobs, the progress that the country has made in areas such as food security and education are threatened.

Joy Divine, a Nairobi-based nonprofit that targets access to education and food security, saw first-hand how the situation quickly deteriorated. According to Frederick Mwaura, Joy Divine's Program Manager,

Many vulnerable Kenyans can't afford food. Especially during this COVID-19 period. The Food Program was a gamechanger and the service will remain essential even after the pandemic.

The fight against food insecurity is a long-standing battle in Kenya. According to the World Bank, since the year 2000, Kenya has only been able to decrease 7% of its national food undernourishment rates. Therefore, the COVID-19 pandemic threatened to challenge and deteriorate the scenario for vulnerable Kenyan households.

As a result of this scenario, we decided to join forces with Joy Divine and support their Food Program for the first half of 2021. This project brings food relief to the homeless, school children, and other vulnerable community members in Nairobi. From January to June 2021, the Food Program helped at least 3,000 community members with food relief. From Monday to Friday, Joy Divine served meals and donated food parcels to the homeless and school children in Kiboro. On Saturdays, the Joy Divine team moved to Dandora, Ghetto, and Mukuru where they deliver the same service.

To help with this project, Project 10 participants volunteered during their vacation period. In total, each participant completed 30 hours assisting with tasks related to cooking and preparing food parcels, delivering meals, and donations.

While undernourishment continues to be one of Kenya's main struggles in the quest for sustainable development, projects like the Food Program keep the hope alive that food insecurity will soon be an issue of the past.

### **CHILDREN**

**BELONG IN SCHOOL** 

**JOY DIVINE** 

In addition to our efforts in food relief, we have continued supporting access to quality education through Project 10. Founded in 2015, this program provides a full scholarship to 10 students from economically challenged backgrounds.

As with many low and middle-income countries, access to education is still a great challenge in Kenya. According to the World Bank, only 4 out of 10 children in this country are enrolled in secondary school. These statistics are alarming when we think that education is the key to a country's social and economic growth.

Project 10, therefore, comes as a way to ensure that children continue pursuing an education. As one of our Project 10 participants Kelvin shares

I'm the first in my family to reach high school. My mom and dad both stopped going to school in grade 10.

Despite the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, participants have remained committed to continuing with their studies. Eight of our students are on their way to finish high school and soon will embark on a new journey as they transition to college.

HELPING JOY DIVINE OPERATIONS

Back in March 2020, Frederick Mwaura reached out to ask for further support for Joy Divine.

The van he uses to maintain the operations of projects such as the Food Progra broke and he feared he wouldn't be able to transport meals and food parcels.

We believe that logistics are as important as the projects we support. This is why we supported Joy Divine's request.



WITHOUT SAFE DRINKING WATER, OR ADEQUATE **SANITATION AND HYGIENE FACILITIES AT HOME AND IN PLACES OF WORK AND EDUCATION, IT IS DISPROPORTIONATELY HARDER** FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS TO LEAD SAFE, PRODUCTIVE, HEALTHY LIVES.

**UN WOMEN** 





### THE GIVING BACK PROGRAM & SSAMBA FOUNDATION





3 PROJECTS



BOREHOLES THAT BRING
CLEAN WATER TO
COMMUNITY MEMBERS



HANDWASHING STATION



### WATER **FOR ALL**

### **SSAMBA FOUNDATION**

Safe access to clean water is still a pressing issue in Uganda. While in urban areas, almost 80% of the population has access to water, this number drastically changes for Ugandans living in the countryside where up to 50% of people lack this right.

Ssamba, Founder of Ssamba Foundation, recalls:

The existing water places were in a very poor condition. They are contaminated and used to lead to lifethreatening diseases. "

The community suffered from illnesses caused by unsafe drinking water which elevates child mortality rates. According to UNICEF, 300,000 children die every year due to contaminated water and poor sanitation.

Access to water also impacts education. In villages like Kyampsi, women and children are the ones in charge of bringing water to the household. This chore can take away time from their education for boys and girls.

Given this scenario, we teamed up with Ssamba Foundation to build 2 boreholes in Kyampsi. The first borehole was placed on the main road of the village which allows all 2,500 community members to access clean water at walking distance.

The second borehole was built at the community school grounds, accessible to Kyampsi community members, and nearby villages. This strategic placement made it possible to reach another 1,200+ people, bringing an impact to 3,500+ community members.

### **KEEPING HANDS CLEAN AT SCHOOL**

In addition to the 2 boreholes, Ssamba Foundation was also able to build a hand washing station at the community school. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, hand-washing stations were a big concern in lowincome countries. UNICEF highlighted that still in 2018 that half of the schools in these countries do not have access to water and soap for handwashing.

Now, according to Musa Kalule, caretaker at the local school:

This handwashing station will improve the personal hygiene of our children and staff.



TEACHERS OPEN
THE DOOR, BUT
YOU MUST ENTER
BY YOURSELF.

**ANONYMOUS** 





### THE GIVING BACK PROGRAM & GIRLS OF TOMORROW









700+
HYGIENE KITS DISTRIBUTED



FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
PLANTED IN 3 MANDALA
GARDENS

FIGHTING PERIOD POVERTY

Period poverty continues to be one of Uganda's main obstacles to gender equality. Nearly a quarter of girls between the ages of 12 and 18 leave school when they begin their period. This is associated with the lack of economic resources to buy hygiene kits and the negative social perception

**GIRLS OF TOMORROW** 

In the regions where Girls of Tomorrow operate, 49% of girls lacked basic menstruation supplies, and 34% of girls reported missing classes at least once a month due to period shame and poverty.

surrounding menstruation.

Through their Menstruation Program, Girls of Tomorrow has sought to fight these pressing issues by empowering girls and educating boys and parents. Their program consists on educational workshops where they explain menstrual cycles, hygiene practices, and reduce stigma to both boys and girls.

According to Majorine Namitala, GOT's Program Manager,

When boys are equipped with anatomical knowledge about menstruation, menstrual stigma is reduced, leading to normalization and understanding.

Educating boys and girls on the topic is as important as having real access to menstrual products. Girls of Tomorrow is aware that most families don't have the economic means to buy hygiene kits, which is why they have come up with a solution that is both environmentally and economically sustainable.

As part of their workshop, they also teach girls how to make reusable pads. They want to empower girls through skills and knowledge that they can use in their daily lives and maybe help other members of their community.

During their March-May workshop sessions, Girls of Tomorrow trained 20 girls on how to make reusable pads. In total, these girls collaborated by producing 200 reusable pads to be distributed in their schools. Along with Afripads, 750 reusable sanitary towels were distributed among 159 girls in 2 local schools.

Providing girls access to menstrual pads has been proven to reduce students' absenteeism. In the schools we worked with, approximately one-third of girls reported missing school because of their period.

GOT welcomes all girls and women that want to use their sewing equipment to make reusable pads, which has motivated them to use this skill for economic growth.





For example, according to Nakayima, a GOT participant, her dream is to become a tailor. Through GOT's Menstrual Program not only has she learned about menstrual hygiene but she has also acquired sewing skills that will help her accomplish her dream, and ultimately, provide a better future for her and her family.





### **GIRLS OF TOMORROW**

During the March-May workshop session, Girls of Tomorrow saw the need to further expand their previous edition to also include community members, as this would be key to continuing to fight against period shame and poverty.

In this sense, during September and October, GOT carried out a series of workshop sessions opened to all community members in the villages they serve. The goal of this edition was to improve parents' ability to provide psycho-social support to girls and educate communities on the benefits of reusable pads.

about menstruation, in the end, they expressed



Given that menstrual health doesn't often include men in the conversation, GOT's event achieved an important step in fighting period shame and stigma.

### SUPPORTING FOOD SECURITY

#### **GIRLS OF TOMORROW**

Food insecurity continues to be the main roadblock to education in Uganda. Recent research developed by Michigan State University showed that 80% of school children have anemia and 92% don't eat breakfast at home. Children, especially in rural areas, end up relying on school meals, which in most cases, aren't rich in nutritional value.

Girls of Tomorrow provides a comprehensive alternative solution to this long-standing issue. Through their Permaculture Program, GOT trains schools on how to create, manage, and maintain gardens. Their goal is to continue fighting against food insecurity by providing nutritious school meals.

This year's edition of GOT's program started at a local school in July 2021 and will finish in July 2022. So far, students have received training on how to make bio-fertilizers, organic farming, planning, designing, and setting up gardens.

In total, they have created 2 verandahs 8 sacks, and 3 mandala gardens containing 8 types of vegetables (carrots, onions, spinach, cabbage, etc), and 5 types of fruits (mangos, lemons, banana, apples, etc).



In addition, they have also set up an herbal spiral garden to plant natural pesticides and a natural compost area that will be used as fertilizer in the near future.

This type of agricultural practice allows for increased crop yields, does not rely on the use of expensive pesticides, and provides buffering systems in response to the effects of harsh climates.

This edition of GOT's Permaculture Program is expected to serve 600 children at a local school!

Other local schools became interested in the program after learning about the benefits for their students. An example is the Kazoi Senior School Headmaster who has applied to host the project for 2022.

### GOT'S INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

In August 2021, the Knowledge Hub for Organic Agriculture chose GOT's Permaculture Program as a demonstration site in Eastern Africa. The KCOA is a project sponsored by the German and Swiss Ministries of Economic and Cooperation, where they give technical advice on sustainable alternatives. The project chooses two NGO partners per region as their demonstration sites to monitor results. This time, GOT has been chosen as their partner in Eastern Africa.





GIRLS OF TOMORROW

Did you know that in rural Uganda less than 40% of women own a tech device and 5% of the population has access to the internet?

These are some of the social inequality issues that Girls of Tomorrow seeks to fight against. Through their Entrepreneur Program, they offer Computer classes to girls and women from ages ranging 12 - 25 years old. Their goal is to empower the next generation of business leaders in their communities.

This edition of GOT's program started back in June 2021and ends in December 2021. Students in the out-of-school program have received a total of 36 sessions, consisting of 18 practical and 18 theoretical lessons. Girls in the in-school program have received 24 sessions, consisting of 12 practical and 12 theoretical lessons.

In these lessons, students have learned how to use Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher. They had the opportunity to put it all into practice when drafting their CVs and business plan for the Entrepreneur Program.

GOT's initiative has also motivated girls to continue with their studies and finish grade school:

One of our girls was inspired to go back to school after dropping out because of how motivated she felt after taking the computer classes.

This edition of GOT's Computer Program has served 40 participants in the Entrepreneur Program.

### A NEW COMPUTER LABORATORY FOR GIRLS OF TOMORROW

In the spirit of supporting to expand GOT's initiative, we have also sponsored the renovation of their computer laboratory.

We have contributed to buying 5 desktop computers, 1 laptop to be used by teachers during lessons, a projector, and a power generator. All of which will guarantee that the program serves more community members.



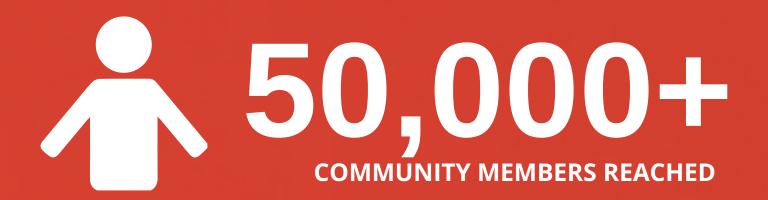
SAVING OUR PLANET,
LIFTING PEOPLE OUT OF
POVERTY, ADVANCING
ECONOMIC GROWTH.
THESE ARE ONE AND
THE SAME FIGHT.

**BAN KI-MOON** 





# THE GIVING BACK PROGRAM & NASHIPAI MAASAI COMMUNITY PROJECTS





PROJECTS



SCHOOL OUTREACHES ON CHILD SAFEGUARDING



MEDIA CAMPAIGN ON HIV/AIDS AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

### SPEAKING UP AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Female Genital Mutilation is a pervasive cultural practice that has affected nearly 4 million girls and women from ages 15 - 49 years old, according to UNICEF.

Founded in 2015, Nashipai Maasai Community Projects works to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation among the Maasai. In 2021, through a media campaign hosted by a local radio station, and with the help of a healthcare and a social worker, Nashipai delivered a 1-hour informational session to address topics such as child protection, HIV/AIDS testing and medication, FGM, and other forms of Gender-Based Violence.

As Naserian, a social worker and Founding Director of the Maasai Mara Women Empowerment Organization, who facilitated the radio session recalls:

"Given that in most Maasai counties more than half of the population is illiterate, projects like this help to reach more people in the community." In this media campaign edition, listeners also had the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session by either calling directly to the radio or leaving questions on social media.

Overall, 56,712 people tuned in to listen to Nashipai's informational session.

### KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

NASHIPAI MAASAI COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Did you know that 78% of Maasai girls and women have undergone Female Genital Mutilation according to UNICEF?

While Kenya outlawed FGM back in 2011, this practice still persists among the Maasai. For example, in the regions, Nashipai operates, at least 100 girls below the age of 18 have undergone FGM in the last year.

Through their School Outreach Program, they seek to continue fighting against FGM by empowering and educating girls and boys on topics related to menstrual hygiene, FGM, and child protection. In this School Outreach Program edition, Nashipai delivered a 2-day educational workshop in two different schools that have a high rate of FGM, child marriage, and teenage pregnancy.

According to Selina Nkoile, Nashipai's Founder explains,

Our goal is to promote education amongst the Mosiro community of the Maasai so as to create a society free from all forms of violence against women and children and to ensure every child is given a chance to thrive.

As part of their workshop, Nashipai also teaches about STD prevention to older students. Selina and her team added this section to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention.

Overall, the 4-day Nashipai Program reached 258 students from ages 10 to 14 years old - being 104 girls and 154 boys. As part of the School Outreach Program, each student also received a hygiene pack consisting of 1 reusable sanitary towel (for girls), 2 pieces of underwear, and soap.

Right now, we only have half of the student population in classes. This is due to migration, teenage pregnancy, diseases, and food shortages."

The initiative in both schools was well-received by students and teachers who highlighted the need of more programs like this to eradicate FGM and create more awareness on STD prevention.





For example, according to Violah Rotich, a school counselor at one of the targeted schools, girls face many challenges when pursuing an education. They often have to miss school during their periods, and some are victims of early marriage.





SAVING OUR PLANET,
LIFTING PEOPLE OUT OF
POVERTY, ADVANCING
ECONOMIC GROWTH THESE ARE ONE AND
THE SAME FIGHT.

**BAN KI-MOON** 



In 2021, the Giving Back Program supported 13 projects that made a total of \$33,423.87



\$5,564

Joy Divine

\$7,573.78



**Girls of Tomorrow - Uganda** 



Ssamba Foundation - Uganda Joy Divine - Kenya

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Nashipai Maasai Community Projects - Kenya

\$14,517.35

\$3,319.62

Administrative costs: \$239.62 Grand total: \$33,423.87

