

**2021
Karibu
Welcome
Bienvenue**

ConnectSwiss

Building a brighter future in rural Africa



In 2020, COVID-19 has had a very negative impact world-wide. Your donation will ensure our school and facilities continue to provide the stability, routine and consistency needed for our children to have a safer and better year in 2021.

2021

Education back on track



International Village School (IVS)

In Kenya, the school calendar is made up of 3 terms starting in January and ending in November each year. Following the outbreak of COVID-19, all schools closed at the end of the first term in March 2020.

Schools reopened on 4 January 2021 to continue with the curriculum of the 2020 second term. The school calendar has therefore been adapted to accommodate this 8.5 month suspension of education for all students and the normal school calendar will only resume as of 2023.

IVS school students' attendance on the first day back to school on 4 January 2021 was good with only 3 students not returning including two Form 2 students (parents and guardians are being contacted) and one Form 4 student who left for another school. We are also still looking for a replacement Maths and Chemistry teacher who left in 2020. We have ensured all social distancing rules are met.

Teachers and final year students in Form 4 are working hard as they have their final school exams (KCSE) in late March 2021.

JumpStart Pre-primary

Jumpstart, our pre-primary class, also opened on 4 January 2021. All students returned and we had to bring in two extra tables to ensure good social distancing. The children will also receive their morning porridge and daily lunch.



Feeding Programs



We hope to also soon recommence our porridge programs, at Kigama and Kakemer primary schools. The programs have been feeding children since 2007 and 2008 respectively, but were also interrupted last year due to COVID-19 pandemic.

In Kakemer, we used the remaining maize and sugar from the 2020 program to feed needy families. Left photo: 18 January 2021 Kakemer Porridge program feeding over 100 under 5's every day at school

Training Centres and Sewing School

We are keeping our two training centres and the sewing school closed whilst we monitor the infection rate of COVID-19 in the rural areas and shall review when we can open in February 2021.

In the meantime, we built two new pit latrines (right photo) at the Emuhaya training centre, as after 16 years the old latrines needed to be replaced. Thank you to the donors at the end of 2020, whose donations helped us build these two toilets.





Importance of Health



Children's Support Centre



Our **Children's Support Centre** was open throughout 2020, although only for out-patients from March, with more than 3'000 consultations during the year. Staff in above photo.

We also distributed maize to needy families (left photo) in total over 1'500 food donations were made during 2020.

Due to problems with supplies to government health centres and malaria treatments being unavailable for a large part of the year, CSC provided 475 free malaria treatments after testing (from 670 children and parents tested, 70% were positive).

How can you help



Thank you for your wonderful support in 2020.

2021 brings new needs and your generosity will help children in need.

If you know of anyone who would like to help a malnourished child get back to good health (CHF 30 per month) or sponsor the education of a student at IVS (CHF 50 per month) please visit

<http://www.connectswiss.com/get-involved#donate>

Children's Support Centre International Village School

Over the years 1000's of children have been treated at our Children Support Centre, thank you to our donors who help toward their treatment ensuring they live a better & healthier life.



The School opened its doors in 2008, educating 100's of children. Special thanks to many private donors, including SeaQuest Marine (in Geneva) as well as several organisations including Friends of the International School (FOTIS in Geneva) and Tushirikiane (Spain).



Become a ConnectSwiss Member

Anyone who shares the objectives of our organisation can become a member of ConnectSwiss and belong to a non-profit organization that alleviates poverty and provides high quality education for some of the poorest people in East Africa. Membership fees help cover administrative costs so that 100% of donations go directly to the projects.

As a member you will be able to contribute to the development of new projects with your ideas, donations and/or sponsorship. For example, members can contribute their expertise and ideas by providing network support, writing funding proposals, helping ConnectSwiss accomplish its tasks and much more.

Other benefits of being a regular member include receiving our newsletter, as well as having access to ConnectSwiss Annual Report and Accounts.

Membership costs only:

- United States: USD 50 per year
- Switzerland: CHF 50 per year
- U.K. GBP 40 per year
- Europe: EUR 45 per year
- Rest of the World: USD 50 per year

ConnectSwiss

Association ConnectSwiss

is a registered Swiss charity
(CH-550-1067424-1)
which raises funds for rural development
projects in East Africa.

www.connectswiss.com

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If you wish to make a donation, please indicate the project for which the funds are intended, and your name and address for receipt.

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