



A huge THANK YOU!

Early August we distributed over \$20,000 AUD worth of goods to over 1200 vulnerable and/or flood-affected households. This included around 10 tonnes of beans, 800 jerricans, water tablets and tarpaulins. This was very much appreciated by both the recipients and by authorities.

Floods

Lake Albert is still flooding, and water has now come over 2km inland in many places along the lake shore. Whole villages (including Songalendu just behind us) have been swamped, and it is worsening now that rainy season has started. Water is now only about 200m behind the Amari site.



Tarpaulins

And a big thank you to those who have donated towards tarpaulins. We will be distributing another 300 (\$12000 worth) this week. They are used to cover temporary shelters, and if the family has to shift again with further flooding (which is happening) the tarpaulin can go with them.

Impact of the flooding

As well as homes being lost, the floods are causing sanitation and health problems with public latrines flooded and water-borne diseases on the rise. Crocodiles and snakes are coming further inland (a colleague's wife was bitten by a snake that had come indoors), and malaria is rampant.



Getting a personal glimpse.....

I got a personal reminder of how people are impacted when I came down with a bout of typhoid/ malaria and we had a python try and join us in the house. Unlike many, however, I was able to get onto quick medical care and have recovered. (And our lovely guards dealt with the python!)

In solidarity with Melbourne

As a water border district, Buliisa is still in full transport lockdown and nighttime fishing banned. Uganda-wide institutions and churches are still closed, a curfew is in place, and masks in public are (in principle) mandatory. It is, however, rumoured that the airport will open October 1.

Uganda to reopen Entebbe airport in October

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 09, 2020



Entebbe International Airport in Uganda. FILE PHOTO | AFP

Flood/Covid FUND- *Flooding is an ongoing and worsening crisis here in Buliisa. If you would like to donate towards tarpaulins (AU\$40 each) or our emergency or general funds, you can do so here. (Indicate 'tarpaulins' or 'flood' if you wish it to go specifically towards that) <https://amari.org.au/donate/>*

And in other news

COVID in Uganda. Today saw an all-time high of 326 cases testing positive. To date there have been 4700 positive cases, and 52 deaths. Uganda implemented a stringent lockdown very early on, so it is unknown at this stage as to whether Uganda is on the brink of an explosion in cases, or if the impact in Uganda is actually milder than in other parts of the world. Maybe due to age, sun, experience with previous epidemics, and/or prior exposure to hydroxychloroquine. It is probable COVID is much more widely prevalent in the community, as testing is primarily of contacts of positive cases, community alerts and border-point entrants. E.g. 4000 people were tested today, and to date around 420,000 have been tested country-wide (out of a population of 43m). At Amari we are somewhat cushioned as we are still in lockdown, and can stay away from crowded shopping areas and group activities.



Uganda's 5-yearly elections are scheduled for February next year, so currently party selection voting is happening. This is creating some civil disturbances and seeing various opposition challengers thrown in prison. And of course, very limited social distancing and mask wearing is happening!

Around Amari, builders and groundstaff are preparing to begin brickmaking this week for the new block. Teachers have collected and handed out another round of 'work-at-home' material. Both students and teachers have faithfully been preparing, completing and marking this work .



Supporting Community Families

Two years ago, triplets Morgan, Natricia and Oscar were born in a nearby village. In many similar instances, triplets born in Uganda would be placed in children's homes because the family feels it is too poor to take care of them. They have been able to remain in their nuclear family (who have 6 children under 10 years).



Sponsorship support is assisting the parents with the day-to-day living. We love that sponsors step in to help, and this is a perfect example of how supporting a child in their family enables them to continue living with their biological relatives when the family is basically stable but struggles due to poverty. (The triplets today)

Once again a huge thank you to those who have continued to support our children during this very topsy-turvy year. We have been able to continue paying staff and to send schoolwork home. And thank you to those who have topped up extra - this has enabled flood-affected families to buy new land and to get food and house-building support.



The above photo shows the home and mother of Amari student Jovia, down at Songlendu village behind Amari, which is now practically totally flooded out. This week the flood waters reached their place, and they now have to relocate.



Children's Medical

With the travel lockdown in Buliisa, and scaled-back services in Kampala, we have not been sending children down for reviews. We are, however, continuing to assist with medication and visits to closer regional referral centres. Safina (left) is receiving ongoing medication assistance.

Child Sponsorship

Educating children is Amari's core mission, and we are able to run the school and pay salaries through child sponsorship. Rogers and his mother are living with his grandparents. His mother was selling chapattis by the lake to help support him, but this has been affected by flooding.



If you would like to help support Rogers, or another child on our sponsorship program, visit: <https://amari.org.au/sponsorship>

Praise & Prayer Points: Praise God staff at Amari are doing well, despite COVID and all the restrictions and upheaval. Pray for our local communities who are being devastated by rising flood waters.

**Donate here
(tax deductible)**

If you don't need an Australian tax deduction, you can pay directly into the Sponsorship or Capital/General accounts (see below)



SPONSORSHIP Donations

Bank of Melbourne
Amari Community Dev. Org.
BSB: 193 879
Acc.No. 411041958

CAPITAL AND GENERAL Donations

Bank of Melbourne
Amari Community Dev. Org.
BSB: 193 879
Acc.No. 410281010

About Amari Community Development Organisation

Amari CDO began in 2008 to help relieve the effects of poverty through the support of education, development and welfare programs conducted in Uganda. Amari has 40 acres of land at Kisiabi in Buliisa District. It is registered as an NGO (Non Government Organisation) in Australia and Uganda. Its' primary focus is the education and support of orphaned and vulnerable children. Amari aims to invest in them educationally and spiritually through quality Christian education.



Amari Community Development Organisation

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Amari gratefully acknowledges the support of Australia Hope International (AHI) Contact hope@ahi.org.au

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