



YOU FEED THEM

To eliminate world hunger, one village at a time, by partnering with churches, organizations, and individuals.



In this Issue:

YFT Expansion	1
Yogo Electricity & Water	1
Farm Updates	2
Oduor Family	2
Kenyan Leadership	4
School Updates	5
Note from Co-Chair	6
Who We Are	6
To Keep in Prayer	6

YFT Miraculous Expansion to Tanzania

A small village in Tanzania may be one of the first communities neighbouring Yogo to be revolutionized by the YouFeedThem agricultural program.

After attending a pastoral training summit hosted by partners of YFT in 2011, Pastor Titus Mashala returned to Bukwimba with a new vision for the future of his village.

Having received funding from YFT to start a local CBO (community based organization), Pastor Mashala, of his own initiative, replicated the YFT community development model found in Yogo. He educated local farmers with what he had learned about crop rotation and other agricultural strategies. He then contacted the Tanzanian Inland Church (TIC) district

continued on page 3



Celebrations in Yogo!

Yogo is preparing for a celebration of all celebrations!

On November 5th, 2013, the community will rejoice and give thanks for the blessing of water AND electricity in the village!



YOGO AND SEJE FARM UPDATES

Yogo and Seje villagers celebrate the newest harvest of the season: corn, beans, and cabbages. Farmers have recently harvested red onions, are soon to collect millet, and their kale and groundnuts are growing beautifully. The cabbages in Yogo alone raised over \$700 when sold locally. Thanks to drip irrigation systems introduced by YFT, crops withstand droughts which often frequent the region.

Harvests are still considered a miracle to these villagers, since it was only five years ago that many were starving to death. The YFT farms have had an incredible impact on the community as a whole. Villagers volunteer on the farm in exchange for their children's school fees. The farm also provides the children with two nutritious meals during the school day.

HARVESTS ARE STILL CONSIDERED A MIRACLE SINCE ONLY FIVE YEARS AGO MANY VILLAGERS WERE STARVING TO DEATH

Often, these are the only meals these children will eat; on Mondays, many students are lethargic as they will have not eaten since the previous Friday.

“The farm has had a huge impact on the community,” says Silas Oduor, Community Development Officer of YFT. “You can quantify it. Since we have the school, we have a parameter. We take in a new class every year. You can see the progressive changes in students' lives, from when they were taken in at the

beginning of the school year to even just three months later. This is because they are fed at school.” The impact becomes even more prevalent when one includes the wells brought in by YFT. “So many diseases: cholera, dysentery, and more are no longer an issue with the clean water,” rejoices Oduor.

Oduor has witnessed other villagers and villages replicating YFT farming techniques on their own farms and has watched Yogo and Seje act as training grounds for other communities. “You are finding unity and harmony in the community.” The introduction of electricity brings even more hope to Yogo village since it provides massive potential for businesses to develop and grow in the region.

ODUOR HAS WITNESSED OTHER VILLAGERS REPLICATING YFT FARMING TECHNIQUES AND HAS WATCHED YOGO AND SEJE ACT AS TRAINING GROUNDS FOR OTHERS

As with any holder of a golden goose, Seje and Yogo CBO's also ensure that a portion of the profits are used to continue the farm's sustainability so that next year will be just as promising as this year's harvest.



YFT's Farming and Gardening Lead, Roland Poirier, visits an individual's farm that has duplicated YFT farming methods. Knowledge of more effective methods is spreading throughout the region.

YFT Miraculous Expansion to Tanzania (cont'd)

office for further support.

In April 2013, Pastor Mashala announced that the TIC had provided 85 acres to be used by the YFT Ministry. He explained, "Our Bishop suggested that, if possible to shift the ministry place from Sengerema to Bukwimba village, where by the YFT and our Diocese can help the most underprivileged, deprived and



Pastor Mashala and his wife Happiness five days after her miraculous recovery.

vulnerable members of society. The diocese office has already sent me to this village and I am working to this village as a pastor, and the YFT program and project manager."

Pastor Mashala's faith in God's provision and tireless dedication to this project is remarkable, particularly considering a recent family emergency. In May, his wife Happiness became critically ill and was rushed to Bugando National Hospital. She was five months pregnant at the time and was diagnosed with a deadly combination of typhoid, malaria, and tuberculosis. Unfortunately, her child did not survive, and staff had to perform an emergency c-section. With all the medical complications, it was a miracle Happiness survived. She is now home and recovering. Pastor Mashala

wrote in a recent letter that people in their church congregation were amazed Happiness was able to stand and sing for a few minutes during the worship service. God is ever faithful.

Pastor Mashala has great hope for the future of Bukwimba and thanks God daily for His provision. Following YFT agricultural strategies, Bukwimba's community gardens are prospering with crops such as maize (corn), cotton, beans, rice, legumes and cassava. Additionally, the church is flourishing from a vision of future food security and a sustainable agricultural plan.

This small seed of hope YFT has planted in Tanzania with Pastor Titus Mashala and his over 750 orphans, widows and congregants, may be the most exciting miracle of 2013. With minimal financial support, Bukwimba's motivated commitment to the YFT community development program has proven to be strong and fruitful.

YFT's key goal upon visiting Tanzania in early 2014 is to train and transfer technologies in all areas of vegetable and crop production. Mission representatives will also introduce the new fodder technology with expectation of delivering this technology at a future date. On completion of the visit, they will solidify the village of Bukwimba as an official partner to be matched with a partnering group from North America. This partnering organization is yet to be determined.

YFT is very much looking forward to its visit with our Pastor Titus and Happiness and all the beautiful people of Bukwimba, Tanzania.

ODUOR FAMILY CALLED TO KENYA

On its fact-finding trip to Kenya in the spring of 2013, Hungry for Life (HFL) identified the essential role played by Silas and Kimberly Oduor in leading YFT implementation plans in both Yogo and Seje. HFL has determined that the best way forward is to have Silas act as Community Development Officer with both the Seje and Yogo Community Based Organizations (the local elected leadership).

The Oduor family had recently returned to Ottawa in order for Silas to complete the final steps to gain Canadian Citizenship. Silas had previously been working in a very similar role to a Community Development Officer since the creation of YFT and the Yogo/Seje projects began. This work was often a 60 hour a week commitment, however, and was largely without compensation, making it difficult for the family to continue their work without financial support. In order to raise their support, Silas and Kimberly have successfully applied to The Great Commission Foundation, which will receive and distribute funds on their behalf.

Support has been raised for the upcoming year, however, ongoing support is necessary in order for the Oduor family to remain in Kenya and critical for them to continue their much needed work in Yogo and Seje. If you feel called to make a tax receipted donation to support this family, please go to www.tgcfcanada.org and donate.



Silas Oduor, along with his wife Kimberly and their five year old son, Ephraim.

UP CLOSE: KENYAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP

One issue that became clear to the YFT Ministry on early visits to Kenya was the young people's lack of motivation in Yogo and Seje. Initially the youth were not interested in the farms or employment. Such disinterest is often considered a common byproduct of poverty; people are unlikely to further themselves if they don't see any hope in their future. One witness to this challenge was Ryan Dekker, a young man from Ottawa, also in his early twenties, who went with YFT on their second missions trip to Kenya. Dekker felt God calling him to bring soccer balls to the youth in the villages, and he began a game with several one day on his trip. Silas Oduor says it was this incident which led several youth to start weekly soccer games. After this, many stepped up to work on the community farms or to come together doing their own farming. Lynn Fraser, former YFT Chairman, and a participant in the third missions trip a year later, claims the youth said they were inspired by Dekker. Here are profiles of two young men whose motivation has made them respected community leaders:

Elisha of Yogo Village

Age: Mid Twenties

Status: Married, one son

Education: High school

His Achievements::

Elisha has shown incredible initiative in his village. He has demonstrated



leadership ability and has been instrumental in growing passion in the hearts of other youth in the community. After playing soccer with Dekker, he got the youth to begin playing sports together. He then started his own farm: a fish pond that he replicated after the YFT model. He then brought more YFT techniques to his family's farm. After this, Elisha led the Yogo youth to buy their own small plot of land. Together they farm that land as well as contribute one day a week to working on the YFT farm.

Sylvester of Seje Village

Age: Early Twenties

Status: Single

Occupation: Associate Pastor of Seje Church

His Achievements:

Sylvester is a highly ambitious young man who makes sacrifices for a higher goal. An associate pastor of Seje VOSH church, Sylvester gave up his personal residence to Seje school for the past three years to use as a classroom. The church built another residence for him, but by that point, a year had passed and the school now needing a building for its newest class. Sylvester gave them this residence to use as well. He currently has a mat on the floor in someone else's home. Sylvester has shown incredible initiative as a farmer. Before YFT knew about Seje Village, he had his own tomato farm. Since tomato plants require a lot of water, he would ride his bike over 5km uphill to a river several times a day carrying water. When he heard about YFT, he rallied his church to start a community farm and sent reports of their progress to YFT. These reports helped lead YFT to choose Seje village as the second project site. Sylvester is now the Secretary General of the Seje CBO. He has been highly active, reaching out to his local community and is committed to growing the church. Others in the village praise him for being so hardworking and for continually sacrificing towards the success of the community projects.

YFT MINISTRY UPDATE: Upcoming Missions Trip to Yogo and Seje

If the Lord has placed Global Missions on your heart, we would invite you to come with our team in Jan/Feb of 2014.

The purpose of this trip is to continue to support our current YFT projects and assess perspective YFT partnerships. We will also be introducing the new technology of fodder production for these areas and God willing, construction of a new fodder bridge in Yogo.

In addition to providing love and care for the widows and orphans, basic computer communications and excel spreadsheet reporting will be taught to those who are interested and have the task of sending reports.

We will also be bringing school supplies, mainly teachers' aids, as well as pastoral needs such as Bibles, funds for bicycles, and rain gear (these pastors travel by bicycle from village to village, rain or shine). Your help in collecting any of these items would be greatly appreciated. Please contact theresa@youfedthem.com if you have items or contributions you would like to donate.

YOGO VOSH ACADEMY UPDATE

In June, Yogo VOSH Academy children gathered excitedly to hear the results of the Music, Arts, and Cultural Festival competition at the county level in Kenya. Compared to the other 200+ schools participating in the competition, their chances at achieving a high score were minimal. Many of the other schools were private schools, well resourced by private investors, while Yogo VOSH Academy is supported by profits from the YFT Farm, and partnership with AMIC (Ambassador's Ministries in Covenant).

The story of this school began back in 2009. Education was the number one request by villagers even before food became a reality. Many children from Yogo and surrounding areas could not afford to go to government schools. While the government technically provides free primary education, additional fees for uniforms, exams, etc. made it impossible for children of poorer families to attend. In Kenya, if parents cannot pay, children do not get an education.

EDUCATION WAS THE NUMBER ONE REQUEST BY VILLAGERS EVEN BEFORE FOOD BECAME A REALITY

The Yogo Community Based Organization (CBO) which oversees the running of the farm searched the locality and nominated the most needy children in the area. These were the poorest of the poor: children who had no hope of ever receiving an education. The school began as a kindergarten class and has added an additional grade level each succeeding year. In early 2013, the school opened its doors to a grade 3 class. These children are so desperate for an education that even some of the kindergarten students walk three hours a day to attend.

The goal of the school is to produce a generation of children who are well-grounded academically. Public schools have 1 teacher for anywhere between 60-100 children. Class sizes at Yogo VOSH Academy are kept between 25-30. This means the students receive one on one attention, an impossibility in government schools, and teachers are able to assess the

children's growth and development and provide personal intervention. Academic results from Yogo VOSH Academy have been noteworthy. Students in local public schools are unable to speak any English, while in Yogo, senior kindergarten pupils know basic English. They continue to develop their second language further each grade.

THE BOREHOLE WAS WELCOME RELIEF FOR RESIDENTS IN BOTH YOGO AND SEJE VILLAGES.

The Kenyan government tests its schools each semester with standardized exams. Even children in kindergarten participate. Yogo's results have been consistently higher than others in the region.

In addition, for the first round of the Music, Arts, and Cultural festival competition, Yogo VOSH Academy competed against 3 other schools. The students sang, danced, recited poems, and participated in other art activities.

The Yogo teams ranked second and continued to the second competition where they competed against 19 other schools. Only the top three would be chosen to progress to the next level. Yogo students again gained high scores. Two of their teams ranked second and two others ranked third. At the district level, they maintained their numbers against 100 schools and moved on to the county level, which were four districts combined, for a total of 200+ schools. Together, the Yogo Village students concluded the competition ranking fourth and fifth. Yogo villagers are delighted with their children's great achievements and are so thankful for both the physical and intellectual provision that the YFT farm has made possible.

Parents in the Yogo area, and even outside the area, who are able to afford higher school fees than public requirements, are asking to consider their child for enrollment because of the advancements and achievements of Yogo students. This is a blessing we did not foresee.



Several Yogo VOSH Academy children posing as a star for a group photo

A NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

By John Dawson
and Roland Poirier

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We made a great strategic plan with a clear vision and means for its implementation, and then the unexpected was realized.

For example, in Yogo all was working well, the farm was prosperous and funds were being used to make positive changes in the village. The school was being funded through another organization (Ambassador Ministries in Covenant (AMIC)), the fish farm was underway, the farm was expanding and community programs were being developed. Then a drought hit in 2011/12, and dried up the local brook which supplied irrigation water, causing us to lose one rotation of crops (out of three rotations). With God's perfect timing, a gift arrived to fund the drilling of a borehole - and against all odds, given that 30 previous attempts in the area by other organizations had failed - not only was water found, but it was potable and pumping levels indicated that it was continually replenished. A true miracle,

allowing the irrigation system to be completed and used in times of drought.

Similarly in Seje, Stittsville CBC has seen His hand at work. Water is being provided, the school is growing and now land is being purchased to grow crops. YFT is ready to continue the growth in the two villages.

In December 2012 the Church Elders informed the YFT ministry that the ministry has grown to levels requiring an internationally experienced administrative team. They suggested that YFT either find such a partner or become a charitable organization on its own.

Through a divine intervention, Lynn Fraser met with Dave Blundell, and YFT is introduced to Hungry for Life (HFL). This is truly a partnership He has forged. HFL's mission is to link Churches here with the needs of others; they already have numerous projects in Africa and some in Kenya. HFL assumes all the risk to ensure the projects meet the scrutiny of Canadian Revenue Agency regulations, while the sponsoring Church provides the financial support and spiritual commitment. HFL ensures that 100% of funds raised for a project flow to the project.

HFL then identified the essential role played by Silas and Kimberly Oduor in leading

implementation plans in both Yogo and Seje. While much has been accomplished, the people of Yogo still need your help to finish irrigating the existing 12 acres of land for full production, purchase and irrigate 8 more acres of land, introduce a livestock program that will include fodder production, and support the development of community projects. Similarly, HFL will be developing a Community Development Plan for Seje and working with Stittsville CBC to bring it to fruition.

TBCO's Global Missions Committee has agreed to continue to support the Yogo project. With TBCO's continued support and the work of others in the YFT Ministry, this work will be accomplished. Not because we want it done, but because He will ensure the need is satisfied.

The YFT Ministry will work with HFL to define projects to help support those in need through self-sustaining agricultural programs. We will also seek out Churches prepared to assume the support of new projects and assist them in the development of their projects. On our next mission trip in early 2014, we hope to work with HFL to define the needs in two villages, one in Kenya - Bumala and a second in Tanzania - Sengerema District.

YFT: WHO WE ARE

YouFeedThem's focus is to advance the kingdom of God by creating self-sustainable, duplicative agricultural systems that provide hunger relief and economic stability. We seek to eliminate world hunger, one village at a time, by partnering with churches, organizations, and individuals. We exist to plant seeds of hope and empower the people towards self-sustenance, encouraging them to see opportunities as entrepreneurs.

We assist the community in creating a Community-Based Organization (CBO) that can plan for its future. By partnering with other not-for-profit organizations, a CBO can plan the development of schools, housing for widows and orphans, medical centers and much more. With the proceeds from the farm, the community can sustain the infrastructure and continue to develop new businesses and continue to grow, caring for itself and helping others.

With these interventions, projects, and hope will come the creation of job opportunities, empowering families to earn an income and provide for their children's education, basic needs, and future as productive members of society.

The YouFeedThem project can be duplicated one community at a time. In a few years, we see the possibility of a whole nation transformed, with not only relief but self-sustainable solutions for years to come.

As an individual or corporate sponsor you can help to make this possible. If you are a not-for-profit organization working in related areas, perhaps you will want to partner with us to provide the initial infrastructure in the community and have the proceeds from the farm help sustain your investment. A hand up, not a hand out!

Please visit WWW.YOUFEEDTHEM.COM to donate your support.

To Keep in Prayer

1. That churches or groups would come forward to sponsor Dwele, Bumala, and Sengerema villages
2. That the CBO's in Yogo and Seje, as well as leaders of the YFT Projects would continue to seek the Lord's guidance on plans for the communities' futures.
3. For the continued self-sustainable development of Seje and Yogo farms and for the continuing health of the villagers.
4. For the Oduor family as they return to Kenya and work with the CBO's in Yogo and Seje.
5. For the Kenyan government, that it would continue to recognize and bless the efforts of Seje and Yogo villagers.