

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT: 2016 FULL YEAR

In our journey to becoming a more Sustainable Tour and Travel Operator, this year we started on a high note in our CSR & Sustainability projects. We try and stay conscious to the “4 C’s” of sustainability: Community, Conservation, Culture and Commerce. It is our aim to integrate our external projects with our business values, in order for us to meet our sustainability policy, through commitment, integrity and our humanitarian conscience.

OUR PROJECTS:

1. Conservation

In line with our sustainability pillars, in February 2016, together with African Fund for Endangered Wildlife (AFEW), we sponsored 5 teachers from Kalalu Primary and Secondary, Umande, Gakehu, and Ndemu Primary Schools, in the Nanyuki area, to undertake course run by AFEW in conservation and wildlife. The idea behind the course being that the teachers would implement strategies they have learnt back in their schools, and which the students would adopt and become engaged in. As a follow up to the course, the teachers were then taken on a site visit to a school in Ukambani that had best practices for sustainability and conservation projects.

In April the head teachers of the above schools were also sponsored by AFEW and ourselves to attend the course, in order for them to also understand and become fully involved in creating and implementing the new sustainability strategies set up by the staff and pupils.

In a debrief with the teachers who had undergone the course, we, Uniglobe Let’s Go Travel (ULGT), committed ourselves to giving a further incentive by sponsoring a bus load of school children on a field trip to OI Pejeta Conservancy, for the school with the most outstanding projects come end of the year.

In October the Uniglobe Lets Go Travel voluntary sustainability committee received written reports on projects and activities carried out by the five schools whose teachers been involved at beginning of the year.

The committee went through the reports and decided on a winner, based on which school project had covered most ground in terms of sustainability, livelihood and creativity, where the best school (winner) was allocated more children on the bus to visit OI Pejeta Conservancy. Umandi Primary was declared the winner.

In November, 46 students, the majority from the winning school and 5 each from the other schools, and their teachers, enjoyed a day excursion in OI Pejeta Conservancy, seeing lots of wildlife and having a picnic lunch. They were accompanied by 3 staff from Lets Go Travel.



2. Travelife and Sustainability Training

In 2015 we became a Travelife Engaged Partner. Having gone through the first stage of being certified, followed by intense evaluation, we were officially confirmed as a Travelife Partner. This means that we are on level 2 towards attaining the full certification.

We have now had 4 staff undergo Travelife training, as well as 2 staff through the Sustainable Travel and Tourism Agenda training facilitated by STTA Kenya.

In February 2016, all of our staff attended a lecture on Sustainability. We believe that if we all understand our company agenda we will work more cohesively in realising our sustainability goals.

In October we were awarded the **Travelife Partner** certificate.

3. Education

In March 2016, a team of 5 staff visited the Nanyuki schools that we support. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the teacher's conservation course, as mentioned above, as well as to donate computers to the schools. 4 computers were donated to Kalalu Secondary, and 2 each to Ndemu and Umande Primary Schools. The computer donation was given in conjunction with our Technology partners, Amadeus East Africa.

Following this our MD Alan Dixson has carried out spot checks on the relevant schools, to make sure that the schools were actually using the computers for their students benefit and so that we could measure the results in these particular schools.



In May, Alan delivered second hand school reference books to Kalalu Secondary School, and the headmaster informed him that the school would build a library with funds promised by the local authorities.

4. Livelihood, Keep Her In School, and Safari and Happy Projects

In 2015 the ladies of Uniglobe Lets Go Travel (ULGT) started a project called **Keep Her In School (KHIS)**. The project's main agenda is to help to ensure that girls can remain in school even through their periods. We had learnt previously that in general girls school attendance is lower than that of boys due to missing days because they could not afford Sanitary towels. This is how KHIS project came to life. This year over 120 girls in Kalalu Secondary have been beneficiaries of sanitary towels that our KHIS project has donated. The ULGT staff and the Company, which matches the amount raised by its staff, donate sufficient towels for every school term throughout the school year. We plan to organise a health talk with the young women, in collaboration with Zana Africa Foundation in 2017.



In our livelihood projects we usually visit homes that we support. We visited the Body of Christ Home (BOC) in Limuru, which has been a constant in our livelihood projects. In March 2016, they also became beneficiaries to the KHIS project with 25 girls being given a supply of sanitary towels.

In Limuru, we assist with the feeding project run by Mrs. Pat Dixon; she raises funds and gives food rations every fortnight to the needful, elderly people in Limuru.

In addition we support Limuru Children Center.

We make visits to these communities in Limuru and help in the feeding program, by helping to hand out food as well as engaging with the communities at both projects.

Our most recent trip to Limuru was in October 2016, where 5 of our staff participated. It is important to note that each visit must have participant representation from all our office departments. This ensures that every staff member will get a fair chance to participate in a project.

We also purchased new paper shredding machines, and used paper is shredded, collected, and taken to Pat Dixson's home where it is compressed into briquettes, which are handed out as cooking fuel to the elderly people in the Limuru feeding program, as well as to Body of Christ home.

Safari and Happy Projects.

Uniglobe Lets Go Travel has also partnered with One Horizon Kenya, an organisation involved in humanitarian projects in Africa. We decided that it was time to promote holiday trips that are more than just a safari, but a lifelong, and possibly life changing experience. The One Horizon trips are called Happy Projects on our website, where a safari is combined with a humanitarian project. They can involve a few days to different projects added onto the beginning or end of a safari, or even just a day or part day experience. For sample itineraries please look on our website under HAPPY PROJECTS.

CONCLUSION:

We are happy to say that all of our projects are now being realised through teamwork and our understanding of what sustainability entails. In line with our sustainability mission, it is our objective to support sustainable and responsible tourism through our society and sustainable trade practice.

In October 2016, we were awarded **The Best Tour and Travel Company** at the **Eco Warrior Awards**. Eco Warrior Awards are geared to appreciate the sustainability leaders in the Kenyan tourism industry, for their hard work, initiatives and innovations. We as **Uniglobe Lets Go Travel** are honored to have received this award, and promise to put even more effort into promoting and maintaining sustainable and responsible tourism.

