



PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Trip Name: APP Construction Projects
Country: Uganda
Partner: African Prisons Project
Dates: 15th May – 15th June or 1st – 30th October 2011
Cost: £950 plus flights and visas.

COUNTRY INFORMATION:

Uganda is a fertile country lying across the Equator in East Africa. Most of the country consists of a plateau at three to six thousand feet, with much swamp and open water.

Since the late 1980s Uganda has rebounded from the abyss of civil war and economic catastrophe to become relatively peaceful, stable and prosperous.

Uganda has won praise for its vigorous campaign against HIV/Aids. This has helped to reduce the prevalence of the virus - which reached 30% in the 1990s - to single-digit figures.



AFRICAN PRISONS PROJECT INFORMATION:

African Prisons Project (APP) was founded in 2004 by Alexander McLean, then aged 18, on a gap year before university. Whilst volunteering in a hospital in Kampala, he met a group of prisoners from Luzira Upper Prison. One memorable prisoner was in a deep coma, lying in his own waste, handcuffed to the bed, with the guard nowhere to be seen. Other patients refused food and drink to avoid soiling themselves as there were no bedpans or commodes. This prompted Alexander to visit their prison. The maximum security prison, built by the British in 1927 to hold 600, now holds four times as many. Typically, a 6' x 10' cell might hold seven inmates sleeping on the floor.

Disturbed by the prison conditions, Alexander returned a few weeks later to renovate the prison's infirmary. He provided the materials and the prisoners used their skills to do the work. It was named after his grandmother Aileen Lilly Chapple who had given him a great deal of inspiration and vision.

On completion of the project, Alexander asked the prisoners if there was anything else they needed. The resounding response was 'education'. Once back in the UK Alexander collected books and money donated by residents of his local area in Southwest London. He quickly collected enough resources to go back to Uganda and develop the library that the prisoners had asked for.

There was clearly a real need for health and education within prisons that was not being properly addressed by charities or non-governmental organisations. Alexander inspired his family, friends and volunteers to

this cause, and APP was born. These young volunteers have since undertaken a number of projects in Africa that have made a significant impact to restoring dignity and improving the conditions for prisoners.

Building on this momentum, in 2007 APP was incorporated as a charitable company. Later that year they received registered charity status in the UK. From 2008, APP has set up a permanent base in Kampala, Uganda as their African headquarters to enable them to plan for the future.

TRIP INFORMATION:

These teams will come to APP for periods of two to three months throughout the year. They should consist of between 5 and 7 people, at least half of whom should have prior experience of construction, painting, carpentry, electrical work or other similar skills. They will come to work on specific library refurbishment projects, these are:

Kigo Prison Library: 15th May – 15th June 2011

Upper Prison Library: October 2011

The volunteers will work under APP's building manager and will work alongside inmates. The purpose of this type of volunteering is to share skills and knowledge and to contribute towards the rehabilitation of the inmate and development of the volunteer.

The volunteers will stay in the APP house in the same manner as the general education volunteers and will contribute £500 each per month.

Requirements: The volunteers should have previous experience working on construction projects, though they need not necessarily be specialists. They must be prepared to share their skills, self motivated, hard working, accountable and patient and have self confidence

***COST & FURTHER INFORMATION**

The cost (excluding flights, visa and immunisations) will be £950 plus flights and visas. This includes all Uganda costs and also your insurance and preparation but not your immunisations.

For further information please contact Transform on transform@tearfund.org or 0208 943 7777 Or contact APP



ABOUT TEARFUND

We are Christians passionate about the local church bringing justice and transforming lives – overcoming global poverty. And so our ten-year vision is to see 50 million people released from material and spiritual poverty through a worldwide network of 100,000 local churches.