

# friends of fadeco

newsletter may 2004

## New 'Eden Centre' for Fadeco

### Friends of Fadeco fund multi-purpose training centre.

A new multi-purpose training centre has been built in Sekiku Joseph's home village of Nyakasimbi with help from funds taken over to Tanzania by Brian Davies, a Friend of Fadeco from west Wales. It will provide a base in the village for vocational training courses that meet the needs of the local population. There will be courses in carpentry and wood turning, tailoring, organic farming, food processing, bee-keeping and adult literacy.

The new building is to be named The Eden Centre for Appropriate Technology (ECAT). It has been planned by Sekiku Joseph for some time as a response to the very limited availability of education to the people of the area. There are 15,000 people in the area surrounding Nyakasimbi and of the 800 or so children who get as far as completing primary school each



The ECAT under construction in January.

year less than 10 (on average) receive any further education, vocational or otherwise. So ECAT will be a very valuable resource – increasing the skills and confidence of many individuals and contributing to the long term sustainable development of the area. Friends of Fadeco's priority now is to raise funds to complete and fully equip the training centre.

## Fadeco celebrates World AIDS day

Fadeco hosted 12 secondary schools and 2 vocational schools to celebrate World AIDS Day. Fadeco had invited these schools to participate in an essay writing competition about how to prevent further spread of HIVB/AIDS among the youths here.

Over 60 responses were received. A panel of judges were identified to moderate the essays. 5 winners were selected plus 12 runners up. In fact, every student who wrote an essay qualified for a prize.

"All together, we had 254 youths, and 56 adults. This was a remarkable event. Soon we shall compile a report of the presentations that were made and we shall post this on our website" said Joseph Sekiku. However at the moment, you can see the programme and some of the preparations by visiting [www.fadeco.org/kadetfu2.htm](http://www.fadeco.org/kadetfu2.htm).

There was also a one-day conference with many distinguished speakers.

## Family-to-family fair trade

We have pioneered an exciting new system of helping families directly, and getting great food. For £150 incl. p+p you can get a hamper containing any of the following selections of delicious dried food:

Papaya, banana, mango, chilli, tomato, peanuts, coffee, pineapple and honey.

The value of purchasing the amount shipped at UK wholesale prices would be around £180. So you are making a saving too! £100 is a lot to a family in Karagwe.

To book a shipment, send a cheque to Treasurer Flic Eden at the address overleaf or call 01654 761570 and ask for chairperson David Thorpe.



The membership organisation for the supporters of Family Alliance for Development and Cooperation (Fadeco)

Working for sustainable development of the grassroots communities in Karagwe, Kagera Region, NW Tanzania



### What you can do:

- Use the form on the back cover to encourage others to join
- Send a donation
- Buy a £150 food hamper
- Buy a t-shirt!



[www.fadeco.org](http://www.fadeco.org)

# Brian's diary

**In January, Brian Davies, a Friend of Fadeco, who is a former headmaster from Taliesin, Ceredigion, went to Karagwe with a package of teaching materials, to learn about the work of Fadeco. Here we present his personal diary and a report.**

7/01/04 - First day in Kampala. A warm reception from Fadeco members, especially Joseph and his family.

8/01/04 - Travel south over the equator and realised I'm in a hot tropical country with plenty of organic food grown all around me.

9/01/04 - Arrive in Kayanga and start work in the Fadeco office. Here I am at last in a strange environment bustling with adults and children. Material poverty but masses of character and determination to live. Streets full of people but all on foot, not in cars or busses - very strange.

10/01/04 - Off to Bukoba with Joseph to meet Fadeco members there. Fifty people discussing the successes of the last year and the state of finances. I give a report on Friends of Fadeco in Wales. Meet groups of farmers who are involved with drying fruit and vegetables - monkey nuts, coffee, bananas, pineapple using solar drying system. There was a talk on how to develop local markets and promote the local economy in Karagwe. I begin to familiarise myself with the completely different way of life - no electricity or traffic.

11/01/04 - Sunday. Most attend places of worship - Muslim, Catholic, Lutheran. A sea of colour on the roadside, women in tangas. Everybody staring at the strange visitor.

12/01/04 - Visit small businesses which are supplied by Fadeco print workshop. See members packing samples of dried fruit for schools and local markets.

13/04 - Enjoy meal with Joseph, Isabella and eight kids - lemon grass tea, ginger rice, goat meat, bananas, mangoes and passion fruit.

14/4 - Begin building multi purpose centre, travel long way to collect building materials, see remains of temporary Rwandan refugee camp. Older people and children crowd round to see us work. Most children don't get education because families are too poor - £100.00 too much for them.

15 - Can't sleep - night noises and bats. Everyone gets up and has jobs, sweep floor and yard and collect water. Light fire, prepare millet and boil eggs for breakfast. Visit local primary school. Welcome from head Guidance Mashanda - more than 75 in each class. Good discipline, keen to learn. I present the resources I brought from supporters in Ceredigion

16 - Visit members of Joseph's extended family. Everyone has their own shamba (garden). Simeon, Joseph's oldest boy, took me along lonely paths up into the hilly area

18 - Sunday. At church I sit among goats and chickens. They ask me for a contribution so I give the Lord's Prayer in Welsh. The choir sings in Swahili. There was a kind of auction, the worshippers bidding for food. The poor and needy and families whose members suffered from AIDS shared the food.

19 - Teach children Welsh songs. Start out for Sandman's house (see picture right). Poor house but much pride - share last crust. Visit local waterhole and meet women talking as they work.

20 - Visit more schools in Kayanga, learn more Swahili. Talk about Welsh language, culture and customs. Pupils have to pay for education; many are very ambitious. It's a shame the families haven't the means to send them to college; they would be excellent students.

23 - Back in Nyakasimbi. Unbelievable busy-ness preparing for post office opening. Women make food, men prepare seating. They are going to kill a goat for tonight. Isabella, Joseph's wife, presents me with a prayer mat with needlework by her mother and I'm given two traditional kanga costumes worn by women in the fields.

24 - The big day arrives. The post office opens with lots of traditional singing, dancing and long-winded speeches from leaders of different tribes. Obligated to join in with celebrations - a long night!



*Clockwise from top: Brian with village seniors, Kayanga. Making mud bricks for the ECAT. The straw hut belonging to the man who provided sand for the building. Brian with some of Joseph's family. Spot Brian among the school pupils!*

25 - Have traditional lunch with post-mistress. Prepare to go back to Kampala in Uganda. Joseph's children will go to school there where standards of education are higher.

26 - Saw strange sight on road to Uganda - a home destroyed by villagers. The family hounded from the area because of superstition.

27 - Go to Ginja, the Source of the Nile, Lake Victoria.

28 - Travel back home with a headfull of memories.

*Translated from the Welsh by Nicola Dunkley*

# News from Fadeco Tanzania

## Brian Davies' field report.

### The Resource Centre, Nyakasimbi Village, Karagwe Kagera Region.

Thanks to the generous financial contribution made by Friends of Fadeco, the construction of the Centre is now completed and opened in April. Planning is progressing for the following courses to be offered at the Centre:

- Agriculture
- Food Processing
- Basic Business Skills
- English Language
- Vocational skills
- Carpentry
- Tailoring
- Masonry
- Mechanics - Bikes and Motor.
- Future courses – Basic Computer Training.

The Centre will be used as a Community Centre for such activities as local meetings, recreation and seminars to discuss local issues.

The donation received from Friends of Fadeco Wales has been accounted for in a Balance Sheet.

### Work of Fadeco in the Community.

Involvement is currently being carried out with local farmers, schools, VECA (Voluntary Environment Conservation Agitators) and Local Government Officials to discuss current projects and plan short and long term targets.

### Supporting families with limited resources.

Currently sponsoring four girls (18-20 year olds) to access courses in Bukoba in Food Processing skills, Leadership and Managerial Skills.

School fees are paid to enable 4 boys to access education.

Support is being given to build a house in Kayanga for orphaned children.

In 2004 it is intended to purchase apprentice type training to be delivered at the local new Resource Centre. Courses such as carpentry skills, woodturning and rope making are planned.

### Post Office supported by Fadeco.

The first ever Post Office at Nyakasimbi was opened officially during my visit and belongs to Fadeco. The land on which it is built belongs to Joseph and the PO has agreed to put in services and maintain the building. It is not only a Post Office but also a shop selling stationary materials.



The new post office.

### Micro Credit Scheme.

The aim here is to share equally the materials and household goods equally between the inhabitants.

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Scheme giving small loans as start-up for new businesses e.g. local woman selling pancakes in the village the success of this small venture will lead to a further small loan to expand her business. The loan will be repaid monthly with 10% on the loan with income to Fadeco.

Encourage local people to save a little each month at the local Post Office Deposit account. School children are encouraged to undertake the same venture.

Selling dried fruits at the local schools, especially the boarding schools; small profits will go to the Fadeco funds.

### Employees of Fadeco Tanzania:

- 2 Full time staff at Nyakasimbi
- 3 Full time Clerical support
- 2 Full time Technical staff at Kyanga
- 2 Full time Night watchmen at Kyanga

There are a number of part time workers with specialist skills and knowledge and support the above in delivery of training.

Accountants from BUKOBA audit Fadeco's accounts.

### Future Plans concentrating on environmental and conservalional issues.

The implementation of 4 projects in 2004:

- Beekeeping concentrating on honey production and by-products e.g. Propolis
- Soil Conservation to stop soil erosion by terracing techniques and contour planting
- Tree Nurseries and

Tree planting to encourage reforestation

- Water harvesting.

Vocational craft skills for a sustainable economy:

- Screen-printing workshops to be further developed strengthening trade links with Uganda.



The Screenprinting workshop.

## Get involved!

There are three ways you can help - three levels of involvement - without making a donation:

✍ Buy a T-shirt printed in the screenprinting workshop above - £8 each inc. p+p (see back page)

✍ Buy a £100 Fair Trade Organic food box (see front page)

✍ Send an amount of your choosing over £100 as a loan to be used to support a micro-credit scheme. You will receive repayments, reports and accounts over time. (See back page.)

## What is micro-credit?

Micro-credit is a way for poor families to get loans to start a business. Banks do not generally operate at the levels most families find themselves in in Karagwe. Interest rates are high and the sums involved too low.

In practice, any amount from £100 to £1000 can make a huge difference because it allows investment in equipment - solar drying, for example, a loom, or tools.

Participants in the Fadeco Micro-Credit scheme will be trained and monitored in the principles of running a business such as keeping accounts and being organised.

We see micro-credit as a chief tool in the struggle to "bootstrap" the region out of poverty, by reskilling it, avoiding aid-dependency, promoting entrepreneurialism and providing a means for a regular income. Lenders will eventually receive their loan back and have the satisfaction of knowing exactly where the money has been made useful.

If you want to talk about making a loan, contact Treasurer Flic Eden at 7 Seaview Terrace, Taliesin, Machynlleth, SY20 8JN.

## Recent FoF Events

In Summer 2003 we organised a Quotation Quiz which raised £59.55. The winners were Charlie and Caroline of Taliesin.

In October Nadia Rice gave a talk about rowing across the Atlantic. It took her 53 days and sounded wonderful and dreadful at the same time. We held a raffle at the end of the evening and raised a total of £105. Thank you Nadia.

A winter fete was held in Taliesin in November. Thanks to all the people who came and supported the event. £288.43 was made.

In December Carol singing around Taliesin raised £20 and Clare Maynard organised the sending out of educational chemistry equipment to schools in the area from LabAid.

During Fair Trade Fortnight, a talk was given by Zoe Savvidou at Y Tabernacl, Machynlleth, which raised £50.

## Visit from Titus Itegereize

The FADECO Chairman is currently visiting the country. At the time of writing he is in Durham, where he arrived on 29 March to start a research program on Socio-economic development. He will be staying with FoF members in Wales later in the year. The program is planned to end by 30 Sept.2004.

He says, "I would wish to spend sometime with Friends of FADECO to share experiences and find a way of making FADECO grow tall."

## Buy a T-shirt

T-shirts are available to buy for £8 inc p+p, hand printed in Karagwe. Buy a load and resell them for profit! Two designs are offered:

- zebras, with Friends of Fadeco logo on the back - black on white

- Friends of Fadeco logo in green on white.

Large size only.

Send a cheque/PO made out to Friends of Fadeco, Glanymon, Corris, Powys SY20 9SH.

## Treasurer's Report

Since Friends of Fadeco was set up in July of 2002 we have raised £ 4,157.26.

We have a current balance of £ 49.26. Here's where the money's gone:

- £ 3,100 directly to Fadeco in Tanzania
- £ 400 towards Sekiku Joseph's travel costs when he was last here (July 2003) for the International Fair Trade Conference
- £ 359.76 to send five donated computers to Fadeco for their resource centre in Kayanga
- £ 218.86 for a digital camera for Fadeco to be used for publicity, promotion and record keeping
- £ 29.38 room hire for a fundraising event.

Sekiku Joseph has sent us his latest annual report with audited accounts and a detailed breakdown of expenditure on the new training centre (ECAT).

Many thanks to those who have supported the work of Fadeco with their subscriptions and donations.

*Flic Eden*

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION**

### Membership application or renewal form

Individual membership (per year) £10

Joint household or family membership £15

Group membership (offices, clubs, etc) £15

Name: .....

Address: .....

E-mail address: .....

Phone number: .....

I/we support the names of the organisation. I/we apply for individual/household/group membership (delete as appropriate).

I enclose £ . . . as annual subscription

I enclose £ . . . as a further donation

I am over 18.

Signed: .....

Capacity if a group: .....

Date: .....

Please send the form and a cheque/PO made out to Friends of Fadeco to the Secretary, Friends of Fadeco, 7 Seaview Terrace, Taliesin, Machynlleth, SY20 8JN.