Fifth Annual Report

1st July 2009 to 30th June 2010
Message from the GVI Charitable Trust Manager:

Firstly thank you so much to everyone who has donated to and supported the GVI Charitable Trust this year, the Trust is going from strength to strength and we are so grateful for the support as are the communities we work with.

We have made some great progress on our programs again with a strong focus in Latin America and Kenya, read on for some highlights from the year in these areas. We have also developed many new projects around the world and look forward to seeing increased work in these areas.

Moving forward we are going to be developing the Trust a lot over the coming months and have many ideas and aspirations, with full time staff on board we now have the resources to dedicate more time to development.

I hope you share my excitement for the year ahead and more progress in the field.

All the best

Ross Deans
Trustees' Annual Report

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted: Trust
Trustee selection methods: Appointed during preparation of Trust Deed

Once proposed (usually by ex-volunteers from Global Vision International), recipients of funds are reviewed by the Trustees and agreed in writing by the Trustees. These are usually, but not limited to long-standing project partners of Global Vision International.

Objectives and activities

The “Objects” as set out in the Trust Deed are in any part of the world:

1. to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment;
2. to advance education and research for the benefit of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment;
3. to relieve sickness and preserve and promote the good health of persons;
4. to relieve poverty, financial hardship and distress.

The GVI Charitable Trust has raised money for a number of causes as outlined below, in each case the GVI Charitable Trust is duly diligent with how funds are used.

The GVI Charitable Trust strongly believes that it is only through local participation and leadership that projects can be successful. This is why each award that the GVI Charitable Trust makes is carefully vetted to ensure that the goals of that award are both sustainable and realistic. Awards are given for conservation and research, humanitarian aid and education, but we do not accept unsolicited requests for money. Awards are not given simply in the form of handouts, with local communities, organisations and other stakeholders being consulted to develop long term planning and sustainability for the goals of each one.
Achievements and performance

The GVI Charitable Trust continues to grow and thanks to donations we have seen amazing progress on our projects around the world.

To donate to any of the GVI Charitable Trust’s activities, please visit www.gvi.org.uk

We have now started to see more varied donations coming in as we have expanded our project profile, through GVI we have long standing and healthy relationships with partners around the world and hope to further expand our reach over the coming year.

We are delighted to expand our work in Latin America and Kenya as below and look forward to adding as the GVI Charitable Trust develops.
Latin America Community projects: Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Brazil and Perú

As always the Latin America Community projects were a large focus of work through the GVI Charitable Trust this year with a new project in Brazil and new communities in Honduras, Nicaragua and Perú all benefitting. It was hoped that we could increase on last year's figures and performance and we have in fact taken great strides and achieved so much in the field thanks to the generous support of our donors.

Guatemala

The longest running of the projects in Guatemala continues to grow and prosper. With the support of GVI volunteers on the ground throughout the year donations from the GVI Charitable Trust have been able to provide the children and communities with more opportunities to learn and bring in sustainable income.

Thanks to increased donations we have been able to take more children into our schools in San Andrés Itzapa and Santa Mará de Jesus. The children we accept and their families are so thankful for this opportunity and their enthusiasm is clear to see as the children wait outside of the school before start, not the kind of behaviour we are used to seeing in our countries!

In line with more children in the schools donations have helped us to fund more tables, chairs, utensils and food, all important parts of the projects. We have also been able to develop the structure of the school and build new classrooms to house the new additions.

In San Andrés Itzapa we have been renting an area of land for use as a nursery for the woman’s group, this year we were able to extend the space enabling both the women to grow more crops for themselves and seedlings for reforestation in the surrounding areas. This year we planted over 10,000 trees and were able to purchase the necessary tools to do so. With so much deforestation in Guatemala both for illegal logging and the needs of local communities our reforestation program is helping to reduce the impact of the communities we work in.
Plan Ancianos is continuing in both communities where we bring together the older generations and grandparents of our children to highlight the benefit of the school and education for the children and supply food basics to help these often neglected but much loved members of the community.

Plan fertilizante has also been boosted this year where we supply sacks of fertilizer for the children’s families, as with all sustainable plans on the projects in Latin America the aim here is to help generate some sustainable income and food for the families which eases the burden of having the children in school and not working the fields.

In Lake Atitlan we have been continuing to support community Buena Vista with materials and a food program which supplies the children with a hot meal each day when they come to school. This acts as a great incentive and helps the children to receive much needed nutrition to grow healthy and strong.

Sadly towards the end of the year Tropical Strom Agatha tore across Central America and communities in Guatemala were devastated. As soon as the disaster struck we started an emergency appeal and thankfully received fantastic support. With these funds we were able to help Indigenous communities who lost crops, houses and sadly, life.

With donations we helped to provide emergency food supplies, fast growing crops, rebuild damaged houses, schools and roads and provided tools to help respond to the next disaster to affect the communities. We also supplied the children with raincoats as many walk great distances to attend school and with perhaps only one change of clothes rain can be a strong deterrent. The support was greatly appreciated.
Honduras

As well as continuing to work in community San Rafael we have recently started work in the community of Barbasco and initiated support in a local Orphanage.

Again by working with more children we have had need to provide more materials for the students and schools and food for the all important food program. We have also been busy with refurbishment, particularly in Barbasco where the facilities had been somewhat neglected over the years. This has involved lots of painting, re-roofing, constructing a new kitchen and providing water tanks.

We have been putting much emphasis on Secondary education as many of the children we have been working with are reaching that age. To provide secondary education we have been employing teachers to come to the school seeing as we already have the space. Teacher’s salaries, books and desks have all been covered by donations to the Charitable Trust.

In addition we have brought in a Maya Chorti teacher, culture and tradition are always areas which we greatly respect and this has been greatly welcomed by the communities.

Nicaragua

As one of our newer projects, Nicaragua is producing impressive results. Since day one we have found communities near to Esteli to be very receptive to our work and always enthusiastic to help out.

In addition to our work in La Thompson we have started work in a new community called Chireza. In Chireza we needed to start from scratch and have built a new school building to start teaching children as well as stocking it up with tables, chairs, books and utensils.

In both communities we have been able to fund teachers’ salaries and food programs for the children. We have also introduced a toothbrush campaign supplying both brushes and toothpaste at school and encouraging the children to brush daily for increased dental hygiene.
Ecuador

In Ecuador we have focussed on refurbishment of the schools which have seen their fair share of extreme weather conditions high up in the Andes. This has included building new kitchens and stores to help with the food programs plus eating areas for the children. We have also funded school repairs and replenishment of text books and school utensils.

In Ecuador we have also trailed some exciting new sustainable community plans with the aim of bringing in more income for the families and to help fund the education of the children.

Plan Vaca (Cow) has involved provided families with cows from which they can work together to create a cottage industry for milk, cheese and yogurt and provide for the family and bring in extra income, with the income some of the children have started bank accounts for the first time and been able to purchase their own materials. Plan Cuy (Guinea pig) works in a similar way with breeding Guinea pigs which provide a valuable and sought after source of food in these communities.

In addition to this work the GVI Charitable Trust has funded Secondary school scholarships for children so that they can continue their education after their time in our schools.

Perú

We have continued our long standing relationships with communities Truinfo and Maldonado in Perú and now expanded our work into new community Chiguata.

In all communities we have been able to fund local teachers salaries to further support the children in school plus bring in more materials and food. We have also compiled an impressive list of repair and maintenance jobs, some of this to maintain the schools but some to
make dramatic improvements to the learning environment for example building classroom partitions in classrooms in Truinfo so that different grades can be separated.

We have built a new classroom in Maldonado for GVI Volunteer teachers to work in, replaced broken windows and restocked the kitchen so that we can prepare more tasty and nutritious meals for the kids.

Chiguata was perhaps the community where most work was needed being a new addition. It is always great to see the faces on the children and the community when we are able to introduce many of our project mainstays which have been unknown luxuries in the past.

Lots of supplies and materials have been supplied along with food for the food program including fruit and bread and a teeth brushing plan for oral hygiene. On top if this we were able to construct a new classroom and eating area, an impressive start for this community.

Brazil

Our newest community is off to a flying start, again here we have been busy introducing many of the project mainstays like the food program and educational materials, we have also been able to fund local teacher salaries to work alongside our volunteers and refurbish the school which has been so lacking in funds. We look forward to seeing the project grown and develop.

Kenya

Mkwiros and Wasini Island Community Fund, Kenya

We have provided a lot of funding to Mkwiros’s Al Hanan Orphanage to improve the facilities. This has included building new floors, classrooms and plastering walls in the dormitories. We have also provided beds, sheets, mosquito nets and clothing for the children. Also in Mkwiros we have made donations towards the dispensary to pay for the nurses salary allowing the dispensary to reopen after being closed for 4 years. We
purchased a dhow (boat) for the dispensary committee which GVI rent for a research project, proceeds from the rental fund the nurses salary as a sustainable income generating solution to this issue. Any additional proceeds will fund improvements to the dispensary.

At the Mkwiro Primary school funds were sued to install a solar power system to provide electricity for computers, lighting and power to the dispensary. The school can also generate revenue by charging the community to recharge mobile phones which previously could only be done on mainland Shimoni.

Also at the primary school donations were used to provide desks and set up a well needed library and over ten students have been awarded Scholarships to attend Secondary school from Mkwiro with two more from Shimoni.

In the village we funded rain water harvesting tanks which provide the only source of fresh water for community members.

Olive’s Rehabilitation Centre

For the Olive’s Rehabilitation Centre we are raising funds for the purchase of land and construction of a new school which will provide a long term sustainable solution to funding the monthly rent of the premises which has always been a battle. With this in place we will be able to provide better support to the children and as we move forward with the project.

Precious Vision Children’s School

At the Precious Vision Children’s School in the Bomobulu slum of Mombasa we have been continuing the support and expanding the program. Some of the GVI volunteers have been so affected by working in the community that they have donated specifically to this cause so that we can consistently fund teachers wages and make sure that they stay in school after months month’s without.
Tsavo West ex-poacher rehabilitation

A waste water recycling pond has been funded at the Kidong eco-tourism centre on our Tsavo West Sustainable development project, we have also provided tables and chairs for the restaurant at the cultural centre which will now be open to the public.
Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves:
The GVI-CT does not presently hold reserves; however this will be reviewed by the Trustees each year.

The main funding so far has come from contributions by ex-volunteers and friends of the GVI Charitable Trust along with some grant funding and funding from a few large corporations. The majority of funds continue to come in the form of “restricted funds” whereby the donor has specified the program they wish their money to go towards.

Details of the funding can be found in the annual accounts filed with the Charities Commission.

This year we have maintained that 100% of donations received go to the intended recipients, Gift Aid has been used to cover running costs of the charity with extra costs kindly covered by GVI.

In June 2010 Ross Deans was appointed manager of the GVI Charitable Trust, after discussions with Trustees and recipients and much enthusiasm from all we have plans to develop the Trust over the coming year and hope to see more funds coming in as a result.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees
Signature(s)

Full name(s)
Andy Woods Ballard
Trustee