Trustees’ Annual report 2013

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2013 Update

Dear Supporters,

Following the recession of 2012, 2013 was a year to focus on sustaining the Trust’s work in the field. The global recession had a later impact here and we did see a decrease in incoming funding. However, we continued successfully with our work, making an impact in the areas and communities of our local partners.

From Africa, we’re delighted to announce the successful completion of a Carbon Neutral base in the Seychelles. The Curieuse base has implemented a photovoltaic system, designed with the remit of supplying 24hrs electricity a day seven days a week, being highly corrosive resistant to cope with island beachfront conditions and to be maintenance free and easy operate. The solar system works perfectly saving nearly $7000 annually in fuel bills as well as avoiding 9 tons of Co² emissions.

The launch of our 'Protect the threatened White Rhino in South Africa' project has also been exciting for us. In what is a global problem, this project hopes to tackle some of the issue in South Africa by assist cash-strapped game reserves with rangers and equipment they need to effectively protect these rhinos.

In Oceania, we also raised almost $6000 FJD for Cyclone Evan in Fiji. In the aftermath, GVI Fiji were able to provide resources, funding and volunteer labour to assist the communities in their recovery, including delivering 1964kg of dry food to communities in need.

Continuing in Fiji, we established the partnership between MWH Global and GVI Charitable Trust with the goal of addressing the water security issues that many people in Fiji’s rural and remote communities face on a daily basis. The overall goal of the project was to improve access to and awareness surrounding, safe drinking water in both remote communities and schools.

I hope you enjoy reading more about our progress over this period and share our excitement for the year ahead. As always thank you to everyone who has supported the GVI Charitable Trust and our projects.

All the very best

Sophie Birkett
Charitable Trust Manager

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Trustees' Annual Report

Structure, Governance and Management

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 recipients of funds are reviewed and agreed by the Trustees. These are usually, but not limited to long-standing project partners of Global Vision International.

Objectives and activities of the GVI Charitable Trust

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

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

The GVI Charitable Trust has raised money for a number of causes as outlined above, 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 hand-outs, with local communities, organisations and other stakeholders being consulted to develop long term planning and sustainability for the goals of each one.
This report covers the year period from January to December 2013. The below graph compares the total incoming, total donations and total Charitable Trust funds in previous years:

The below pie chart demonstrates a breakdown of funds raised by project location:
FUNDING SOURCES

NOTABLE DONATIONS & GRANTS

- GRANT - MWH Global for Fiji
- DONATION - Schwab Charitable Fund
- TOP DONORS - Paul Toomey & Hannah Niemeyer

BIGGEST FUNDRAISERS

- CAPE TOWN HOERKWAGGO TRAIL - £9087.03
- GVI SEYCHELLES - 5 challenges annually
- TOP FUNDRAISER - Jamie & Chris’s marathon in memory of ex-volunteer Anna Grossman
SUCCESS STORIES

Nikita
Nepal - Pokhara

Nikita is an 11 year old student at Children’s Paradise Preschool, a centre run by Bunty Gurung that assists children with disabilities. She has has Spina Bifida and was withdrawn from mainstream school which could not cater to her. Donations have helped provide specialist furniture & therapy so Nikita can get the care and education she needs.

Mario
Thailand - Huay Pakoot

Recent donations helped us pay for Mario, a 4 year old male elephant calf, to stay in the forest surrounding Huay Pakoot with his own mahout for the whole of 2013. This allows Mario to spend his days foraging and playing with the other elephant calves rather than performing and giving rides at the elephant tourist camps around Chiang Mai.

Nyota Ing’arayo Feeding Program
Mombasa

Donations help to fund the ongoing feeding programme at Nyota Ing’arayo Primary School. It covers food purchases, transport to the market, cooking materials and monthly wages for two cooks to provide lunch to 225 children, Monday to Friday throughout the school term and to around 100 students throughout holiday programmes.

EDUCATION

FEMALES

PRIMARY
6168

SECONDARY
2207

MALES

PRIMARY
3495

SECONDARY
3015
HEALTH

- Providing fresh drinking water
- Offering first aid training
- Supporting therapy & care centres
- Care and therapy to disabled/special needs children
- Provision of resources & equipment to public health centres

YOUTH

1 in 5 between the ages of 15-24 years

73.4 million young people – 12.6% out of work in 2013

Over 1 billion youth globally

Volunteering associated with a 27% higher chance of employment (UN)

5222 secondary school age & adults receiving education and training
Environmental Projects:

- Help Protect Marine Ecosystems in Mexico
- Protect the threatened White Rhino in South Africa
- Protection of Whales and Dolphins and conservation education in Fiji
- Help Abused or Neglected Animals, Seychelles
- Protect dogs from malnutrition and disease in Fiji
- Alternative Livelihoods and Elephant Rescue in Thailand
- Protect Caribbean Rainforest in Costa Rica

Completed Projects:

- 50 teachers from over 35 schools in the Takuapa and Ao Luk districts in Southern Thailand
- Creation of a Carbon Neutral base in the Seychelles - The Curieuse base included the design and assimilation of a photovoltaic system and a solar array saving nearly $7000 annually in fuel bills as well as avoiding 8 tons of Co2 emissions.
- Education to over 60 students from the Yachana school - gone on to speak English at advanced level, some received scholarships in the USA, later returning to become bilingual jungle guides.
- In the aftermath of Cyclone Evan donations were used to repair damaged water infrastructure, provide much needed food aid to villages where years worth of crops had been lost, initiate agriculture rehabilitation projects, and provide funding for basic infrastructure repairs.
Following the accomplishments of our teams last year in their fundraising efforts, the GVI Charitable Trust challenges continued to bring not only much needed funds to our projects but also helped to spread awareness of the work the Trust is doing in the different challenge locations.

19 field challenges were completed in 10 different locations.

Our highest fundraisers in both height and donations came from South Africa this year. In Limpopo, the multi-day Drakensberg challenge saw participants climb just under 50kms of the Fanie Botha Trail in the Northern Drakensberg Mountains. Normally a 5 day hike, the team took the challenge to complete in just 48 hours, all in the name of saving Rhinos.

In Cape Town, the 3rd Annual Hoerkwaggo Trail challenge took place. As usual, the final day all GVI HQ staff and community members that did not take part in the full 3 day challenge, all joined in for the final hike. It was a stunningly beautiful day on Table Mountain and the team descended to see Mama Lumka and her family had all come to celebrate the success of the team for fundraising for her orphanage and
childcare centres. It was there it was announced the team had raised over £9000!

The Seychelles once again were the team to undertake the most challenges. To raise funds for the President’s Village Children’s Home, they started in February with the CAP T Charity challenge. Following that, the annual Raft Race for Rupees in which staff, volunteers and community partner organisations have to make homemade rafts and completed a water-based obstacle course to be the winner’s home, was as usual a success. The Beaches of Mahe challenge then took place in October and the year ended with a Seychellois take on Movember – Battle of the Beards! This year saw a new project created by the Seychelles team to support the Seychelles Society for the Protection of Animals. Dig for Digby’s Dubloons (Digby being the Curieuse base dog) saw volunteers undertake a treasure hunt to raise funds for the SSPCA.

In November, the Mombasa team were shown their huge following globally when their Swimathon challenge raised over £4000 within the 24 hours of the challenge. The volunteers and students swam 295 laps of a pool – the distance being the height of the famous Kilimanjaro. The textbooks these funds were able to buy halved the ratio of children sharing books in the schools we work in.

The team in Laos had yet another successful year with their Annual 5am for 5 days cultural challenge. The staff and team there gave alms to Buddhist monks and novices 5 days in a row, the challenge being the early starts (5am) followed by a day of work!

An absolutely amazing effort by everyone involved in each of these events. Thanks to everyone’s hard work and dedication.
Brazil

*Feed and Educate Children in Salvador*

In Brazil, we have been supporting the Educandário Creche Comunitária Sonho Vovó Clara, or Grandmother Clara’s Educational Community Crèche, for several years. They currently care for 75 children but their doors are always open to new students. The school aim is to improve nutrition by providing students with 3 balanced meals per day as well as weekend and holiday food/fruit packages whenever possible. As such, donations through us are used to provide a feeding program and school materials as well as employing a local cook to prepare the meals.

Mexico

*Protect Marine Ecosystems*

The Yucatan peninsula has a rich biodiversity that is threatened by the development of the tourist industry. The Charitable Trust is working alongside Amigos de Sian Ka’an focusing on integrative management strategies and to influence environmental regulation.

This year, our data, collected over the past eight years, was found to conclude that the percentage cover of Hematypic corals has been increasing. There has also been an increase in the number of Acanthuridae (fish family) including fish species such as the Blue Tang, Ocean surgeon and doctor fish. Our continuous data entry information in the area helps us to lead groups to make changes about the management of the reserve.

*Establishing a Recycling Centre*

Punta Allen (officially Javier Rojo Gómez) is a small Mayan fishing village but the largest village in the Sian Ka’an Biosphere Reserve (state of Quintana Roo.) Thanks to previous donations, 2013 was the year to finally start construction on a recycling centre where the recyclable waste can be temporarily stored once separated. Compost containers were built with plastic and the foundation and part of the main structure was built.

*Supporting Children’s Development*

Save The Children figures indicate that 95% of children suffer some type of aggression; 70% suffer abandonment; 43% know a gang member and 25% have seen or know a child that sells drugs.

Our new Mexico project for the GVI Charitable Trust this year focuses on supporting childcare facilities in the Playa del Carmen region of Mexico. The first centre, led by Save the Children, is a space called "toy libraries" or Ludoteca, which are recreational and education spaces where children can come to learn through games, talks and workshops. The Horse Therapy and Integral Care centre was formed in 2008 to help children and young people with physical injuries, motor, mental and sensorial disorders. Funds have helped to cover 7 months of therapies for children at the School through the Charitable Trust.
Costa Rica

**Educational Support in Mal Pais**
We continue to work with the community in Mal Pais and Santa Teresa this year. December saw the kindergarten class of 2013 graduate and our new classroom were completed with donations and lots of volunteer work. This year we are sponsoring three of our graduates to study at the local non-profit bilingual school which is a considerable amount per month. We will also continue to support a sponsorship program with the Mal Pais Education Project Kinder, where we have 10 students starting on Monday.

**Community Development & Education in Quepos**
The main initiative in Quepos in 2013 was the major construction and renovation at El Cocal School.

An old classroom had fallen into disrepair and was being used as a de facto storage unit for old building materials. Unfortunately, the school had no way to reclaim the classroom as they had no closed space to put the materials stored within. GVI offered to support the school and found a local foreman to design a plan for a new bodega (storage warehouse) within the school’s small space, and a remodel of the classroom, including replacing the entire cement floor, previously damaged in an earthquake.

The school suggested two further changes: a cement floor to be poured in the covered sports area (the entire community of El Cocal is built on sand) and a covered cement entranceway from the school gate to the classroom area. The sports area doubles as the assembly area for special event days, graduations etc. thus a cement floor would add great value to the space.

**Protect Caribbean Rainforest**
From the Source to Sea fundraising challenge held in December 2012, funds were attributed at the beginning of this year to support anti-poaching efforts in Tortuguero National Park. Furthermore, for the third year in a row, the GVI Jalova base worked in collaboration with the Sea Turtle Conservancy, the longest running turtle conservations organisation in the world, on extensive research on the Tortuguero Turtle Conservation and Monitoring Program.
Africa
Kenya

*Education and Support for Disadvantaged Children, Kenya*

In Mombasa, we continue to work with Olives Rehabilitation Centre. Previously, we supported Precious Vision Care Centre, however in August 2012, GVI ended its three year partnership with Jane Wangoi, the founder of Precious Vision Centre. Following this, a group of parents of the current students approached GVI asking if they would continue to assist the school to ensure that the 250 students could still attend. If the school was to close, there would be limited scope for students from their disadvantaged backgrounds to access education.

In August 2013, Nyota Ing’arayo Primary School became an officially registered school. We have maintained our focus on important initiatives including the food program, teacher’s wages and training.

*Food Program*

Donations help to fund the ongoing feeding programme at Nyota Ing’arayo Primary School. It covers food purchases, transport to the market, cooking materials and monthly wages for two cooks to provide lunch to 225 children, Monday to Friday throughout the school term and to around 100 students throughout holiday programmes. Lack of adequate meals are thought to be the number one cause of primary school drop-out in Kenya. The feeding scheme is vital for the children’s academic success and provides children with a daily nutritious meal.

*Teachers Wages and Training*

We now assist with the wages for one full-time teacher at Olives Rehabilitation Centre’s primary department and six full time teachers in Precious Vision Care Centre’s kindergarten and primary departments. The schools cannot afford to pay their teachers the standard Kenyan minimum wage. The local teachers are one of the school’s greatest resources and are invaluable in terms of the schools on-going success. They provide stability and continuity for the children, and have a deep understanding of the backgrounds of the students, and often the individual family backgrounds.

*Alternative livelihoods for Ex Poachers in Kenya*

Over in Tsavo West National Park, we support the Kasaani group, made up of members of the Kasaani community who are reformed poachers or bush meat traders that gave up these activities several years ago to look for safer alternate sources of income.

We assist the community by supporting an economic development strategy which now includes alternative livelihoods that vary from bee keeping to an eco-tourism centre. This year, huge success was seen through our candle making initiative!
South Africa

Support for Disadvantaged and Special Needs Children, South Africa
In Cape Town, we continue to work with Mama Lumka and the Ikhayalethemba Orphanage in Nomzamo Township, with the ultimate goal to establish a dedicated centre to provide care for disadvantaged children and those with Special Needs. This year, funds focused on assisting with much needed resources – ranging from a washing machine to an outdoor playhouse for the children. We also excitedly celebrated four years of working in the Nomzamo community.

Environmental education for children in South Africa
The Daktari Eco-club has been going from strength to strength this year, with the aim to help foster enthusiasm and involvement in wildlife clubs among children from poorer communities. Activities such as litter clean-ups, educational bush-walks, day trips to learn about Eco-Tourism and wildlife sanctuaries are organised. We have also expanded to work in other schools in the area and twelve local students, aged 6-8 from the Diputhi School were able to come to Karongwe Game Reserve, having never seen wild animals despite growing up so close nearby.

Protect the threatened White Rhino in South Africa
Despite being a new project this year, due to the global dominance of Rhino Poaching in the public sphere, this project has seen huge support. Donations thus far, combined with a highly successful in-field fundraising challenge, have allowed us to buy a brand new 4x4 anti-poaching vehicle specifically designated for patrols. Not only will this vehicle help reduce the threat of Rhino poaching, but all forms of poaching and criminal activity targeting the reserve.

Seychelles

Education for Abused, Neglected and Orphaned Children, Seychelles
After the huge success of the GVI Seychelles Curieuse carbon offsetting program, that concluded this year, the team in the Seychelles decided to move forward with similar projects elsewhere. The installation of a new photovoltaic system and a new water catchment system have helped the base become an example of zero emissions living.

The team have now decided to bring that same success to the President’s Village Children’s Home we have been supporting for several years. GVI has presented a proposal to the President’s Village with options for their own solar power system to reduce their costs, enabling them to put those savings into other projects that would directly benefit the children. This is an exciting time for the team and we look forward to sharing more news as this moves forward.
Thailand

Alternative Livelihoods & Elephant Rescue Thailand
The year started for us on a sad note; the loss of our young Songkran due to an unfortunate accident with a farmer in the community leaving out pesticide. This spurred on our initiative for moving forward, to put mahouts through ethical elephant training, teach the community about sustainable farmer methods and raise money to build a clinic for elephants in the village in case there’s any emergency.

Recent donations this year have helped us also to pay for Mario, a 4 year old male elephant calf, and his mother Sun Jap, to stay in the forest surrounding Huay Pakoot with their mahouts for the full year. The breakdown of $300 per month covers the cost of leasing each elephant from his owner and a monthly salary for the local mahout.

This donation allows Mario and Sun Jap to live as free elephants in the village of Huay Pakoot and the surrounding forest.

Vaccinate and Sterilise Stray Dogs in Thailand
Due to the lack of adequate care in Huay Pakoot, the GVI Charitable Trust set up the dog project in 2012 to assist in managing the dog population.

In June 2012, we had a vet team from Santisook Dog and Cat Rescue come to Huay Pakoot and carry out vaccinations and sterilizations on approximately 60 village dogs thanks to your donations; the sterilizations were successful. However, villagers continued to introduce new puppies to the village which defeated the purpose, due to a multitude of cultural reasons. As such, we decided to focus on the quality of life of the animals in the village.

In August 2013, with continued funding, GVI allowed for the village dogs to be vaccinated against distemper, Hepatitis type 2, Para influenza, Parvo virus and worms. 41 dogs were vaccinated by a staff vet nurse on project. GVI continues to keep a basic dog first aid kit on project in case of treatment for mange, fleas and minor accidents as well as deworming tablets. GVI Charitable Trust donations have been vital to enable village dogs a more pleasant and healthy life and the remaining funds will continue to deworm and de-flea the GVI base dogs as well provide basic health care for all village dogs.

Thank you for supporting this project over the previous years. We have raised enough funds now to ensure we can keep our dogs healthy and clean over the coming years.
Laos

*Sponsorships, Scholarships and Support for Lao Students*

Donations for our project in Luang Prabang have been strong this year. We are very proud of GVI Laos’s achievement of the installation of a small library in one of our classrooms at Wat Pasa Viet. We also made a donation to the public Library in town for use of facilities – classes are held in the public library for Novices.

Sponsorships have been numerous and wide spent this year also, including: sponsorship of 2 students to Vientiane Nursing School, Sponsorship of 8 students to Xayadeth College (summer and arts classes), Sponsorship of 8 Novices to MEC for 12 months, Sponsorship of Chinese lessons for a Novice to assist with further employment opportunities, University fees for 1 student studying Teacher Training, assistance to a financially disadvantaged student studying teacher training entering his last year of university and finally, sponsorship of Novice at Xayadeth College for English tuition.

India

*Education for Orphans and Disadvantaged Children*

After 2012, we decided to continue developing the sports program in Kerala this year. The money donated has been spent on providing a range of sports items for 3 orphanages in Fort Kochi. The Sneha bhavan (boys’ home), Don Bosco boys’ school and Pratyasha Bhavan (girls’ home). It is a common problem in these homes that the children can often feel stressed and frustrated without good quality and quantity of sports items. Sports and exercise are proven to help with frustration and stress and so, it is very beneficial for these schools to have good sports equipment and proper sports sessions. As such, donations were used for sports equipment including footballs, volleyballs, cricket bats and badminton rackets.

Donation have also been used to fund the sports coach’s salary- Surender Sir as the school could not afford to pay the salary of a sports coach.

For the second year running, we have also worked with two centres to provide summer camp activities; Sneha Bhavan and Don Bosco School. During April, when the sun is at its peak in Kerala and also since it is summer vacation from regular schools, the children need some entertainment. Hence GVI played a vital part in sponsoring these children to go on overnight trips, which was much appreciated by the Saletian fathers and enjoyed by the children.
They have been living here since the start of last year. They have been winning for two weeks. Since then, I've only talked to him.

She has been playing tennis for 12 years. How long have you been living here?
Help Disadvantaged Children and Adults

Starting in 2012, GVI supports 7 centres and schools in Pokhara, Nepal that are in need of help in securing basic resources from financial aid.

We have been working with the Street Children’s Rehabilitation Centre since July 2012. Every Friday afternoon we would take the children to a near-by water hole for them to shower and wash their clothes. However, in March 2013 this became harder to do so as there was a huge water shortage that effected Pokhara when the large Seti River flooded and broke many surrounding pipes. When monsoon came we were able to collect rain water for their showers and washing but unfortunately monsoon has to end and we still needed more water for the children. As such, with donated money we connected the home to the government water supply and purchased a 1000 litres tank for reserve purposes. As the children had previously had to visit the water hole daily for drinking water, we also purchased a euro-guard filter to provide safe drinking water and help improve their health.

At the Street Children’s Rehabilitation Centre, we have also been holding a morning sports program. The children have been learning about team work and have better attitudes with some of their excess energy being burnt off. However, the children were getting foot injuries due to the lack of proper sports footwear. They love the sports program and we can see how much it has helped them, therefore it was important that we find a way it could continue with less injuries. The purchase of proper football boots had become a necessity and was made possible this year, thanks to donations. A volunteer also organised for Liverpool Football Club to send over a set of their used bibs and new LFC hats and scarves for the kids to wear.

In another centre, Children’s Paradise Preschool, we have been teaching an 11 year old girl who has Spina Bifida for the past 8 months. After working with Nikita for only a couple of months we realised that she needed to have much better support in the sitting position. Nikita did not change positions very regularly and we noticed in a recent physiotherapy assessment that we needed to prevent her scoliosis from worsening, so we decided that the best idea would be to have made a supportive chair and table high enough and wide enough for a wheelchair to fit under. We were able to have a chair and table made to measure and Nikita now is able to enjoy her lessons more in a supportive chair.
Fiji

Here are some of our highlights from 2013 for GVI Fiji thanks to donations!

- Volunteers fundraised, distributed food aid, and carried out repairs to infrastructure in the aftermath of Cyclone Evan in the northern Yasawas
- GVI Fiji is incorporated as a Fiji Non-profit organization
- GVI becomes a member of FLMMA (Fiji locally-managed marine area)
- GVI joins FLMMA Executive Committee
- Marine Conservation National Scholarship program launched
- 28 Fish Wardens Trained
- Baseline biodiversity and reef health surveys carried out across 10 different village fishing grounds
- Four phases of Spinner dolphin research completed in partnership with WDC (Whale and Dolphin Conservation)
- Over $30,000 Fijian Dollars raised by the GVI Fiji Charitable Trust

Education for Underprivileged Children
At the end of the 2011, we began working in Fiji and evaluating the individual needs of the pupils at Ratu Meli Memorial School, in preparation for implementing a one-on-one tuition programme. The aim was to improve the literacy levels and confidence of those pupils who needed additional support.

RMMS is a government run school on the island of Nacula in the Yasawa island chain with 116 pupils between the ages of 5-14 years old. The school has poor literacy pass rates and previously insufficient resources to offer individual support. The one-on-one programme introduced by GVI is now successfully integrated into the daily routine at RMMS.

Long-Term Protection of Whales & Dolphins
Through this program, the Charitable Trust is supporting the Whale and Dolphin Conservation society. In 2013, funding was used to purchase a new GPS unit for the spinner dolphin research. This device is used to mark GPS points during the research session in order to document where photos are taken and where the C-pod (underwater recording device) is deployed.

The GPS plays a crucial role in the data recording process and is integral to the aims of the research. Further funding has helped to supply a Go Pro – underwater video camera which will be used to compliment the capture of behavioural data when deployed from the research vessel when in transit through the reef. The September research phase managed to capture some incredible high definition footage of the dolphins at play!
**Protect Dogs from Malnutrition and Disease**

Our new project this year in Fiji! GVI and the Fiji Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) have plans to initiate and run a spray and neutering programs in specific areas and villages on the East Coast of Viti Levu. Funds raised by the Charitable Trust will be used to fund the transport of vets and purchase of required materials needed to run these community service programs which will lead to a safer and better quality life for Fiji’s dogs and cats.

GVI’s team in Fiji have been working in the Tailevu District of Viti Levu on a variety of community support projects. One of the village project sites has been specifically identified as an appropriate place to run a spay and neutering clinic for the benefit of the dogs in three surrounding villages. The Trust is actively fundraising to enable the purchase of the equipment and disposables needed and for the transport and logistics involved with mobilising a small veterinary team from Nadi. All donations will go directly towards facilitating this remote temporary clinic which will greatly improve the ongoing health and sustainability of a large population of village dogs, many of which are currently malnourished due to the ever growing population.

**Cyclone Evan Disaster Recovery**

On Dec 17th 2012 the Fijian Islands were bombarded by a Category 4 Cyclone, gusting up to 270km/H and causing widespread damage across the island group. The eye of Cyclone Evan passed directly through the region of the Yasawa Islands, where GVI has been working since June 2011, damaging infrastructure and destroying crops. The damage caused by Cyclone Evan compromised both water and food security in the region significantly increasing the vulnerability of the island communities.

Using donations from the Charitable Trust, GVI was able to deliver 1964kg of dry food, which included flour, rice, lentils and sugar to our Yasawa Base for distribution. In Naisisili, GVI worked with the village spokesman to distribute 4kg of flour, 2kg of rice, 1 kg of lentils and 500g of sugar per household, with extra rations given to the largest families and those who cannot work, such as the elderly or sick. A total of 495kg of food was distributed in Naisisili, and GVI completed repairs on 10 RWH systems.

The remaining 1469 Kg was then distributed across seven further villages and in total GVI was able to provide food aid to 200 families. GVI volunteers were also able to carry out further maintenance on damaged RHW tanks and the repairs to a total of 25 RWH systems in the region has restored the ability to collect and store over 100,000L of drinking water. Through the GVI Charitable Trust almost $6000 FJD was fundraised to help fund these Disaster Relief Operations thanks to GVI’s network of donors and ex-volunteers.
In 2013 MWH Global and the GVI Charitable Trust formulated a partnership with the goal of addressing the water security issues that many people in Fiji’s rural and remote communities face on a daily basis. The overall goals of the project were to improve access to and awareness of surrounding, safe drinking water in both remote communities and schools.

MWH allocated 10,000 New Zealand dollars for the improvement of water security in areas of Fiji suffering from a lack of consistent and reliable water sources. GVI was responsible for implementing and designing the project operations around the MWH Fiji Water Security Project goals and objectives over a 12 month period. The project was designed to offer long term simple and sustainable solutions to village water problems and shortages.

Basic Objectives of the MWH Water Security Project

- Through infrastructure repairs and new installations, provide an increased water capacity of at least 40,000 Litres of drinking water.
- Improve access to drinking water for at least two communities
- Assist two Schools to Achieve ‘Blue School’ status recognition by the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance.
- Ensure impact of the program and improved access to fresh water, sanitation, health and education impacts at least 400 School children.

Over 207,900 litres of rainwater collection capacity were made available through the combination of new system installations and efficiency improvements and major repairs to existing infrastructure.

The MWH Water Security Project utilized the criteria and methodology involved with the IRHA Blue Schools program to help design a large component of the project directed specifically at schools and children. Over the period of a year, the MWH/GVI team worked with four schools in the Dawasamu and Nacula Districts of Fiji. A main focus of the project was to both physically improve school sanitation and water facilities and actively enrich and promote water and sanitation awareness amongst primary and secondary school aged children.

“I would like to thank the MWH Water Security Project for reaching out to help communities where they are most vulnerable and where it matters most.”

Filipe Nainoca – Director General, Fiji Red Cross Society
Australia

*Inspire and Empower Indigenous Youth*

Since 2011, we have partnered with an organisation in Australia called Desert2Surf, whose mission is to build capacity in indigenous youth from remote and disadvantaged communities through outdoor experiences such as surfing. Donations received through the Charitable Trust help fund recreation activities to promote physical and mental health plus empower youths in leadership roles.

This year, Desert2Surf ran two trips for their youth. The first was a repeat of their annual Stand and Lead program and the second, a Stand Up and Paddle Leadership trip.

From Tuesday 19th March to the 26th March 2013, Desert2Surf ran another Stand and Lead program - Trip South 2013. Three indigenous boys from the remote Northern Territory community of Beswick (Wugularr) travelled south to surf and engage in cultural exchange activities.

On Sunday 22nd September, Desert2Surf when back to Beswick Falls, Australia for the Stand Up Paddling and Leadership trip. On this trip Adam and Michael took on leadership roles and facilitated a stand up paddling trip to Beswick Falls, a remote and very beautiful billabong with waterfalls, near the Wugulaar Community in the Northern Territory, Australia.
National Scholarship Program

Our flagship initiative for the GVI Charitable Trust is building momentum slowly but surely, so much so that we have expanded to incorporate an International Scholarship program for the US, UK and Australia. Following on from the goals of the national program, this will provide opportunities for disadvantaged students and adults in these regions where we work to receive support and access to education, training and opportunities that may lead to long term improvements for them, their local community and environment.

Some highlights from our National Scholarship Program this year:

Seychelles

May 2013 saw four Seychellois students join the ranks of the GVI volunteers to learn, dive and explore the Seychelles waters, coastline and forests alongside international volunteers. Our four National Scholars from the University of Seychelles, Danielle, Annabelle, Vicky and Uvicka were all students currently studying Environmental Science and joined the GVI Cap Ternay

and Curieuse Island expeditions as part of their undergraduate degree ‘Work Based Experience’ scheme.

The National Scholarship programme allowed GVI staff to share their knowledge and training with local students, giving the students first hand field experience and an opportunity to take part in surveys and data collection. In return our Scholars taught us about their culture, including local recipes and Creole phrases.

Annabelle, who will be specialising in climate change at university, joined the GVI Marine Conservation Expedition at Cap Ternay having never dived before and left as an advanced diver with Coral reef research diver certifications. She said “the dive training was amazing, I have learnt skills I will be able to use in my future career, more Seychellois people should be involved in this!” Vicky and Uvicka joined ten international volunteers on the Curieuse Island terrestrial expedition. Over a four week period the volunteers helped collect vital data on the islands Mangroves and Coco de Mer trees as well as information on the endangered hawksbill turtle nesting population.
Fiji
Tomasi, a Fijian national, joined the GVI Marine Research Program at Tovuto Base, Nanuya Lailai in the Yasawa islands for 4 weeks in 2013. Below is his testimonial on his experience:

Why did you choose to do a scholarship with GVI?

I chose to do a scholarship with GVI because of the wide range of training that attached to the programme itself. This includes basic taxonomic for underwater research, compressor training, offsite expedition training and most importantly the Scuba training (Open & Advance Open Water Certification). This is also one way that I can expose and pass my knowledge of conservation to remote areas in the Yasawas through cross-sharing of information.

Has your GVI scholarship helped you develop your career and be more employable? Would you recommend your scholarship from a professional and personal development perspective?

Since I have exposed to marine survey before, obtaining scuba training under this programme provides me an opportunity to further the knowledge and skills to certain dive profile with technicalities. To conclude, I would rather recommend this scholarship from both professional & personal development perspective.

Kenya

Since 2006, GVI Shimoni & the GVI Charitable Trust have been hosting young KWS graduates on our projects through the National Scholarship Programme.

Excitingly, this year we progressed to obtaining our first GVI Mombasa national scholar - Josephine Sawleri. Josephine comes from Taveta district near the Tanzania border, where the GVI Charitable Trust operates a project working with ex-poachers since 2006. A qualified teacher, who wanted an opportunity to enhance and expand her teaching experience in an urban environment, Josephine also assisted GVI to better support our international volunteers in the classroom.

Josephine was based in both of GVI’s partner schools in low income areas of Mombasa and gained a great deal from both schools given their very different environments. Josephine proved to be a valued member of the teaching staff for GVI personnel. Teachers at the schools also commented that it was beneficial to have a Kenyan national on the team to encourage and improve communication between the teams.

The first Mombasa NCPCE internship proved to be a great success and Josephine is now working as a Primary School teacher at Nyota.
Trustee Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature

Full name
Andy Woods Ballard
Trustee