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## In the beginning

Yebo 2014 Uganda

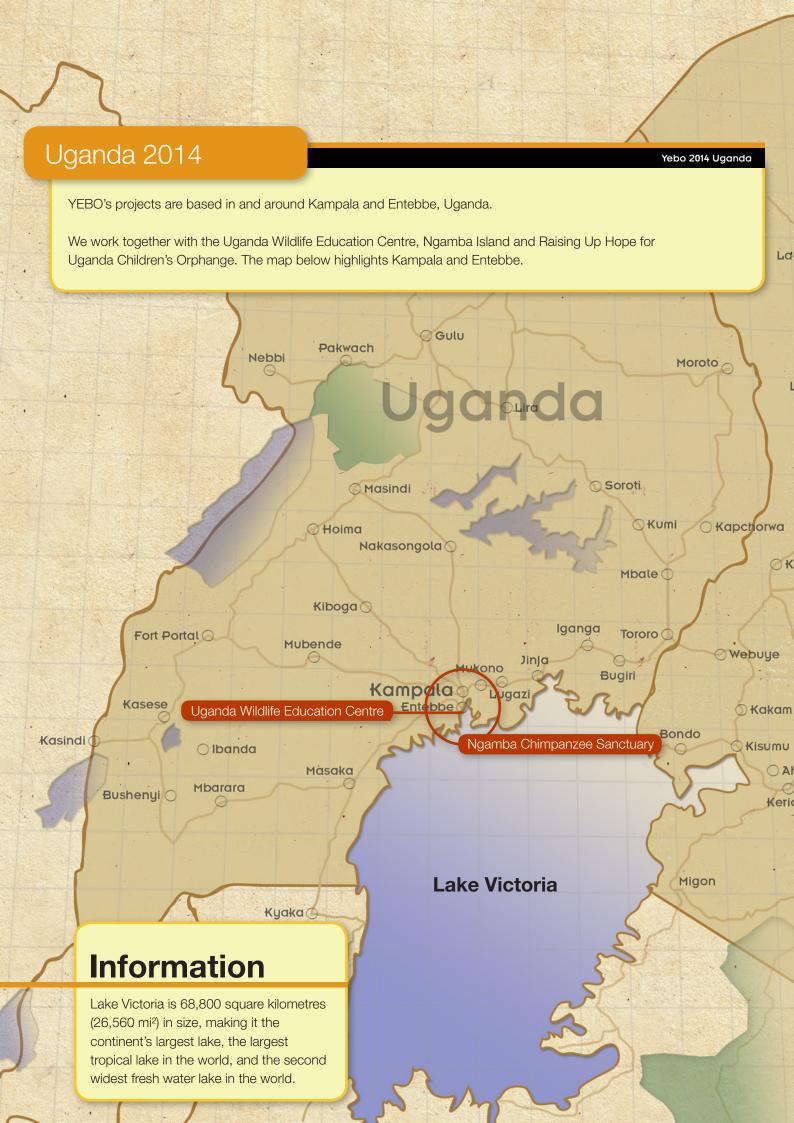
Yebo began as an idea formed by 3 girls aged 22,24 and 26 who had a range of different backgrounds that included art, working with children and primate conservation. Sitting in South Africa amongst the sunsets and the wildlife, the idea was talked about, whilst volunteering at a wonderful primate sanctuary. Inspired by the children they had worked with, the primates that they were rehabilitating and the art that had been created, this idea started to evolve.

The original idea was to have a centre for children who had emotional and social disadvantages in Cape Town, South Africa, where we would have animals such as horses, dogs, sheep etc to help the children in their learning, as well as having a therapeutic benefit on them.

This idea then turned into something that took them back to the UK at the end of their time volunteering in South Africa. Amongst continuing with other work in their lives they gained support from Handshake Productions, who sponsored their website and gave them a grounding. Many names were thought about for the project, as they knew that the aim of the organisation would be to work with disadvantaged children in Africa and the UK, as well as promoting primate conservation, but it was how these two topics would be brought together with a benefit that were now key into the research.

After much discussion, the name Yebo (which means Yes in Zulu) was decided upon and Elena Bersacola, an artist who was greatly involved in the beginning of Yebo, came up with a logo that seemed to show exactly what we had in mind. We decided that the work would be done in the UK and in Africa, so in November 2008, the Yebo website was launched. In 2009 Yebo aimed to be a charity but had a lot of work to do before they were legally allowed to register as one, so it was decided that for the time being, Yebo would be registered as a community interest company. This was now the beginning of something that aimed to be unique and special, and Yebo had now begun!





This unique project means you will be working alongside an orphanage and wildlife sanctuary to support children with emotional and social disadvantages through wildlife and primate communication activities.

You will be supporting the children through the making of cooking tools called Briquettes which will be helping wildlife habitats and provision of life skills to the children.

In this unique project, we have 3 issues to link together;

- The emotional and social disadvantages of the children
- The issues surrounding wildlife conservation
- The children's ongoing need for life skills

Using the stories and backgrounds of chimpanzees (our closest relatives) that are orphanaed and living at UWEC, the children talk and take part in small creative activities which look at their feelings on how they live at the moment and how their lives could be changed by doing this project, and what this would mean physically and emotionally to them. The children will be given information to learn about why the chimpanzees are living at UWEC, which may inspire them to take part in the project

Part of the project will focus on promoting and disseminating briquette technology as a more dependable, sustainable and cleaner alternative energy source to household energy consumption for cooking purposes. It will also provide self-employment opportunities to street children, poor villagers and develop rural entrepreneurship.

Working with orphaned children & wildlife in Uganda.



#### Work with sanctuaries

Yebo have built a strong working relationship with The Ugandan Wildlife Education Centre in Entebbe and also work with Ngamba Island primate sanctuary. We need YOU to continue to grow these relationships, gathering information, ideas and knowledge to support the running of future and exisiting projects that take place with the children. In collaboration and partnership with the sanctuaries and the staff that work there, you will be playing a large role in working to support the children and primates with the continuing work of all those involved.



#### The children

Many of the children living at the orphanage and still on the streets are living with the knowledge that they no longer have parents. On the streets there is a high rate of abuse in all forms along with young girls using prostitution to pay for their food. Children will scavenge their food from bins, drink dirty water containing sewage and other diseased ridden materials, be beaten by police and be starved of food. They often have open cuts and infected wounds which lead to disease and amputations of infected legs or arms.



### Working hands on and giving support

The emotional support that we aim to give the children is done so by relating similar experiences and feelings they encounter, to the problems related to the chimpanzees at the wildlife sanctuaries. The chimpanzees have been through abuse in the past, losing their homes and habitat and having their parents killed by poachers etc. so with all of these similarities in mind, we run creative activities allowing children to express their feelings, giving them an opportunity to do this in a safe and non-intrusive environment.



#### Using your individual skills

You will be needed to use your strengths and your individual skills while out in Uganda to benefit you and the projects you are working on. Yebo activily encourage you to use your interests and strengths to further the activities out there when working together with the sanctauries and orphanage. You may have an interest in for example, psychology and art. These interests would then be used with our team in Uganda so they can get the best from you and for you to get the most out of your time spent with them. Whatever your interest, we can accommodate you.



#### Be brilliant and have fun!

It is so importnat that you enjoy the work that you are doing. Finding time to relax and enjoy yourself is all part of the experience and with a country as diverse as Uganda, there are many outside activities for you to enjoy on days off such as trips away on safari or water sports such as white water rafting up the Nile. So whatever work you do out there for the children, the wildlife and for Yebo, ....be brilliant and have fun!

### Practical Information

### **Getting Involved**

If you'd like to volunteer for 2014 Yebo projects please apply on the Yebo website at www.yeboyes.org or contact info@yeboyes.org to chat to us about opportunities volunteering with Yebo.

The cost of volunteering with Yebo in 2014 is currently **£520** for 2 weeks. Food and accomodation is provided but flights are not included.

Contact us now to find out how you can help us and how we can accomodate you.

#### **Accommodation at UWEC**

Volunteers stay in basic and good accomodation on-site at UWEC. Inside is a communal shower and toilet. Power is provided and the plug socket fits UK plug heads without the need for an adaptor.

There are 24 hour security guards and a UWEC member of staff is on call at any time of the day.

A restaurant on the beach front to Lake Victoria serves breakfasts and snacks, or you can cook your own food using portable gas cookers. There are also nearby hotels where food is available.

#### **Arrival Information**

Volunteers will be picked up from Entebbe Airport by a member of staff from UWEC (Ugandan Wildlife Education Center). UWEC is a short distance from the airport. If your flight arrives early in the morning (3am etc) we can still arrange for you to be picked up.

There is always an optional "Welcome dinner" on the first night of your volunteering start date. It is recommended you attend this as a chance to get to meet local staff from UWEC and any other volunteers.

#### **Entebbe International Airport:**

#### **Contact Information**

P.O. Box 5536, Kampala

Telephone: +256 31/41 352000 Fax: +256 41 321401, 320571, 320964

E-mail: aviation@caa.co.ug http://www.caa.co.ug

#### Transport from the airport not arranged by Yebo

Commuter taxis marked with a yellow strip are designated for travel to Kampala and beyond whereas the taxis marked with a blue strip are designated to travel up to Entebbe town only which is about 8 kilometres from the Airport. Passengers are advised to use marked vehicles.

### Information

Please bring copies of your insurance documents and a copy of your passport with you.

### **Information**

Keep a photocopy of your flight details incase they are required at border posts. There is a \$50 (US) fee payable to obtain a VISA on arrival in Uganda. You should have this in cash as they do not accept credit cards.

