



GPC Learning Visit to Kenya 2008

Kenya represents the best-developed economy in eastern Africa, with annual growth nearly 6% over the past two years, and relatively advanced agricultural and industrial sectors. Its democratically elected government has made primary education available to all. While problems of poverty continue to be prevalent, Kenya is emerging as a hub of innovative strategies to tackle problems of poverty in both urban and rural areas. In addition to a variety of noteworthy international and national initiatives, Kenya has its own rich tradition of community philanthropy or “harambee,” where community members can rely on each other to help out in a time of need. On our trip we will visit a number of these ground-breaking, effective approaches in the areas of health, water, education, environment and microenterprise. The projects of GPC members Ray Chambers, Chris Mathias, Christopher Stone and Jon Stryker will be featured. Participants will also meet leaders of civil society, government and business who are shaping its future.

Trip Agenda

(Note: due to post-election violence, this visit was postponed)

Nairobi

Nairobi Serena Hotel

Kenyatta Avenue

Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: 254-2-0272-5111

www.serenahotels.com

Monday, March 10: Nairobi

- 10 am - 12 pm Optional “Sights of Nairobi” Tour
This tour covers the modern city, the colorful market offering fruits, meats, vegetables, handicrafts; the Parliament buildings; the National Museum and also the Railway Museum tracing the history of the ‘Black Snake’, Kenya’s railway line.
- Lunch at Leisure
- 3 – 4:00 pm Afternoon Orientation
- 4 – 5:30 pm Panel of government, civil society, business to give orientation and overview
- 7 – 9:00 pm Welcome Dinner hosted by **Vijoo Rattansi**, Muthaiga Club

Tuesday, March 11: Nairobi

Breakfast at Leisure

9:00–12:00 am Morning site visit - **CFW Shops**
Themes: microenterprise, global health

CFW Shops, a project of The HealthStore Foundation uses a for-profit business model to distribute essential, life-saving drugs to marginalized populations in Kenya's rural areas and informal settlements. The franchise retail distribution model, known as the HealthStore model, is the cornerstone of CFW Shops' success in providing consistent, quality products and services. The Foundation operates two kinds of stores - basic drug shops owned and operated by a community health care worker or small clinics run by a nurse that is capable of dispensing essential medicines and providing basic primary health care. Since the opening of the first clinics and shops in April 2000, the CFW Shops network has 65 outlets and continues to pursue an agenda of rapid expansion.

(www.cfwshops.org)

1:00 – 4:30 Lunch and site visit - **Gatsby Charitable Foundation**

The **Gatsby Charitable Foundation**, based in the UK and managed by **GPC Member Christopher Stone**, is one of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts. It seeks to make life better for people, especially those who are disadvantaged. They have established four African Trusts, including the **Kenya Gatsby Trust**, a non-profit organization whose main objective is poverty eradication and wealth creation through the support of the micro and small enterprise sector.

(www.kenyagatsby.org)

7:00 pm Dinner hosted by **Manu Chandaria**

Wednesday, March 12: Kisumu

Breakfast at Leisure

6:30 am Depart hotel

8:00 am Morning flight from Nairobi to Kisumu (8 am departure, 9 am arrival)

Day site visit - **Millennium Villages/Unilever** (Sauri)

Themes: public health, hunger, education, infrastructure, millennium development goals

Millennium Promise, co-chaired by **GPC Member Ray Chambers**, seeks to achieve the [Millennium Development Goals](#), eight globally endorsed objectives that address the many aspects of extreme poverty in Africa by 2015. Their flagship initiative, the **Millennium Villages**, now operates in 79 villages across 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including Sauri, Kenya, and takes a comprehensive approach to addressing extreme poverty. It seeks to address all

the major problems simultaneously - hunger, disease, inadequate education, lack of safe drinking water and absence of essential infrastructure - to assist communities on their way to self-sustainable development.

(www.millenniumpromise.org)

Unilever is working in partnership with Millennium Villages by training subsistence farmers in Sauri to link their products to their tea business.

5 pm Reflection and Discussion over dinner

7 pm Evening flight from Kisumu to Nairobi (7 pm departure, 8 pm arrival)

Free Time

Thursday, March 13: Thika

Breakfast at hotel in Nairobi at Leisure

8:00 am Depart for Runda Estate (30 minutes)

8:30 – 9:30 am Shopping at the Home Gallery: African Tribal Arts and Ethnic Textiles ,
Runda Estate

(www.african-tribal-arts.com)

9:30 Depart for Thika (1 hour)

10:30 -12:30 Mid-morning site visit - **KickStart**

KickStart

Themes: microenterprise, agriculture, technology, water

KickStart is a non-profit social enterprise that transforms the lives of poor farmers in Africa through the design, manufacture and sale of low-cost capital equipment. Farmers start profitable new businesses, earn substantial incomes, provide education and a better life for their families. Since their inception in Kenya in 1991, Kickstart have expanded their unique social entrepreneurial model to Tanzania and Mali, and have enabled the creation of over 55,000 new businesses, lifting close to 300,000 people out of poverty. (www.kickstart.org)

1:00-2:00 pm Lunch in Thika

2:00 pm Depart for Nyeri (1 ½ hrs)

3:30 pm *Check into Hotel*
Outspan Hotel
Nyeri
Aberdare National Park
Kenya
www.aberdaresafarihotels.com

- 3:30-6:00 Free Time
- 6:00- 7:00 Reflection and Discussion
- 7:00 pm Dinner in Nyeri with cultural event

Friday, March 14: Nyeri

Breakfast at Leisure

- 9:00 – 12:00 Morning site visit - **Greenbelt Movement**, led by 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai
Themes: rural development, environmental preservation, women's empowerment, economic development

The **Green Belt Movement** (GBM), established by Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai, is a grassroots NGO that promotes tree-planting to combat deforestation, soil erosion and water scarcity. Today GBM not only empowers millions of rural women through the planting of trees, which generates income, but it builds the community's capacity and simultaneously promotes increased engagement in the civic process, better governance and a culture of peace. GBM also helps its members become stewards of the environment and teaches them how to sustainably manage scarce resources.
(www.greenbeltmovement.org)

- 12:00 –1:00 pm Lunch hosted by Wangari Maathai

- 1:00 – 4:00 Afternoon site visit: **Digital Links**
Themes: education, technology

Digital Links was started by **GPC Member Chris Mathias** and is a UK-based nonprofit organization that collects redundant computers from companies, refurbishes them and works with local partners to place computers in schools, clinics, and nonprofits throughout Africa and Asia. In just five years, Digital Links has distributed 75,000 PCs, providing access for two million people. **Computer for Schools Kenya (CFSK)**, a key partner of Digital Links, utilizes these computers to empower young Kenyans with computer skills to enable them to competently participate in today's technology-based global economy.

- 4:30 – 5:30 Departure for Nanyuki (1 hr)

- 5:30 *Check into Hotel*
Serena Sweetwaters Tented Camp
Nanyuki, Kenya
Telephone (254 62) 31970
www.serenahotels.com

- 5:30 – 7 pm Free Time

7:00 pm Dinner in Nanyuki

Saturday, March 15: Nanyuki

Breakfast at Leisure

Day site visit - **OI Pejeta Conservancy**

Themes: conservation, environmental preservation, community empowerment

The **OI Pejeta Conservancy** works to conserve wildlife, provide a sanctuary for great apes and to generate income through wildlife tourism and complementary enterprise for reinvestment in conservation and community development.

Through the support of **GPC Member Jon Stryker** the OI Pejeta Conservancy is a 90,000 acre wildlife reserve situated in the foothills of the magnificent snowcapped Mount Kenya. The conservancy is the home of the Sweetwater's Chimpanzee Sanctuary and boasts a variety of animals, including the endangered black and white rhino, leopard, elephant, buffalo and lion.

(www.olpejetaconservancy.org)

Dinner discussion with GPC Member Jon Stryker on conservation, community engagement.

Sunday, March 16: Kibera, Nairobi

Breakfast

8:30 am Morning flight from Nanyuki to Nairobi

10 am Check into Hotel:
Nairobi Serena
Kenyatta Avenue
Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: 254-2-0272-5111
www.serenahotels.com

12:00 – 1:00 Briefing on Kibera, urban poverty and slums
Lunch

1:30 – 4:30 Afternoon site visits to Kibera

Binti Pamoja

Theme: human rights, gender violence, women's empowerment

Binti Pamoja (Swahili for "Daughters United") provides a safe space for 13 to 18 year-old girls in Kibera, to become better informed about female reproductive health and women's rights issues. The Center uses photography, drama, writing, and peer-led group discussion to help teenage girls explore the many challenges they face, which include HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, violence against women, rape, sexual abuse, female genital mutilation, poverty,

unequal access to education, lack of reproductive health care and information, unwanted pregnancy and stifling domestic responsibilities. (www.bintipamoja.org)

The **Rehma Ta Allah Community Development Group (RCDG)**, supported by Synergos' local partner the **Kenya Community Development Foundation**, is a leading community based organization in Kibera that empowers young people affected by HIV/AIDS. RCDG conducts home-based care visits for bed-ridden clients, group therapy and counseling sessions (a forum where vulnerable young people from around Kibera can share their personal experiences and coping mechanisms, particularly on the impact of HIV/AIDS on their lives), provides food rations bi-monthly to very needy children, conducts training on lobbying and advocacy as well as life skills and entrepreneurship, participates in human rights campaigns in collaboration with organizations such as the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) and Network for People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya (NEPHAK). (www.kcdfoundation.org)

4:30 – 5:30 Reflection and Discussion

7:30 “University for a Night” dinner

Monday, March 17: Nairobi

9 – 12:30 Morning site visit –**Jamii Bora**
Theme: microfinance, poverty

Jamii Bora (Swahili for “A Better Family”) makes loans to street people, specifically targeting thieves, beggars, prostitutes and the HIV-positive population in Kenya. Its mission is to help its members rise out of poverty, through the provision of small loans. The organization requires that all members open a savings account, and then provides them with loans up to double the amount of savings they currently have. Today Jamii Bora has over 120,000 members, and it has expanded its member services to include health care benefits, housing assistance and business start-up loans. (www.jamiibora.org)

1:00 – 3:00 Lunch and Discussion - **Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)**

Themes: sustainable development, agriculture, environment, multi-stakeholder partnerships

Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) is new broad-based partnership launched by the Bill & Melinda Gates and Rockefeller Foundations and chaired by former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan. It is dedicated to helping millions of small-scale African farmers lift themselves out of poverty and hunger by dramatically improving their productivity, food-security and livelihoods, while safeguarding the environment and biodiversity. Key focus

areas for the Alliance are seed and soil quality, access to water and markets, and agricultural education and policy. (www.agra-alliance.org)

4:00 – 5:00 Closing session - Reflection and Concluding Discussion