The African SOUP

2019 Impact Report

SOUP
**Mission**
To empower communities through national primary education change, informed by our community development programming.

**Vision**
A Uganda with equipped teachers, engaged learners, and empowered communities.
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Dear SOUP supporters,

2019 was an incredible year for The African SOUP. We launched our active learning project in primary teacher colleges, established a new teacher training framework, and supported our students in achieving a 100% pass rate on their primary leaving exams. Since joining this organization, just one year ago, I’ve been privileged to work alongside our dedicated team and have been in awe of their talent, commitment, and resilience.

This year, we faced an entirely new challenge as the Coronavirus spread across the globe, leading to border closures, curfews, limited travel, and the suspension of many activities, including classroom learning. Most of our beneficiary families are dealing with the economic impact of this crisis in addition to the health and social challenges, and they need our support now more than ever. Since schools closed nationally at the end of March, we have been providing families with food and academic materials on our campus twice per month and have begun to explore distance learning. As we respond to these new realities, it is important to pause and take stock of our impact, responsibility, and potential while standing together with our supporters in celebration of how far we’ve come.

In this annual report, you will see how our programs have evolved over the past few years to better meet the needs of our community and build on our strengths as an organization. Over time, we’ve learned what we do well and continue to ask ourselves what we can be doing better. We see our programs as mutually reinforcing, and we continue to be inspired by our vision of achieving national education reform, informed by the Demonstration SOUP school and our community development programming.

After you’ve had the opportunity to review this report, feel free to share it with friends, family, and colleagues. We love telling our story, and we are always looking to start new conversations and forge new partnerships. The SOUP team is available to respond to your questions, comments, and feedback, and we view your engagement as key to our success. I look forward to sharing more in the future!

Sincerely,

Jill Kuhn
Executive Director
KAMPALA
Where our leadership team builds strategic partnerships with the Ministry of Education, National Curriculum Development Center, and other organizations.

IGANGA
Location of the SOUP office and Bishop Willis Primary Teachers College, our implementing partner for the ALP pilot.

NABIKABALA VILLAGE
Our home community and the site of our Demonstration Nursery and Primary School, Emma's Baby SOUP, and the Secondary Enrichment Program.
“The SOUP school is special because the teachers take care of us as they would their own children. They educate us with good hearts. They ask us about our problems and try to help us, even outside of school.”

Zablon Kisakye, 13 Years Old, Primary 7
The African SOUP School delivers quality academics to over 450 vulnerable children, ages 3 to 15, in a beautiful campus with a large community garden. We provide student-centered instruction and co-curricular activities, and we foster sustainability through eco-friendly practices.

As the demonstration site for the ALP, teacher evaluations are tied to active learning practices in classrooms. Eventually, our school will serve as a model for primary schools across Uganda.

Highlights:

- 16 SOUP students participated in an annual national sports competition, held in Iganga.
- Our Primary 7 students had an exit celebration in October that was attended by government and religious leaders from the community.
- Our Primary 7 students registered a 100% pass rate on primary leaving exams.
- Our school again received a ranking of 5th out of 248 schools in Namutumba District.
- Local district officials have observed our work and submitted two reports to the District Education Office supporting our projects and methods.
SECONDARY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM (SEP)

The SOUP's Secondary Enrichment Program (SEP) supports graduating Primary 7 students in their continued education by providing scholarships, personal enrichment, and leadership opportunities. Participating students return to campus during term breaks to attend workshops focused on life skills and leadership.

In 2019, The SOUP served 52 SEP students through full or partial scholarships, with all students having at least 70% of their school fees paid. Our social worker conducted school visits each term to provide social-emotional support and collect academic data for each SEP student.
EMMA’S BABY SOUP (EBS)

Learning is compromised if a child is malnourished and suffering from illness. EBS is an outreach program that provides access to healthcare for SOUP students as well as 50 community families, including critical cases involving mothers and babies suffering from acute malnutrition. EBS relies on a holistic health approach facilitated through medical attention at The SOUP School and the provision of nutrient-rich food, community workshops, parent counseling, and home visits in Nabikabala Village. Through our continuous engagement with the community to combat some of the area’s greatest health risks, we hope to make it possible for all children to reach their full potential.

Moving forward, The SOUP plans to strengthen the program’s sustainability by providing EBS families with opportunities for economic development and income generation through small business training and lessons on agriculture.
SUCCESS
100% pass rate for students who took the Primary Leaving Examination.

OUTREACH
2 sessions per month, all year long, of community medical outreach organized by Emma’s Baby SOUP. 50 families provided with counseling, seedlings, and education on positive parenting.

REPUTATION
The SOUP Primary School was ranked 5th out of 248 schools in Namutumba District.

SUPPORT
70% to 100% of school fees were paid through SOUP sponsorships or scholarships for students in the Secondary Enrichment Program.
"I have had a free education since primary one. I love The SOUP because they take care of us. When I grow up, I want to be a traffic officer because I want to make sure people drive the right speed. I want to help prevent accidents."

Doreen Nakiogio, 12 years old, Primary 5
"When I finish school, I want to become a fashion designer. I like designing different clothes for women and I also like styling with makeup. I do it at home now with my sisters. It helps us know how to look smart when we grow up, and even now when we're young!"

Faith Kirabo, 10 years old, Primary 5
ACTIVE LEARNING PROJECT (ALP)

The SOUP’s Active Learning Project (ALP) implements active learning and teaching methods that put students at the center of the learning process. Our goal is to empower students with positive attitudes and enthusiasm towards learning to become Uganda’s future leaders with increased content knowledge, critical thinking and problem-solving abilities.

In spearheading this education reform, our ultimate goal is for the Ministry of Education to adopt our student-centered, active learning approach on a national scale, making it an integral part of teacher training in Uganda.

We will conduct thorough monitoring and assessment activities that will provide information on the practice of ALP-trained teachers and on the knowledge and attitude of teachers and students toward ALP practices. Research and analysis of achievements will occur throughout the two year pilot (2019-2020) through surveys and direct observation at Bishop Willis and Mukuju Primary Teacher Colleges. This data will inform our programmatic choices in years to come.
Primary Teacher Colleges: Teacher colleges are where we engage with teachers-in-training and college instructors. Teachers-in-training participate in a year-long methods course and receive continuous professional development to ensure they are ready to use the active learning approach in their primary school classrooms after they graduate as certified teachers. Instructors are taught the basics of active learning and learn how to mentor teachers in classrooms.

SOUP Demonstration Nursery and Primary School: The SOUP School serves as a demonstration site for the ALP. Through teacher observations, data analysis, and monthly training, we ensure that students receive high-quality, student-centered education while our teachers strengthen their skills in active learning.

In 2019, the ALP team attended monthly check-ins with the Ministry of Education to share best practices with education stakeholders. In the future, the ALP team hopes to work with Kyambogo University, the governing body of curriculum development for teachers in Uganda. Our ultimate goal is the national adoption of the ALP curriculum in primary teacher colleges across Uganda.
IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Active Learning Project

TRAINING
All 16 SOUP Demonstration School teachers have been observed, received feedback on performance, and coached on ALP best practices.

EMPOWERING
210 first year teachers-in-training completed our year-long methods course and passed the final exam. In November, an awards ceremony was held.

RECOGNITION
Uganda’s Ministry of Education, after a school visit from one of its representatives, expressed high praise for The SOUP’s achievements in improving teacher education.

GROWTH
SOUP teachers and staff visited Vision for Africa, a highly regarded NGO and school, to learn about sustainability, holistic education, and community participation.
"Since joining The SOUP, I’ve learned about activity-based learning, acquired administrative skills, and learned how to problem solve and manage people with differences. It's a big responsibility. George, the School Headmaster, has really mentored me, and the professional development opportunities have helped me tremendously. As a huge success, all primary 7 students passed the Primary Leaving Exam the past two years."

Rogers Mukama, 3rd year at The SOUP, Director of Studies
"Since joining The SOUP team, I’ve learned to design activities that are suitable for different learners, and how to facilitate workshops and trainings for other teachers at The SOUP School and at teacher training colleges. I've learned so much as a teacher, and I'm now able to analyze my own practice. In the future, I believe I would make a good administrator."

Isaac Mukamba, 4th year at The SOUP, Math and Science Teacher
2019 Financials

2019 TOTAL INCOME $280,723

2019 TOTAL EXPENSES $240,480
The SOUP was assigned a Peace Corps volunteer who is committed to two years of service on our campus.

120 students received a full scholarship to The SOUP Demonstration Nursery and Primary School.

We began construction on a new boys’ dormitory to serve more students in a safe, comfortable environment.

Two staff members attended a week-long farming training in Kampala, and they brought new crops back to the campus for students and families to grow.

The ALP was invited to present baseline data to the Ministry of Education in support of our work in primary teacher colleges.
# Program and Operations Team

Jill Kuhn, Executive Director  
Michael Kaidhiwa, Country Director  
Rebecca Mirembe, Director of the ALP  
George Wateta, Operations Manager/Headmaster  
Emma Muyinda, Director of EBS  
Emma Goldbas, ALP Project Manager  
Kenneth Agaba, ALP Facilitator  
Charles Waiswa, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

## U.S. Board of Directors
- Susan Bertonaschi  
- Corregan Brown  
- Carrie Conway  
- Rudi Dollenberg  
- Brin Enterkin  
- Judson Graves  
- Audrey Jacobs  
- Laura Johns  
- Marti Morton  
- Christopher Sleeme  
- Elizabeth Smith

## Uganda Board of Directors
- Haril Isabirye  
- Reverend Wilson Kaidhigha  
- Essau Kyonkone  
- Robina Nabwire  
- Sarah Olumbe  
- Moses Wambi
GET INVOLVED

- **Donate.** Visit our website (theafricansoup.org) to give and make a difference. Donating to The SOUP will ensure that our programs continue to provide high-quality, reliable services.

- **Follow us on Social Media.** Look for our account on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to get the most up to date information!

- **Sponsor a Student.** Be the path to higher education for children in Uganda! Visit our website and find out how your monthly donation can help send a child to primary or secondary school.

- **Amazon Smile.** Next time you shop online, use Amazon Smile. All you have to do is go to smile.amazon.com, select The African SOUP as your organization of choice, and a portion of your payment will be donated to us.

- **Facebook Fundraising.** Launch a fundraiser through your Facebook profile and get your friends and family involved in supporting our programs.

- **Visit Us in Uganda.** When it is safe to travel again, we hope to welcome visitors to our school and headquarters in Nabikabala, Uganda.

- **Workplace Giving.** Many employers offer ways to help support The African SOUP. Some companies even match gifts through programs such as Benevity! Find out about the ways your workplace can contribute to our mission.
Thank you

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