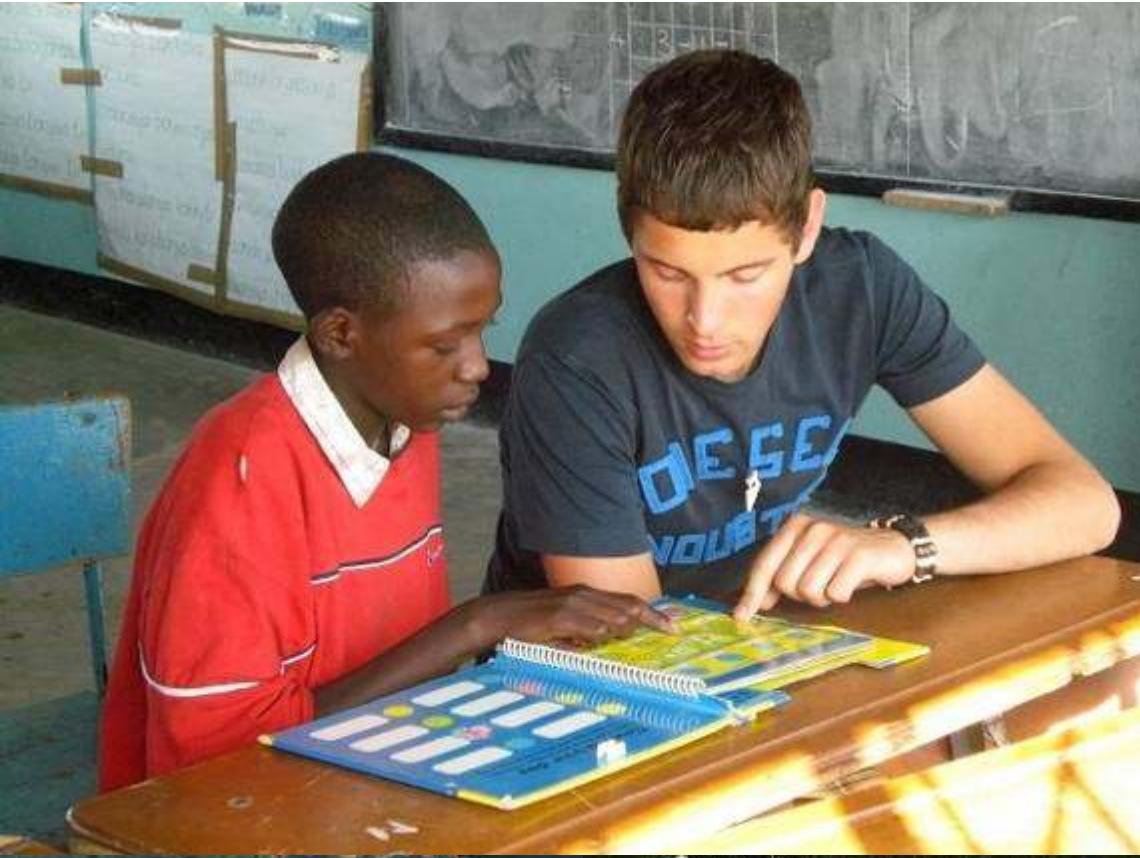


# Teaching Assistance and Community Upliftment LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA



*At African Impact, we see ourselves as the on-the-ground AFRICAN SPECIALISTS in volunteering. We were founded over 5 years ago in Zimbabwe and have our head office in Cape Town, South Africa, with supporting operations offices in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia. To date we, together with our project managers out in the field, have had the privilege of sharing Africa with over 3,000 volunteers who were determined to make a difference in the amazing communities and conservation areas in which we work. And they did... and so can you...*

*'Mosi-oa-tunya' - The Smoke That Thunders...* this is how the locals refer to the magnificent spray that is elevated high above the Victoria Falls. Against this backdrop we find the town of Livingstone, a place of supreme adventure, friendship, unlimited challenge, a place to care for and become a part of; a place of initiation, and an unforgettable life-changing experience. Perhaps 10 kilometres away Mosi-oa-tunya makes a dramatic backdrop to a rustic field bordered by subsistence maize. In this impressive setting, we offer you the opportunity to gain a unique insight into the Zambian education field and to make a positive impact on the local community through our specially structured teaching programme.

#### **Project Achievements so far:**

*From April 2008 to November 2009 African Impact volunteers contributed over 53260 hours to community development on our volunteer projects in Livingstone – Medical, Teaching and Sports projects. Our project structures, together with the support and advice of our charitable foundation team at The Happy Africa Foundation, are continuously assessing our work and project strategies to ensure that these hours are meaningful with measurable outcomes.*

#### African Impact

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As always our volunteers continue to do a great job of assisting in the classrooms at the various schools that we are involved with in Livingstone. The work on the two new classrooms at Nakatindi School began in 2008. Having already assisted with the first classroom block, African Impact began the building and painting of the additional office and two classrooms. Although the pace of work was slow at first due to a number of set backs; a freak storm taking the roof off in January didn't help matters either. However, since March this year building work resumed and was completed at record speed! Volunteers are now working tirelessly on the construction of a massive health and education center at the school. When finished, the main hall will give the school the opportunity to raise funds and become more self-sufficient and a health office will specifically monitor HIV positive students while serving the general needs of a school nurse. Additionally, a library will give students access to new levels of knowledge through books and African Impact volunteers will use the new computer center to teach literacy courses designed to give students and community residents an advantage in the difficult job market.

After a LOT of volunteer blood/sweat/tears African Impact were able to support Malota Community School and cement an already fantastic relationship. One of the poorest and neediest schools in Livingstone, the Malota community have been an absolute delight to assist and very much appreciative of all that has been done thus far: building a security wall to create a safe place to play, providing desks and chairs for the classrooms, painting and leveling the floors of two classrooms. In addition we will also be fundraising for the moving and upgrading of their unsanitary latrines before the construction of two new classrooms to add needed space to the overcrowded school.

**Location:** Livingstone, Zambia – a stone's throw away from the Victoria Falls (10km)

**Project Age Limit:** Minimum 18 years – Maximum dependent on potential participants' health

**Required Experience:** For this project, no previous experience is required. Any teaching skills would be useful

#### **Project Highlights:**

- Gain teaching experience in a challenging environment
- Work with and have the opportunity to give love and attention to disadvantaged children
- Work on school refurbishment and building projects
- Immerse yourself in local Zambian culture
- Make friends for life
- Visit the Victoria Falls and enjoy some of the amazing tourist activities that Livingstone has to offer including Bungee Jumping, White Water Rafting on the Zambezi, Helicopter Flights over the Falls, Zambezi River Cruises, visits to Botswana's Chobe National Park to experience Africa's highest density of elephants and weekend excursions across to Zimbabwe and much more.



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### **Further Information on the Teaching and Community Assistance Programme:**

Teaching volunteers' spend their time providing much needed assistance within the educational establishments of Livingstone. You do not need to be qualified for our Teaching Project; you just need the desire to impact!

**Teaching Assistants** - As a teaching volunteer you will spend your mornings in one of six of our community schools that cater to orphaned and vulnerable children. You will be assigned a class and cooperating teacher to focus your efforts and get to know the individual needs of the students. While the teacher is in front of the classroom, teaching a class, it is extremely valuable to have a teaching assistant who can go around and help individual children with their assignments. Since classes are usually very large, the pupils do not often get this individual attention they need. The extra help volunteers provide has the potential to make a lasting difference by identifying students who are falling behind and giving additional support.

**Group Work** - A volunteer may find in class that there are a group of children who struggle to keep up with the rest of the class. Volunteers will take groups of children out of the class to go through the class work at a slower rate with greater repetition to enhance learning. Once students start to fall behind, it can be a difficult trend to stop as there are minimal structures in place at the schools to help struggling students. Early intervention is therefore key.

**Marking Tests and Assignments** - Teachers at Livingstone schools give a great amount of tests and assignments to their pupils, so there is always a lot of marking to do. Many of the teachers in the community schools are volunteers themselves who dedicate long hours to schools for minimal pay so the opportunity to relieve their workload and focus more on academic instruction is important. It may not even be a test that needs marking but homework or simple class exercises. This is an important role of the teaching volunteer but it is mixed it up with other teaching assistance methods so as not to become tedious.

**Revision Classes** - Since the pace in class is fast, and individual attention low, children often fall behind. By repeating subjects in revision classes, these children might have a better chance of keeping up during their regular classes.

***Should you feel comfortable you can teach your own class using the in depth lesson plans. This is a fantastic opportunity to offer the students a fresh perspective and increase their intellectual curiosity.***

**August 2010** - We are currently working in six different schools in the local community:

**Nakatindi Community School:** (420 pupils, 10 teachers, morning and afternoon sessions)

This is a fairly large school but still under construction. African Impact has built a new general classroom, a new classroom for the pre-schoolers and are in the middle of construction on a health and education center. We also have Physical Education classes taught by the sports volunteers. Additionally, run reading clubs to assist the students struggling with their literacy and art club some afternoons.

**Mwandi Community School:** (250 pupils, 11 teachers, morning and afternoon sessions)

A small under privileged school situated on a hill in Mwandi community overlooking Livingstone. Physical Education is facilitated by volunteers in the afternoons also as well as Art Clubs and Reading Clubs.

**Malota Community School:** (150 pupils, 3 teachers, morning and afternoon sessions)

This is an extremely under privileged and tiny school and African Impact is proud to be associated with it. Its teaching principles and methods are extremely admirable considering the massive lack of resources this school has. We are finished with building them a new roof (higher and without holes!!) We have painted the room used for the pre-school plastered of the main classroom block. Teaching volunteers also help out in the mornings providing assistance within the classroom, and we are looking to build an additional classroom (however there is very little space as it is). A good command of English is essential to success in Livingstone so teaching volunteers specifically focus on improving reading, writing and speaking skills through reading clubs and similar extracurricular activities as our relationship with the school goes from strength to strength.

**Livingstone Primary School:** This school, although it is a basic (technically government funded) receives little in the way of funding and we assist with classroom assistance and soccer training as well as revision classes.

**Dambwa Christian School:** This is an extremely under privileged school started by a group of women from the community to meet the educational needs of vulnerable and orphaned children in Dambwa. We provide teaching assistance within the school, run reading clubs and teach Physical Education in our Sports Programme.

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**Indeco Community School:** A poor school operating in the corner of a larger government school, Indeco caters to the vulnerable and orphaned kids in the area who cannot afford the school fees at the government school. Operating out of a converted abattoir or slaughterhouse, the school lacks basic infrastructure and resources. Volunteers assist with teaching lessons, reading clubs and physical education.



**School terms 2010:**

First term: 11 January to 9 April  
 Second term: 10 May to 6 August  
 Third term: 6 September to 3 December

**During school vacation time volunteers run "holiday clubs."** Holiday club is extremely important as it offers students valuable time to catch up on learning missed due to the Zambian "Hot Seating" system. Not only does it give young people a safe environment to spend their summer holidays, it is also a lot of fun whilst providing an effective educational tool. Teaching volunteers work closely with sports volunteers to teach lessons for the first half of the morning and then engage the students in recreational activities and teach the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For self-starters, this project is a fantastic way to direct instruction for a few weeks and leave your mark on the students.



**AFTERNOON COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

After having spent the morning assisting in the schools, you will help out the local community in different areas in the afternoon. You will rotate between the following community projects:

**Build / paint / refurbish schools and clinics**

Schools in Livingstone deal with a great shortage of classrooms, and as a result most children do not receive the full day of class that they need. With the help and guidance of professional builders and the community we are aiming to build new classrooms for as many schools as we can raise funds for. Volunteers will help with mixing cement, making and laying bricks, laying concrete floors, plastering walls, and painting. It is hard, but highly rewarding work! In addition, we refurbish and paint existing classrooms.

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## Home Based Care / Farming

There are several Home Based Care Projects run by local volunteers in districts of Livingstone such as Maramba, Ngwenya, Libuyu, Linda, Dambwa. The women spend each morning visiting patients within their local community. The patients generally have HIV (and various afflictions due to a low immune system), TB and Malaria. Patients often cannot afford to go the clinic or hospital. The Home Based Care community volunteers rely on medical supplies given to them by the government health department (which happens rarely) or donations. However, some have their own land that they use to farm for the purpose of raising money for their initiative. This is obviously the most sustainable way to ensure their project continues independently of aid. We would like to assist all communities in setting up farming initiatives, as well as helping with actual work on the farm. The goal is to help in the initial set-up stages by assisting with the acquisition of land, tools and seed. Volunteers then help to prepare the land and work alongside the committee of local farmers and Home Based Care givers through the planting, watering, weeding and harvesting. With each new planting season, the local committee becomes more self-sufficient and self-funded allowing new farms to be developed.

## Reading Club:

We arrange for students at various schools to come back to the club in the afternoon where our volunteers will assist with the literacy skills of the children. As a volunteer, armed with your box of books, you will arrive at the school and help give the students the extra support that they need. You do this by helping with difficult words, encouraging them as they read and offering the opportunity to practice their literary skills outside the limited lessons available.

## Art Club:

Volunteers will plan their own art club using suggested lesson plans, their initiative and creative ideas. Here you can encourage students to deal with a variety of issues through art. For example; you can hold an Anti Drugs campaign using your art club to produce posters, or your art club could make demonstrative models in order to educate them on many different topics. You could also produce seasonal art e.g. Christmas cards, Christmas decorations, Easter masks etc., have finger painting sessions or papier mache - the possibilities are endless!!

## Adult Literacy Club:

Not only a very popular activity amongst volunteers but also an extremely important project aimed at helping adults become more employable in a country with a literacy rate of only 60%. There is a structured syllabus with beginners / intermediate / advanced classes, lesson plans, tests and a certificate upon successful completion. The course will improve the students understanding of written and oral English as well as mathematics.

## Study Group

Designed specifically for the students in THAF's *Sponsor-A-Child* Program, students come from various schools throughout Livingstone for a structured study hall led by volunteers. The program seeks to help the children gain a greater grasp on subjects taught in class as well as tackle subjects that are missed during the curriculum. Many of THAF's sponsored children are orphans and all are vulnerable thus lacking adequate support at home. Study group gives sponsored children from a variety of schools the chance to get together, establishing a good community and a great opportunity for AI/THAF to monitor student's academic and personal progress.



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## Maramba Old People's Home

Elderly homes are not common here because culturally elders in a community stay with the family. People arrive at MOPH, therefore, from far and wide and typically have no one to look after or visit them. Volunteers assist the understaffed facility with daily tasks such as cleaning, cooking, etc. and then transition to engaging the residents in games, reading, physical activities, etc. The project is a great way to provide stimulation and improve the living conditions for the residents.

### 6 Great Reasons to become an African Impact Teaching Assistance Volunteer:

- Getting stuck in the community and being involved with those who really need help.
- Being based in Livingstone ensures there are plenty of relaxation or adventure activities to enjoy at the weekends.
- Love Kids? The teaching program provides the best opportunity to get to know kids on an individual level and make a lasting impression on them.
- The variety of activities and community projects, from building and painting to HIV education and reading clubs, there's something for everyone.
- The variety of locations! You will be based within poor communities in various districts of Livingstone. Within clinics, farms, the old people's home, and schools ensuring there isn't an inch of African day-to-day life that you won't see.
- The friendly people – the work of a teaching volunteer is very much appreciated by the communities. You will meet the friendliest, nicest, craziest, most determined, and zealous African people, who are guaranteed to inspire and motivate you!



### Project Typical Day:

- **0700:** It's rise and shine, and time for breakfast. The volunteers also spend some time preparing for the projects, ensuring they have everything they need for the day ahead.
- **0745:** Off to work. The volunteer arrives at their assigned school and class. After saying hello to all the children, it's time to get down to some work. The children usually have half hour lessons, social studies, maths, science, English, and why not join in on their local language lesson and learn some Nyanja yourself?!
- **1130:** You will be picked up from your project and be taken back to the house for lunch
- **1200:** Lunch
- **1300:** Planning Session – You are given this time to prepare for your afternoon or other projects, this may mean designing and making posters, researching lessons, writing quiz's or tests or simply gathering supplies.
- **1330:** Depart for your community project. This may be farming, building, or painting. It may mean an art club or a reading club, or assisting at Maramba Old People's Home. You may also be involved in planning and delivering one of our workshops to the kids of the community schools covering topics such as basic first aid, drugs and alcohol, HIV and AIDS or life skills.
- **1700:** You will arrive back to the house for supper after your projects. Your evening is free, so why not treat yourself to a meal out, or simply sit enjoy a beer in front of the TV whilst planning for the next day.

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Please be advised that we endeavor to keep all of our project documents up to date; however, due to the constantly evolving nature of sustainable projects expect amendments within all programmes. Some projects will become self sufficient and no longer require the assistance of volunteers, others will slightly change focus and new ones will begin. Volunteers will be involved in a diverse range of project work as things evolve and develop, all of which are moving the project towards a common goal.

**Project Costs:**

**2010**

2 weeks	GBP 785 / EUR 1020 / USD 1415
4 weeks	GBP 1255 / EUR 1630 / USD 2260
6 weeks	GBP 1645 / EUR 2140 / USD 2960

**(You are welcome to volunteer for anything from 2 weeks up to 8 weeks on this project).**

**Project Cost Includes:**

- Project Fee: This facilitates funding for items such as coaching materials and equipment, building materials, etc. This also entails financing that goes directly back into the project that you are involved with. This project fee facilitates funding for items such as building materials, equipment, supplies, foodstuffs, etc. Project fees are also used to buy vehicles/equipment and for developing the housing for volunteers to provide for the expansion of the projects.
- All airport transfers from Livingstone International Airport upon your arrival and departure
- Orientation program
- All daily transfers to and from your projects during your stay
- Full board and lodging which includes 3 meals a day at our volunteer house
- Weekly laundry service during your stay
- Full support from African Impact and your project managers throughout your time on your Livingstone placement

**Project Cost Excludes:**

- Personal travel insurance for the duration of your placement, which must include cover for evacuation and repatriation
- All transport by air or bus to Livingstone
- All items of a personal nature, such as curios, gifts, clothing (work and other)
- E-mail/Internet and telephone calls

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- Soft drinks, alcoholic beverages and snacks
- All visas for border crossings
- Any excursions over and above your planned volunteer itinerary in Zambia e.g. visit to the Victoria Falls, white water rafting, etc.

### **Project Orientation:**

Upon arrival in Livingstone all volunteers are involved in comprehensive orientation programme, which is included in your fee. This is facilitated by your project volunteer coordinator and entails an introduction to our projects. Not only will you see where you will be working, you will also see where your fellow volunteers will be spending their days.

### **Project Support:**

Throughout your stay at your placement you will have the support and guidance of experienced field-workers and coordinators. They are part of our greater African Impact support team, and will provide you with competent 24-hour field support and assistance.

### **Project Accommodation:**

Livingstone volunteers reside at a comfortable and secure complex, a 5 minute walk away from Livingstone town center. This accommodation features a dining area, bar, swimming pool, large garden, and even a climbing wall! The house sleeps up to 68 people and accommodates volunteers from our medical, teaching and sports projects. The accommodation is multi-sex, but males and females will be sleeping in separate rooms.

The house has 24 hour security. It also has a safe where you can store your valuables. Your meals are cooked at the accommodation and you will have the support of our project managers at the site. Each bedroom sleeps 6 people, with three bunk beds in each room, some of the larger rooms can have up to 8 people in the room. Each bedroom has a lockable cupboard for your valuables.

Bed linen is provided (please bring a towel) and the maid service will attend to cleaning the rooms and making the beds daily. The maids will wash your laundry. The house is positioned within close walking distance to town where you will find a wide range of amenities.

### Please Note:

We find that volunteers living together and working closely together with their volunteer co-ordinators is the surest way of guaranteeing their safety and being able to attend to their most pressing needs. For this reason we expect all volunteers to stay only in the accommodation provided for them and do not allow volunteers to spend nights away in the town or nearby villages, unless they are away on pre-arranged sightseeing excursions.

### **Project Meals:**

You will be provided with three meals a day. Breakfast is on a help-yourself basis and usually consists of cereals/ porridge, toast, tea and coffee.

Lunch and dinner are full meals, and will be cooked for you by the chef at your volunteer house.

**Note:** Meals are provided at weekends although many volunteers choose to eat out. Weekends are usually good times for tourist activities and exploring the surrounding area, so that is the time that a lot of volunteers are out and about anyway.

*Please note that while we do our very best to provide you with varied and interesting meals, due to the nature of our rural location food will generally be quite simple but still nutritious. We ask that you are not overly fussy and ungrateful with what is provided for you.*

***Please let us know before you depart for Africa of any food allergies or specific requirements.***

**Project Getting There:** *Our placement coordinators will meet you at the airport in Livingstone!!*

- Livingstone: Fly to Johannesburg in South Africa and then connect to Livingstone. This is by far the simplest and most popular means of getting to the project.
- Lusaka: fly into Zambia's capital city and then transfer to Livingstone by bus (approx. 8 to 12 hours) or by means of a flight. The bus transfer will cost you approximately US\$20.

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*“It’s an incredible experience & it was a privilege to be able to get so close to the community and help in many different ways (building, teaching, family support, HBC, clinics etc). I really enjoyed the variety of projects and am very happy with my whole experience.”*

**Rosie Ratcliffe, UK**

*“Overall I have loved my month here in Zambia & really don’t want to go. I think it is a fantastic thing to do & have loved meeting all the local people & have hopefully helped out in some way.”*

**Jo Perrett, Australia**

### **Project Travel Highlights:**

These are not included in your volunteering fee, but our coordinators are able to assist you with making the necessary booking arrangements.



### **Guideline prices for the most popular activities: (please note these are subject to change, prices given are a guideline only)**

- Dinner/Sunset cruise on the Zambezi River: USD 35.00 – 45.00
- 2 nights on an Island paradise in the Zambezi, inclusive of several activities & meals: USD 125
- 2 nights staying onboard a boat cruising along the Zambezi River: USD 180
- 2 nights on safari in Chobe National Park: USD 200
- The world’s most exciting white water rafting on the Zambezi River. USD 150 half day.
- Bungee jumping and gorge swings over the Batoka Gorge which the water cascades into below the Falls. Bungee Jump: USD 105 per jump. Gorge swing / Zip line: USD 105 per jump. All 3 activities in one day: USD 125.
- Helicopter Ride over the Falls: USD 150 for 15mins.
- Microlight Flight over the Falls: USD 120 for 15mins.
- Lion Walk and Encounter: USD 95
- Elephant back safaris. USD 120
- Canoeing Safaris on the Zambezi River above the Falls with experienced guides.
- Game drives in Zambia’s Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park or neighbouring Botswana’s Chobe National Park.

### **Our Preferred Travel Insurance Partners:**



Visit [www.worldnomads.com](http://www.worldnomads.com) for a great deal on reliable travel insurance:

<http://www.africanimpact.com/news-article/need-travel-insurance--weve-got-just-the-answer-for-you!/20100219>

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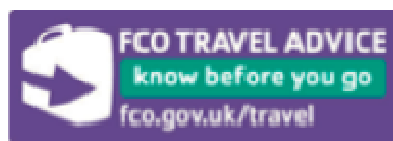


Meet your Destination Manager for this project! Kylie will guide you through the whole pre-arrival procedure for this placement and you will receive comprehensive information throughout to ensure you are fully prepared for your project placement with us.



*Kylie was born and raised in Zimbabwe. In 2001 she went to work, travel and study in the United Kingdom until she decided to come back and live in Africa at the beginning of 2008. Kylie is really excited to be back in Africa and to be involved with all the wonderful African Impact community projects based in and around East Africa.*

E-mail Kylie on: [kylie@africanimpact.com](mailto:kylie@africanimpact.com)



### Our Partners

[The Happy Africa Foundation www.happyafricafoundation.org](http://www.happyafricafoundation.org)

African Impact is proud to have been instrumental in the establishment of The Happy Africa Foundation in 2007 and continues to be one of the Foundations major supporters. UK Registered Charity Number: 1123529. The mission of The Happy Africa Foundation is to empower the African people through the support of community and conservation based initiatives that operate at grass roots level.

We are proudly affiliated to the UK-based **Know Before You Go** campaign that promotes education and knowledge-sharing amongst travelers.

African Impact is delighted to have been nominated as a **2009 World Travel Awards Finalist** and see this as exciting recognition of our position as African specialists in Volunteering, with over 5 years experience in sharing Africa with travelers who have a passion for making a difference.

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