Transform Africa (TA) is a UK-registered charity based in London which helps local communities in Africa to tackle poverty and its root causes. It raises funds for specific projects, provides technical services that improve the effectiveness of local communities, and carries out research, lobbying and advocacy work. The majority of its trustees are of African origin, helping it to draw in the resources of other Africans living and working overseas.

**TRANSFORM AFRICA PROFILE**

Transform Africa (TA) is a UK-registered charity based in London which helps local communities in Africa to tackle poverty and its root causes. It raises funds for specific projects, provides technical services that improve the effectiveness of local communities, and carries out research, lobbying and advocacy work. The majority of its trustees are of African origin, helping it to draw in the resources of other Africans living and working overseas.

**It’s work focuses on four main areas:**

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- HIV & Health
- Micro-Credit and Business Training
- Youth Training for Gainful Employment
HISTORY

Transform Africa was founded in 1998 by several large charities engaged in capacity building in Africa. After realizing that local communities were more receptive to assistance from local organisations, they decided to develop a group of Africa-based capacity-building consultants. In 1999, Transform Africa was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. It became the centre of this network, providing advice in critical areas such as governance, project planning and management, financial management & fundraising.

Between 1999-2004, Transform Africa trained eight local consulting organisations in Gambia, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe and, jointly with them, supported over 120 local organisations in those countries to improve their structures, systems, governance and project planning, management and monitoring.

Transform Africa believes that poverty in Africa is mainly caused by poor leadership and embedded beliefs, attitudes and practices which act as barriers to social and economic development. Therefore, fighting poverty effectively requires addressing both the causes, which include gender and leadership, and the symptoms, such as increasing access to safe drinking water, affordable micro-credit, and skills development opportunities. We observed that many local organisations and communities focus on addressing the symptoms of poverty, but lack the capabilities to address the transformation of the negative behavioural and attitudinal aspects of their organisations and the communities they work with. Apart from the advantage of being based in UK where it can easily approach funders in Europe, Transform Africa is well grounded in the above two areas.

Since 2005 Transform Africa has broadened its capacity building approach in order to enable local organisations and the communities they work with to fight poverty and bring about sustainable social and economic changes more effectively.

Because demand was outstripping resources, it was decided in 2014 to limit its operations to selected countries in Eastern and West Africa.

PROJECTS TO DATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clean Water</th>
<th>Health/HIV</th>
<th>Micro-Credit</th>
<th>Youth Training</th>
<th>Capacity Building</th>
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TRANSFORM AFRICA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIRPERSON

Tahera Aanchawan

British citizen with a Ugandan background and is a specialist in Health and Community Care. She has also been a trustee for the Diana Princess of Wales Fund, and various other charities.

TREASURER

Steve Roberts

Steve Roberts has over 30 years’ experience in fundraising and development management. Prior to joining the Transform Africa Board he had worked as Fundraising Manager, Principal Grants Manager and Consultant Grants Officer.

MICRO-FINANCE, ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT and GENDER ISSUES

Olive Luena

Olive Luena specialises in micro-finance, enterprise development, and gender issues. She has managed integrated development programmes in Africa, and is the CEO of the Tanzania Gatsby Trust.

MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, GRANT OFFICER

Dr Sulemana Abudulai

Dr Sulemana Abudulai is from Ghana. He has a long experience in management and development work. He previously worked at Comic Relief as a Grant Officer and currently, he is the Africa Field Representative for the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

CAPACITY BUILDING, COMMUNITY SUPPORT and ADVOCACY

Elizabeth Kemp

Elizabeth Kemp, is a specialist in capacity building, community support and advocacy. She has successfully managed such projects in Uganda and Tanzania, and has experience in clean water, micro-finance.
**TRANSFORM AFRICA STAFF TEAM**

**CEO**

Charles Kazibwe

MSc in NGO Management & Social Policy and over 30 years of experience as a development worker. He has worked with Transform Africa for nearly 17 years and before this served as ActionAid’s Project Manager in Uganda, Country Director for Sierra Leone and Liberia, and Regional Education Advisor for Africa. He has also been a Trustee of BOND, a networking organisation for UK charities in international development.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

David Rowland

David Rowland (Finance & Administration) is a Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) with over 20 years’ experience in all aspects of financial management. He has worked for Transform Africa for the last 12 years, and ensures that it is always compliant with the Charity Commission’s requirements for Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP) and Statements of Financial Activities (SOFA).

The three programme officers – Rose Mositica, Francess Conteh and Saidu Bangura – are all qualified professionals with on-the-ground experience of development projects in the countries in which Transform Africa operates.

In addition to its permanent staff, Transform Africa has a large network of UK-based volunteers, and works with volunteers and permanent staff provided by its African partners.

**METHOD OF WORKING**

Transform Africa supports local communities wishing to undertake projects that will improve their quality of life.

For example by:

- Constructing boreholes, dams and hand-dug wells, whilst providing training in hygiene and sanitation to protect clean water resources;
- Increasing HIV awareness and education in order to reduce the spread of AIDS;
- Providing affordable micro-credit loans and training in business management for people who want to set up their own businesses;
- Apprenticeship and vocational training schemes for young people to improve their employment opportunities.

Transform Africa uses a rigorous partner selection process to identify and form long-term partnerships with local organisations, with whom it jointly works with to raise funds to implement initiatives they see as critical for transforming their lives, but which would otherwise be beyond their means and capabilities.

All of the money raised is in response to needs identified by African communities through their local partner, and goes directly to these communities to address specific needs.
TRANSFORM AFRICA’S PARTNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Years</th>
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<td>Sierra Leone</td>
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<td>Micro-Credit Youth Training</td>
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<td>Association for People’s Employment APEM</td>
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<td>Micro-Credit Youth Training</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Youth Development Movement YDM</td>
<td>Freetown</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Micro-Credit Youth Training Clean Water Infrastructure Roads &amp; Drainage</td>
</tr>
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<td>Bufumira Islands Development Association BIDA</td>
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<td>BIVA Foundation</td>
<td>Mityana</td>
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<td>Clean Water</td>
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<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Community Aid and Small Enterprise Consultancy CASEC</td>
<td>Arusha</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mufindi Environmental Trust MUET</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
<td>Development Organisation for People’s Empowerment DOPE</td>
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<td>Gambia</td>
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<td>Capacity Building</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Development Associates</td>
<td>Harare</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
</tr>
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</table>

* The partnership with PREFED in Rwanda ended in 2006

New Borehole – Luswa Myanzi sub county Mubende
Photo from Progress Report ‘Transforming Access to Water in Uganda’
Empowering Tanzanian and Zambian Communities to Fight HIV and AIDS 2008–12

This four-year project was financed by the Big Lottery Fund and implemented by Transform Africa in partnership with Mufindi Environmental Trust (MUET) in Tanzania, and Development Organization for People’s Empowerment (DOPE) in Zambia.

It supported over 4,500 community members in Iringa Municipality, Tanzania, and Mpika District, Zambia by increasing HIV awareness, improving access to health services, and bringing about positive behavioural and attitudinal changes that would reduce the adverse impacts of HIV/AIDS. It also built organisations within the communities to take the lead in fighting HIV/AIDS, and provided affordable loans to women for small businesses, reducing their exposure to high risk sexual activity.

Empowering Fishing Communities in Uganda to Fight HIV/AIDS 2012–16

This four-year project, also funded by Comic Relief and Transform Africa, implemented with Bufumira Islands Development Association (BIDA), another local partner based on one of the beneficiary islands. Empowered over 8,500 people living on 11 islands of Kalangala District on Lake Victoria in Uganda to effectively fight HIV and its impact through increasing HIV awareness and using education to fight stigma and discrimination. It also enabled them to have increased HIV services such as counselling and testing, anti-retroviral drugs and home-based care.

In addition, the project promoted economic empowerment among women to reduce their vulnerability to high risk sexual behaviour, often caused by extreme poverty and economic dependency on men. Independent monitoring showed a large reduction in the spread of the virus in the area, whilst people with HIV benefited from increased access to specialist health care. A total of 730 women reported increased incomes, resulting in greater economic independence than before.

Among the women who benefited from the project was Zayinabu who is married to a promiscuous fisherman and they have four children. One day, she was shocked to learn that he’d tested HIV positive. She considered a divorce. However, she consulted the health unit staff who advised her not to leave her husband but insist on using condoms whenever they were having sex. Although he reluctantly agreed to do so, he lost interest in her, reduced the financial support and continued to stay away most of the days. As one of the successful beneficiaries of the project, this is what she had to say:

“Realising that I now shouldered more responsibility in running the home, I took a loan of UGX400,000 (= £100) from BIDA to boost my rice growing activities and used the money to grow one acre of rice. After four months, I harvested over 8 bags and realised UGX800,000 (= £200) from which I repaid the loan and used the balance to run the family grow more rice in the next season. Since then, I am able to meet the family needs, including paying school fees for my children, without depending on my husband.”
Economic and Social Reintegration of Northern Sierra Leone Project 2011–15

With a grant from Comic Relief, Transform Africa and Association for Rural Development (ARD), its partner in Northern Sierra Leone enabled over 5,000 poor people in 3 districts in Northern Sierra Leone increase their opportunities for improved livelihoods. It provided them with affordable micro-credit loans, vocational and apprenticeship training, and improving their skills in numeracy, literacy, business and wealth creation.

Freetown Urban Slums Transformation Initiative 2014–18

This five-year initiative is funded by Comic Relief and Transform Africa is implementing it with Youth Development Movement (YDM), a local partner based in one of the supported slum communities. So far, it has supported over 400 poor slum dwellers not to be evicted from their plots and an estimated 2,900 young people, small traders (mainly women) and other disadvantaged people living in 8 Freetown slums to increase their opportunities for improved livelihoods. It provides them with affordable micro-credit loans, vocational and apprenticeship training, and improving their skills in numeracy, literacy, business and wealth creation.

Among those who were saved from eviction, was Adama Sesay who had this to say: “I acquired my plot 10 years ago, but had no Land Title for it. Following the Government eviction notice, YDM supported our community to lobby the Freetown City Council to issue the affected people with certificates of ownership. We were very excited to hear that the decision to evict us had been suspended. I was handed the certificate of ownership of the land in June 2014 and I immediately started improving my shack to a permanent four-bedroom house where I now live comfortably with my family.”

The project is also supporting the communities to improve access to basic services, including safe water, drainages and hygiene education. Community-based organisations are being trained, and linked to advocacy networks to hold government to account for improved services. The Mid-Term Review showed a healthier environment and increased incomes - especially for women, young people and other marginalized groups - leading to a better quality of life in the slums. By the end of 2016, an estimated 8,900 slum dwellers had access to drinking water within a 5-minute walking distance.
Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) of HIV 2015–2016

With funding from The Chalker Foundation for Africa, Transform Africa in partnership with BIDA implemented a 12-month project in Bufumira Sub-County, Kalangala District, Uganda to contribute to on-going efforts to support mothers and pregnant women to eliminate the high incidence of mother-to-child HIV transmission prevailing in the area at the time. During the year, the number of positive mothers delivered by non-professional birth attendants was reduced from 134 the previous year to only 8. In addition, the number of HIV positive pregnant women and their partners who were on ARVs increased from 340 to 1,442.

Water boreholes in Uganda 2014–17

With a grant from Guernsey Overseas Aid & Development Commission, Transform Africa and BIVA Foundation, its local partner based in Mityana District in Uganda, have enabled over 7,000 people some of the most needy villages in Mityana and Mubende Districts in Uganda to have increased access to drinking water through construction of 40 low-cost boreholes and training in hygiene and environmental health. Community members are provided unskilled labour, materials such as sand and stones, and food during construction, with BIVA and Transform Africa providing financial and technical support. In September 2016, GlobalGiving UK carried out an evaluation of the Transform Africa and BIVA Foundation completed an on-going projects in the two Districts and awarded us a “Successful Evaluation Certificate” and commended our approach, especially because they found boreholes which were constructed as far back as 2013 still functioning well.

HIV–positive couples in Bufumira at a PMTCT meeting

This pond was the only source of water for drinking and other purposes in Kambuzi Village, Mityana District in Uganda. It used to be shared by both people and animals and it was algae-filled and polluted by pigs and dogs which were drinking and defecating in it, resulting in a high incidence of worm infection and water-borne diseases.

Following the construction of this borehole, the Village Chairperson had this to say, “We never believed we would live to see this happen in our village. We now drink clean water. Our people no longer suffer poor health due to water-related diseases. We left the pond to the animals. We thank those who supported us.”
Transform Africa would like to continue its HIV/AIDS programme for the Lake Victoria fishing communities in Uganda, which has now come to an end. It is seeking a further £350,000 for Phase 2, which aims to reduce the spread of HIV and mitigate its impact through increasing access to HIV information and education, prevention and treatment services and supporting women to engage in cage fish farming as an enterprise in order to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection due to over-dependency on men for their economic survival. Because of their geographical isolation, the islanders do not have access to the same health care facilities as people on the mainland, and are often overlooked. It is also planning to extend its very successful borehole programme in Mubende and Mityana Districts of Uganda to Kassanda and Maanyi sub-counties, for which an estimated £110,000 will be needed.

Its third major programme for 2017-18 also involves increasing access to drinking water and improving sanitation and hygiene in Freetown slums in Sierra Leone. It plans to support communities to construct and protect 30 water points and provide awareness raising and education for adoption of good practices in sanitation and hygiene at an estimated cost of £140,000.

To carry out these projects, Transform Africa needs around £600,000, roughly equivalent to around 14 months of its normal expenditure.

Transform Africa’s Income & expenditure Transform Africa has an average income of approximately £500,000 p.a. obtained from a mixture of large charities and the BIG Lottery Fund, and individual donors, many of whom have personal links to Africa.

£350,000

NEEDED FOR HIV/AIDS Programme Phase 2

£110,000

NEEDED FOR Borehole Programmes in Uganda

£140,000

NEEDED FOR Improving Sanitation and Hygiene

£450,000

AVERAGE INCOME
WHY DONATE TO US?

Transform Africa is based on the concept of helping poor people in Africa to help themselves, and puts a lot of emphasis on building up local organisations that can lead by example. Its partners live close to the communities and have spent a long time getting to know the local communities in their areas, and have become trusted advisers to many of them.

Because they speak the same language and share the same concerns, they are able to increase the confidence of individual aid recipients by spending time with them to resolve any personal issues. This is a luxury that is not always available to larger charities.

Because of its partner organisations, it is well placed to act as a gateway for donations to its target countries and activity areas. Its focus, however, remains on capacity-building within local communities, implanting the skills and institutional structures that will help them to develop in a sustainable and inclusive manner.

By donating to Transform Africa, you can give some of the world’s poorest people the chance of a better life.

CONTACT DETAILS

We are always pleased to hear from anyone who can help. Please contact me, Charles Kazibwe, at:

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Mobile: +44 7828 570 768
E-Mail: charles@transformafrica.org
Skype: kazibwe.charles

You can also donate via our website: www.transformafrica.org or GlobalGiving project page https://www.globalgiving.org/donate/30459/transform-africa/
Please support us!

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