IRFF UK: Uganda's Sister Schools Join Hands

Edward Hartley
September 25, 2026

How to transform a community

When you look closely at our partner schools near the shores of Lake Victoria in Uganda, the most telling sign of progress this summer is found at the **water well.**

During the recent four-month dry spell across the region, municipal taps ran completely dry, and rainwater harvesting was impossible. In years past, this would have meant young girls trekking long distances to fetch water, exposing them to severe risks of violence and assault. Today, that narrative has been entirely rewritten.

At **Busabala Primary School**, adult men and women from the surrounding village now walk onto the school grounds to draw safe, clean water alongside the pupils. The borehole donated through **IRFF UK** has become a **lifeline for the entire community.**

As Jesca Nakamanyisa, Headmistress of Destiny Junior School and

"Every drop of water is a blessing... We are seeing the water well in Busabala Primary School serving the entire community with water, and parents, adult men and women, fetching water from the water well with a smile."



BUSABALA BOASTS A BOREHOLE! Children line up to enjoy some fresh, clean water.

The power of 'sister schools'

What began with our Destiny Junior School project has grown into a network of sister schools, including **Busabala Primary School** and **Jjungo Church of Uganda Primary School.**

Together, the **Girl Child** and **WAIT** programmes reach hundreds of young people each month through hygiene education, self-care guidance, and regular distributions of **sanitary pads and knickers.**

This support has fundamentally altered classroom dynamics. **"Busabala Primary is registering its highest enrollment of girls, with consistent daily attendance, no reported teenage pregnancies, and a significantly lower dropout rate,"** Jesca

Busabala, once a struggling state school, is now recognised as a **model Universal Primary Education (UPE) school** within the municipality. Girls who previously missed up to a week of lessons each month because of period poverty are now fully participating in school life.

At our newest sister school in Jjungo, located in a deep rural lakeshore community, challenges such as access to water remain significant. Nevertheless, as Jesca notes, **the team is doing "all it takes to address the issues of reproductive health, hygiene, and personal care,"** laying the foundation for the same stability that Busabala now enjoys.



THE GIRLS ARE BACK! Staying in school, thanks in part to our Girl Child health and hygiene programme.

Unexpected obstacles

Operating in Uganda means navigating unexpected local challenges.

Earlier this term, news of an **Ebola scare** caused widespread concern, leading to a slow start to the school term as some families

Despite these disruptions, teachers and pupils worked hard to catch up. Primary Seven candidates remained at school during the holidays to undertake remedial reading programmes and intensive examination preparation, completing several mock examination series ahead of their national tests.

Meanwhile, Destiny Junior School's athletics teams qualified for the **National Level Competition**.

In Music, Dance and Drama (MDD), Destiny achieved another remarkable milestone by **topping the entire district and municipality.**

Yet, just as success seems within reach, the school faces one of its greatest obstacles: funding.

"Your school, Destiny, is a powerhouse, always qualifying to represent the municipality at the national Level... but again, because the budgets are extremely high and financial constraints are usually extremely high, we end up not going for the Nationals," Jesca tells IRFF.



BITTERSWEET REALITY. Stand with us to ensure that girls stay in school.

How you can help us

In a bittersweet reality, the children have talent and drive, but lack the funding needed to match the best in Uganda.

The programmes are working. Communities are becoming stronger and more resilient.

But to sustain these achievements and help our schools reach the next level of success, **we urgently need your support.**

A **regular monthly gift** or a **one-off** will help Jesca and her team continue providing clean water, educational support, menstrual health resources, and opportunities for children to fulfil their potential.

Thank you for standing with us. Your generosity helps keep these transformative programmes running and creates lasting change for children, families, and communities across Uganda.

Donate to a project here

Featured Project – Easy Fundraising

Looking for a cost-free way to support us?

IRFF UK recently joined EasyFundraising, a platform used by around **2.5 million people** that has raised more than **£72 million** for charities and good causes.

The idea is simple. When you shop online, participating retailers make a small donation to IRFF UK **at no extra cost to you!**

Here's how to do it:

1. **Sign up** and select **IRFF UK (International Relief Friendship Foundation)** as your chosen charity.
2. **Download the app** or add EasyFundraising to your browser.
3. **Shop online** as normal.

Follow this** PDF guide **to get started.

Heartbreak News: The Tricycle Shop is Closing Its Doors

The Tricycle charity shop in Alton is permanently closing in late October.
Founded in 2012 by Tessa and Markus Thonett, the store was a vibrant community hub and a supportive workplace for local volunteers.
Crucially, the shop provided one-third of IRFF UK's total income.
Losing this funding jeopardizes our African humanitarian aid work.
IRFF UK needs your help more than ever. Please consider making a donation or organizing a local fundraiser to keep our vital missions alive.

Please Click here to visit our website
and **read in-depth reports** on all our projects.

Donate to a project here

Connect with IRFF UK

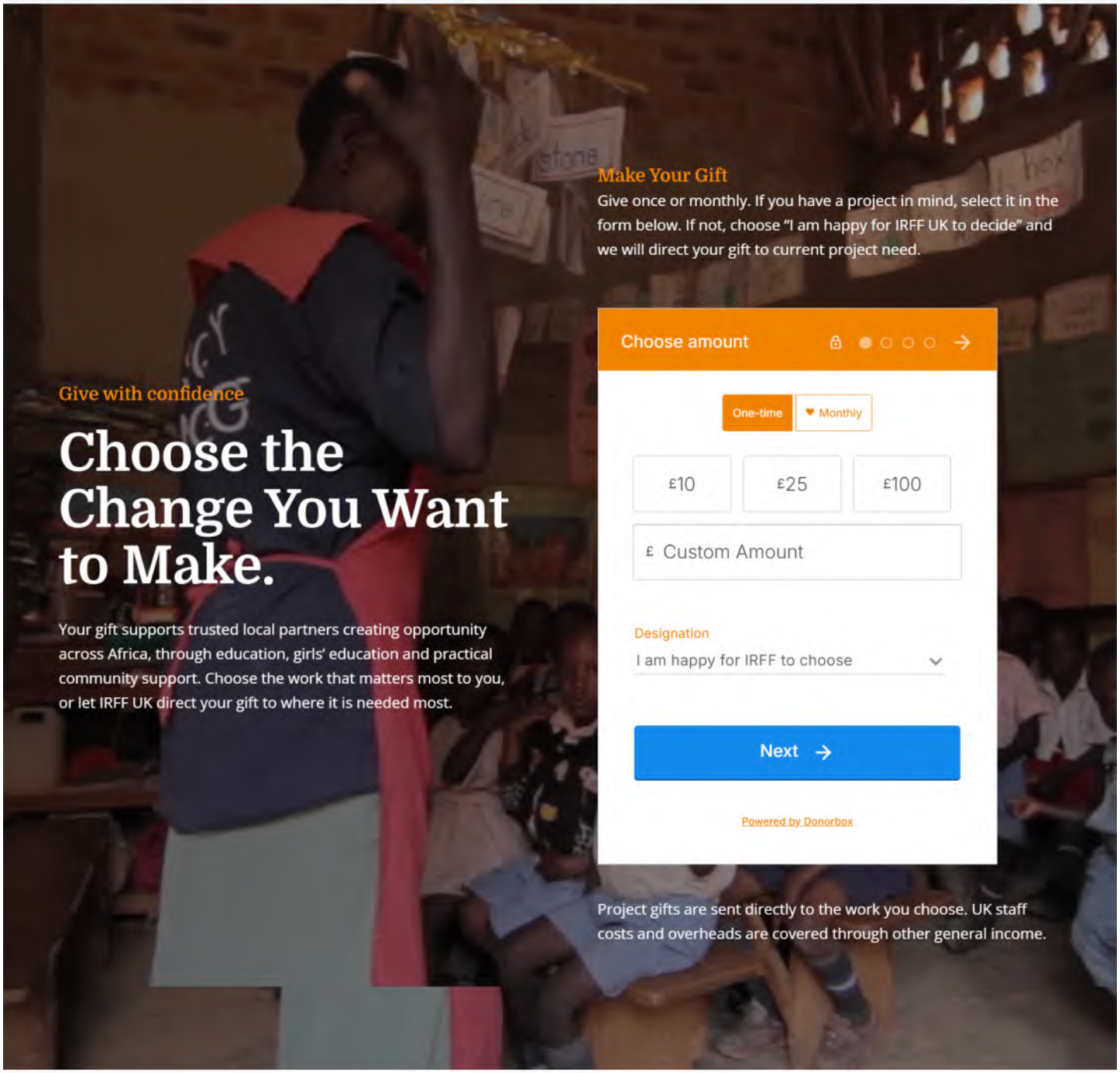
Contact us on social media or ***email us at:*** *irffukhq@ gmail,com*

Follow IRFF UK to stay close to our work and see real-time updates here:

- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Website
- Instagram

Support Our Projects

International Relief Friendship Foundation
Account number: 96497645
Sort Code: 60-05-29



Give with confidence

Choose the Change You Want to Make.

Your gift supports trusted local partners creating opportunity across Africa, through education, girls' education and practical community support. Choose the work that matters most to you, or let IRFF UK direct your gift to where it is needed most.

Make Your Gift

Give once or monthly. If you have a project in mind, select it in the form below. If not, choose "I am happy for IRFF UK to decide" and we will direct your gift to current project need.

Choose amount

One-time | Monthly

£10 £25 £100

£ Custom Amount

Designation

I am happy for IRFF to choose

Next →

Powered by Donorbox

Project gifts are sent directly to the work you choose. UK staff costs and overheads are covered through other general income.

Where would you like to help?

Support the Work That Moves You.

Each project is led by people rooted in their own community. Explore the stories below, or select your preferred project in the donation form above.

Uganda

Help Keep a School Open

Destiny Junior School in Kampala educates 207 children with 15 teachers across 10 classrooms. Regular gifts give Jesca and her team a more reliable foundation to keep children learning, fed and safe.

Meet Destiny Junior School →





Girls' Education

Help Keep Girls in School

RFF UK has supported locally led period-poverty work in **Uganda, Ghana and South Africa**. Through menstrual products, hygiene education and practical support, these projects help girls manage their periods with dignity and stay connected to education.

Give to Period Poverty →



South Africa

Support Community Food Projects

The Walmer Soup Kitchen in Gqeberha supports people experiencing severe poverty with practical, community-led care. Explore the project and choose it in the donation form if it is where you would like to help.

Explore the Soup Kitchen →



Your Gift Deserves to Be Accountable.

Choose Your Cause

Select a project in Donorbox, or allow IRFF UK to direct your gift where the current need is greatest.

See the Evidence

We receive field reports from local partners, publish annual reporting and share project updates with supporters.

Give Your Way

Give once or monthly, change or cancel a recurring gift through Donorbox, and add Gift Aid if you are eligible.



Prefer to Give by Bank Transfer?

Bank transfer is available for UK donors and can reduce payment-processing fees. Please include your name and, where possible, the project you wish to support as the payment reference so we can direct your gift correctly.

International Relief Friendship Foundation
Account number: 96497645
Sort code: 60-05-29

FAQs

Can I choose where my gift goes?

Does my project gift cover UK staff costs?

Can I give monthly or make a one-off gift?

Can I add Gift Aid?

Join Our Newsletter - Get Updates From Our Projects

Field reports, impact stories, and news from Uganda, South Africa, and Ghana — direct to your inbox.

Enter your email

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IRFF UK

IRFF UK is a registered charity (No. 281776) working in Africa since 1980.

UK costs are covered through other general income. Project gifts support the work you choose.

Our Work

- Destiny Junior School
- Building Schools for Africa
- Period Poverty
- Walmer Soup Kitchen
- Past Projects

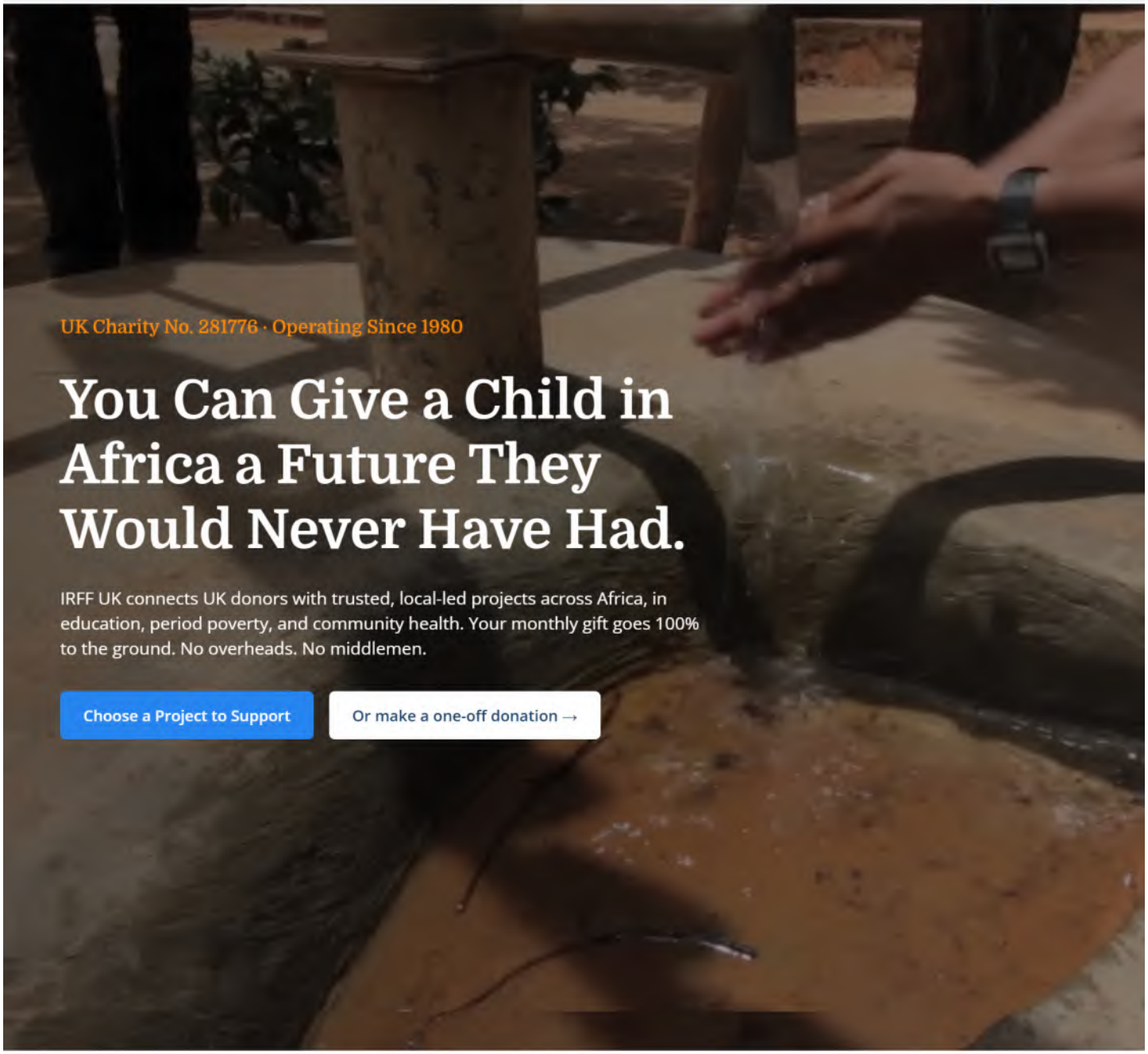
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UK Charity No. 281776 · Operating Since 1980

You Can Give a Child in Africa a Future They Would Never Have Had.

IRFF UK connects UK donors with trusted, local-led projects across Africa, in education, period poverty, and community health. Your monthly gift goes 100% to the ground. No overheads. No middlemen.

Choose a Project to Support

Or make a one-off donation →

TRUSTED BY UK DONORS FOR 40 YEARS

45+ Years of Impact

Of verified impact in Africa

100% of Project Gifts

Go directly to the work you choose to support

UK Costs Covered Separately

Through other general income sources

The Reality

The Reality

Millions of Children in Africa Are One Decision Away From a Different Life.



In rural Uganda, a child misses school because her family cannot afford the £3 term fee. In South Africa, a teenage girl stays home every month because her school has no safe toilets and no sanitary products. In Ghana, a young woman with no qualifications has no path to employment.

These are not statistics. These are the children and young people that IRFF UK's partners work with every single day.The gap between the life they have and the life they could have is not wide. It is a school place. A sanitary kit. A meal. A classroom that stays open.

That gap is something you can close.

How You Can Help

Three Ways Your Support Changes Lives

Every project below is led by a trusted local partner.
Every pound you give goes directly to them.















"We mostly have disadvantaged children with a lot of challenges at home. Destiny Junior School has become their home. With the support of IRFF, we have been able to transform the lives of the students, the community, and Uganda."

Jesca Nakamanyisa
Headteacher, Destiny Junior School, Uganda
Supported by IRFF UK since 2009

A Small Glimpse

The Numbers Behind the Mission

Every figure below comes from verified field reports and published annual accounts.

207

Children in school at Destiny Junior School today

720+

Girls supported through period poverty programmes

40+

Years as a registered UK charity

A Glimpse Into Our Past

See What Your Support Has Built

Over 40 years, IRFF UK has run more than a dozen projects across Africa. Some conclude when a community is ready to stand on its own. Others end because of circumstances beyond our control - the loss of a key leader, a global pandemic, the unpredictable realities of working in some of the world's most challenging environments.

Between 2009 and 2022, our Mobile Medical Team treated over 2,300 people for jiggers, a debilitating parasitic infection across towns and villages in rural Uganda. When we lost our project leader during the COVID-19 pandemic, the programme could not continue. But the thousands of people treated, the communities reached, and the awareness raised did not disappear with it.

See Our Completed Projects



Your Donation in Three Steps

Step 1: Choose a project

Pick the cause that matters most to you: education, period poverty, or community health.

Step 2: Give monthly or once

Set up a simple monthly gift via Donorbox, or make a one-off donation. Cancel any time.

Step 3: See the impact

Subscribe to our newsletter. We send regular updates directly from our project partners on the ground. You will know exactly what your money did.

Corporate Partners

Is Your Business Looking for a High-Impact Charity Partnership?

IRFF UK works with UK companies to deliver transparent, verifiable ESG outcomes. From funding a school IT system to sponsoring a period poverty programme, we provide full financial reporting and real-world impact data.

Explore Corporate Partnerships



Follow our Instagram

The Gap Between the Life They Have and the Life They Could Have Is Something You Can Close.

Start with £5 a month. Cancel any time. 100% goes to the project.

Donate Today

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Field reports, impact stories, and news from Uganda, South Africa, and Ghana — direct to your inbox.

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