



ALL TOGETHER
Summer 2024 Update



Charity begins
at home



ALL TOGETHER



Thank you for standing shoulder to shoulder with those living in some of the world's most marginalised communities.

Your regular gift is a vital resource for our partners around the world navigating the impacts of climate change, poverty and inequality. With your committed support, All We Can is able to walk together with talented organisations making a critical difference in their communities.

Being a part of the All Together movement sends a powerful message – that communities are not alone in their struggle against poverty and injustice. It says that you are there, walking alongside them, working together to inspire lasting change.

Working in partnership for an equitable world

At All We Can, we know that transformation is not something that can be done for someone by someone else: the process must be created and driven by the individual themselves; and owned collectively as a community. We've all heard the saying 'teach someone to fish, rather than give them a fish,' but what if the river runs dry? All We Can's partnership approach develops individuals' abilities to adapt and solve the problems that they face.

In contrast to other development charities, All We Can works in long-term partnerships with incredible local organisations, like The Self-Help Initiative For Sustainable Development (SHIFSD), to strengthen their capacity and create long-lasting, sustainable change. By working through these organisations, your support reaches and impacts many more people than if we were to work with communities directly. From designing even more impactful programmes to enhancing leadership and building financial sustainability, this approach ensures that, one day, we will no longer be needed. **Your investment in our partnership approach empowers our partners to define their own routes to success and flourish independently.**

Despite some progress in gender equity, there is still a vast underrepresentation of women

in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields worldwide. This lack of diversity and inclusion is harmful to the potential of the STEM industries. Closing the gender gap worldwide would not only improve innovation in technology but would grow economies. SHIFSD runs vocational training in areas, such as tailoring, hairdressing and even electrical engineering. An inspiring example of a woman who is challenging gender stereotypes is Lisa. Lisa is the only woman in the electrical department at SHIFSD, but she is a crucial role-model for young women and girls in her society and is paving the way for a more equitable future. You can hear more of Lisa's story on the next page. **By investing in our extraordinary partners, like SHIFSD, you are investing in a better, fairer future for communities around the world.**



Meet Lisa

“I’m from Grand Bassa, but I was born in Monrovia. I am currently living in Puebla with my parents.”

I am the last of seven children. I have four brothers and two sisters.

I graduated school in 2020. After my graduation, I decided I was interested in working in electricity so came to study on the electricity programme that SHIFSD offer.

This interest and passion of mine was inspired by one of my brothers. He has graduated now but he studied in the electrical department.

I really enjoy the programme and my lessons because I have a good instructor who explains the course content to us clearly and encourages me to do well. This programme is so crucial because I think people should learn this trade. It’s important to me that I learn this: to know how to electrify a house, and the benefits of that. Once you have power in your house, you have access to lights, the ability to charge your phone, and so many other benefits. Being in this programme has changed me as a person because I’m being encouraged by the people around me. They want us to learn a trade and for us to see our value.

'What men can do; women can do also.'

I am the only woman in the electrical department and that makes me feel proud. I'd love to encourage other women into this trade. I'd tell them that this is a good trade and that they should learn it. What men can do; women can do also. They shouldn't get into their heads that this trade is hard. It's not hard. They should learn it. As I said, what men can do, women can do. So they should remember this and do it. My message to other women and girls out there would be this: try and do something for yourself!

To support myself through this programme, I have my own business where I sell fruits. I sell bananas, seasonal fruits, and when the season comes, I also sell chestnuts. I do this so I can afford to transport myself to the programme as well as allowing me to buy the materials that I need. It feels good to make my own money, I feel good that I can be accountable to myself.

After I finish this programme, I want to be a real electrical engineer.'



Your continued support provides the source for our local partners, like SHIFSD, to inspire individuals and cultivate flourishing, resilient communities. Your gift is not just a donation; it's an investment into the futures of real people. An investment that will drive transformative change for years to come. Your steadfast commitment sends a message to organisations, like SHIFSD, that you believe in the work they do and you are here to stay. Until such a time that every individual, like Lisa, is equipped with the skills and opportunities to challenge their societies' gender norms and unlock their full potential. Together, we can create a better future for everyone.



Winnie's Story

Winnie is a graduate with a degree in Peace and Development Studies. Towards the end of her studies, she began an internship at SHIFSD which led to her being offered a permanent role. Now she trains adults who haven't had an education to read and write and she is also the Safeguarding Officer. Winnie explains why literacy programmes are so important in Liberia:

'It's important to have such programmes because, looking at our society now, there are a lot of young women, there are a lot of young men out there who are illiterate. They don't know how to read and write. They want to have their own businesses, but how can they go about doing that business? In everything you do, you should be able to at least write your name, learn how to fill in forms, do your records.'



Meet Fatuma

Whilst we are focussing in on the work of our partners in Liberia, our other incredible partners' work continues around the world. Including the work of our partner, First African Bicycle Information Organisation (FABIO), in Uganda. Your regular gift supports all of our partners to respond to the everchanging needs of their communities with continuity, ensuring transformation is sustainable and long-lasting.

'I am a 32 year old single mother of 8 children. I live in Bubugo Village, and I am a member of the Bubugo self-help savings group which I helped to found just over two years ago. Using the finances from the group, I set up my own business selling fish in Bubugo trading centre. This is my story..

FABIO found me in a bad situation. Before FABIO I would even have sauce without salt. My children were not going to school. They were willing to go to school, but we had no money to send them. I was the kind of lady who would not gather with other people. I would be fearful, and I wasn't confident to speak in public. I had no place to call home and I was raising my children on my own because my husband left.

Where FABIO found me is not where I am now. The trainings FABIO has equipped me and others with, primarily the knowledge of savings, means I am not the same as I was. FABIO makes me feel happy! I feel happy because I came from a pit. I came out of sleep. I was really low, but I no longer fear, I am no longer timid, I can work. I don't fear visitors. FABIO is the foundation.

It is FABIO who have helped me to know what I have achieved. My children are now in school, some of them boarding, and my daughter in P7 got a scholarship. Now, I can speak confidently in public. I have a home now and I am learning how to make the final touches to it. I had small capital but now my capital has increased, and I am able to make some improvements. For the three years that I have been with FABIO, my life has changed. Around the village, people now respect me, they know that I have money within the community. I have been saving and when something breaks, I am able to buy materials to fix it. I can borrow from the self-help group. My husband has also come back because he saw how well I was doing and how much I'd developed.

FABIO equipped me with skills. I would walk on foot to buy fish and they cost 6,200 shillings. When FABIO brought bicycles, I would cycle to buy the fish. Before FABIO, I didn't know how to ride a bike, in most cases it would just roll down the hill. But in time and with their help, I learnt to ride a bike. Eventually, my bike became beyond repair but I had enough money to go on a motorcycle to get the

'Now, I can speak confidently in public. I have a home now...'

fish and bring them back that way. I have learned how to work.

I began my fish selling business because my previous business wasn't yielding money. I used to sell pancakes, but I thought I'd try selling fish instead. I tried for one year before FABIO came in. At this point, I had very little capital and I'd had to go to the hospital. When I came back to the village, members told me that they'd registered me for FABIO's group. They were looking for women who were able to work and so I went. I had children to support so I knew this was something I had to do. I have been supported by the group and borrowed money since FABIO set us up. At the end of the cycle, when we break into the money, I will make sure to invest the money I get.

My hope for the future is that I can work hard, get more money, and continue to educate my children.'

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Fatuma, Uganda







The impact of *Your Support*

Your gift is vitally important, now maybe more than ever. It serves as a beacon of hope, illuminating the futures of so many individuals. It helps to provide opportunities to learn crucial skills and develop meaningful careers, despite economic concerns. By investing in people long-term, communities are empowered to break the cycle of poverty and lead sustainable, fulfilled lives.

However, we can't ignore the challenges that we, ourselves, are facing, living in the midst of the cost of living crisis. We understand that every donation is a sacrifice, and we are incredibly grateful for the generosity that you have shown during these difficult times.

We are so grateful for the generous commitment you have made to All We Can and our local partners. Your support is helping to build the capacity of partners, like SHIFSD, so they can reach even more individuals with their initiatives. It is the fuel, that empowers individuals, like Lisa, to challenge stereotypes and chart their own paths to success. It is creating a better, fairer and more equitable future for communities around the world. Together, we are working towards a future where Every Person's Potential is Fulfilled.

Thank you!

My details

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

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Please do not gift aid your donation if you are giving on behalf of a church or organisation.

Please complete this form and return it using the envelope attached to: All We Can, 25 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SF, UK Alternatively, you can make your gift online at allwecan.org.uk/alltogether



Image: Winnie © Luther Mafalleh/All We Can

ALL TOGETHER



Every person's potential fulfilled

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