ALL TOGETHER

Summer 2021 Update

Change happens when we all work together

ALL WE CAN

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

Your regular gift is more vital than ever during this ongoing global crisis. With your committed support, All We Can is working with talented local partners to help the most vulnerable as they continue to face coronavirus (Covid-19) and look towards a brighter future.

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, standing alongside them, working together to inspire lasting change.

Your impact over the last year

Since September 2020, we've seen how the humble bicycle can be a powerful tool for development – helping young people access education, and break the cycle of poverty.

Your ongoing kindness has meant that young people like Nawalat, Eria, and Andrew have all had the opportunity to unlock their God-given potential by using a bicycle to quickly and easily travel to school. During a challenging year, you've also stood alongside some of Uganda's most vulnerable communities in love, solidarity and support. But that's not all…

…thanks to your generous regular gift, All We Can's local partner FABIO has:

Helped 100 young people from rural Uganda, by providing bicycles so that they can access school. These bicycles have also been a vital resource to vulnerable families during the pandemic.

Supported more than 1,200 households during Uganda's lockdown, by providing regularly sanitised bicycles to rural communities when public transport was banned, allowing people to visit health centres and attend vital medical appointments.

Trained 16 local mechanics to repair bicycles – providing them with vital skills and a sustainable source of income, and ensuring the bikes will be used for many years to come.

Thank you for helping change begin with a bicycle!

Cover image: Bernard, pictured on his adapted cargo bike in Jinja.

As many of us here in the UK tentatively hope for better days ahead – a chance to reunite with loved ones, or be back together with our church communities – our global neighbours still face a challenging journey towards recovery and resilience. This is particularly true for communities in Uganda, who have recently entered another period of tightening Covid-19 restrictions. Schools have closed, public transport has been banned, non-essential businesses have been forced to shut down, and a curfew has been imposed from 7pm – 6am.

This poses several difficulties for FABIO, who have sadly had to pause their activities helping children access education via bicycles whilst local schools are closed. Instead, they are helping parents and families keep their bicycles well-maintained, as bikes become an essential means of travel once more now that public transport is banned. All We Can will continue to work with FABIO to support communities in rural Uganda throughout Covid-19 – and beyond – thanks to your ongoing support.

A prayer for Uganda

Please hold FABIO, and All We Can's other local partners in Uganda in your prayers.

'I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord, in the land of the living.' **Psalm 27:13**

Loving God,

God for all, amongst the challenges facing our global neighbours in Uganda, we cling to our faith in your goodness, in your presence with us during the hardest of times.

God of grace, this day, we pray for the people of Uganda, for the amazing work of FABIO, tirelessly seeking to bring hope to the communities they work with - despite the restrictions of lockdowns and curfew, despite the anxiety and uncertainty of living in a pandemic.

God of hope, this day, comfort all who live in fear, all who are missing out on education, all who are shut off from essential resources, all who are grieving.

God of life, show us how to play our part in bringing about your kingdom of justice and joy.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Image: Bicycles provided to local children by FABIO, All We Can's local partner in Uganda, pictured outside a school in Uganda.

Bernard's Story

Innovation and inclusivity are at the heart of All We Can's local partner FABIO's work in Uganda. By seeing bicycles as a tool for development – not just a means of transport – they are helping change the story of people's lives in a myriad of wonderful ways.

Image : Bernard smiles outside his home in Jinja.

Bernard is just one person who has seen his life transformed thanks to FABIO's innovative approach. After his father sadly passed away in 2018, Bernard, an entrepreneurial young man living in the city of Jinja, became responsible for caring for his younger sisters. 'Life was really hard' he shared. 'I tried to look for a job… at times even getting enough to eat was difficult for the family and myself.'

Bernard began a smoothie and fruit juice business to help support his family. Business wasn't easy– Bernard struggled to produce enough juice with his blender, and the quality of his juice and smoothies were poor because he was unable to keep them cold. He was transporting his produce in a jerry can.

FABIO first met Bernard when he visited their offices to sell his smoothies and juice. Noticing his flair for business, they worked together with him to provide a unique cargo-bike. By focusing on innovation, and examining how a bicycle could be adapted to support Bernard's requirements, this practical support helped change Bernard's life. With plenty of room for storage at the front of the bicycle, he could easily transport his juices and smoothies around town, and reach potential customers.

> *'I am now saving to buy land. I am looking forward to starting a juice bar, so that I can employ other youths like me.'*
> **Bernard**

With an adapted cargo-bike, life began to improve rapidly for Bernard. As his profits grew, he was able to invest in coolers and a juicer – ensuring his business is sustainable, and can keep going from strength to strength. He has also been able to help his older sister out with tuition fees, and support his younger sister to begin school – something he is especially proud of. 'It feels really great because I remember the times when we used to eat beans every day and only once a day. Now they can have food, they can have three meals a day, and eat what they want.'

Image : Bernard cycles away with his adapted cargo bicycle full of fresh smoothies and fruit juice.

Bernard has big dreams for the future – all thanks to the support and belief of FABIO. Your ongoing support enables All We Can to keep walking in partnership with FABIO, and strengthen and grow their innovative, inclusive approach. Thank you for helping be a part of transformation for people like Bernard – and many more resilient, hardworking individuals like him all over the globe.

Taking the Next Steps

As we come to the end of our year-long journey with our friends in Butagaya, we are thrilled to introduce you to the community in Nkayi, Zimbabwe, who you will be hearing from in your All Together updates from September.

For farmers like Vaiter (pictured) in Nkayi, Zimbabwe, climate change and the impact of Covid-19 have conspired to make daily life ever harder.

In a dry, arid region, where rainfall is often not sufficient to grow enough crops to eat, making ends meet is a real challenge. These difficulties have only got harder over the past year, as Covid-19 has prevented farmers from visiting markets to sell their produce, and accessing vital services has become a critical issue.

Now, more than ever, we must stand alongside people living in vulnerable and marginalised communities. From September, you'll discover how your regular support is helping families like Vaiter's – and others across the globe – to take their next steps, and embrace their full potential.

Image: Vaiter holds a kid goat which she has reared in Nkayi, Zimbabwe.
Image: Tendai Marima/All We Can.

Extraordinary Gifts for all occasions

Are you looking for the perfect gift for someone special? Don't buy them socks, chocolates, or flowers – give them a bespoke, personalised gift which changes lives.

Our new online Extraordinary Gifts shop allows you to create a customised card that is the perfect gift for any occasion – birthdays, graduation, anniversaries and much more. They can also be a meaningful way to send sympathy, or celebrate and honour the life of someone extraordinary.

Every card you order helps our local partners transform lives. From helping families in rural Zimbabwe access clean and safe water, to supporting teenage mothers in Malawi to return to school, the Extraordinary Gifts you order will make an incredible impact on vulnerable communities. To find out more and order your cards today, visit **gifts.allwecan.org.uk.**

Pre-order your Harvest resources

You can take the next step in your journey as a church, a small group, or an individual, by ordering All We Can's Harvest resources today.

By using All We Can's resources, you'll be a part of the change that is happening – for Vaiter (pictured), her family, and communities like hers around the world.

There are worship resources, ideas for children and youth groups, school materials, prayer ideas, posters, videos and giving envelopes.

Inspire your church or youth group today – order 'The Next Steps' Harvest resources at **allwecan.org.uk/nextstepsresources.**

Image: Vaiter, a farmer, stands outside her home in Nkayi, Zimbabwe.
Image: Tendai Marima/All We Can

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