



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Tremendous Growth and Positive Change





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A LETTER FROM THE
Founder and Executive Director

Dear Friends,

With great pleasure, I present to you CorpsAfrica's 2021-2022 Annual Report highlighting the impact and accomplishments of the remarkable CorpsAfrica Volunteers over the past year of service, as well as our ambitious plans for the future.

CorpsAfrica is dedicated to ensuring Africa's youth are viewed as problem-solvers, not a problem to be solved. We work tirelessly to provide youth with the opportunity to serve rural communities, listening to and working alongside community members to support their development. Service creates a symbiotic relationship between Volunteers and their communities. Volunteers gain a deeper understanding of their home countries, community dynamics, development, and themselves, while communities gain a trusted counterpart to support their vision for development by facilitating projects, participating in community activities, and connecting them to outside resources.

A transformational partnership with Mastercard Foundation has allowed us to expand efforts in three critical areas:

**STRENGTHENING THE ORGANIZATION, SCALING THE PROGRAM,
AND BUILDING SUSTAINABILITY.**

All of this is possible because of the support of our generous partners and donors, the trust of the communities and local governments, and the exceptional work of the CorpsAfrica Volunteers and staff in Morocco, Senegal, Malawi, Rwanda, Ghana, and Kenya.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support of our shared commitment to African youth and rural communities.

Sincerely,



Liz Fanning

Founder and Executive Director
CorpsAfrica





"I loved every minute I spent with my community. They helped me discover their culture, life, and their difficulties and struggles. Also, I loved the time I spent with the kids, learning, dancing, and singing. Being with the children for the first time made me feel unjudged when I was working. I had found a new freedom. Freedom of anonymity in a new home."

— **Aziza El Azizi,**
CorpsAfrica/Maroc Volunteer



"CorpsAfrica took me out of my comfort zone in the best way. Through this experience, I learned so much. I never thought I could facilitate and manage a project and project finances on my own. My public speaking skills improved, and I can confidently stand in front of people and deliver the intended message to them without a doubt or a stutter. I learned project planning and designing. Brainstorming project ideas, budgeting, proposal writing, and implementing a project from the ground up are not easy. They require focus, commitment, and hard work. My service taught me all this, and I will forever be grateful."

— **Sellah Kantayeni,**
CorpsAfrica Volunteer

CorpsAfrica: Africa-Led Development Through Civic Leadership

CorpsAfrica
trains young African
leaders to empower
local communities
and drive change
in their own lives.

CorpsAfrica works to shift Africa's development away from dependence on external aid by putting young Africans in the driver's seat to fight poverty and help communities solve their own challenges. With 60 percent of Africa's population under 24 years old and 60 percent of them unemployed, there is powerful untapped potential for growth. CorpsAfrica provides youth with an opportunity to apply their education, build critical thinking and problem solving skills, and learn about their countries and themselves through a transformative service experience where they live within the communities they serve.

CorpsAfrica trains young, educated Africans to become leaders with humility, empathy, and effectiveness. The program starts with intense experiential training that equips Volunteers with tools and skills for community-led problem solving, such as Human-Centered Design and Asset-Based Community Development.





Volunteers enter their communities with no agenda—having all the tools necessary to facilitate a range of projects, but no expectation of what those projects will be. Their most important role is that of a listener. They engage people in conversations and facilitate community meetings, gaining the people’s trust and understanding, while also identifying and addressing changing and complex local needs in education, health, small business development, urban planning and infrastructure, agriculture, the environment, and other sectors.

Through their service, CorpsAfrica Volunteers engage communities to implement and manage their own development projects in collaboration with a broad network of development partners and a commitment to evaluation, transparency, and accountability. This improves the local knowledge base and independence of communities while building Volunteers’ foundations for successful and purposeful careers. By doing so, CorpsAfrica helps break cycles of poverty, youth unemployment, and aid dependency in Africa. CorpsAfrica is empowering the next generation of African leaders to drive positive change in their communities and beyond.



ORIGIN STORY

CorpsAfrica was founded in 2011 by Liz Fanning, a former Peace Corps Volunteer, who launched this initiative with the goal of turning over community development efforts to local changemakers. During her service, Liz was approached by young Moroccans who wanted to be Peace Corps Volunteers so that they could help people in their own country, but she had to tell them it was only for Americans. Liz started CorpsAfrica to celebrate and build on the enormous success of the Peace Corps by offering a similarly transformative experience to young Africans, giving them the chance they deserve to be a part of the solution and to find their place in the world.

The 2021-2022 service year has been one of tremendous growth and positive change for CorpsAfrica. As an organization, we have grown in depth and breadth. In Morocco, Rwanda, Malawi, and Senegal, we deepened our impact by expanding the number of passionate and dedicated Volunteers, growing the staff, creating new connections with development partners and government entities, and implementing highly impactful community projects. We developed systems to closely monitor and track our impact, facilitate collaboration across country offices, improve and codify staff and Volunteer training, and raise our profile across Africa. With the establishment of new offices in Ghana and Kenya, we also embarked on an exciting new phase of expansion and began our first Volunteer deployments to new host communities in both countries.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR:

- We added two fully-staffed country programs, **Ghana** and **Kenya**, and continue thriving programs in Morocco, Senegal, Malawi, and Rwanda
- **113 Volunteers** completed their service in the last cohort, and **170 Volunteers** were selected from **6,267 applications** to serve in next year's cohort
- Country offices successfully hosted their first annual "**Project Demo Day**" events where Volunteers pitched their projects "Shark Tank-style" to secure new funding from local philanthropic and business leaders
- We launched **CorpsAfrica Green** to help communities address climate change, **CorpsAfrica Pink** for women and girls, and **CorpsAfrica Blue** for water issues
- Our founder, Liz Fanning, received the prestigious **JFK Service Award** from the Peace Corps
- For alumni, we launched a **matching scholarship program** and an "**Entrepreneurship Incubator**" to invest in their job-creating ideas



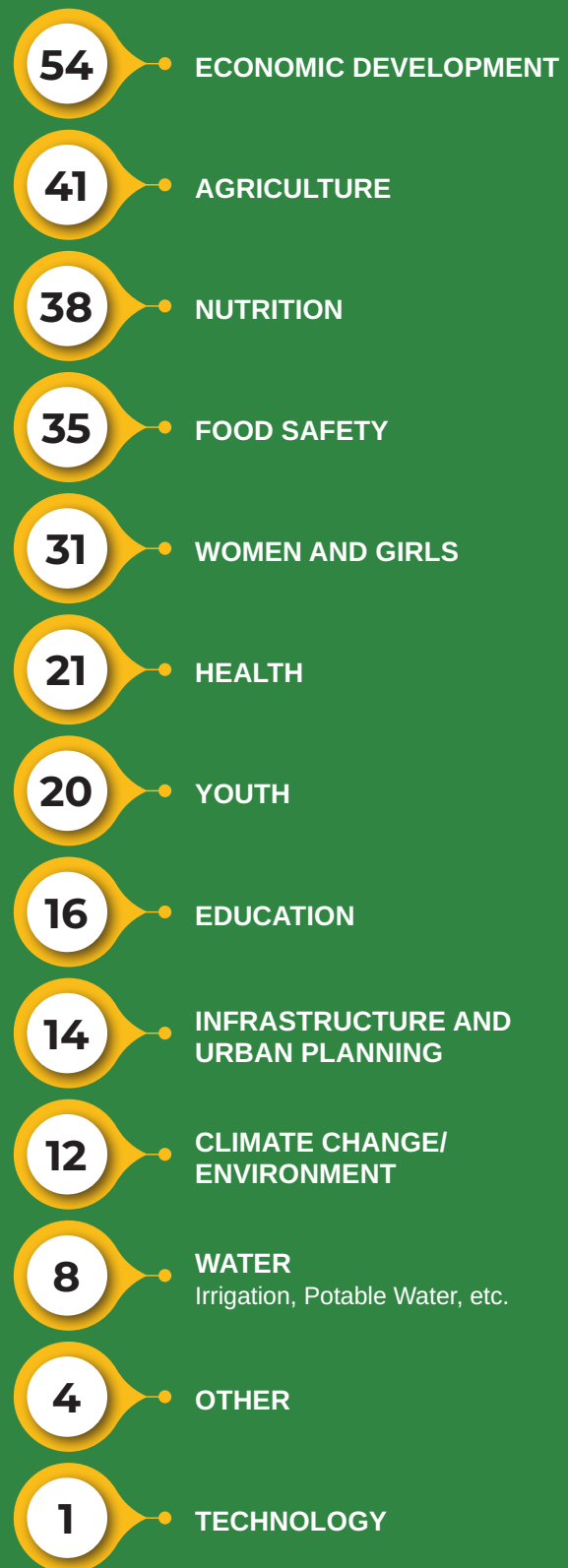
Community members in Rulindo District, Rwanda cannot hide their happiness when their avocado seedlings are ready to be planted after starting from seeds months before. CorpsAfrica Volunteer Anaclet Muhire worked with the community to establish nursery beds for 2,500 avocado seedlings.

- We were recognized as one of the most active volunteer organizations in the youth innovation space by the Association of Young Water and Sanitation Professionals of Senegal
- We made special efforts to reach community members living with disabilities in order to enhance their quality of life, access to healthcare, and opportunities to earn income

None of this could have been accomplished without the incredible support of Mastercard Foundation, OCP Group, and our many partners who have shared their resources, experience, and expertise under the common understanding that collective action leads to more powerful, sustained, and far-reaching impacts than could ever be accomplished alone. Working together with rural African communities, we are helping to realize a vision of African-led development, ushering in the mindset change that will lead to the next generation of empowered young Africans prepared to invest in themselves, their communities, and their countries.



PRIMARY PROJECT SECTORS:



Note: Some projects impact multiple sectors and are included in the totals for each.

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHT

Morocco



1,163

DIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

2,221

INDIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

25

VOLUNTEERS ACROSS SITES

93%

OF VOLUNTEERS FELT THEIR TRAINING PREPARED THEM TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PRIMARY PROJECTS

42

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ENGAGED

"A mother named Aicha told me, 'I helped my little son write numbers. I am so proud of myself!'. This past year, our primary focus was on women's empowerment. More than half of the Volunteers were engaged in literacy classes and other activities for women. Projects included creating a carpet cooperative, buying looms and wool for women to start a rug business, building a classroom to use for literacy tutoring, workshops on women's rights in Moroccan law, and providing equipment for women to run a bakery."

— **Mohamed Mhmmoudi,**
CorpsAfrica/Maroc Director

PRIMARY PROJECT SECTORS:

6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5

YOUTH

4

EDUCATION

4

WOMEN AND GIRLS

4

WATER
Irrigation, Potable Water, etc.

3

AGRICULTURE

2

HEALTH

1

INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN PLANNING

1

NUTRITION



“Volunteering with CorpsAfrica allows me to connect to my country and make it a better place. Even helping with the smallest tasks can make a real difference in the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need. Dedicating my time as a Volunteer helped me make new friends, expand my network, boost my social skills, and provided me the opportunity to practice and develop my personal and professional skills.”

— **Asmae Amechnoug**,
CorpsAfrica Volunteer

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Amalou Ikkiss Cooperative

Ikkiss is a large, ancient community known for its abundance of cherry and walnut trees, but the people suffer from malnutrition and a lack of necessities and economic opportunities. Due to this, most men and youth leave their loved ones to find work in cities, returning home only on religious holidays.

In 2022, a group of women from the community began to work alongside CorpsAfrica Volunteer Oumaima Elmoujahid to realize their dream of improving their lives and supporting their families by utilizing knowledge and skills inherited from their elders. The group came together to form the only women’s cooperative in the Inman Valley specializing in carpets, pillows, and poufs.

To help make their dream a reality, Oumaima explained each step along the way, gathered input and consensus through group meetings, helped write the cooperative’s bylaws, opened their bank account, assigned administrative roles, and familiarized the women with important government entities and reporting procedures. She also taught literacy classes and connected the women to resources like trainings from the High Atlas Foundation, a Moroccan NGO focused on women’s empowerment.

After months of construction, and with the help of funding from CorpsAfrica and labor from local workers, the women’s cooperative moved into its new home where they immediately started fulfilling their first order. The Amalou Ikkiss Cooperative was thus created by ambitious local women who challenged the stereotypes about women in rural areas and showed that they can make a change in their lives. Their commitment and dedication motivated others to join, and the team has grown to 16 faithful, hard-working women.



COUNTRY SPOTLIGHT

Senegal



2,020

DIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

4,763

INDIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

29

VOLUNTEERS ACROSS SITES

100%

OF VOLUNTEERS FELT THEIR TRAINING PREPARED THEM TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PRIMARY PROJECTS

29

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ENGAGED

"With the support of Mastercard Foundation, we aimed to confirm our leadership position as the most effective volunteer and development organization on the ground in Senegal. As such, we have participated in and implemented several innovative initiatives that have demonstrated to our development partners how, through CorpsAfrica service, young people bring real solutions to major problems in Africa."

— Mareme Ndour,
CorpsAfrica/Senegal Deputy Director

PRIMARY PROJECT SECTORS:





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Aminta Faye

Alumna Aminta Faye served in the village of Medina Kan El Mali as part of CorpsAfrica/Senegal Group 4.

Why did you choose to become a CorpsAfrica Volunteer?

I've followed CorpsAfrica's work since its beginnings in Senegal. I told myself that I wanted to join as soon as I completed my studies because this organization was in alignment with my professional aspirations. I was studying

cooperation and development, meaning community-oriented development—which is what became most important to me. My time as a Volunteer became one of the most transformative experiences in my professional journey.

Tell us about your CorpsAfrica service.

I was versatile, because as a Volunteer you won't limit yourself to a single activity. You work in education, agriculture, training, etc. I helped women by training them in organizational dynamics and we decided to establish small-scale projects with assistance from Mastercard Foundation, which provided a grant. There was additionally an initiative specifically for men. We established a production union for bleach and soap, which is still functioning today.

What impact has CorpsAfrica had on you?

After my service, I had quite a number of opportunities thanks to CorpsAfrica. The network was already established—you have mentors and alumni colleagues. I gravitate more toward community development now. I had many opportunities to work, notably with a state-run organization. I was recruited and offered a contract, which they renewed. Today you need to be versatile because education does not guarantee employment. Through CorpsAfrica, you gain competencies in transformation, training, and you can capitalize on these skills and use them to benefit communities.

"Over the past year, I have learned that there can be no development without the contribution of the community. Communities must be the actors of their development and for this, they must be equipped through tools such as ABCD and HCD."

— Malamine Badiane,
CorpsAfrica Volunteer



COUNTRY SPOTLIGHT

Malawi



1,164

DIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

9,553

INDIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

31

VOLUNTEERS ACROSS SITES

100%

OF VOLUNTEERS FELT THEIR TRAINING PREPARED THEM TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PRIMARY PROJECTS

15

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ENGAGED

"2022 has been a year of growth, with the successful completion of Volunteers from Cohort 5 to a larger new Cohort 6, which includes four Exchange Volunteers. We also have a new team of staff members including a Deputy Director, and Communications and Training Coordinators. We're launching the Junior CorpsAfrica program this year and many other exciting initiatives. It has been an honor to serve my fellow country women and men, and I look forward to serving further. Together we can, and together we will."

— Arthur Nkosi, Director,
CorpsAfrica/Malawi

PRIMARY PROJECT SECTORS:

13

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8

INFRASTRUCTURE AND URBAN PLANNING

7

AGRICULTURE

7

NUTRITION

6

FOOD SAFETY

6

WOMEN AND GIRLS

5

HEALTH

4

EDUCATION

4

YOUTH

3

OTHER

2

CLIMATE CHANGE/ ENVIRONMENT

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
Joseph Katsala

SERVICE OVERVIEW

CorpsAfrica has been a life-changing experience for me. There are many things I either didn't know or knew little of, that serving in Karonga taught me in depth. I learned a new language and gained practical experience in project design and management, as well as monitoring and evaluation. When I arrived at my site, I was intimidated by the sheer vastness of things I didn't know, but quickly started to get the hang of everything with the help of my host family, who introduced me to everyone in the community and took care of me. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to work with people in the communities solving real problems.

ACTIVITIES

While serving in Majaliro, Karonga, we worked on a number of activities with my community. Before starting the primary project, we worked on Covid-19 prevention, distributing soap, facemasks, and handwash stations (placed at strategic community meeting points such as schools). This initiative impacted about 800 individuals. Around that time in February



of 2022, we started a reforestation initiative planting 315 trees in areas prone to erosion, positively impacting the Leha River watershed. I also assisted a local church in establishing a branch focused on disaster relief, which would serve as a prototype for the rest of the country. Our main project focused on improving Early Childhood Development in Majaliro by constructing a classroom for Manyanya Community-based Childcare Center, training its caregivers, and providing teaching and learning materials, a project that was estimated to impact 90 kids among the three villages in the Majaliro area.



"I learned quite a lot about development. First, it sets your mind free as you begin to think through the projects, initiatives involved in the process, and interactions with the community development players. Secondly, community-led development builds a sense of ownership in the community members as it is mostly them implementing the projects; in this regard, they begin to develop their own initiatives on how they can ably assist themselves in the long run."

— **Lloyd Nyirenda,**
CorpsAfrica Volunteer

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHT

Rwanda



4,500

DIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

22,500

INDIRECT PRIMARY PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

28

VOLUNTEERS ACROSS SITES

100%

OF VOLUNTEERS FELT THEIR TRAINING PREPARED THEM TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PRIMARY PROJECTS

25

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ENGAGED

"This year's primary focus was empowerment of communities and local leadership as well as collaboration with leadership. We started many initiatives, such as the local leaders training (1,476 local leaders participated) on HCD/ ABCD. Volunteers successfully implemented 30 primary projects that are proving to be sustainable. By far, the most important impact is the change that is easily seen in the people served. They now have a purposeful life, take part in community activities, and are eager to get out of poverty."

— Eustochie Sezibera,
CorpsAfrica/Rwanda Director

PRIMARY PROJECT SECTORS:

24

AGRICULTURE

24

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

22

NUTRITION

20

FOOD SAFETY

12

WOMEN AND GIRLS

10

YOUTH

9

CLIMATE CHANGE/
ENVIRONMENT

7

HEALTH

6

EDUCATION

2

INFRASTRUCTURE AND
URBAN PLANNING

1

OTHER



all his savings, and sold part of his land for medical treatment, only to find the disease could not be cured. He was stigmatized in his community and struggled to maintain his mental health.

When Angelique was deployed in his community, she engaged Emmanuel and included him in all activities. Angelique's listening ears made him feel appreciated and valued. Despite his physical limitations, his presence is now valued across the community because he has good ideas and always seeks to boost his peers' morale. When his community was making kitchen gardens, he kept up everyone's spirits while helping to cut the bags used for construction. When the community was preparing a nursery bed, he helped pack plastic bags and sort seeds. This was the turning point where he realized that despite discouragement from some people, he was indeed useful.

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT
Emmanuel Maniriho

Emmanuel Maniriho from Bihinga village is 32 years old and lives with a disability. He lived in despair before Angelique's deployment to his village of Akabazungu because he could not fully provide for his family's needs, as he was earning only \$8 a month from a low yield of agricultural crops.

Emmanuel was a mason but lost the use of his left leg when he became ill 15 years ago. Since then, he lost his job, spent

Emmanuel is a beneficiary of the livestock project implemented by Angelique. He has come a long way and now feels he is living a purposeful life. He gets manure from his pig, selling some and applying the rest to his farm, and he now harvests six times more crops than before. As a result, his income has increased from \$8 to \$72 per month.

Emmanuel's transformation is concrete evidence of sustainable change, and serves as a model of positive commitment for all to learn from when he tells his story at public gatherings and ceremonies.



"There are many reasons why people are poor. It is better to listen to everyone and understand where to start before you try to help them. Active listening, persistence, and humility are the tools I used to empower my community to solve different problems caused by poverty or that can cause poverty. I lived with them. I worked with them. And what they have exceeds what they need from the outside."

— **Angelique Nyirabizeyimana,**
 CorpsAfrica Volunteer



SCALING UP

Planting Roots in Ghana and Kenya



Since the first Volunteers began their service in 2013, the dream of CorpsAfrica's Founder, Liz Fanning, has been to provide opportunities for young Africans across the continent to serve in remote communities in their own countries. After nearly a decade of testing the CorpsAfrica model, measuring success, learning from failure, and incorporating promising new development approaches in Morocco, Senegal, Malawi, and Rwanda, we are excited to announce the inauguration of CorpsAfrica/Ghana and CorpsAfrica/Kenya.

In July 2022, we welcomed Mr. Moses Cofie as Director of CorpsAfrica/Ghana and Dr. Patricia Kingori-Mugendi as Director of CorpsAfrica/Kenya. Both Directors started to build their programs quickly: registering the NGO, hiring staff, recruiting board members, and most importantly, interviewing candidates to become the first CorpsAfrica Volunteers in their countries. The first cohorts of Volunteers have now successfully completed their Pre-Service Training and are settling into their new homes and integrating with host communities.



"The mission of CorpsAfrica resonates with my personal pursuit for a solution that ensures that a people regain dignity in themselves, find self-worth, recognize God's abundant endowment upon their lives, take charge of their immediate circumstances, and become truly self-sufficient. That solution, I believed (and still believe) would be the seed for true sustainable development of any sort."

— Moses Cofie



"One of the most potent catalysts for socioeconomic transformation is the latent potential inherent in our communities. CorpsAfrica Volunteers facilitate the discovery and appreciation of community assets to resolve myriad challenges using Human-Centered Design methodology, therefore contributing to community empowerment, resilience, upliftment, and human dignity."

— Dr. Patricia Kingori-Mugendi



A commitment of young people to serve and to value themselves

COVID-19 Response Efforts Continue

The Covid-19 pandemic tested the durability of social safety nets across the globe. Often lacking adequate healthcare facilities and disconnected from centralized communication channels, rural African communities were in an especially vulnerable position when the pandemic hit. At the time, CorpsAfrica Volunteers had already been at their sites for several months, and they bravely chose to stay and face the challenge of becoming first responders at the frontlines of a global crisis. Initially pivoting from their primary projects to meet the needs of the moment, Volunteers extended their service to resume these projects and enhance community preparedness for the next major disruption.

Facing uncertainty and an invisible threat, Volunteers placed trust in their training and their own abilities to educate, model good safety behavior, and work with locals on the understanding that—even in a time of social distancing—a felt sense of care for one another and collaboration on community-driven development would make for the best outcomes. Having gained the trust of their communities, Volunteers quickly became sources of accurate information about Covid-19 and critical points of connection with government agencies and development partners, which enabled the coordinated distribution of critical materials.

Volunteers hosted Covid-19 sensitization meetings, enlisted community leaders to help disseminate information, and routinely checked on people. Complementing this effort, through a partnership with Mastercard Foundation,



COVID-19 EFFORTS OVER 2021-2022 SERVICE

853 People contacted Volunteers for information about Covid-19

1,105 Community members checked on by Volunteers

3,603 Face masks distributed

223 Community members received food from Volunteers

797 Bars of soap distributed to help prevent the spread of Covid-19

172 Hand-washing stations distributed by Volunteers

30,452 Community members educated on Covid-19 preventive measures

5,713 Flyers/posters distributed on safety measures

52 Kitchen gardens established as reliable sources of food

8 Newly-built latrines supported by Volunteers

Volunteers each received \$1,000 microgrants, which helped not only to secure lifesaving resources such as facemasks, soap, handwashing stations and other equipment, but also enabled the building of latrines and kitchen gardens, the purchase of megaphones for community meetings, tablets to help students continue their education, and the establishment of income-generating activities such as bleach-making and women- and youth-run farming operations. Volunteers estimated that the microgrants impacted 294,040 people. Projects enhanced critical infrastructure and provided economic opportunity, and we are confident they will continue to positively impact communities for years to come.

Covid-19 exposed the weak points in every society, and its negative impacts played out accordingly. By the same token, societies with resilient infrastructure systems fared better in nearly every way. Preparedness for the next crisis will depend heavily on reinforcing these elements.



Co-Creating Pathways to Dignified Employment

Volunteers reported **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** as the most common sector for projects initiated this year.

The importance of economic resilience was deeply underscored by the Covid-19 pandemic, which sent shockwaves through global economic systems that still reverberate. The worst effects have been felt in high-poverty communities with fragile economic infrastructure and low or unreliable employment. The crisis also reminded us of the close relationships among employment, health, education, and access to basic resources. With a sensitivity to this dynamic, CorpsAfrica staff and Volunteers are taking a holistic approach to the issue of employment, considering the impacts of factors in daily life and in places of work on community members' job preparedness and job sustainability.

CorpsAfrica Volunteers use Human-Centered Design and Asset-Based Community Development approaches to help communities identify the most urgent problems and assets that can be utilized to help solve those problems, generate income, and improve quality of life. By immersing themselves in community life and getting to know the communities' perspectives, Volunteers learn that job preparedness/skill-building, job satisfaction, and respect in the workplace are strong indicators of the long-term viability of jobs and

enterprises. Thus, they aim to deploy holistic strategies that garner higher and sustained rates of employment and business success, including:

- Conducting job training and building skillsets to enhance job readiness
- Leading workshops on organizational dynamics, and business and financial management
- Generating community buy-in for projects that create reliable income streams and have a high likelihood of generating long-term income
- Creating or restarting community savings schemes
- Fostering respect for all, especially women and youth, in the workplace
- Closing the wage gap across genders and ages
- Easing laborious on-the-job activities and expanding production by introducing innovations and creating efficiencies
- Encouraging community investment in locally-owned business ventures and a 'virtuous cycle' of local reinvestment

CorpsAfrica Monitoring and Evaluation staff is carefully tracking the progress of job creation, enhancement, and maintenance through monthly surveys, prioritizing good data capture on new, improved, and sustained jobs. Through a partnership with Mastercard Foundation's Young Africa Works initiative, CorpsAfrica Volunteers' intervention over the 2021-2022 service year had the following employment impacts on community members:

1,070	TOTAL NEWLY EMPLOYED
1,662	TOTAL IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT
1,792	TOTAL SUSTAINED EMPLOYMENT

The contextual dynamics surrounding employment opportunities in rural Africa invite us to also consider and promote the creation of other types of work, such as part-time jobs, which make up a large share of the jobs (including those performed by women with young children) that exist in some communities and can bring in critical income for families. Other jobs, such as in agriculture, are seasonal or weather-dependent. In another place, many community-identified projects require temporary workers while also generating new and sustained employment down the road.

Lastly, it is true in every society that people cannot work without having their basic needs met. This reality comes into sharp focus in rural African communities, where infrastructure is fragile and access to basic resources is not guaranteed. **Hence, we recognize that properly functioning sanitation systems, healthcare facilities, schools, and agricultural systems are critical elements necessary to ensure a "ready" workforce.** Infrastructure projects identified by host communities have the double value of creating immediate occupation through their implementation and enhancing the fitness of community members for employment and entrepreneurial pursuits.



Promoting Local Philanthropy

In April and May of 2022, country offices hosted their first annual Project Demo Day events where a select group of Volunteers in each country “pitched” their communities’ small-scale, high-impact development projects “Shark Tank-style” to an audience of representatives from local philanthropic, government, and business communities. Each Volunteer was given four minutes to introduce themselves and their host sites, discuss the community-identified problem they proposed to address, and explain the project plan, budget and team. Audience members were able to ask questions, then bid on their favorite projects and provide funds on the spot.

In addition to the prospect of funding, the events provide unique opportunities for Volunteers to expand their professional networks and develop their confidence and presentation skills. Project Demo Days also serve as a great opportunity to raise CorpsAfrica’s profile, forge new connections within regional development communities, and foster a culture of locally-funded initiatives and African philanthropy.

The success of the inaugural events hinged on effective collaboration across country offices, Volunteer feedback and training from staff and peers, generous funding from Mastercard Foundation, support from local government agencies, and the dedication of our Communications Officers.

- **15 total projects** were presented: 4 from Malawi, 3 from Morocco, 2 from Rwanda, and 6 from Senegal
- **20%** of projects were funded to **100%** from Project Demo Day; **47%** of projects were funded to over **50%** from Project Demo Day
- **87%** of Volunteers felt they gained confidence as a result of their participation; **93%** felt their public speaking and/or presentation skills were improved
- **87%** of Volunteers rated their experience of the event as “Extremely Positive”

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Sewing and Handcrafts Skills Training Center



A project of the Rwandan government, the Kinigi Integrated Development Model Village provides housing and support to over 100 families. In recent years, members of the village have faced widespread unemployment due to lack of technical skills and work opportunities.

After Volunteer Christian Nshimiyimana engaged the community in discussions and an asset mapping exercise, the community chose to implement the Sewing and Handcrafts Skills Training Center project, which achieved stunning success when Christian pitched it at CorpsAfrica/Rwanda’s first-ever Project Demo Day event and raised 100% of the needed funds.

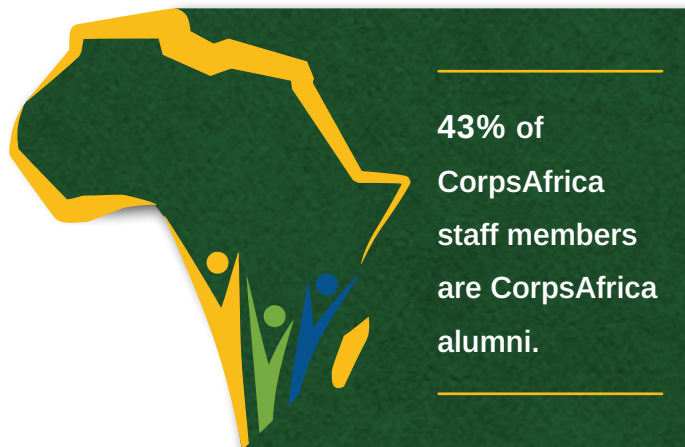
The project provides skill-building in sewing/tailoring and making handcraft products. The beneficiaries are 90% community members, while the trainers are 100% community members. This project has dramatically reduced the number of unemployed youth and women, and the first intake group is now earning at least 60,000 RWF (\$72) per month.

Supporting Volunteers After Their Service

CorpsAfrica has maintained strong relationships with alumni since the first year of service. Many alumni continue their involvement by assisting with new project implementation, helping train new Volunteer cohorts, collaborating with Volunteers to secure resources for communities, and through promotion and storytelling, such as in our “My CorpsAfrica Story” Podcast. We are also proud to report that 24 alumni have taken positions as staff in CorpsAfrica country offices.

In addition to maintaining this engagement, CorpsAfrica's Alumni Association works to provide professional development support and networking opportunities, hosts an “Entrepreneurship Incubator,” and recently began an alumni scholarship program awarding matching funds to alumni that secure partial scholarships but would have to turn them down because they did not have the remaining funds.

Alumni carry their training and skills, spirit of service, can-do attitude, and dedication to African-led development into their professional lives. Some have found jobs with nonprofits in their home countries, others are volunteering with UN and World Health Organization programs, many have pursued postgraduate degrees, and some have applied their HCD and ABCD training to solving problems in their personal and professional lives. Several alumni have chosen to continue their service with CorpsAfrica as Exchange Volunteers, traveling to host communities in countries outside of their own, bringing with them a wealth of skills and experience that make them valuable resources for first-time Volunteers.



In May of 2022, we welcomed our first Alumni Coordinator, Patrick Rumanyika (alumnus of Rwanda G1) through a 16-month Fellowship with the Atlas Corps program. Patrick and other staff have been meeting with alumni to learn how we can better serve them as they move into their careers and post-service lives. With a dedicated coordinator, we are further developing infrastructure and plans for alumni involvement in multi-sector training programs at the beginning and close of Volunteer service.

Over the coming years, the goals of the Alumni Association include bolstering efforts to help Volunteers secure high-quality jobs, achieve success in those positions, and become job creators themselves. We are also working to engage female alumni in leadership efforts to organize and promote community dialogue.



Peter Mndalasin

Peter holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Health from University of Livingstonia and is a Cohort 3 CorpsAfrica/Malawi alumnus. Currently, he is working with GiveDirectly Malawi as a Field Officer and is a Women Deliver Young leader for the 2020-2023 class, where he is advocating for gender equality for girls and women. He is the founder of 10+ Her Period Her Pride, an initiative that aims to end period poverty among girls in Malawi. During his Volunteer service with CorpsAfrica, he successfully worked with his community to design and implement a mini-irrigation project, which helped increase farming earnings among smallholder farmers in T/A Wimbe Kasungu District.

New Sector-Specific Initiatives



CorpsAfrica Volunteer Mariame Banel Faye celebrates and sings with the women of Nema Bah at their oyster farm in Sine Saloume, Senegal.

CorpsAfrica began dedicating special attention to pressing issue areas through the sector-specific initiatives (CorpsAfrica Green, Pink, and Blue) that affect Volunteers' service no matter where they are or what they do. Issue-specific training educates Volunteers on the contexts in which common problems can occur, provides toolsets of approaches and solution implementation models that can be tailored to specific needs, and builds skills that can serve them in their professional lives. Through these initiatives, Volunteers also help connect communities with development partners to test promising low-cost, high-impact innovations and provide critical feedback.

CORPSAFRICA GREEN

This environment-focused initiative empowers Volunteers to recognize effects of climate change in their communities, such as agricultural disruptions and nutritional deficiencies, sea level rise, and sanitation issues. They learn how communities are adapting, what's working and what's not working, and can share that knowledge with climate change stakeholders. They can also test climate change innovations in their communities and implement "green" projects, from establishing sustainable permaculture to installing solar panels that generate renewable energy. The goal is to build resilience in the face of climate change, ensure the availability of basic necessities, good health and improved quality of life, and protect natural resources into the future.

- Overall, **90%** of Volunteers reported contributing to the CorpsAfrica Green initiative supporting environmental protection; **80%** of Volunteers indicated they worked on secondary projects under the environmental protection sector.

- CorpsAfrica/Senegal is now a founding member of Consortium Espaces Volontaires Agroforestiers (EVE), which seeks to mobilize youth volunteers as leadership supporting green initiatives.

- Between November 2021 and January 2022, CorpsAfrica/Rwanda planted **14,400** fruit trees as part of the CorpsAfrica Green initiative, surpassing the goal (1,500 trees) for the entire year by 12,900.

CORPSAFRICA PINK

CorpsAfrica Pink focuses on engaging and empowering women and girls through a wide range of projects designed to help them gain an education, earn income, build confidence, and enjoy good health while fostering a community mindset of gender equality and respect. Projects have included creating and supporting women-owned cooperatives, hosting trainings in business and financial management, upgrading infrastructure to ease daily chores, building multifunctional spaces for women and girls, and enhancing health and hygiene (including menstrual hygiene). Volunteers also encourage girls to stay in school and practice responsible behavior around reproductive health. When girls avoid early marriage and finish their education, they can become higher earners for themselves and their families; in this and other ways, investing in women and girls touches the lives of all around them, garnering better outcomes for the whole community.

- Roughly 38% of primary projects directly affected the sector “Women and Girls’ Empowerment”.
- At their close of service, Volunteers reported that women and girls represented 54% of the direct beneficiaries of completed primary projects, and 83% of the anticipated beneficiaries of those in progress.
- CorpsAfrica/Maroc Volunteer Fatiha found a creative way to raise awareness around gender-based violence with her theatrical performance, “No to Domestic Violence and Yes to Gender Equality.”

CORPSAFRICA BLUE

The CorpsAfrica Blue initiative recognizes that functioning water infrastructure is critical for every community, and is an issue of growing concern given intensifying cycles of flooding and drought, which can bring disease and malnutrition. Access to clean and potable water affects all aspects of life in a rural community. To this end, CorpsAfrica Blue projects focus on creating, upgrading, or expanding water infrastructure for uses in agriculture and fisheries, drinking, latrines, laundry facilities, and elsewhere as dictated by communities’ greatest needs. Volunteers help drive projects and serve as liaisons between host communities and development partners operating in the area of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). Over the last year Volunteers, communities, and partner organizations have collaborated to construct aqueducts, dig boreholes, install crop irrigation systems, build latrines, and more.

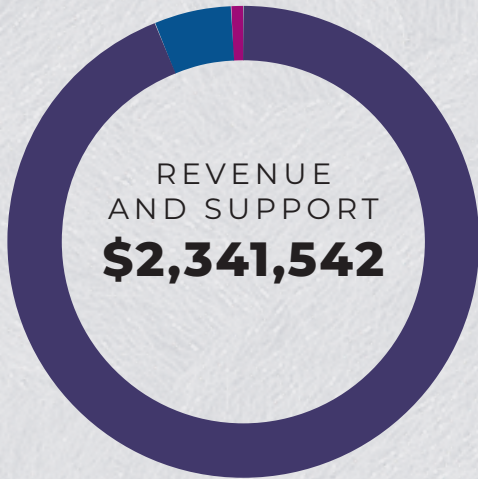
- This year, CorpsAfrica Volunteer Liaison Abdou Cisse joined the Water Innovation Challenge event convened by UNDP Senegal to showcase CorpsAfrica Blue projects. Staff and Volunteers appeared on panels and participated in the Youth Space of the 9th World Water Forum in Dakar.

JUNIOR CORPSAFRICA

Junior CorpsAfrica (JCA) began in 2016 as the wonderful idea of CorpsAfrica/Maroc alumnus and middle school Arabic teacher, Mourad Abdennebi, and his school principal, who wanted to show young students the value of service through observing and working side by side with CorpsAfrica Volunteers. All country offices are now in the process of building out JCA, with 120 students enrolled in JCA Rwanda. The program has grown to include children as young as primary and secondary school, and the hope is to later engage them as CorpsAfrica Volunteers.

Students engage in CorpsAfrica-facilitated activities, workshops, and trainings to enhance their personal and professional development, and fundraise for CorpsAfrica projects. JCA instills the values of confidence, collaboration, and problem-solving. Students who participate in Pre-Service Training also learn the foundations of Monitoring and Evaluation, attend workshops on Human-Centered Design, and learn theories of international development.

Financial Statements



- **\$2,077,353** Grants*
- **\$254,518** Contributions
- **\$9,671** Other

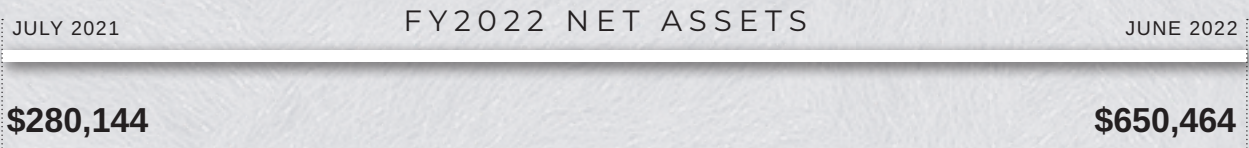


PROGRAM SERVICES:

- **\$545,935** Rwanda
- **\$507,051** Malawi
- **\$329,583** Senegal
- **\$275,331** Morocco
- **\$137,196** United States

SUPPORT SERVICES:

- **\$117,416** General and Administrative
- **\$58,710** Fundraising



2022 LEAD SUPPORTERS



* On November 1, 2021, Mastercard Foundation committed to a grant of **\$16,835,405** over three years. On February 24, 2023, Mastercard Foundation expanded the initial commitment to **\$59,385,091** over five years.

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