

# COBAP Uganda

## *pig farm*

### A brief project report...

When we first began planning for our project that later became to be known as 'Pigs 4 Profit' – 'P4P' our objective was to create the start of a financial base for COBAP. A community based aids programme, COBAP's work is invaluable in the slum area of Nakulabye, Kampala. Running a variety of projects, including healthcare, education and counselling our intention was that this project would be a great long-term source of income for the expansion and development of the work within this vulnerable community.



Prior to our trip we created a business plan, working alongside business advisors affiliated with SIFE at Leeds University - students in free enterprise. Our knowledge was that there is an increasing demand for pork in Uganda thus with the right planning and a suitable amount of investment, a pig farm would be an ideal way to ensure self-sufficiency for this small NGO.



The original intention was to build a number of wooden sheds to house the pigs, however on visiting existing farms when in-country we discovered these would not be worth investing in as they are neither permanent nor sanitary. Therefore, after meeting with our partners at COBAP and a contractor, we opted for four concrete sheds.



There are a number of avenues which can be taken in pig farming – we opted to focus on breeding.



before...



Four sheds meant that we could begin with a boar and 2 main sows, leaving a spare shed for rearing piglets when born. Litter numbers range from 10-15 and the intention is to sell these piglets from 1 month old, if not older, depending on demand. Like many animals change of environment can be detrimental to their health so we chose to source only the 3 pigs for breeding and build up the numbers from the first litters.

The site of the farm is in Wakiso, a rural area a short distance outside of Kampala. We employed a contractor to oversee the building work as well as having the help of Moses, the local counsellor whose home we were staying in, who negotiated with our suppliers. During the building phase we also had the help of young men affiliated with COBAP. One of these men, Alex, undertook a 2 days training in pig rearing and has now moved to home at the site to be in charge of the farm in our absence.



After 5 days in Uganda, hectic planning and decision making the materials began to arrive. We began laying the foundations and raising the walls. In total it took 2 weeks to complete the structure. At this point we left Kampala for 10days, leaving it the sheds to dry



before we moved the pigs in. Unfortunately during our time away the Kampala experienced an unusual amount of rain, as a result the structure flooded and required re-finishing. This was disheartening to return to but by this time we had at least sourced the 3 pigs which would begin our project. With a bit more perseverance and a change of weather, the pigs were moved to the completed farm.



We invested a lot of money - sourced from grants, fundraising and donations - into this project. This means that COBAP will be gaining revenue as soon as the first litters are ready to be sold.

The enthusiasm and gratitude of the COBAP staff was overwhelming, and there is a huge vision for this

project not only from myself and Rachel but from all involved in its planning and construction at the site. In terms of the future of the project, there are already plans to expand on our achievement so far, and as part of our contract, COBAP will be sending us a project report every 3 months. This will enable us to closely monitor the project and its future expansion, as well as to have a say in the investment of any profits from the pig farm into the various areas of COBAP's work.

**We cannot thank you enough for all the support we received both prior to and during our trip, the generosity of so many people meant we were able to achieve what we intended.**

Rachel Ellis & Rachel Munns  
- project managers and pig enthusiasts.