Kenya Voluntary Development Association (KVDA) is an indigenous, non-political and membership organization which is non-sectarian and non-profit making started in 1962 as a work camp organization registered under the Societies’ Act. In 1993, KVDA was registered as a Non-Governmental organization by the establishment of the NGOs Coordination Act.

Its main purpose is to promote peace, understanding, justice, development, and information exchange among Kenyans and within the international community. KVDA also seeks to promote inter-cultural education, international peace, inter-human understanding and solidarity as well as sustainable community development through voluntary service; the phrase “Development against Dependence” captures KVDA’s philosophy.

KVDA works in partnership with local communities to champion their own development without imposition of values. Local people everywhere are the masters of their own destiny and efforts must be made by all to harness this great potential. Volunteers have specific roles to play in very difficult circumstances dictated by deprivation and impoverishment and they must guard against attempts to imagine that they can offer magic solutions to the myriad of development challenges encountered at the grassroots.

The voluntary service project offers the volunteer the unique opportunity to be part of the transformative process to stimulate the local community to reinforce their work ethic. Volunteers are not experts but people driven by the selfless desire to strengthen solidarity among the needy communities and ensure their active participation in the development process.

Vision: Envisages KVDA as an organization with a large membership working towards the improvement of quality of life of the community

Mission: KVDA aims to Mobilizing all-purpose resources to support community development initiatives

Strategic objectives

1. Communities are aware of development issues, mobilized resources and taken responsibility of their own development.

2. Young people have access to experiential education by offering voluntary service

Kenya Voluntary Development Association
“Development against Dependence”

KVDA Work camps
Program from January – June 2014
Kaya Teleza Conservation Group was formed by local community members towards the end of 2011. The formation was based on the abuse of the only natural resource in the area, the Kaya forest. Poaching of bush animals and illegally, uncontrolled cutting of trees was on the rise. The aim of forming this group was to collaborate with the Kaya elders together with other conservation institutions to help in protecting the sacred forest and its inhabitants. The group has also initiated agro-business, planting vegetables to support members financially who consist mostly youth, due to increase of high rate of unemployment in the local community.

**Mission:** To encourage the local people to come together to engage in conservation projects to reduce poverty among community members hence promotion of community development.

**Objectives:**
- To conserve the Kaya Teleza as a national monument and traditional forest;
- Create job opportunities for the youth;
- Elevate poverty and idleness from the school leaving youths;
- Improve living standards of the community at large through community development projects;
- Create awareness on the importance of conserving Kaya Teleza to the community.

**AGE:** Participants have to be at least 18 years old to participate in the work camp. There is no upper age limit

**PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

**TYPE OF WORK CAMP: ENVIRONMENTAL**

Volunteers will work for six hours daily from Mondays to Fridays with focus on the following:

- **Conservation:** Forest trails, Agro-business, cultural activities future activities: Camping site; bee keeping; traditional cuisines; fish farming; aloe farming; tree nursery
- **Inter-cultural activities:** Awareness campaigns on World Heritage conservation, traditional dances, teaching, home visits, cultural nights and topical discussions.

**PROJECT PARTICIPANTS:** Maximum 25 volunteers from Kenya and the international community

**WHAT TO CARRY?**
This is outlined in the detailed info sheet and includes, sleeping bag and mat, toiletries, torch/flashlight, sandals, mosquito net, national flag from your country, among others

**DONATION AND GIFTS:**
These are usually symbolic gestures to enhance the solidarity of volunteers and the hosting community. Kindly contact KVDA for details in case you are willing to support a worthy cause in the community either by offering a donation or long-term intervention on the project.

**THEME: PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF WORLD HERITAGE SITE**
In the framework of UNESCO World Heritage Education Program, this campaign co-organized by CCIVS and the World Heritage Centre (WHC) follows 3 main objectives stated in the global vision defined during the first WHV Evaluation and Planning meeting in March 2010. First of all, it aims at sparking interest about the importance and necessity to protect and promote cultural and natural heritage in general and World Heritage related sites in particular. The target group must be as wide as possible and include motivated volunteers, hosting local communities and concerned authorities. Then, the WHV projects are expected to develop appreciation of the World Heritage values through non formal education methods disseminating the inter-governmental and national expertise to a large public and more specifically young people. Indeed, awareness-raising about World Heritage should rely on a dynamic dialogue and synergies between all the WH stakeholders. Lastly, work camps run by
Promoting Sustainable Community Development Initiatives through Volunteerism

International voluntary service organizations and whose activities are based on the concrete needs of the site are the type of project chosen to bring local and international communities together around the issue of World Heritage in connection with the issue of sustainable development.

Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forest is enlisted as a world Heritage site by UNESCO and if the site is not protected, conserved and promoted, it will be destroyed by human encroachment with the population upsurge and hence its cultural significance to the local community will be rendered extinct.

**Orientation:** Will be done on 3rd February 2014 at KVDA Residence in Nairobi and the team will leave for the project on the morning of 4th February 2014.

**Airport Pick-Up Services:** This will be done subject to provision of full flight details. The port of entry to Kenya is Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Volunteers may stay at KVDA Residence in Nairobi at a fee.

**Participation Fees:**
The project participation fees that is all-inclusive for the three weeks work camp is **Euro 300**

**Insurance:** KVDA does not provide insurance and volunteers should obtain travel insurance cover. It is a good idea to get medicine you are used to from your home country and seek advice from your personal doctor.

**WHAT DOES THE PARTICIPATION FEES COVER?**
Project preparation cycle, return transfers from the airport and the project, KVDA administration, orientation, certificate of participation, project coordination, facilitation, evaluation and monitoring.

**WHAT IS NOT COVERED?**
Excursion activities, local travel while in the community, personal effects, needs and wants.

**Educational Tours**
KVDA offers educational tours to spectacular sites of interest at separate fees. Please contact us for specific tour information.

**Accommodation**
Volunteers will stay in a house provided by the community with very basic living conditions. Volunteers have an obligation to climb down the level of the people with the aim of exposure to development challenges. KVDA will provide foodstuffs and the volunteers will cook their own meals in turns. There will be no beds. Water is available from springs and it is recommended that drinking water should be boiled or medicated. Mineral water available at supermarkets is also recommended. There is no electricity connection at the project but volunteers can charge their electric appliances at the nearest market center.

**Language:** English is the language of the work camp. There will be a possibility of learning Kiswahili or other international and local languages as cultural diversity is a major component in international service.

**Project Detailed Info Sheet:** Will be sent to the volunteer sending organization as soon as the application is accepted by KVDA.
April 2014

**Project Name: Star Rays Education Centre**

*Code: KVDA/STV/04A*

*Dates: 4th to 25th April 2014*

*Orientation: 5th April 2014*

*Location: Nangili, Kakamega County, Western region*

*Theme: Poverty Reduction: Inter-Cultural Exchange Platform*

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**Project Overview**

Star Rays Education Center is a community based Organization (CBO), an upcoming Rural Resource Information Centre. The CBO was registered by the Ministry of Culture and Social services as a Community Based Organization (CBO) in 2002 while the school is registered by the Ministry of Education as Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre and a Primary school.

Though the School is non-profit making organization, but beneficiaries contribute to the management of different activities. At this initial stage we partner up with different Organizations to set up income generating activities for the centre programs.

**Motto:** Education is a lifetime gift.

**Vision:** Change our living standards through education.

**Mission:** Facilitate sustainable delivery of conditional Education, Health and Development until we become self-reliant.

**Objectives/Activities:** Early Childhood Development (ECD); Primary School Education; Care and Support Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and HIV/AIDS families; Community information (library) Services; Small business incubation; Community Empowerment trainings in various fields; Agency services – linkage between self-help groups and different organizations and companies for better and easier services; Information and communication Technology ICT promotions and services; Civic Education; Volunteerism

**Age:** Participants have to be at least 18 years old to participate in the work camp. There is no upper age limit

**Project Activities**

**Type of Work Camp: AGRI and KIDS**

Volunteers will work for six hours daily from Monday to Friday.

**Alongside Manual work:** Tree planting, painting, teaching, home visits, general cleaning at Kongoni Hospital, School visits with motivational talks to students and exposure to challenges of development.

**Project Participants:** Maximum 25 volunteers from Kenya and the international community

**What to carry:**

This is outlined in the detailed info sheet and includes, sleeping bag and mat, toiletries, torch/flashlight, sandals, mosquito net, national flag from your country, among others

**Donation and Gifts:**

These are usually symbolic gestures to enhance the solidarity of volunteers and the hosting community. Kindly contact KVDA for details in case you are willing to support a worthy cause in the community either by offering a donation or long-term intervention on the project.

**Theme: Poverty Reduction: Inter-Cultural Exchange Platform**

Poverty is a broad term that describes many circumstances where people lack resources such as money, housing, food, clothing, jobs, and suffer physically, socially, and emotionally from this material deprivation. Absolute poverty describes a standard of living where a person is unable to afford even a basic diet. International definitions of poverty rely on the classification of the poverty level, which is a level of income below which a person cannot afford to buy all the resources required to live. Poverty eradication encompasses the will and strategies to stop all people from living in poverty. The focus being on education, training and gender sensitivity
Inter cultural exchange is aimed at enabling people to put global awareness and intercultural learning into practice. This is enhanced through creating awareness through learning themes on global issues. In so doing it will strengthen participants’ skills in working in community-based service organizations.

**Orientation:** Will be done on 5th April 2014 at KVDA Residence in Nairobi and the team will leave for the project on the morning of 6th April 2014

**Airport Pick-up Services:** This will be done subject to provision of full flight details. The port of entry to Kenya is Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Volunteers may stay at KVDA Residence in Nairobi at a fee

**Participation Fees**
The project participation fees that is all-inclusive for the three weeks work camp is **Euro 300**

**Insurance:** KVDA does not provide insurance and volunteers should obtain travel insurance cover. It is a good idea to get medicine you are used to from your home country and seek advice from your personal doctor.

**What does the participation fees cover?**
Project preparation cycle, return transfers from the airport and the project, KVDA administration, orientation, certificate of participation, project coordination, facilitation, evaluation and monitoring

**What is not covered?**
Excursion activities, local travel while in the community, personal effects, needs and wants.

**Educational Tours**
KVDA offers educational tours to spectacular sites of interest at separate fees. Please contact us for specific tour information

**Accommodation**
Volunteers will be hosted in the house of the project founder Director with basic living conditions. Beds will be available and volunteers should carry their own bedding. Volunteers have an obligation to climb down the level of the people with the aim of exposure to development challenges. KVDA will provide foodstuffs and volunteers will cook meals in turns. Water is available from springs and it is recommended that drinking water should be boiled or medicated. Mineral water available at supermarkets is recommended.

**Language:** English is the language of the work camp. There will be a possibility of learning Kiswahili or other international and local languages as cultural diversity is a major component in international service

**Project Detailed Info Sheet:** Will be sent to the volunteer sending organization as soon as the application is accepted by KVDA
June 2014

Project Name: Gideon Mosi Primary School

Code: KVDA/STV/06A
Dates: 7th to 28th June 2014
Orientation: 7th June 2014
Location: Taita-Taveta County, Coast region
Theme: Human and Wildlife Conflict the bane of Sustainable Development

Project Overview

The Taita hills rise from the Southeastern Nyika Plateau. They are ancient fault-block formation stretching south to Malawi through Eastern and Southern Tanzania. They sit almost cheek-by-jowl with one of the region’s recent volcanic ranges, the Chyulu Hills. The project is situated on the foot of the Sagalla Hills in Taita Taveta district in coastal part of Kenya. It is approximately 7-8 hours’ drive from Nairobi. Sagalla is remembered to be a home of the first missionaries in the early 1900 and these is evident with one of the first churches in Kenya still standing strong. Gideon Mosi Primary School is a relatively new institution was founded in 1990 and it has rapidly expanded to accommodate 293 boys and girls from class 1-8. The 8 Teachers at the Gideon Mosi Primary School are employed by the Teachers Service commission and they are qualified to teach all rounds from class 1-8. In cases where the teaching staff is not adequate, the Parents and Teachers Association employs teachers for a short duration of time to help bridge the obtaining gap.

Age: Participants have to be at least 18 years old to participate in the work camp. There is no upper age limit

Type of WorkCamp: KIDS and RENO

Volunteers will work for six hours daily from Monday to Friday.

Alongside manual work: School renovation, teaching and awareness campaign on Human Wildlife Conflict and home visits.

Project Participants: Maximum 25 volunteers from Kenya and the international community

What to Carry?
This is outlined in the detailed info sheet and includes, sleeping bag and mat, toiletries, torch/flashlight, sandals, mosquito net, national flag from your country, among others

Donation and Gifts:
These are usually symbolic gestures to enhance the solidarity of volunteers and the hosting community. Kindly contact KVDA for details in case you are willing to support a worthy cause in the community either by offering a donation or long-term intervention on the project.

Theme: Human and Wildlife Conflict the bane of Sustainable Development

This phenomenon of human beings and wildlife conflict is very controversial and has attracted the attention of all and sundry. The scenario is prompted by the proximity of the local community to the Tsavo National Park that is the home to wildlife and this directly plays into the hands of the local community members who are forced by the circumstances to learn to live with the situation and the attendant challenges.

Working with community groups on poverty reduction and sustainable development will involve the active involvement in projects that are geared towards youth and women empowerment activities, HIV/AIDS awareness, provision of infrastructure in learning institutions. Poverty is a major issue in the local community and is directly linked to the spread of HIV/AIDS because poverty drives HIV/AIDS and HIV/AIDS drives poverty. This highlights the need for a multifaceted response to both problems, but particularly to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Both these problems disproportionately affect women and youth. The goal is to try and enable the local members address community issues, thus enhancing the economic and social empowerment of women and youth for poverty reduction in Gideon Mosi, and linking this with activities to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. These activities will
also help strengthen rural community and their local economies. In the process being able to improve access to quality education for school children. The volunteers will be required to join hands together with community members in addressing the theme of the camp in order to empower the community to coming up with a more pro-active way of enhancing the academic development of community children.

**Orientation:** Will be done on 7th June 2014 at KVDA Residence in Nairobi and the team will leave for the project on the morning of 8th June 2014

**Airport Pick-up Services:** This will be done subject to provision of full flight details. The port of entry to Kenya is Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Volunteers may stay at KVDA Residence in Nairobi at a fee

**Participation Fees**
The project participation fees that is all-inclusive for the three weeks work camp is **Euro 300**

**Insurance:** KVDA does not provide insurance and volunteers should obtain travel insurance cover. It is a good idea to get medicine you are used to from your home country and seek advice from your personal doctor.

**What does the participation fees cover?**
Project preparation cycle, return transfer from the airport and the project, KVDA administration, orientation, certificate of participation, project coordination, facilitation, evaluation and monitoring

**What is not covered?**
Excursion activities, local travel while in the community, personal effects, needs and wants.

**Educational Tours**
KVDA offers educational tours to spectacular sites of interest at separate fees. Please contact us for specific tour information

**Accommodation**
The volunteers stay in School classrooms in very basic conditions where there are no beds and electricity. KVDA will provide foodstuffs and volunteers will cook their own meals in turns. Volunteers have an obligation to climb down the level of the people with the aim of exposure to development challenges. Water is available from springs and it is recommended that drinking water should be boiled or medicated. Mineral water available at supermarkets is also recommended. There is no electricity connection at the project but volunteers can charge the electric appliances at the nearest market center.

**Language:** English is the language of the work camp. There will be a possibility of learning Kiswahili or other international and local languages as cultural diversity is a major component in international service.
June 2014

**Project Name: Tich Kouma Community Based organization**

**Code:** KVDA/STV/06C  
**Dates:** 10th to 30th June 2014  
**Orientation:** 10th June 2014  
**Location:** Kisumu city, along Lake Victoria  
**Theme:** Conservation: Eco-tourism and Agro-forestry

**PROJECT OVERVIEW**  
Tich Kouma Community Based organization was registered on 5th July 2011 as a self-help group under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development. The project is situated in the heart of Kisumu city that is the third largest city in Kenya after Nairobi and Mombasa respectively. The site is situated behind Tom Mboya Labour College off Ring Road. The group members are residents of Nanga, Dunga, Kapuothe, Katuoro, Got Owak, Sigalagala, Kogello, Milimani that are villages within Winam Division of Kisumu East district, Nyanza province.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP**

- To build a social and economic force taking advantage of the environment and best use of natural resources for sustainability
- Provide funds for conservation to preserve the biomas flora and fauna, culture and history, to set sustainable use of limits of the wetland and to protect natural attractions alongside the preservation of existing endemic species
- To empower members through income generating activities as adaptive to natural resources available at the project site
- To engage appropriate technology innovatively by wise use practices like conservation farming
- To build human capital through empowerment of the community by utilization of intellectual property rights-like making of conservation furniture through weaving of papyrus reed in the making process
- To engage in activities aimed at alleviating poverty, creating employment and engagement with equity
- Advocate for environmental restoration, conservation by showcasing the way forward through activities like tree planting, nursery, husbandry, farm management and related activities that can create micro climate for Kisumu city

**AGE:** Participants have to be at least 18 years old to participate in the work camp. There is no upper age limit

**PROJECT ACTIVITIES**

**TYPE OF WORK CAMP: ENVI**

Volunteers will work for six hours daily from Monday to Friday. They will work together with the local community on the following activities:

**Alongside manual work:** Agro forestry, eco-tourism and conservation activities as outlined in the objectives of the group
Inter-cultural activities: Home visits, cultural nights, topical discussions, theme translation.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS: Maximum 25 volunteers from Kenya and the international community

WHAT TO CARRY?
This is outlined in the detailed info sheet and includes, sleeping bag and mat, toiletries, torch/flashlight, sandals, mosquito net, national flag from your country, among others

DONATION AND GIFTS:
These are usually symbolic gestures to enhance the solidarity of volunteers and the hosting community. Kindly contact KVDA for details in case you are willing to support a worthy cause in the community either by offering a donation or long-term intervention on the project.

THEME: CONSERVATION: ECO-TOURISM AND AGRO-FORESTRY
This project is a masterpiece in Kisumu city and it is situated in a serene environment on wetland that the group has effectively exploited to promote the objectives of the project. The project site is beholding with magnificent traditional structures, fish ponds, tree nursery and the agro forestry program and all these are powerful indicators of the grand march by the team members to spur socio-economic development. The conservation activities undertaken by the group serve the useful lesson to inspire society on the need for sustainable utilization of the endowments by nature to make a difference in the lives of humanity. The project provides the unique opportunity for volunteers who have the passion for conservation activities and especially on eco-tourism and agro forestry.

ORIENTATION: Will be done on 10th June 2014 at KVDA Residence in Nairobi and the team will leave for the project on the morning of 11th June 2014

AIRPORT PICK-UP SERVICES: This will be done subject to provision of full flight details. The port of entry to Kenya is Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Volunteers may stay at KVDA Residence in Nairobi at a fee

PARTICIPATION FEES
The project participation fees that is all-inclusive for the three weeks work camp is Euro 400

INSURANCE: KVDA does not provide insurance and volunteers should obtain travel insurance cover. It is a good idea to get medicine you are used to from your home country and seek advice from your personal doctor.

WHAT DOES THE PARTICIPATION FEES COVER?
Project preparation cycle, return transfer from the airport and the project, KVDA administration, orientation, certificate of participation, project coordination, facilitation, evaluation and monitoring

WHAT IS NOT COVERED?
Excursion activities, local travel while in the community, personal effects, needs and wants.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS
KVDA offers educational tours to spectacular sites of interest at separate fees. Please contact us for specific tour information

ACCOMMODATION
In the furnished KVDA Residence in Kisumu city and volunteers will stay in shared rooms and tents. There is electricity; tap water and shower. You do not need to bring bedding, i.e. sleeping bag. Volunteers will cook their own meals at the residence in turns.

LANGUAGE: English is the language of the work camp. There will be a possibility of learning Kiswahili or other international and local languages as cultural diversity is a major component in international service