# **NEW** GENERATION VILLAGE

BURUNDI

Fundraising Brochure March 2014

Rache 12 ELIE MUGISHA SORANGE ODASI oeneration , streetaction) COMMITTED TO FeildenCleggBradleyStudios STREET CHILDREN THROUGH **ACTION AND PARTNERSHIP** 

# 0.0 | Contents











## 1.0 | Introduction

## 1.1 Project Introduction

New Generation is a charity that holds out hope for children made homeless through the Genocide that took place in Burundi between? and?. Led by Dieudonne Nahimana New Generation has a vision for the future of Burundi, in a time of reconciliation New Generation is making plans to build a new home near Myinga, for Street Children as a base for the work which has been ongoing in Bujumbura for many years.

"The reason we started New Geneartion was to see how young people, especially street children, can work together and make our country better than it was during the war" Dieudone Nahimana

This booklet describes the ambition for a village in rural Burundi, next to a long standing Congolese refugee camp. The Burundian Government has given land, and Street Action, UK Partners with New Generation have supported the building of the first house on the land to safeguard the site. A team of designers, Architects, engineers and landscape Architects have worked closely with New Generation to develop a design for a small village. It is designed so that it belongs in Burundi, made from the earth on the site, with as little cement as possible, and it respects the habits of community and the home, hospitality for visitors, and privacy for families that will make it a place that fits.





#### 1.2 Introduction to Burundi

Burundi is a landlocked country in Central Africa, located east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, south of Rwanda, and west of Tanzania. It has an area of 27,830 square kilometers (10,745 square miles). Burundi's capital city, Bujumbura, is located on the shore of Lake Tanganyika near the country's border with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

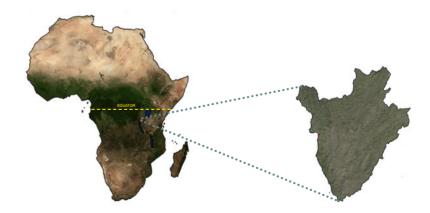
According to the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi the climate is: Equatorial; high plateau with considerable altitude variation (772 m to 2,670 m above sea level).

Peter Uvin's book 'Life after Violence' starts by describing Burundi as a country arrived at a crossroads.

'A long history of conflict, ethnic polarization and politicization, authoritarian rule, a decade of civil war, and growing impoverishment lies on one side, and power sharing arrangements, democratic elections, peace agreements, demobilization and an infusion of development aid on the other. In between lies a generation of young people raised during a brutal war – years of education lost, hearts traumatized, and possessions lost'

## **Key Statistics**

- 10th poorest country in the world
- 68 % of the population live below the poverty line
- Population 10,2 mln (2011)
- Growth rate 3.5 %
- 0-14 yrs 46 %
- 15-64 years 51.6 %
- 65 yrs and over 2.5 %
- Median age 16.9 years



# 1.0 | Introduction

## 1.3 The Tree Cafe







## 2.1 Site Analysis

The site is near a village called Gasorwe in the district called Muyinga. It is in rural and forested part of Burundi. The approach to the site is a short drive from Muyinga town, through an established Congolese refugee site. An existing football pitch sites between the refugee camp and the top of the site which has been given to New Generation. Next to the football pitch, on the West of the site are 2 primary schools.

The site is generally rectangular, and slopes down from top (North) to bottom. The lower parts of the site will be used for growing food for the village, and coffee to sell.

The site is a sort of cul-de-sack for local vehicular routes. There are various footpaths across the site, connecting small groups of dwellings which are deep within the bush. Local people use the water pump beside the football pitch. The location of the village has been carefully considered so that these long standing routes are not disrupted.

Around the perimeter of the site are some dwellings, to the North for Pygmy people, and to the West for locals. Small plots of coffee and banana are found on the edge of the site. To the South –West there is a Catholic church and community.

It is important for the buildings to 'belong' to the immediate site, and fit, culturally. They need to be well built in order to last, and aim to have a realistic improvement in the levels of comfort, whilst using as little electricity as possible.

The challenge of the new buildings is to make them work as closely as possible with the environmental forces of the site:

- Tropical highland climate considerable daily temperature range
- Four seasons, 2 wet seasons (one short and one long), 2 dry seasons (one short and one long).
- Irregular rainfall, between 130 160 cm of rain a year.
- Daily temperature range of 10 degree Celcius









## 2.2 The Village

The heart of the village is the cluster of houses for the children. This group is located at the North of the site, between the paths which track across the site and the fields to the North. They are arranged around a shared central space. The entrance to each house is from the central space. The houses are positioned behind a set of small shops which look out over to the football pitch.

To the South of the football pitch will be a hall for the village to use, it can be used for individuals in small groups catching up with school work, or community groups.

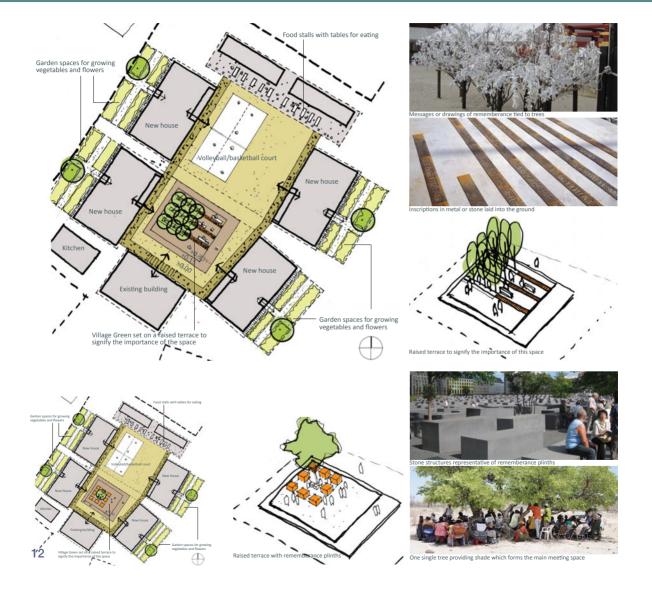
Next to the hall will be a set of houses which can be used for visitors. It has always been important that the village also had a place which also provided a place to remember the suffering of the genocide, a quiet memorial. It is a touchstone for this community as it engages with wider agenda of reconciliation that Burundi is starting.

The design of the village shows particular sensitivity towards the following issues:

- Public and private aspects of village life
- The proximity to the Congolese refugee camp and other neighbours such as the church and the schools
- The longstanding pathways through the site
- Relative adjacencies of different elements of the village, for example, the location of the memorial and the hall in relation to the houses.
- Security







## 2.3 The Village Green

The village green is the heart of the new development. It not only a place to gather, but also a space to remember, potentially part of a memory route. We are developing these ideas together with the children.

The village green is lined with the existing house on the southwest and food stalls to the northeast. The other two sides are defined by four new houses for the street children.

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# 3.0 | The Houses

## 3.1 Organisation

Each house is a arranged in 2 parts. The sleeping cluster consists of 3 bedrooms for the children and one for the house parent. Each of the children's bedrooms accommodates 2 bunk beds and a desk.

The public part of the house contains a communal room and a bathroom. The communal space can be used as a living room for that household of children and house parents to eat together, do their homework (if not in the bedroom) and relax.





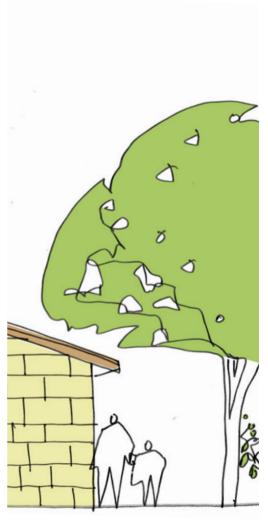




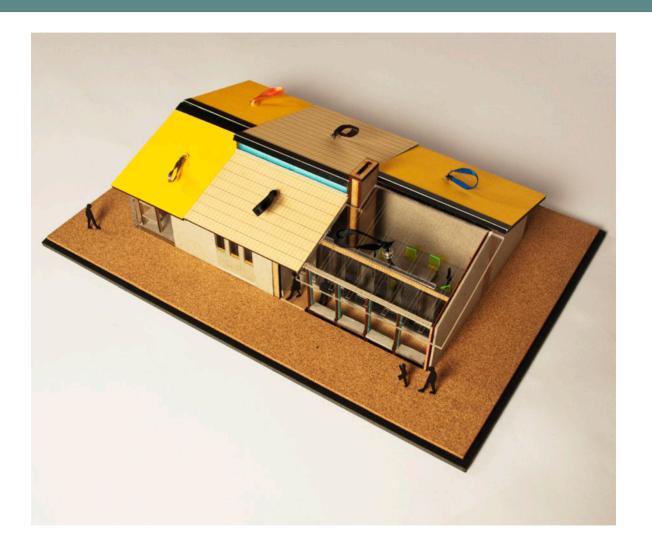












## 3.0 | The Houses

#### 3.2 How will it be built?

We have been looking at a number of different building techniques and materials to build this project. We have been (and are) looking at their sustainability, cost and also the local vernacular.

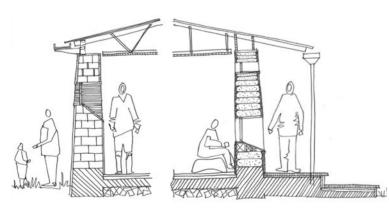
We intend to use cement stabilised soil blocks for the walls of the house. This offers a much more environmentally friendly solution than fired bricks. Also, they can be made on site with a simple machine.

We are still looking for more than one option for the roof. We prefer to use ceramic tiles, but we are also keeping the option open of using corrugated metal sheets instead.







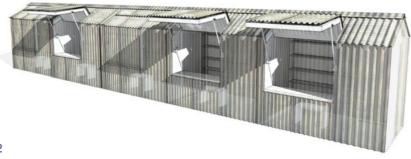


Early studies of walls and windows

## 4.1 The Kiosks

The kiosks are the place where the street children will be able to sell the goods that will produced on site in the future. The row of shops also creates a barrier with the football pitch

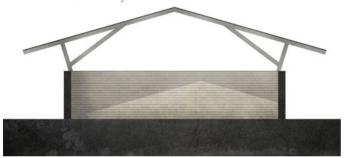


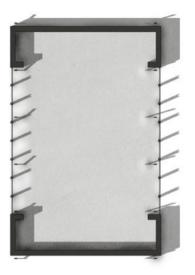


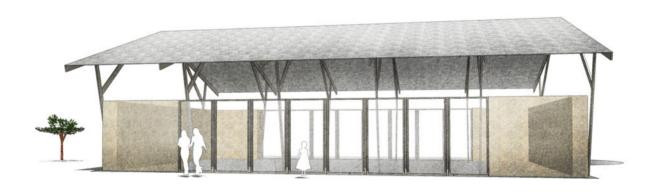
# 4.0 | Other Components

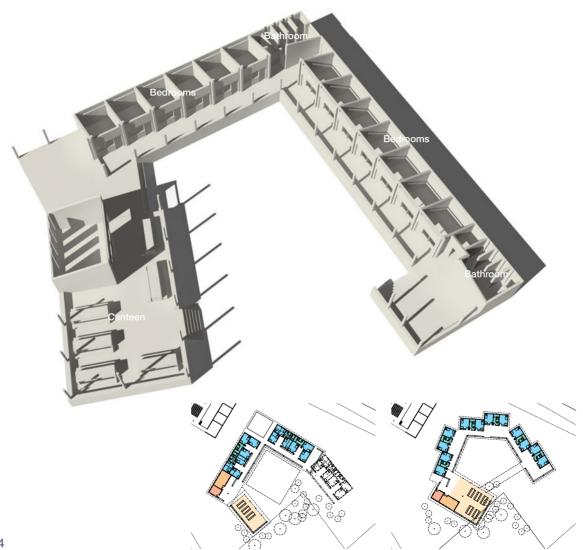
## 4.2 The Village Hall

The village hall will provide for a place for larger gatherings for the street children, but can also be used for other events for the village or the wider community.





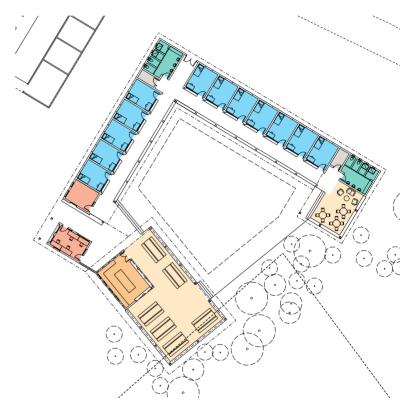




# 4.0 | Other Components

## 4.3 Visitor Accommodation

The visitor accommodation will offer a place to stay for any volunteers or other people who are visiting the village. It consists of simple rooms and some basic communal facilities such as a canteen arranged around a courtyard which offers views accross the landscape. It is intended to be constructed in several phases.















## 5.0 | The Team

#### 5.1 New Generation

New Generation was founded by Dieudonne Nahimana in his late teens as a result of the civil war and the impact it had on his own family. Dieudonne found himself on the streets for a period, and from that experience had the vision to set up New Generation, to empower the Street Children of the nation to set an example as people who, because they existed on the margins of society were also free of the long standing tribal tensions which had led to years to bloodshed.

#### 5.2 Street Action

Street Action are a UK based organisation (5 years old) that works with street children in Burundi, South African and have just recently established a partnership in Kenya.

Street Action is committed to supporting local partners in Africa who work with street children. We provide sustainable financial support, help develop and link their projects, and promote their work through advocacy and research.

## 5.3 The Project Team

Street Action UK NGO

Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios Architects Little Thunder
Landscape Architect

**Momentum** Structural Enginee

New Generation

Burundi based charity

