



FCDE Selects Kasese, Uganda as First Program Site

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The Foundation for Community Development and Empowerment (FCDE) is proud to announce the selection and initiation of its first program site in Kasese, Uganda. Kasese has been selected for its unique combination of intense need and proven local efforts to try and address these challenges. Executive Director, Eric Younger, said “We are very excited about the choice of Kasese. The community has shown that it is very willing to work hard to make good things happen. Our approach of ensuring that Community Driven Development (CDD) is supported and effective will work very well with such an active and engaged community”

Kasese is a community of about 75,000 thousand people located on the western border of Uganda neighboring the Democratic Republic of Congo. Physically located between the [Queen Elizabeth National Park](#) and [Rwenzori Mountains National Park](#) adds to the sites’ attraction as a location of natural beauty.

The Kasese community faces many challenges shared with similar developing world communities. Forty-eight percent of the population lives in poverty, the average life expectancy is under 50 years, only 10% of woman go on to secondary school, 30% of the population does not have access to safe water and the illiteracy rate is above 30%.

FCDE’s initial work will focus on creating partnerships with the locally run NGO’s that are already striving to address local challenges. You can read more about FCDE’s approach to community development here: <http://internationalcommunitydevelopment.org/how-we-do-it>.

FCDE is currently in the process of hiring two Ugandan staff members who will lead FCDE’s programs in Kasese. Information about these positions for interested applicants can be found through our website: <http://internationalcommunitydevelopment.org>.

We would like to extend a very warm thank you to all the communities and individuals that supported our site selection process over the past few months. The site selection process involved extensive site visits to ten communities, weeks of meetings with local NGOs and community members and numerous interviews with members of the local and international community development community. All the communities we visited are worthy of support and we hope to be able to move into more Ugandan communities soon.