

Occasional newsletter on the Seedballs – Agroforestry and Environment projects in Kenya (15th October 2021)

Seedballs present a simple but potentially very effective method of tree-planting and rewilding. Four Rotary clubs in D1260, Barton le Clay, Brookman’s Park, Baldock and Luton Someries are collaborating with three Kenyan clubs, Bungoma, Kakamega and Voi, as well as two UK NGOs, Red Rubber Ball Foundation and Sustainable Global Gardens in a pilot project to evaluate the viability and sustainability of this seedball method. The D1260 clubs together with the Kenyan clubs and NGOs involved will share lessons and experiences with the intention of further expansion.

Paul Keely is providing the ESRAG GBI website (<https://esraggbi.org/seedballs-in-kenya>) with content and wants to publicise the seed ball project. Any suggested improvements would be welcome.

In Western Kenya, the project involves four clubs, two from D1260 (Barton le Clay and Brookman’s Park) and two in Western Kenya (Kakamega and Bungoma), who will be assist in monitoring and evaluation of the project.

News from Sustainable Global gardens. Over 200 farmers have been engaged with more than 30,000 seedballs being distributed. SGG's has had reports from Rusinga where 5,710 seed balls have been given to 46 farmers, Joshua Odenyo has distributed around Bumala 8,440 to 47 farmers, and Macbeth has distributed between about 8,000 seedballs to 4 CBOs in Matayos and Sioport. Bungoma Rotary Club have distributed 8,550 seedballs to 59 farmers. SGG has not yet met all the demand from Busia with three more CBOs wanting seedballs. I am not sure whether or not to order another bag now or wait until March.

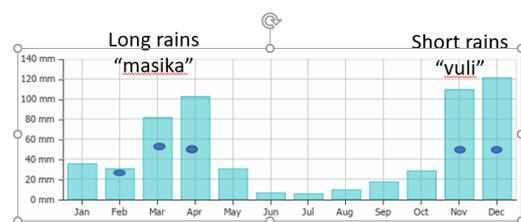
News from Red Rubber Ball. Neil has been on site and has arranged for seed balls to be distributed to farmers as well as planting some on a demonstration farm. Farmers working with SSG have also visited and participated in training

In Southeast Kenya, a sister project involving RC Baldock and RC Luton Someries will establish another tree planting project Kenya in conjunction with the Rotary club of Voi. This is a drier area adjoining Tsavo National Park a highly degraded area using Acacia species. This project will be

undertaken and support other environmental activities of RC Voi.

In view of the different rainfall pattern in South east Kenya, Willy Mkubwa President of RC Voi is being requested to provide details of when they would like to so start the programme in their area. Should it be now with the short rains being imminent or should it wait for the long rains. When clarity is provided RC Baldock will transfer the necessary funds.

Voi, SE Kenya



Kisumu, Western Kenya

