



SHOCC is a small charity working with trusted partners. We work with managers who have demonstrated need and have clear goals. We will then support a project financially and through tailored advice and encouragement. As a result, our projects illustrate reciprocal philanthropy where we have an ongoing relationship with our partners, treat them with respect and have a two-way, empathetic approach, aiming for projects quickly to become self-sustainable. We have very few administrative costs and 99% of every donated pound goes to our projects.

KAWANGWARE WEAVING CENTRE NAIROBI [SDG 1, 8, 16]

PROJECT STATUS: COMPLETE

Project brief: Kenya received many thousands of refugees during the civil war in Rwanda, many of whom migrated to Nairobi. This project provided a small amount of funding to enable a weaving project to be established by the Sisters of the Assumption at their convent at Kawangware in Nairobi.

Date of entry:	23.02.2023
Project type:	Community
Year(s) of project:	2014
Awarded to date:	£1,800

Background: In 1996 the Sisters of the Assumption opened a Religious Centre on an acre of land at Kawangware, an informal settlement in the north-west of Nairobi. By 2007, when they moved the centre elsewhere, they decided to convert part of the premises to a weaving centre for refugees. At the time Kwangware had grown to house over 300,000 residents, most of whom were migrants from other parts of Kenya or refugees from neighbouring countries including Rwanda. Young people made up at least half the population.

In 2014 SHOCC provided £1,500 to cover a weaving teacher's salary and to enable materials such as second-hand looms to be purchased and reconditioned. The project now reaches out to other very poor, unemployed women, often the head of the family and the only breadwinner. Its products consist of carpets and colourful clothing and these are sold locally. The project is fully self-supporting.

Our Theory of Change

INPUTS

What did SHOCC contribute? The financial, human and material resources used
 £1,500 in funding
 Encouragement to the four Sisters of the Assumption running the project.

ACTIVITIES

How were the inputs used?
 The actions taken or the work performed.
 The disused garage was converted into a weaving workshop.
 Several second-hand weaving looms were purchased and the salary of a weaving teacher was provided for a year enabling him to provide 4-month courses to Rwandan refugee women.
 An area of unused land at the rear of the workshop was converted into a productive garden.

OUTPUTS

What were the tangible results (deliverables) of the activities?
 High quality garments and carpets were produced for sale in local markets and to tourist visitors
 The high-quality goods produced were advertised locally and sold in outlets and at the convent.
 Vegetables were produced for the refugee families.

OUTCOMES

What short-term changes (1-2 years) will result from the activities?

The project became self-supporting after three years

The refugees were integrated into the local community and were able to re-establish their lives.

The Sisters were able to expand vegetable production on their small kitchen garden and to provide food for the refugees.

**IMPACTS**

What longer-term significant changes (3-5 years) will the beneficiaries experience?

The women were helped to recover some of their dignity after fleeing the genocide in Rwanda.

Their skills enabled them to become respected members of the local community.

After graduation, some of the trained women set up their own businesses and employed further refugees.

Photographs taken by Trustees and others when visiting the project



The Sisters of the Assumption wished to convert a disused garage at their Kwangware Convent into a weaving workshop for refugees from the DRC. They did so with SHOCC funding.

The Sisters purchased and renovated looms and the refugees began producing high quality clothing to sell in local markets.

Some of the funding was used to help the Sisters develop their small plot of land into a kitchen garden.

