

A GIFT OF LIFE

Alternative Gift Catalog 2022



YOUR GUIDE TO
GIVING A
GIFT THAT
MATTERS

15+ gift
options
included

MICROFINANCING
PARTNERS IN AFRICA

[MICROFINANCINGAFRICA.ORG](https://microfinancingafrica.org)



ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

WHY GIVE A GIFT THAT MATTERS?

Spend money this holiday season on a gift that will help lift someone in Africa out of extreme poverty. All money spent on alternative gifts helps people become self-sufficient and create an income source to provide for their family and themselves.

Benefits for you:

- Perfect for the hard-to-buy people that have everything
- Give a gift that makes a difference
- Lots of options, based on the recipient's interests
- No shipping costs; a certificate can be immediately downloaded
- No wrapping paper; put the certificate in a card or send to them via email

Benefits for the recipient:

- One less gift they have to return
- It will always fit, no size is needed
- No more clutter to add to their house
- Receive a gift that makes a difference and changes someone's life for the better



Almost 1/2 of everyone
earns less than \$2.15/day
(the extreme poverty line)



30% are
undernourished



1/2 have had cholera
or other water-borne
illnesses



6% of women
die during
pregnancy/
childbirth



fewer than 1/5 of
girls have access to
education.

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

HOW DO PEOPLE GET OUT OF POVERTY?

What does it mean to live in extreme poverty? It means that a person makes less than \$2.15 a day and has a reduced life expectancy. They struggle with getting their basic needs met, such as food, water, shelter, security, safety, warmth, and rest.

How do people lift themselves out of extreme poverty?

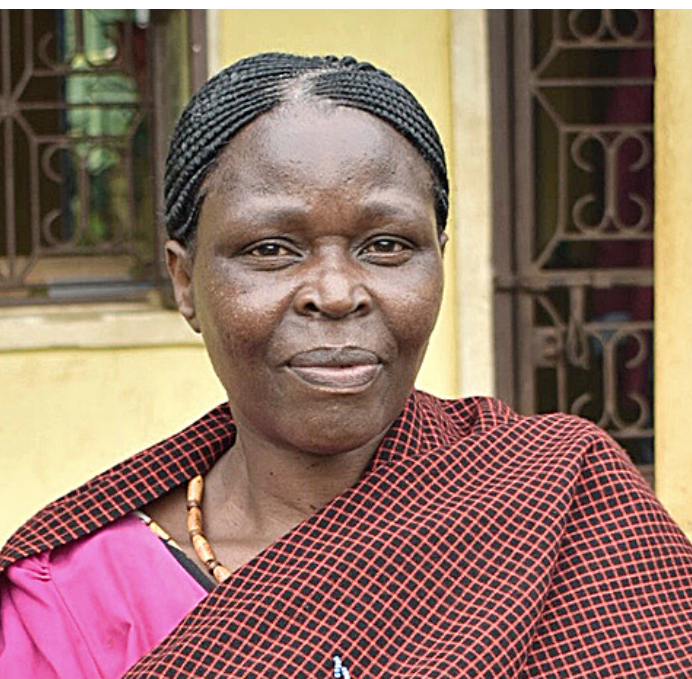
With dignity, individuals are taught how to save money and then create an income source of their choosing. With that, they receive a loan to launch their business, get education and support, and work hard to increase their income and savings. Alleviating poverty requires enhancing the capability of the poor to make their own choices and create value. Microfinancing helps people lift themselves out of poverty because it assumes that under the right conditions and with the right methods, their circumstances can change.

**MICROFINANCING AND LOANS ARE THE KEYS
TO ENDING WORLDWIDE POVERTY. THEY
ALLOW FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE FREEDOM OF
CHOICE TO DECIDE THEIR FUTURE WITH
DIGNITY, HOPE, AND A WAY TO A BETTER
LIFE THAT IS SUSTAINABLE.**



ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

AT A GLANCE

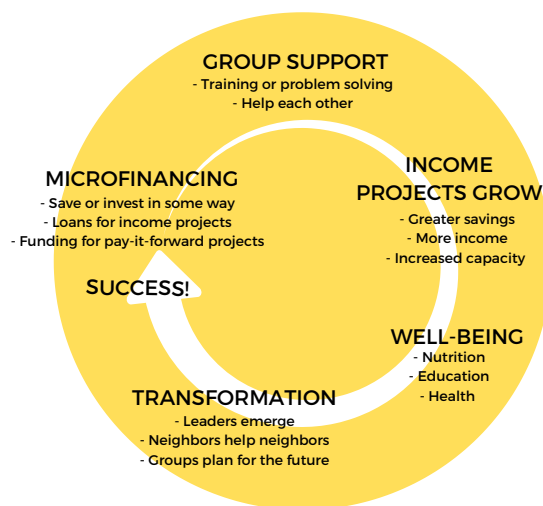


MICROFINANCING THE MPA WAY

MPA partners with grassroots organizations to help them expand their microfinancing efforts. Although our partners have different approaches to offering people a hand up, they have many elements in common. We have come to see these shared elements as best practices, or “Microfinancing the MPA Way.”

Our partners are:

- Lifting up people in extreme poverty
- Operating as nonprofits (proceeds are folded in to reach more people)
- Embracing “first you must save,” valuing savings as well as small loans
- Open to anyone, regardless of religion, race, tribe, or ethnicity
- Providing ongoing training and support to ensure success
- Having accountability for loan repayments or pay-it-forward commitments
- Operating sustainably with or without MPA’s involvement





ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

OUR PROGRAMS

Our Mission

MPA empowers those living in extreme poverty to lift themselves up with dignity through access to services and education by providing grants to strengthen and expand microfinancing programs in Africa.

Our Vision

When people can provide for their needs, both within their families and within their communities, peace can happen.

Our Programs

Follow this color key throughout this catalog to see how our projects are making an impact.

YOUR ALTERNATIVE GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Alternative gifts represent funding to one of MPA's five program areas. They are a profound way to give a gift to a loved one, while at the same time giving a hand up to help someone climb out of poverty. These gifts give twice—they celebrate the recipient and they change lives in Africa.

EDUCATION

COWS

SAFE WOMAN

LOANS

WATER

COW PROGRAM

Your gift could make a difference for another family like Joseph and Christina's family, who prepared their farm, planted grass, built a shed, and received a living loan of a pregnant cow from MPA. Now they have better nutrition, extra income from the milk, a more productive farm, and **hope**. They will make a gift as well when they pass on the first female calf to another farming family.

THE GIFT OF A LIVING LOAN OFFERS A HAND UP TO A FARMING FAMILY IN UGANDA



*Animals
Change
Lives!*

The impact of giving a cow?

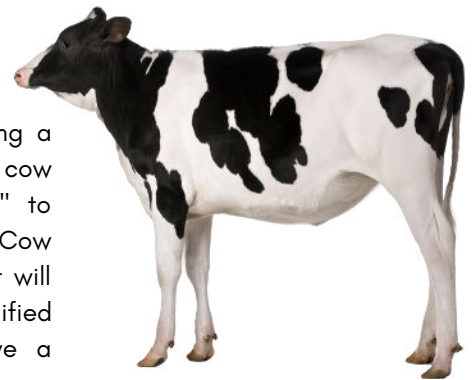
The average cow provides enough milk to sell 14-20 liters each week providing a family with \$2-5 dollars from milk sales.



Mary now is able to provide enough milk for her family's nutrition and sell the excess milk at her local dairy.

Cow

Whether purchasing a herd of cows, one cow or a "happy tail" to support the Cow Program, your gift will ensure a qualified family will receive a cow.



\$8,000 Herd of 10 Cows

Your gift of a herd of cows will change not just one family but an entire community.

\$800 One Cow

Your gift helps a trained and prepared family receive a living loan.

\$50 Happy Tail

Your gift will be combined with others to total the gift of a cow for a family in need.

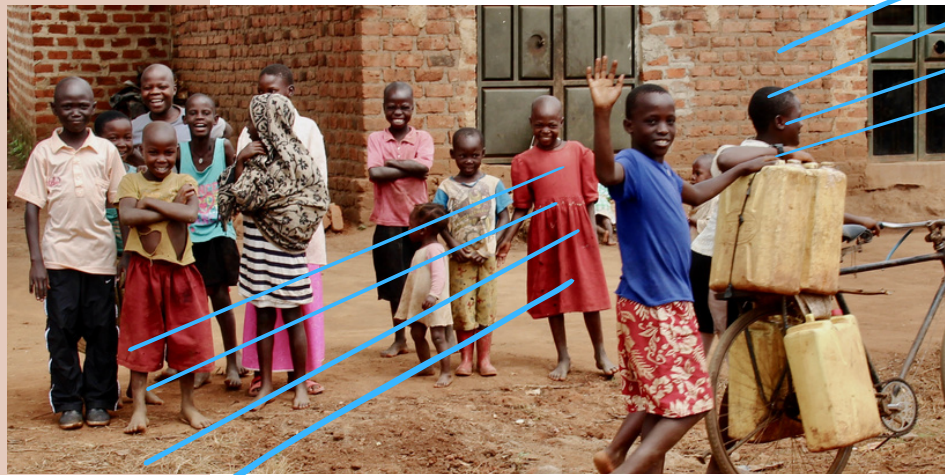
Water Filter

The gift of water can make a difference for another family like Namne's family, who saved and built a school but needed to provide clean water. A small loan for a water filter helped her provide clean water to her students. She will make a gift as well when she repays her water loan, funding clean water for another family.

UNCLEAN WATER IS THE GREATEST COMMON THREAT TO LIFE, HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AMONG THE PEOPLE WE STRIVE TO HELP



CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

- Water is expensive for those living in extreme poverty.
- Water often requires a walk of 5 km/3 miles or more.
- Water fetching is usually assigned to the young girls in the family.

\$120

Two Water Filters

Your gift provides two families with an alternative to boiling water to make it potable.

\$60

One Water Filter

In many communities throughout Africa children have to walk miles to get clean water. Provide clean water for an entire family with a filter.

Borehole

BUWEA (The Bukoba Women's Empowerment Association) in Tanzania proposed a borehole in Kiziru Village. The group provided the labor to support the borehole, and MPA funded most of the cost. In the process, the total costs increased from the original estimate of \$6,644 to \$8,057. This borehole is successfully producing water. BUWEA reports:

- This borehole serves community members from three villages. The rate of water flowing is good: one 20-liter bucket per 2 minutes.
- 35-40 people from different families collect water from this borehole each day. Each person takes two to three 20-liter buckets from the bore hole.
- This project already shows positive impact on the community. We expect the number of people suffering from waterborne disease will decrease or be eliminated totally.
- It is estimated that 345 families benefit from this borehole and will see improved health. The time formerly spent collecting water can be reallocated to either education or income-generating activities.

The Kiziru Village Group is committed to helping another group of BUWEA get started with a borehole project when the time comes. This will "pay forward" their living water loan.



CLEAN WATER PROGRAM



\$10,000 Borehole



An investment in a borehole is life changing for the community. Access to clean water changes everything .

\$5,000 Drill a Borehole



Contribute towards providing a community with a borehole, that on average will serve over 300 families.

\$2,500 Borehole Pumping Mechanics



Your gift funds a critical piece of the technology that delivers clean water to the surface where it can be accessed by over 300 families.

SAFE WOMAN PROGRAM

Our Safe Woman Program addresses the high obstetric fistula rate and the high rate of maternal-fetal mortality in the Masaka region of Uganda.



\$2,000 Ultrasound Machine

Give the gift of safety by providing an ultrasound machine to detect high-risk pregnancies.

\$200 One Piglet

Give one piglet for our Safe Woman Program which aids women in creating a sustainable income for themselves.

\$100 One SWAP Loan

Give women who have suffered an obstetric fistula a small loan to start a business.

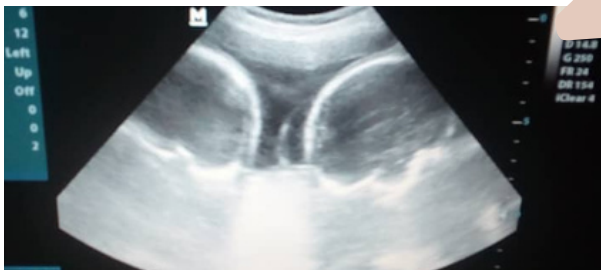
Piglet

Your gift could make a difference for a post-fistula woman like Nasakka who suffered an obstetric fistula injury in childbirth. She received training in the raising of pigs, built a shed, and received a living loan of a piglet. Now she has income from the sale of piglets, better nutrition, and hope. She will make a gift as well when she passes on two piglets back to the program.

A recent ultrasound of twins at one of our village health clinics! Double the love!

Ultrasound Machine

Your gift could make a difference for a pregnant mother who is at-risk for an injury during childbirth. With trained technicians and ultrasound machines, we can provide a healthy pregnancy and safe birth for women who otherwise would not have access to medical care.



EDUCATION PROGRAM

Your gift, pooled with other gifts, could make a difference for students like the Masai girls who attend St. Francis Vocational School. These students are receiving scholarships, classes in microfinancing, and a supply of reusable period pads. In return, they have committed to mentor the younger students and fund period pads for another student when they can.

STUDIES SHOW THAT A GIRL IN SCHOOL CAN EARN UP TO 25% MORE FOR EVERY YEAR COMPLETED OF SECONDARY SCHOOL. SHE WILL REINVEST 90% OF HER EARNINGS IN HER FAMILY, BE 3 TIMES LESS LIKELY TO BECOME HIV-POSITIVE, HAVE A HEALTHIER FAMILY WHEN SHE DOES MARRY, REINVEST IN HER CHILDREN'S EDUCATION, RESIST GENDER VIOLENCE, AND BECOME A FORCE FOR CHANGE IN HER COMMUNITY (CAMFED).



\$800 One Year Scholarship Secondary School

Fund one year of secondary education for a student in Africa.

\$300 One Year Scholarship for Primary School

Keep students in school by supporting one year of tuition and fees.

\$30 One School Uniform

Ensure a child can attend school by providing a school uniform.

MPA Helps Keep Girls in School

Students whose families struggle in extreme poverty or who are orphans are provided access to quality education. Some students may even be religious sisters whose families would normally be expected to fund their education, but may come from extreme poverty. An educational scholarship is made to fund primary, secondary, vocational school, university, and even medical school. In addition to learning about microfinancing, students pay their scholarships forward through mentoring or other age-appropriate service or activities at their schools.

LOANS PROGRAM



Doris at her newly opened grocery stand



Entrepreneurs find their start-up here. Members must begin by saving and may borrow two times the amount they have saved. Small groups of 3-5 vouch for each other, guaranteeing each other's loans.

\$400 Grocery Stand

Help support eager entrepreneurs begin their grocery stand.

\$200 Chicken & Eggs

Help entrepreneurs start their businesses with a loan for 50 chickens.

Grocery Stand

Your gift could make a difference for a woman like Doris who saved, borrowed twice what she had in savings, and received a small loan to start a grocery. Now she says, "I will always be grateful because this made it possible for me to feed my family." She will make a gift as well when she repays her loan, which makes the funding available to another person striving to start a small income project.

LOANS PROGRAM

Your gift could make a difference to a self-help group like the Welezo Friends who have saved together, and when they have enough, they give loans to each member to build their income projects. As the loans are repaid to the group with interest, bigger loans can be given. Your gift boosts their savings and boosts their projects.

START A GROUP INCOME PROJECT WITH A GIFT OF A SMALL BUSINESS LOAN

Here come the rabbits! Small self-help groups work together to create and sustain income-generating business activities. In Tanzania, women are raising rabbits. One doe can produce 36 kits (baby rabbits) each year, which can be sold at 4 months old for \$13 each. As a group project, many women and their families can benefit.



Your Gift Multiplies!



\$1,000 One Group Income Project

Aid one group seeking to better their community through microfinance.

\$250 Build Your Own Business

Help fund the materials needed to build a small pen for a rabbit project.

Group Projects

Your gift could make a difference to a village group whose members are cooperating in a larger capacity project, such as a cooperative milk collection center owned by a group of cow farmers. As they repay the loan, other village groups can benefit.

Sewing Machine

Your gift could make a difference to a person like Neema who joined a revolving loan support group, prepared, and received a small loan which helped her purchase a sewing machine. Now she has a thriving tailoring business and is thinking of hiring. Her loan repayment funds a hand up to other women in the revolving fund group.

\$100 Sewing Machine

For a person in Africa a sewing machine can be the doorway to a better life.



*Your
Support
Matters!*



Boat

Your gift could make a difference to another entrepreneur like Liliana, who first saved and then took a small loan to start an income project. After growing her business, she now has financed a fishing boat. Now she has a good income and dreams of adding a soda machine to her lake-side business. When she repays her loans, she is funding the gift of possibility to another person to climb out of poverty.

\$600 One Fishing Boat

Help an entrepreneur have the opportunity to begin a fishing business with a wood boat.





ALTERNATIVE GIFTS

HOW DOES GIVING AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT WORK?



When you give an alternative gift you are directly impacting a community that needs it most. Each donation is tax-deductible, supports programs that need donations most and makes a lasting impression.



When you make a donation by purchasing an alternative gift we are able to continue the mission of our programs that benefit hardworking families throughout Africa.



When you purchase an alternative gift, we will provide you with a downloadable card to gift to your honoree.



Give a gift. Give hope this holiday.



SUPPORT EDUCATION

The gift of education for a girl will change her life and position her to break out of the cycle of poverty.

\$300 Primary school fees for a year

*Most
popular
gifts*

SUPPORT A BUSINESS

The gift of a sewing machine will help a woman in extreme poverty create sustainable income.

\$100 Sewing Machine



Order today! | microfinancingafrica.org

