



# Rotary Telehealth Project

Reducing Health Disparities and Fighting Poverty Around the World



# Fighting Health Inequities

The Global Telehealth Network was founded on the belief that no one should be denied access to health care because of location, social status or ability to pay.



# The Challenge

- In many underserved areas in the world, people ARE denied access:
  - Limited-resource countries
  - Conflict zones (e.g., Syria and Ukraine)
  - Refugee camps
  - Underserved urban and rural areas in the U.S.
  - Tribal lands in the U.S.
  - Disaster areas anywhere
- One partial solution – Doctors and nurses who volunteer with medical missions
- However, most physicians who want to help are deterred by challenges:
  - Inability to take time away from their practices
  - Expense and risks of travel
- WE NEED A SOLUTION THAT ALLOWS VOLUNTEERING WITHOUT TRAVEL

# Expanding the Pool of Volunteers

- Many doctors and psychologists say they would volunteer to help patients in need if they could do so at minimal cost or risk, and without disrupting their practices and personal lives.
- Telehealth lets professionals use computers in their own offices or homes to treat patients virtually anywhere.



# Global Telehealth Network (GTN)

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- Doctors and nurses working in underserved areas often encounter patients with complex problems.
- It's often difficult or impossible to obtain specialty consultations.
- GTN's volunteer physicians and psychologists offer free online consults for health workers located in underserved areas.
- The nonprofit Global Telehealth Network (GTN) can reduce health inequities in medically underserved areas in U.S. and world-wide.

# How It Works

- Local Provider (doctor or nurse) uploads consultation request to GTN's website, including patient history & exam findings.
- GTN matches them with most appropriate physician or psychologist to provide needed consult.
- However, many locations that we want to serve lack Internet access and/or reliable electricity.
- IEEE Smart Village members have the expertise to develop solar power systems and enhanced Internet connectivity wherever they're needed.



- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
  - World's largest technical professional organization
  - Dedicated to advancing technology for benefit of humanity
  - Over 400,000 members in 160 countries



- IEEE Smart Village (ISV)
  - A humanitarian initiative of IEEE
  - Focuses on Technology, Education and Entrepreneurship
  - Improving thousands of lives across the globe so far, with plans to impact millions



# IEEE Smart Village: A Global Network



- 87 projects funded in 18 countries since 2009
- 16 active projects in 9 countries:

Cameroon, Honduras, Ecuador (Galapagos Islands), India, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Vietnam, USA





# IEEE Smart Village

## Lingshed Monastery

- Buddhist monastery in Ladakh Region, Indian Himalayas
- Established in year 1440 at an elevation of 12,000 feet
- Remains brightly lit to this day thanks to IEEE Smart Village's 2016 project with local developer: Global Himalayan Expedition
- See National Geographic video, "Power to the People" at: <https://vimeo.com/403961329>



# The Collaborative

- **IEEE Smart Village** (program of IEEE Foundation) supports entrepreneurs who install solar power and Internet access for healthcare, education and economic development.
- **Global Telehealth Network** provides consultations to assist doctors and nurses on the ground.
- **10 Rotary Clubs in 5 Districts** provide volunteers, connections, mentoring, fundraising, monitoring & evaluation.

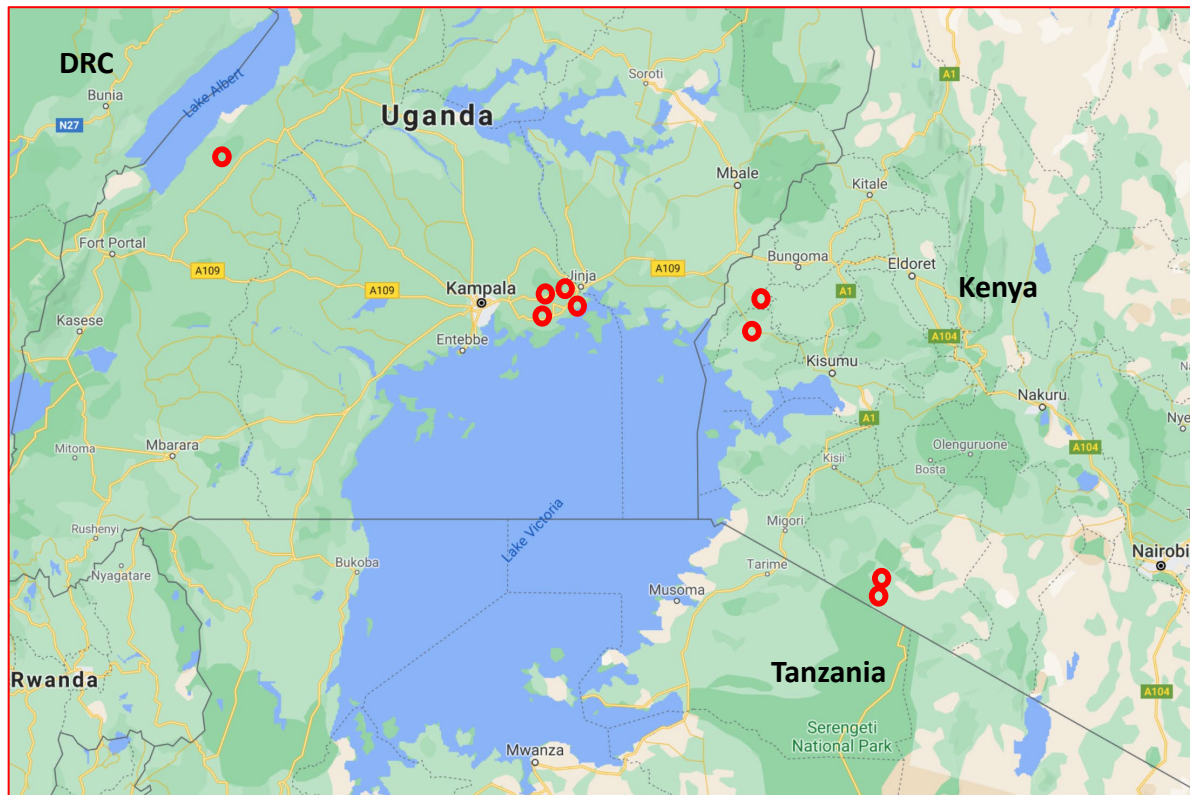


- Initial pilot projects in Uganda and Kenya



# Pilot Projects in Uganda and Kenya

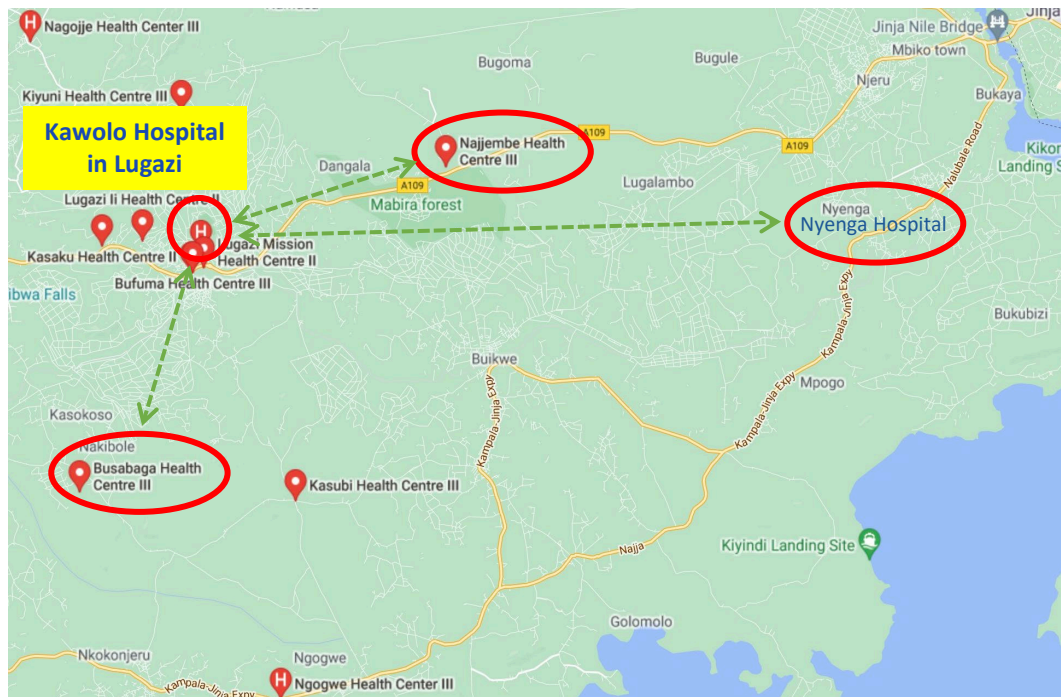
- Solar Power / Internet / Telehealth for 9 sites
  - 3 Hospitals
  - 4 Community clinics
  - 2 School clinics
- Projects vary depending on results of local community needs assessments





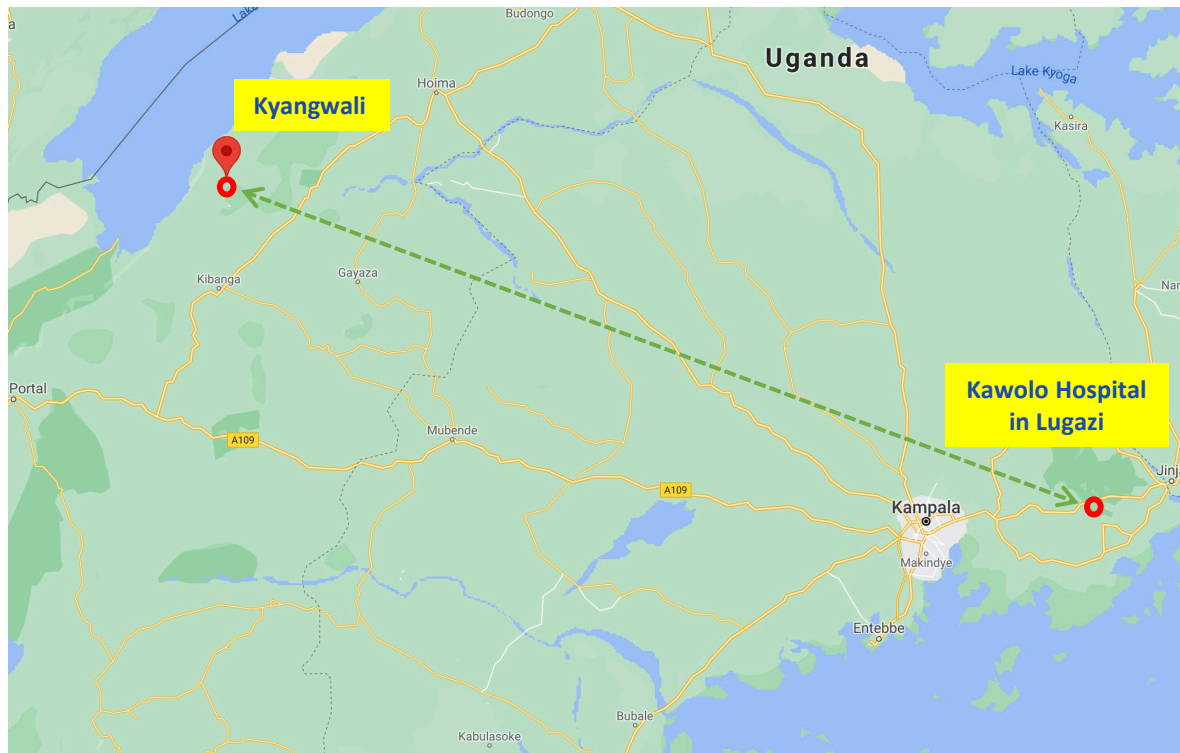
# Pilot Projects in Eastern Uganda

- Telehealth, Solar Power and Internet:
  - Kawolo General Hospital
  - 3 of the 53 smaller facilities that refer to Kawolo General Hospital
    - Nyenga Hospital
    - Najjembe Health Centre III
    - Busabaga Health Centre III



# Pilot Project in Western Uganda

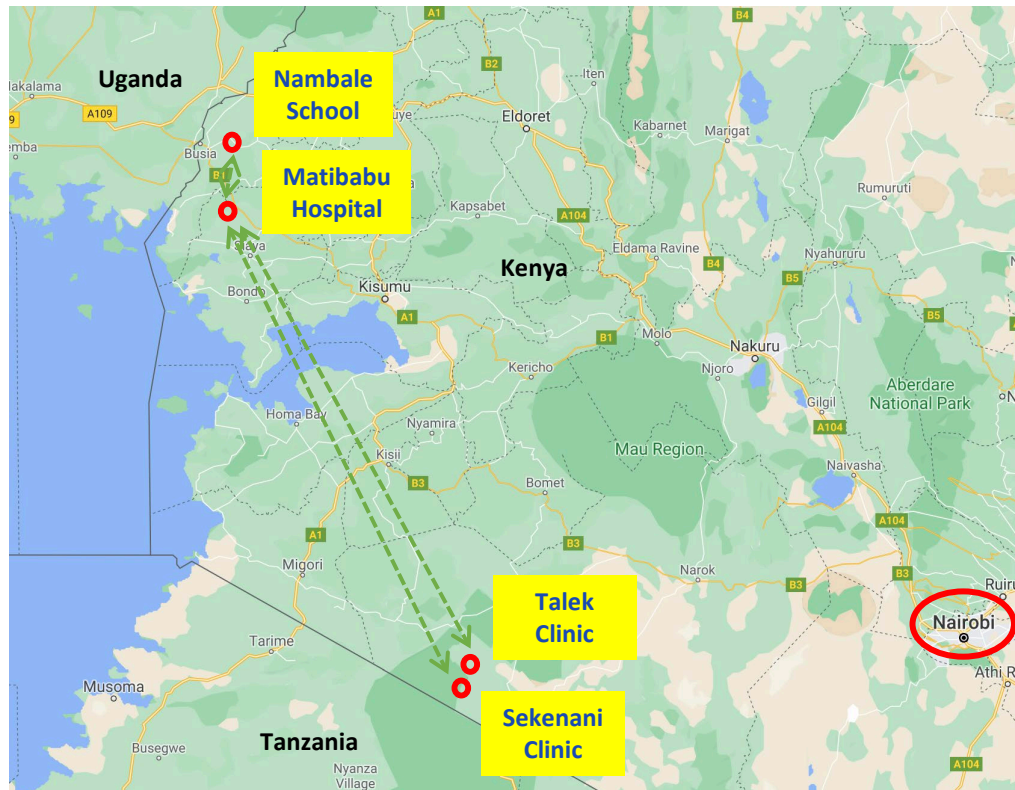
- Kyangwali settlement for 120,000 refugees, mostly Congolese
- COBURWAS School
- One nurse cares for 816 students and 43 staff, had no physician back-up previously
- Now nurse can access telehealth consultations and continuing medical education





# Pilot Projects in Kenya

- Telehealth, Solar Power and Internet:
  - Matibabu Foundation Hospital
  - Talek Community Health Center (adjacent to the Maasai Mara)
  - Sekenani Health Center (in the Maasai Mara)
  - Nambale Magnet School



# Collaborating Rotary Clubs and Districts

- Rotary E-Club of Silicon Valley Smart Village
- Rotary Club of Los Altos, CA, USA
- Rotary Club of Cupertino, CA, USA
- Rotary Club of Branson-Hollister, Missouri, USA
- Rotary Club of Hollister, Missouri, USA
- Rotary Club of Belleville, Ontario, Canada
- Rotary Club of Mengo, Kampala, Uganda
- Rotary Club of Kololo-Kampala, Uganda
- Rotary Club of Milimani, Nairobi, Kenya
- Rotary Club of Busia, Kenya
- Rotary District 5170, California, USA
- Rotary District 6080, Missouri, USA
- Rotary District 7070, Ontario, Canada
- Rotary District 9214, Uganda
- Rotary District 9212, Kenya

**10 Rotary Clubs  
5 Rotary Districts**

**We intend to collaborate with  
many more as we scale across  
Africa and to other continents.**

# Next Round(s) of Projects/Services

- Africa
  - Additional sites in Kenya and Uganda
  - Nigeria
  - Liberia
  - Tanzania
  - Ethiopia
  - Cameroon
  - Sierra Leone
  - Côte d'Ivoire
- Latin America and the Caribbean
  - Galapagos islands
  - Peru
  - Guatemala
- North America
  - Free clinics in California (later in other states)
  - Tribal Lands of Native Americans, Alaska Natives and First Nations

# Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



# Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

## Initial SDGs Addressed Through the Pilot Projects



## Additional SDGs Addressed Through Scaling and Collaboration



Productive use of sustainable energy and infrastructure for multiple purposes:

- Community Health Clinic
- Public library
- Computer lab
- Meeting rooms
- Adult education / Vocational training
- Women's co-ops for business and agriculture
- Tree nursery
- Food processing facility (industrial kitchen, honey extractor, rice mill, etc.)
- Cold storage facility / ice machine
- Maker space / shop
- Garage for shared equipment (electric trucks, tractors, motorcycles)



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IEEE Smart Village (ISV)

<https://smartvillage.ieee.org>

<https://vimeo.com/403961329> (NatGeo “Power to the People” video)