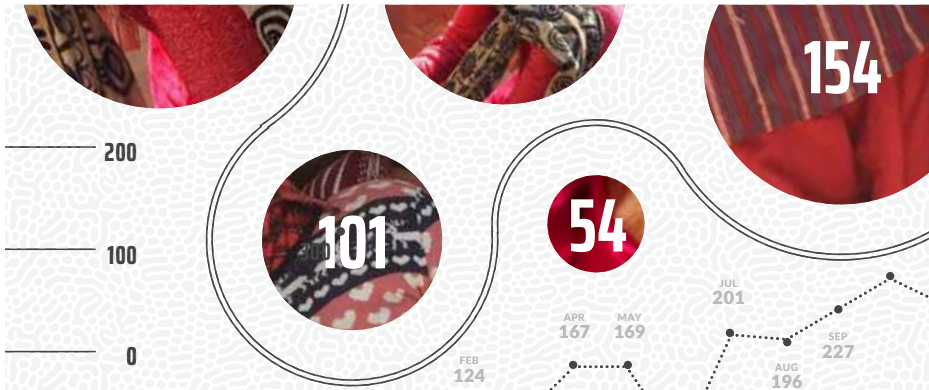
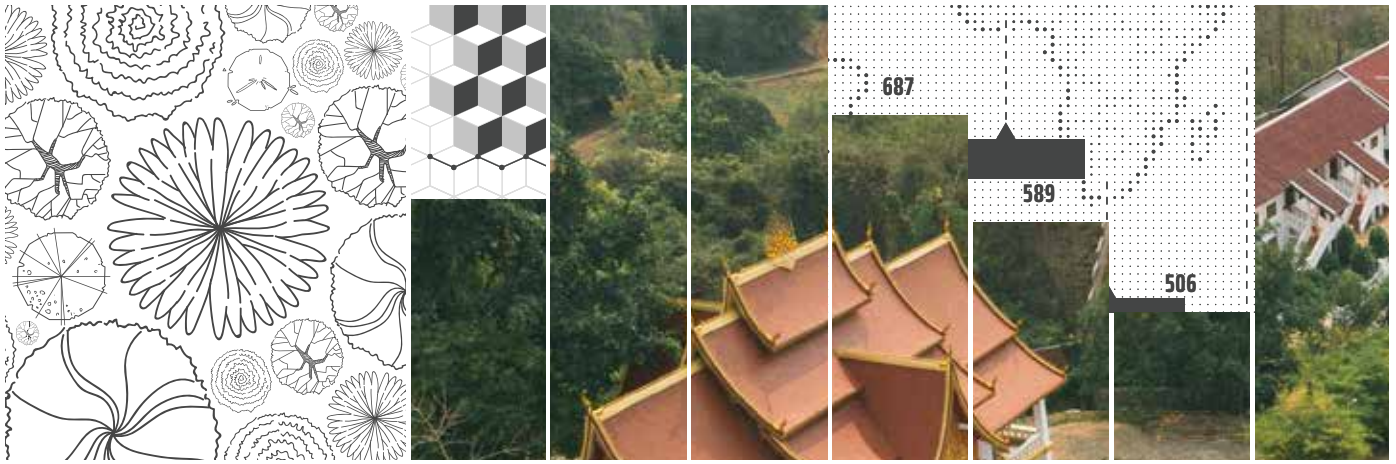


IMPACT & ETHICS REPORT



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FOREWORD

LEARNING & GROWING



FOREWORD

LEARNING & GROWING IN 2018

"GVI'S MISSION HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED FOR THE LAST 20 YEARS: WE AIM TO BUILD A GLOBAL NETWORK OF PEOPLE UNITED BY THEIR PASSION TO MAKE AN IMPACT."





15

**YEAR ANNIVERSARY
WITH THE SEYCHELLES
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

GVI is a movement of people who share a common goal: we want to work together and contribute towards positive development in the world. The organisation bridges the industries of international development, travel, and education. It was born from a desire to see a higher degree of local collaboration and a longer-term impact on international volunteer programs.

GVI's mission has remained unchanged for the last 20 years: we aim to build a global network of people united by their passion to make a difference.

Recently, I heard an update about an enduring partnership between GVI and a local governmental organisation in Seychelles. Our marine conservation base on the island of Mahe recently celebrated a 15-year anniversary with the Seychelles National Park Authority (SNPA). The more I thought about this milestone, the more I came to appreciate the dedication, respect, and passion that has gone into maintaining this relationship, from both sides, for well over a decade. Our 15-year partnership with SNPA is a testament to our commitment to long-term, sustainable development through local partnerships.

In the coming pages, you will find articles from our global staff about our work towards various United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). There will be narratives from some of our Ambassadors, recounting their perspective-shifting time spent in the field with us, making valuable efforts to help other humans.

You'll also find our metric measurements, which try to quantify the thousands of stories of human connection, collaboration, learning, and achievement. Lastly, we'll talk about how we hope to learn and improve even more in the year to come.

Steve

GVI IS A MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE WHO SHARE A COMMON GOAL: WE WANT TO WORK TOGETHER AND CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD.

WHY AN IMPACT AND ETHICS REPORT?

We have compiled this report for several reasons. First, to reflect on and assess our past year of work – we consider self-reflection an invaluable endeavour. Second, we wanted to acknowledge our stakeholders immense effort and commitment: from staff past and present, to participants, alumni, partner organisations and community members. The third and final goal for the Impact and Ethics Report is to discuss and demonstrate how far we have come in the space of a year.

In order to reach our 20-year goal: to be the leading organisation in experiential education and training on global issues and sustainable development – we need reports like this to assess, reflect and learn.

THE THREE MAIN FOCUSES OF OUR 20-YEAR GOAL ARE:

- 1** Long term collaborative impact on all stakeholders
- 2** Providing 360 support for all of our participants and other stakeholders
- 3** Increasing the employability or access to higher education of all of our stakeholders

We want to illuminate what we have achieved, and we hope that our plans for the next year, and the 20 years that follow, will inspire you to join the GVI movement.

A NOTE ON BEING A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

As a member of the United Nations Global Compact, we answer the call for businesses to take a mission-led approach to their operations. We measure our achievements as an organisation by analysing our mission success.

We are a for-profit organisation but do not use our finances to gauge our performance. Our mission success is the first item on the agenda of every GVI meeting.

By putting our mission front and centre in all things we do, it guides our decision-making. Social enterprises are at the intersection between businesses and non-governmental, or non-profit, organisations.

Every single one of our stakeholders is here to do good and do it well. If it becomes clear that anything we do does not contribute positively towards our mission, we will either change how we work or stop doing it all together.

All GVI staff and partners are encouraged to challenge our decisions and activities on that basis.

OUR MISSION SUCCESS IS THE FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF EVERY GVI MEETING. BY PUTTING OUR MISSION FRONT AND CENTRE IN ALL THINGS WE DO, IT GUIDES OUR DECISION-MAKING.



OUR AWARDS

GVI prides itself as an award-winning organisation. The awards that we win are a symbol for us that we are being recognised for the hard work and learning that we do every day. These are the awards we won in 2018 through peer and/or participant selection processes. We won these because each of our stakeholders made the commitment to do excellent, ethical, impactful work guided by our ethos of constant growth through reflection.

THE GLOBAL YOUTH TRAVEL AWARD WINNER – OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER PROJECT 2018

The Global Youth Travel Awards recognise and showcase volunteer projects that stand out with an emphasis on sustainability, responsibility and best practice. This year's award for Outstanding Volunteer Project was awarded to our team in Luang Prabang, Laos, for their efforts in women's empowerment, community development and educational support.



GOABROAD INNOVATION AWARDS – INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABILITY 2018



The GoAbroad Innovation Awards acknowledges institutions, organisations, and individuals moving the conservation field forward, and commend leaders in the community for their efforts to go beyond the conventional. This award honors commitment to environmental conservation and/or sustainable community development projects through an organisation's programs and day-to-day operations. Nominees are assessed on overall impact, groundbreaking strategies, and integration of the message.

GOABROAD INNOVATION AWARDS – INNOVATIVE STUDENT VIDEO 2018



As the leading resource for meaningful travel, GoAbroad presents annual awards recognising innovation in international education. The winners are selected by a prestigious and selective group of international educators known as the GoAbroad Innovations Academy. This award recognizes a student-created video that captures the true essence of an international education program. Videos should demonstrate highlights of the program, an understanding of global awareness, and active student participation. Our video, produced by one of our volunteers in Chiang Mai, was highlighted as a nominee for "Innovative Student Video" in 2018.

TUTORFUL – BEST VOLUNTEER ABROAD PROJECT 2018

Tutorful recently featured GVI as part of their ongoing mission to help generate awareness for the most awe-inspiring conservation projects around the world. Our wildlife conservation program was highlighted as the Best Volunteer Abroad Project for 2018, chosen from a list of hundreds of projects and being referred to as "a once in a lifetime experience".



VOLUNTEER FOREVER – BEST VOLUNTEER ABROAD PROGRAM 2018



Volunteer Forever announces their Best Volunteer Abroad Programs annually, selected by using their database of 800 international volunteer organizations, 2,500 program reviews and 10,000 volunteer abroad fundraisers. They also take into consideration the history of each organisation to include the number of volunteer alumni and their five years of intensive interactions with programs over email, phone, and in-person meetings. GVI's programs received the award for the Best Volunteer Abroad Program for a second year in a row in 2018.

2018 IN NUMBERS

Over the past 20 years, GVI has grown slowly but surely. We have become a global presence that has affected thousands of humans and many ecosystems for the better. The following is an overview of GVI's 20th year of sustained operations. The past 12 months was undoubtedly the year with GVI's widest impact yet.

13 COUNTRIES | 19 LOCATIONS

150+ STAFF MEMBERS

2,200+ PARTICIPANTS
FROM 60+ COUNTRIES

762 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS
(LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL NGOS, EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES, INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY BODIES)

1,217 COMMUNITIES PARTNERED WITH

66,948 COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED

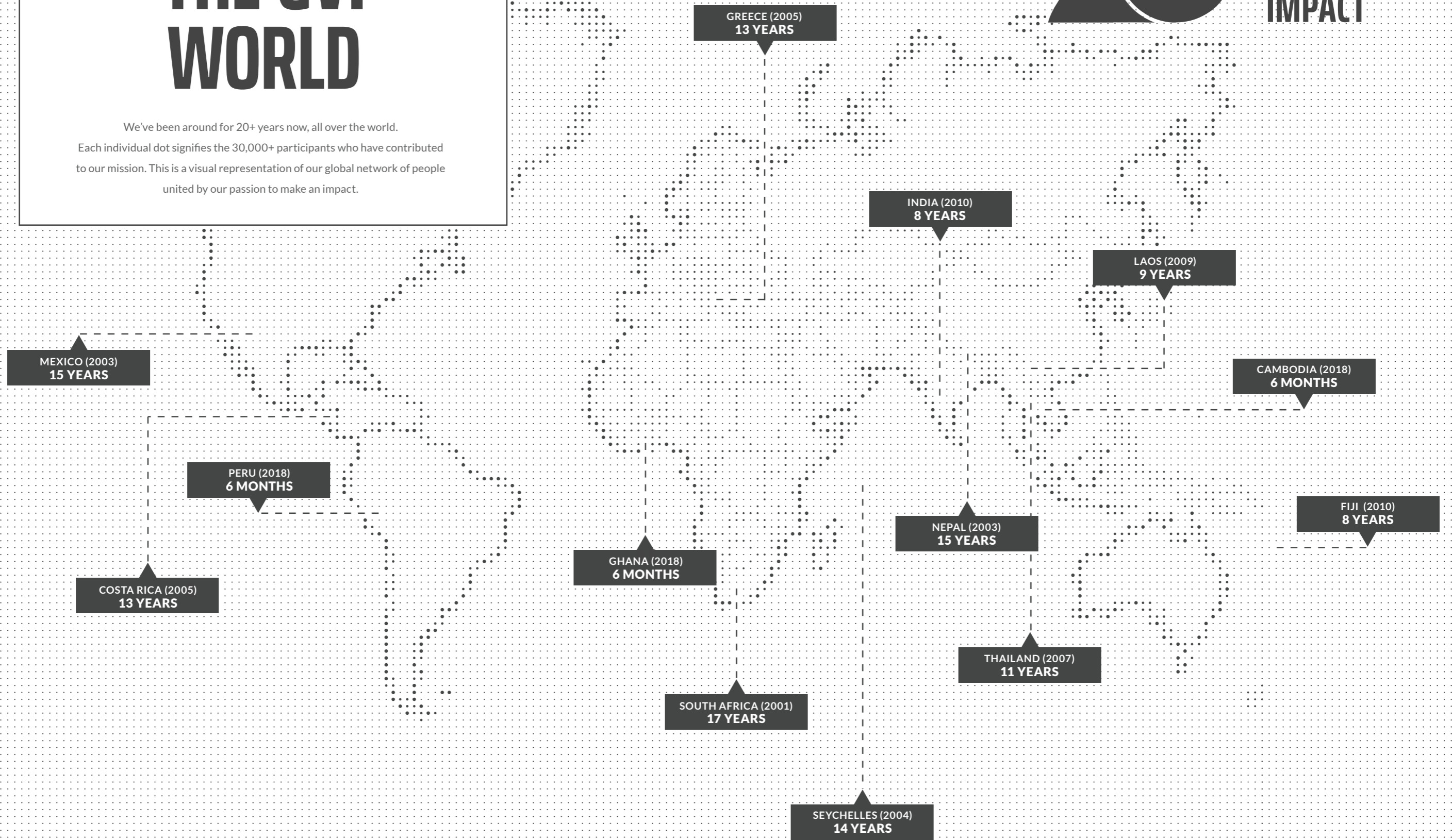
776 PADI & EFR QUALIFICATIONS TRAINED & ISSUED



THE GVI WORLD

We've been around for 20+ years now, all over the world.
Each individual dot signifies the 30,000+ participants who have contributed to our mission. This is a visual representation of our global network of people united by our passion to make an impact.

20+ YEARS
CREATING
IMPACT



NOTEWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS IN 2018

In the past year, we worked on clarifying our stances on ethicality and human empowerment and we stayed abreast of current best practices and thinking in international development. We also opened bases in three new countries: Ghana, Cambodia, and Peru, to expand our impact.

OUR JOURNEY IN ETHICS

Ethical practice has always been core to GVI's interactions with stakeholders: from communities and their leaders, to non-governmental organisations, to faculty and management at educational institutions.

From the beginning of our story, we've strived to learn about and implement the latest knowledge from a global pool of research and thinking. It was only recently, however, that we began to develop solidified stances and policies to govern this learning process and operations.

We embarked on a journey of learning. It began with conversations with thought leaders in our field and continued through organisation-wide policy development and educational workshops.

This process was roughly divided into two distinct but related streams: our stance on human empowerment, and our policy and plans for our involvement in orphanage volunteering.

EMPOWERMENT

To GVI, the concept of human empowerment addresses the way that different groups of people – who we term 'stakeholders' – work to support each other in their own empowerment.

As an organisation, GVI takes on the role of organiser, facilitating spaces for groups to set and achieve objectives collaboratively, and in an environment that allows all stakeholders to empower themselves.

Where historically we operated from a place of intrinsic ethicality, we now know that as we grow we need clearly outlined stances and policies. To achieve this, we are building and implementing an array of official guidelines. These capture a combination of current development literature and our years of experience in ethical and empowering operations.

This is what our journey in human empowerment has been about: establishing our beliefs and delineating how

both GVI and stakeholders are expected to act. The training and discussions that came out of this process have already led to seismic shifts in how we present ourselves and staff our programs. It also influenced conversations on how we monitor and record our impact. GVI will never stop engaging with, contributing to, and learning from global communal knowledge. As this knowledge evolves, so will we.

THIS IS WHAT OUR JOURNEY IN HUMAN EMPOWERMENT IS ABOUT: ESTABLISHING OUR BELIEFS AND DELINEATING HOW BOTH GVI AND STAKEHOLDERS ARE EXPECTED TO ACT.

ORPHANAGE VOLUNTEERING

In 2017, we made the commitment to responsibly transition away from all activities at residential care institutions. Our commitment was made in response to decades of research showing the harm caused by institutionalised care to children. The current research states that 80% of children in orphanages have a living parent or extended family members.

Over the course of 2018, we engaged in discussion with staff and local partners about this transition. We worked with relevant local partners to assist them in transitioning to alternate solutions that aim to reunify children with their families or, if not possible, to find a family environment for every child. Sadly, we had to make the decision to withdraw from working with

partners who were not willing to make the transition away from the residential care model.

The wellbeing and empowerment of all children is our main priority. Which is why we opted for a long-term withdrawal process. That being said, such a withdrawal is never an easy or simple process due to emotional, moral, and operational grey areas that we are still navigating our way through. We continue to grow through this journey, and will elaborate on this further.



EXPANDING OUR IMPACT

In the past year or so, we put even greater focus on our impact. One of the ways we did this was by expanding our partnerships into three new locations: Ghana, Peru and Cambodia. We've made some amazing new partnerships this past year. One example is the Nature Conservancy in Peru. The Nature Conservancy is piloting their eco-tourism project with GVI's collaborative support. If it proves successful, then it will be rolled out to other villages where the Nature Conservancy is stationed.

GVI enters into new locations after myriad factors have been considered and explored thoroughly. One of the

main factors is whether there is a strong need for the type of assistance that GVI can provide. We ascertain this through research into local and international development issues in different countries. We also look at volunteer travel trends, as this shows us where people will want to do impactful work.

We are now active in all three locations and we are seeing recruitment for the projects increase quickly since their inception.

- ZERO HUNGER [GOAL 2 >](#)
- GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING [GOAL 3 >](#)
- QUALITY EDUCATION [GOAL 4 >](#)
- GENDER EQUALITY [GOAL 5 >](#)
- CLEAN WATER & SANITATION [GOAL 6 >](#)
- DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH [GOAL 8 >](#)
- LIFE BELOW WATER [GOAL 14 >](#)
- LIFE ON LAND [GOAL 15 >](#)
- PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS [GOAL 17 >](#)

OBJECTIVE SUCCESS MEASUREMENT

All GVI bases around the world work together with local partners and communities to set short, medium, and long term objectives. These objectives are identified by communities as key areas for development. Together, GVI and our partners develop programs in collaboration towards these objectives.

During this process, the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) are taken into account. The UN SDGs serve to align local efforts with global progress. By aligning program objectives and key performance indicators (KPIs) with specific UN SDG targets, they become clearer and more firmly based on global best practices and expectations for success.

However, designing a system to record and collate our collaborative impact, in alignment with the UN SDGs, is a challenge. This is because there are 17 goals with a total of 169 targets and 242 KPIs, combined with GVI's global spread, range of projects, and partner objectives.

Due to this challenge, we chose to focus our efforts on nine out of the 12 SDGs. These SDGs are where we feel we have the largest impact, and cutting out the other SDGs allows us to hone in our impact.

Within these nine SDGs, there are specific targets that we use to help us identify areas of collaborative effort. Once those areas are identified, we use the targets to measure against the relevant UN SDG. We record these on an ongoing basis and collate the data on a quarterly basis to gauge success. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to follow this method with every partner or project, and the reason for this will be elaborated on in the final section of this report.

Another key issue we face in measurement is double counting, and so we apply precautionary principles. This means that the results and measurements in this report may, in some cases, understate our work by small margins. However, we prefer to undercount than potentially exaggerate.



ETHICS



OUR JOURNEY SO FAR



OUR JOURNEY IN ETHICS

The popularity of international volunteer programs grew in the '60s and '70s, arising from government-funded organisations like the Peace Corps and non-governmental organisations like the Salvation Army sending skilled volunteers around the world.

In the 90s, in large part due to the increased globalisation of information and decreasing international travel costs, a boom in the desire to volunteer abroad came about. The voluntourism industry was born. This response came mostly from the Western world, who were looking for meaningful, impactful international travel options. As a result of this demand, travel organisations created commercial volunteer packages modelled around a want to do good, but through structured options.

However, these volunteers weren't all skilled, leading to criticism in the industry about unethical practices. This is where GVI comes in, and this is how we're different.

GVI'S RELATION TO THE VOLUNTOURISM INDUSTRY

GVI was founded in 1998 by Richard Walton, who went on a voluntourism trip years before as a teenager. On his trip, he was struck by the realisation that the work he and his school friends had done in the local community wouldn't have a lasting impact. And so, the idea for GVI was born, with the intent on creating sustainable, impactful, ethical programs for both the communities and young international students, right from the start.

To state it clearly, GVI does not consider itself a voluntourist organisation. Since the inception of the organisation, we have made sure to operate with only the best and latest thinking in terms of ethics and sustain-

able development. This is rarely the case for the more traditional voluntourism agencies, whose poor practises have been heavily criticised by many international development commentators.

In the coming sections, the common commentary about the poor practises of the voluntourism industry are stated and addressed. It will become clear that GVI is at the cutting edge of the industry, so much so as to be beyond it in many ways.

CRITICAL COMMENTS AND GVI'S RESPONSES

CRITICISM 1: voluntourism operations put pressure on local organisations and their potentially limited resources.

A core strength of ours is that we have our own international and local teams of GVI staff at all of our own locations. Our bases consist of office space and full accommodation for staff and our participants. We believe this to be an ethical best practice. We ensure that our presence does not put any pressure on local partners, who may struggle with limited resources. We prevent such pressure do this by providing accommodation, food, transport, and travel support. The weight of feeding, training, and introducing participants to local cultures in a safe and respectful ways is taken on by us, and not on local organisations.

CRITICISM 2: participants aren't qualified or trained to perform the tasks they carry out in other countries.

As a matter of ethics, we never have and never will allow participants to do anything they're not qualified to do in their own home country. Under close supervision by

GVI staff and local experts, all participants complete project training concerning the tasks at hand. They are also taught about the local cultural expectations and norms, and local and global sustainable development issues. This allows them to make a real positive impact while negating the potential for any harm arising out of ignorance or negligence.

CRITICISM 3: persons from historically economically advantaged nations should probably volunteer locally rather than in other nations.

Many international participants are conscious of their limited awareness and so volunteer to learn more and contribute to the resolution of global issues.

This creates a global viewpoint for both participants and local persons. GVI sees this as a positive development on a personal and interpersonal scale. We are there to facilitate these developments by serving as industry leaders in ethical best practices.

While many international volunteers join us to make an impact on the ground, (they contribute in small but aggregative ways) we know that the major impact is made on the participants themselves. We enable this impact through providing a carefully curated learning experience.

Similarly impactful is the exposure of local persons to different international perspectives in a healthy, non-extortive way. This exposure is facilitated by our knowledgeable and culturally fluent field staff. This can help expand their understanding of their own possibilities in the wider world.



THE BADGE OF ETHICS

Practicing ethics means that it's not enough to just do good. Sometimes, doing what we believe to be good can have negative consequences. The decision to volunteer abroad is admirable, yes. But even the best of intentions can go wrong when they're not based on best practice.

This is why it is important to stop and think about the actions we take when trying to help others. The badge calls on us to stop and think about how we're doing good, and whether there's a better way to do that good.

Through the Badge, GVI says: we will lead the way towards ethical best practice. We will grow and reflect, and then grow some more. We will remain open and transparent about the mistakes we've made, and commit to being better.

Our goal is for our Badge of Ethics to grow beyond GVI and be embraced by other organisations. We hope, one day, that this badge will grace the websites of travel agencies, volunteer organisations, NGOs, and hospitality providers who have committed to practising ethicality at its most advanced level.



DO GOOD, **BETTER**

**THE BADGE CALLS
ON US TO STOP & THINK
ABOUT HOW WE'RE DOING
GOOD, & WHETHER
THERE'S A BETTER WAY**



OUR ETHICS & EMPOWERMENT POLICIES



EMPOWERMENT



Empowerment addresses the way our stakeholders collectively work together to support each other in their own empowerment. Stakeholders include, but may not be limited to, local communities and their members, NGOs, government agencies, educational institutes, GVI participants, GVI staff, donors, and fundraisers. As an organisation, GVI takes on the role of organiser, facilitating stakeholders to collaboratively set and achieve objectives together in an environment that allows all stakeholders to empower themselves.

WE APPLY FIVE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN EMPOWERMENT ACROSS OUR OPERATIONS.

1. COLLABORATION

The setting and achieving of objectives must be done in a collaborative environment between all stakeholders.

2. HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS

All stakeholders take on the role of both learner and teacher. All stakeholders have different and diverse skills and all have an equal part to play in the setting and meeting of objectives.

3. SUPPORT

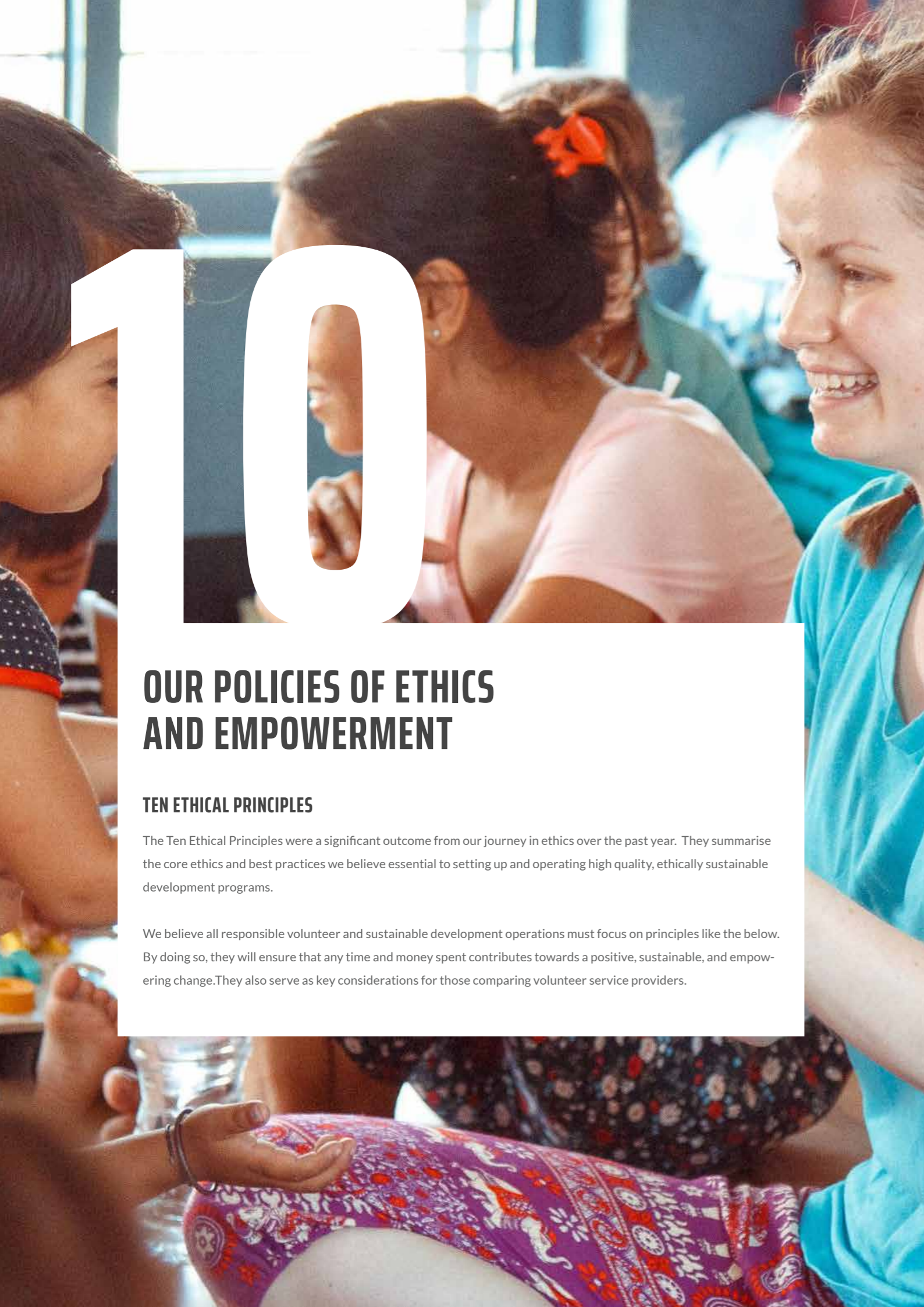
All stakeholders should work to support one another in an environment that fosters independence and self-empowerment. This must be considered in all aspects of work and life in communities.

4. SUSTAINABILITY

All collaboration should work towards a sustainable outcome in the long term.

5. REPRESENTATION

All stakeholders must be conscious and respectful of how they portray each other. This includes visual, written and verbal communications.



OUR POLICIES OF ETHICS AND EMPOWERMENT

TEN ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

The Ten Ethical Principles were a significant outcome from our journey in ethics over the past year. They summarise the core ethics and best practices we believe essential to setting up and operating high quality, ethically sustainable development programs.

We believe all responsible volunteer and sustainable development operations must focus on principles like the below. By doing so, they will ensure that any time and money spent contributes towards a positive, sustainable, and empowering change. They also serve as key considerations for those comparing volunteer service providers.

OUR TEN ETHICAL PRINCIPLES ARE:

- 1

Locally Driven, Collaborative Projects: We aim to design all of our projects in collaboration with local organizations and communities and ensure that they are locally driven.
- 2

Clear Objectives and Sustainable Outcomes: we aim to clearly define short, mid, and long-term objectives with sustainable outcomes for all our projects.
- 3

Primum non nocere: which means, 'first, do no harm'. In all our programs, we ensure that no harm comes to any of our stakeholders through improper or illegitimate practices such as an unqualified participant taking part in a medical or veterinary procedure.
- 4

Working Against Dependency: we aim to build in-country capacity by assisting local organisations become self-sustaining.
- 5

Responsible Exit Strategies: we aim to have a plan in place for responsibly withdrawing support from each local organisation we work with.
- 6

Clear Roles and Specialised Training: we aim to ensure that every participant is assigned a clear role and that they are fully trained and supported by specialised staff.
- 7

Respect for All: in all our actions we aim to respect the skills and efforts of all. As well as seek to protect the rights, culture, and dignity of everyone who engages with GVI. We consider it our responsibility to educate the world about the international saviour attitude and the damage it causes.
- 8

Local Ownership: we work to ensure that credit for the results of all projects, along with any data collected, research conducted, or intellectual property developed, remains the property of local organisations.
- 9

Transitioning from the Orphanage Model: we do not condone volunteering at residential care institutions and aim to withdraw support from them responsibly.
- 10

Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection: we will live by our Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult policies.

THE RIGHTS, WISHES AND FEELINGS OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS, AND THEIR FAMILIES, ARE RESPECTED AND LISTENED TO.

THE AIM IS TO PROMOTE GOOD PRACTICE BY PROVIDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS WITH APPROPRIATE PROTECTION WHILE IN THE CARE OF GVI.

CHILD AND VULNERABLE ADULT PROTECTION POLICY

The aim of the GVI Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy is to promote good practice by providing children and vulnerable adults with appropriate protection while in the care of GVI. Our policy helps staff and volunteers make informed decisions and respond confidently to any issues that may arise.

Our Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy is stringent and is implemented throughout the organisation. As part of the policy, participants and staff are all required to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, police clearance, or a national background check. This ensures there is no potential to do harm, in compliance with our Ethical Principle Number 3.

The policy ensures work done on behalf of GVI is transparent, and promotes the welfare of all children and vulnerable adults associated with the organisation.

WE ENSURE:

The welfare of all children and vulnerable adults, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin religious beliefs and/or sexual identity, are protected from abuse.

The rights, wishes and feelings of children, young people and vulnerable adults, and their families, are respected and listened to.

All suspicions and allegations of abuse and poor practice are taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.

The full policy is available on our website at: gvi.co.uk/resources/child-and-vulnerable-adult-policy/

ORPHANAGES

OUR STANCE ON VOLUNTEERING AT RESIDENTIAL CARE INSTITUTIONS

In early 2017, GVI made the commitment to responsibly transition away from any and all activities at residential care institutions by the end of 2018. Our commitment was made in response to a publication that, after decades of research, exposed the exploitative cycle of the orphanage system. Research uncovered that out of the eight million children and young people that live in institutions around the world – 80% of them have a living parent or extended family members that are able to care for them.

These children are often put into orphanages by their family members in hopes that the child will be provided for in a way that the family can't. This is often not the case. It was found that care institutions separate families to benefit from funding offered by governments, religious organisations, corporations and individuals.

While funding from these official bodies and individuals is well-meant, it perpetuates a supply and demand cycle where children are seen as commodities. In addition, the study shows that children raised in institutions suffer from developmental issues that could be avoided in a family environment.

Which is why, in consultation with Better Volunteering Better Care, we worked with our local partners to transition to alternative solutions that reunify children with

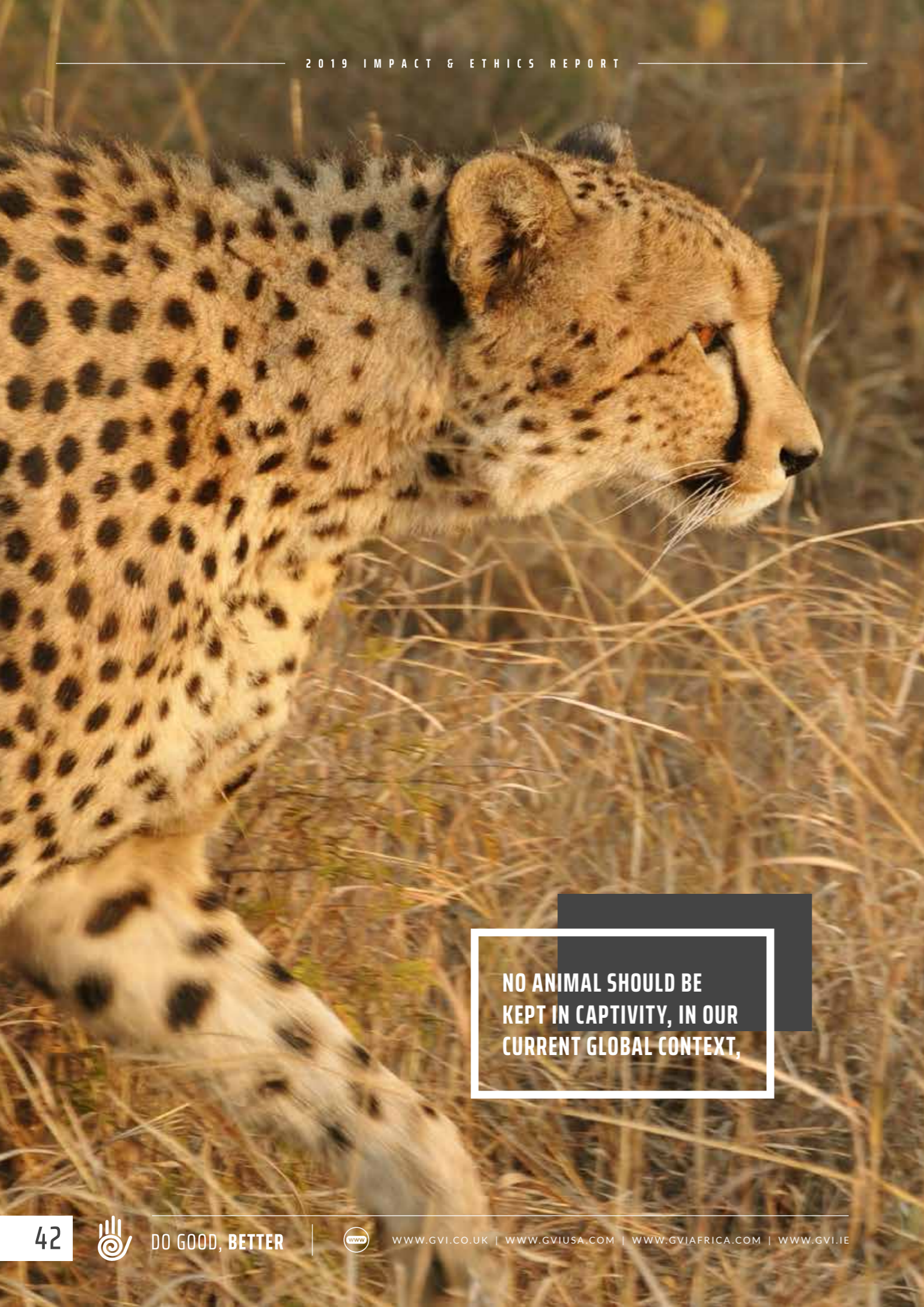
their families. In rare cases where this is not possible, the solution is to find a family environment for such a child.

As is necessary with any sustainable development project, we have undertaken a longer process of withdrawal because the wellbeing and empowerment of all children is our main priority. Removing resources immediately is potentially harmful to any children involved.

Going forward into 2019 and beyond, we will partner with organisations who want to create awareness around the harm of long term residential care.

THE WELLBEING AND EMPOWERMENT OF ALL CHILDREN IS OUR MAIN PRIORITY, WHICH IS WHY WE HAVE ENSURED THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF OUR SUPPORT WAS DONE RESPONSIBLY





NO ANIMAL SHOULD BE KEPT IN CAPTIVITY, IN OUR CURRENT GLOBAL CONTEXT,

ANIMAL PROXIMITY AND HANDLING POLICY

GVI are dedicated to protecting the natural habitats of animals and endeavour to contribute to animal conservation activities. We believe that conservation and community go hand-in-hand. We are committed to educating local and global communities about the impacts of their actions on specific habitats, unique species, and the planet as a whole.

As a result, we have been operating conservation programs for over two decades and are committed to furthering the progress of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

We believe that while in an ideal world, no animal should be kept in captivity, in our current global context, captive animal facilities play an important role in con-

servation. They help to ensure the survival of critically endangered species threatened by poaching, kidnapping, habitat destruction, and a lack of genetic diversity. They also assist by creating conservation awareness in visitors.

While this is a controversial topic within sustainable development and conservation circles, there are many organisations, like our partner Fair Trade Tourism, who support our opinion.

Fair Trade Tourism follow the Global Sustainable Tourism Council standards and have created a series of guidelines every reputable captive wild animals facility should follow. Consequently, all our partner facilities are vetted using these guidelines.

We are committed to educating local and global communities about the impacts of their actions on specific habitats, unique species, and the planet as a whole.

PARTNER STORIES



PARTNER STORIES

The global network we are building relies heavily on the partnerships we form with every one of our stakeholders. These relationships are developed through mutual respect and a commitment to achieving our key partner objectives.

These partnerships reflect the driving factor of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals. We agree that in order to create sustainability in the economic, social, and environmental fields, it is vital that partnerships exist between society, governments, and privately owned organisations.

A partnership entails that all parties involved share mutual values and objectives to empower the people and environment.

Our Ten Ethical Principles and our Five Principles of Human Empowerment are the product of 20 years spent building respectful, passionate, committed partnerships. Without our partners, GVI wouldn't be able to work towards the impact each and everyone of us wants to see in the world.

A PARTNERSHIP ENTAILS THAT ALL PARTIES INVOLVED SHARE MUTUAL VALUES AND OBJECTIVES TO EMPOWER THE PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT.

EDUCATING CHILDREN ABOUT THEIR RIGHT WITH SAVE THE CHILDREN

Save the Children Quintana Roo works to guarantee the fulfilment of the rights of the children and adolescents of Quintana Roo province in Mexico. Our organisation aims to protect particularly those who live in vulnerable circumstances, such as domestically violent households, temporary abandonment, lagging education, poverty, and discriminatory situations.

Our objectives here at Save the Children Quintana Roo are to promote the integral development of children, within familial and community environments, through the principles, ethics, and the methodologies of diagnosis and child participation that emanate from Save the Children Mexico. We aim to contribute to building an equal, participative and inclusive community.

Our Toy Library Program encourages the integral development of girls and boys living in contexts of high social vulnerability. This Save the Children project aims to facilitate the development of skills and attitudes that allow the children who participate in the program, to distance themselves emotionally from the violence that surrounds them. In doing so, they learn the life skills to grow in harmony as a healthy, whole individual within a family and the broader community. Another program we run here seeks to facilitate a successful transition from adolescence to adulthood. We strive to do this by

encouraging the participation of adolescents in the development of social-emotional skills and the promotion of their own rights. We do this through our programs that include innovative and replicable methodologies that have proven to be effective and sustainable.

The support of GVI is very important for the organisation, particularly for the Toy Library Program



where the participants interact with the children. The children, the teachers, and participants all learn from this interaction. The children learn how to establish equal relationships with people of different ages, cultures and backgrounds. This contributes to their empowerment because it helps them to see themselves in a context where people have equal rights. In addition, the participants contribute to the comprehensive education of girls and boys through weekly English and environmental lessons. In addition, GVI during these years of partnership has contributed to the institutional strengthening of the organisation by providing training and support with the maintenance and equipment of the toy libraries.

BY LEO VELAZQUEZ, SUPERVISOR, STC QUINTANA ROO LUDOTECAS.

A LEGACY OF CONSERVATION - CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF COLLABORATION WITH THE SEYCHELLES NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY

When we talk about life, we talk about water. No one can dispute its vital importance to our planet's ecological balance. While this knowledge provides one out of many reasons why we should protect and respect our oceans, they continuously face threats through plastic pollution, overfishing, and the everyday use of products that can devastate vibrant coral reefs. The authorities set up in Seychelles to protect our marine resources have always been mindful of this and 15 years ago signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) and GVI.

Under this first agreement, which was signed by the then Managing Director of SCMRT-MPA, Mary Stravens, and GVI's Director of Marine Projects, Steve Gwenin, Seychelles welcomed the first group of GVI's expedition members and staff at their facility at Cap Ternay. The objectives of the collaboration were firstly, to have skilled personnel, providing training to volunteers and local conservationists, on coral, fish and other reef-associated species identification, as well as methodologies used for surveying these species' distribution and health. Secondly, it aimed to undertake annual surveys on the status of the coral reefs within the Cap Ternay and Port Launay Marine National Parks and its vicinity (North West Mahé).

Furthermore, in 2008, a new agreement was put in place to develop a second base on Curieuse Island. Initially developed as an extension of the marine program based in Cap Ternay, the Curieuse base has since re-oriented its work towards coastal and terrestrial research. This benefits GVI in providing diverse activities for its volunteer programme in the Seychelles but also enables SNPA to have valuable information within the Curieuse National Park, on the status of various species, such as the Aldabra giant tortoise, the endemic coco-de-mer, lemon sharks and their ecosystems, such as the mangrove forest which is one of its kind in the inner granitic

islands. To date, GVI has provided valuable support to SNPA, in ensuring the collection of diverse, valuable data sets on species and their habitats, in the Seychelles national parks.

The international NGO had similarly provided training for SNPA staff in reef monitoring techniques and diving. To have been able to maintain such a well-established research and monitoring partnership for so long would not have been possible without the great support of SNPA, and likewise, the good working relationship and understanding between the two organisations.

Looking back on these past 15 years, it is clear that the collaboration between GVI and SNPA has resulted in one of the oldest established, comprehensive, long-term coral reef monitoring programmes in Seychelles. Data sets on coral reef health and the status of the North West coast of Mahé, have indeed served the purpose of guiding management decisions over the years, especially in 2014 when the protection of Baie Ternay Marine Park came under threat from hotel developers.

The SNPA is entrusted with the protection and management of all marine and terrestrial national parks in Seychelles, including the Sante Anne, Silhouette, Port Launay, Baie Ternay, Ile Coco, Curieuse and Saint Pierre marine parks, as well as the Morne Seychellois National Park, the Praslin National Park and the Veuve Special Reserve on La Digue. Aside from administering controls on access and activities within each of the parks, including revenue collection from park fees paid by thousands of tourists every year, the SNPA also is responsible for research and conservation in collaboration with recognised institutions within Seychelles and around the world, to ensure the protection of all species and ecosystems within the parks.

BY ISABELLA RAVINIA, PARTNER AT SNPA



CONSERVING A SECTION OF THE CHEETAH METAPOPULATION WITH THE ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST

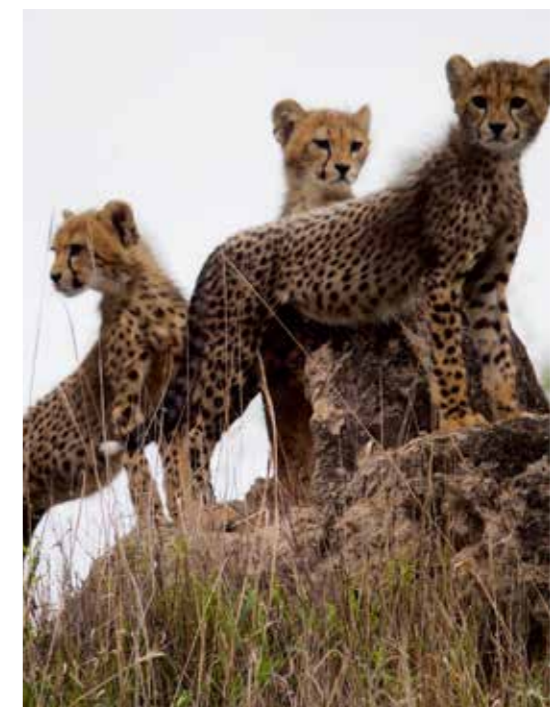
As Coordinator for the Endangered Wildlife Trusts' Cheetah Metapopulation Project, I manage a population of 357 cheetahs on 57 private game reserves around Southern Africa to ensure the population's demographic and genetic integrity. What this entails is closely monitoring each individual population within each reserve and then re-locating individuals between reserves to prevent inbreeding, over-population, or under-population.

This project aims to ensure genetic health by preventing inbreeding. We seek to maintain the demographic and ecological integrity of local fenced reserves by preventing overpopulation and under population on each participating reserve. For this, we require demographic data which is provided by partner organisations such as GVI. We also aim to increase the amount of safe space for cheetahs by conducting reintroductions into the wild and monitoring these spaces. Lastly, we aim to prevent the sale of wild cheetahs in captivity. An organisation like GVI provides ears and eyes on the ground, acting essentially as whistle-blowers for any potentially illegal poaching or trade activities.

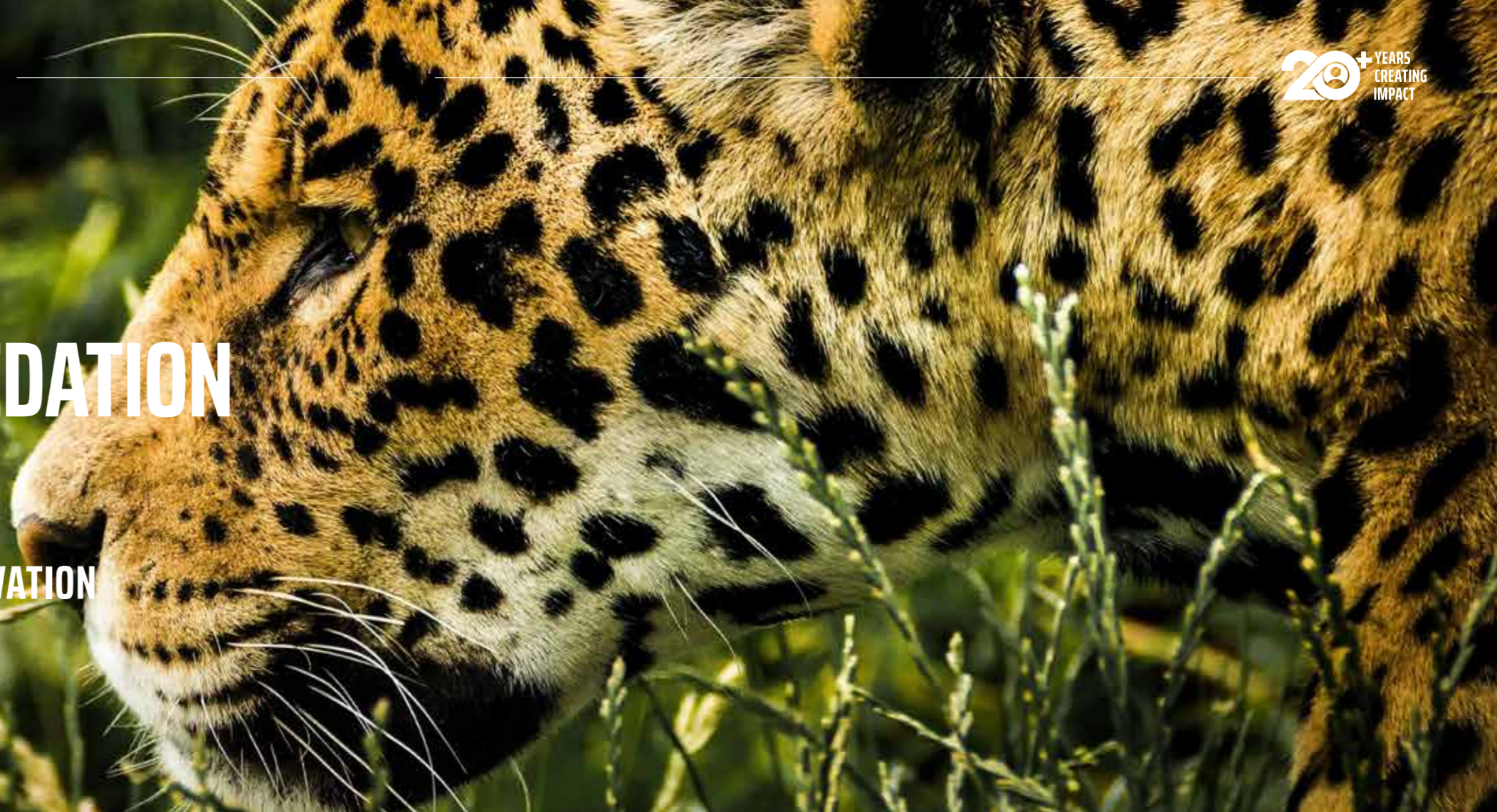
To achieve our objectives, we liaise regularly with reserve managers and partner organisations such as GVI to share basic demographic information. We use this information to make management decisions that will hopefully benefit wild cheetahs on fenced reserves in the long term. Using this technique, we have successfully grown the wild Cheetah population from 217 individuals in 2011 to a current population of 357 individuals. That's roughly a 65% increase over a seven-year period.

Partner organisations like GVI help us manage the wild cheetah population at a reserve called Karongwe, in northern South Africa. They monitor the cheetahs in this reserve closely, capturing key demographic data, recording their interactions with other predators, and recording kills made and prey species. These activities contribute to a national data pool which helps us to better understand the behaviour of wild cheetahs on fenced reserves, and therefore increase their growth and improve their management.

BY VINCENT VAN DER MERWE, COORDINATOR FOR CHEETAH METAPOPULATION PROJECT BY ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST



STUDYING JAGUAR-TURTLE PREDATION BEHAVIOUR WITH COASTAL JAGUAR CONSERVATION



Coastal Jaguar Conservation (CJC) is the name of an umbrella research project operated by independent researchers Stephanny Arroyo Arce and myself, Ian Thomson, in Costa Rica. The main goal of the project is to study the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), other wild cats, and their prey species in Tortuguero National Park. However, we also work with and support several other projects at different locations across Costa Rica.

I am the co-founder and co-manager of Coastal Jaguar Conservation and have been working in Costa Rica since 2013. I originally came to Costa Rica as a GVI intern before then becoming the GVI staff member responsible for managing the 'Jaguar Project' at their Jalova Research Station in Tortuguero National Park. After leaving GVI I helped to establish Coastal Jaguar Conservation with Costa Rican researcher Stephanny Arroyo-Arce.

CJC's objective is to increase the current knowledge of jaguars, other wild cats and their prey species in Tortuguero National Park, and surrounding areas, in order to promote conservation and management actions that will enhance their long-term survival. Of special interest to our project is the monitoring of the predator-prey interaction between jaguars and the local population of sea turtle that nest in Tortuguero National Park.

Our project is primarily based on camera trapping techniques, which allow us to document and identify species present in our study area as well as the identification of individual jaguars and other wild cats. Further to this, we also conducted surveys to study the predation of jaguars on the four species of sea turtle that nest in Tortuguero National Park.

GVI volunteers support our project by assisting in surveying and data collection. The two main surveys

that they participate in are the 'Jagwalk', a 28-kilometer weekly walk along the park's coastline looking for signs of jaguar activity and evidence of turtle predation. The second survey that they participate in is the weekly check of four of our camera trap stations, which are used to identify the species that inhabit the area.

GVI staff members are responsible for organising and submitting the data collected during these surveys to our project and ensuring that our project's protocols and methodologies are followed. Both GVI staff and volunteers contribute immensely to our project and form the backbone of certain activities related to our work in Tortuguero National Park. Further to this, the GVI Charitable Trust supports our project through donations allowing us to purchase equipment to be used by GVI staff and volunteers to conduct our surveys.

BY IAN THOMAS, CO-FOUNDER AND CO-MANAGER OF COASTAL JAGUAR CONSERVATION



CREATING A GLOBAL COMMUNITY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STA

STA Travel is the largest student and youth travel company. We've been booking affordable adventures for awesome humans since 1979. We have more than 2,000 people in over 200 branches in 12 different countries, with franchises and business partners in another 50 countries.

I am responsible for looking after all of our Volunteering, Work & Learn products for STA Travel globally for over five years. We have been working with GVI since at least 2012, if not longer. We do offer all GVI programs as they are the perfect products for our customers and based in amazing destinations.

In 2018, STA Travel sent 77 people on GVI programs. The feedback is generally very positive and customers really enjoy the projects and what goals these are working towards. Most customers feel that they have achieved and contributed a lot and also that they re-

ceived a lot back and learned for themselves personally, which is really important. All customers really had an amazing time and met many people from around the world and made friends for life.

I remember that we had a Swiss customer who did a volunteering programme at the GVI Wildlife Conservation project in South Africa. The travel agent who booked him called me up weeks later and said that this customer is now planning to do a Game Ranger Field Course in order to become a Game Ranger himself because of his experience with GVI in the field. This type of story is not rare. I have met so many people who had such a great experience with GVI that they have changed or found out what they want to do with their lives, what subject they want to study, etc.

I have visited a few GVI locations over the years and at each base it was really obvious that all GVI staff are



I HAVE MET SO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAD SUCH A GREAT EXPERIENCE WITH GVI THAT THEY HAVE CHANGED OR FOUND OUT WHAT THEY WANT TO DO WITH THEIR LIVES.



I HAVE MET SO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAD SUCH A GREAT EXPERIENCE WITH GVI THAT THEY HAVE CHANGED OR FOUND OUT WHAT THEY WANT TO DO WITH THEIR LIVES



passionate and dedicated to GVI's mission and goals. I personally believe that the young people going out on a program and sharing the same mission come back to their home country as better people.

What it means to me to send people out into the world on programs like GVIs is really to open the mind and heart, especially for young people to understand what is going on in the world and understand themselves. It helps them feel like they can actually do something to improve going forward and that there is hope for some of the issues we are facing as a global community.

BY ANNELI BUEHRLE, VOLUNTEERING & ANCILLARY PRODUCT & CONTRACTING MANAGER, STA TRAVEL



It's a great joy to help other people experience the world at the same time as they do something for its conservation or development.

MEANINGFUL WORK WITH VOLONTARA NORDEN

Volontära Norden is a travel organisation that helps people from Sweden, Norway and Finland find and go on volunteer programs worldwide. At the same time, we aim to ensure that they get an experience of a lifetime. As the founder of Volontära Norden, volunteering is important to me and I have volunteered myself many times as an English teacher for adults in small villages in Thailand and Laos. I have also visited several of GVI's programs (mainly in Africa) through the years.

My organisation has been working with GVI for almost nine years now. I first started interacting with GVI as a volunteer coordinator at another company over the course of four years. Then when I started my own organisation, GVI and I partnered.

There are so many great, unique GVI programs. I would have to say that the marine conservation programs in Seychelles, Fiji and Mexico are just so amazing. Also the rainforest expedition in Costa Rica is a really outstanding program). Another one that really excites me is the island conservation program on the island of Curieuse, Seychelles, because of the giant tortoises and the stunning location. Finally, the volunteer and adventure combination program in Nepal. I have done the Everest Base Camp trek myself and I absolutely loved it, and the people in Nepal are very friendly.

In general, the volunteers we send on GVI programs feel like they have been able to contribute to professional and well-establishment projects with clear long term goals to their work. At the same time, they get to know a new part of the world, meet new friends and gain memories to cherish when they get older.

My favourite participant story comes from one of GVI's older projects that has since closed: a horse rescue centre in Florida, USA. One of Volontära Norden's first volunteers to the horse rescue centre was called Sophie. I remember, she loved it so much that she has returned there, again and again. It has turned out to be her mission in life to care for the horses and she has recently opened up her own rescue centre in Sweden.

Another one of my favourite stories is about Eva, who went to teach English to novice Buddhist monks in Laos after her daughter had volunteered in Kenya. Eva was one of the founders of the current Abba museum in Stockholm. After her volunteer program with GVI, she wrote a book called 'From ABBA to the monks in Laos'. After all these years, I would say that working with GVI is to work with the best volunteer organisation out there. I feel like I am contributing to helping GVI and their local partners work towards their short, mid and long term goals. There's a lot of work needed to be done that wouldn't happen without volunteers. Some question why they should pay to volunteer but once they have been out there they understand the need.

It's a great joy to help other people experience the world at the same time as they do something for its conservation or development.

BY FRIDA BLOMSTER, CO-FOUNDER OF VOLONTARA NORDEN

IMPACT





**IMPACT
ON OUR
PARTICIPANTS**

OVER 20 YEARS, OUR GLOBAL NETWORK OF PASSIONATE GVI PARTICIPANTS HAS GROWN EXPONENTIALLY. AND WHILE THE PROGRAMS WE'VE OFFERED HAVE CHANGED, THE COMMITMENT AND ENTHUSIASM OF THOSE WE HAVE WORKED WITH HAS REMAINED LARGELY THE SAME. WE HAVE WELCOMED THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO ALL SHARE THE DESIRE TO DO GOOD.

IMPACT ON OUR VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEERS

Providing opportunities for people to volunteer abroad in a meaningful, ethical way, has always been the core of GVI's services. These programs have the dual purpose of providing participants with meaningful experiences abroad while supplying partner organisations with beneficial skilled and unskilled labour. The value that participants gain out of their volunteer experience is subjective to each individual. Often, it involves a level of altruism mixed with a desire to travel abroad and experience the personal growth that happens when visiting new places and cultures.

1115

TOTAL NUMBER OF
VOLUNTEERS

84.3%

VOLUNTEERS THAT FELT THEY
MADE A DIFFERENCE

THANK YOU FOR VISITING US
TMC-GHANDRUK



IMPACT ON OUR INTERNS



INTERNSHIPS

For many years, our various bases around the world have provided strong, involved, educational programs for both short and long-term internships. We've welcomed young career starters or career changers looking to develop themselves through our robust learning journeys. Those who join us develop their capabilities by building professional, highly applicable skills, experience, and networks.

Long term internships range up to three months on a GVI base and are followed by three month long placements either at the base or with local partners. Internship programs include a leadership development component where interns decide on a project and take the lead on executing it. This provides a more in-depth opportunity to develop their own soft skills alongside learning hard skills related to their chosen profession.

370

TOTAL NUMBER OF
INTERNSHIPS

92.1%

INTERNS THAT FELT THEY
IMPROVED THEIR EMPLOYABILITY





IMPACT ON THE UNDER 18S



UNDER 18S

Travel is immensely valuable for developing young leaders with a sense of global citizenship. With the increasing competitiveness of university applications, parents and their adolescents understand the need to take advantage of varied and in-depth learning opportunities at a young age. Our programs provide a highly structured and safe experience to help parents feel at ease with letting their teens test out their international wings. In the same vein, the structure and safety standards give teens a secure space to explore their own independence, gain interpersonal and intercultural skills, and do something meaningful whilst travelling abroad.

169

TOTAL UNDER 18S

98.4%

U18S THAT FELT THEY
MADE A DIFFERENCE



IMPACT ON SERVICE GROUPS





SERVICE LEARNING GROUPS

Our service-learning curriculum introduces groups from schools, universities, or organisations to sustainable development, both in content and practice. Service learning is a form of structured experiential education that involves learning through doing and reflecting. The syllabus is a hybrid model delivered online and in-country. Our service learning courses focus on personal, civic, and professional development, with particular attention to employability and global citizenship.

366

TOTAL GROUPS
PARTICIPANTS

31

TOTAL
GROUPS



HOW WE WORK



HOW WE WORK

GVI has a reputation across the world for our strong sense of purpose, our unfailingly ethical practices, and our stringent health and safety standards. These factors contribute massively to how we work and our reputation amongst universities, travel organisations and non-profit entities.

CORE VALUES

Our core values guide the way each individual within GVI and external stakeholders interact with one another. They serve as a filter for GVI employees and guide our strong culture. These core values are who we are and how we act at our most intrinsic level.

RESPECT & TRUST

INSPIRE

FUN

FAMILY

PASSION & COMMITMENT

GVI HAS A REPUTATION ACROSS THE WORLD FOR OUR STRONG SENSE OF PURPOSE, OUR UNFAILINGLY ETHICAL PRACTICES, AND OUR STRINGENT HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

GVI is a social enterprise – a business for good. And as a social enterprise, the question of where the money goes is often posed by paying participants. It's a valid question to address with the utmost accuracy.

While there is a small amount of profit in good years, the greatest majority of our funding is spent on operational costs to ensure we succeed in our mission and fulfil our brand promises.

To achieve our mission and play our part, the bulk of the money, 62% of income funds, is spent in the field at our 20+ bases around the world. These funds are used to ensure effective, safe, and ethical operations that support partner objectives (20% of total funds). The bulk portion also includes paying salaries to highly qualified development staff (16% of total).

This 62% of the total funds also covers participants' accommodation; food and drink requirements; training requirements; transport to and from the project; airport transfers (where applicable); 24-hour global emergency support; amongst other considerations (26% of total funds).

By concentrating funding on staff recruitment efforts and high-quality field operations, we produce more funds for our global mission. This in turn, means we can operate sustainably and ensures that we meet short, mid, and long term goals in collaboration with our field partners.

The remaining 38% of funds covers supporting operations, including participant recruitment through marketing and enrolment efforts (27%), and insurance

and central office administration and support (10%). Averaged over a 5 year period, our profit amounts to 1% of our total revenue.

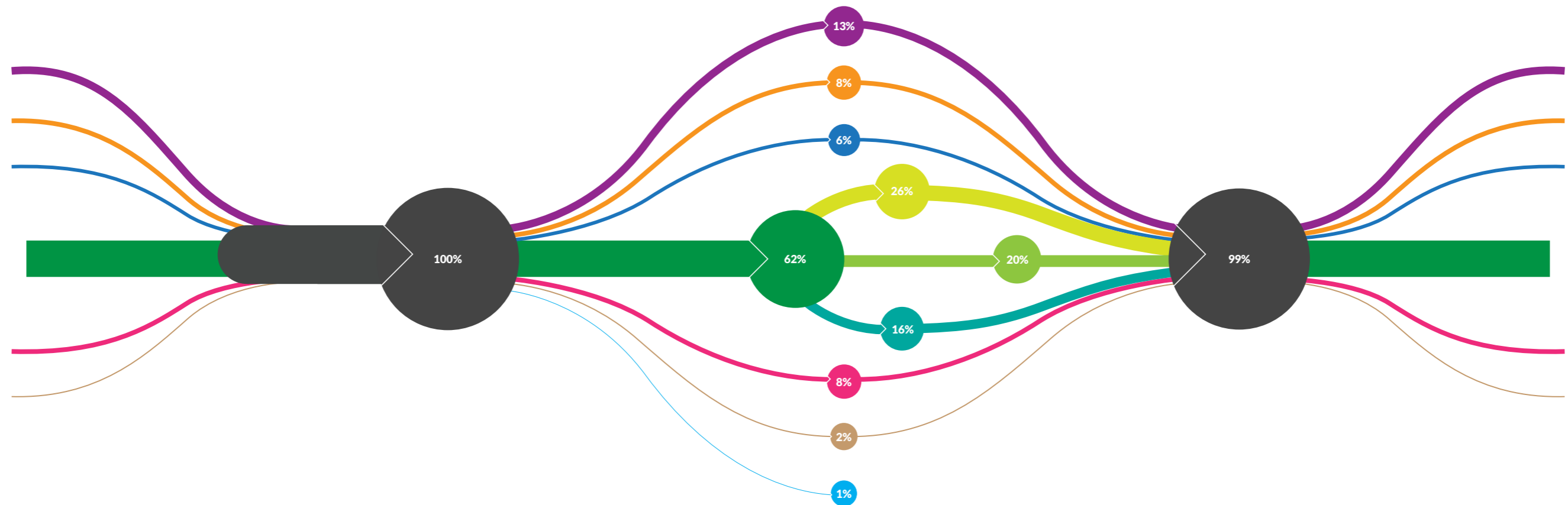
HERE'S A MORE IN-DEPTH LIST OF WHERE PARTICIPANT FEES GO:

- Over 100 fully funded, long term volunteer projects globally.
- Over 200 staff worldwide.
- A senior staff member for each country of operation to ensure continuity in the project implementation, direction and impact.
- An experienced operations team on hand to manage development, issues and emergencies for each region. Review and improvement of our protocols and procedures for volunteer support, training, and health and safety issues.
- Implementation of health and safety procedures including medical kits, fire extinguishers, communication channels and transportation.
- Emergency operation funding in times of low recruitment.
- Field staff costs, including recruitment, training, development and accommodation.
- Food and accommodation for our volunteers.
- Orientation and training for our volunteers.
- Project equipment including vehicles, boats, utensils for schools, building materials and more.
- General operating expenses like gas for vehicles, volunteer transfers, included excursions and travel.
- Administration and marketing costs.



WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

- Online Awareness of GVI Mission & Programs
- Conferences, Educational Institution Visits & Partnerships
- Participant Recruitment & Support
- Field Programs
- Direct Participant Costs
- Long-term Collaborative Sustainable Development Projects Costs
- Field Staff
- Central Support & Infrastructure
- Finance & Legal Costs
- Profit



SUPPORT & SAFETY

Travelling abroad can be a complex process, and much of the time, there is a varying degree of risk with every trip. It's for exactly this reason that we're passionate about providing extensive support throughout the travel abroad process, as well as the highest safety standards during the in-country phase. We believe volunteering or interning abroad should be impactful, enjoyable, and carry as little risk as possible.

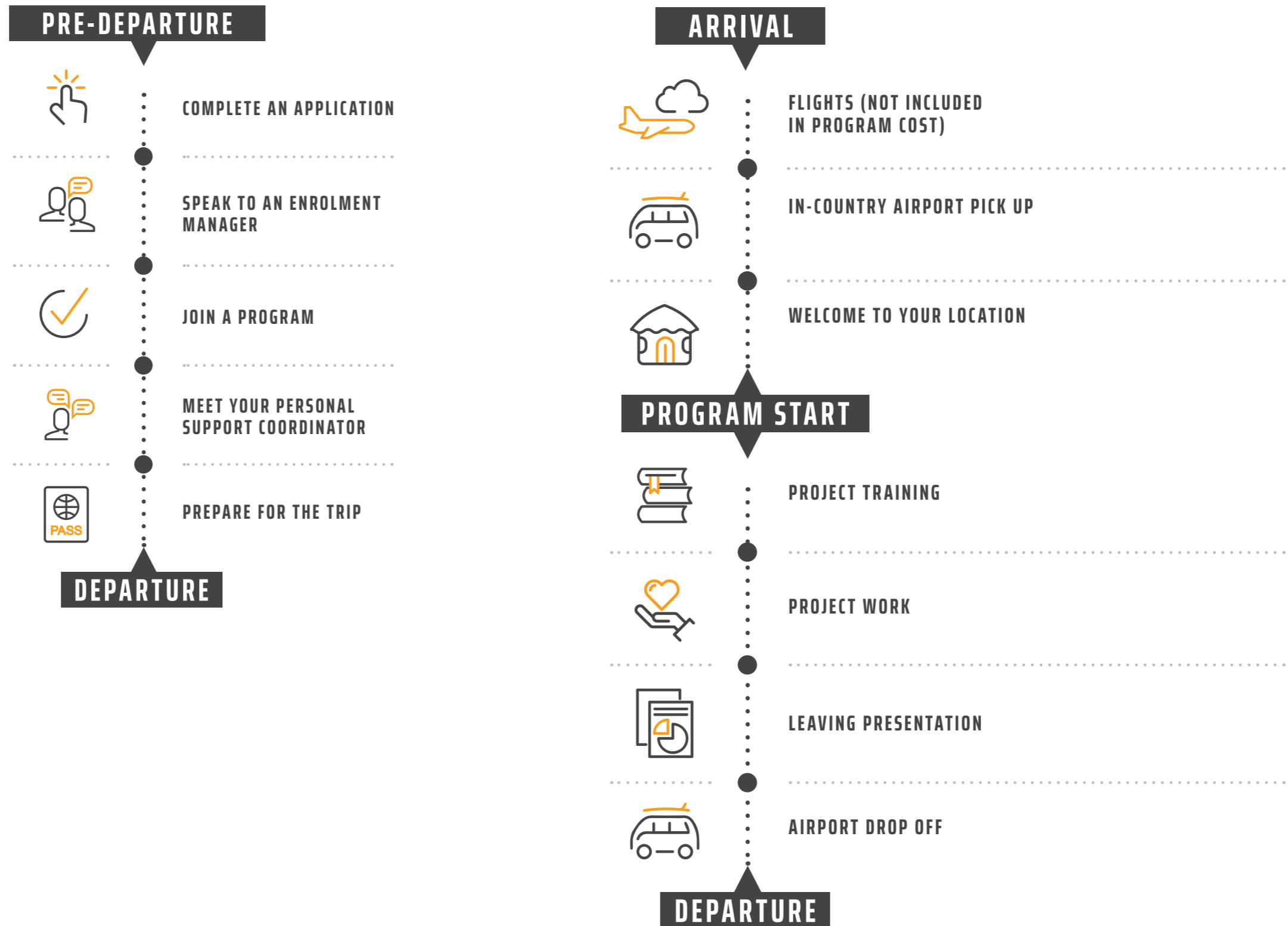
It's a deep-seated belief of ours that all stakeholders, staff, participants and partners, can only contribute their best when they are operating in a space of security. Security, in this case, means both mental and physical security.

Every stakeholder must be able to interact with others and their environment while feeling safe. These feelings and perceptions of safety should be based on solid best practices and action plans.

One of our Ten Ethical Principles is derived from the oath doctors take when they are sworn in as qualified professionals. Primum non nocere, which means, 'First, do no harm'. In all spheres, from every actor including ourselves, GVI is committed to preventing any kind of harm at all costs. In those extremely rare occasions where harm does happen, we will have a step-by-step Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in place.

Another way we ensure security is through our brand promise, of '360 degree support'. This means that we offer support from start to finish, from the moment someone submits an application all the way through to them arriving back home.

We have a tried and tested process that gives us a strong basis to be flexible and responsive to any kind of situation. This process looks like the following:



UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Every one of GVI's programs is conducted in collaboration with local partners on the ground. And each program is designed to contribute to the partners' short, mid, and long-term objectives. Objectives that are defined with each local partner based on their own needs.

Objectives are then reviewed either quarterly, bi-annually, or annually, to determine how these objectives are progressing. If long term objectives are met, then one of two things happens: GVI withdraws in an ethical way that ensures the partner is able to continue the work, or new objectives are agreed upon.



STORIES & DATA PER SDG



SDG 2

OUR EFFORTS TO REACH ZERO HUNGER

NUTRITION EDUCATION FOR MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN FOR GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER

Our Health Programme in the district of Dawasamu on the Fijian Island of Tailevu began in January 2018. The long-term objective as it stands is to assist the District Nurse Lavenia Merekula Raivono with the health issues concerning the District of Dawasamu in accordance with the Ministry of Health's annual objectives.

Initially, District Nurse Lavenia and I established three sub-objectives so we could implement specific projects that target three key health areas identified for Dawasamu District. These sub-objectives were:

- (1) the safe disposal of non-recyclable waste;
- (2) educating women to prevent the malnutrition of children aged 0-5yrs and the importance of nutrition for breastfeeding mothers;
- (3) education on preventative health measures and first aid.

The first task for the GVI healthcare program participants was to create a more efficient working environment for District Nurse Lavenia. The government-run nursing stations were severely damaged during Cyclone Winston in 2016. While the government made sure the station received the essentials to get it back up and functioning, the building was placed on a waiting list for a complete refurbishment. Understandably, the waiting list was very long as the whole of Fiji had been affected by the cyclone.

At the time, GVI had been working with the communities of Dawasamu for over five years and saw an opportunity to work with local community members to

contribute to the project of refurbishing the damaged nursing station. Between January and March of 2017, a total of 15 GVI staff and participants worked on improving the working space for the District Nurse.

Together, we identified she needed two things. The first being that she needed a separate working space to see her more vulnerable patients – babies and children. This separate area would help ensure that diseases weren't easily transmitted between sick patients and babies attending the clinic. The space would also offer mothers and their babies an area to relax and wait for their appointment.

Another need we identified was an inviting, spacious area to host community members. The purpose of this area was to display posters and other educational material produced by the government. This material would be used in conjunction with the clinics/workshops on preventive health measures to help keep members of the communities healthy.

I asked District Nurse Lavenia how she feels about her revamped workspace, and she had this to say: "The new mother and babies' room helps me do my job so much more efficiently, I no longer have to worry about the babies I see on clinic day being in the same area as patients who are unwell, who come for treatment on those days. My surgery is amazing."

THE FEEDBACK FROM MOTHERS HAS BEEN VERY POSITIVE AND THEY ENJOY THE INTERACTIVE PART OF THE WORKSHOPS. SOME MOTHERS HAVE ATTENDED THE WORKSHOPS SEVERAL TIMES, AS THEY ENJOY LISTENING AND TAKING PART IN THE ACTIVITIES. THIS HELPS WHEN NEW MOTHERS JOIN, AS THE MOTHERS WHO HAVE ATTENDED BEFORE CAN HELP TRANSLATE. THE DISTRICT NURSE IS EXTREMELY HAPPY ABOUT THE WAY THE WORKSHOPS ENCOURAGE MOTHERS TO DISCUSS WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNT WITH EACH OTHER. THIS PROMPTS THEM TO ASK HER QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND ABOUT HOW NUTRITION PLAYS A KEY PART.

8531

MEALS PROVIDED

At many of our community development programs globally, we provide meals to children under five, to improve nutrition and their ability to concentrate on learning and playing



The length of each prong on the forks in this visualisation represents how many meals were provided to children under the age of five-years-old per month at all of our bases around the world.

A HEALTH EDUCATION ROOM FOR THE MOTHER AND BABY CLINIC

As soon as the refurbishment work was completed, in January 2017, the GVI Health Programme started to focus on its first key objective: to assist the District Nurse in educating mothers and expectant mothers in her catchment area (which consists of 15 villages, with a population of approximately 2000 people) about how to prevent malnutrition in children of 0-5 years, and the importance of nutrition for breastfeeding mothers.

During this time, the Ministry of Health in conjunction with the National Food Nutritional Centre produced ten key messages in the form of pamphlets containing information. These key messages educated on things like breastfeeding, starting other foods, vitamin A sources, and protein sources.

So, GVI created workshops and displays that were centred around these ten key messages. Workshops are carried out every Wednesday at the mother and baby clinic. Before their babies' check-up, mothers attend the workshops that are applicable to their baby's age. Resources and activities have been created to accompany the workshop, and the activities were designed to be visual and to encourage mothers to participate.

The collaboration between the GVI and the District Nurse means that the important information that mothers need to understand can be shared in a conducive learning environment at the pace set by the mothers. On average, the District Nurse will see 40-55 babies every Wednesday, between 09:00 and 13:00. With this limited time, she was not able to discuss each key message in detail. And now, with GVI conducting the workshops, mothers are educated by the team, allowing

the District Nurse to discuss any areas of concern with a mother during the checkup.

The Key Message One workshops highlighted the importance of breastfeeding and encouraged mothers to exclusively breastfeed for the first six months. GVI started the Key Message One workshops in January 2018. So far, a year to date, 422 mothers have attended the workshop, which includes mothers with babies over six months, plus mothers attending more than once. Breaking down attendance, 111 mothers attended between January and March, and 311 between April and December. Comparing 2017 and 2018, there has been an increase of 18% of mothers exclusively breastfeeding for the first six months.

Before facilitating the workshops, participants receive training from the Community Project Leader, which involves practising the workshop. Participants are also given the opportunity to ask any questions. The feedback from mothers has been very positive and they enjoy the interactive part of the workshops. Some mothers have attended the workshops several times, as they enjoy listening and taking part in the activities. This helps when new mothers join, as the mothers who have attended before can help translate. The District Nurse is extremely happy about the way the workshops encourage mothers to discuss what they have learnt with each other. This prompts them to ask her questions about their children's health and about how nutrition plays a key part.

QUEPOS | JALOVA

WORKSHOPS ON FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION

4 | 4

COMMUNITY MEMBERS ATTENDED THESE WORKSHOPS

46 | 171

REDUCING MALNUTRITION IN THE DISTRICT OF DAWASAMU

The workshops are designed to target mothers by educating them about the value of nutrition and the benefits. In Fiji, malnutrition is much more prevalent than it should be, considering it's a land filled with nutritious fruits, vegetables and root crops, and an ocean full of fish.

The District Nurse has reported that between February 2018 and October 2018 there was a decrease in malnutrition in children under the age of five. The District Nurse believes that the workshops are giving mothers a better understanding of nutrition and are a contributing factor in the decrease of malnutrition cases.

The collaboration between the GVI and the District Nurse means that the important information that mothers need to understand can be shared in a conducive learning environment.

This project targets the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDG) 2: Zero Hunger, addressing the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, and older persons (Target 2.2). Over 90 million children under the age of five are dangerously underweight. Undernutrition is the leading cause of mortality in children in this age group. But those most at risk of malnutrition are children being introduced to complementary feeding at around 5-7 months of age. Furthermore, this project contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing. More specifically, Target 3.1 aims to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under five years of age; and Target 3.13 aims to aim to strengthen the capacity of all countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.

The success of mother and baby workshops has given us the template to be able to start work on the preventive health measures objective. By working in partnership with the District Nurse and the community health workers the overall main goal is definitely achievable. Our goal is to ensure that these projects are sustainable, through education and upskilling.

BY MICHELE COMBER, PROGRAM MANAGER,
GVI FIJI DAWASAMU.

ACHIEVING ZERO HUNGER

In 2018, 2149 people all over the world worked to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable food production. The challenge to achieve zero hunger by 2030 is multifaceted, but together, we collaborate to create sustainable change towards achieving the goal.

A total of 2149 GVI partners, participants, and staff worked towards achieving zero hunger.



Total number of stakeholders working towards SDG 2 per month globally.





In the 2018 United Nation's SDG Progress Report, the research found that maternal, under-5, and neonatal mortality rates declined significantly, globally. Key to maternal health and natal well-being is education in contextually proper nutrition for pregnant and lactating women and children under the age of five. These pie charts represent the workshops and presentations on nutrition we conducted specifically for pregnant and lactating women (external chart) and the number of community members who attended those workshop (internal chart) throughout the world, per month.

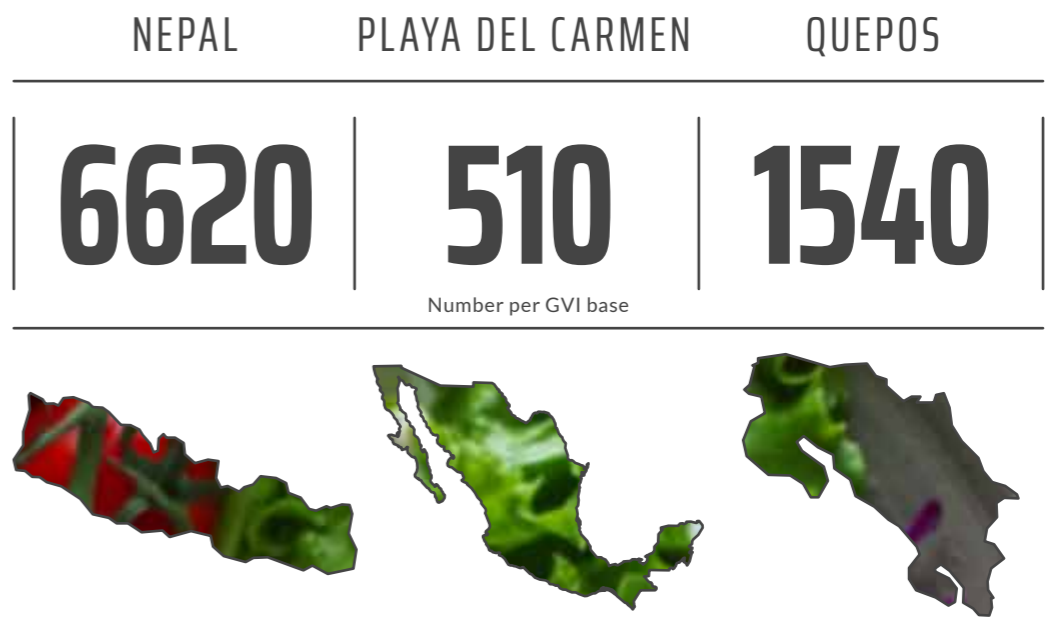
COMMUNITY MEMBERS THAT ATTENDED THE WORKSHOPS

MEALS PROVIDED TO CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE

20+ YEARS CREATING IMPACT

[GO BACK TO INDEX >](#)

- ZERO HUNGER [GOAL 2 >](#)
- GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING [GOAL 3 >](#)
- QUALITY EDUCATION [GOAL 4 >](#)
- GENDER EQUALITY [GOAL 5 >](#)
- CLEAN WATER & SANITATION [GOAL 6 >](#)
- DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH [GOAL 8 >](#)
- LIFE BELOW WATER [GOAL 14 >](#)
- LIFE ON LAND [GOAL 15 >](#)
- PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS [GOAL 17 >](#)



NUTRITION

In Dawasamu, Fiji, GVI staff and participants work closely with the local community on many projects. Featured in this section is GVI Dawasamu's collaborative work with the local District Nurse to educate women on prenatal and early childhood nutrition.

DAWASAMU



17.6173° S, 178.4997° E

FIJI
AUSTRALASIA

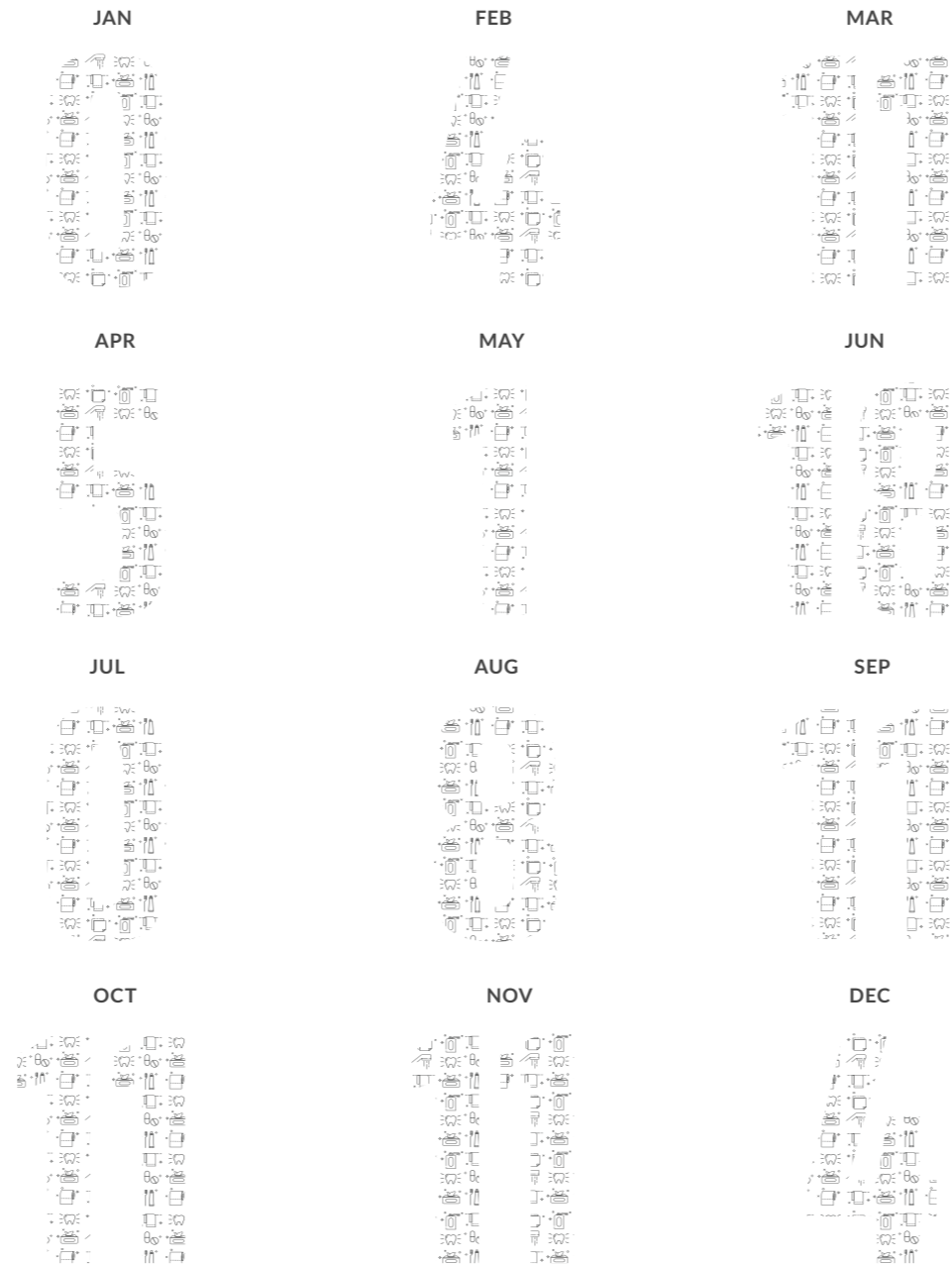
MATERNAL NUTRITIONAL WORKSHOPS

Access to education about proper nutrition for pregnant and lactating women plays an important role in preventing harm coming to mothers and babies in the prenatal phase and in the first five years of a child's life.

Around the world, local community professionals and GVI staff and participants work together to deliver educational workshops and presentations specifically for pregnant and lactating women.

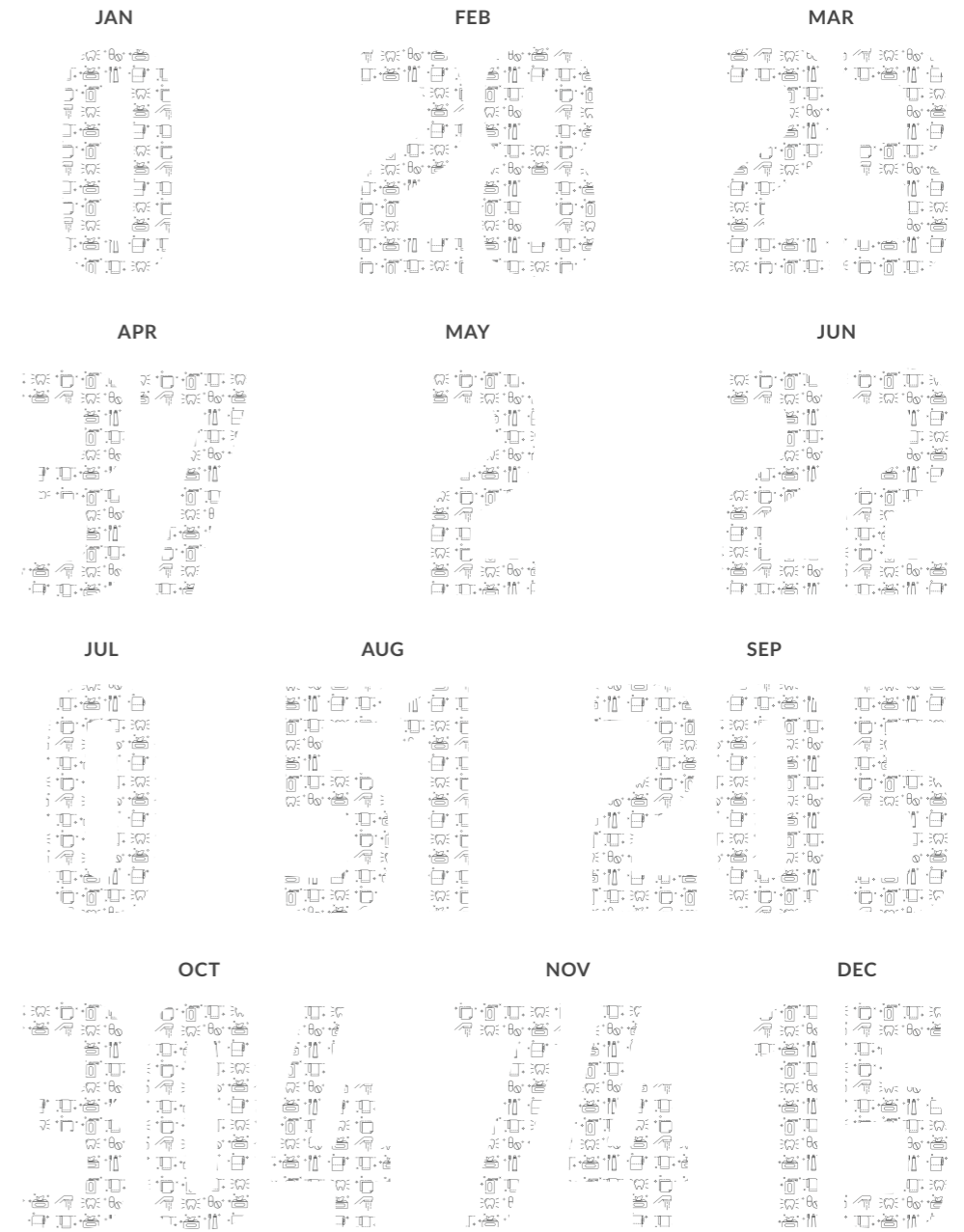
The first set of numbers is the amount of workshops or presentations per month, and the second represents the number of participants that attended each workshop.

WORKSHOPS



Workshops and presentations on nutrition specifically for pregnant and lactating women

ATTENDANCE



Community members have attended those workshops and presentations

BUILDING A KITCHEN FOR GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER

I volunteered with GVI in South Africa, where I was involved in the wildlife research program in Karongwe Private Game Reserve. The base is situated in the north of the country, in a province called Limpopo, home to the Kruger National Park and many other nature reserves. I was a National Scholar as part of GVI's National Scholarship Program.

On some days, we would take a break from our conservation activities and get involved in the local community by participating in outreach projects. We used to visit schools in the The Oaks and The Willows communities to do conservation education with the young students, and to assist with things like construction, landscaping, and so on for the schools.

One school we worked in was called Magapane Day Care Center, and is a creche situated in The Willows community just outside of Hoedspruit. At that time,

Magapane creche is owned by two passionate, friendly, local women who were excited to understand and answer our questions even though their English was not all that good. Being a local South African from the area, I helped with translating between the creche owners and the other volunteers.

Out of their challenges, they said that the lack of a proper kitchen was the most challenging one. They used to cook outside by preparing wood fire, but when it got windy, this became very difficult. Other than poor hygiene, they ran the risk of their outdoor wood fire igniting nearby thatch roof building. Also, when it would rain, the students of the creche would likely have to go without food. It was also not safe for the student to be playing around the yard whilst there was an open fire. Because of these needs, we decided together with the creche owners to help them build a kitchen for the creche.

Since my time with GVI, I have learned that minor actions such as this can make a world of difference. I am now a different person, I'm more willing to take part and help other people.

we had already been volunteering at a school called Diphuthi Primary School at The Oaks community. One day, we decided to visit neighboring communities, and that was when we met with Magapane Day Care Center. We visited them to see their daily operation and learn about some of the challenges they facing on daily basis.

We bought building material such as bags of cement, poles, a corrugated wash basin, paint, etc.,. With the help of creche owners and local community members, we built a small kitchen attached to the creche. The project took us almost two months, but once it was done, we were all very happy!

The kitchen made a significant, long-term difference to Magapane creche, because it helps children to have regular meals prepared in a hygienic setting. For the educators, they no longer have to worry about children being exposed to fire or long hours in the South Africa sun. I feel it contributed to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger because it ensures access to safe, nutritious, consistent food for the students of Magapane.

The aim of the project was to continue to support the local communities around the game reserve where GVI conducts wildlife conservation research. Our aim, by ensuring access to good food, was to encourage children to put more focus on education and sport more than anything. Since my time with GVI, I have learned that minor actions such as this can make a world of difference. I am now a different person, I'm more is willing to take part and help other people.

BY CHARMAINE MALEKA, GVI ALUMNI.



SDG 3

STRIVING FOR GLOBAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING



BUILDING A SAFE & HEALTHY SPACE FOR GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH & WELLBEING

In 2017, we visited a government primary school in Pokhara, Nepal. At the time, the school had 47 students and seven staff members.

When we met the Principal he explained that his goal was to have his students feel happy and proud of their learning environment. His larger goal was to have the parents of the community want to send their children to his school, even though it was a government school. In the following 18 months, GVI staff and participants worked together with the school to support that objective. A clean stimulating environment makes a significant difference not only to the health and wellbeing of children, but also in terms of attendance, the attitude of both staff and students, and in turn, learning outcomes. We started with the classrooms.

The seven classrooms were repaired, cleaned and painted by our under 18s groups. We started with a group of nine students from Bainbridge Island, USA, who worked hard for two weeks and certainly set the standard for what the classrooms would look like. Soon after, 20 under 18 volunteers from across the globe took the task on over four days. It was a great learning experience for these young volunteers as they had all come from schools with plentiful resources, quite a contrast to what they were seeing in this school. The looks on the faces of the school staff and children when they returned from holidays said it all. They were thrilled with their new looking rooms!

There was also concern about the wall surrounding the school. It was old, low and falling down. It meant that the water buffalo, cows, and dogs that roamed the area could wander in and disturb learning, scare some of the children, and also leave a mess in the space. Animals left faeces in the small yard, which was not conducive to a healthy environment. Over a six week period our construction team, in partnership with local workers, rebuilt the surrounding wall, resulting in a more secure area for students and school staff. A school group of 28 students started things off, preparing the foundation over two days and then a succession of six construction volunteers completed the task.

Rubbish disposal was also an issue at the school. There was a pile of waste and nowhere to really dispose of it. Because of this, it was burned in the yard once the pile was too high. Our team built an area where rubbish could be disposed of in an effective way, and this also incorporated recycling. Our health care and teaching volunteers then ran a series of lessons for all 47 students on recycling and waste disposal and as a result the school now has a cleaner appearance. The students have improved their habits now that there is an area for waste management. Entering the school, it looks clean, tidy, and inviting.

In addition, as a part of the UNICEF WASH programme, our team introduced the children to handwashing and toothbrushing routines. As access to running water is limited, the construction volunteers built toothbrushing

stations. These are wooden structures with plastic bowls inserted and when students brush their teeth. Meaning they can use the bowls rather than spit on the ground. Over a period of three months there were daily health lessons in the school. The volunteers led lessons on the importance of both toothbrushing and handwashing for each class in the school. There was also a focus on safe drinking water, for example, they discussed what might be affecting the cleanliness of the local water supply in the monsoon season.

In 2018, a team of 12 healthcare workers visited from the UK. They offered a health screening and education day at the school and expected maybe 30 to attend. Surprisingly, over 155 community members attended. This

rooms as they were quite old, dark, and unclean. Some children would run home or to a neighbour to go to the toilet as they were afraid to use the ones at the school. GVI staff and participants teamed up with local workers and now the bathrooms have more natural light.

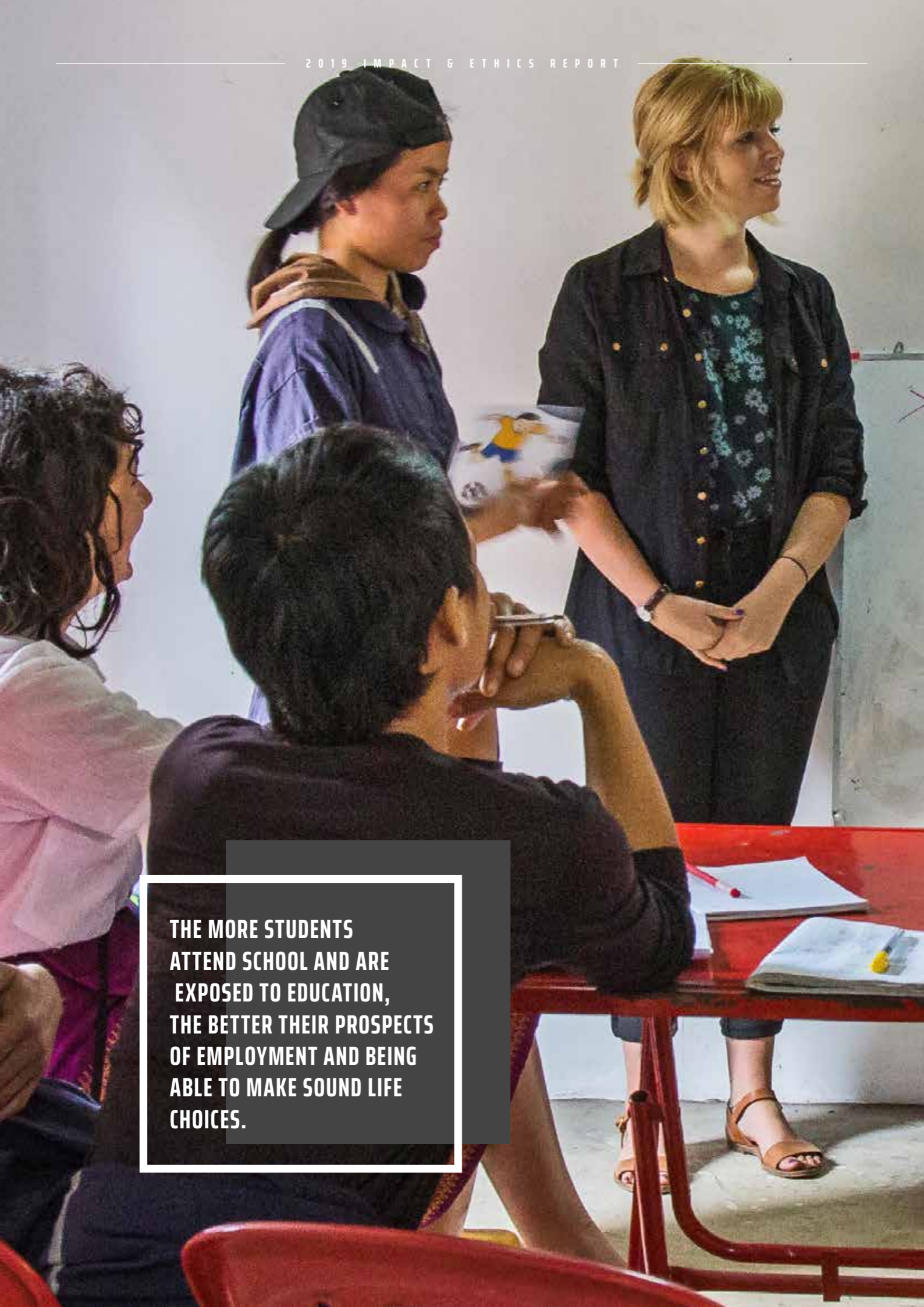
The toilets now have new ceramics and tiles, and they have been repainted so they are much easier to clean. The children are using the bathrooms at school now rather than running home, meaning they are not missing valuable school time. Our volunteers have provided lessons on handwashing after using the toilet and it's wonderful to see the students getting into this habit so quickly now that the facilities allow for it. Most recently, two healthcare volunteers completed an

Attendance at school has a positive effect on wellbeing. Improved school facilities can lead to improved attendance. The more students attend school and are exposed to education, the better their prospects of employment.

gave valuable data on the health issues in the community. Issues such as neck and back problems, hypertension, tooth issues, and dehydration were highlighted. We have since been able to structure preventative workshops for students and adults based on the results. For the Principal, who was wanting the community to see the school as a positive place, attendance of over 155 people certainly gave him some positive feedback. In the week that followed this screening our team of healthcare workers ran workshops on four topics: eye care, hydration, first aid, and care for teeth. 148 students from the local secondary school attended each of these one-hour workshops. One of our more recent projects has been improving the bathrooms. Students were afraid to go into the bath-

rooms as they were quite old, dark, and unclean. Some children would run home or to a neighbour to go to the toilet as they were afraid to use the ones at the school. GVI staff and participants teamed up with local workers and now the bathrooms have more natural light.

Looking ahead to address this need, our first task will be for our volunteers to introduce portable volleyball nets, a basketball ring and other large movement games. Once these are set up, our team will work with staff and students to ensure all students have opportunities to engage in these activities. These skills will not only lead to confident participation in outdoor tasks but also in the students' ability to sit at their desks and work for periods



THE MORE STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL AND ARE EXPOSED TO EDUCATION, THE BETTER THEIR PROSPECTS OF EMPLOYMENT AND BEING ABLE TO MAKE SOUND LIFE CHOICES.

of time. This is related to the healthy early development of children. Good health is so dependent on the early years of development. Structuring the school environment to develop a broad range of skills and activities during playtimes is imperative.

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing has some ambitious indicators that need to be addressed at a countrywide level. However, at a school level, we have seen there are things we can do to make an impact towards this goal. Attendance at school has a positive effect on wellbeing.

Improved school facilities, specifically bathroom facilities, can lead to improved attendance. The more students attend school and are exposed to education, the better their prospects of employment and being able to make sound life choices. Establishing lifelong routines such as handwashing, toothbrushing and understanding why clean drinking water is so important can lead to a lifetime of healthy habits.

Education and improvements to facilities go hand in hand and this story of a little village school in Nepal shows how positive change with a long term impact can happen in a short time.

We have further plans with the school to improve harvesting, access to water and toilet facilities. Today, as the story continues, our construction volunteers head off to the school with resources to create new play facilities with healthy, active lifestyles in mind.

BY CHERYL MARTIN, REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR INDIA AND NEPAL.



HEALTH, WELLBEING, TOGETHER

Access to healthcare and health knowledge leads to healthier habits, making a world of difference in preventing inequality, disease, and suffering. All around the world, 9158 people in GVI's global community worked together to improve access to and education around health and well-being.



9158

HEALTHIER HAPPIER HUMANS

Total number of stakeholders actively working towards SDG 3 per month globally.



NUMBER OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO EARNED THEIR EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONSE (EFR) CERTIFICATES PER MONTH

SAFETY TRAINING

A basic first aid qualification is required for many professions including professional diving, primary school teachers, and occupational therapists.

All GVI programs offer preliminary first aid to all participants upon their arrival, with the option to become certified in Emergency First Response (EFR) primary and secondary care. The course is one of the most highly reputed first aid training programs available around the world. Many of our staff are trained instructors. We will also provide the certification training to local community members if they request it.

EFR TRAINING



JANUARY - 25	JULY - 84
FEBRUARY - 37	AUGUST - 67
MARCH - 71	SEPTEMBER - 88
APRIL - 44	OCTOBER - 64
MAY - 63	NOVEMBER - 20
JUNE - 101	DECEMBER - 2

Participants training in EFR primary and secondary care per month

AWARENESS WORKSHOPS

Towards Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, our bases around the world conduct workshops in waste management awareness. This bar graph shows the number of awareness workshops conducted at each relevant base over the course of 2018.



WASTE MANAGEMENT



COMMUNITY MEMBERS THAT ATTENDED THE WASTE MANAGEMENT AWARENESS WORKSHOPS PER GVI BASE

CONSTRUCTION

In Nepal, our community development base is located at the foot of the Himalayas. Here, local community members and organisations collaborate with GVI on various projects. Featured in the next section is the success of GVI Pokhara's construction project at a local school, which improved safety and wellbeing for local teachers and students.



28.2096° N, 83.9856° E

NEPAL
ASIA

WaSH



WORKSHOPS

GVI's community development base in Pokhara, Nepal, works with local students of various ages and also with teachers. One of the regular workshops that staff and participants conduct for younger children and their caregivers are Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH) workshops. They raise awareness around the importance of sanitary and hygienic

personal and environmental practices, and teach skills on how to improve these practices. These skills include who to properly brush teeth, wash hands, and sanitise risk areas such as bathrooms and playgrounds.

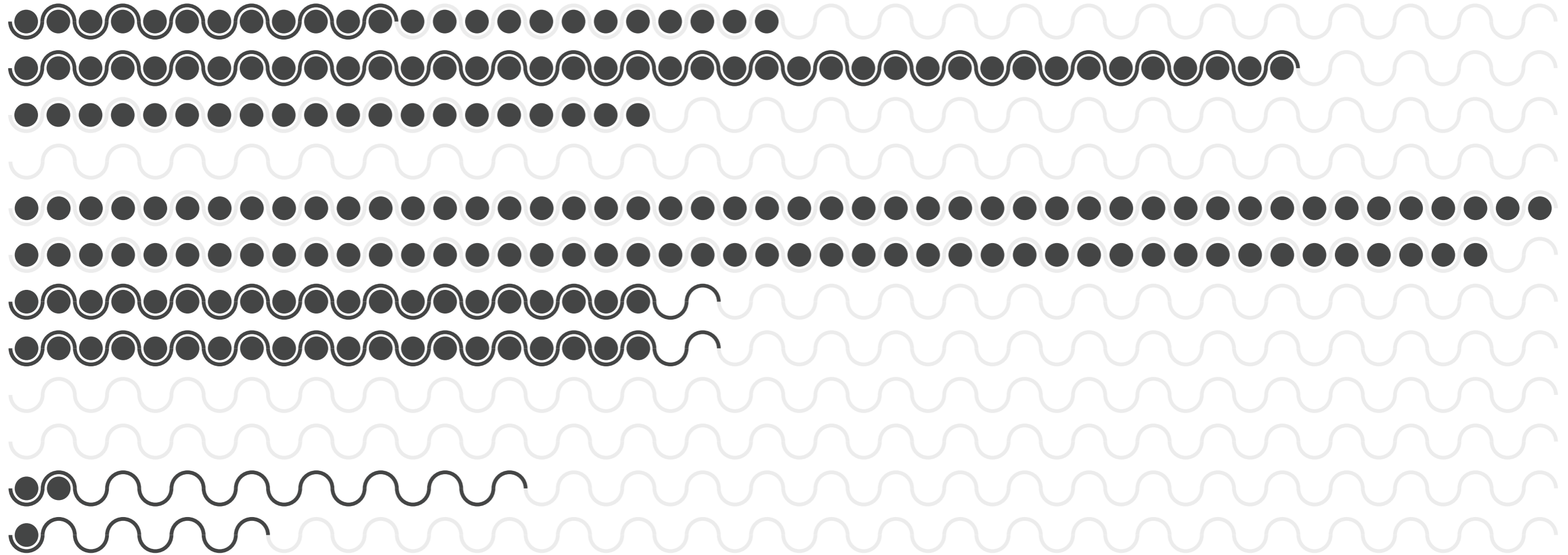
In 2018, GVI Nepal worked with local community caregivers and children to conduct a total of 221 workshops. The number of caregivers that attended reached 100. In this visualisation, the dots and ripples are meant to inspire thoughts of warm, soapy water, and also bring a sense of playfulness to the results.



Number of WaSH workshops conducted in Nepal



Carers or children under 5 years attending WaSH workshops in Nepal



UNREAL EXPERIENCES WORKING TOWARDS GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Let me preface this story with the most important fact, volunteering in Pokhara, Nepal was undoubtedly the most amazing experience of my 21 years. However...I'm not going to lie, within hours of arriving in Kathmandu I was sitting in a small, dark hotel room bawling my eyes out. Completely overwhelmed by the chaos that is Kathmandu, I could not stop asking myself, "What on earth have I gotten myself into?"

new Health Awareness Workshops Program. We kicked it off with nutrition, first aid, anatomy, and exercise education. This was followed by puberty education for young women. You'd be surprised at the amount of fun and laughter we had implementing these workshops! I developed life-long friendships during my time with GVI. I was lucky enough to find not one but two soul sisters and a whole lot of incredible individuals who I'd never have met otherwise. Living with a huge variety of

I developed life-long friendships during my time with GVI. I was lucky enough to find not one but two soul sisters.

But then I arrived in Pokhara and fell instantly in love with Nepal. This beautiful city can only be described as breathtaking! The spectacular yet dangerous Annapurna Mountain Range looms over the Phewa Lake, casting a crystal clear reflection. The lake borders the main street of Pokhara, in an area that is called 'Lakeside'. It is in Lakeside that I would hang out with the GVI crew, shop, eat insane amounts of momos and pakodas, and develop a raging coffee addiction at Olive Café.

A bumpy bus ride out of Lakeside took us volunteers in our different directions to our various projects every day. As an aspiring nurse, I volunteered on the public health project. I was lucky enough to contribute to the

funny, intelligent, inspiring humans is one (of many) of the unexpected joys of going on an adventure with GVI. It's hard not to ramble on about every single experience on offer in Pokhara. I guess the most effective way to communicate it is to say, "go!" See it and experience it for yourself, it's absolutely unreal.

BY ELISE GREEDY, GVI ALUMNI



I COULD NOT STOP ASKING MYSELF, WHAT ON EARTH HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO? BUT THEN I ARRIVED IN POKHARA AND FELL INSTANTLY IN LOVE WITH NEPAL.

SDG 4

LEARNING TOGETHER FOR QUALITY EDUCATION


Cape Town
Awareness. Impact. Empower

COMPUTER LITERACY EDUCATION FOR LOCAL WOMEN FOR GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

GVI Cape Town's Women's Empowerment project began in 2015 and our computer classes first started in the township of Nomzamo in 2017. It is imperative to our team that projects develop based on what the community believes will be most beneficial to them. Many of the women that we work with would like to develop their computer skills so they can gain employment. Therefore, it is important for women to be able to gain a certificate that provides employers with evidence of successful completion of a computer course.

stating the course content is aligned with SAQA. This gives the certificate more weight with employers in South Africa. Since our new course launch date, a phenomenal 115 women have received certificates. We continue to work with between 100 - 230 women each month. To date, our record attendance was 349 lessons delivered in the month of July 2018.

We are continually developing our course lessons as we learn from working with more women. Our first focus has been to simplify the methods and instructions used,

they can earn a certificate with the aim of securing employment as soon as possible. However, this means that the value of the course diminishes slightly, as the local students have rushed the learning process and will be more prone to forgetting the information taught. To address this challenge and ensure long-term sustainability, we encourage the local students to only sign up for a maximum of two lessons per week. This lengthens the course and allows for retention to be enhanced by revision and one-on-one mentoring with GVI staff. In the future, we would like to provide more courses, particularly with a focus on internet skills such as learning how to use email or how to use the internet proficiently. Ideally, we'd like to provide more variety in the lessons we provide but one of the challenges in the community is gaining access to affordable internet.

I am continually surprised by the demand for computer lessons despite having operated in the same location for over a year now. This truly shows how sought after computer skills are by the community. When I first started running the computer lessons I would have days when I thought, "how long can I teach the same lessons over and over?" But this was before I got to know the women of Nomzamo.

I am continually inspired by the women that finish their shifts at work and then race to the community centre to fit in a lesson before collecting their children from school. The mothers who are nursing a baby whilst learn-

ing how to create spreadsheets. The women who have walked for an hour to come and wait in line for a lesson. The mamas in their 60s who are determined to master new skills no matter how long it may take them. And the ladies copying out instructions word for word to ensure they can go home and memorise every step.

The women of Nomzamo have the drive to succeed but haven't always had the opportunities and resources available to help them achieve their goals. I hope that through programmes such as these that we will not only help women achieve their own goals but also work together towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education. Through having access to the computer course, we are supporting women in making progress towards Target 4.4 'substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship'. We also support women towards Indicator 4.4.1, which is increasing the 'Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills'.

Many of the women we work with start with a lot of doubt, they don't think they will be able to learn something that they see as so complicated, and they get frustrated when they struggle to master a new skill such as dragging and highlighting. But then there are these magical moments where a huge smile spreads across a woman's face and she beams with pride at what she

To date, our record attendance was 349 lessons delivered in the month of July 2018.

However, we quickly realised that a GVI certificate wouldn't mean much to most employers. So, we got in touch with an organisation that runs certified, recognised computer courses. And they were generous enough to share their course content with us. This allowed us to build and develop our current computer course, to further cover content that is certified by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). We launched our new course in March 2018 and upon completion, local students now receive a certificate

as English is not the local students' first language. Our second focus was on making the skills more relatable for them - PowerPoint is a bizarre concept if you have never seen a presentation before! Our course now includes 17 lessons that start with the basics, like how to turn a computer on (many of the women have never touched a computer before), to using Microsoft Office.

One of our challenges is that some of the local students are keen to finish the course as quickly as possible so

I hope that through programmes such as these that we will not only help women achieve their own goals but also work together towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education.

4394

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

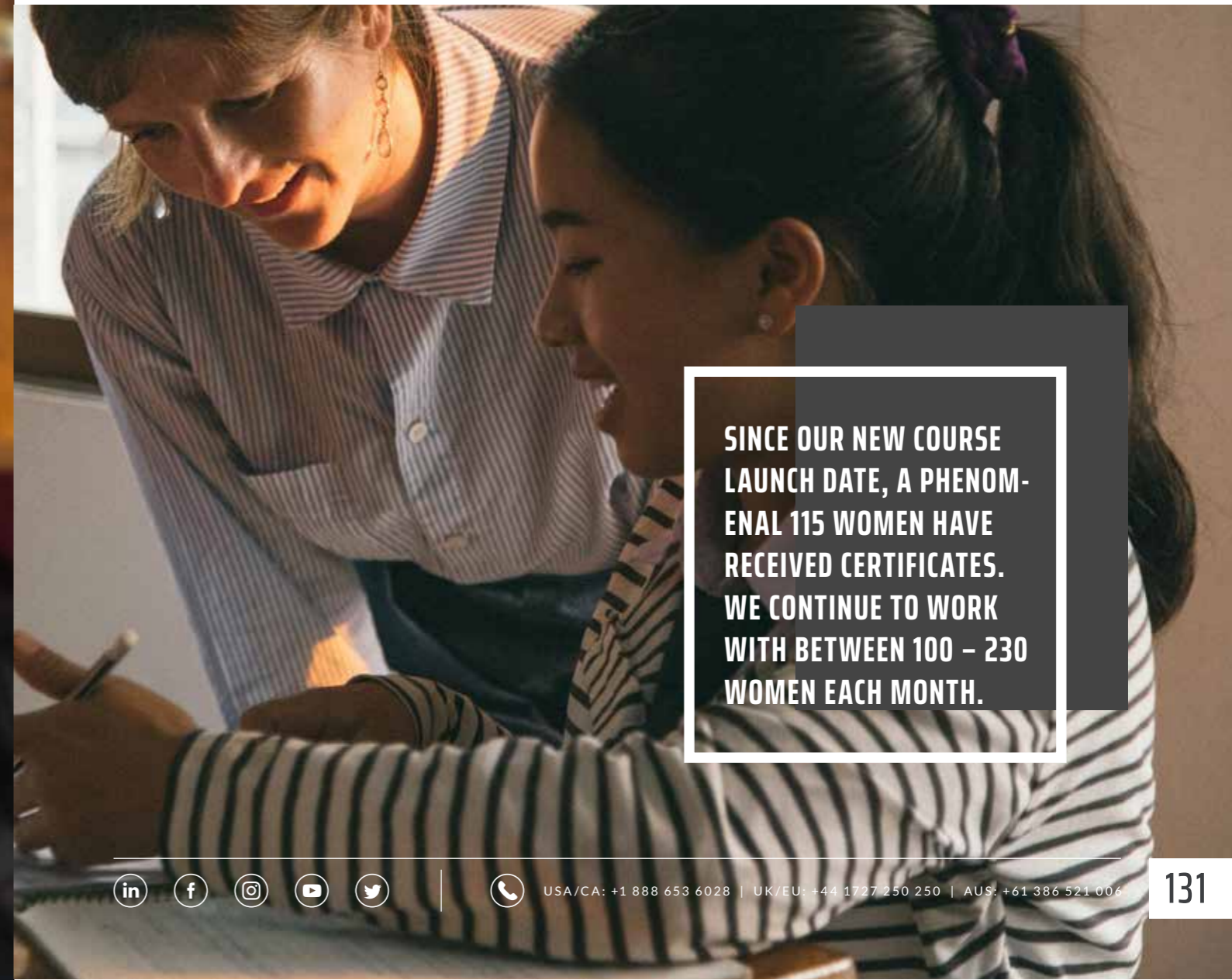
This bar graph shows the number of stakeholders that have participated in workshops educating in sustainable development topics per month in 2018.



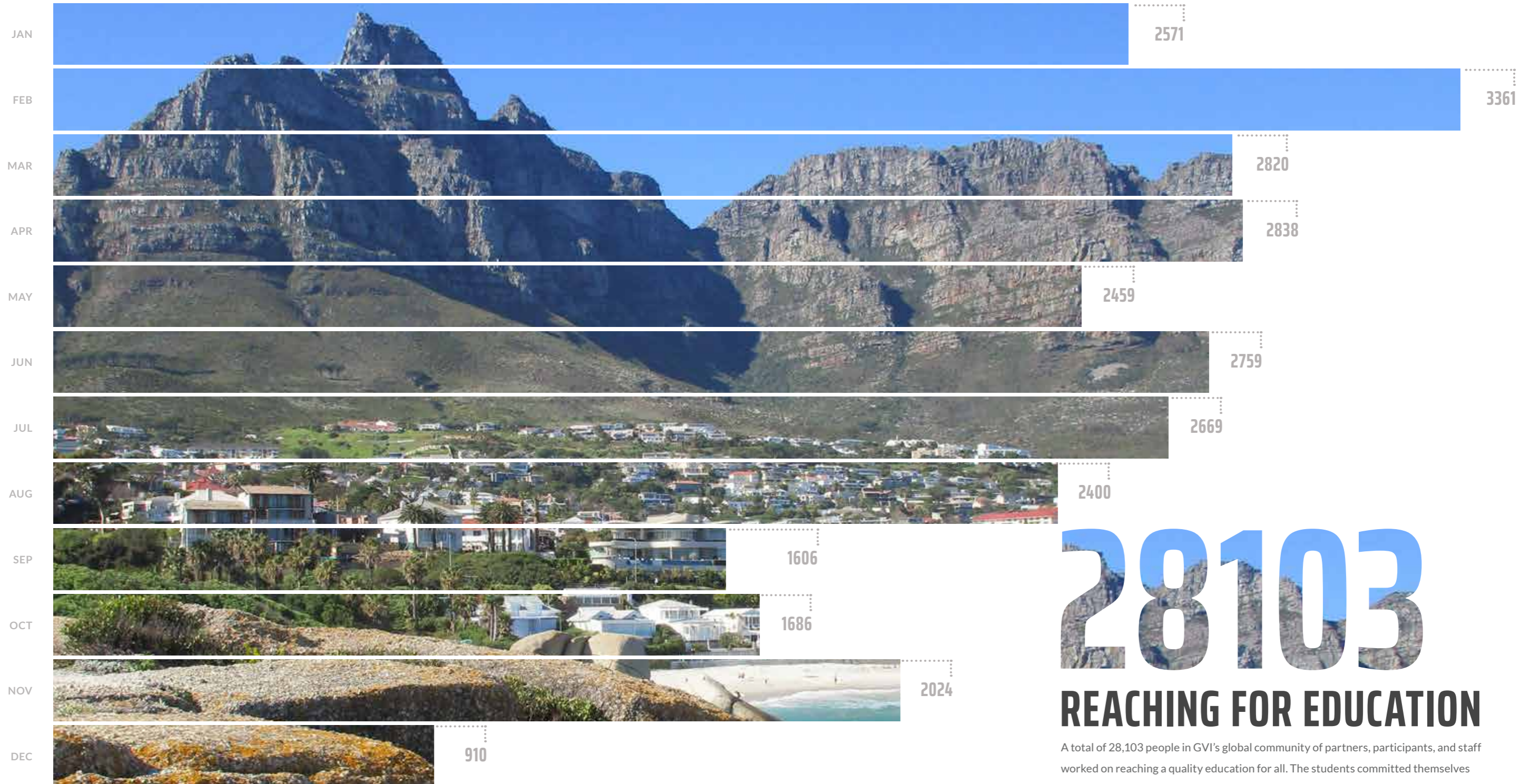
has just achieved. As well as allowing women to grow in confidence and gain new skills, this course is important in enabling women to have better access to employment and further education. The local government last year launched an initiative to give young people work experience within government roles, such as administration at health clinics. The positions were highly sought after, however, the candidates for the administrative roles were required to be able to use a computer. It was therefore fantastic to see a group of women excitedly tell us that they had successfully secured administrative positions on the work experience scheme with the help of their computer skills.

It is, of course, amazing when women come back to us and tell us that they have secured a job with the help of their new skills – this is the aim of our programme after all. But for me, it's even more amazing to see that look of pride on a woman's face. A feeling that every woman should have the right to.

BY SIAN MORRIS, PROGRAM MANAGER,
GVI CAPE TOWN GORDON'S BAY.



SINCE OUR NEW COURSE LAUNCH DATE, A PHENOMENAL 115 WOMEN HAVE RECEIVED CERTIFICATES. WE CONTINUE TO WORK WITH BETWEEN 100 – 230 WOMEN EACH MONTH.



28103

REACHING FOR EDUCATION

A total of 28,103 people in GVI's global community of partners, participants, and staff worked on reaching a quality education for all. The students committed themselves to learning. The schools and organisations provided the place for education to bloom. GVI participants and staff supported through teaching and training. All to ensure quality education and to promote access to learning opportunities for all.

Total number of stakeholders working towards SDG 4 per month globally

GIRLS | BOYS

NUMBER OF PRE-PRIMARY SUPPORT

1074 | 925

WOMEN | MEN

RECEIVED TRAINING OR EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

49883 | 73225



EDUCATION

Our community development base in South Africa is situated in a township called Nomzamo. Here, we collaborate with local schools and community members on various education projects. Featured in this section is GVI Gordon's Bay's women's empowerment computer literacy program for local women.

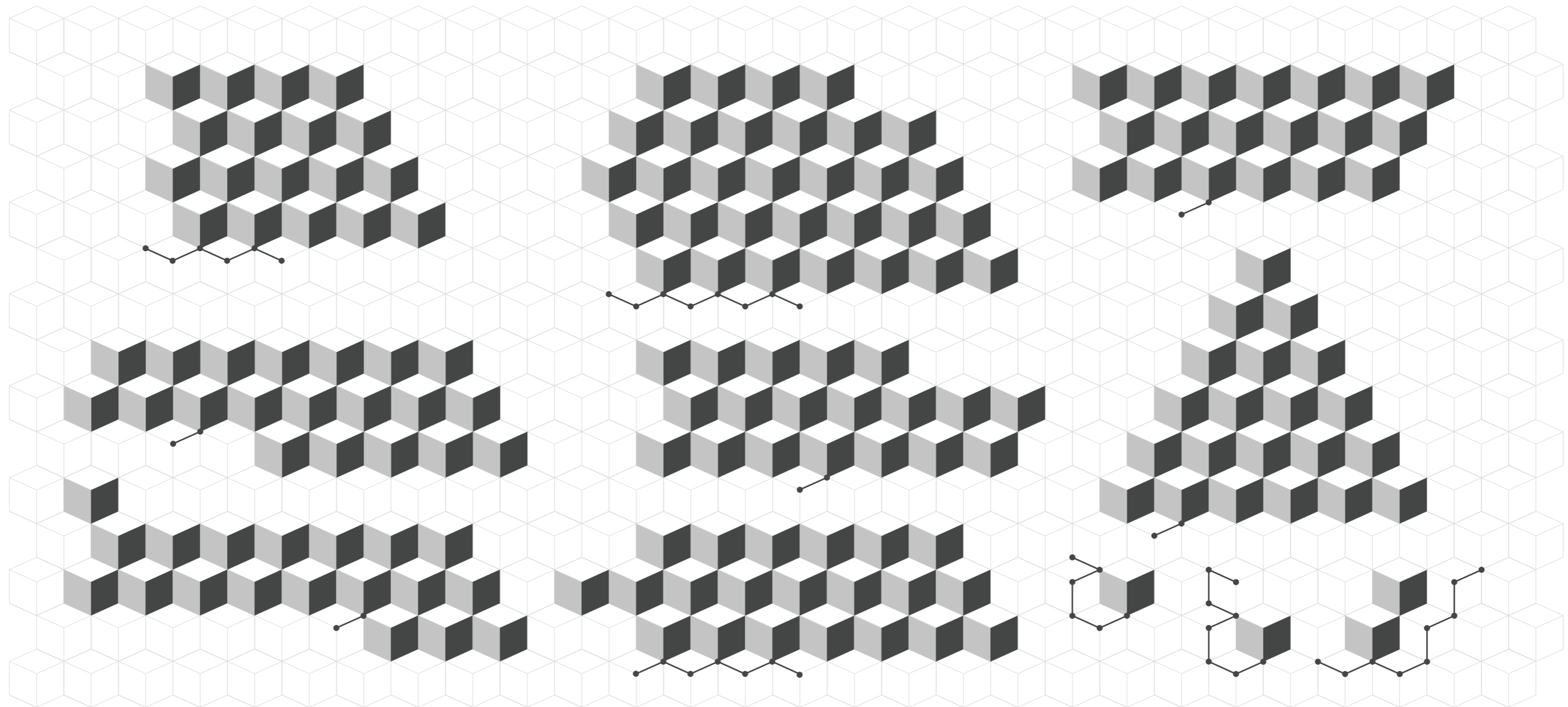
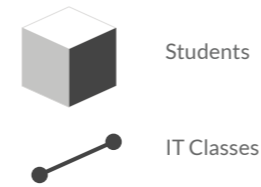
GORDON'S BAY



34.1515° S, 18.8730° E

CAPE TOWN
SOUTH AFRICA

EDUCATION IN GVI GORDON'S BAY



8856 STUDENTS

Together, local teachers, GVI staff, and participants supported 8856 students at our community development base Gordon's Bay, Cape Town, South Africa. The coloured-in building blocks portray the numbers of students supported per month. The building blocks signify both the playfulness of school and childhood, and the hard work it takes to build promising futures through education.

2021 IT CLASSES

GVI staff and participants worked to deliver 2021 IT-related educational classes. Skills in IT-related subjects, such as using Microsoft software, was something that local community members identified as a key need for themselves, for them to empower their own economic development. The height of the lines in the visualisation denote the number of classes given. The lines radiating from the centre resemble a computer circuit board.

NEVER A DULL MOMENT WORKING TOWARDS GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

My story with GVI started in 2011 when I first volunteered to teach novice Buddhist monks English in Laos. Later, I became a member of staff, and I am also privileged to be a GVI Ambassador. I have volunteered or worked with GVI in; Kerala, India; Pokhara, Nepal; Luang Prabang, Laos; Cape Town, South Africa; and Phang Nga, Thailand.

After my third volunteering stint with GVI and seeing the impact education has on children, I decided to give up my career as a Polymer Technologist and pursue a TEFL qualification. This allows one to Teach English as a Foreign Language. Having previously been more technically-minded, I found the qualification helped me

GVI's projects are centred around making a positive impact. All the projects I worked on have been centred around the UN SDGs. I have been most involved in their work towards Goal 4: Quality Education. On its website, the UN says, 'Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to creating sustainable development. In addition to improving quality of life, access to inclusive education can help equip locals with the tools required to develop innovative solutions to the world'.

In all of the countries that I've had the honour of working with GVI, education has been a key focus. We've focused on assisting schools and monasteries with English classes as well as assisting at kindergartens and daycare

In all of the countries that I've had the honour of working with GVI, education has been a key focus.

in knowing the basics of teaching and how to impart education in an environment that is either ill-equipped or lacks resources. I have subsequently completed my qualification as well as an internship in leadership skills with GVI. This allowed me to join GVI as a member of staff working on projects that are related to quality education and leading volunteers in these projects. GVI and its focus on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) have a big impact on the countries it works in and I am proud to be a part of that.

centres. These are key to planting the important seeds that grow within the minds of the children. This is similar to their parents because by making them aware of the importance of quality education, they can prioritise it for their children.

In many of the countries I've volunteered or interned in, education is seen as a luxury and not a necessity. When there is a lack of resources, this adds to the misconception. GVI's presence and assistance at the schools and

centres aids with valuable resources that can contribute to locals realizing the need for quality education and gaining access to it. Together with formal classes, the work done towards quality education overlaps with a few other UN SDGs, such as Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing, Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, and Goal 1: Zero Hunger.

On a personal level, working with GVI allows me to be able to give back to society and work with many wonderful locals in beautiful locations. It also enables me to meet so many other people from all over the world who share the same outlook on life. It has taught me to be humble, to truly appreciate and be thankful for the many blessings I have in life. It has taught me the importance of education – something most of us take for granted. There is no other absolute joy than when a student 'gets' what you are trying to teach. There's nothing like that feeling when a young child uses a synonym that you taught a week ago. Or, when a shy little child who normally sits in the corner hums the nursery rhyme you have been singing with the class, and then later joins in on circle time.

I think anyone working with kids will agree that there never is a dull moment! I recall a particularly funny, awesome story. Kids have this wonderful way of reminding us adults to just have fun. One of the teaching resources used when working with kids is playdough. This allows the child to work with their hands and use their creative skills and can be used for teaching shapes, colours, letters, numbers and a host of other things.

BY MAYUREE JOSHI, GVI ALUMNI.



SDG 5

COLLECTIVELY REACHING FOR GENDER EQUALITY

LOCAL MENSTRUAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY

One day, a volunteer from Australia brought a bag of Days for Girls (DfG) kits to Laos and gave it to Leyla (a former GVI Laos Program Manager). She didn't yet know what was inside, so she opened it, and the rest has been a beautiful tale of education and growth for many local women in and around Luang Prabang, Laos.

Inside the bag, there were beautiful liners and shields. She showed the DfG kits to me, and after discussion, we both thought that they would be very helpful to the community. We were not sure, however, if Lao women and girls would agree with us and if they would like the kits or not. So, during that time, we did a menstrual health workshop with the Women's Empowerment

ner with Bamboo School Foundation. At the same time, Nin, Tarn and I were taking the DfG Ambassador of Women's Health course. Becoming an ambassador was not easy because English is not my native language. I had to study hard to take the course because the course was in very complex English. But I persevered because as a local leader, I can be an inspiration to women and girls in my community. And as a local, I feel comfortable working with local nurses and teachers. I'm proud of myself for becoming an ambassador and local leader because the local people trust what we teach the women and girls about menstrual health. They can feel comfortable talking to us.

I had to study hard to take the course because the course was in very complex English. But I persevered because as a local leader, I can be an inspiration to women and girls in my community.

classes at the GVI Centre in the capital city, and we asked some of the older girls about how people manage their menstrual cycle in the countryside. Their answer was that most people in the rural areas used their old sinh (Lao skirts), to absorb the blood when they have their period, because there are no shops in rural areas, or they do not have money to buy pads. So, we showed the kits to Tarn and Nin, local students. They thought that DfG kits would be useful for people in rural areas because it is easier to use than their old sinh. This is the reason why we signed to be partners with DfG. A while ago, we started working on paperwork to part-

This Days for Girls project works towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 5: Gender Equality, specifically as it relates to Target 5.6: ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. We focus on two main areas, health education and distribution of DfG kits. Menstrual health education is very important for women and girls in the city and in rural areas.

Many older generations know that each month women and girls have their menstrual cycle, but they do not know what is happening inside their bodies, because

most of them never had a chance to go to school. While Days for Girls provides menstrual health kits to manage women's menstruation, they also give workshops to women who may not have learnt about menstrual health before. These workshops are important because they teach women how to use and to clean the kits in a safe way. Through GVI's partnership with Days for Girls, we were able to deliver these workshops and bring kits to the villages.

Before we could do the workshops, Valee (one of GVI Laos' Community Liaisons), and Leyla, had to go to each village in the Ngoi district with Bamboo School Foundation to get approval from the village Chiefs. Our first DfG workshop was in Valee's village, Ban Nanyang. It was lovely to see women and girls learn about menstrual health, and finally understand what is happening inside their own bodies. A nurse in that village joined the workshop as well, and she was happy that the women and girls in her village got the opportunity to learn about menstrual health.

For the second round of workshops, we went to six different villages. One of the challenges that we have in Laos is making the DfG kits because it is hard to find the right materials. Another challenge is getting to each village because some of these villages are hard to get to in the rainy season as trucks cannot go there and it is too far to walk to each village. Whilst we were doing our second round of workshops, we also conducted Phase Two: Monitoring and Evaluation. We got very positive feedback from women and girls about the DfG kits. They told us that since they got their DfG kits they do not need to worry about finding ways to manage their periods. Now, they are able to go to the farm, carry wood, sit wherever they want and dance.

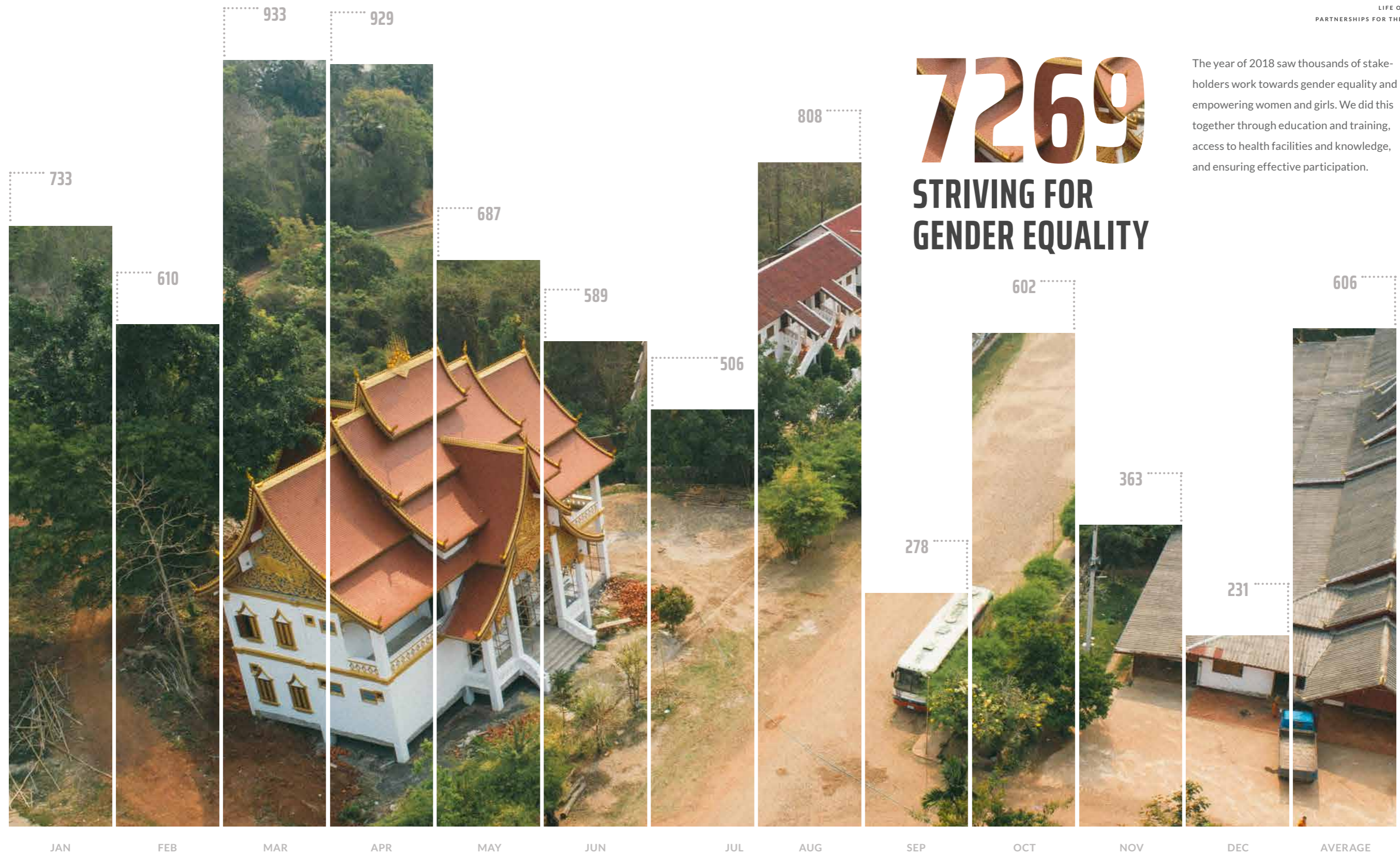
Of the surveyed respondents, 100% stated that they are happy or very happy with their kits. A total of 154 women, or 99.35%, said they can do things now on their period that they could not do before. Finally, 150 women, or 96.77%, were still using their kits at the time of evaluation. They also gave us feedback about the kits. They told us that eight liners are not enough for them to manage their periods, because in the rainy season it is hard to get the liners to dry quickly, so they suggested adding a few more liners.

For the third round of workshops, we went to three villages and one school and we gave each woman and girl ten liners, based on this feedback. It was also the first time that our team did a workshop in a school. We had a wonderful time with the students and one of the biology teachers joined as well.

In the future, we would like to include different areas so we can help more women and girls manage their menstrual cycle. It is very important for them to know about menstrual health education and the DfG kits. We would also like more people to learn how to sew DfG kits and take the DfG ambassadors' course to become local leaders. Finally, we would like the three male ambassadors, who just finished the Men Who Know course, to go back to the villages where we already held the workshops to teach men about menstrual health.

BY LY LY, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT COORDINATOR, GVI LAOS LUANG PRABANG.





7269

STRIVING FOR GENDER EQUALITY

The year of 2018 saw thousands of stakeholders work towards gender equality and empowering women and girls. We did this together through education and training, access to health facilities and knowledge, and ensuring effective participation.

Total number of stakeholders actively working towards Goal 5 per month globally.

380

LEADERSHIP

The below line graph depicts how many women took advantage of leadership skills training per month.

5252

SKILLS

This graph shows how many women participated in educational support or skills training initiatives.

How many women have you trained specifically in leadership skills?

How many women have benefitted from educational support

264

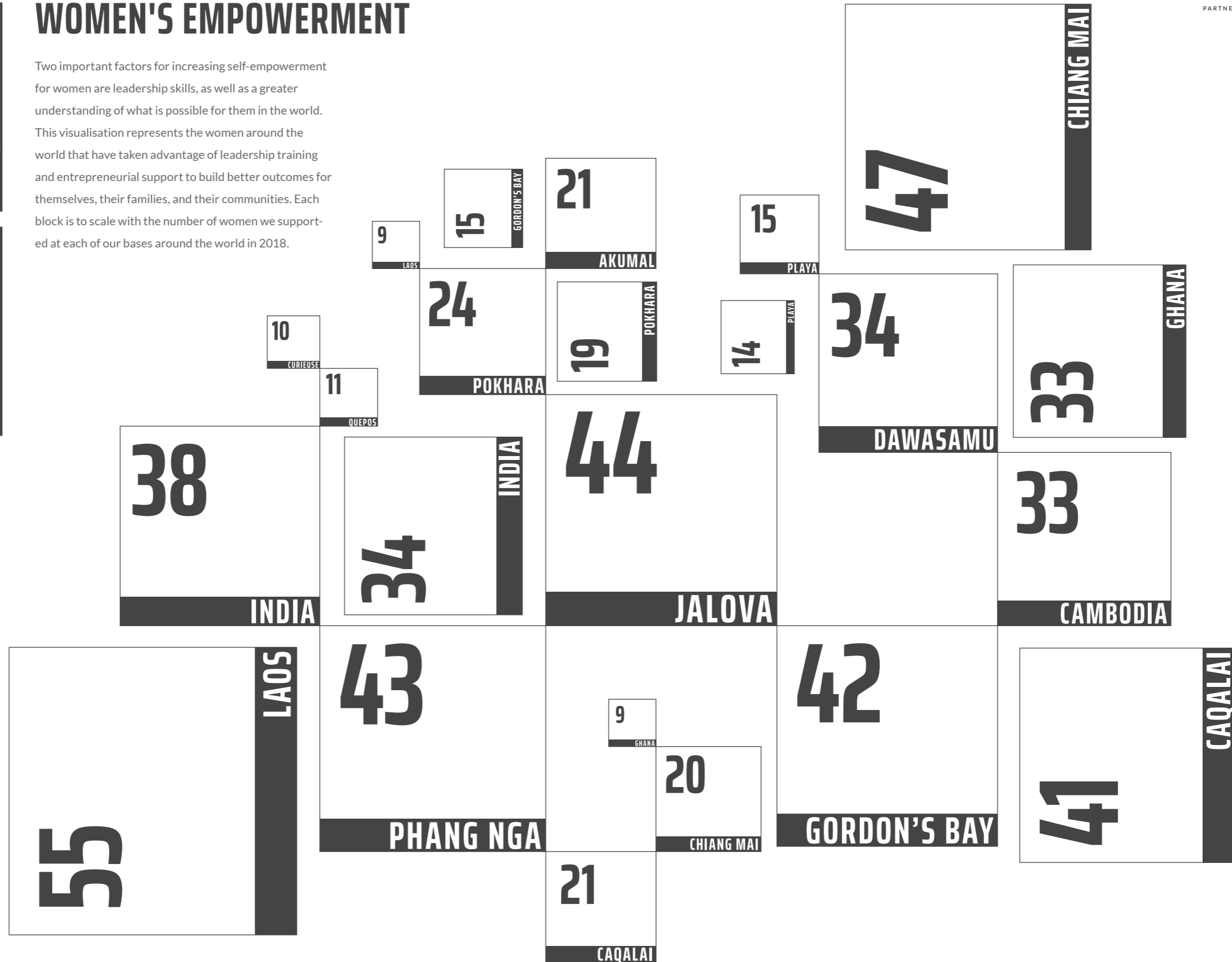
WOMEN SUPPORTED IN MICRO ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES.

374

WOMEN TRAINED IN LEADERSHIP SKILLS.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Two important factors for increasing self-empowerment for women are leadership skills, as well as a greater understanding of what is possible for them in the world. This visualisation represents the women around the world that have taken advantage of leadership training and entrepreneurial support to build better outcomes for themselves, their families, and their communities. Each block is to scale with the number of women we supported at each of our bases around the world in 2018.



MENSTRUATION

Luang Prabang is an ancient Laos city in the heart of Southeast Asia, and it's in the city where we have established our community development base.

There, local schools and organisation collaborate with GVI staff and participants on projects such as teaching English and health awareness and education.

Featured in this section is GVI Luang Prabang's women's empowerment menstrual health initiative from 2018 in partnership with Days for Girls. Local Leader Ly Ly shares her story and the data from surveys taken after menstrual health workshops were conducted in villages in northern Laos.

LUANG PRABANG



28.2096° N, 83.9856° E

LAOS
SOUTHEAST
ASIA

155

WOMEN AND GIRLS RECEIVED DFG KITS



- 150 Still using their kits after 5 months
- 115 Stated that they no longer felt ashamed of their menstruation
- 154 Stated that since receiving a kit, having their period was easier
- 54 Stated that they're happy with their kit
- 101 Stated that they're very happy with their kit
- 154 Stated that there are things that they can do now that they couldn't before they had a kit

MENSTRUAL HEALTH

For many women in rural locations in countries with developing economies, access to things such as sanitary menstrual aids, hygienic disposal, and menstrual health knowledge can be a luxury. In 2018, local leaders used GVI's support and worked tirelessly to deliver sustainable education and sanitation solutions using Days for Girls' (DfG) model. Localised traditional beliefs in rural or tribal settings about menstruation can put women out of functioning in their societies and families for days on end. While these traditional beliefs have persisted for centuries, a growing push for gender equality and women's empowerment calls for women to be given the access to health education and sanitation in order for them to achieve the things they want to achieve and contribute to their communities more fully. In 2018, GVI staff, participants and local Days for Girls Ambassadors in Laos conducted DfG Menstrual Health Education workshops and delivered DfG Sustainable Menstrual Health Kits to six villages in Northern Laos. Some months later, the staff and local leaders returned to the same six villages to conduct surveys on the use of those kits. The data visualisation represents drops of blood, as well as flow and cycle. The central circle in the data visualisation represents the total of 155 women who took the survey. The concentric circles represent these women's responses to the six questions they were asked about the kits. The results were massively positive with most of the local community women feeling that there were things they could do now that they couldn't do before the education and receiving the DfG Sustainable Menstrual Health Kits.



COMPUTER CLASSES AREN'T JUST FOR GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY

Seventy-year-old Edith struggles to grasp almost all computer concepts, to adorable and comedic results. However, her lack of eyesight, good hearing and punctuality does not prevent this indomitable spirit in the slightest from coming to class consistently.

She comes every day, pencil and notebook in hand, prepared to learn the same lesson for the fourth or fifth time in a row. She tells me that she's extremely happy to have this opportunity and that she reminds her husband daily of her intelligence. Edith is thankful (as the self-proclaimed matriarch of the class) that all Nonzamo women have the opportunity to come and learn for free and urges them to all take part.

However, Edith is not the only one who has benefitted from GVI's Women's Empowerment initiative. I watch as Matumo, another woman who attends computer classes regularly, slowly gains confidence and passes her final test. When handing her the certificate of completion I said, "Congratulations, you did a fantastic job, you're so smart!" to which she smiles slyly and said, "I know", before sauntering out the door to a group of cheering women.

When I first met her, she needed constant support and affirmation that she was doing well and told me she didn't think she could ever finish the course. Now, look at her. It is stories like Edith's and Matumo's which inspire me every day to volunteer. They make me believe in a better future. It is a privilege to work with them. The word 'inspiring' can hardly begin to describe the experience.

The computer classes are geared towards women looking to gain and maintain proficient computer skills. This allows them to add to their CV/resume. GVI's Women's Empowerment project provides one-on-one lessons of 30 minutes each, to women who make daily appointments with a volunteer.

Over the course of a six week period, it provided them with a certificate. The certificate indicates that the women have been attending all their lessons. It also shows that they have passed all of the small tests required by the certification process.

The skills acquired can be used to switch jobs, expand horizons, and increase wages. The GVI project contributes to United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDG) 5 by giving the women skills to compete in the job market, and instil them with a newfound sense of confidence, which can be lost over time due to a semi-traditional male-dominated and lead society. Not only can the women attending pass the basic computer skills over to friends and other students, but they can also help their children and spouses. Due to current technological developments and our constant need for technology, it has becoming more and more necessary to develop and obtain computer skills for jobs and life in general.

The difference made by GVI's Women's Empowerment project can be measured not only in the increasing number of women signing up and waiting for lessons, but also in certificates earned, proud smiles, confidence, and thank yous received. GVI's endeavour for women's

THE SKILLS ACQUIRED CAN BE USED TO SWITCH JOBS, EXPAND HORIZONS, AND INCREASE WAGES.

empowerment in Nonzamo is not only sustainable but it is a thriving, busy, productive project, which is lead as much by the community members as those who are volunteering. This creates a balanced environment where little new resources are needed to continue a project's work, making the project almost completely sustainable. The project gives women the opportunity to lead the way for women in Nonzamo Township, South Africa, and the future. Participants are leading the way with their skills and carving out a path for all South African women towards achieving Goal 5: Gender Equality.

Unfortunately, many women living within South African townships do not have the option of going to university or even sometimes finishing high school. Sadly countless become mothers at a very young age and are told they will amount to little by society. Goal 5 attempts to tackle and address this issue all over the world. It aims to, 'achieve gender equality and empower all women and to do so in an ethical and sustainable manner.

GVI contributes to reaching this goal significantly in the communities they work in by tackling issues such as unfair social norms and stances by way of education. Not only are women showing off how capable they are in terms of learning new skills and intelligence, but they're also banding together to help each other review, learn more, and support each other. The GVI Women's Empowerment project is about much more than Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, USBs, and typing skills - it is about community, sisterhood, and love.

BY EVIE MCCORMACK, GVI ALUMNI.



SDG 6

COLLABORATING TO ENSURE
CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



GROWING A NATURAL FILTRATION SYSTEM FOR SDG 6: CLEAN WATER & SANITATION

After a tsunami in 2004, there were concerns that the mangrove forest within the Curieuse Marine National Park (CMNP), Seychelles, was experiencing a decline in both size and number of species present. To assess these concerns, GVI partnered with the Seychelles National Park Authority (SNPA) and started monitoring the forest in 2013.

Seven species of mangrove are currently present in Seychelles, of which six were once present on Curieuse Island. Within the CMNP, you will now find only five species, along with a mangrove-associated species. Mangrove ecosystems play an important role in ensuring a high level of water quality and clarity, and are essential for adjacent corals and seagrass to thrive by trapping sedimentation and land run-off. In addition, mangroves provide high-quality nutrients for both mangrove and sea-dwelling creatures, prevent coastal erosion, provide vital nurseries for a range of species (sharks, fish, crustaceans), and are important habitats for a variety of animals (birds, crustaceans, fish, and many more).

The mangrove forest on Curieuse is of particular interest. In 1910, a causeway wall was built across the bay in a failed endeavour by European settlers to rear sea turtles. This wall had a lasting impact on the bay. It reduced water intensity and provided a suitable environment for mangrove seedlings to settle and grow. In 2004, a tsunami damaged the wall, allowing larger waves to enter the bay more frequently, and in turn, caused an influx of

sediment. This altered the mangrove population structure by decreasing abundance and species richness. I joined the mangrove monitoring program as a Science Officer after graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Science and Ecology. I had previously worked with mangroves, including some species that are present on Curieuse Island, during my studies and loved exploring the sulphur-smelling, knee-deep muddy forests. The current mangrove monitoring activities conducted by GVI staff and participants are part of a long-term project aimed at maintaining the ecological function of the mangrove habitat.

In 2013, 28 permanent transects were placed in the mangroves and monthly data collection began. Surveys were initially developed in an effort to determine the layout of the mangrove forest in relation to water patterns and salt concentrations. Mangroves are known to be difficult to rehabilitate and selecting the optimal site for planting each species is essential. We ascertained that all species grow in a wide range of salinity from 0 to over 31 ppt (parts per thousand) and were found in water inundation levels ranging from 0 to 81+ cm. With the exception of the *Xylocarpus* species, which were found in much shallower water levels. Current surveys assess mangrove diversity and abundance, as well as looking at mortality and recruitment rates.

In 2015, five permanent quadrats were set up in various locations throughout the mangrove forest. Quadrats

are square frames of a set size, in this case, 10m x 10m, placed in a habitat of interest and the species within these boundaries are identified and recorded. An additional three quadrats were installed within the forest in 2017. From these biannual surveys, we have found that *Rhizophora mucronata* is the dominant species within the seaward edge of the mangrove forest, while no quadrats contained *Xylocarpus* species. *R. mucronata* and *Bruguiera gymnorrhiza* are the only species to have seedlings and/or saplings present within the quadrats. While the current positioning of the quadrats allows us

There have been ongoing discussions about whether or not to rebuild the seawall. When considering the options, it is important to think of the implications that this may have, on not only the mangroves but also on the multitude of species that inhabit this area. One option would be to not rebuild the sea wall. Allowing the mangrove forest to return to the state it was in before the wall was built in 1910. The concern surrounding this option is that it may lead to a decrease in its current high level of biodiversity. Another alternative, that I would personally like to see in action, would be to create natural buffer

Water services to society are provided by water-related ecosystems. Ensuring our mangrove forest is healthy is our way of supporting global efforts to improve water quality.

to collect consistent data on the mangroves in the seaward half of the forest, they exclude the middle and rear sections of the forest. As a result, species that distributed further inland are under-represented. The majority of the seaward edge of the forest is also excluded, which is the area of highest concern as it is where we have observed the highest mortality rates. To undertake future assessments of mortality rates, and understand whether or not this phenomenon has penetrated further into the forest, it is vital that more permanent quadrats are set up along the seaward edge of the forest.

Since the partial destruction of the seawall in the 2004 tsunami, there have been concerns that the increased wave action and influx of sediment may be resulting in the degradation of the forest. If restorative planting of mangrove habitats is to go ahead, the removal of stress should be considered prior to attempting restoration.

zones using mangroves, enhanced seagrass beds, and coral reef restoration. This option reduces the amount of heavy construction conducted in the Marine National Park while also increasing the biodiversity of the area – a win-win. Riley’s Encasement Method (REM) was developed to facilitate planting where shorelines have high-energy waves and in an effort to overcome the limitations of other mangrove planting schemes. Increasing the seagrass cover within the bay may assist in reducing the impacts of wave action and sediment influxes on the mangroves. Conducting coral reef restoration directly beyond the seawall could also assist in alleviating wave action on the mangrove forest.

The United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. One of the UN SDG’s targets is to protect and restore



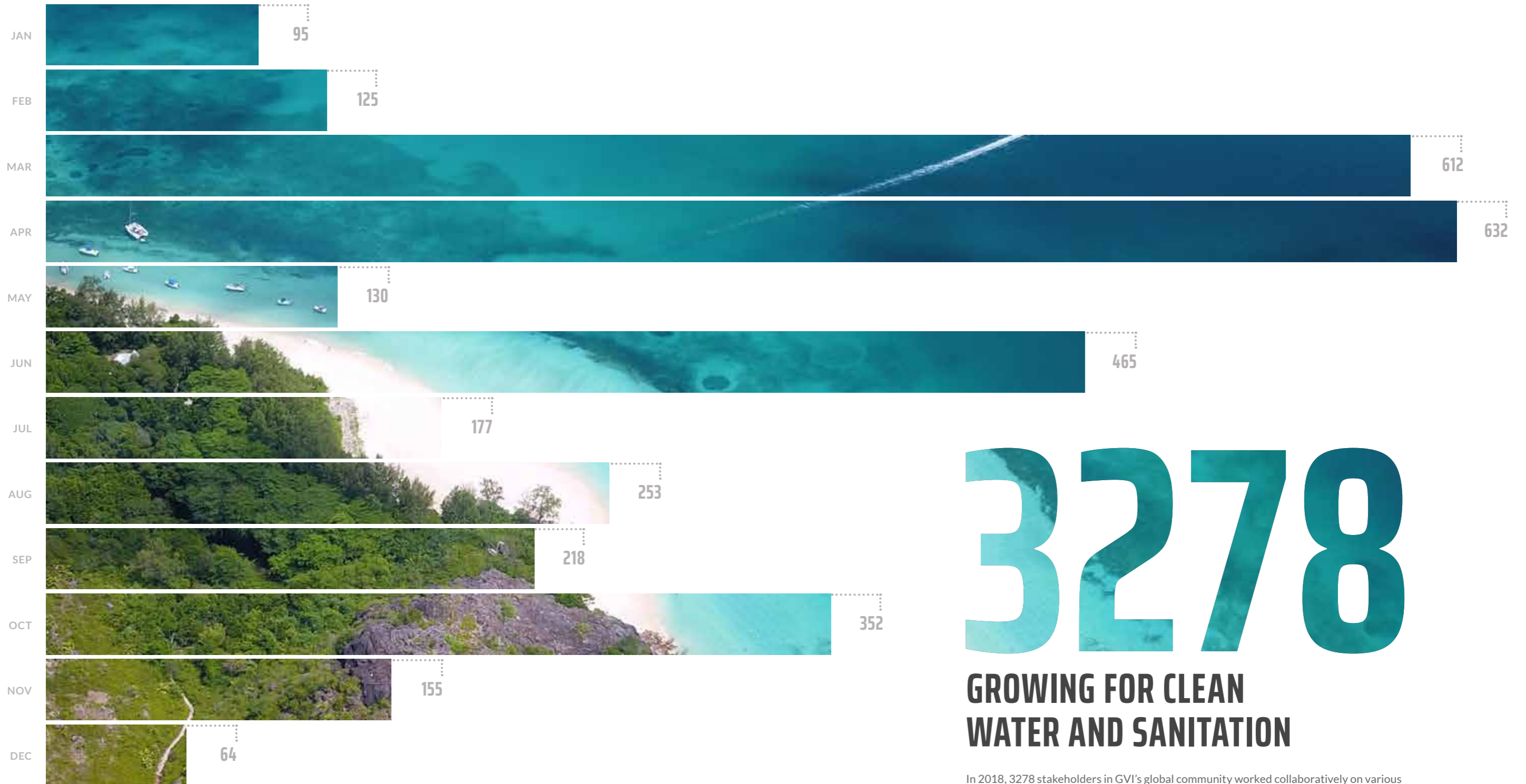
water-related ecosystems – mangrove forests fall within these ecosystems. Water services to society are provided by water-related ecosystems. Ensuring our mangrove forest is healthy is our way of supporting global efforts to improve water quality.

This is still a relatively new monitoring program and with continued data collection, overall trends will become apparent. With any luck, the data will suggest that the forest is able to achieve a high level of biodiversity on its own. On the other hand, if the data suggests that a helping hand is required, I hope we can achieve restoring the mangrove forest to all its previous glory. The biggest challenge the mangrove forest faces is climate change. That is: sea levels rising, decreasing rainfall, loss of protection provided by nearby seagrass meadows and coral reefs. An increase in extreme weather will negatively impact mangrove ecosystems and the services they provide. Maintaining, and restoring mangrove ecosystems will be difficult, yet crucial, moving forward.

BY MORGAN PURDY, EX-SCIENCE OFFICER,
GVI SEYCHELLES CURIEUSE.



THE UNITED NATIONS' SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION AIMS TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL.



Total number of stakeholders actively working towards SDG 6 per month globally

3278

GROWING FOR CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

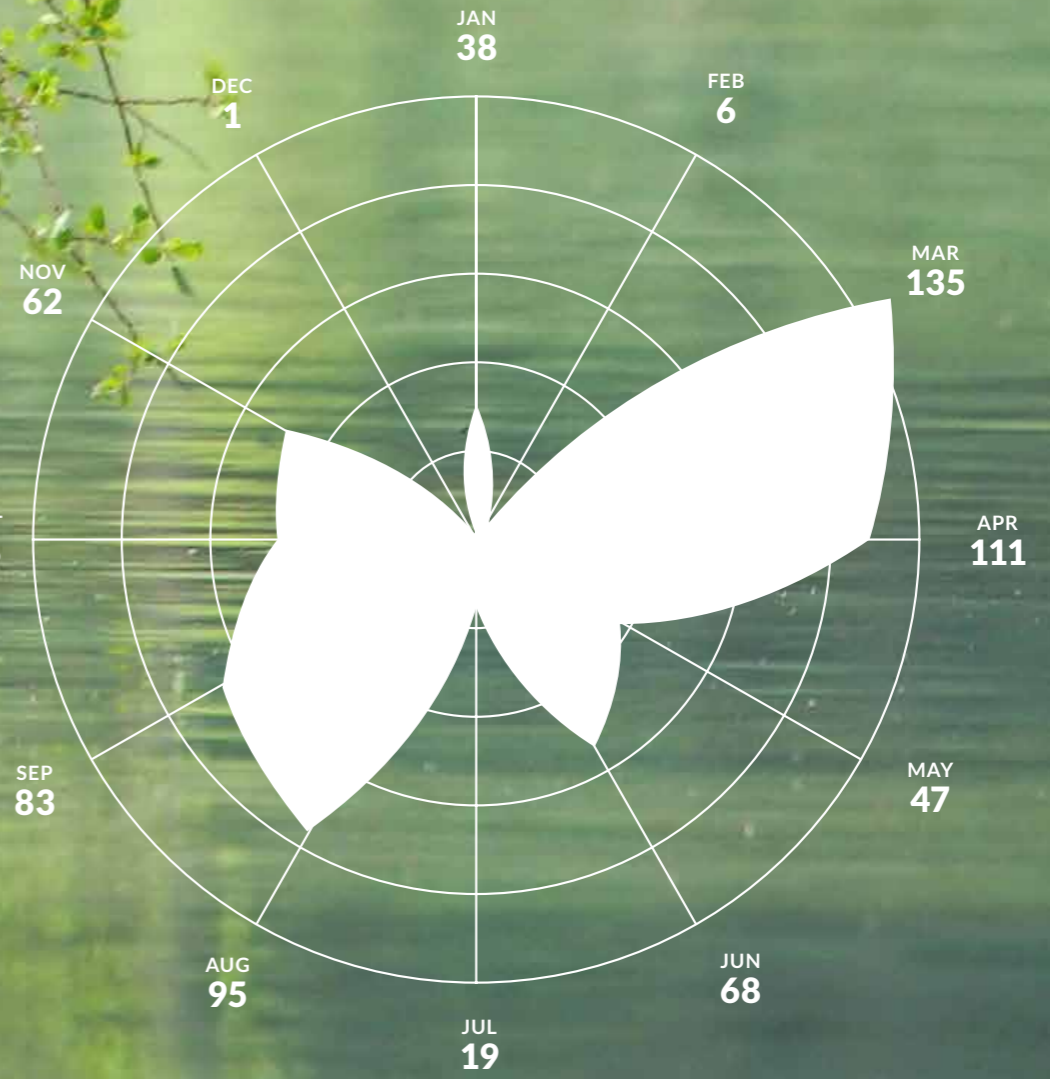
In 2018, 3278 stakeholders in GVI's global community worked collaboratively on various projects to help ensure clean water and sanitation for current and future generations. Data collection, planting mangroves, and education on responsible waste disposal were some of the diverse but vital projects we all contributed to collectively. All to improve and sustain our world's precious, limited water supply.

MANGROVE TREES

Mangrove tree ecosystems are one of the most precious systems in the world for their function in preserving water-related ecosystems and contributing to clean water for all. This chart represents the total number of mangrove trees GVI's global community planted around the world, segmented per month.



WATER



To conserve, restore, and sustain natural water-related ecosystems that are being impacted by various external factors such as climate degradation, it's necessary to understand their inclining, static, or declining health. This involves conducting surveys using various techniques and data points. This radar chart plots the number of survey's GVI's global community conducted during 2018, the data of which contributes to conserving and restoring water-related ecosystems.





WASTE MANAGEMENT

The number of participants that were engaged in capacity-building workshops on water or waste management in 2018. These workshops educate GVI participants in local and international strategies for sustainable water usage and waste disposal practices.

JALOVA



PHANG NGA



AKUMAL



CURIEUSE



CAQALAI

700 CLEAN WATER

In 2018, local community members, staff, and participants conducted 700 surveys to collect data which contributes to monitoring and restoring water related ecosystems. In the data visualisation, the number of rings per ripple represents the total amount of surveys done at each of our bases that contributes to Goal 6.



MANGROVES

The Seychelles island of Curieuse and the coastal Thailand province of Phang Nga are an ocean apart, but they share two (among other) things: they are home to GVI bases, and they work to plant mangrove trees. Mangroves are essential ecosystems that preventing coastline erosion and provide sanctuary for diverse wildlife and marine life species. GVI Curieuse monitors the island mangrove ecosystem to promote biodiversity and protect coastal integrity. GVI Phang Nga often goes on mangrove planting sprees to help some of Thailand's coastline. Featured in this section are their successes at working to protect and restore water-related ecosystems.

CURIEUSE & PHANG NGA



4.2816° S, 55.7217° E

SEYCHELLES
AFRICA



8.4501° N, 98.5255° E

THAILAND
SOUTHEAST ASIA

JAN | 0

FEB | 0

MAR | 550

APR | 400

MAY | 0

JUN | 120

JUL | 0

AUG | 0

SEP | 100

OCT | 300

NOV | 0

DEC | 250

PHANG NGA

Towards the end of 2018, our community and conservation base in Phang Nga, Thailand, undertook an ambitious fund-raising project to plant 1500 mangrove trees to help restore some of Thailand's coastline. They got so close to their target, planting 1262 trees and raised £369.

CURIEUSE

The staff and participants work with the local national parks authority on a project specifically dedicated to monitoring existing mangrove forests and planting new mangrove trees. Planting is done periodically throughout the year, and new plantations are evaluated to provide success or failure data.

This data visualisation segments the number of mangrove trees each of the two GVI bases planted by month on the vertical axis. The size of the circles is representative of how many trees were planted in the respective month - the bigger the circle, the more trees were planted. The circles are designed to look an eagle-eye view of a forest, and the seeds represent months where no mangrove trees were planted.



DOING SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING FOR GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

After many holidays doing the usual, sitting on the beach, sipping cocktails and seeing the sights, I started looking into locations where I could have a more fulfilling experience. Having discovered GVI online and scrolling through their various program options and locations, I stumbled across their community development base in the Dawasamu District, Fiji. I would be lying if I said I wasn't initially drawn to the idyllic setting, of exotic islands, and white sandy beaches. It also had a charm and innocence, with the location being tucked away in a far corner of the world. It had never been a country that struck me as struggling at an individual economical level, or overly in need of support. This only spiked my interest further. I settled on the construction project and this felt the most obvious since I had some experience in construction work.

After a few months working three jobs and saving towards this project, I finally could book my flight to Fiji. Before the build up to the project, I was given a training manual which gave a detailed guide of all of the sustainable work happening at GVI's location in Fiji at the time. A combination of water tank and solar panel installa-

tions, as well as sustainable vegetable plantations were listed. It became apparent that despite the relaxed islanders take on life, they needed support and were welcoming of help towards achieving their objectives. When I arrived in the city of Nadi, I was warmly greeted by the GVI field staff and taken to the port with my fellow volunteers to disembark for the district of Dawasamu. When we arrived we went over the various health and safety briefings, and this is about all I remember since I fell asleep before my head hit the pillow.

In the morning we set about some training and it was decided that our main focus was water tank installation. This would mean we would work towards the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal (UN SDG) 6: Clean Water and Sanitation for various and more remote Fijian islands that struggle to obtain enough water. This struggle is especially apparent in the summer months when water needs to be carefully rationed, something that I had never had to think about in my world.

Our host family was very hospitable and they gave us a glimpse of the day-to-day life of a local Fijian. I could easily swap the hustle and bustle of central London commuting, I would think to myself on occasion.

THIS STRUGGLE IS ESPECIALLY APPARENT IN THE SUMMER MONTHS WHEN WATER NEEDS TO BE CAREFULLY RATIONED, SOMETHING THAT I HAD NEVER HAD TO THINK ABOUT IN MY WORLD.

We had to transport one of the larger tanks to a nearby island. The tank was so large in fact that it was too big to fit on our eight-person boat. This meant we had to roll the tank down the beach and tie it to the back of the boat. When we arrived on the nearby island we set about digging a base for the tank to rest on. Now, I have some construction experience as mentioned, but this was tough work. By this point, I had no doubts about this being a volunteer project! After digging the 9 x 9 feet base, we mixed up the concrete, filled the base and levelled it out for the tank to rest on once dry.

Once the installation was complete, we were welcomed into the nearby home of a local woman who offered us dinner. Some amazing food was prepared, more than any of us could possibly have eaten. Our host family was very hospitable and they gave us a glimpse of the day-to-day life of a local Fijian. "I could easily swap the hustle and bustle of central London commuting," I would think to myself on occasion. I asked our hosts how a water tank

would make a difference on the islands. She answered by explaining how much of their water had to be rationed before. This would mean drinking water would take priority as would cleaning cutlery but if the water was low certain nonnecessities would have to wait. Now, with another water tank installed, these rations could be eased because there was more room for water storage.

After heading back to our camp I felt a sense of satisfaction that I had not experienced on a regular holiday. I was still here for many more weeks. Life on base throughout my time at GVI was rustic but comfortable and that is exactly how I wanted it to be. If you are going all that way and wish to experience the real Fiji, you should live like a Fijian.

I think, to sum up, my experience in Fiji with GVI is very difficult since I had so many rewarding and fulfilling experiences. I took a lot away with me from the experience and most importantly I have become much less wasteful with water. GVI's commitment to the people of Fiji by contributing to providing clean water and sanitation is making a positive and sustainable impact for the islanders. I'm so grateful and happy to have been a part of it in some small way.

BY JAMES MCKIE, GVI ALUMNI.

SDG 8

WORKING FOR DECENT GROWTH
AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



EXPONENTIAL IMPACT THROUGH GOAL 8: DECENT WORK & ECONOMIC GROWTH

The National Scholarship Program (NSP) began in 2004 as Steve Gwenin's brainchild. Steve managed diving programs with GVI in Mexico, and he and his team realised the need for capacity building in the local community. They also identified a need for more robust cultural interactions between GVI's team and the surrounding communities.

The first National Scholars on the program were Mexican nationals. To date, our NSP has seen widespread success around the world and is currently going strong on most of our 20+ bases.

The objectives and benefits of the program are multi-faceted. The NSP program helps us identify local individuals with the potential to benefit from the training, qualifications, and learning experience that GVI programs have to offer. A large benefit of the NSP is that the international GVI team work hand-in-hand with local community members, making these projects mutually beneficial. On the one hand, local community members participate in development opportunities and gain valuable experience, while on the other, the international GVI team gain more local knowledge.

Working in this way enables GVI to train potential staff and local community leaders. In turn, training creates an opportunity for a culture and language exchanges between the National Scholar and the international team, staff, and participants.

In the short term, the program provides an amazing developmental and exchange opportunity for not only the National Scholar but everyone on site with GVI at that time. The long-term impact is potentially infinite. When a National Scholar is trained and later employed in their field of expertise, they leave a lasting impact on their communities and the people they come into contact with.

The impact the program has on other GVI staff and participants is also notable. Living with, working with, and really getting to know individuals cross-culturally allows participants to examine their own culture, biases, values, and beliefs. This aids in better interpersonal relationships and tolerance – giving them a broader worldview. Who can tell what GVI participants may go on to achieve thanks to the cultural exchange they had with National Scholars? The possibilities for exponential change are great!

Since 2004, we have had approximately 200 National Scholars in ten countries around the world (Mexico, Kenya, South Africa, Thailand, Fiji, Seychelles, Costa Rica, Laos, India and Cambodia). In 2018 alone we've had 19 National Scholars. This is an estimated financial contribution of £400,000 from GVI.

A significant part of our work aims towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. For many of our projects, various individual UN SDGs

and their Targets serve to help us form measurable objectives. The NSP works toward Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. More specifically, Target 8.3, which in part aims to promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. This serves to underpin the NSP because the program provides opportunities for community members to gain experience in contributing to and managing sustainable development programs. It also gives them the opportunity to earn qualifications and gain numerous soft skills which contribute to their own employability. It further provides some local community members access to growth and learning opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach.

the very first National Scholars, joined GVI in Mexico in 2004. This is his testimonial of his time with GVI:

After the amazing experience of being the very first NSP for the GVI Mexico Conservation Expedition in Mahahual, Quintana Roo, I became an intern and afterwards, got hired by GVI as their Science and Community Officer. After having more than a great year with GVI, I studied a master's degree in Coastal and Marine Resources Management, for which the knowledge and technical tools I gained about coral reef ecology and monitoring were quite useful. Moreover, as I've been working in coral reef conservation and management for the last five years mainly for local NGOs, the monitoring and training skills learned at GVI bases had become an

They allowed me to enjoy the excitement of being a part of the GVI experience: always feeling at home, learning, teaching, generating sound data for marine conservation and sustainable development for local communities, and all while having loads of fun!

In developing the program over the years, one of the challenges we've faced is that participating in a program for a fixed five to ten weeks without compensation was prohibitive for many potential national scholars. To solve this, we began to offer part-time or flexi-time commitments, which included living off-site, living off stipends, or one of a few other arrangements. This would allow community members to join regardless of other work and family restraints. Rather than attempting to express our impact in my own words, I will let our National Scholars speak for themselves. Baruch Figueroa, one of

important background for my professional development. Personally, I'm quite grateful to GVI and the GVI staff who, back at that time, demonstrated such human and professional qualities in the dive. They allowed me to enjoy the excitement of being a part of the GVI experience: always feeling at home, learning, teaching, generating sound data for marine conservation and sustainable development for local communities, and all while having loads of fun!

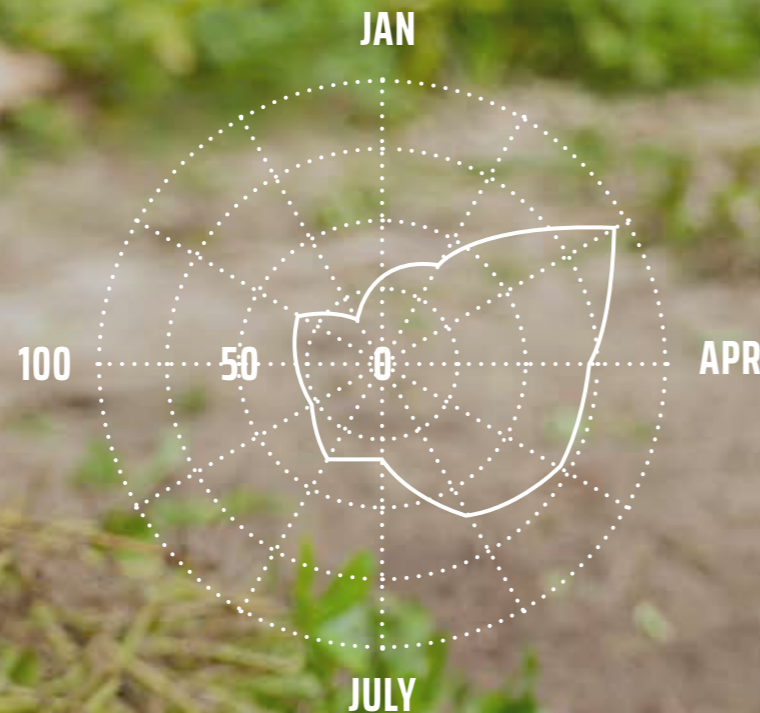


OUR

ECONOMIC IMPACT

In everything GVI does as a social enterprise in the international development sector, we aim to do it sustainably in a way that leads to local empowerment and wards against dependency. However, as an organisation within many local communities internationally, we recognise that our presence has an economic impact – and we aim to make it a good one. Two of the ways we try to do so are represented in the graphs below. The first shows the number of community members employed at GVI bases globally per month. The second shows how many micro-enterprises GVI works with per month.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS EMPLOYED BY GVI



LOCAL MICRO-ENTERPRISES WORKED WITH BY INDIVIDUAL BASES PER MONTH



Josephine Saleri was a National Scholar with GVI in Kenya in 2012. Here is her experience in her own words: I have learnt many things from my time with GVI in Mombasa. I have had great experiences teaching a range of different classes to different age groups. I have been taught about Group Reading and One-to-One lessons, which were started by GVI, as these are not on the Kenyan curriculum. I am very interested in the education and welfare of the pupils I teach, so I have found lessons such as these hugely beneficial to both my growth as a teacher and the students I teach.

eight students to sit their Kenyan Certificate of Primary Education. These are just a few of the success stories we have seen over the years. I feel the National Scholarship Program is one of GVI's highest impact initiatives because of the reach and potential that it has.

My personal hope is that the National Scholar Program will continue to grow and thrive in every location that GVI operates. I hope that over time, 50% of our field staff will be made up of the National Scholarship Program graduates. I would also love to see more

The long-term impact is potentially infinite. When a National Scholar is trained and later employed in their field of expertise, they leave a lasting impact on their communities and the people they come into contact with.

On a personal level, living with my fellow volunteers as an NSP has helped me to develop my confidence in social situations. I have been introduced to people from all over the Western world. I have enjoyed trips, along with the students, to places such as parks, beaches and swimming pools. We have also been fortunate enough to attend musical performances held by an international school in Mombasa. These are not only important experiences for the pupils, but also for me.

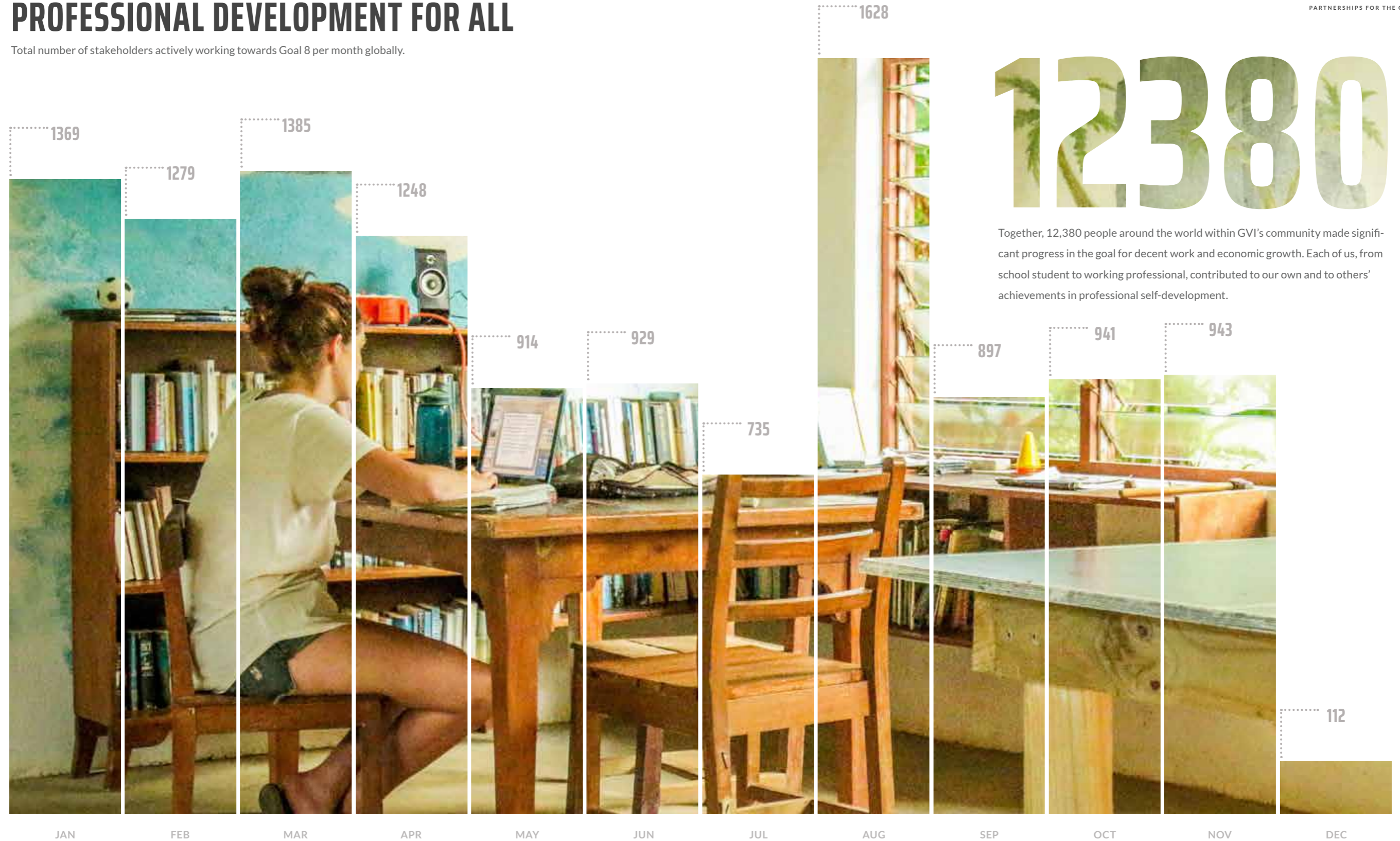
examples of these national staff go on to work in other GVI locations around the world. This is because, although there is huge value in them working within their own communities, we can't deny the life-changing experience that international work and travel already brings to our team of staff and participants. This passion for travel and exploration is one that connects many of us within the GVI family.

BY JILL WALKER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS, GVI.

I am very grateful to GVI as my life has been changed positively by the experience of working alongside volunteers and staff members as an NSP. In January 2013 I was offered a teaching position at Nyota Ing'arayo School and in July 2013 I became the Headmistress. I helped the school become registered as an officially recognised education facility enabling our standard

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL

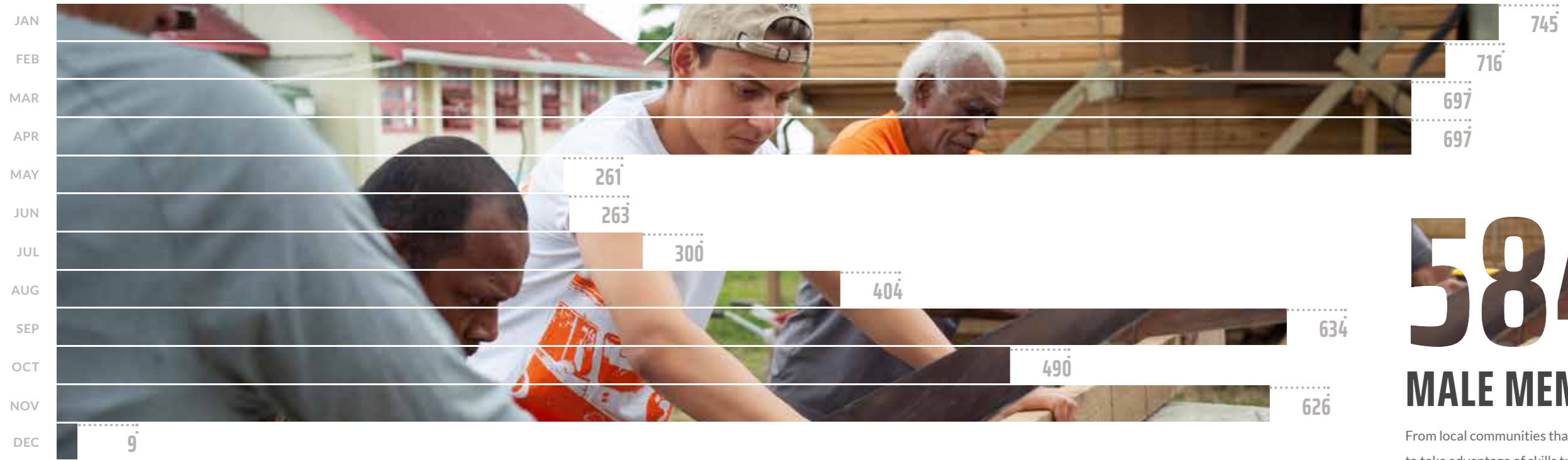
Total number of stakeholders actively working towards Goal 8 per month globally.



Together, 12,380 people around the world within GVI's community made significant progress in the goal for decent work and economic growth. Each of us, from school student to working professional, contributed to our own and to others' achievements in professional self-development.

2609 FEMALE MEMBERS

From local communities that made the decision to take advantage of skills training or workshops provided by GVI programs.



5842

MALE MEMBERS

From local communities that made the decision to take advantage of skills training or workshops provided by GVI programs.

MICRO-ENTERPRISE BIG IMPACT



Micro-enterprises have a big part to play in local and global economics.

This graph shows the number of micro-enterprises that 13 of our bases have worked with around the world in 2018 per month.





EMPLOYMENT

Featured in this section is our global National Scholarship Program, which provides the same programs our participants pay for, but without the cost. The aim of the Program is to increase local peoples' skills and knowledge.

INTERNATIONAL

38

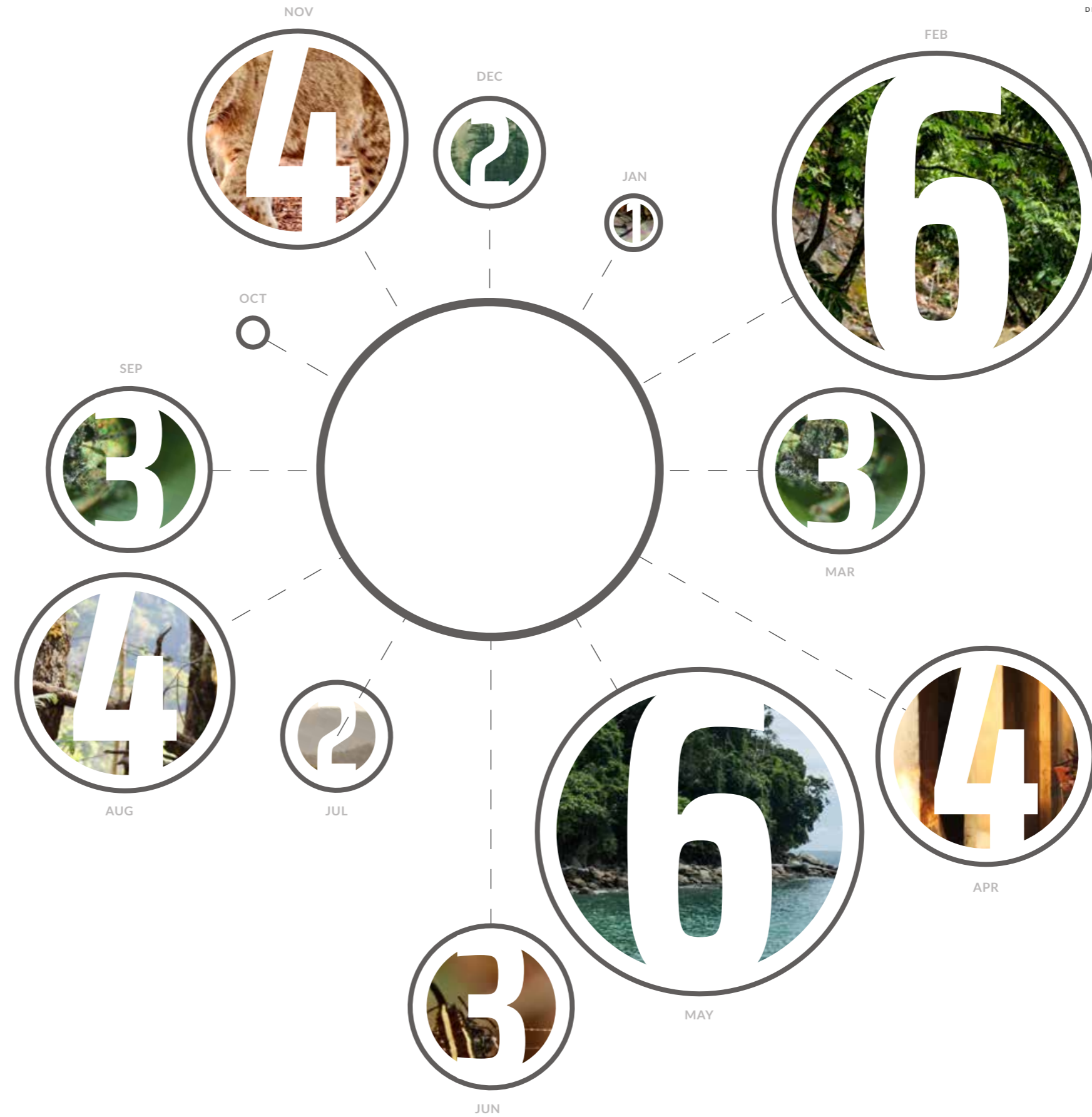
SCHOLARSHIPS

The number of local community members that applied for and received full scholarships to join a GVI program in our bases around the world.

NETWORKED IMPACT

When a local community member applies for and, if successful, accepts a scholarship to a GVI program, the impact on their own personal and professional growth is significant. They become self-empowered to take their development and that of their communities into their own hands. The impact expands much further than only the National Scholar, and into their social networks.

This data visualisation represents all of the scholarships awarded through the National Scholarship Program to local community members in 2018. Each circle is to scale with the number of National Scholars accepted onto the program per month. The visual is designed to invoke thoughts of the interconnectedness of a social network.



ALWAYS CARRY SPARE READING BOOKS WHEN WORKING TOWARDS GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

I chose to volunteer in Nepal in September 2018. The main activities that I worked on were being paired with two local Nepali ladies who wanted to learn English. A few days a week I worked in the village of Pame, some miles outside Pokhara and then other days at a community centre in Male Patan within the city of Pokhara. Both of the women I worked together with were at different stages in their learning, but I had a log book that previous volunteers had written up which gave me a good idea of what I needed to cover in our lessons. This ensured that there was both continuity and longevity. The lessons were usually two hours long and I used the grammar resources and reading books that were at the GVI homestay to plan my lessons.

I was a bit out of my comfort zone for the initial sessions, but soon got a good idea of what would work. If all else failed, I reverted to reading books with the women, so the English conversation and pronunciation could flow. I had heard how committed the women were to learn, but it feels very different to experience it for yourself. For example, on one occasion, one of the women had a sick child, but rather than miss her lesson, she brought

her child with her. I ended up including the child in some of the lesson by getting the mother to read in English to her daughter. She told me that whilst her daughter was not well, she felt she could not miss her own lesson as she was so keen to learn and wanted to keep the momentum going with the lessons. She also did not want to let GVI down either.

During my two week placement, I found it helpful to always carry in my bag some English reading books, as you never knew when you might need them. For example, on one occasion in Male Patan, a young girl turned up to the community centre as there was no school that day due to a festival. She was bored at home and wanted to learn more about the lessons going on at the centre. As my one student had been delayed in arriving for her lesson, I readily offered to read with the young girl; because I had some reading books in my bag already, I was pleased to put them to good use. It was very humbling to see a young girl light up with enthusiasm when I offered to listen to her reading – and on a day off from school! This demonstrated to me once again how keen the local Nepalis are to learn. It felt really great.

My time on this project may have been short. But, I am one of many who have come before and will come after, and we are all providing a consistent and regular input through GVI. I felt we were definitely making a difference.



The other activity I worked on during my time in Nepal was running an arts and craft project at a school in Pame. The children do not get this as a curriculum taught subject, so it was fun to offer them something new. Volunteers took it in turns to come up with the ideas for the sessions and others helped with the delivery. Sometimes the school teachers were absent, so we also helped provide cover for classes. This involved the children coming to the GVI classroom in small groups and we would work one-on-one or one-to-two with their workbooks on maths, English, or science.

When relating my contribution towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, I feel I contributed towards Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. I felt that helping my assigned the women to learn and practice English contributed to their confidence. They all had ambitions to speak English, so they could use this to improve their current lives, because, from what I could

see around me, many Nepalese coveted this skill. In the countryside around Pokhara I could see that Nepal is a country that is developing slowly with an agricultural economy. I also noticed that many people were attracted to the city for work. Within Pokhara there were many tourists and I was stopped several times by locals who wanted to talk and practice their English. I realised that my small contribution to teaching the two women English could have a direct impact on them in finding work within tourism.

Generally, though whether it was the women I worked with or the children in Pame, I felt that by giving the locals a chance to speak and work alongside volunteers, we were contributing to their confidence to find decent work. This would, in turn, provide them with increased economic growth. My time on this project may have been short. But, I am one of many who have come before and will come after, and we are all providing a consistent and regular input through GVI. I felt we were definitely making a difference.

BY LORRAINE SMITH, GVI ALUMNI.



SDG 14

SYNCING UP FOR LIFE BELOW WATER

ESTABLISHING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS FOR GOAL 14: LIFE UNDER WATER

The island nation of Fiji has a rich history built around fishing as seen in their art and mythology. Fish is the primary source of protein within their diets. But, through commercial exploitation, coastal resources have depleted rapidly.

Coastal fishing grounds are locally owned by the adjacent villages and it is the Chiefs from these villages that manage the grounds. Moreover, each fishing area has particular rules and all the villages within the district strictly conform to these rules per fishing area.

One such rule is that, from time to time, the Chiefs of these fishing grounds may declare a portion of their grounds out of bounds. No fishing is allowed. These no-fishing areas are called 'Tabu' (pronounced Tambo). Tabu areas are created after discussions between the chiefs of the villages. The information is then passed around the other villages so everyone understands where these Tabu areas have been established.

For many generations, Fijians have observed that closing off a particular area for a certain amount of time means fish populations within these areas increase. This was done not for the love of conservation but in part for the preparations for up and coming special event, such as weddings, births or death ceremonies. It is this idea that has now become the basis for a more modern approach to conservation, including, establishing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Tabu areas are now referred to as 'locally managed marine protected areas'.

GVI have been working with the communities of Moturiki, an island consisting of ten villages within the Lomaiviti group of islands west of Viti Levu for the last three years. The Moturiki District have, in recent years, realised the importance of a natural resource management strategy. GVI is working with the communities through educational workshops in schools and by carrying out research around the island of Caqalai (where we operate from). The research and surveying carried out throughout 2018 and previous years is used to create a database for Moturiki. To date, four Tabu areas, or MPAs, have been marked out around their island. This includes an MPA that has been in place for 14 years, directly in front of the village of Uluibau. In 2018, GVI was instrumental in the rapid assessment and implementation of three Tabu areas around three villages in Moturiki. These villages were Uluibau, Savuna, and Yancua. For purposes of brevity, only one of these villages, Uluibau, will be elaborated on. However, all three undergo regular surveyance using the below methods.

METHOD AND TRAINING

GVI participants and the communities of Moturiki are taught to use two assessment methods. Firstly, manta tows are conducted at high tide and include surveyors with snorkel equipment being towed on 20 metre ropes behind a boat. These surveyors record reef health in measured sections and then relate information onto a sketch map. While other surveyors count the number of invertebrate target species over the survey area. Secondly, reef walks are carried out closer to the

shoreline where boats cannot operate. This generates a complete picture from the shoreline to the out areas of the survey sites. Certain benthic species were chosen as target species because they are good indicators of reef health and could be easily counted. Certain invertebrate target species were chosen due to their commercial importance to the people of Moturiki and their biological importance to the reefs. These invertebrates included trochuses, sea cucumbers, crown of thorns starfish, spider conches, striped sea urchins, and giant clams, among others.

RAPID ASSESSMENTS OF ULUIBAU

The month of April 2018 saw the initial stage of monitoring around Moturiki as rapid assessments were conducted on the largest marine protected area that is owned by Uluibau village. GVI staff, participants, and local community members were all involved in completing the three-day rapid assessment. The first two days involved

sharing the habitat with urchins, sea cucumbers, spider conches and many more. These were all highlighted in the discussions of the survey results.

Even though the marine protected area had a lot of sea cucumbers present, they were mainly the lolly-fish (*Holothuria atra*) which are not used as a targeted species for the sea cucumber trade, and so not as important in the economic trading of the communities. Spider conchs (*Lambis truncata*) and trochus, both a delicacy in the villages, were rarely found in either the fishing or the protected areas.

The seabeds were made up of sand and rubble, mostly because of the fishing methods used by the villagers. These methods involved several men walking the reef with long wooden poles smacking the water surface and breaking up the corals to scare all the fish in one direction, where other men or women would be waiting with

After the surveying was carried out, every community member who trained and surveyed was awarded certificates. This is important as it helps generate a key and important role in the community for the future planning of the Tabu areas.

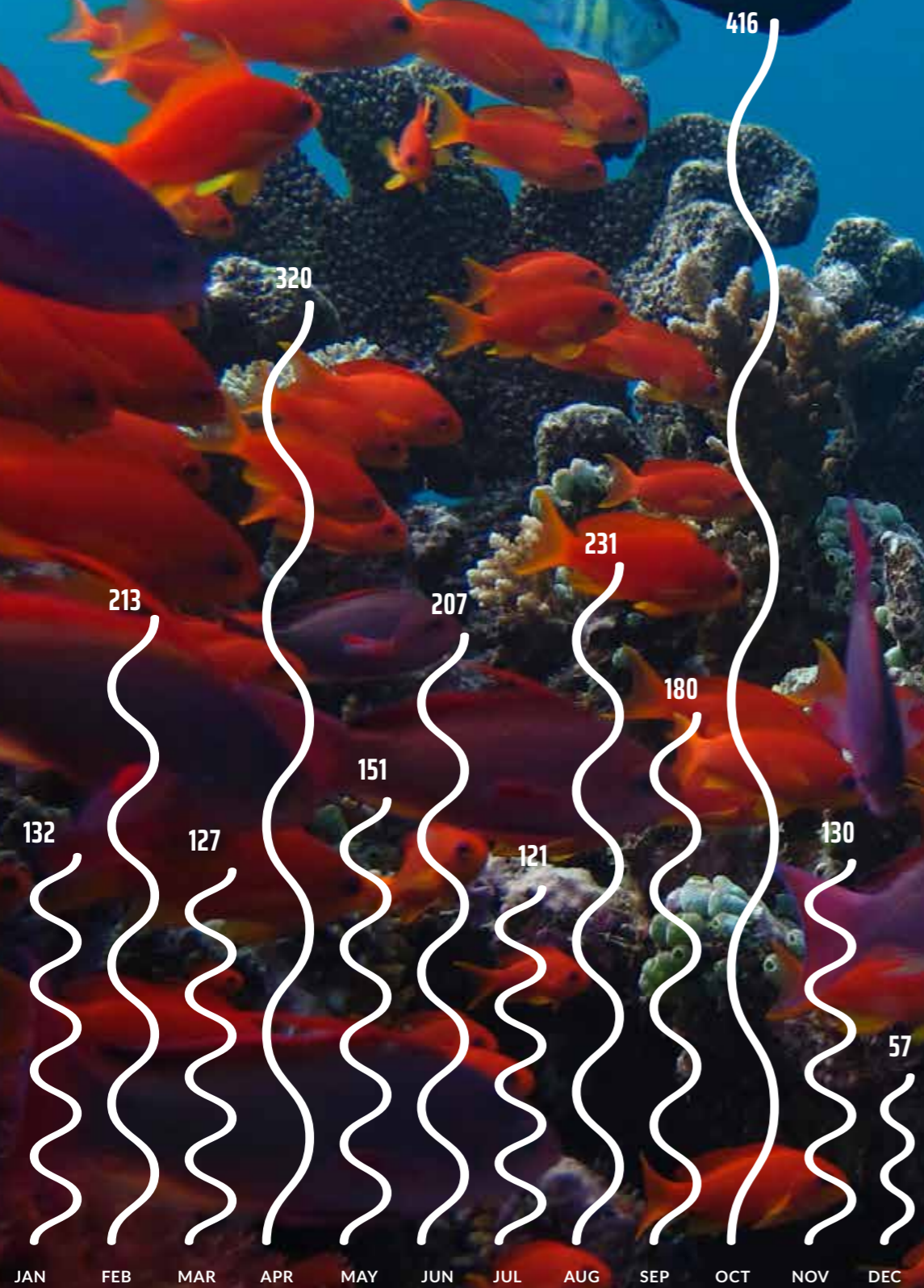
reef walks at low tide and manta tows at high tide while the third day involved the drawing of maps and graphs to showcase the results. These results were then presented to the Chiefs and villages and discussed in detail.

Results of the surveys showed that the fishing grounds had a lot of seagrass beds that are essential to marine life, like juvenile fish and invertebrate species. Seagrass beds are also sites where a lot of green turtles feed,

nets and spears. This method of fishing greatly damages the reef, causing the rubble observed on the seabed and the accumulation of large amounts of algae. This is an indicator that the reef system is in poor health, as large amounts of algae inhibit coral growth.

Furthermore, overfishing of certain species was also an issue in the community and this was clearly portrayed in the maps that were derived from the data collected.





2285

PARTICIPANTS

In 2018, 2285 participants engaged in marine awareness workshops and campaigns per month, globally.



FUTURE FOR GVI & THE COMMUNITY

Phase one of the rapid assessments surveys around Moturiki was almost complete at the time of writing this article, and we are soon to move on to phase two. This phase includes choosing certain sites within the MPAs and fishing grounds for long term monitoring. How sites are chosen will depend highly on topographical features and heterogeneity of the reef around Caqalai. This is so that we can finally compare the data and allow Moturiki to see the results, which will help the communities come up with their own management strategies in the near future.

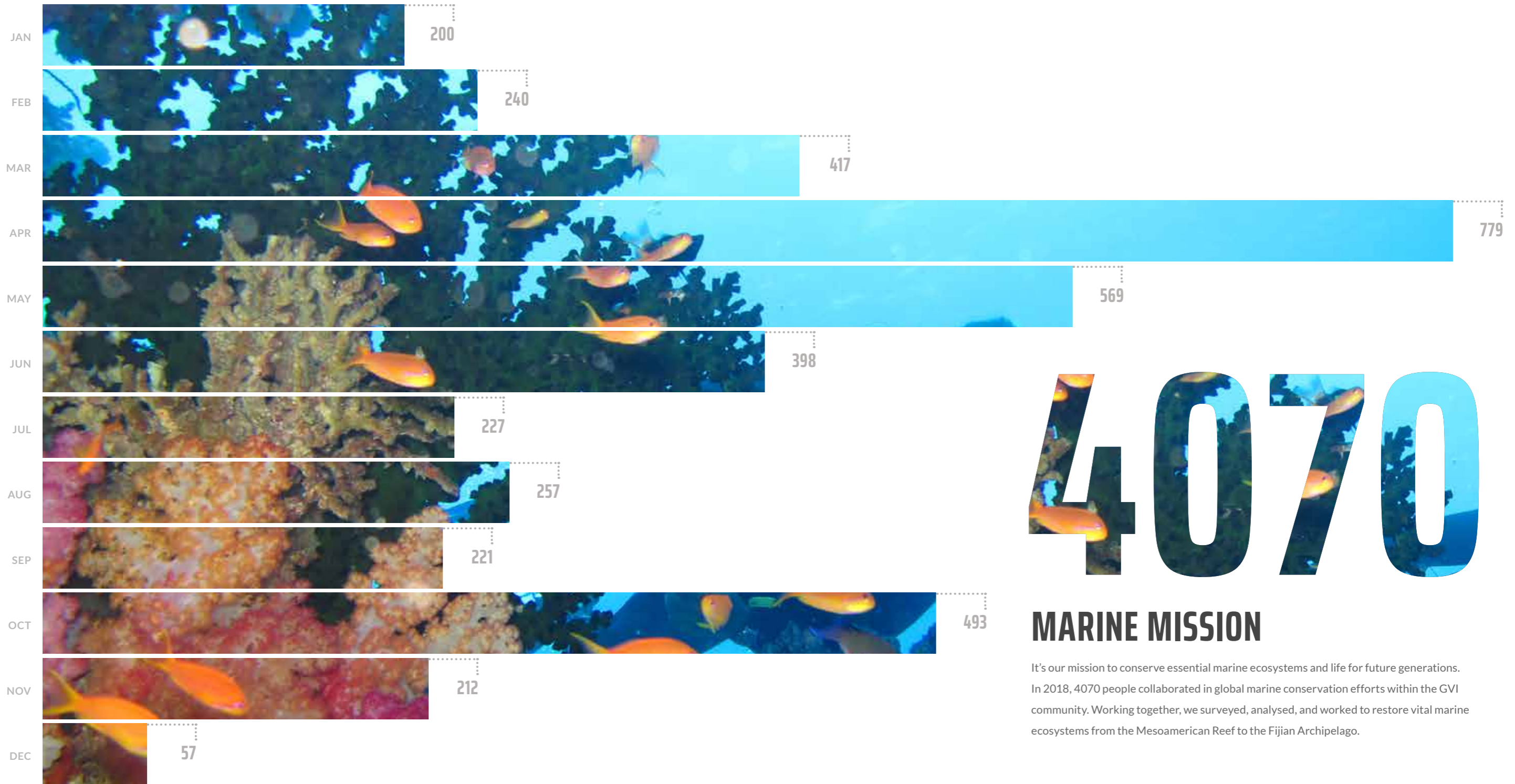
Certain queries by the locals were discussed during the presentations and questions about coral restoration and repopulation of invertebrates using an outside source were discussed. During these discussions, it was advised that it was best to leave the reef undisturbed and let the corals grow naturally. With the growth of new corals, new marine species will settle, bringing back life to their marine ecosystem. The community were also informed that this can take many years to occur but with a little patience and perseverance, their descendants will certainly reap the benefits.

Rapid assessments using the same methodology and training will also be conducted for more of the villages in 2019. Community members, with the help of GVI, will conduct the same monitoring around Moturiki at the same time every year for the foreseeable future. The idea is to empower the people of Moturiki to develop the skills to survey their own Tabus.

After the surveys were completed, the Chief and community elders in Uluibau decided to place a five year permanent Tabu, and demarcations were carried out on the same day. A church service was held in the water to bless the marine protected area and GVI participant and staff helped in marking the Tabu boundaries with marker buoys. It was a very special occasion to be a part of and showed us that the work we have been doing in Caqalai has an effect on the communities that we work with.

With the correct information, sharing of ideas, and the enthusiasm of the community, there is a growing interest in conservation. The results showed them what their reef was composed of and how many species were present. They were also advised on how to properly manage their Tabu and the benefits it would bring, not only for them but for future generations. After the surveying was carried out, every community member who trained and surveyed was awarded certificates. This is important as it helps generate a key and important role in the community for the future planning of the Tabu areas. This training also gives them status within the communities and is key in creating roles to carry out the long term monitoring of their reefs.

BY ANA CIRIYAWA, SCIENCE AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER, GVI FIJI CAQALAI.



4070

MARINE MISSION

It's our mission to conserve essential marine ecosystems and life for future generations. In 2018, 4070 people collaborated in global marine conservation efforts within the GVI community. Working together, we surveyed, analysed, and worked to restore vital marine ecosystems from the Mesoamerican Reef to the Fijian Archipelago.

Total number of stakeholders engaged in contributing to SDG 14 per month globally.



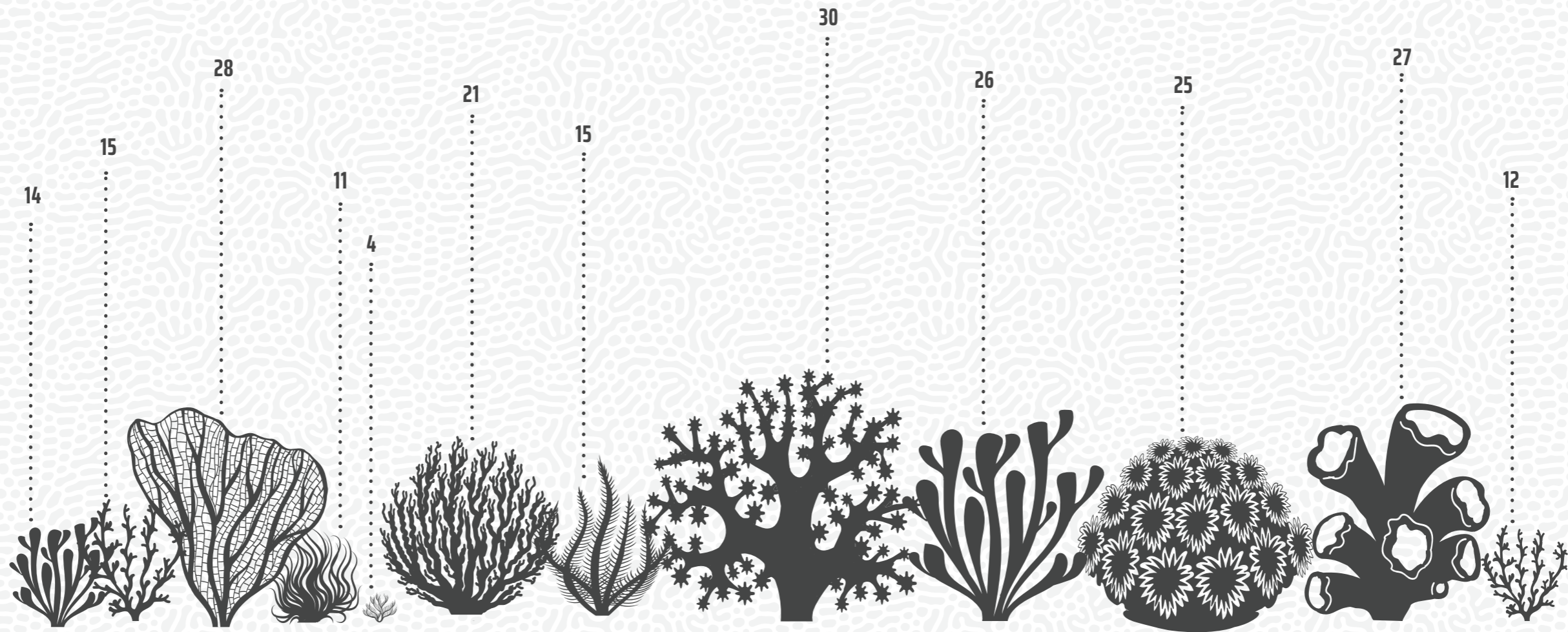
Conservation efforts and local community education on the importance of sustainable consumption of natural resources are inseparable. This chart shows how many community members were engaged in marine conservation workshops per month in 2018.

53

UPSKILLED COMMUNITY MEMBERS



With burgeoning human populations, the best hope for conserving marine life and its sustainable consumption is to educate community members on how to manage their ecosystems effectively. This chart shows how many local community members were trained in marine life monitoring techniques per month in 2018. With this training, the community members grow their ability to monitor and manage their local ecosystems.



228

PARTICIPANTS

Involvement in coral restoration initiatives at our marine conservation bases in 2018.

In this ocean-themed bar graph, the height of the individual corals represents the number of participants per month. GVI participants on our marine conservation programs come from far and wide to contribute to monitoring and restoring marine ecosystems. The work they do includes data collection that contributes to various monitoring projects; and coral nursing and transplanting.

Coral reefs are one of the most biodiverse ecosystems on Earth, and countless marine species use them for food and protection. Seminal for cleaning the surrounding waters, corals filter out debris and dirt, keeping the waters clean so that other organisms can thrive. Further, reefs stabilize seabeds and lessen the erosive impact of storms, which aids in the survival of other plants. Many fishing communities rely on the plentifulness and biodiversity of reef systems to subsist and maintain ways of living.

Bleaching is one of the biggest threats to coral reefs. Corals are made up of thousands of tiny animals called polyps. Polyps have symbiotic relationship with algae called zooxanthellae. In return for safe and stable housing, the algae share nutrients with polyps, which the polyps use to sustain. Coral bleaching occurs when the polyps come under stress due to increased water temperatures, among other factors. The polyps evict the algae, and lose their main source of nourishment. While corals can survive bleaching events if given enough time, because the events are happening more frequently, the mortality rate for coral is exceeding the recovery rate. Mass coral restoration efforts, such as nursing and transplanting, is increasingly becoming considered as the best way to conserve and restore coral reefs.



OCEAN POLLUTION

Globally, GVI bases strive to make ethical environmental choices, some of which include recycling stations, solar panels, compostable toilets, or eco-bricking single use plastics. Most of our bases also do beach cleans as and when they can.

Many of our bases are located in coastal villages our towns, and whether they are focused on community development, wildlife conservation, or marine conservation, everyone tries to chip in to help clean-up our oceans.

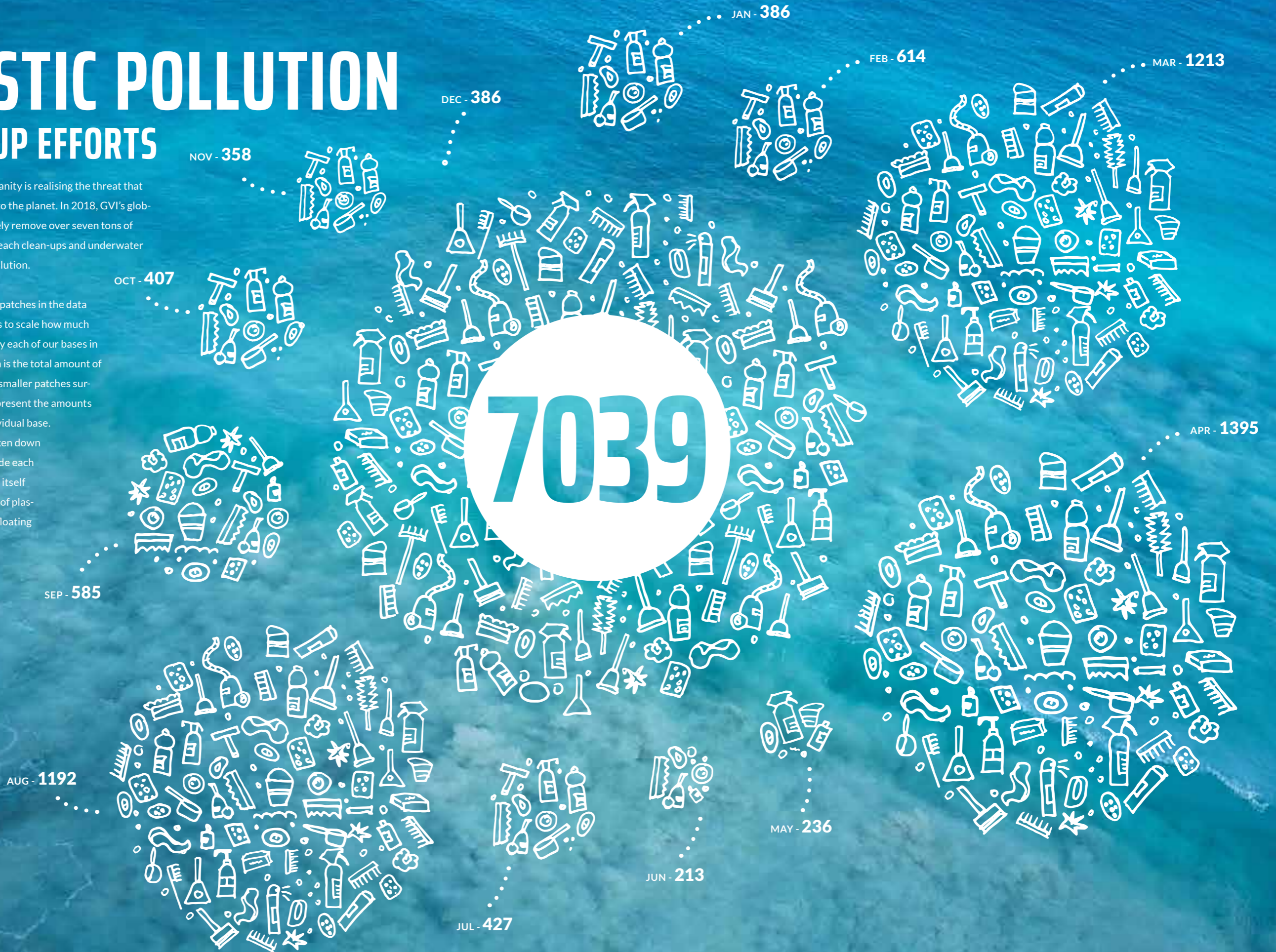
GLOBAL

PLASTIC POLLUTION CLEAN-UP EFFORTS

Around the world, humanity is realising the threat that plastic pollution poses to the planet. In 2018, GVI's global community collectively remove over seven tons of plastic by conducting beach clean-ups and underwater dives against plastic pollution.

The size of the garbage patches in the data visualisation represents to scale how much rubbish was collected by each of our bases in 2018. The central patch is the total amount of plastic cleaned up. The smaller patches surrounding the centre represent the amounts cleaned up at each individual base.

The data is further broken down by month, as listed beside each patch. The visualisation itself represents the patches of plastic and other pollution floating in our oceans.



LEARNING ABOUT AND RAISING AWARENESS FOR GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Life below water, would you ever say it matters, it changes, it struggles? Last summer, I had the great opportunity to join GVI in a marine conservation volunteering program in the amazing islands of Seychelles. Over one month, I would be introduced to the wide ecosystem under the ocean's surface, its inhabitants, and its conservation.

Diving in Cap Ternay's marine park, I saw for the first time a coral reef, and I fell in love. I couldn't believe the amount of life that was happening underwater, before our eyes. The big unknown that it is, the ocean, covering 70% of the whole of planet Earth, but still struggling to be one of our major concerns. I was then shocked when the senior divers told me that what I had seen was nothing compared to what it had been some decades ago, not the coral, not the marine life.

We then learned about the risks that coral reefs are exposed to, and how an event or one single element can affect the whole ecosystem. We were introduced to the phenomenon called 'coral bleaching', which happens when the global temperature, including the tempera-

ture of the ocean's water, rises above average. We were taught that the symbiosis of organisms forming the coral ecosystems breaks, the coral can no longer live on its own and it dies, which affects all the life surrounding it. From that point, our main goal was to monitor the development of the reef, to be aware of any improvement or aggravation that could occur, and sometimes contribute by cleaning, replanting and nursing the reef. Our mission was, and still is, to protect the life below water in any way we can.

During my stay on the Seychelles island of Mahe, I contributed to the conservation work in many different ways, such as getting the base and equipment ready, and taking lessons once or twice a day such as emergency responding and diving techniques. We would dive once or twice a day, using different data collection methods such as fish spotting and coral health studies based on their discolouration; and we would also do debris collection for ocean cleaning. At the end of each day, we would transfer the data we collected into a bigger database that makes it possible to study the progress of the area regarding the different subjects of our study.

The GVI project experience meant a change in my way of seeing things and my general approach in life.



These subjects included fish populations, coral health, and invertebrates of the area. The data we collected and contributed also makes it possible for scientists to have a fuller picture of the global marine ecosystem.

One of our projects during the program was volunteering to educate children. Once a week we would visit President's Village, an education centre for local children where we would spend some time teaching them about our work and the importance of protecting their natural environment in a fun way. Another project with children consisted of preparing an easy biology lesson about one marine topic with drawing, boards and games to make it enjoyable and understandable for them.

As a biology degree student, I particularly enjoyed this part of the project as we were given the opportunity to teach the children about marine conservation. We got to

teach them about aspects of the ocean that are usually not included in any school's educational program. We got to take a very close approach, and it was rewarding to be able to explain our work to them at the same time as teaching the lesson and its importance.

When my time as a volunteer finished and I returned home, I realised that a big part of the project's aim was to reach others with our experience, what we had seen and worked on and our stories. We need to reach others so that the appropriate measures can be taken regarding the conservation of our oceans! In my program, we focused on one single bay on a remote island in the Indian Ocean, but I could see the totality of life underwater reflected in what was happening in that place.

This is the reason why, from the moment I landed home, I decided that this was not a once in a lifetime experience for me. I realised the work that there is to do and my contribution to it hadn't finished. The GVI project experience meant a change in my way of seeing things and my general approach in life. I decided that after my biology degree, I will specialise in marine biology, which is one step forward.

I am sure that I will find my way back to the islands to continue contributing as much as I can. But helping doesn't necessarily have to involve being in that place. At home, I am already part of a marine conservation university group where I will start sharing my experiences and the help that I provided. I will start encouraging other people to begin noticing that this really is a matter to take into account, and I will show them how to contribute and start making a difference.

BY IRENE GONZALO-CRUZ, GVI ALUMNI.

SDG 15

OUR WORLD AND OUR LIFE ON LAND

KARONGWE
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE
gvi RESEARCH

72

72



CHEETAH CONSERVATION FOR SDG 15: LIFE ON LAND

Cheetahs are currently listed as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. Meaning that the open grasslands they've traversed for three million years prior to our arrival is diminishing, and in turn, so are these iconic cats. In just 100 years, human populations have increased twentyfold, pushing cheetahs out of 95% of their historic range. It's the addition of infrastructure, agriculture and settlements that have been central to habitat loss and fragmentation of cheetah populations. Although cheetah conservation efforts are vast, South Africa is currently the only country in the world that can boast an increasing trend, thanks to the Endangered Wildlife Trust's (EWT) Cheetah Conservation Project (CCP). South Africa's willingness to embrace fortress conservation (the fencing-in of wildlife to minimise human-wildlife conflict) has been key to the success of the CCP. The project manages 330 cheetahs across 55 reserves as a single viable population, with growth achievable through human-mediated gene flow. Their success, however, has not come without setbacks, death, and ongoing changes to best practice.

GVI's intimate relationship with the cheetahs on Karongwe Private Game Reserve offers unique research opportunities, only attainable through intense and consistent monitoring and various data capturing techniques.

Our database began with the introduction of cheetahs to the Karongwe property in 1999, and spans almost 20 years, allowing us an unfiltered look into the fascinating ecology of these predators.

Our partner and the Coordinator of the EWT's Cheetah Conservation Project, Vincent Van Der Merwer said that GVI contributes directly towards understanding the behaviour of wild cheetahs in fenced reserves. He says that we've ultimately improved their management thanks to the data we've gathered around their habitat utilization, prey preferences and inter-species relationships.

In 2017, we at GVI Limpopo decided to expand the monitoring of our female cheetah, Khwezi, to investigate if the utilization of her kills was affected by proximity to predators. At this point, Khwezi, which translates to star in Zulu, had been the focus of our research for three years. Her determination to survive against all odds after the loss of her mother and three siblings made her a perfect focal subject.

One of the aspects we monitored was how many times Khwezi hunted versus how much she ate per kill. The existing literature suggests a daily feeding rate for adult cheetahs, and this rate incorporates how many kills are made and how much is eaten off each kill.

We found that Khwezi's rate was different from the one suggested by the literature. This was because she was in a high predator environment and had to adapt to the possibility of being chased off any kill she made by lions, hyenas, leopards, etc. The difference was that she was killing more, but consuming less per kill.

We predicted that Karongwe's high predator density influenced our female cheetah's hunting habits in this way,

resulting in the predation of more prey than the baseline found in the literature. We called this new project the Karongwe Cheetah Kill Utilisation study, a project that has since brought some incredibly exciting results.

In the following year, we monitored the female's prey selection, kill frequency, carcass utilization, kill site location and feeding vigilance. Each site was monitored for at least 24 hours post prey death with camera traps. This would help us determine if kleptoparasitism, food theft from other species, was present. To date, we have observed and recorded more than 40 different incidents. Thanks to the natural progression of the study and many conversations with experts, our protocols and data collection methods have evolved somewhat over

important reminder as to why there is still so much more to be understood about this threatened species. Is the inter-species competition too great? Does this habitat lend itself to cheetahs? Does ecotourism have a negative effect on survival?

I was privileged to be a part of Khwezi's journey. I was privileged to follow her during numerous hunts on foot. I got to watch her succeed and fail in raising offspring. I witnessed heart-stopping near-misses with other predators. But, my personal highlight was watching the successful relocation of one of her cubs. Khwezi gave our research purpose and her story will be analysed for many years to come – much like the male cheetah coalition currently under our careful watch.

Although cheetah conservation efforts are vast, South Africa is currently the only country in the world that can boast an increasing trend, thanks to the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Cheetah Conservation Project.

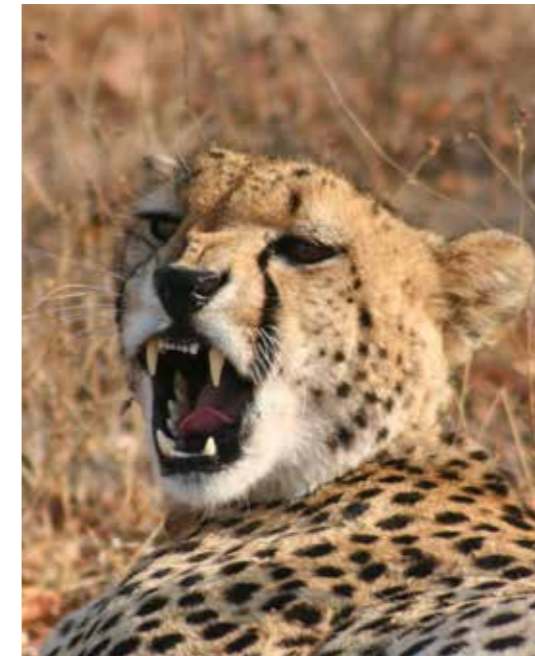
the past 18 months. Throughout the study period thus far, we made several adaptations. First, we extended the distance from which we collected behavioural data to reduce opportunities for our presence to impact results. Next, we included the recording of vegetation density at kill sites. Lastly, we introduced the recording of feeding vigilance. My tenure with GVI Limpopo now spans four years and encompasses hundreds of hours in the field. Although some say you shouldn't form an attachment to a wild animal it is almost impossible not to when following these cats day in and day out. Sadly Khwezi, the star of our show, passed away late 2018. Although heartbreaking, her death served as an

We plan to continue the Cheetah Kill Utilisation study well into the future, to allow for more accurate results as our data set expands. Collection and analysis of this data so far has been an important addition to our program and has given many of our interns' unique exposure to active research on a big five wildlife reserve. It has been fantastic to watch our students spend hours huddled around a computer intently sorting through camera trap images. Fortunately, they are often rewarded for their efforts.

I hope that our findings have implications in sustaining cheetahs on small reserves where predator densities



GOAL 15.5: PROTECT THREATENED SPECIES



I got to watch her succeed and fail in raising offspring. I witnessed heart-stopping near-misses with other predators.

are kept high for tourism. At present we do not have sufficient data to draw conclusions from our study but are already observing trends that support our hypothesis. In time, we hope to share our findings with Karongwe Reserve Management and surrounding reserves who hold cheetah and other apex predators. On a global scale, as GVI continues to align ourselves with the UN SDG's, our data contributes directly to Goal 15: Life on Land and specifically 'Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.' Our results will influence decisions surrounding the management of cheetah as we endeavour to conserve this iconic feline for generations to come.

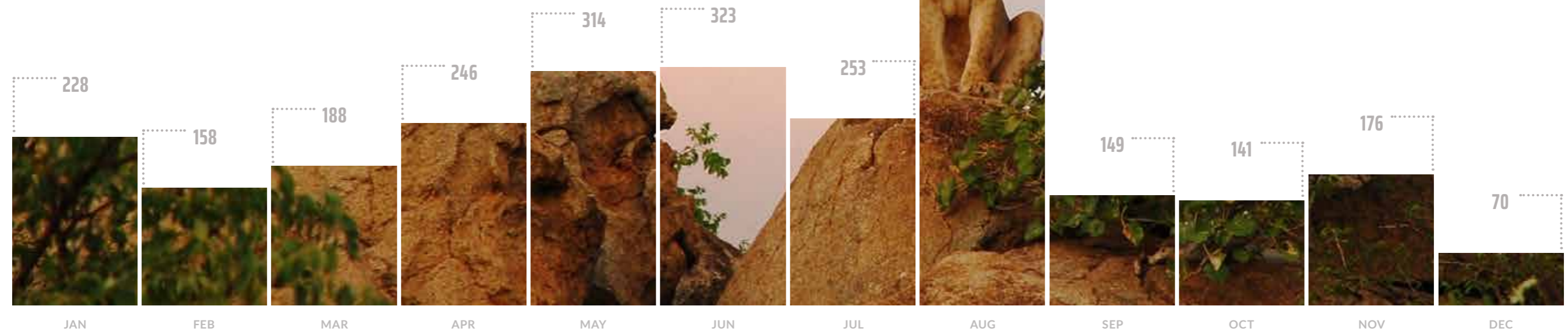
BY LEAH BROWN, PROGRAM MANAGER,
GVI SOUTH AFRICA LIMPOPO.



3413 CONSERVATIONISTS

We're proud of the 3413 people in GVI's global community that worked towards wildlife conservation in 2018. In partnering with local organisations and communities, collecting data, and helping to restore natural ecosystem, we're all contributing towards sustainable conservation.

THE PRIDE OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION



Total number of stakeholders actively working towards Goal 15 per month globally.

ANTI- POACHING AWARENESS PROGRAMS

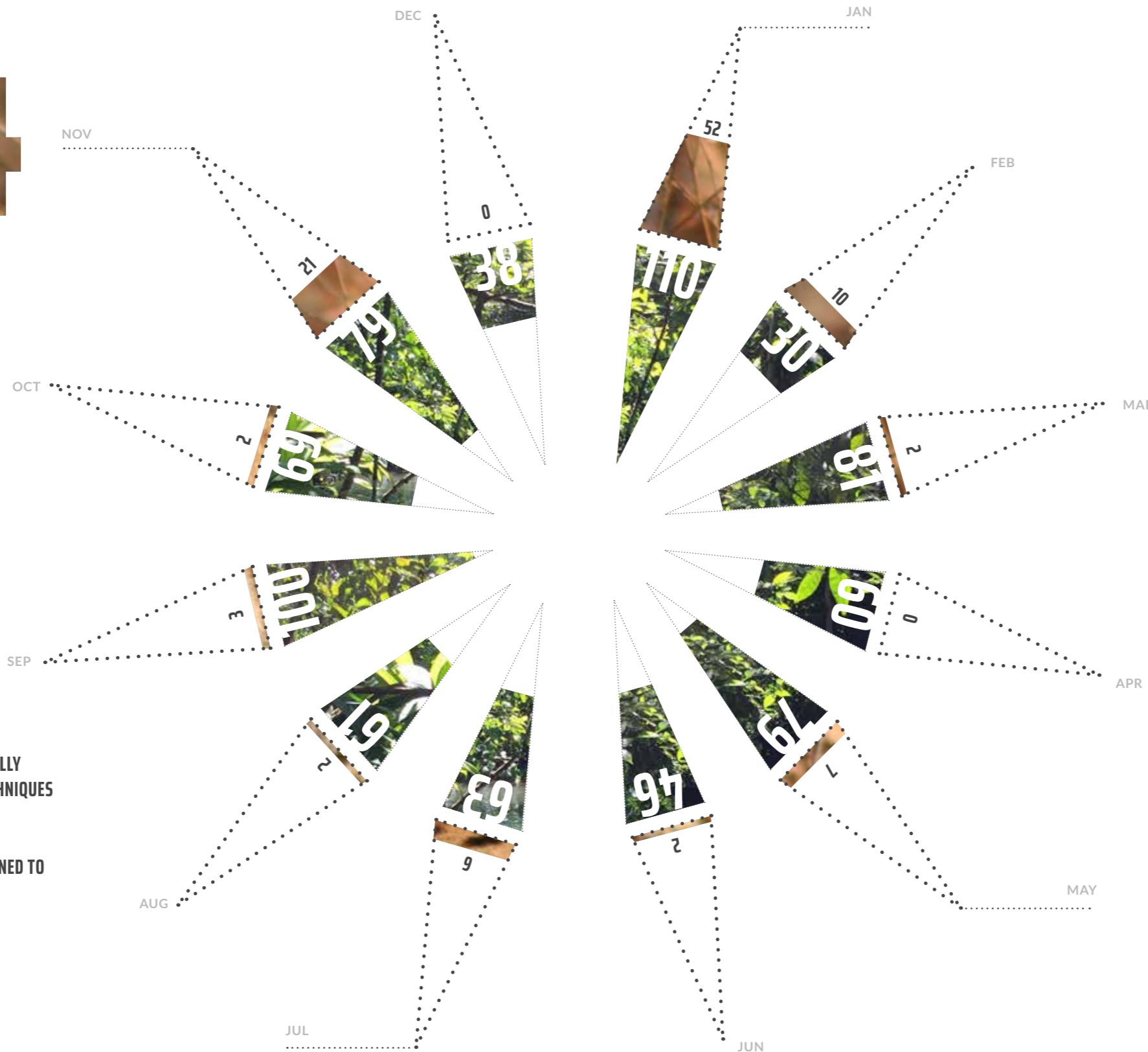


Poaching is a majorly complex issue in conservation. The perpetration of illegal poaching stems from social and economic factors that run far deeper than many comprehend at first. This is why education on the matter is essential, especially for the future generation of conservationists. This chart shows how many GVI participants engaged in poaching awareness programs per month.

944

UPSKILLED

The total number of local community members and GVI participants that were trained in using bio-survey techniques IN 2018.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED TO USE BIO-SURVEY TECHNIQUES

PARTICIPANTS SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED TO USE BIO-SURVEY TECHNIQUES

EMPOWERING CONSERVATION

Participants join our conservation programs more many reasons – a passion for wildlife, a need for work experience, the desire to contribute meaningfully to a higher cause. The inner ring of triangles shows the number of participants that were trained in bio-survey techniques per month in 2018. With this training and experience in bio-surveying, participants learn valuable skills that are directly applicable to career paths in environmental management or conservation.

Local community members empower themselves by participating in the opportunity to learn bio-survey techniques. It is important for GVI as an organisation to build local capacity. And so, local communities where our conservation bases are located are invited to train and learn alongside international participants. The outer ring of triangles represents the number of community members that were trained in bio-survey techniques per month in 2018.



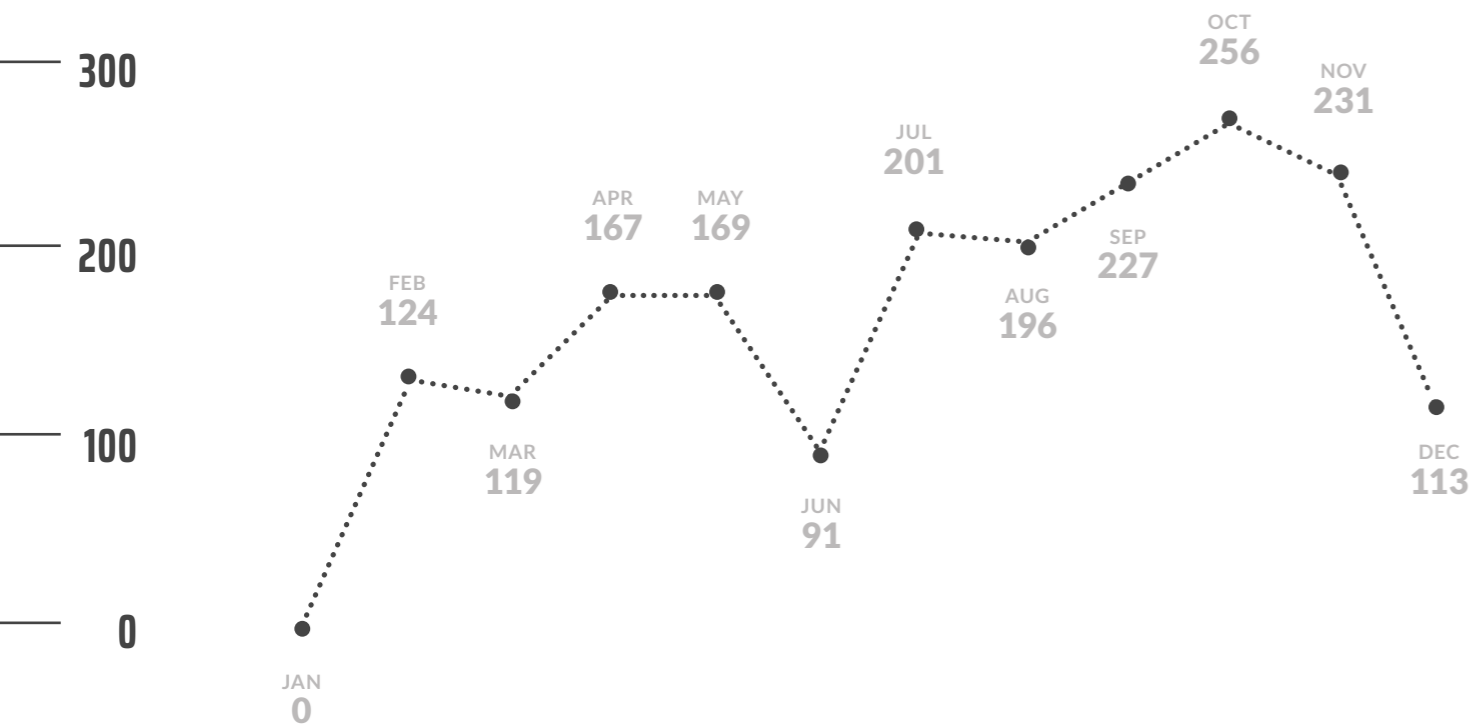


WILD, WILD DATA

Staff, participants, and community members at our wildlife conservation bases conduct various data collection projects using different biological survey techniques. The data contributes to various partner organisations' efforts to conserve and restore local species and ecosystems. Sound data collected over significant periods of time is often highly influential when it comes to key policy decisions regarding local environments, resources, and wildlife protection. GVI participants are trained in survey techniques and their efforts provide supplementary support for local agencies and organisations that wouldn't otherwise have the manpower to collect the same data.



SURVEYS COMPLETED THIS YEAR



1779

TOTAL SURVEYS

AT OUR CONSERVATION BASES

The size of the images in the below graph portrays the number of biological surveys each of our conservation bases conducted over 2018. The images are to scale with the amount.



WILDLIFE

In South Africa, our wildlife conservation base is situated in the deep bush of Karongwe Private Game Reserve.

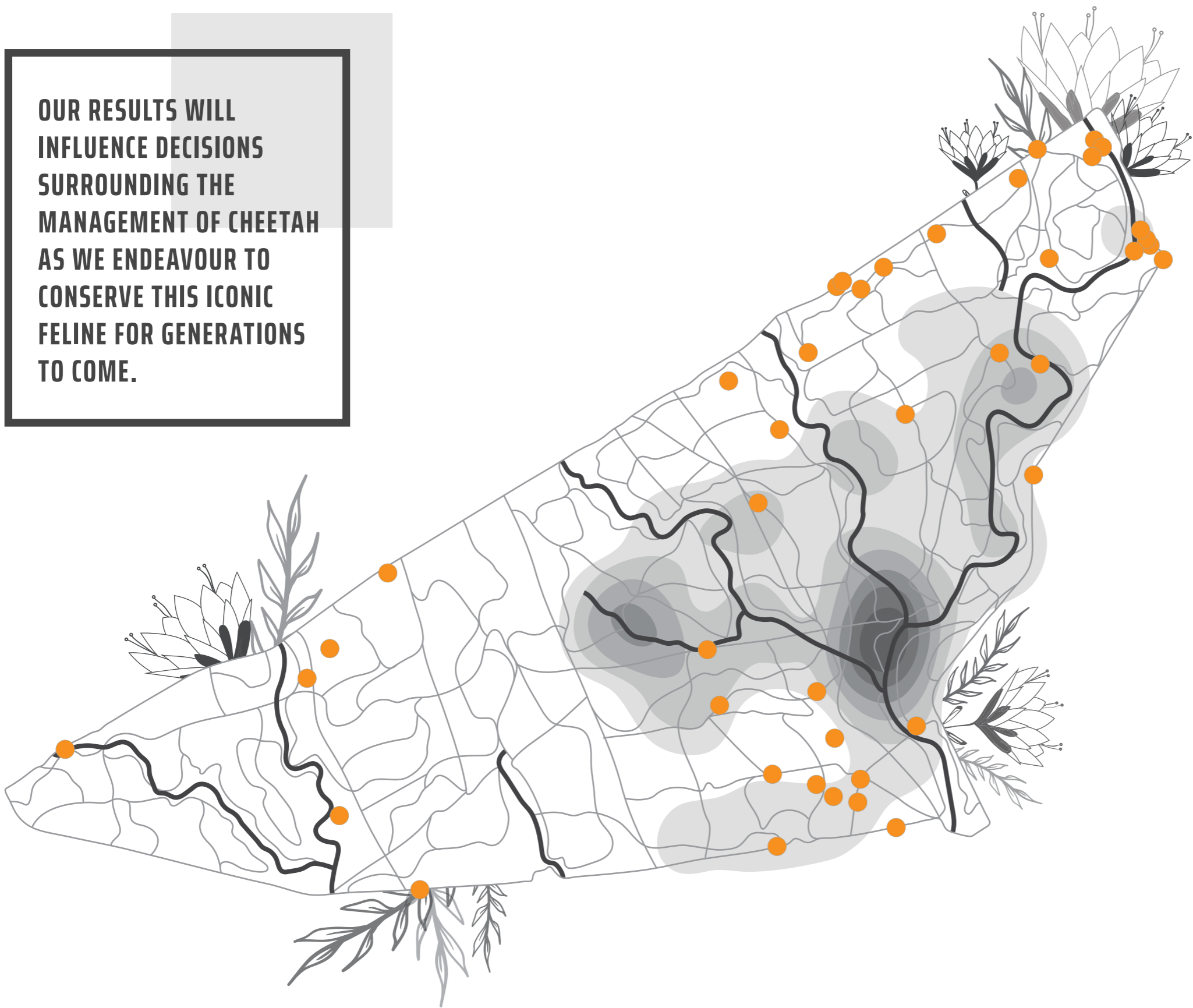
Here, GVI staff and participants support local organisations in capturing data and implementing various conservation projects. Featured in this section is GVI Limpopo's research on resident cheetahs' predation habits.



23.4013° S, 29.4179° E

KARONGWE
SOUTH AFRICA

OUR RESULTS WILL INFLUENCE DECISIONS SURROUNDING THE MANAGEMENT OF CHEETAH AS WE ENDEAVOUR TO CONSERVE THIS ICONIC FELINE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



CONSERVING SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA'S CHEETAH METAPOPULATION

This is a map of Karongwe Private Game Reserve, where our GVI Limpopo base operates. It shows the interaction between cheetah feeding habits and lion prides. Karongwe is a comparatively small reserve, and it is particularly predator dense – there are more predators per hectare than in typical reserves. Cheetahs are smaller predators, and are unable to ward off attacks by most other larger predators such as hyenas and lions. When a cheetah makes a kill and a bigger predator comes sniffing, the cheetah can rarely hang on to its meal. This means that the cheetahs in Karongwe get to eat less off each kill and have to make more kills than the average for cheetahs in less predator dense environments.

The map shows another interesting adaptation by the cheetahs of Karongwe. The orange dots represent cheetah kill sites. The grey areas represent lion pride territories - the darker grey, the more time the lion prides spend in those areas. Notice that the orange dots rarely fall within grey areas. What this suggests is that the cheetah is aware of lion territorial boundaries, and makes its kills away from them. Though somewhat hypothetical, it is a remarkable adaptation to observe and theorise around.

WALKING TO THE SOUND OF BIRDS FOR GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

Within Tortuguero National Park there lies the GVI Jalova base in Costa Rica. There, individuals passionate about conservation come together from every part of the world. I was lucky to be surrounded by an amazing group of people who were enthusiastic and positive, even when we had to go out when it was raining cats and dogs. The biodiversity surveys through the jungle were always an adventure. We would see monkeys swinging through the canopy, frogs hopping from leaf to leaf, and sloths moving faster than you thought possible. On other days, we would canoe along a canal as the sun rises and watch the birds emerge from the forest and banks. It was always the most peaceful way to start the day.

First of all, they help conserve the different forest types around Jalova by conducting surveys along the same trails. By using the same paths they are reducing their impact on the forest. The food that they receive comes in crates and is mostly fresh, not wrapped in plastic, so the waste is kept to a minimum. Solar panels are another way the impact on the environment is reduced. The sun was the only source of electricity we had when I was in Jalova. Litter picks along the beach are also incredibly important in order to restore the ecosystem. Since the Jalova staff and volunteers are the only ones allowed within Tortuguero, besides a few exceptions, we were the only ones that could clean up the garbage that

It was in Jalova where my love of birds took flight. I was so lucky to wake up each day to a chorus of songs and calls.

I believe the research taking place at Jalova contributes greatly to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on Land. The United Nations Development Programme describes the aim of SDG 15 'to conserve and restore the use of terrestrial ecosystems' as well as 'reduce the loss of ... biodiversity'. The Jalova team fulfils this aim in many ways.

washed up. Keeping the beaches clean is important because Tortuguero is home to one of the largest nesting colonies of green turtles in the world.

The majority of my time in Jalova was spent conducting Forest Biodiversity Surveys and Canal Bird Surveys since the Jaguar Walks and Turtle Surveys hadn't begun yet. During Forest Biodiversity Surveys we would walk



along a transect looking for every bird, amphibian, reptile and mammal species. In addition to identifying the animals, we would try and record whether it was male or female, juvenile or adult, breeding or non-breeding, and what level of the forest it was spotted in. For Canal Bird Surveys, we would canoe along transects. On our transects, we recorded the amount of birds within a species found on the canal. Other bird species found close to the canal or seen flying over were recorded as well. The data that we collected is directly related to reducing loss of biodiversity. Collecting constant data over time allows us to see whether a specific species are being sighted more or less than before. The information can then be used to inform the Costa Rican Government, as well as the scientific community, of the species that are declining as well as possible reasons for the decline.

Another way the Jalova staff fulfil SDG 15 is through inspiring volunteers and interns. For example, I knew I had always wanted a career in something related to ecology

and conservation biology. However, my first experience doing fieldwork was at Jalova. I realized that I have what it takes to work in the field. I learned the importance of laughing, even when Mother Nature seems to be working against me. I'm sure many people who go to Jalova are trying to pursue conservation, thereby creating more people who want to improve SDG 15: Life on Land all over the world.

It was in Jalova where my love of birds took flight. I was so lucky to wake up each day to a chorus of songs and calls, my favourite being Montezuma Oropendola, with the crashing waves in the background. On surveys, I would always find new bird species that I had never seen before. Even on the worst days when I didn't think we would see anything in the forest I almost always saw one bird. So you could say my time at Jalova inspired me to pursue the field of ornithology.

When I came home I volunteered for Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) site in Banff where I learned to set up mist nets and watched the process of extracting birds and banding them. Afterwards, I was able to volunteer at Long Point Bird Observatory (LPBO) during Fall Migration. Fun fact: LPBO is the longest running bird observatory in the Western Hemisphere! There I learned about many new eastern bird species. Since the staff at Jalova had taught me tips on how to identify and memorize new bird species I was able to learn them faster than before. Someday I hope I'll be able to return to Jalova as a member of staff and share my enthusiasm for conservation with new volunteers. I want to inspire others the way the staff inspired me.

BY LAKESHA SMITH, GVI ALUMNI.

SDG 17

GLOBAL VISION AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



1216 COMMUNITIES

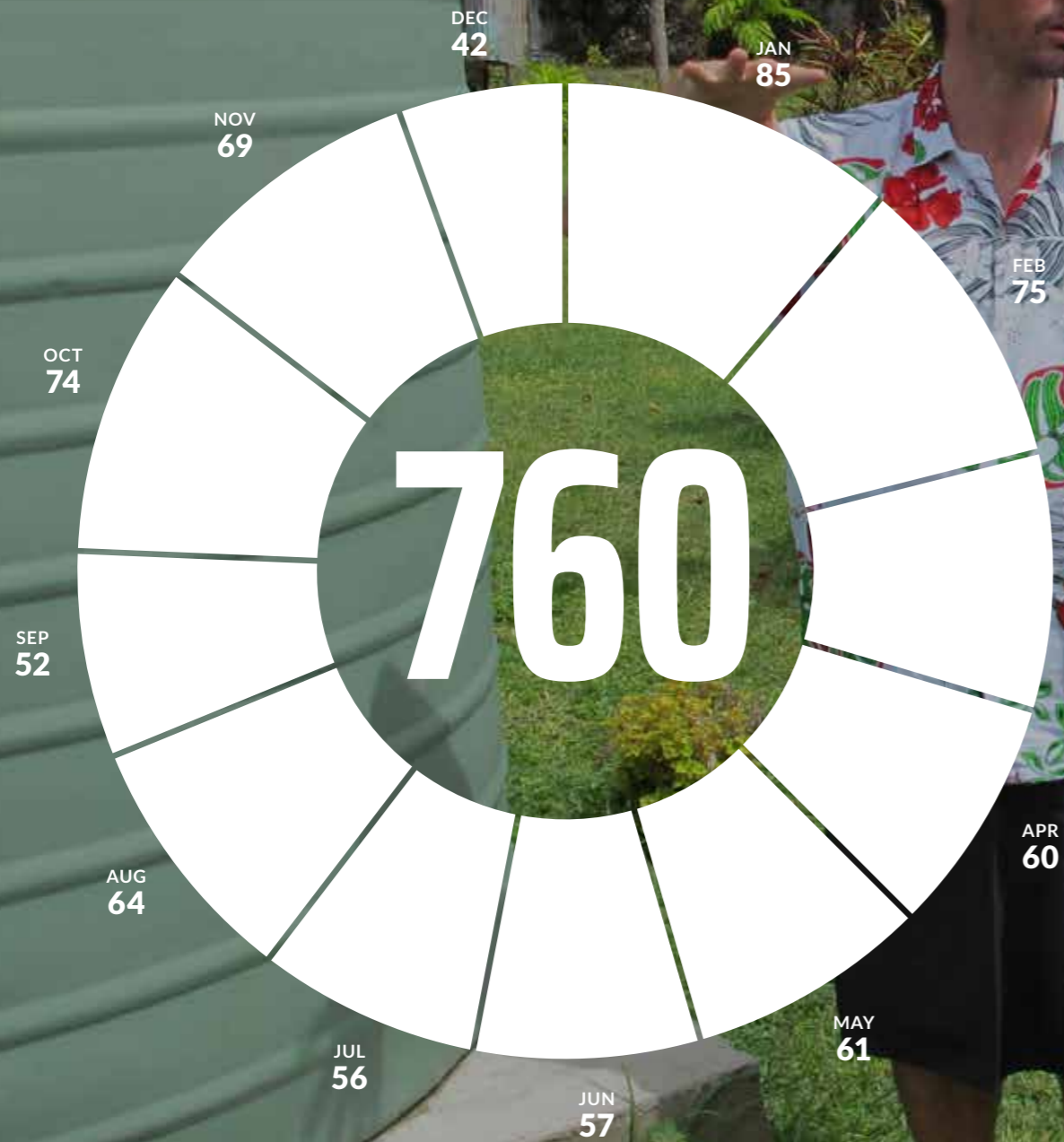
PARTNERSHIPS

Every one of our partnerships represents a unique relationship, but what's uniform across all of them is our commitment to work hand-in-hand towards achieving the goals. UN SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, recognises that it is absolutely imperative to partner and work together. GVI embodies this in everything that we do and with every action we take.



Communities that contributed to achieving any SDG per month.

LOCAL PARTNERS FOR THE SDGs



Local partners we worked with towards any SDG



Number of Universities we worked with towards any SDG

OUR PLANS FOR 2019



2019 AND BEYOND

We have reached the end of our first annual Impact and Ethics Report, and with information like this, comes reflection. Through collecting all these important stories and data, we're now able to see how far we've come. And we know now, more so than ever, how much further we must go.

While thorough, our report only touches the surface of our impact. In 2018 we saw hundreds of stories. Stories of gratitude. Stories of progress.

We saw the pride in many women's faces when, after weeks of intense commitment, they finally received their computer certifications. We waded through knee-deep, sulphur smelling mangroves as together we worked to conserve these vital ecosystems. We witnessed a participant's love of birds take flight as she discovered a passion she didn't know she had. And we reached a deeper understanding that, though some of us are in offices and some are in the field, we are all passionately committed to the same global mission.

For all the successes we have collaboratively achieved, we have only just begun.

By the time this report is published, we'll be well into 2019's exciting plans. 2019 is a year of even more growth and impact in the sustainable development, experiential education, and travel sectors.

We want our local partners, organisations and community members to feel even more empowered. Their progress is their own victory and we want them to use what we can offer to make the changes they want to see.

We want to empower our employees professional journey through further education. educated and fulfilled by empowering them on the ir professional journeys. Their personal development is vital because if they develop, we develop, and together we can achieve our mission.

We want everything that we've always wanted for our participants – and more! We want their experiences to be richer and more impactful. And we want them to leave inspired to pay it forward.

What we want most of all is to ignite in the world a simple question: what can I do to help?

OUR DATA AND ACTION PLAN

We're all about making an impact, as much of an impact as possible. And to achieve that goal, we need to know if we are making more impact or less. However, collecting the data to reveal this empirically can be challenging.

The biggest issue is that finding a reliable method for monitoring impact is a challenge, not only for us but across the sector. This challenge has many moving parts to it. One is the potential for a multitude of factors that could be measured. Another is that our partners have different ideas about what and how to measure, and this requires conversation to ensure we are all on the same page. Another issue is quite simply, do we have the staffing and skills to measure consistently? And finally, if and when we do get all of these quantitative measurements right, we still don't know one important thing: how are various stakeholders perceiving this improvement or lack thereof?

IMPACT UNITS

The development of Impact Units is ongoing, but basically, it will be a qualitative survey. We will ask all of our stakeholders to complete the survey at specific times or points in a project. Their responses will be scored based on our theory of change. These scores are what we will call Impact Units.

The Impact Units measure the perceptions of stakeholders, and this perception data adds to the understanding of success and struggle built by the quantitative data. In other words, it will help us get a fuller, clearer picture of how we are all succeeding and any areas of improvement.

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

In the past, we have used specific targets with our selected United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) to help us decide what we measure. We will continue to refine this practice because we believe it is the right way forward – or, that is to say, one of the right ways forward.

Another potential solution is to develop a research tool that will measure perception. This is where Impact Units come into the picture.

THE MAIN THRUST FOR 2019 INVOLVES TAKING ALL THE THEORETICAL AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT WORK WE DID IN 2018 AND IMPLEMENTING IT FOR ALL OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS.



ETHICS

The plan for our ethics is the same as it has always been – to continue to learn about and implement the best practices in sustainable development. Our growth involves the continuous research and development of our ethical stances and practices.

2019 sees us reviewing and implementing our current policies, as well as developing new policies for future implementation (keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates). New policies will include our stances or beliefs on matters of ethics such as medical volunteering, diversity and inclusion, and transparency.

IMPACT

Over the next few years, we'll move forward from being a volunteering organisation to an experiential education organisation. Our goal is to drive the expansion of people's awareness around global issues. We will become an organisation that provides people with practical skills to help solve these issues.

We want to open up the possibility for people around the world to take real action by participating in one of our programs. Through this action, we want people to come to care deeply about issues the world is facing. Lastly, we will provide them with the toolkits, skills, and the network to make real change possible.



A FINAL WORD FROM ALL OF US AT GVI

Thank you for engaging with our Impact and Ethics Report. Whether you briefly glanced at the visuals or spent hours reading the stories of empowerment, we hope that you took something away. This report, for all it is worth, is only a tiny piece of a global picture.

Thousands of people around the world are talking about and doing things that matter. People who are potentially just like you, who are trying to play their part in making a change.

Join us on our mission to create a global network of people united by our passion to make a difference, and be a part of the story of change.

OUR GOAL IS TO DRIVE THE EXPANSION OF PEOPLE'S AWARENESS AROUND GLOBAL ISSUES.