



It starts on an African farm



Your Ripple Effect update - Autumn 2026

WELCOME TO YOUR AUTUMN NEWSLETTER!

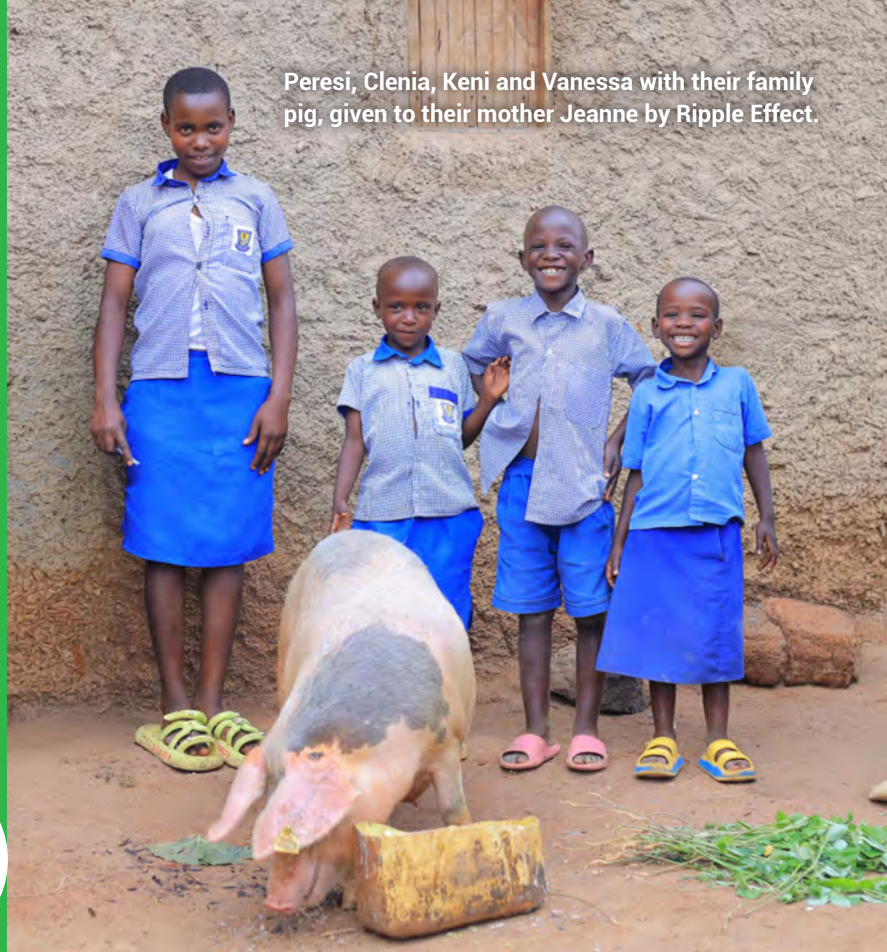
Contents

- 2 Welcome from our CEO and update on the future of Ripple Effect's leadership
 - 3 2026 Spring Appeal update
 - 5 Bees, forests and farmers thrive in Zambia
 - 7 Priscillah's story of hope and resilience
 - 8 Join us at Bath Abbey this Christmas
 - 9 Growing more than vegetables
 - 10 Cover story: Restore appeal update
 - 13 The importance of Gifts in Wills
- Back page:** 2026 Christmas card collection

rippleeffect.org



Peresi, Clenia, Keni and Vanessa with their family pig, given to their mother Jeanne by Ripple Effect.



T: 01225 874 222 / 01225 688 222 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm) E: supporter@rippleeffect.org

Ripple Effect International is a charity registered in England and Wales (299717) and Scotland (SC049792), and is a company limited by guarantee (02290024). Registered office is at Runway East / Kings Court, Parsonage Lane, Bath, BA1 1ER



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



Dear Reader,

Welcome to your 2026 Autumn Newsletter – I hope you enjoy reading about the fantastic impact of your support across the countries where we work.

I want to share some important news about Ripple Effect's future leadership. In July I announced my intention to step down as CEO. I will continue as Chief Executive throughout a structured transition, ensuring a smooth handover to Ripple Effect's next Chief Executive. It is very much business as usual, and our focus remains firmly on the work that matters most: supporting farming families to create sustainable livelihoods and thrive.

I want to personally reassure our supporters that Ripple Effect remains in a strong position and fully committed to

its mission. This transition has been carefully planned, and there will be no change to the vital work your support makes possible. I am deeply grateful for the trust you place in us, and I am confident that Ripple Effect will continue to grow its impact and help farming families build sustainable and resilient futures.

Your support plays an invaluable role in making our work possible. Your commitment helps transform lives and I am deeply grateful for that.

I am incredibly optimistic about what lies ahead for Ripple Effect and confident that the organisation is well positioned to continue growing its impact.

Thank you for your continued support to our mission and for being such an important part of the Ripple Effect family.

Paul Stuart,
CEO of Ripple Effect

For more information: rippleeffect.org/news

Front cover: Restore project participant Jeanne in Rwanda with Beata, one of the community members she has trained. Find out more on page 10.

2026 SPRING APPEAL UPDATE



HOW YOUR GENEROSITY HAS ENABLED ONE MOTHER TO TURN A DREAM INTO REALITY

By Banja Bargana, Project Manager
for Ripple Effect Ethiopia

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to our Spring Appeal earlier this year. The £35,121 raised has had a transformative impact on the lives of farming families. Your kindness is more than a gift – it is a lifeline.

Yenu, a mother of two living with her husband in rural Ethiopia, featured in our appeal. In the past, Yenu has faced challenges due to climate change, limited agricultural knowledge and poor-quality vegetable seeds. For several months of the year, the family often went hungry, and her children were susceptible to illness. In addition, issues of gender inequality meant that she was often excluded from the decision-making process on matters affecting her family.



Yenu outside her new home, made possible by increased income and savings, from knowledge she gained through Ripple Effect.



What your donations have helped achieve

Thanks to donations from people like you, Ripple Effect began working alongside Yenu, supporting her to overcome the challenges she was facing. She received training which led her to adopt resilient farming methods such as organic and worm compost, as well as introducing poultry farming on her land. The fertility of her soil began to improve, allowing her to grow a greater variety of vegetables and increase her yields. The sale of surplus produce and compost has created additional income, enabling her to invest back into her farm and household. Yenu explained:

"Due to being so poor, I lost hope. After joining the Ripple Effect project, I realised I had full confidence. I no longer worry about feeding my children."

Yenu also joined a self-help group in which members encourage one another to save money consistently. This engagement not only increased her financial security but also gave her access to small scale investment and resources for her farm. The combination of increased agricultural productivity and saving significantly improved her

family's overall economic situation, empowering her to make decisions regarding household improvements and farm expansion.

When we first met Yenu one of her dreams was to build a new home. Her existing house was quite dilapidated, uncomfortable during the rainy season and unsafe at night. Through her increased income and savings, she was able to renovate her existing home and has begun construction of a new house. These improvements have contributed not only to physical comfort but also to emotional security and wellbeing. A true example of transformation! Yenu told us:

"I am secure, filled with the comfort and happiness my family bring me."

Yenu working on her fertile land



Yenu with her children outside their newly renovated home



Since working with Ripple Effect, Yenu's self-confidence has increased, and she now recognises that many tasks traditionally seen as the domain of men are well within her capability. Her experience continues to inspire others to think and do the same, creating a ripple of change throughout her community. And her story is one of many – your support is enabling mothers to improve food security and nutritional value for their families, gain economic independence, and develop leadership skills, so they can give themselves and their families a brighter future.

FROM HIVE TO HOPE

By Matomola Matomola, Monitoring and Evaluation Programme Officer for Zambia Rainbow Development Foundation (ZRDF), Ripple Effect's partner in Zambia



Working alongside our local partner in Zambia, ZRDF, we're helping families grow brighter futures through beekeeping and agroforestry – protecting forests while creating reliable incomes.

Healthy forests and healthy bee populations go hand in hand. That's why ZRDF's programme combines beekeeping with agroforestry, helping farming families earn an income from honey while protecting the trees and woodlands they depend on.

Zambia's woodlands provide an important source of food for honeybees, with many native tree species producing the nectar and pollen they need to thrive. To protect and expand this living landscape, ZRDF has planted more than 11,000 trees in communities and schools, helping to safeguard both forests and future harvests.

In the programme's pilot phase, around 100 farmers have been supported with affordable mud beehives, practical training, honey processing services and direct access to markets, enabling them to build sustainable livelihoods.

A turning point for Boniface

Boniface lives in Masense, Luano District, where he supports his family of eight. Like many rural farmers, he is constantly looking for ways to improve his family's wellbeing and create opportunities for the future.

When ZRDF provided him with two beehives, it marked a turning point.



Tree planting at a local school in Zambia

Through commitment and practical guidance, Boniface began harvesting around four buckets of honey each season, selling his harvest to ZRDF who provide honey processing services and access to markets. Rather than spending the income, he reinvested it, expanding from two hives to four and buying improved farming equipment. As his honey business grew, so did his family's opportunities.

He explained: ***"Beekeeping has not only improved my household income but has also given me confidence and hope for the future."***

His dream is simple but powerful: to grow his business, educate his children and build a secure future from the forest that surrounds him.

Growing opportunities for generations to come

Boniface's story is just one example of the difference your support is making. Across the programme, beekeeping is helping families earn an income while giving them a powerful reason to protect the forests that bees depend on.

The programme also helps farmers overcome one of the biggest barriers to



Ripple Effect project participants constructing mud beehives

making a living from honey: finding a reliable buyer. ZRDF processes and markets the honey, meaning farmers can focus on producing a high-quality

product, confident there is a route from hive to customer.

Income from honey sales is shared in a way that benefits everyone involved. Farmers receive the largest share, while part of the income is reinvested into training, equipment and technical support so even more families can benefit in the future. Experienced mentors and harvesters are also paid for sharing their knowledge, helping skills spread throughout the community.

Thanks to this self-sustaining approach, every jar of honey supports not only today's harvest, but tomorrow's opportunities too – helping families, forests and honeybees thrive together.



Boniface with his beehives in Zambia

This Harvest Festival, be part of a story of growth and resilience, not hunger



Priscillah, Dixon and their family



Priscillah
with some of
her produce

Behind every meal is a journey: seeds planted. Fields tended. Crops harvested. Meals prepared. A family nourished.

Consider the food on your table. Behind every meal is a story of planting, growing and harvesting. But for many farming families in rural Africa, drought and extreme weather are making it harder to grow enough food. Failed harvests can leave parents worrying about how they will feed their children.

Ripple Effect works alongside farming families, helping them gain the skills and resources they need to grow enough food, earn a sustainable income and adapt to a changing climate.

Priscillah lives with her family in Kenya, and this is what she told us:

"Not long ago, life was very difficult for us. We didn't know how to cope with the changing climate, and we lacked the knowledge, seeds and planning skills to make the most of our land. Through Ripple Effect's training, I learned how to improve my soil, manage water more effectively and grow a wider variety of crops."

Today, everything has changed. We now grow sweet potatoes, vegetables, avocados and nuts throughout the year. My children are healthier, we eat a more nutritious diet, and income from selling surplus produce helps us meet our family's needs. Together, my husband Dixon and I are building a more secure future from our land."

This Harvest, help create more stories like Priscillah's. Together, we can help Ripple Effect reach five million more people by 2030, supporting families to grow food and build resilience.

**Find out how your church can get involved
and access Harvest resources at:
rippleeffect.org/harvest**



Priscillah with her daughter

SAVE THE DATE

A Christmas Celebration with Ripple Effect

Bath Abbey

Wednesday 2 December at 7.00pm

Join us for a special evening of Christmas carols, inspiring reflections and beautiful music from Songways Choir, a much-loved local Bath choir.

You'll also have the opportunity to meet the Ripple Effect team and hear how supporters like you are helping families in rural Africa create lasting change and build brighter futures.

Why not make a festive trip of it? Bath Christmas Market will be taking place at the same time, offering the perfect opportunity to enjoy Bath at its best!

**Register for free today at:
rippleeffect.org/christmas-celebration**



A GARDEN WHERE LEARNING GROWS

By Veronica Okwaro,
Project Facilitator
for Ripple Effect
Kenya



As part of our Boresha Mazingira project in West Pokot, Kenya, we support farming families to grow food in ways that protect both their livelihoods and the environment. We've created a demonstration garden where farmers can see new techniques in action. Thanks to your support, this hands-on learning space is helping families grow more secure futures.

Learning by seeing

The demonstration garden is a 1.5 acre plot at the Pokot Farmers' Cooperative. Here, instead of simply hearing about new farming methods, farmers can

watch them being used, ask questions, and try the techniques for themselves before introducing them on their own land.

The garden grows a wide range of vegetables, including kale, spinach, tomatoes, onions, carrots and cabbage. It also demonstrates simple, sustainable techniques such as making compost, collecting rainwater, growing different crops together and managing pests naturally. These are practical ideas that farmers can take home and adapt to suit their own farms.

Growing knowledge that ripples

More than 200 local people, including farmers, church groups, teachers and



A mandala garden at the demonstration site

A Ripple Effect project participant at the Ripple Effect Kenya demonstration garden



schoolchildren, have already visited the garden. Peer Farmer Trainers also use it to refresh their skills before sharing what they've learned with other families in their communities.

The vegetables grown at the garden are sold locally, with every penny reinvested into seeds, tools and other essentials needed to keep the garden thriving. This means it can continue to inspire and support more farming families for years to come. The demonstration garden is much more than a place to grow vegetables. It's a place where people gain the confidence and skills to try new ideas, improve their harvests and build a more secure future for their families.

2025 SUMMER RESTORE APPEAL UPDATE

Jeanne and her family are thriving thanks to your support last year.

By Alphonsine Mukangabire,
Restore Project
Manager, Rwanda



Last summer, thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, our Restore Appeal raised over £125,000, doubled to an incredible £250,000 through match funding. Your kindness has supported women like Jeanne to restore their land around Lake Cyohoha, on the border between Rwanda and Burundi, so they can grow more food, protect the environment and build brighter futures for their families.



The challenge

In recent years, communities living around Lake Cyohoha have begun to feel the effects of the climate crisis. Rainfall has become increasingly unreliable, bringing long periods of drought as well as damaging floods, making it much harder for families to grow enough food for themselves, leaving little or nothing left to earn an income from. As climate conditions have worsened, these families have been dealing with the reality of severe hunger.

Jeanne is a single mother of five living in Rwanda, in the region around Lake Cyohoha. When we first met her, she shared with us, *"The challenge we face every day is poverty...climate change affects us – we experience drought, and we suffer from hunger...most of the time we eat once per day...there is starvation."*

But thanks to supporters like you, Ripple Effect's Restore project is bringing life-changing training to farmers in the region surrounding the lake. People like Jeanne have been learning to restore the soil on



Jeanne with her family in the kitchen garden she created with the training from Ripple Effect 10

their land so they can grow thriving crops, providing enough nutritious food and an income to support their families.

How Jeanne transformed her land

When speaking with Jeanne, she shared with us: *"After joining the Restore project, one of the biggest changes has been in farming. Before, we used to rely mainly on rainfall, thinking it would be enough for our crops to grow well. I used to mix different crops and I did not know how to prepare and plant seeds at the right time. However, through the project, we have learned proper fertilisation methods and modern farming practices. I received training on how to make organic manure, prepare natural pesticides to spray on fruits to control pests, and produce mineral salt supplements for livestock. The Restore Project provided us with a wide range of valuable skills.*

The project has helped us prevent soil erosion by constructing ditches that collect and manage runoff water, and by supporting us to plant trees. Our soil is no longer being washed away, and we can cultivate our land more effectively.

I also learned how to establish a kitchen garden, which has brought positive



Jeanne with her son and their flourishing banana crop

changes to my family. Previously, I used to buy vegetables because I didn't think they could be grown at home. Ripple Effect taught us how to make a double-dug garden bed...Now, I harvest vegetables from my own kitchen garden at home and they help us prepare nutritious meals.

During the rainy season, I often have enough produce to take to the market. The income I now earn, compared to how I used to provide for my family, has improved. At this time, I am able to provide enough food for my family, and there is hope that what I am doing will be productive and bring better results in the future."

Providing nutritious meals for her family and taking care of her livestock

*"Before, we used to eat cassava bread every day because we did not know better ways of improving our diet. But since the project trained me... I learned how to prepare a balanced diet and complete meals. I now understand the importance of including immune-boosting foods. Because of this knowledge, I believe my family does not fall sick easily. **My children are healthy, and all is well.***

Before the Restore project, my livestock farming was not productive. After receiving training from Ripple Effect,



I learned how to properly care for my livestock. Ripple Effect gave me a pig. I raised it properly and took good care of it, and the pig has now had four piglets...and its weight has increased considerably. The piglets are healthy and growing well. As a result, the value of my animal has increased significantly. The pig also provides manure, which will help me improve soil fertility."

Creating ripples in her community

Jeanne has been sharing the skills she's learned with other people in her community, such as Beata, who shared with us, "Before, I used to buy vegetables, but now I no longer do because I have



Jeanne with her family enjoying a nutritious meal together

learned the benefits of growing them myself. Jeanne helped me a lot by teaching me these skills. She came and encouraged me to grow vegetables instead of buying them. Although it requires effort, we do it because it is better than buying them."

More opportunities for Jeanne's children

Since Jeanne joined the Restore project, the changes she's made have also had a great impact on her children. Her son Japhet shared with us, "After my mother joined the Restore Project, a lot changed. Before, I sometimes had to miss school and look for work to earn money to buy notebooks. Now, when it is market day, I can harvest vegetables from our garden, sell them at the market, and easily get the money I need to buy my notebooks."

Hopes for the future

Jeanne told us, "By putting these practices into action, I have seen significant improvements in my livelihood. There has been a great deal of positive change because the training has helped me produce enough food for my household and surplus produce to sell in the market. I am now able to farm more effectively and achieve higher yields than I did before



Jeanne on the land where she has implemented the techniques she has learned from the Restore project

receiving the training. As a result, my agricultural production and income have improved considerably.

The farming training also made me happy, and I am very thankful for the skills I acquired. The training opened my mind, and I am now more confident and knowledgeable. ... Now, what I have acquired gives me hope that my future will be bright and successful."

To read more about Jeanne's story, head to rippleeffect.org/Jeanne-story

YOUR LEGACY COULD CREATE LASTING CHANGE

Create a ripple effect for the generations to come.

And your legacy won't stop there. Every family your gift helps will go on to benefit many more families, growing their skills and confidence to fight hunger and the climate crisis. These families will also pass on their skills and knowledge to their communities, the next generation and beyond, creating a wave of change across rural Africa, breaking the cycle of poverty for good. The impact of these wonderful gifts will be felt for generations to come.

Through our partnership with Farewill, we have everything you need to make or update your Will for free.

To find out how we're working towards a rural Africa where no child goes hungry and how you can leave a gift in your Will to Ripple Effect, please contact us on the details below for a no-obligation chat.

If you've already left a gift in your Will for the families we work with, please drop us a line. We'd love to say thank you.



**Buretti, daughter of Ripple Effect farmers
Thomas and Selena, Kenya**



giftsinwills@rippleeffect.org



rippleeffect.org/gifts-in-wills



Your donation in support of farming families

☐ £10 ☐ £25 ☐ £50 Other

Your donation will be used wherever the need is greatest to support the farming families we work alongside in rural Africa.

1 Your details

Title & full name:

Address:

Postcode:

Phone:

Mobile:

Email:

☐ Yes, I am happy to receive email updates from Ripple Effect about the impact of my donation, events and appeals.

If you would like to update the way we contact you, please call 01225 874 222 / 01225 688 222 Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm (excl. bank holidays), or email supporter@rippleeffect.org. Find out more at rippleeffect.org/privacy.

2 Your method of payment

☐ I've enclosed a cheque/postal order/charity voucher made payable to **Ripple Effect**

☐ I'd like to pay by card, my details are below:



Name as it appears on card:

Card No:

Expiry Date:

3 Turn every £1 you donate into £1.25 at no extra cost to you.

Please tick the box below and complete your details to help make your support go even further!

giftaid it

☐ Yes, I am a UK taxpayer and would like Ripple Effect to claim Gift Aid on my support. I confirm that I am happy to treat all donations I have made to Ripple Effect for the past 4 years and any future donations I make as Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature Date

Please get in touch to make changes to this declaration if you no longer pay sufficient tax or if your address changes.

☐ No, I am not a UK taxpayer or do not want Ripple Effect to claim Gift Aid on my support.

Please complete and return this form to: Freepost Plus RUHR-KHZU-YJGY, Ripple Effect International, Runway East Bath, Kings Court, Parsonage Lane, BATH, BA1 1ER.

Ripple Effect International is a charity registered in England and Wales (299717) and Scotland (SC049792), and is a company limited by guarantee (02290024).

A GREAT WAY TO WISH YOUR LOVED ONES A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Get your Christmas cards ordered early this year.
Pick from our brand-new designs for 2026.

Our eco-friendly cards contain no plastic packaging! Each pack contains 10 cards with the message 'With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.' 100% of the profit made from these cards goes to Ripple Effect's work.

£5 per pack

Size: 125mm x 125mm

*Includes Bible quote.



Dove of Peace



Bethlehem Night *



Winter Landscape

Gifts will be available to order from our Christmas catalogue from 19 October 2026.

You can order your Christmas card packs online now at:
rippleeffect.org/christmas-cards or call us to order over the phone on 01225 874 222