L-EARN

My name is I come from a small village in western Uganda with fertile farm land and rocky terrain. Luckily today, I aspire to become an architect as I push through my university studies. The people in my village are illiterate and many have been subjected to less education than they deserve. The options for a young child growing up in my village are either to become a wife or a farmer. Many drop out of schools due to the high fees required. I am lucky to have gotten my education in the capital and I will use architecture as a tool to change my indigenous society.

In my design I approach the issue of education with sustainable education structures. The problem of the high school dropout rate is due to the appealing option of farming which would earn these young children money. So I designed a school setting for kindergarten and primary education in Uganda with an attractive twist.

The education institution is termed L-EARN. The children do not only go to school for the education but are highly involved in next door farming.

I designed verandahs with vegetable soil holders which also support the butterfly grass thatched roof. These soil holders serve a structure function and a sustainable sun shading function. The children will be able to engage in growing vegetables through their school period. The water harvesting tanks provide water for watering these vegetables on each block.

The passion fruit is a highly demanded fruit as it serves the best juice in my village and a large export to other towns. I designed passion shades. Passion fruits are supported during their growth vertically and this can create an overhead foliage canopy when well netted. The passion shades create resting and relaxing spots in the school compound. The students are involved in growing these fruits as a way of earning.

These structures would really change my village in the next generation. The more literate we would get, the more developed we would become in all aspects. The structure is designed according to sustainable principles such as high air quality, sun shading, sustainable renewable materials, rain water harvesting and solar energy.

My village mates still use African hut sustainable architecture with grass thatched roofs and rammed earth walls. This structure is majorly from timber poles and mud bricks with a large grass thatched butterfly roof spanning over it.

I would really love to see such a structure change my society. “Education is the key to success,” is a statement many Ugandans utter easily and I do believe it could be the key to a developed Kaisekenkere Village. A transformation in people’s character and societal influence for generations by architecture is my goal.
L-EARN

THE SCHOOL LAYOUT

The school is made of four sustainable structures with passion shades in the compounds. The school has a combined education and agricultural spaces hence students learning and earning.

Design sketches
THE BUILDING STRUCTURE
This structure is designed to be modified into any spaces in the school. It can be a classroom block or an administrative block. The school comprises of four of these structures for the required spaces.

It is built to sustainable principles of water harvesting, air quality, solar energy and renewable materials.
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THE DESIGN DETAILS

- **PASSION SHADE DETAILS**
- **SOIL HOLDER DETAILS**
- **WINDOW DETAILS**

**PASSION SHADE DETAILS**

*Trellis 2.5m high passion fruit trellising on the vertical trellis members*

**SOIL HOLDER DETAILS**

*Perforated wooden soil holders for vegetable growing*

**WINDOW DETAILS**

*Rotating wooden blinds*