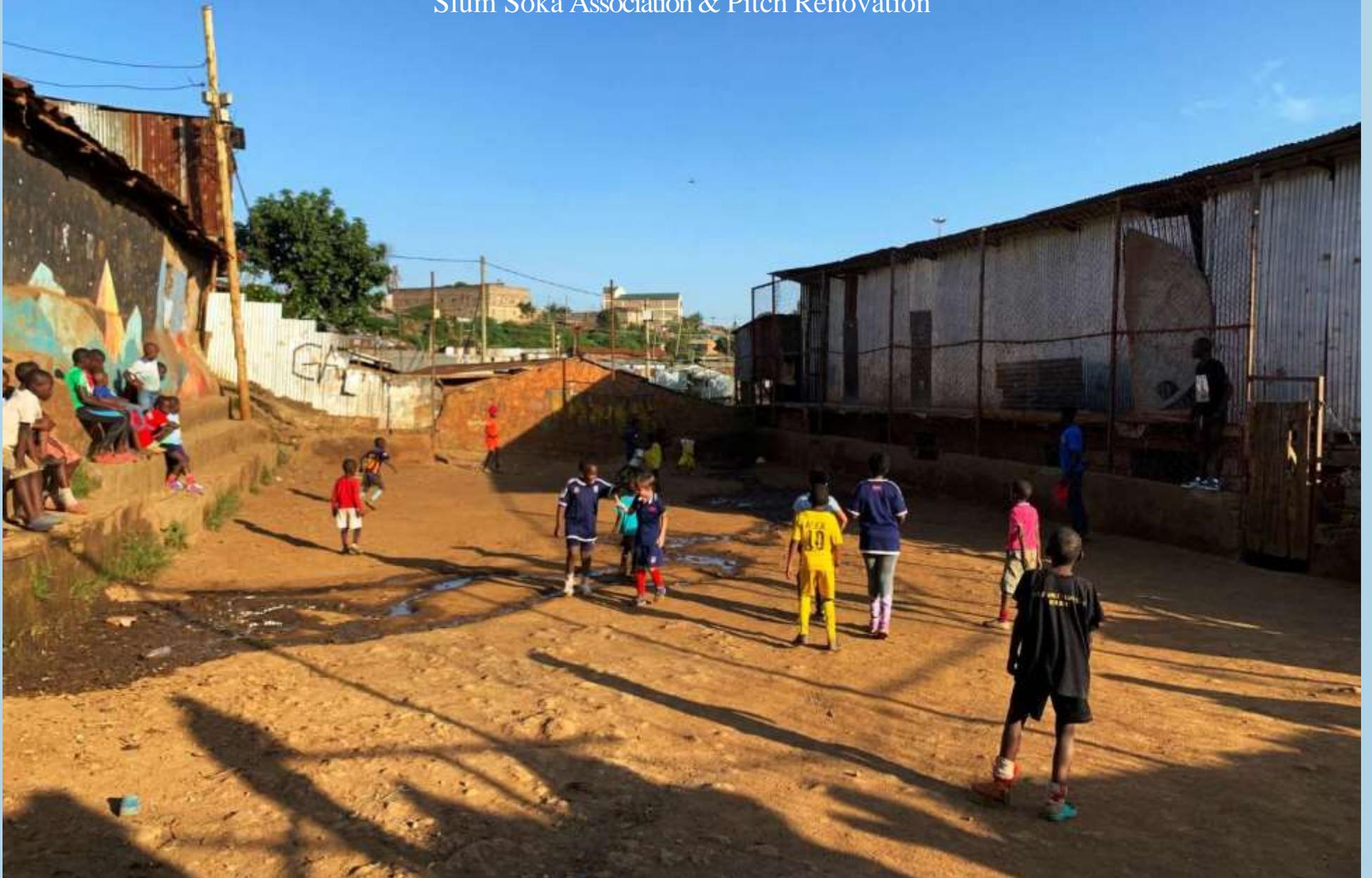


# «ISAAC PITCH» PROJECT

Slum Soka Association & Pitch Renovation

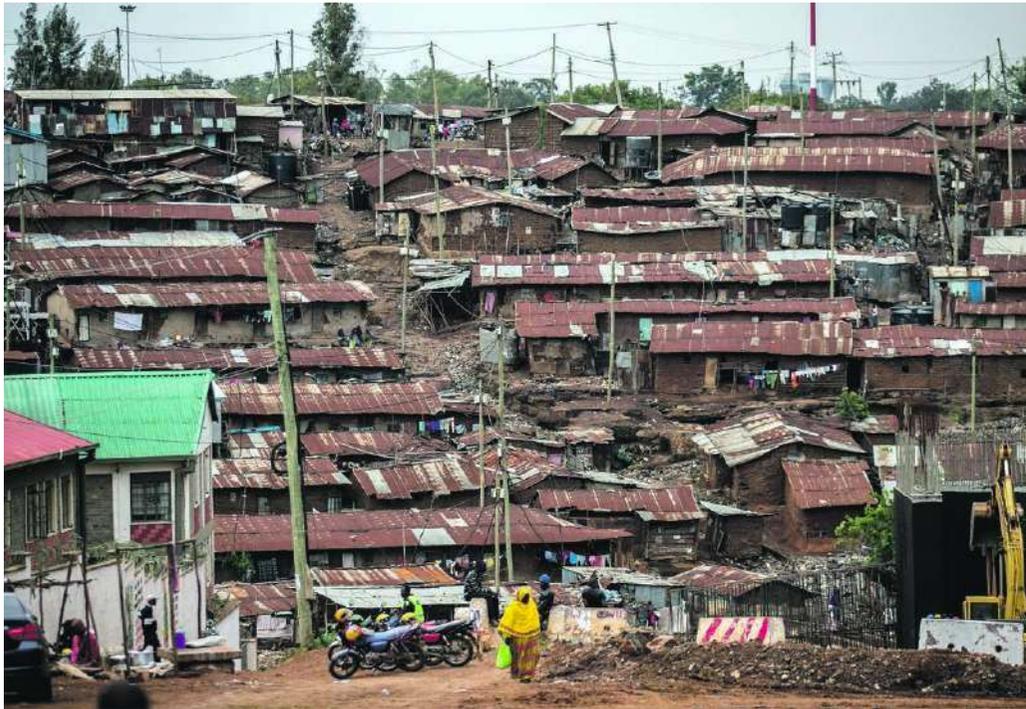


**A small pitch in one of Africa's largest slum,  
Small kids, some soccer balls and lots of ambitions...  
Together, let's give a hand to those tomorrow big men!**

WHO ARE WE?

«Slum Soka» is a sport organization in the famous slum of «Kibera» (Nairobi, Kenya), one of the largest slum in Africa.

Far from the safari postcard landscape, it is difficult to realize the living conditions within the slum if you have never seen it. The inhabitants are crammed in very insecure sheet-metal sheds. Mud and dust are everywhere. Their living environment is extremely polluted with open-air guts and garbage covering the narrow streets. Clean water and electricity access are big issues. The poor hygiene level makes diseases grow and spread quickly. Good schools are rare, career offers barely existent, playing fields are absent... In a nutshell, this is not the best place for one to thrive.



SLUM SOKA ASSOCIATION:

Despite this harsh environment, development initiatives are rising in Kibera in order to improve the people's life. The "SlumSoka" association is one of those serious and efficient projects: it tries to offer some sunlight to young people, from 6 to 17 years old, boys and girls, using sport as a solid social integration lever. To get those kids out of the danger of the streets -alcohol and drugs addiction, sexual abuses, idleness...- and keep them away from the bad influences they could have, the association gives them the opportunity to enjoy different sports: football, rugby, tennis, danse, gymnastic, karate...

The “SlumSoka” allows numerous kids to go on the school path again. It offers new supplementary tools to better fight for their tomorrow’s life. It organizes some educative, cultural and artistic activities: mathematic games, homework help, French lessons, artcraft sessions with local artists, books publishing (eg: [Pomme Pidou in Kibera](#), a children book, created by students of CM1A of the French School in Nairobi and children of Slum Soka kids from Kibera slum).

The “SlumSoka” members try to follow the path that their elders, football players in the Kibera Black Stars, our partner team, have already taken. Kibera Black Stars has swiftly become a pride for all the slum’s community: they have never stopped from climbing the ranks and have reached the League 2 after three consecutive climbs. It’s a real achievement for this slum team that gives a strong priority to the youngsters though its tight budget income.

Thanks to their sport successes, the players are examples to copy for all the children of Kibera that are looking for some hope in a quite blocked skyline. Thanks also to their good results on the pitch and their rising popularity, they have so far been able to improve, little by little, their living conditions. (French Magazine [L’Equipe](#) has spent 10 pages in their edition of the 4th April 2015 to our beneficial actions around sport).

Children from “SlumSoka” will soon join their brothers’ team and will be, themselves, the future shining stars of Kibera.

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**LET’S SHINE TOGETHER,  
LET’S WIN TOGETHER!**

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## THE RENOVATION PROJECT

Isaac pitch is one of the rare playground pitch at the center of the slum where the least meter square is quickly occupied by insalubrious accommodations. Issac pitch gathers all the youth of the district, in the evening after school. Some play soccer while other play with tennis balls, throw beads challenges or simply come to meet outside and have a nice chat.

This small ground area, former open-skin dump, is the land for many daily activities and represent a peace place, far from the depravity that pollutes some areas of the slum. It also allows the youngest from “SlumSoka” to first train and exercise with the soccer ball, near their home. This playground field is very practical particularly for the young girls that don’t have to cross all the slum to join other playground spaces outside Kibera. Ensuring their security is one of our priorities. It also allows some young with disable issues to have fun without going too far.



A first beginning of the renovation has been started in 2017 thanks to acrowdfunding financing. This has made us able to better define the pitch, groom a bit the play area, install a fence and build some small bleachers.



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The money that we received has allowed to heavily improve the playing conditions but still big renovation and construction works must be thought out in order to ensure a sustainable security for the children.

This space has suffered a lot from the last bad weather damages during the rainy season. The ground has been washed out, walls have been wiped way, guts have overflown and the fence has been damaged.

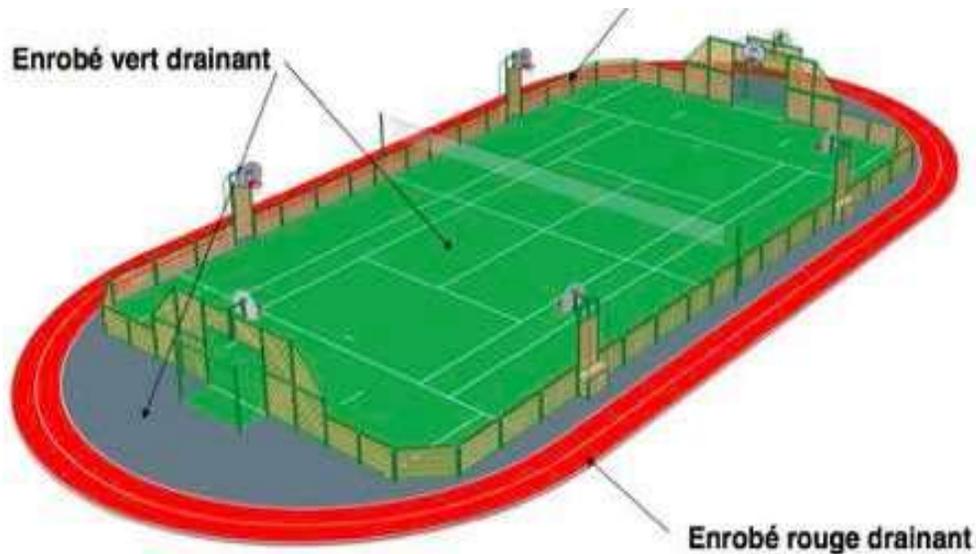
Still not the ideal place to play, especially after a rainfall!(You can see images of the ground after the rain in the report made by [France 2](#) in september 2018 (from 1’30’’).

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**PROVIDING THE CHILDREN WITH A SAFE  
PLAYGROUND IS OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.**

A serious renovation is necessary to ensure the improvement of the using conditions. We, for example, need to:

- \* Install a draining system + better funnel the guts + create some gutters to reduce the damages caused by the rain.
- \* Build a strong slab on the pitch to offer better playing conditions.
- \* Re-enforce the pitch's limits (walls, bleachers, fences and nets) to better close the space.
- \* Install a hybrid lightening system (spotlights and solar energy) to extend the using time.
- \* Provide the space with numerous and various sport equipments (goals, volley-ball nets, basketball boards...) in order to make Isaac Pitch an all-purpose open space.



Once its renovation completely done, this pitch could be used by a large number of people (children and adults) living nearby and its use could be wide up to so many activities and sports.

On a sport level, numerous activities could take place:

- \* Football training sessions for the youngest just after school. As the pitch is in a central position, there is no need to the children to go far from their home. They can stay safe in the environment they all know.
  - \* The girls' football training, that will be much safer here than far from Kibera in the pitch they are currently using (a scout camp quite remote).
- \* Some small football tournaments that could regularly take place in the neighborhood in order to bring life and joy in this harsh environment.
  - \* Some games/ tournaments/ basket-ball lessons, volley-ball lessons and so to diversify the sport offer and answer the many demands of the residents. Those new activities will allow us to make our project lasting because a small participation will be asked to those who are not members of the association.
- \* Parents could join their kids after work to create a real peaceful place. Some minor arguments could be fixed with the ladies living near the pitch and being sometimes fed up of the balls ending up in their stoves!

**LET'S MAKE SPORT AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE!**



Beyond the sport actions, other activities -educative, cultural and artistic- could take place at night with the new light system (partially from solar energy) and make the nights more quiet. Occasional events could also take place such as:

- \* Open-air cinema playing movies from all around the world and with a programmation less poor than what people of Kibera are used to watch on their cellphones. Preventing health spots could be interspersed to sensibelize on the different issues linked to their living habitation.

- \* Various live-shows to encourage the classes given by the volunteers (dance shows...).

- \* Artistic exhibitions (paintings, photographs...) or small market-sales to offer visibility to the workpieces crafted by the people of Kibera.

- \* Opening the slum to others (partnership with the French School of Nairobi) and initiating then new cultural exchanges.

- \* A space, closed to the pitch, could be used for generating incomes small projects such as toilets and showers place, small cafeteria, video-games room...

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Last but not least, a road to sustainable development is heavily considered in our project. We wish to use innovative and eco-friendly materials like solar panels and give a new life to plastic bottles. We want to sensibelize our members to the recycling, the garbage sorting, the cleaning of the streets and the guts...

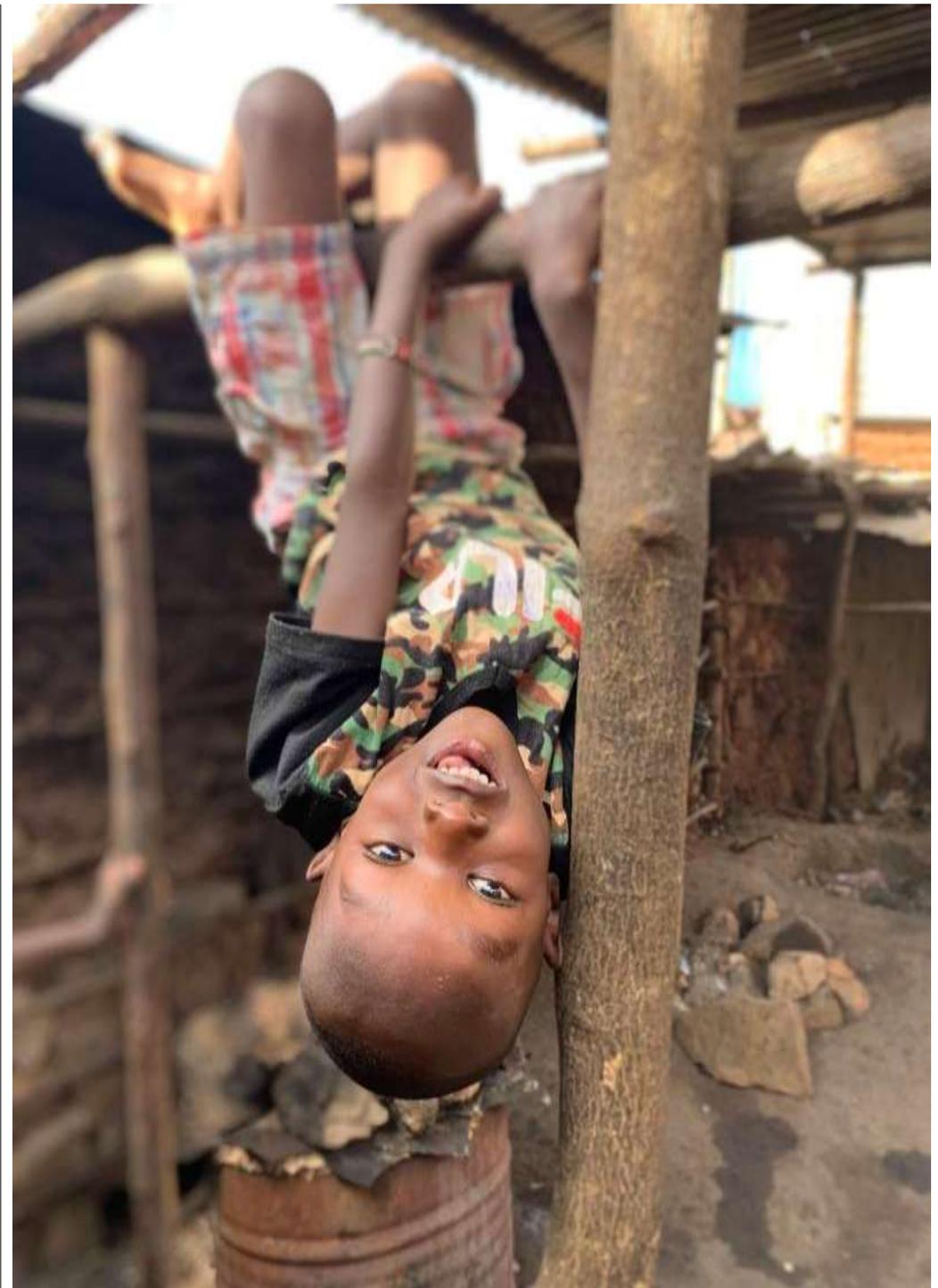
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To conclude, this pitch could become a real place of social life, during the day or the night, in the heart of Africa's largest slum. Our positive actions will be enlightened, far from the usual cliché of misery.

**Together, let's try to give life back to this pitch.  
All those young people are fighting to make it. It is never easy  
but they keep fighting. They stand and move forward.**

**It's our turn to help them move quicker.**

**YES - TOGETHER- WE CAN !**



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