



M.E.A.K - Report for Fondation Eagle: June – July 2020

Project: MEAK / Majumuatul Khairat “Feed a Family” programme, Tana River County, Kenya

Donor:

Fondation Eagle, Switzerland

Donor’s reference:

FF 547

Charity:

**Medical & Educational Aid to Kenya (UK)
& the Majumuatul Kahirat Community Group**

Date of acceptance:

3rd June 2020

Date donation received:

11th June 2020

Amount of Donation:

A one-off donation of £17,500 (to fund the purchase & distribution of 750 sacks of goods) (2,320,500 KSH at the exchange rate of £1 to 132.60 KSH on 11th June 2020)

Duration of project:

The project was completed on July 4th when the parcels were distributed.

Estimated number of beneficiaries:

Initial estimates were that 500 sacks would be distributed, which would then benefit 2500 people. This was increased to 750 sacks and thus benefitted 3500 people, due to demand.



Packed sacks waiting for distribution

Project background:

The Asian community has been very proactive recognizing and reacting to the humanitarian disaster that has been caused by both the Covid-19 pandemic & adverse climate conditions (severe flooding & a locust plague, which has decimated crops).



The Kenyan-based Majumuatul Khairat community group mobilized and began the “Feed a Family” Programme to help provide food & other necessities to desperate families. They created 20Kg packages of essentials which were considered enough to support a family of five for 1 month. These packages contained:

- Food staples (maize flour, beans, rice, cooking oil)
- Soap
- Clothing & bedding
- Sanitary products
- Face masks

This organization has proven already to be very effective, having already distributed over 4000 food packages, to areas including Kilifi, Voi, Moyale, Naivasha and Kikuyu. This trip was designated as wholly MEAK funded project and thus kept separate from their other charitable activities.



Contents inside the sacks for distribution

Project report:

A group of four volunteers from the Majumuatul Khairat community group left Nairobi on the evening of Tuesday June 30th and travelled overnight to Mombasa, adhering to all Covid-19 related government guidelines.



They arrived in Mombasa on Wednesday morning, July 1st. Whilst in Mombasa they purchased soap and sanitary supplies together with clothing and sheets in the local mutumba markets. They then travelled further up the coast to Kilifi. In Kilifi, they purchased bulk maize flour, rice, grains, cooking oil and other necessities. Ten locals were then employed to pack all of the goods into 750 separate sacks, which took a full day.

On Saturday, July 4th the volunteers from the community group departed Kilifi at 03:00am in two lorries (donated free of charge) for the drive to Garsen (see map) arriving at 06:00am. They picked up four additional volunteers in Garson, plus a police officer and a representative from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), before driving on to Oda. From there it was a short 30Km drive to the distribution point at Furasa.



On arrival at Furasa they found 1,500 people waiting on sodden ground from recent flooding. This was many more people than they had expected. As a consequence, the village chiefs and elders arranged for many of the families to share the sacks. As the programme had been organised very quickly (only three weeks after the funding was received) there was no time to secure government help in the form of the Navy or a helicopter to deliver the sacks. However, the local government was able to provide a tractor to help get the lorries and sacks of provisions across the saturated ground.

All the sacks were distributed to the grateful families and the volunteers then travelled back to Nairobi.



Crowd waiting for sacks to be allocated & right, carrying them away to their villages

Challenges:

The original plan was for the Fondation Eagle/MEAK donation to provide 500 food parcels. However, in view of the large number of people in need it was decided to cut down on some of the more expensive items (like sugar and tea) and pressure the suppliers for better prices. By doing so 750 slightly smaller aid packages were created. On arrival in Furasa it became apparent that the 750 packages were still insufficient.

It was necessary to obtain permission from the local area officials as well as getting police approval for this extremely worthwhile project. Distributing food in areas of famine can be a hazardous occupation when facing hundreds of starving and desperate people. The presence of the official from the ICRC and the police officer helped to ensure that order was preserved in the distribution of the packages.

Project impact:

This was a highly successful project devised, funded and executed at great speed.

The sheer number of people who has made their way to Furasa indicates how needed this was with 3 times the initial estimate of families responding & benefitting.

In addition to the packages, 10 community members in Kilifi were fortunate to benefit from one day's paid work to fill the sacks. In these current times with many people finding themselves suddenly out

of work with the collapse of the tourist industry, this was a very worthwhile additional side benefit of the project.



Budget details & summary:

The sum of £17,500 was transferred from the MEAK account to Mr Shahid Yakub, treasurer of the Majumuatul Kahirat community group. This was spent on purchasing the items that were made up into 750 parcels at a cost of £22.87 per parcel (the budgeted sum was £23.33 per parcel) & on some of the logistics. There was an underspend of £328.86. Some of this amount was used to pay the 10 men who filled the sacks in Kilifi. The remaining amount will be put towards similar future projects, if the Fondation Eagle board agrees.

MEAK "Feed a Family" Program Budget:

Total funds provided £17,500 to produce 750 aid parcels

Item:	Number:	Price (KSH)	Total price (KSH)	Total price £	Price/package (KSH)	Price/package £
Cooking oil	750	290	217,500	1,647.72	290.00	2.20
Rice	750	228	171,000	1,295.45	228.00	1.72
Flour	3,750	114	427,500	3,238.64	570.00	4.31
Grains - Ndengu yellow (lentils)	750	190	142,500	1,079.55	190	1.44
Sheets & clothing (sum of above)	750		157,500	1,193.18	210	1.59
Panga bar soap	2250	85	191,250	1,448.86	255	1.93
Antibacterial soap	7500	8	60,000	454.54	80	0.60
Re-usable sanitary kit	750	750	307,500	2,329.54	410	3.10
Face masks	3,750	30	112,500	852.27	150	1.13
Small sanitizer bottle	1300	110	165,000	1250.00	220	1.67
Packing material / transport logistics			315,000	2,386.36	420	3.18
TOTAL Expended			2,267,250	17,176.14	3,023.00	22.87
TOTAL Budgeted				17,500.00		23.33
Underspend				£328.86		£0.46

NB:

- Exchange rate used £1 = 132 Kenyan shillings (Ksh)
- The supplier ran out of small bottles of hand sanitizer. In some of the packages the two small bottles (50ml) have been replaced with one larger bottle (100ml), as seen in the photograph.
- MEAK is in receipt of many pages of small invoices which comprise the above. These can be forwarded in a separate document, if Fondation Eagle wishes.



Thank you:

Once again, MEAK and Majumuatul Kahirat wish to thank Fondation Eagle for the generous grant that has enabled the provision of food parcels & basic necessities to so many Kenyan families whose lives have been so severely impacted by Covid-19 & the adverse weather conditions.

Fondation Eagle can feel justifiably proud that they have made such a difference to so many people's lives and wellbeing. We hope to sponsor further projects such as this, which are so important in supporting people during the current pandemic. We look forward to further similar collaborative efforts in the future on projects of this nature.



Mr Shahid Yakub, volunteer & organiser of the Feed a Family programme, with children who will benefit from the packages