



M.E.A.K - Report for Fondation Eagle:

January – September 2021

Project: MEAK / Milgis Water Projects, Milgis Conservancy, Samburu County, Kenya

Donor:

Fondation Eagle, Switzerland

Donor's reference:

FF 0569-54

Charity:

Medical & Educational Aid to Kenya (UK),
together with the Milgis Trust (Kenya)

Date of acceptance:

4th December 2020

Date donation received:

20th December 2020

Amount of Donation:

A one-off grant of \$17,897

Duration of project:

We estimate the grant to fund the operation & maintenance of the water projects for one year, potentially longer, depending upon the amount of intervention each individual project needs.

Estimated number of beneficiaries:

Approximately 30,000 people have been provided with clean water in 14 different communities within the conservancy, with a particular focus on 5 projects in severely



drought affected communities. The water projects also provide employment for 28 members of the community.

Report from the Milgis Trust - Summary:

It has been an incredibly crucial year for the water projects department. Kenya has suffered a prolonged period of drought, and it has been especially severe in the Milgis ecosystem. Many areas have not received rain since April. There has been huge migrations of pastoralist communities throughout our area, all in search of the pasture for their livestock. Herdsmen from Samburu and Rendile tribes travelled distances as far as 150 kilometres, battling to keep their precious animals alive.

The water projects have been instrumental in keeping the peace. After their long journeys, they have been able to have a much needed break at our water projects - giving the livestock a chance of recovering. In the past, people have fought over water during desperate times. Thankfully the projects have also kept human wildlife conflict to a minimum. In other areas, wildlife has had to compete with humans at wells, limiting their access to water to the night time. Many of the wells are too deep and many animals fall in and drown – especially elephants.

Out of the fourteen projects, we focussed on improving the projects in the more desperate places. These 5 projects rely on very fragile aquifers so have needed careful water management. The majority of these are our older projects, as they were the most needy communities. This has meant that they are also now the highest maintenance projects as their equipment is getting older. Your support this past year has been incredibly well received - It's estimated that at least 11,000 people would not have been able to access clean water if we did not do the below maintenance. Most of these people would have had to push deep into the mountains to find water, and this would have resulted in massive pressure on the surrounding forest and wildlife.

Meeting taking place to discuss the importance of sustainable water usage



Report from Mikenya water project:

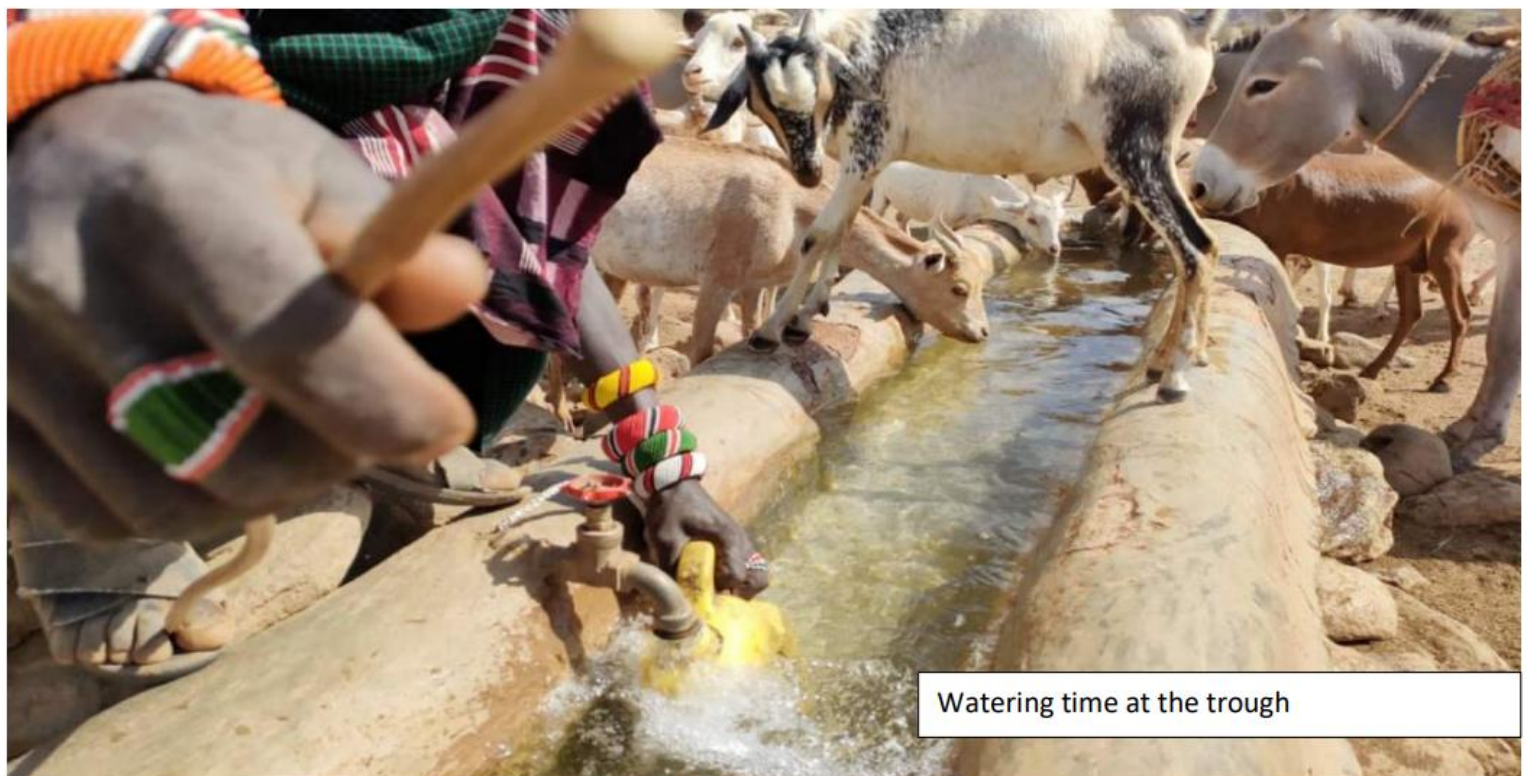
This is possibly our most important water project during the drought – it is on the edge of the Kaisut desert. The people from this community used to have to walk a two day round trip to collect water. Fortunately, they now only need to walk a few metres to get water – freeing up a lot of time for more productive activities.



Mikenya – a traditional Rendille village



The Panels and well



Watering time at the trough

Mikanya water project, cont..

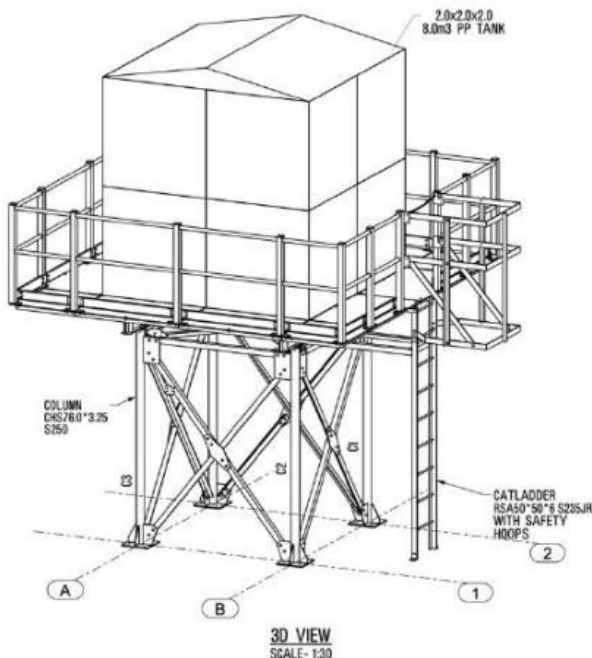


Unfortunately due to the extreme heat, the plastic tanks that we installed have not lasted. They are now leaking badly, and have to be replaced. We have opted to change all of our tanks to galvanized steel tanks on a slightly taller tower. Hopefully these will last many years to come. We have purchased the first one including a tower, which has added some cost. Going forwards we will fabricate our own towers to save expenses. The new tank is not in place yet as it will take two months for the fabrication by manufacturer. We are hoping to install this in the next few weeks. It will also increase the storage capacity by 200 litres, reducing the pressure on the well.

Left: The current tank showing damage & leaks

Below left: the design for the new tanks.

Below right: Women travelling to Mikanya from a nearby community. They have created clever 'water carts' to help them carry more water over longer distances.



Report from Loltepes water project:



In January, we had to replace a pump end for loltepes. We also recently carried out several repairs on loltepes' pipeline due to elephants breaking fittings to get at the water. Shortly after these were repaired, a ele decided to just put his tusk straight into the tank, which is now irreparable leaking badly. We have decided to add a steel tank here too.

Left: The damaged tank

Right: We have recently upgraded all of our signposts at the water projects. They are now beautifully decorated and have got meaningful proverbs, some explaining the importance of sharing water with the wildlife

Report from Urra water project:

Urra is one of our first water projects, set up nearly ten years ago. Our team were informed that there was a panel that had cracked. After inspection we found this had also irreparably damaged the controller. We also were told that these models of panels and controller are now off the market. We decided to replace all of the panels and install a modern controller. We also refurbished the original panel frames, and improved the wiring system.

Right: Newly installed panels – the white dots are caused by dust sticking to a few fresh raindrops – it's not damage.



Report from Mpagas water project:

Mpagas has had some repairs done recently. A thirsty elephant for some reason broke through the fence and ripped up the entire stand pipe. Our team had to make a more robust standpipe. More importantly, it was a good lesson to the community to ensure there is ALWAYS water in the troughs, even after their livestock have had their fill. Mpagas also had a motor burn out on the solar system. Our team replaced this in January.



A massive hole where the standpipe was!



Building a more robust concrete plinth

Report from Nkwe Eltome water project:



Nkwe Eltome is the nearest community to our Milgis Trust HQ. They had a panel broken by somebody. We opted not to fix it until they had done their best to deal with the culprit. Fortunately they were able to track the person down and get them to pay for a new panel. In April, the pump end stopped working. Fortunately we were able to replace this using your funding.

Left: Happy goats enjoying the wildlife/livestock trough in Nkwe Eltome

Challenges from the water projects:

The same challenges remain for the water projects this year, as they have in the past. Namely:

- Damage to vital equipment from:
 - Wild animals, such as elephants
 - Human error
 - Climate
 - For example, the heavy plastic of the water tanks being destroyed by the harsh sun
- General wear and tear

As always, we learn from these challenges and put new strategies in place to address them with more long-term solutions, such as commissioning galvanised iron water tanks.

Water projects impact:

The long term impacts are mainly positive. These impacts include:

- Improved child health
- Higher attendance to school
- Improved maternal healthcare
- More hygienic conditions at the dispensary
- Healthier livestock
- More time for productive activities

However, the negative impact could be that there are more people settling around the water project, meaning more pressure on nearby natural resources, particularly grazing since the Samburu are pastoralists.

Budget details: Expenditure update – January to September 2021

N.B Balance Brought as from 31.12.2020 : USD 1,381.32

Total Available funds for 2021: USD 19,245.92

Q1 Expenditure

Equipment						
Date	Description	Actual Unit Cost	Unit Type	No. Units	Total	Outcome
26.01.2021	Cable Joints	30	repairs	6	180	Splicing kits
26.01.2021	Well probes sensors	93	replacement	6	558	new sensor for mpagas wel
26.01.2021	ECD Drive 4000 4KVA motor	1840	lump Sum	1	1840	Motor replacement for Mpag
26.01.2021	Workshop Labour Charges	400	Lump Sum	1	400	repairs on old Mpagas Motor and
26.01.2021	Dayliff PH +	7	Lump Sum	3	21	Pump flushing fluid
26.01.2021	Lorentz PU1800R	1820	lump Sum	1	1820	New Pump end For Ioltepes
Subtotal					4819	
Wages						
31.03.2021	Water Projects Coordinator	250	monthly wage	3	750	wages paid
Subtotal					750	
Transport						
31.03.2021	Motorbike	0.7	km	390	273	Distance covered
31.03.2021	Vehicle	2.6	km	470	1222	Distance covered
Subtotal					1495	
Q1 Total					7064	

Q2 Expenditure

Equipment						
Date	Description	Actual Unit Cost	Unit Type	No. Units	Total	Outcome
27.04.2021	PE HR-14HL-2, Rp 1 1/4"	869	Replacement	1	869	Pump End Nkwentome
Subtotal					869	
Wages						
31.06.2021	Water Projects Coordinator	250	monthly wage	3	750	wages paid
Subtotal					750	
Transport						
31.06.2021	Motorbike	0.7	km	260	182	Distance covered
31.06.2021	Vehicle	2.6	km	230	598	Distance covered
Subtotal					780	
Q2 Total					2399	

Q2 Expenditure

Equipment						
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31.06.2021	Water Projects Coordinator	250	monthly wage	3	750	wages paid
Subtotal					750	
Transport						
31.06.2021	Motorbike	0.7	km	260	182	Distance covered
31.06.2021	Vehicle	2.6	km	230	598	Distance covered
Subtotal					780	
Q2 Total					2399	

Q3 Expenditure

Equipment						
Date	Description	Actual Unit Cost	Unit Type	No. Units	Total	Outcome
26.05.2021	Amerisolar Panels . As-6SP30	125	Panels	15	1875	Urura Refurbishment
08.06.2021	Solar PV disconnect . 440 - 4	440	Wiring	1	440	Urura Refurbishment
08.06.2021	Lorentz PS2 - 1800 Controller	1085	Controller	1	1085	Urura Refurbishment
10.08.2021	Galvanized 8000l steel tank & 2m Tower	4400.64	Motor	1	4400.64	Tank for Mpang/Mikenya
Subtotal					7800.64	
Wages						
31.08.2021	Water Projects Coordinator	250	monthly wage	2	500	wages paid
Subtotal					500	
Transport						
31.08.2021	Motorbike	0.7	km	750	525	Distance covered
31.08.2021	Vehide	2.6	km	340	884	Distance covered
Subtotal					1409	
Q3 Total					9709.64	

Budget summary:

The grant total was \$17,897. The amount spent on the water projects for the year to end September 2021 was \$19,172.64. This amount, subtracted from the grant total reveals a \$1,275.64 overspend, which has been covered by Milgis resources.

Thank you:

Once again, the Milgis Trust & MEAK are incredibly thankful for the support of Fondation Eagle. Through this support the Milgis Trust maintain the water projects, which continue to be a necessity to the health & livelihoods of the Milgis community. Fondation Eagle can feel justifiably proud that they



have made such a difference to the lives of so many people & animals. Once again, we thank you for supporting the water projects again in 2021.