





## M.E.A.K - Report for Fondation Eagle: January 2022 - March 2022

**Project:** MEAK / Milgis Community Vehicle, Milgis Trust, Samburu County, Kenya

#### **Donor:**

Fondation Eagle, Switzerland

Donor's reference:

**FF460** 

Date of acceptance:

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018

Date donation received:

21st September 2018

**Amount of Donation:** 

The vehicle providing service for the dam building team

# A one-off donation of \$35,000

(3,540,600.03KSH at the exchange rate of 1 Kenyan shilling to 0.0099 US dollars)

Date of delivery of vehicle to the Milgis Trust: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Duration of project:** We estimate the vehicle to service the local community for the next 10 years

**Estimated number of beneficiaries:** Approximately 50,000 people within the community as the vehicle is used to support water projects, conservation projects, anti-poaching, family planning, education, rabies vaccinations, medical emergencies and supports our dam unit.

## **Conservation Operations**

During such a difficult dry time, the vehicle has helped a huge amount with all of our programs on the conservation front. It has been very busy with large movements of people and livestock coming and going, resulting in an increase in human wildlife conflict. The desperate times are also accompanied by an increase in poaching threats. Even more worrying is the pressure on natural resources including water, pasture and the biodiverse forest pockets found in the area.

#### **Fires**

With the extremely dry conditions, there has been a lot of fires – some intentionally lit whilst others are mistakes. The vehicles has been crucial for helping our teams respond quickly. Although many of these fires cannot be contained, it is essential that our scouts get to the scene promptly so that they can follow up the cause of the fire. Thanks to the vehicle, we have been able to deliver food and supplies to the teams on the ground.





A scout inspecting a fire

One of the many fires we have witnessed this season

#### **Elephant Deaths**

Keeping up with the trend from last year, we are pleased to say that there have been very few ele deaths this year (so far!! We remain hopeful that this continues to be the case)

The vehicle has played a role in limiting poaching incidents since we are able to follow up promptly on any suspected poachers.

There was one incident of a young bull that was a victim of Human – wildlife Conflict in the Arsim community. The vehicle helped us support KWS personell in dealing with the community and retrieving the ivory.

The vehicle was useful in responding to the below incident. A younger elephant was seen to be limping badly and not eating. Our team were able to monitor the animal and mobilized a vet using the vehicle. Unfortunately the infection was too severe and the ele succumbed – the vehicle was then used to support KWS in removing the ivory.





Poor fellow with a very sore foot

The same elephant, sad to have lost him

#### Elephant friendly wells & elephant rescues

Thanks to the vehicle we are also able to travel around, ensuring that our 'ele-friendly wells' program is happening. Our scouts are working with herdsman to dig 'ramps' into their wells everyday so that elephants can drink safely. The majority of incidents have involved younger animals who were trapped in deep wells because they were unable to reach the water. We were able to coordinate 1 rescue - the vehicle has been essential in delivering people to coordinate the rescue, and in some cases the vehicle has been used to pull the elephants out with a rope.



**Left**. A regularly used well. **Right** .A team of digging a ramp into a dangerous well. This enables all of the animals to safely drink. Especially Elephants and other endangered species such as Grevy's Zebra's.





#### <u>Aldera</u>

This little elephant, named Aldera was rescued by our team in earlier this past quarter. She had become totally dehydrated and stuck in a very precarious place. Thanks to the vehicle, we were able to mobilise a team to coordinate a rescue. She was eventually airlifted to a nearby elephant sanctuary. Unfortunately sunburn, dehydration and exhaustion had taken its toll and the baby didn't make it.

#### **Water Projects**

The vehicle has been particularly busy providing transport for our water projects team. It has been collecting all of the materials from Nanyuki town. Once fabricated, the materials have been transported more than 300 kms to various sites. We have implemented two new projects, as well as refurbishing another 3. Some of the tasks carried out by the vehicle include – removing heavy pumps from inside the boreholes, carrying heavy steel tanks and moving stones and cement.

#### Moran

One of the new projects that we have implemented is on the edge of the Kaisut Desert – an area where water is very scarce. Fortunately there is a large seasonal river bed called 'Lugga Moran', flowing from Mount Nyiru which is the next mountain further north of the Ndotos, which hosts a small aquifer. This borehole was already drilled in 2017 by a road building company that needed water for their road construction. However it did not yield enough so the driller handed the borehole over to the community – provided they found their own way to develop the borehole. Thanks to the vehicle, we were able to mobilise cement, solar panels and steel to complete a very successful job! The vehicle also supported the test pumping lorries who got very stuck in quicksand on their way to the site.



The beginning! Just a borehole and a long way to go.

Sweltering heat to work in! The car's inbuilt water tank was a savior for the team



Welding machine issues!

The painstaking task of lowering the very heavy pump, 200 metres down!



The final product – very fresh water! A huge relief for the community..



Stones collected by the car

#### **Kasipo**

In 2013, Milgis Trust installed a solar system in an old government borehole, and the project ran well until 2020. However the casing inside the borehole had rusted and collapsed. Fortunately we managed to get funding to completely re-do the borehole, and install an all new solar system. The vehicle was instrumental in helping us get the job done! We had to transport and install 30 large solar panels, as well as redo the pipeline and standpipe. This was a logistical challenge – made easier with the car!! The project is a success, although we still need to flush the borehole this month, which the vehicle will help with too.

Installing the piping, which was brought up by the vehicle

The vehicle delivering water for the job

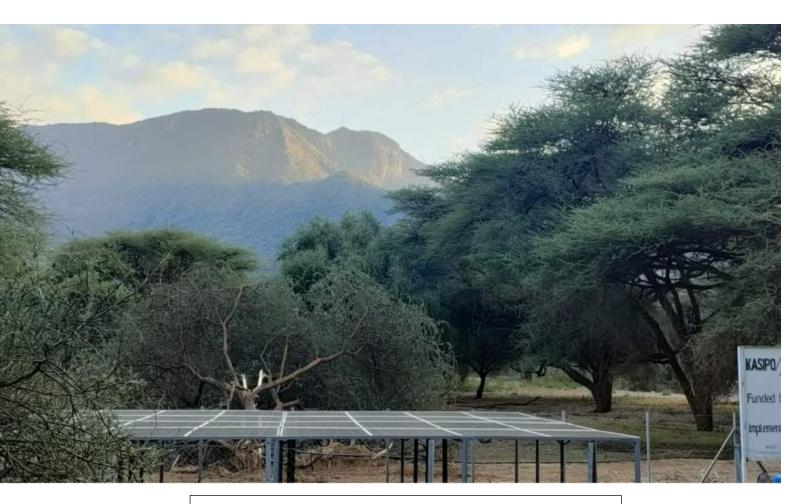






Fencing wire being delivered

The JCB also helping with the work



The Kasipo system with Ndoto mountains in the background

#### **Mikenya Water Project**

We had chosen Mikenya to be one of the projects that we test out the new steel water tanks, included in. last year's Q3 budget. The fabrication took longer than anticipated and we only mobilised the tanks in Jan 22'. The newly installed unit is fantastic! Not only has. It improved the storage capacity, but it has also improved water quality as there is a tank cleaning valve and no degraded plastic sediments. The vehicle was used to deliver this one ton piece of kit, and carried all of the supplies needed for the installation.



The old tank, damaged by the sun and leaking

The new steel tank- painted and installed

#### **Loltepes Water Project**

Loltepes is also on the eastern side of the Ndoto's. As you may recall, the plastic tank here had also been damaged, this time by a thirsty elephant. We had also allocated some funds for (installation only) of a new tank and steel stand in loltepes. We installed this tank at the same time as Mikenya. Additionally, we refurbished the piping, which was also damaged. The trough here which acts as an overflow had been destroyed by elephants, so we also repaired the trough. Furthermore, the community standpipe had been damaged by warthogs that had burrowed underneath the slab – probably in search for water - so we built a new standpipe. The overflow from the tank now feeds the trough so that wildlife can drink without having to share water at the community standpipe. The pump that was replaced last year working perfectly and there is plenty of water being delivered.

The vehicle was essential for the installation of this unit, and provided all of the support needed for a successful installation.



The new steel tank

New pipeline to trough

New trough filling up

New Community standpipe

#### **Dam Unit**

Our dam building team have been very active, trying to put in as much water storage as possible. The drought has meant that the dams are empty – which creates a window for desilting and rebuilding weakened dam-walls. When they are busy, the team must move every couple of weeks to a new site. The JCB tractor cannot carry all of their equipment, so the vehicle steps in to help. It is responsible for mobilising the team - and also for delivery of fuel, water and services. Thanks to the support from the vehicle we've been able to build 5 new dams and desilt 3 so far this year. A big job that the vehicle helped with was removing the main front bucket of the JCB. Once loaded, the 600+kg bucket was driven 400 kms to Nanyuki where it is being re-furbished. One fixed, the vehicle will then return it to the field.



Service Visit to the Tractor



### **Family Planning**

Mary, our family planning educator accompanies the vehicle when it is doing any field visits. She is amazing at mobilizing the community and educating them on the world's population issues. She also provides referrals to government facilities. On average, she has been reaching around 700 people/ quarter. She works with all levels of the community, but also visits schools and issues fp bracelets and 'repro rulers' to schoolgirls. Without the vehicle, Mary's impact would be limited to a small area. But because the vehicle travels all over the area, she is able to reach even the most remote people who would not usually have access to FP. She usually travels with any field teams – i.e. Vet, water projects etc.....

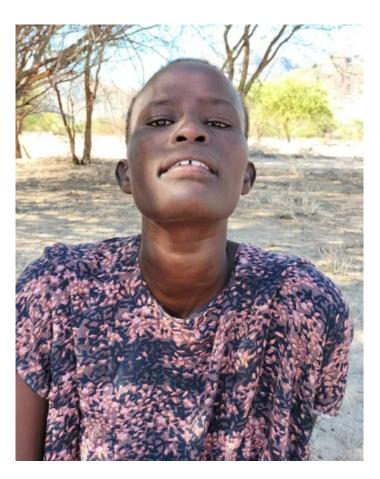




#### **Emergency Medical**

Most communities in the Milgis area, wether on the East or western side are at least four hours drive from a level five hospital (county referral), and the majority have access to only level two facilities (county dispensary). There is an ever increasing number of people who are suffering from issues that require treatment beyond referral hospitals and need to get to Nairobi, Meru or Nyeri to receive the care they need. This is a daunting task for most — whom probably have never been to a town and certainly can't afford the journey, let alone the treatment. As a result, we come across people who have been suffering their whole lives from a variety of ailments.

Thanks to the vehicle, we are able to help provide transport to Nanyuki where the patients continue their journey with our medical coordinator. Below are some of the lucky patients who were fortunate enough to receive help through this program, most of these people were transported by the car. Some of these patients are returning patients who require annual/bi-annual reviews: We have already helped more than 15 people this quarter















# A VERY BIG THANK YOU FROM US ALL!!! ASANTE SANA

# **Budget details:**

The donation of \$35,000 for the MEAK / Milgis vehicle was a one-off donation to purchase the vehicle. Thus, there is no overspend or underspend. The quotation for the vehicle and the chassis number are included for reference.





# Thank you:

Once again, MEAK & the Milgis Trust wish to thank Fondation Eagle for the generous grant that has enabled the purchase of the vehicle which is an invaluable addition to the Milgis community, as is strikingly described above.