



Fondation Eagle
Project Report
April 2022

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releasing potential

Supporting Vulnerable Communities with Agriculture, Health & Feeding Interventions

Donor Reference: FF 598-23

Date of Acceptance: 24th September 2021

Donation Amount: £25,425

Project Duration: September 2021 – January 2022

Number of Beneficiaries: approx. 6,420 comprising:

4,000+ smallholders with drought specific farmer training,

2000+ 4 months of community health services,

240+ school children 4 months porridge programme provision

Location: Nguuni, Kisauni District, Mombasa, Kenya

Project Background

A combination of the prolonged failure of rains, combined with the economic and health impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has created a perfect storm for the Kenyan rural communities that Haller supports. Whilst there is a post pandemic sense of normality returning in the coastal Mombasa towns, helped by easier access to vaccinations, food and water and the slow return of tourism, the disparities between the highly populated areas and the rural populations in Mombasa County have become more divergent. The marked increase in the cost of living is affecting all levels of society, but further highlighting inequalities, with fears that economic recovery will be impossible for some, who have only just started re-engaging in livelihood activities. This combined with the drought is having a devastating impact on rural communities.

The desperate lack of rains over the last 18 months (the worst drought in the region in 93 years) has become a more significant issue than the impact of the pandemic. There was less than 10% of the usual rainfall in the long rainy season in April to June of 2021, resulting in a struggle to grow sufficient food, with the wider lack of supply meaning food prices in the marketplace rose significantly. The increase in the cost of living, with fuel prices as well as basic necessities such as rice, flour, sugar and oil all significantly increased, affected the cycle of malnutrition in the rural areas.

This project extended Haller's Covid 19 health and food security relief programme in the short term, while also incorporating vital drought support. The aim was to bridge the gap until the short rainy season to help counteract some of the economic and social impacts being experienced. The funding request supported the delivery of dryland agriculture farmer training programmes, combined with health interventions to ensure communities were healthy enough to farm. Both adult and paediatric health needs were to be supported at Nguuni clinic and at community outreach, incorporating continued reiteration of the risks of Covid 19



with education workshops as well as nutritional feeding programmes for schoolchildren, to help avert malnourishment due to lack of rains.

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Education Outreach

No.	School	Students
1	Shama Academy School	24
2	Baraki Primary School Voroni	98
3	Kimbunga Nursery School	18
4	Neema Nursery	33
5	Sunshine Academy	28
6	Madzombani Nursery School	25
7	Precious Angel Academy	43
8	Digirikani primary school	43
9	Marimani pri. sch.	44
10	St. Thomas Primary School	35
		391

To help avert moderate to severe malnourishment in community schoolchildren, Haller Kenya re-instigated a short-term porridge programme for schools, the first for many years.

Ten community schools have been supported with a porridge programme in the second half of 2021, representing 391 students aged 5-8 years

Husseina, the Haller librarian in charge of the education outreach

programme, attended all sessions with her educational supplies, materials and her reading book box. Some books are donated to the schools if their stocks are low. The classes have ranged in size from 18 to 98, depending on the catchment of the community visited and each session has been devised around an educational theme, specifically targeted to the age and educational abilities of the children involved.

Themes have ranged from number sequencing and literacy to creative play and modelling, with learning presented in a fun way to stimulate and educate the youngsters. Hygiene talks are incorporated into these sessions, with the distribution of toothpaste and masks to the students and hygiene and educational supplies for the schools. A new introduction has been tyre kitchen gardening, with gardening supplies brought by the Haller team, combined with talks and demonstrations on growing food. The sessions have been greatly loved by the youngsters, which end with outdoor games and the provision of milk millet porridge and banana or honey from Haller's farmer centre. Stocks of porridge provisions were left with the mothers on the CBO committee to cook on a rota basis at the schools.



Health Nguuni Clinic

Date	Adult Patients	Under age 5 vaccns	Child welfare Clinic	FP	Ante natal	HIV testing	Malaria testing
Sept'21	211	400	238	10	14	12	24
Oct'21	163	249	160	27	9	12	27
Nov'21	171	221	177	21	17	16	21
Dec'21	172	252	161	31	6	20	16
Totals	717	1,122	736	89	46	60	88

Footfall has started increasing again after the pandemic lockdowns, and the clinic has run smoothly and been reasonably well stocked with the necessary medications. Patient temperatures are still being taken at the entrance gate, with a no mask no entry policy.



Various clinics run weekly, including family planning, TB and HIV, where counselling is also provided. U5 vaccination clinics are held 3 x week, and have been very well attended, with all U5's still being screened for malnutrition, with a topical weekly health education workshop session for mothers held during Friday's session. The lab technician during this 4 month period, has screened 147 patients for disease, with 245 tests carried out ranging from malaria, UTI, pregnancy, syphilis and typhoid as well as full haematology screening for over 50 patients. The clinic haematology machines are vital to enable rapid diagnosis and correct prescription of medication.

Outreach

In the past 4 months we have had to conduct a number of clinics to treat an infestation of Jiggers, which if untreated can lead to the loss of mobility and eventually loss of limbs particularly in children. In the period of grant funding 614 patients have been seen at the Haller health outreaches, see table below. The focus by the health team has been on the newest, Shimba Hills (to ensure they were mobilised), and also a selection of the older, more established CBO's to ensure their health needs were monitored during this long drought period, and to investigate any outbreaks of dysentery. These outreach clinics can last up to 12 hours if community demand is high. Over the past year, the outreach has also been using the WHO paediatric protocol to monitor children for malnutrition. A 2-week course of ready to use therapeutic food (RUFT) is provided, to those in need, with necessary follow up monitoring at Nguuni clinic.



The health team is usually comprised of a clinician, lab technician and nurse, with the format of an outreach clinic running as follows:-

- a talk on COVID-19 awareness and precaution
- health education workshops on the importance of nutrition, family planning, hygiene, U5 immunisation & breast feeding
- diagnosis and treatment, including provision of medication, for 17 of the most common diseases inc. URTI, UTI, malaria, ENT, diarrhoea. The diagnoses are assisted by rapid on-site testing using portable haemoglobin machine and test kits for HIV, H pylori, malaria, dengue fever, UTI's, Covid 19.
- family planning provision
- referral to Nguuni Clinic for patients requiring follow up treatment

Date CBO Formed	Community	Attendees	Adults	Children	Education workshops	Family Planning
2016	Sauti Ya Kina Mama	112	70	42	34	12
2020	Shimba Hills	96	82	14	32	4
2017	Marimani	70	54	16	36	14

2010	Shimba Hills	119	103	16	36	11
2020	Mitsemereni	64	40	24	20	8
2020	Shimba Hills	12	8	4	*12	N/A
2018	Jitegemee	49	33	16	0	0
2016	Kabenderani	45	30	15	22	0
2010	Kimbunga	47	41	6	34	0
		614	461	153	226	49

*Jigger campaign clinic

Farmer Training

After the failure of the rains in the much-anticipated long rainy season in mid 2021, the Haller team had a series of consultative meetings with communities and with local ministries to determine the necessary strategy to support the communities, particularly the newer CBO's who were still on the Haller Journey. This essentially involved trying to preserve the community crop yields as far as possible, whilst reducing irrigation to a minimum. The focus of all learning is now on dryland agriculture techniques which have been taught and demonstrated to the communities, both at the Farmer Training Centre and in situ. This includes zai pit planting have been the main focus combined with new trickle irrigation techniques, mulching, and the planting of drought resistant seeds (cowpeas, sorghum, millet).

These techniques have been combined with ensuring community WASH infrastructure was in the best state of repair, in anticipation of the short rains, to capture as much rainfall as possible. Dams have been de-silted and spillways adjusted in certain communities which ensures maximum rainfall capture when rains are heavy.

Where funding was available some community wells were deepened to attempt to access the water table again, and well pumps replaced where necessary, to ensure as much irrigation water as possible will be available. To date, given the weather patterns - Haller and the communities have been doing their utmost to preserve and protect crops whilst reducing irrigation needs.

For the majority of the period covered by this report, rainfall has been low, sporadic and unevenly distributed. However, intermittent rains in late December were sufficient enough in certain areas that some community rain-fed dams were able to capture water to guarantee some irrigation. These CBO's have been very active during this period on their farm plots. Prior to this, most dams remained dry over the majority of the short rainy season and the wells that had not run dry, were saline. Communities with the worst conditions had to downscale the size of their 500 sq m community farm plots to areas that they could manage to irrigate and were very reliant upon the dryland techniques being taught to achieve any crop yield. The programme for construction of community fishponds, ensuring an additional protein supply has been paused until the rains fall. Well water was managed and rationed by communities in an attempt to ensure minimal wastage.

Project Outcome

Regular visits by the Haller Kenya team to the communities themselves, during this intense drought period, has encouraged strong two-way communication and team work. This has provided our farmer training and health experts with a better idea of the individual community's issues and concerns. They have been able to work together to provide targeted suggestions to help to overcome problems experienced.

The nature of the short rains, with uneven distribution of only sporadic rainfall, has meant some communities have struggled with lack of water more than others. This, combined with the impact of the morale and cohesiveness of the individual communities concerned, has determined which communities have needed more frequent visits and support. Some newer more fragile CBO's have really struggled with both the high temperatures and very little rainfall, whilst older, well established community structures have embraced the use of drought resistant crops and were supported with new seeds and seedlings for planting.

The combined outreach model, developed as a response to the Covid pandemic, has continued to be the best support during this dry period – saving time and resources when combined together. Additional, frequent community field visits by Haller's farmer training team during this dry period has also provided a warning flag of those more vulnerable communities needing extra help. Outreach visits have also been used to target and mobilise smallholder farmers to download the Haller Farmers app and use it to further assist them with climate smart farming and planting, more suited to the current weather patterns.

Examples of terracing, composting, zai pits and mulching



Expenditure GBP:

1. SUPPORTING EDUCATION OUTREACH	Budget	Actual	Var
4 months Porridge Programme at 6 Community Schools of approx. 40 children to supplement diets	2,750	2,800	-50
Provision of Basic Educational Materials in Community Schools: stationery, pencils, erasers, exercise books	250	270	-20
Provision of Basic Hygiene Materials in Community Schools:	500	450	50
Fuel Contribution	100	100	0
Project Coordination and Management	350	350	0
TOTAL EDUCATION OUTREACH	3,950	3,970	-20
2. SUPPORTING HEALTH	Budget	Actual	Var
Contribution - 4 month's Supply of Paediatric Medicines	1,250	1,250	0
Contribution - 4 month's Supply of Adult Medicines	1,750	1,750	0
Laboratory Equipment for Outreach	1,000	975	25
Contribution - Medical supplies - Clinic & Outreach	1,000	1,000	0
Contribution to Health Education Workshops	1,200	1,200	0

Provision of Counselling & Life Skills - adults & children	600	525	75
Contribution to Health staff costs	2,000	2,000	0
Fuel contribution	300	300	0
Project Coordination and Management	500	500	0
TOTAL HEALTH	9,600	9,500	100
3. SUPPORTING FOOD SECURITY/ FARMER TRAINING	Budget	Actual	Var
Community Seed Distribution	1,900	1,450	450
Distribution of Ground Cover & Drought Resistant crops	1,100	1,025	75
Supply of 300-400 Fruit Trees	900	925	-25
Supply of Medicinal Plants	300	315	-15
Supply of Plants for Terrace Stabilisation & Animal Fodder	450	565	-115
Farmer training in dryland agriculture at Farmer Training Centre inc Haller Farmers app	1,600	1,600	0
Transport of Community Members	600	450	150
Extension Training Services in Community	2,700	2,950	-250
Compost & Manure for Ground Cover & soil improvement	600	475	125
Project Coordination and Management	525	525	0
Fuel Contribution	300	300	0
Stipend and Airtime x 3 months for app ambassadors	400	400	0
Community Mobilisation and Management	500	500	0
TOTAL FOOD SECURITY	11,875	11,480	395
GRAND TOTAL	£25,425	24,950	475

Conclusion

Thank you so much for your funding of this support services project to rural Kenyan communities, during this difficult drought period. It proved particularly vital as the need increased and helped us avoid a cycle of lower crop yields, poor nutrition and increased food insecurity, just as the Kenyan Government in September 2021 declared the drought a national emergency.

The reiteration of adaptive methods to the communities, providing support with alternative irrigation and planting practices, has helped the situation to date, reducing watering and ensuring a community crop yield, where otherwise they may have failed completely. This policy funded by yourselves, combined with ensuring wells and dams were in the best shape, to capture and retain as much rainfall as possible (when it came) has managed to avert further hardship, for the time being.

Reinforcing this policy with the supply of crucial health facilities helps ensure farmers are “fit to farm” and able to adequately support their families. A continuing community education programme on vital health issues such as hygiene & nutrition, with a focus on childhood malnutrition further strengthens our provision of primary care and family planning services, at a time when health issues can be exacerbated by food insecurity. We have seen a strong attendance at U5 child welfare and vaccination clinics, as mothers aim to protect their children during these trying times.

The frequent erratic weather patterns In Kenya combined with these periods of prolonged drought, continues to make farming ever more challenging for Kenyan smallholder farmers. Thank you again your support of Haller’s work at this critical time.

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Case Studies

1. Well water salinity had impacted seed germination and irrigation at **Amani Jipange**, an energetic, new, cohesive CBO. Several attempts at planting seeds in their nursery beds had not been fruitful. They did not want to give up and worked with the Haller team, trying different techniques to reduce the impact of the water salinity, with mulching proving successful. This technique was expanded out to the community farm plots and proved to be very effective, with a bumper harvest, which has been sold to members and re-invested in drought resistant seeds.



2. A neighbouring CBO called **Madzo**, had struggled with invasions by domestic animals left to roam freely, devastating the 500 sq m community plot, at a time when all crops were desperately needed, creating huge losses. Morale was low and the community were not working well together. The Haller team had to advise the community to fence the plot with barbed wire to protect vital food supplies, and to harvest what was left immediately, due to prevailing weather conditions.

Planting of drought resistant crops like green grams and sorghum had to be strongly encouraged. The CBO resorted to locking the well to ensure the precious resource was only used for the community plot - where all would benefit. Thankfully, late December rains half filled their dam, and relieved the pressure by helping with irrigation needs. There are now plans for an additional new plot and more robust fencing.

