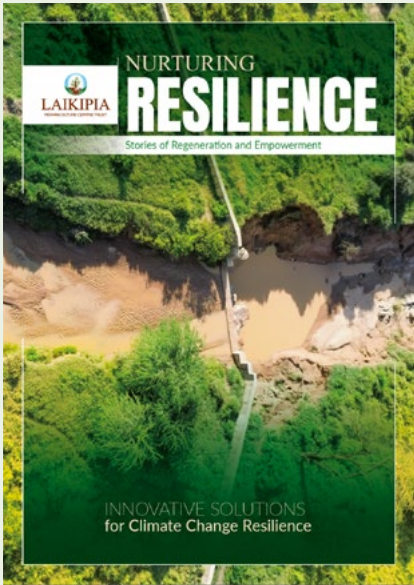




NURTURING RESILIENCE

Stories of Regeneration and Empowerment

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
for Climate Change Resilience



Cover Photo:
The Maiyianat sand dam, a vibrant landscape showcasing a sand dam surrounded by flourishing greenery and a community working together.

Vision

To see communities turning local challenges into solutions by use of locally available natural resources and indigenous knowledge with minimal external support.

Mission

To improve livelihoods of vulnerable communities in Laikipia through environmentally friendly enterprises and integrated trainings.

WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Friends of Laikipia Permaculture,

We are thrilled to present this magazine, highlighting the remarkable progress made in our ecosystem restoration efforts across Laikipia County in 2024 and the past decade. Since 2018, Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT) has partnered with local communities, women's groups, schools, and youth organizations to restore their landscapes and environment. We are dedicated to fostering a future where humanity and nature thrive in harmony.

About LPCT

Laikipia Permaculture is a Community based Trust that was founded in 2014 but started its operations in 2018 as a partnership of four women groups from Laikipia North with a total of 311 Individual membership. To date the partnership has extended to 26 Self-help groups, with a total of 2500 direct beneficiaries. The groups mainly comprise of women who work with LPC to utilise natural resources in a sustainable way and to provide a source of income for their households. The aim of LPCT is to help Laikipia North communities to develop an agriculturally self-sustaining ecosystem to enhance food security and environmental conservation.

Ongoing Projects

1. Adaptation to climate change through climate-resilient agriculture, access to safe water and community-based disaster risk reduction in Laikipia, Machakos, Kitui, Makueni counties, Kenya (CADRR)
2. Contributing to sustainable responsiveness to climate shocks, and strengthening the adaptive capacities of rural communities in arid and semi-arid areas of Rift Valley and South Eastern regions of Kenya (BMZ PT)
3. Women Empowerment, Environment & Health Support in Kenya (WEEHS)
4. Resilience and Food Security for Maasai agro-pastoral communities in Laikipia County

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S Remarks



Dear Esteemed Reader, Greetings From LPCT.

Laikipia Permaculture Centre is proud to present this magazine, highlighting our progress in various Ecosystem Restoration efforts that the Centre did for Laikipia County in the year 2024 and in the past 10 years. We are proud to be around the landscape of Laikipia for the last 10 years, in working with various groups that include Women, Youth, Schools and Men in restoring their landscape and Environment. The Great initiatives come amidst a difficult time when we are experiencing the effects of Climate change. This is a reason why we are implementing many ways of reversing damaged soils in Laikipia North and in working with Community lands of Naibunga. This consists of Maiyianat, Morupusi, Ilpolei, Munishoi, Musul, Kijape, Tiamamut, iLmotiok and Koiya Community land. The initiative of Constructing sand dams across Laikipia North is one keyway of land restoration. Sand dams play a critical role in water conservation, promoting sustainable agriculture, and enhancing community resilience in the face of climate change. Sand dams also,

- Increase water availability for communities and livestock.
- Promote sustainable farming practices through reliable water sources.
- Foster community involvement and ownership of water resources

V...the community seem to understand that path and they are willing to support all the efforts towards the future.

Community Engagement and Training also helped us mitigate effects of climate change by impacting the communities with the necessary tools they needed to understand what to do to provide their own needs and that of the Ecosystem they live and depend. The Impact Associated with what we did is clearly seen at this magazine and with a courtesy call to the community where the intervention was done. There is a clear path of recovery of the land and the community seem to understand that path and they are willing to support all the efforts towards the future.

Permaculture is a sustainable way for Human Settlements. It works to mimic NATURE and work with NATURE and NOT against it. This is the best way Humanity can help itself to survive on the PLANET EARTH, Failure to which we PERISH.

Sincerely,

Joseph Lentunyoi

Executive Director

Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust.



SPECIAL THANK YOU

Gratitude to donors, partners, and community members who contributed to the success of our project for 2024. We extend our deepest gratitude to (LPCT) Board Of Trustees, Laikipia County Government, our funding partners (BMZ, German Cooperation, Aktion Deutschland Hilft arche noVa, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), IPSIA, FAO, PELUM Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Community leaders, and the Resilient people of Laikipia County) for making this project a success. Together, we are building a sustainable future.



arche noVa
Initiative for People in Need



ipsia



PARTNERING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



We extend our deepest gratitude to our dedicated donors and partners whose unwavering support fuels LPCT's vital work empowering women. Your generosity enables us to provide crucial resources and services that uplift women and strengthen their communities. As we look towards the future, LPCT envisions a world where women have the power to thrive and reach their full potential.

To achieve this ambitious goal, we require continued support through financial contributions, volunteer assistance, and spreading awareness about our mission. We invite you to join us in transforming the lives of women by donating, volunteering your time and talents, or simply sharing our story with your network. Together, we can build a more equitable and just society for all women."

REACH OUT

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SEVEN YEARS OF RESTORATION: A LOOK BACK



1. Ecosystem Restoration

a. The Power of Sand Dams and Shallow Wells

Why sand dams and shallow wells?

A sand dam is a concrete wall built across a gulley or a seasonal river to catch and store run off water. They are a simple, low cost, low maintenance technology that retains rainwater and recharges groundwater. They only require a seasonal river with sufficient sandy sediment and bedrock that is accessible in the river-bed. Sand dams are the most cost-effective method of water conservation in dryland environments.

Sand dams provide a lifetime of local, clean and reliable water within 5 to 30 minutes as the sand dams are built very close to the home-steads.; improving access to water for people, crops and livestock in water stressed environments. The significant reduction in the time required to collect water affords the opportunity and energy to invest in sustainable farming activities, such as terracing and tree planting.

12

Sand Dams

12

Shallow Wells

Constructed across 6 Community Lands

7

More sand dams and shall wells to be constructed in the coming years

100%

Community ownership of the project

Communities are at the centre stage of constructing sand dams and shallow wells ensuring that they own the project. This brings in sustainability among LPCT projects





Transition from scoop holes to shallow wells

Communities have transitioned from the traditional sand scoop holes which are vulnerable to wildlife like elephants, wild dogs and others to shallow wells. Elephants especially are a big risk to these small scoop holes because they destroy meaning that communities are forced to scoop the holes the following day. Additionally, water from the scoop holes can be prone to waterborne diseases like cholera. Shallow wells on the other hand are enclosed hence protecting water from contamination by wild animals. They provide clean and safe water for the communities. Over the last six years LPCT has managed to construct 12 shallow wells and are fully equipped with 7 more to be built in the coming years.



Frame 1: Women fetching water from a scoop hole



Frame 2: A woman drinks water from a shallow well

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION



Photo[Leshashi sand dam]: Women fetching water from a shallow well constructed in a sand dam.

ACCESS TO WATER



3

Community
Boreholes

300

Beneficiaries from
3 self-help groups

Over the past seven years, the Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT) has significantly improved water access in Laikipia North, Kenya, through its Farming the Future (FtF) project. LPCT has successfully drilled and equipped 3 community boreholes for 3 self-help groups, along with a rock catchment for the Naatum Self Help Group in Morupusi Community Land. In partnership with the Laikipia County Government, LPCT also facilitated the drilling of a borehole in Loshaki village, Tiamamut Community Land, providing clean water to 300 residents. These initiatives address water scarcity, mitigating potential conflict over limited resources and fostering community stability. By integrating these water projects with permaculture practices, LPCT promotes sustainable livelihoods and optimizes water use for food production and kitchen gardens. This holistic approach strengthens community resilience to climate variability and contributes to long-term development and peacebuilding in these water-stressed regions.



Frame 1: Loshaki borehole in Tiamamut Community Land



Frame 2: Shoats quench thirst at the Loshaki borehole water trough

A DROP OF HOPE



Photo: Community participates in the construction of a sand dam in their area.

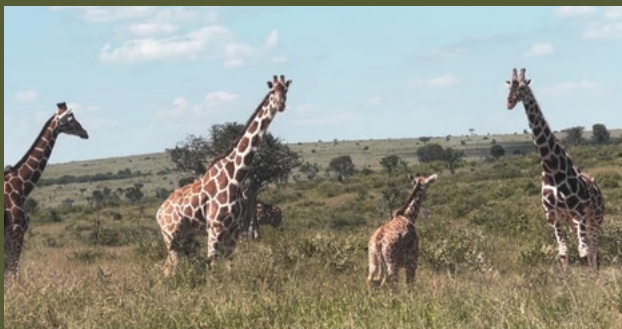
..... we
constructed
a sand dam
and a shallow
well a few
years ago to
solve water
challenges.

For long, Priscilla Meitiaki, 29 and her neighbor Hellen Parkusaa, 43 have been accustomed to the strains of getting water for domestic use due to the prolonged drought that have been encountered in the Northern Kenya. The two are members of Naserian Self Help Group that hails from Ilmotiok village in Ilmotiok community land, Laikipia North Sub County and Laikipia County.

We talked to the two of them and each one had a story to tell. Priscilla says, "We walk for long distances with our animals to look for water as the women are the customary custodians of fetching water. Sometimes the rivers dry up because of irrigation by people upstream, hence we are left to collect water in stagnant pools. This has over the period increased illnesses caused by the unsafe water; cholera, diarrhea just to mention a few." Hellen on the other hand adds that, "Sometimes we may not even access water points because we do share them with elephants hence posing a risk to us and in the end, we come home without water. This means that my family will spend the night without eating because there is no water. " She continues that, "Many people have lost lives while searching for water because of the human wildlife conflicts."



"We are a happy community now because we constructed a sand dam and a shallow well a few years ago to solve water challenges. This has reduced water distances for us as the sand dam is located near our homes. Again, we now have clean drinking water for ourselves, and our hygiene and sanitation has improved since the establishment of the sand dam," Priscilla continues.



Sand dams benefit wildlife by providing a reliable water source during dry periods, improving habitat through increased vegetation, reducing human-wildlife conflict by minimizing reliance on human-made water sources, and supporting biodiversity by enhancing the overall ecosystem.

b. Model Farms- A regenerative agroforestry approach

In Laikipia, LPCT has employed an approach of using Model farms or demo plots which are small to medium-sized plots with a carefully crafted mix of species, which naturally support each other whilst creating the ideal ecosystem to produce vegetables, fruits and other crops. The goal is to showcase the benefits of Regenerative Agriculture and inspire local communities to join the transformation.

These model farms have created a long-lasting impact on the communities in terms of food production, e.g vegetables, fruits, legumes and many other crops. Additionally, the plots have proved to have regenerated the once degraded lands into productive lands which are rich in biodiversity



In total approximately LPCT through its support to the communities has managed to secure and fenced over 50+ acres of land and established permaculture and food forests in those plots. Additionally, through the Women Empowerment, Environment and Health Support project in Kenya is planning to establish an addition of 54 acres across 13 community lands in Laikipia North to bolster fodder production at a time when pastoral communities are experiencing climate change challenges. 15 model farms and tree/fruit seedlings are set to be established in the coming years.





Frame 1: Lekiji Model Farm before intervention



Frame 2: Lekiji Model farm after intervention

MODEL FARMS/DEMO PLOTS

A FARMER PERSPECTIVE



Photo: Consolata and Fiorella pose holding vegetables.

They [LPCT] have helped us a lot, as we've adopted the kitchen garden model in our homes.



Photo: Consolata harvesting vegetables from her kitchen garden

Consolata Askuku remembers a time when Lekiji was little more than barren land, devoid of the greenery and vitality that now define the area. “Initially, Lekiji was bare land,” she recalls. “We didn’t have any fruit trees.” That all changed when the Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT) stepped in. Under Consolata’s leadership, the Lekiji Ntumat Cultural Manyatta adopted LPCT’s model farm model, bringing life and nourishment to their homes.

“LPCT began by training us,” she explains. “They have helped us a lot, as we’ve adopted the kitchen garden model in our homes.” Through LPCT’s guidance, the group introduced a variety of trees to the area—fruit trees, herbs, and more—all tailored to meet the community’s needs. “These are not just any trees,” Consolata emphasizes. “Some are herbs, some are fruit trees, and that has helped us a lot.” The transformation is visible more than just the landscape.

The gardens have provided families with fresh produce and economic opportunities, improving livelihoods while fostering a deep connection to the environment. As chairlady, Consolata sees the kitchen garden initiative as more than a project, it’s a symbol of resilience and collaboration. “LPC has given us the tools to change our lives,” she says. With the continued support of LPCT, Lekiji Model farm is blossoming into a model of sustainable development and community empowerment.



c. Aloe secundiflora plantations

LPCT has promoted planting of Aloe secundiflora which is an indigenous species of Aloe native to arid and semi-arid areas. Communities have since embraced this type of farming for its myriad benefits interms of land regeneration. The once degraded lands have been restored through planting of aloe which is a drought tolerant crop. Aloe secundiflora is known for its use in making a range of cosmetic products including Aloe soaps, creams, shower jelly, body lotion and shampoo.

So far more than 100 acres of land have been restored through Aloe secundiflora plantations in different women groups in Laikipia North.

Over 200,000 aloe seedlings were issued to farmers for planting in less than 5 years. Aloe Secundiflora is indeginous to Laikipia and its endangered, under CITES Apendix ii and under Kenya vision 2030.

5 community aloe nurseries have been established with 2 more aloe nurseries under the Women Empowerment, Environment and Health Support project to be established in the coming years with its Hub based in Sosian Ward

More than
100 acres

Restored land through Aloe secundiflora plantations in different women groups

Over
200,000

Aloe seedlings issued to farmers



d. Permaculture: Building Resilience for Generations

Why permaculture?

LPCT has for many years fronted for a sustainable approach to regenerative agriculture, one that is self-sustaining and emphasizes on land, people, animals and soil. This approach is called permaculture.

Permaculture is a design system for sustainable food production and habitats, linking ecology, culture, economics and society to sustain agricultural productivity and biodiversity promoting viable farming communities. It is a synthesis of many disciplines including agro-ecology, organic agriculture, bio-intensive and appropriate technology.

Through careful observation and thoughtful design permaculture aims to create systems that use resources efficiently, minimizing inputs and maximizing outputs, whilst regenerating the natural environment, building soil fertility and regenerating water tables. The strength of permaculture lies in its emphasis on designing systems specific to the context and its bottom-up, rather than top-down approach to knowledge and innovation.

Its emphasis on low cost and accessible techniques to preserve resources and maximize productivity is further well suited to places where resources are scarce. Agroecological methods used in permaculture are proven to significantly improve yields and income for small-holder farmers in developing countries, whilst providing essential ecosystem services such as improving biodiversity and soil fertility and reducing vulnerability to climate change.

The permaculture ETHICS; “Earth care, People care and Fair shares” gives purpose to our work, and connect us with the many millions who are also working towards a fairer, healthier and more harmonious human culture.





2. Transfer of knowledge and skills for social change



In the face of climate change, dwindling resources, and increasing market pressures, pastoral communities in Laikipia face unprecedented challenges. LPCT's role in transferring knowledge and skills – from sustainable land management practices like permaculture, agroforestry, Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR), Natural Resource Management (NRM), rangelands management and water harvesting to value chain development – is paramount.

This empowers pastoralists to adapt, mitigate risks, and enhance their livelihoods. For LPCT, this knowledge transfer is not merely a service; it's a reciprocal process. By sharing their expertise, they gain invaluable insights into the realities and resilience of these communities, enriching their own understanding and refining their approaches. This collaborative learning loop strengthens both the communities and the organization, fostering a mutually beneficial and sustainable future for all.

Target beneficiaries

Owing to diminishing natural resources and climate change, the pastoral way of life is proving not viable and its causing conflict between communities over water and grazing land. While it is mostly the men involved in this conflict, women and children are left most vulnerable. LPCT works with the affected women in order to promote gender equality and uplift the voices of women and to help them to develop agriculturally self-sustaining ecosystem to improve their food security and environmental regeneration.



Photo: Members of Naatum women mulching a swale

LPCT through its life impacting trainings has managed to reach 26 self-help groups which comprises of women, men, youths and PWDs. 23 of the Self-Help Group are women, 1 men group, 1 youth group and 1 PWDs group. A total of 2500 direct beneficiaries have benefited from our training which include.

- Training in permaculture
- Training on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR)
- Training on Natural Resource Management (NRM)
- Training on rangeland management
- Training on operation and maintenance of sand dams
- Training on making paper making paper out of elephant poo
- Training on financial literacy, groups dynamics and conflict resolution
- Training on beekeeping

26

Self-help Groups

Comprising of women, men, youths and PWDs were trained.

2,500

Direct beneficiaries from our training.

3. Sustainable Livelihoods and Enterprise Development

For pastoralist communities facing increasing market volatility and dwindling traditional livelihoods, sustainable enterprises offer a lifeline. LPCT plays a crucial role by supporting the development of diverse income streams through the promotion of various value chains. These include community-based enterprises in beekeeping, aloe cosmetic products and cactus-based products.

This not only enhances food security and economic resilience but also fosters local ownership and strengthens community-led initiatives. By empowering pastoralists to generate income through sustainable ventures, LPCT ensures that community projects are not solely reliant on external funding, promoting long-term sustainability and self-reliance.





i. Bee Farming



Laikipia's diverse landscapes, abundant with acacia species and other forage, provide a rich environment for beekeeping. This natural abundance translates into significant honey production for local communities. Francis Leyiankere, our Community Liaison Officer, emphasizes the ecological and economic importance of integrating beekeeping into sustainable systems. Not only do bees play a vital role in pollination, but they also offer a valuable income-generating opportunity for residents.

"Bees are one of the ways we mitigate the effects of climate change," Francis explains. "Where cows and goats cannot thrive, bees can step in to help communities earn a living." As the Community Liaison Officer for the Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT), Francis plays a





vital role in connecting permaculture practices with the livelihoods of local communities. Bees, he notes, are integral to the LPC model, serving both environmental and economic purposes. “Bees not only provide honey but also enable value addition for products like soap, cream, and other bee-derived goods.”

The integration of bees into LPCT’s permaculture systems has a dual impact. Beyond providing alternative livelihoods, bees enhance food security through pollination. “In a design, you have to incorporate bees,” Francis explains. “They help increase food production by boosting yields, playing a significant role in permaculture.” Through his work, Francis bridges the gap between ecological restoration and community empowerment. By promoting beekeeping and the creation of value-added products, LPCT ensures that communities have sustainable alternatives to traditional livestock farming. These efforts not only combat climate change but also provide a source of pride and resilience for the people of Laikipia.

Over 200 beehives have been distributed for 13 Self Help Groups in the last 3 years with over 4 tonnes of honey harvested within that period. 150 beehives and equipment’s are set to be distributed in the new project. This translates to over 2 millions Kenya shillings channeled to the local community.

Over

200 Beehives

Distributed for **13 Self Help Groups** in the last 3 years

4 Tonnes

Harvested within that period.

Over
2M

Kshs channelled to the local Community

ii. Aloe secundiflora for cosmetic products



The Maasai women's groups in Laikipia, are utilizing *Aloe secundiflora* to make a living while selling ingredients for cosmetic purposes. LPCT, through its support has distributed aloe seedlings to the local farmer groups both at the household and at the communal plots. Additionally, LPCT has trained the local communities on aloe soap making, body lotion, shampoo, body crème and shower jelly. This has enabled communities to earn a living through the sale of cosmetic products to the local markets. Four old groups are involved in exporting fresh leaves to a foreign company called LUSH cosmetics.





4. Networking and partnerships

The Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT) has cultivated numerous partnerships with organizations sharing its vision for landscape transformation. These collaborations include local and international entities such as IPSIA Kenya, arche noVa, PELUM Kenya, the Wyss Academy, Johanniter Hilfe, and governmental bodies like the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), the German Federal Ministry for Development Cooperation (BMZ). LPCT also values its relationships with organizations like Aktion Deutschland Hilft and the many individual donors whose contributions have been instrumental in driving impactful projects across the Laikipia landscape.

LPC Limited has managed to sign a Prior Informed Consent (PIC) with Entanai CBO that brings together the four old women groups, County Government of Laikipia, Department of Natural Resources, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Lush Cosmetics.

A photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a concrete structure with a metal pole or pipe extending from it. The ground is dry and sandy. In the background, there are several large, leafy trees and a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white box with text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

i. **Transformative Projects:** The Future Outlook - Ongoing projects



- Adaptation to climate change through climate-resilient agriculture, access to safe water and **community-based disaster risk reduction in Laikipia, Machakos, Kitui, Makueni counties, Kenya (CADRR)**

270

Targeted beneficiaries
from 5 self-help groups

Project duration: 15. 11.2022 - 14.11.2025 (36 Months)

Project Location: Laikipia North Sub County

Target beneficiaries: 5 Self Help Groups in 5 Community Land of Ilmotiok, Musul, Kijape, Tiamamut and Kojja with 270 members.

Brief description of the project

The project aims at improving the community's adaptive capacity to climate change through addressing the issues of water scarcity, food insecurity and environmental degradation. The project is targeting 270 beneficiaries from 5 self-help groups namely; Tiamamut, Rhino, Naserian, Naitabaya/Loilepu and Ngabolo Self Help Groups. The groups are located in the 5 group ranches which includes; Tiamamut, Kojja, Ilmotiok, Musul and Kijape group ranches respectively. This is done through the construction of Sand dams and shallow wells in the communities.

IMPLEMENTED BY:

Laikipia Permaculture Centre
Trust, arche noVa and Africa
Sand Dam Foundation (ASDF)

PROJECT FINANCED BY:

BMZ -Federal Ministry
For Cooperation And
Development (Germany)
Aktion Deutschland Hilft



- Contributing to sustainable responsiveness to climate shocks, and strengthening the adaptive capacities of rural communities in arid and semi-arid areas of Rift Valley and South Eastern regions of Kenya **(BMZ PT)**

Targeted
beneficiaries

315 Members

3 Primary
Schools

Project duration: 01.10.2024 – 30.09.2027 (36 Months)

Project Location: Laikipia North Sub County

Target beneficiaries: 315 members (72 males, 243 females) from 8 Self Help Groups (SHG) and 3 primary schools with a total of 1,167 Students, 32 teachers 6 non-teaching staff.

Brief description of the project

The overall objective of the project is to build community resilience and strengthen their adaptive capacity to climate change through environmental regeneration and innovative access to water. The various interventions include provision of water harvesting and sanitation facilities, energy efficiency cookstoves, development of agroforestry farms, provision of cows and biogas as well as advocacy and lobbying of DRR committees.

IMPLEMENTED BY:

Laikipia Permaculture Centre
Trust, arche noVa

PROJECT FINANCED BY:

BMZ -Federal Ministry
For Cooperation And
Development (Germany)





- **Women Empowerment, Environment & Health Support in Kenya (WEEHS)**

2909

Targeted beneficiaries
from 16 self-help groups

IMPLEMENTED BY:

Laikipia Permaculture
Centre Trust, IPSIA Kenya,
IMPACT Kenya and County
Government of Laikipia

PROJECT FINANCED BY:

The Italian Agency for
Development Cooperation
(AICS)

Project duration: 01.08.2024 – 31.07.2027 (3 years project)

Project Location: Laikipia North Sub County

Target beneficiaries: 2909 Individuals, 16 Self Help Groups, 13 Community Land Committees, 4 Ward Climate Change Planning Committees.

Brief description of the project

The project aims at strengthening the participation of women and the most vulnerable groups in land management thanks to the acquisition of technical skills and knowledge, leadership and use of financial tools and through an increase in community investments for sustainable land management and adaptation to climate change.

The intervention operates in Laikipia North, where the 13 Community Lands of the County are located, affecting a total of 2900 direct beneficiaries, of which 60% are women. It responds to the needs of strengthening the civil role of women, implementing local climate change management policies and guiding the Maasai community in the transition towards resilient management of natural resources, improving:

- a) The ability of communities (particularly women and other vulnerable groups) to implement the Community Land Act (CLA) through the dissemination of more inclusive and participatory governance processes at Community Lands level and increased awareness on issues relating to land security, disaster risk management, recent developments in the Climate Change Act on the carbon credit market.
- b) Dialogue and collaboration with county government authorities for the active involvement of women in the formulation and implementation of community development plans at the Ward level and in the management of inter-community conflicts.
- c) Adaptation to climate change through the dissemination, by cooperatives and women's groups, of agricultural, pastoral and agroforestry practices that are resilient to drought in arid and semi-arid areas: permaculture, support for alternative value chains to pastoralism, sustainable management of natural resources, access and storage of water resources, regeneration of land and pastures.





720

Direct beneficiaries

4480

Indirect beneficiaries

- Resilience and Food Security for Maasai agro-pastoral communities in Laikipia County **(RFS)**

Project duration: 01.10.2024 – 30.09.2026 (24 Months)

Project Location: Laikipia North Sub County

Target beneficiaries: The project targets four producer groups: Chui Mama, Rapunye, Tiamamut, and Ilmotiok, collectively comprising 180 members, mostly women. The project aims to benefit approximately 720 direct beneficiaries and around 4,480 indirect beneficiaries

IMPLEMENTED BY:

Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT), IPSIA Kenya, County Government of Laikipia – Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, Department of Trade, Tourism, Creative Economy, and Cooperatives, National Drought Management Authority (NDMA)

PROJECT FINANCED BY:

The Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the eight per thousand share of Irpef.

Objectives of the project

- 1) Enhance resilience and food security in targeted communities through sustainable agricultural practices, improved beekeeping, and better pasture management.
- 2) Promote income generation by increasing the productivity and profitability of agriculture, beekeeping, and livestock.
- 3) Strengthen environmental sustainability by improving land management, pasture regeneration, and sustainable farming practices.



ii. Inspiring Stories: Voices from the Field

Hannah Meitiaki, 14 Yrs

"My name is Hannah, and I'm 14 years old. I live in a small village in Kenya. Life here used to be a constant struggle. Every day, I'd trudge long distances to the river, lugging heavy water containers. The water was often murky, and we worried about crocodiles and hippos lurking in the depths.

Fetching water wasn't just tiring; it was dangerous. Sometimes, I'd have to go at dawn or dusk, which meant walking alone in the dark. I always worried about getting lost or encountering a wild animal.

Then, a group of people came to our village. They were kind and enthusiastic, and they spoke about building a sand dam. I didn't understand it at first, but I watched with curiosity as they worked, piling up sand and gravel.

And then, it was finished. The sand dam! Now, we have clean water right here in our village. It's a simple thing, but it's changed everything. I have more time to study, to play with my friends, to help my family. My mother doesn't have to worry about me walking alone to the river anymore.

The sand dam has brought so much joy to our village. We can finally drink clean water, grow healthier crops, and live without the constant fear of water-borne diseases. I'm so grateful to the people who built the sand dam. They have given us a gift that will last for generations."



Monica Siangau, 38 Yrs



"Life used to be a constant struggle. Every morning, I'd wake up to the daunting task of fetching water. The river, our only source, was miles away. I'd balance a heavy jerrican on my head, my children trailing behind, their small hands clutching my skirts. Fear was a constant companion. The river was shared with elephants and lions, and the water itself often brought sickness to our children.

But then, something incredible happened. The women in our community, tired of this endless struggle, decided to take matters into our own hands. We came together, learned new skills, and with unwavering determination, built sand dams. Days turned into weeks, filled with hard work and shared laughter.

Now, the river feels like a distant memory. Water is right here, close to our homes. My children can go to school with full stomachs, and I finally have time for other things – beadwork, tending to my livestock. This has brought so much joy into our lives.

I want to tell everyone about this incredible change. To encourage other communities to join us, to experience this transformation themselves. Building these sand dams wasn't just about water; it was about empowering ourselves, about creating a brighter future for our children. And that, my friends, is a feeling beyond words."





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