

**t e a m k e n y a**

*Training, empowerment and much more*



Programme Profile:  
**Karibuni**

*'Karibuni .....Welcome!!!'*



### **Introduction...**

Team Kenya encourages sustainable tourism that promotes environmental conservation whilst supporting the local community in Ndhiwa. On the Karibuni site, just outside Ndhiwa town centre, there are conference facilities, Eco-cottages and a curio craft shop.

Karibuni was established by Team Kenya in partnership with Karibuni Women's Development Initiative (KWDI), a group of women from the community of Ndhiwa. Ownership and management of the assets such as Karibuni Eco-cottages will lead to a transformation in the status of women by providing income and financial independence. The Eco-accommodation and facilities on the site are in the form of traditional cottages and more contemporary buildings in the style adopted in the region. The design and layout of the site involved local consultation on design, materials, construction methods and location.

The Karibuni Eco-cottages exist to be a catalyst to the community in Ndhiwa achieving a sustainable future. It is a community based tourism initiative that also acts as a social enterprise as profits are reinvested into community projects. As part of the Karibuni Programme there is a particular focus on empowering women and girls. It is based on principles of fair trade and adheres to a strict environmental code of practice.

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## About the programme...

As part of the Karibuni programme, Team Kenya along with its strategic partners in Ndhiwa are working towards the following key outputs:

- 1) Establish Karibuni as a centre of vocational excellence and good practice to illustrate innovative and appropriate technologies.
- 2) Raise the self esteem of women and ensure that they are equipped with transferable skills to allow them to contribute to society and the local economy.
- 3) Provide an example of a viable community initiative that does not rely on international funding.
- 4) Provide an enjoyable, thought provoking and life enhancing experience for tourists.
- 5) Become a long standing institution that actively addresses inequality and leads to positive and lasting changes in the whole Ndhiwa community.

Projects that form part of the Karibuni programme aim to work towards one or more of these key outputs.

### Ecotourism

**Benefits** - ensures locally employed people benefit from the tourism industry built on their culture, history, land, natural resources, and labour, together with fair wages and safe, happy working environments.

**Reinvestment**– 100% of Karibuni's profits are invested in community projects in Ndhiwa.

### Visitors to Karibuni can....

- Learn about the local Luo culture through talks, music, dance.
- Observe and develop skills in pottery, basket ware, and sewing from local artisans.
- Visit local sites of archaeological and historic interest.

Visitors to Karibuni also have the opportunity to visit our community projects and be an active part of the team during their stay. Guests see how we protect and conserve the environment by planting trees, recycling, composting, using solar power, and rainwater catchment. We also offer visitors a 'homestay' option where visitors can feel part of the community by joining a family and taking part in everyday life in Ndhiwa.



Solar power in use at Karibuni



Women from the KWDI.



A traditional Luo hut at Karibuni.

### Conference facilities

Karibuni is hired out for conferences and meetings. The open space and facilities available are unique in Ndhiwa. The Karibuni initiative can also provide for catered events such as weddings.

### Homework Club

The Sponsored Students' Homework Club also congregates at Karibuni and meets three times a week with a tutor.

### The future of our Karibuni Programme...

Team Kenya is looking to develop the infrastructure on site to illustrate innovative technologies and to increase the number of national and international visitors, generating more employment and profit to re-invest in community projects.

The site has not yet reached its full potential. Team Kenya is working to improve its capacity and that of its strategic partners to enable all organisations to play a key role in disseminating good practice and to monitor and evaluate interventions so that information is shared and a network of robust collaborations can be established within the community.

### Income generating schemes

The Karibuni Women's Development Initiative through the Karibuni project currently operates various income generating schemes including the production of furniture and crafts for the curio shop on site.

### Training

We employ only local people and provide training for local women and girls in the tourism and hospitality industries and pay fair wages.

## Get involved...

Volunteer...

Donate...

Ecotourism...

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