

A large group of children and adults, many with their hands raised in a crowd, suggesting a community event or training session. The background shows trees and a wooden structure.

team kenya

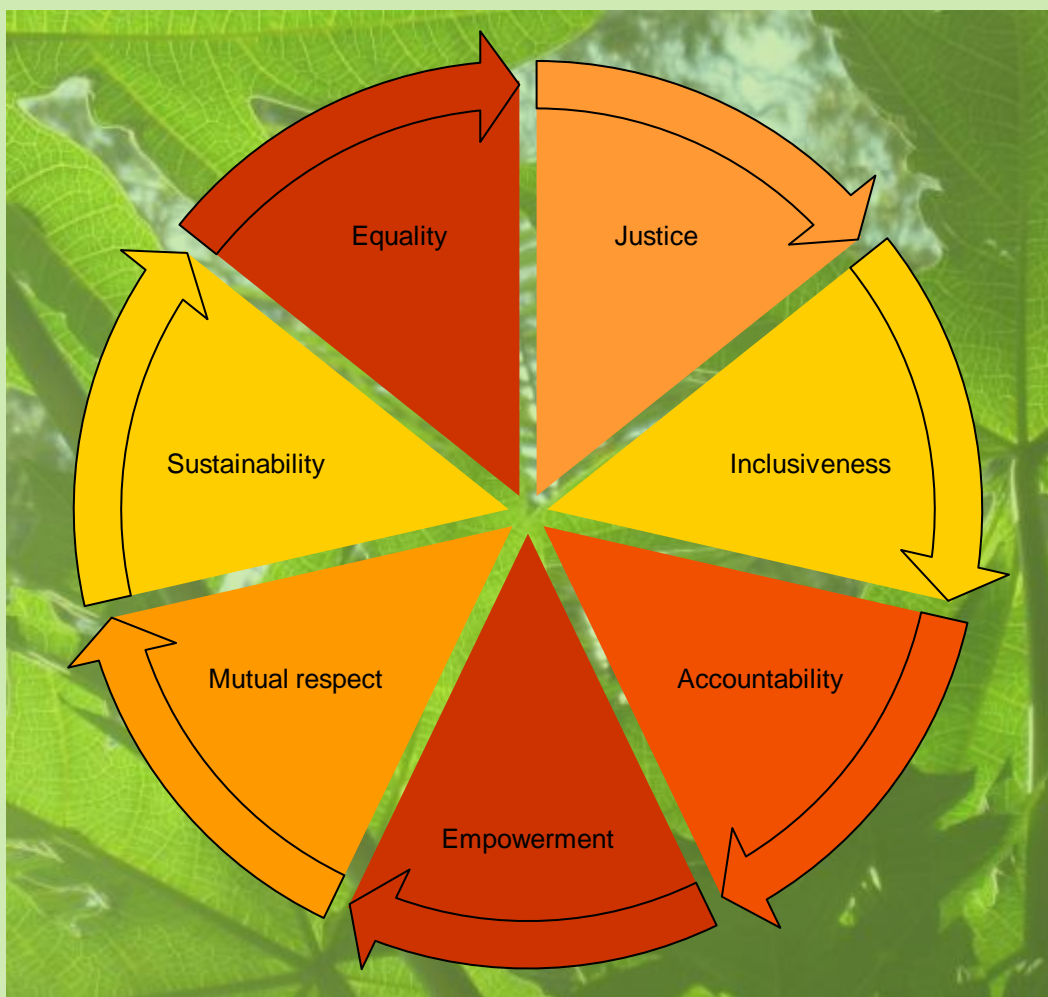
Training, empowerment and much more

Our vision and values....

...To become an outstanding organisation that works with strategic partners to empower disadvantaged communities in Kenya to overcome poverty, injustice and inequality.

Our vision and our values are integral to the way we operate. Our values help define our organisation, motivate our staff and volunteers to meet the highest expectations of the people we work with and inspire confidence in those who donate or raise funds.

We believe that by instilling these values in our volunteers and staff members we will all work together towards our common goal, to alleviate poverty and injustice and overcome inequality in disadvantaged Kenyan communities.



We promote equality of opportunity for everyone, irrespective of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, HIV status, colour, class, ethnicity, disability, location and religion whilst acknowledging women and girls are especially disadvantaged. Team Kenya looks to promote sustainable development by encouraging preservation, conservation, protection of the environment and prudent use of resources, allowing communities to achieve sustainable economic growth and regeneration. We encourage the use of appropriate technologies and help to provide training and advice.

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Who we are....

Team Kenya are an independent organisation registered as a charity (February 2008), with partners, volunteers and supporters in the UK and Kenya.



Local women at Ndhiwa market



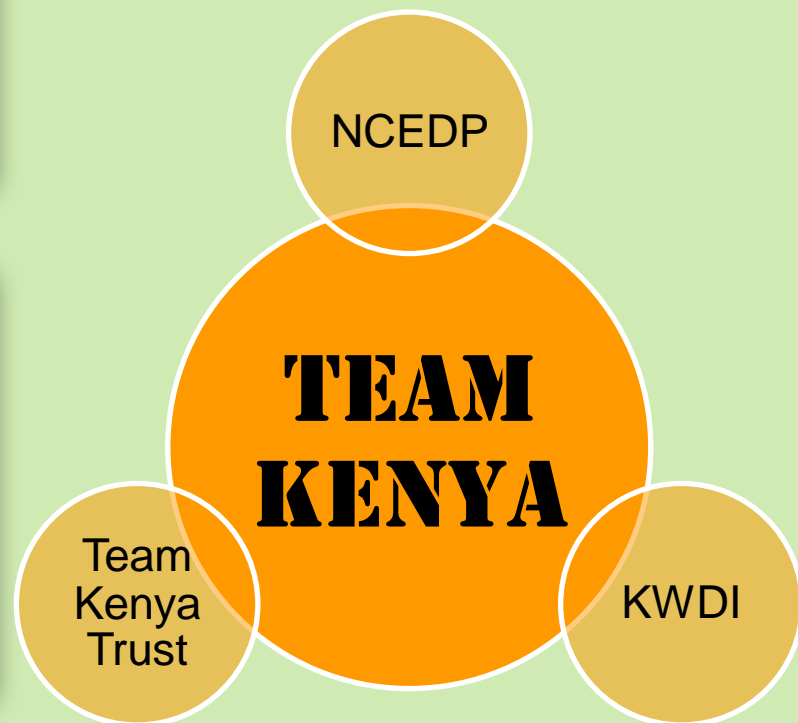
Typical Luo diet of pulses and beans



Traditional handmade clay pots for food and storage

Team Kenya acts as an umbrella organisation for other community groups in Western Kenya providing a forum for knowledge sharing and exchange of information.

Team Kenya work in close partnership with the local community in the form of 3 organisations; Ndhiwa Community Empowerment and Development Project (NCEDP), Karibuni Women's Development Initiative (KWDI) and the Team Kenya Trust.



All 4 organisations work together to achieve shared aims and objectives and all projects in Kenya are managed by the local community with support from the UK and specially appointed staff employed by Team Kenya and its' partners.

Team Kenya is managed by the charity Trustees and has no paid employees in the UK. All of the staff that we employ are based in Kenya.



Our strategic priorities....

In Kenya -work with disadvantaged individuals and communities in Western Kenya to:

- relieve financial hardship and social inequalities with a view to ensuring a more stable future for vulnerable and poverty stricken communities
- support skills development and community capacity building
- promote sustainable development
- encourage the prudent use of resources, environmental conservation and the development of appropriate and renewable energy sources
- raise educational attainment
- address major causes of disease and morbidity

In the UK ...

- raise Team Kenya's profile and broaden its community of interest in the North East of England and in others parts of the UK
- educate the general public about the issues facing developing countries and promote global citizenship
- increase UK donations/funding to maximise the positive impact Team Kenya is able to have on the ground in Western Kenya

Our Trustees ...

Valerie Wilson – Chair of Trustees since February 2008 and full time volunteer as Chief Executive Officer for Team Kenya.

Val has been involved at trustee level with charities in Ndhiwa for 11 years and is also the chair of Team Kenya Trust and founder of NCEDP and Karibuni. Val's background is in education as a teacher, manager and leader in the secondary education sector.



Dr Paul J Sallis – Team Kenya Trustee

Paul is a Senior Lecturer in Environmental Engineering at Newcastle University.

Paul is actively involved in the development of sustainable water treatment technologies, such as solar disinfection, household scale membrane filtration for prevention of diarrhoeal diseases in developing countries.

Alicia Jeans– Team Kenya Trustee

Alicia is a Secondary School Teacher and has a background in Nutrition.

Alicia is involved in nutrition education programs with her BSc in Nutrition and Food Science, has an interest girls rights advocacy, peer mentoring and football coaching and coordinates the Sponsored Students Program for Team Kenya.



Ankur Gupta– Team Kenya Trustee

Ankur is a Graduate Trainee Chartered Accountant at the Home Office.

Ankur has an active interest in international development and holds a Masters degree in International Studies, and his dissertation focused on the pursuit of justice in war-torn societies.

Claire Thompson– Team Kenya Trustee

Claire is an ICT Network Manager and has been involved with the community of Ndhiwa for the last seven years.

Claire is a founder member of the Girls Support Group Programme and the Padi Bora Project and actively supports improving and empowering the lives of young women and the education of children.



Maire Kennan– Team Kenya Trustee

Maire is a retired Maths and Theology teacher.

Maire has been involved at trustee level with charities in Kenya for ten years. She is a trustee of Team Kenya Trust in Kenya and has been a regular visitor to the projects in Ndhiwa with particular involvement with the Sponsored Students Programme.

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Where we operate....

Team Kenya currently concentrates it's efforts in Ndhiwa, Kenya.



Ndhiwa is a remote rural Luo community in the Homa bay district of Western Kenya. The area is particularly poverty stricken and many of the people living in Ndhiwa struggle to provide to for their families.

Ndhiwa offers Team Kenya an arena to put in place programmes that are an appropriate scale for our organisation. Projects can be monitored and adapted easily as part of a flexible and responsive scheme.

Drought and land quality can make it very difficult to adequately provide for a family or produce enough crops to sell in order to generate an income. Lack of finances often mean that children do not have access to an education as tuition fees prove too expensive for the poorest families. Even for those who can afford to send their children to school, the ability to support a child throughout primary and secondary school is a rarity.

Schooling is often interrupted by non-attendance as children, particularly girls, have responsibilities at home to help with the running of the house hold or by collecting water.

In the wider Homa Bay District access to clean water and sanitation are a major clause for concern. 10% of households in the Homa Bay area have access to piped water, with only 0.8% of which having access to piped water direct to the household. 22.6% of households access water via rivers, ponds, and springs.



Local farming transportation in Ndhiwa.



A water storage tank allowing rain water to be harvested.



Flies aid the spread of disease and young children are the most vulnerable.

It is estimated that 55.6% of households have no latrine. Therefore even where safe water is sourced there is a high probability that the source will become contaminated and disease such as typhoid and cholera spread quickly.

Disease and sickness contribute to many children's schooling being interrupted. By drinking unsafe water children are frequently sick and stay at home. Water related sickness also has a detrimental effect on adult's ability to work and generate an income. Children under the age of 5 are especially vulnerable to water borne diseases resulting in a high infant mortality rate for the area.



The local stream after the rainy season.



A young child playing outside in Ndhiwa.

Life expectancy for males is 35.9 and 40.7 for females.. Many children are left orphaned and older siblings are left responsible for younger children if there are no grandparents to take care of the children. Often grandparents are elderly and not able to look after orphaned children long term. In these cases it is highly unlikely that any of the children in the family will complete an education due to lack of available finance.

Harmful traditional practices including wife inheritance and polygamy are common place in Ndhiwa and are detrimental to efforts to reduce the spread of HIV.



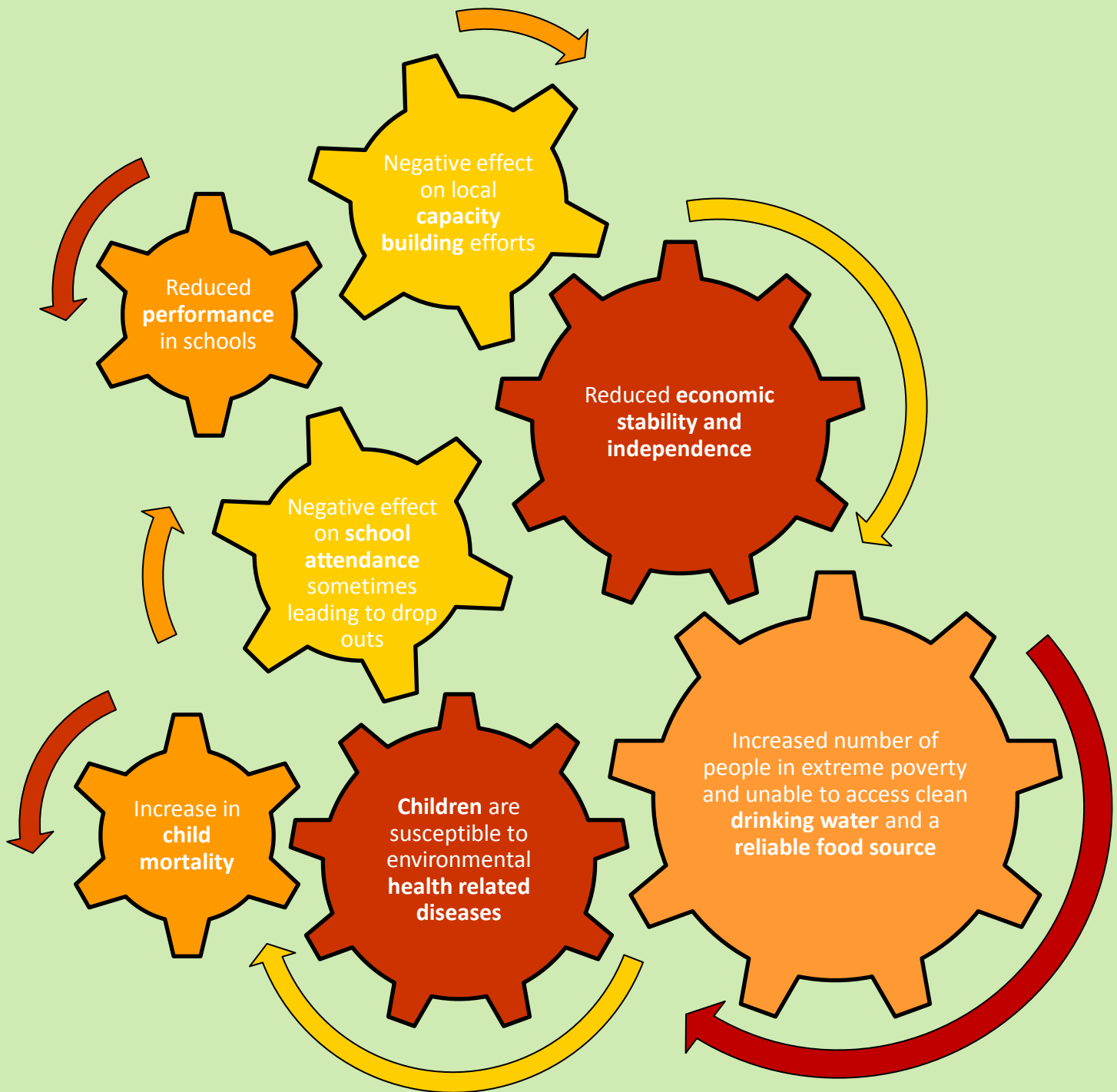
A traditional 3 stone stove used for cooking.

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An example of how the development areas that we target are interlinked and cross cutting issues that we must consider...

It is impossible for our projects on a micro-scale to succeed, if we do not have an understanding of the macro-scale issues.



Our programmes...



The Homework club.

Sponsored students – giving financial support to school students in Ndhiwa, providing a Homework club for academic support.

Karibuni – providing a venue for community events, training, Ecotourism accommodation and income generating schemes.



Karibuni accommodation.



The girls outside their Safe House.

Girls Support Group – offering a network for girls to discuss important issues, organise fun activities, start up income generating schemes and support each other.

School links – schools in the UK getting involved and working hard to help raise funds for Team Kenya projects.



Pala nursery class.

See our Team Kenya programme profiles for more information about the projects that we run as part of each programme...

Our future aims...

Team Kenya has learnt that many of our aims are inter-dependent. Our future programmes must reflect this fact.

Water and sanitation - Water, sanitation and hygiene are so important for child health and therefore in turn have a large impact on education (attendance, performance and participation from girls). In the very near future we hope to bring water and sanitation issues into our remit as an organisation so that we can tackle poverty and inequality from all angles.

Further empowerment of women and girls – to continue our work with women and girls in order to empower them to develop their own incoming generating programmes and increase educational opportunities for girls; we recognise that when women become empowered, the whole community benefits, and as women gain more self esteem through learning new skills, morbidity rates for children fall and HIV rates can be slowed.



Gender segregated latrines at Karibuni.



Children playing in a puddle near Karibuni.

By targeting problems associated with access to clean drinking water and sanitation we can give our other projects the best chance of being successful.



Karibuni's solar shower.

Energy – Energy dependent processes are hindered by unreliable energy, developing appropriate and sustainable methods of generating lighting and power would accelerate us towards our goals.

How you can get involved...

Ways to help...

Team Kenya owes its achievements to the individuals who help by offering their time, money and ideas. There are many different ways in which you could help us!



Donating and fundraising...

Any donation however large or small can go straight to helping the community in Ndhiwa. Fund raising events help us raise Team Kenya's profile and raise awareness of the issues that people face in developing countries.



Just one of the many football teams set up by the Girls Support Group.

Ecotourism...

Would you like to visit Ndhiwa and see what we do in person? Why don't you make a trip and enjoy the ecotourism aspect of the Team Kenya operation during a holiday. We have also accommodated university research students in Ndhiwa and people undertaking a Gap Year. We can arrange your trip and help you get the most from a unique experience.

Volunteering...

We have many volunteers who use their professional experience or passions to help us plan our projects and put them into action. Often to secure essential funding for our projects we have to compile grant applications showing how our projects are a sustainable and worth while. If this is something that you have experience in or are willing to help us with, then please get in touch.



Some visitors to Ndhiwa joining in at the local dance.

Get in touch...

www.teamkenya.org.uk

Enquiries are welcome!

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