

TEAM KENYA

Annual Review 2015





Our Vision

Our vision is for every girl in Kenya to have an equal chance to achieve her potential and be free from poverty.

Our Mission

Our mission is to involve entire communities in gender equality, so that girls in rural Kenya can create their own bright futures.

What we do

We work with local Kenyan people to educate girls, empower women and transform communities in rural Kenya.

Working in partnership

Ndhiwa Community Empowerment and Development Project (NCEDP)

is our partner organisation on the ground in Ndhiwa. It was set up as a grassroots self-help group back in 2006 run by local community members, and became a registered Kenyan NGO in 2014. Our aim is that by 2020 NCEDP will have grown further and developed into an even stronger independent Kenyan NGO, able to sustain its activities with less direct financial support from Team Kenya.



NCEDP's goal

To reduce extreme poverty, gender inequality and injustice in Homa Bay County

NCEDP's vision

To facilitate the empowerment of community members, with specific focus towards girls and women, through appropriate development initiatives.

NCEDP's mission

To improve people's living standard through: practical agricultural advancement; educational support; promotion of environmental sustainability; creation of HIV/AIDS awareness; improving access to information technology; advocating for peaceful coexistence; protection of human rights and facilitating poverty alleviation

Introduction from the Chair of Trustees

Valerie Wilson
Founder and Chair of Trustees



A year of growth and change.

It has been an exciting and important year for Team Kenya. After an extensive period of reflection, including consultations in both the UK and Kenya, Team Kenya and NCEDP both launched new ambitious five year strategic plans for 2015-2020. Our strategy draws on our learning and experience, we have set ourselves five main goals to enable us to rigorously measure our impact ensure long term sustainability and accountability. Our work with girls is crucial in supporting the fight against poverty.

There were some breakthrough moments in 2015, with the launch of our women's micro- finance and agribusiness projects in Ndhiwa and our decision to register Team Kenya as Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) to enable us to employ staff here in the UK.

Team Kenya is an organisation that has an empowerment approach to development, there is no quick fix, it takes time to build capacity and bring lasting change. Our loyal supporters have continued to stick with us through this long journey with patience and understanding; the impact of our work is seen and recognised throughout the community in Ndhiwa and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our funders, partners and incredible supporters. Without you, we could not have achieved any of the impact we are celebrating today. I must also thank our implementation partner in Kenya, Ndhiwa Community Empowerment and Development Project (NCEDP), particularly those leading our work

on the ground, for showing commitment and dedication to our life changing work.

2015 was a year of great success, and we continue to aim high in 2016 and beyond. We want to continue to grow and to work alongside the community, helping to achieve rural prosperity and gender equality in Ndhiwa.

Recently I spent time with Gertrude, a Board member of NCEDP, a widow and mother who joined our table banking project and received agribusiness training and a loan in 2015. She proudly announced she now has money to pay her daughters' school fees and feed her family and for the first time in her life she is happy and sees a stable future for her family. Her confidence and pride in her self-reliance were very evident by her big smile as she shared the good news with fellow NCEDP board members.

During 2015 we had much to celebrate. However, there are still many challenges for us to meet, collectively with our partners in the community. We can build on our strengths and learn from our weaknesses to enable the community in Ndhiwa to be self reliant and sustain their own livelihoods and futures for their families. Team Kenya has some big ambitions!

Please continue to support us as we strive to change lives in Ndhiwa.

Since Team Kenya was founded over 10,000 people, including over 5,000 young people, have been supported and empowered to break their cycle of poverty.

In 2015, thanks to your support...



A record year of fundraising with
£128,126 raised to
support our work in Kenya



25 full secondary
school sponsorships
were granted



100% pass rate for all of our
students at secondary, college and
university level



A new rice growing
project



5 women's table-
banking groups
established



40 women given
loans to develop small
agricultural projects



New Manager appointed
at Karibuni Eco cottages
with volunteers hosted from
around the world



60 Girls' Support
Group members
provided with solar
lamps



400 of the most needy and
vulnerable children fed at school
through a feeding programme



4 partner schools trained in
strategies to deal with Gender
Based Violence (GBV)



Establishment of a county-
wide anti-Gender Based
Violence network



Employed our first
member of staff in
the UK

Why Kenya? Why Ndhiwa?



Kenya is the largest and most advanced economy in east and central Africa. Yet nearly half of the population live below the poverty line.

Women in Kenya do not enjoy the same rights as men and are subjected to Gender Based Violence (GBV).

Average life expectancy in Ndhiwa is 47.5 years against a Kenyan national average of 64 years.

In Ndhiwa, 63% of the population live in extreme poverty.



The main source of livelihood in Ndhiwa is smallholder subsistence farming with food poverty over 50%.

26% of girls are married before their 18th birthday.

Though primary education is free, it is still inaccessible for many. Secondary education isn't free and this excludes many, especially girls.

Homa Bay County has the highest rate of HIV/Aids in Kenya at over 25%.

Why Girls?

“It’s not about prioritising girls over boys, it’s about creating a level playing field so that all children, regardless of their gender, can realize their potential and live poverty free lives”
– Val Wilson, Founder of Team Kenya

66 million girls around the world are not in school. Why? Simply because they were born a girl.



Adolescent girls are most at risk of extreme poverty due to lack of education and the commonly held view that girls and boys are not equal.



Teenage girls are most at risk of HIV/ Aids due to widely accepted attitudes about sexual abuse and exploitation of girls.



Gender based violence at home and in schools is common.



In Ndhiwa, 50% of girls drop out before completion of secondary school.

But, there’s hope...

When a girl in the developing world receives seven or more years of education, she marries four years later and has fewer children.

Every year of primary schooling increases a girl’s individual earning power by 10 to 20 percent, while the return on secondary education is even higher, in the 15 to 25 percent range.

When women and girls earn income, they reinvest 90 percent of it into their families and the impact is intergenerational – a mother with a few years of formal education is considerably more likely to send her children to school, breaking the intergenerational chain of poverty.

*Research by Plan International

New strategy 2015-2020

For 2015-2020, in line with the Global Goals for Sustainable Development, we are focusing on the following six areas:



Girls Education

We provide girls with scholarships so they can stay in school, avoid early marriage and pregnancy and break their cycle of poverty.



Health, Hygiene and Nutrition for School Children

We provide our four partner primary schools with water tanks, girl-friendly toilets and hand-washing facilities, so children, especially girls, are healthy and happy in school.



Social Justice and Equality

We provide girls and young women with confidence and self-esteem boosting activities to ensure they feel equipped to take their place as equal and respected members of society.



Economic Sustainability and Food Security

We provide mothers with small loans and business training so they can earn an income, support their families and be equal and respected members of the community.



Rural Girls' Safety and Security

We involve the entire community in the gender equality conversation and fight gender based violence through education, networking and sport.



Organisational Development

We work in close partnership with a local Kenyan NGO and have worked in the Ndhiwa community for almost 20 years. We are small and sustainable and value transparency, accountability, effectiveness and compassion.

This translates into 6 projects: see teamkenya.org.uk/our-projects

What have we achieved in 2015?

Key Achievements in Kenya (in partnership with our partner organisation NCEDP)

- 25 full secondary school sponsorships were granted
- Existing and new sponsored students achieved excellent KCSE exam results with 100% pass rate for all our students, at secondary, college and university level
- Activities resulted in improved attendance and attainment of girls in our 4 partner primary schools
- A rice growing and marketing pilot project is underway. There are also poultry, sheep and pig rearing projects in 3 schools
- 5 women's table-banking groups have been established and individual loans have been given to 40 women to develop small agricultural projects
- New manager appointed November 2015. The cottages have hosted volunteers from around the world.
- 60 Girls' Support Group members provided with solar lamps
- Four partner schools now have filtered drinking water as well as water for hand-washing, and toilets have been upgraded
- Training about hygiene and the importance of clean water and nutrition in partner schools
- Girls in all 4 partner schools have been trained in strategies to deal with Gender Based Violence (GBV) with 2 experts on GBV visiting Karibuni in March and leading sessions with teachers and local leaders, giving them the skills to provide guidance and counselling
- A countywide anti-Gender Based Violence network has also been established
- Families of victims of gender-based violence have been given support and encouragement in prosecutions of the perpetrators. More and more families are gaining the confidence to seek justice for past crimes, and as a result it is hoped to set up a girls' advocacy centre in conjunction with Tag International Development in 2016
- 3 visits in 2015 by the Chair of Trustees to ensure strong team work and accountability
- New NCEDP board members were recruited and induction training was provided for them
- Funds were provided for the appointment of more highly qualified and skilled staff such as the new fully qualified Finance Officer, a Social Worker and a Business Manager.

What have we achieved in 2015?

Key Achievements in the UK:

- Welcomed our first member of staff in the UK, to support us in securing the future sustainability of Team Kenya; contributing to a 40% increase in income
- Creation of a corporate partnership with Rakuten Marketing UK
- Creation and implementation of a new operational plan, policies and procedures
- Rebrand of the organisation including the creation of a new logo, website, marketing material and key messages
- Our strong partnerships with Whitley Bay High School and Longbenton Community College continued, raising over £9,000
- 4 students from Northumbria University Business School worked on a marketing campaign that culminated in a visit to Karibuni Cottages in June 2015
- A Newcastle University Team Kenya Society was set up, supported by volunteer Gordon Wilson and now has over 20 members and has organised a number of fundraising events, raising over £1,000
- Student internship scheme created with the University of Sussex, School of Business Management and Economics



Meet the team

Our Board



Valerie Wilson
Founder and Chair of Trustees



Lynda Evans
Treasurer



Jacky Quincey



Alicia Jeans

Our Member of Staff



Victoria Hancock Fell

Our Lead Volunteers



Terry Courtney



Kath Prandle



Isobel Elliott



Helen Essex

With thanks to Paul Greenway, Victor Gallant and Ankur Gupta who stepped down in 2015.

We are pleased to welcome two new trustees who will be joining our board in 2016: Emilie Suggitt and Emily Casson

Join our team. We are always keen to hear from committed UK-based volunteers who can add a little something extra to our cause. Are you a creative fundraiser, a budding filmmaker or a whizz with social media? Whatever skills you have, as long as you're passionate about the rights of girls and women and have a few hours a week to spare, we would love to hear from you.

Volunteer Profile



When I joined Team Kenya as a volunteer in December 2014, I never expected it to become such a dynamic, important part of my life.

For just over a year, I was managing the Facebook and Twitter accounts- working hard to post regular updates that would engage the maximum number of people, increase our following and make the content as relevant as possible to our existing audience. The more I read around the topic of girls' rights, education, traditional attitudes and practices in Kenya and the work of Team Kenya and other charities, the more engaged I became. I now see clearly how the work we are doing fits into the bigger picture, even on a worldwide scale.

Since being with you all, I have been given the opportunity to attend social media marketing training organised by the Small Charities Coalition and together with Vic, I attended the charity leadership talk chaired by Mark Goldring, CEO of Oxfam. I found both of these events interesting and inspiring. I've also been offered the chance to play an active role in the creation of Team Kenya's marketing strategy.

I've now shifted my efforts somewhat to focus more on marketing support, in particular with copywriting (blog posts, website copy, leaflets etc). I'm in touch with other volunteers and trustees (not to mention beneficiaries) on a regular basis, which really helps me to feel like an important member of the Team Kenya community, despite us all working at a distance.

In particular I am extremely grateful to Vic for her guidance and support, not to mention her flexibility and willingness to "nurture" my skills! She's always open to ideas and never resists any suggestions that I have.

Thank you Team Kenya for this amazing opportunity - volunteering with you is one of the best things I have ever done!

Helen Essex

Last year, thanks to your support we raised **£128,126!**

In 2015, Team Kenya's two largest sources of income were donations from individuals and grants from trusts and foundations.

Thanks to trusts and foundations:

Rothley Trust | £1,000

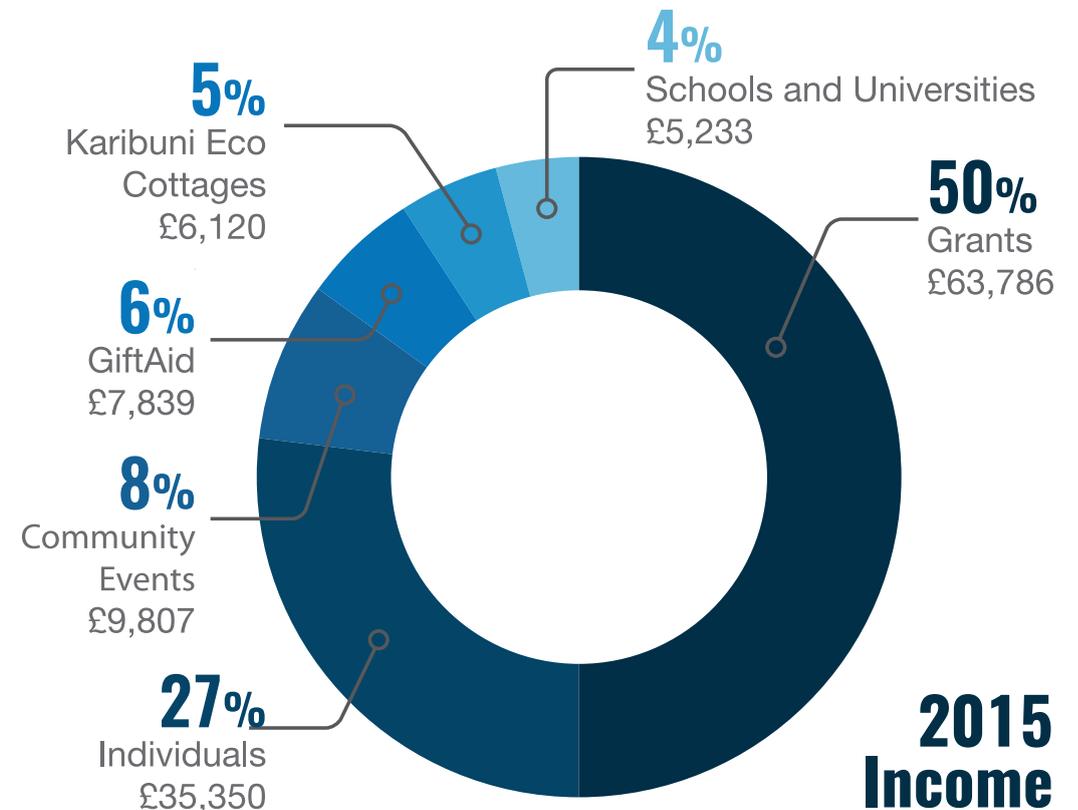
Waterloo Foundation | £10,000

Hazel Footprint Trust | £2,440

Jochnick Foundation via TAG International Development | £41,419

Comic Relief Generating Ideas | £9,850

Linkedin Grants For Good | \$10,000



A total of **£104,758** was spent on our charitable activities in 2015, with 91% of this spent directly on projects and our beneficiaries in Kenya.

*£24,000 was carried forward to 2016

Message from NCEDP



As a mother and community member who was born and raised in Ndhiwa, I have witnessed the challenges faced by girls and women living in poverty, felt their pain and undergone many personal challenges myself.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve my community as CEO and board member of NCEDP since 2012. I have witnessed the positive changes in the lives of so many desperately poor and vulnerable girls and women as a result of our work partnerships with Team Kenya.

In 2015, we took huge steps forward in the fight against gender based violence, we brought hope to widows and disadvantaged women that they could become self reliant and feed their families and send their daughter to school. Our support for girls education brought dramatic improvement in the number of girls accessing good quality education in primary, secondary and higher education. So many other achievements that space and time won't allow me to mention here.

Exciting new projects including growing rice and our girls ICT pilot show positive signs of bringing long term benefits for all.

NCEDP staff , board and beneficiaries would like to pass on sincere heartfelt thanks to all of Team Kenya trustees , volunteers and supporters for their unending commitment and dedication to improving the lives of the vulnerable girls women in my community and helping eradicate poverty . I can assure you the impact of your efforts is clearly seen on the ground and we are ready to continue to work hand in hand on the long journey to transform lives and fulfil our hope and dreams.

Please pass on my personal thanks to the whole UK team.

Risper Adhanja
CEO, NCEDP

How can you help us get there?

Donate

Make a one off or regular donation via www.teamkenya.org.uk/donate and help us to keep changing lives in Ndhiwa.



Fundraise

From cake sales and book swaps to mountain climbs and marathons, every penny raised on our behalf goes directly to our projects in Ndhiwa. Get in touch if you have a dynamic fundraising idea!

Schools and Universities

Since 2008, our school partners have raised an absolutely incredible £50,000 for our work!

School partnerships offer your students the chance to gain a real insight into life in Kenya, with many of our schools also taking their students on a school trip to Ndhiwa to see what their fundraising has achieved. University groups and societies can also come together to develop skills and experiences while fundraising for Team Kenya at the same time!

Kenya Challenge Events

Looking for something a little bit more adventurous? Summit Mount Kenya, Africa's second-highest mountain!

You will experience an amazing country, conquer a personal challenge, have fun, make new friends and offer life-changing opportunities for the girls of Ndhiwa through the funds you raise. Visit our website for more details.



Business Support

A close partnership with an effective business is one of the most sustainable ways in which we can continue our work. If you think your company and colleagues can offer us something special, contact us for a fundraising welcome pack.



Get in touch

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TEAM KENYA 

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