

A photograph of a classroom in Kenya. In the foreground, two young boys are seated at a wooden desk, focused on their open textbooks. The boy on the left is wearing a blue sleeveless shirt, and the boy on the right is wearing a black and white striped shirt. They are both looking down at their books. In the background, a larger group of students is seated at similar desks, some looking towards the camera and others looking away. The classroom has wooden walls and several maps are hanging on the wall. A large, semi-transparent purple banner with yellow diagonal stripes is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "TEAM KENYA UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

# TEAM KENYA UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS



# WHO WE ARE

Team Kenya is a North East based charity which was officially founded in 2008 by Valerie Wilson, a geography teacher and senior manager working in a secondary school in Newcastle Upon Tyne. Valerie has worked with the community in Ndhiwa since 1999, focusing on school partnerships and curriculum exchange. In 2008 Valerie left her job in teaching to establish Team Kenya.

Our mission is to work with partners to educate girls, empower women and transform communities in western Kenya through sustainable development practices and education.

In the UK we partner with local Universities and schools to help provide opportunities for students and raise funding to support Twende Pamoja, our partner NGO in Kenya, so they can deliver their community-led programs in Ndhiwa.





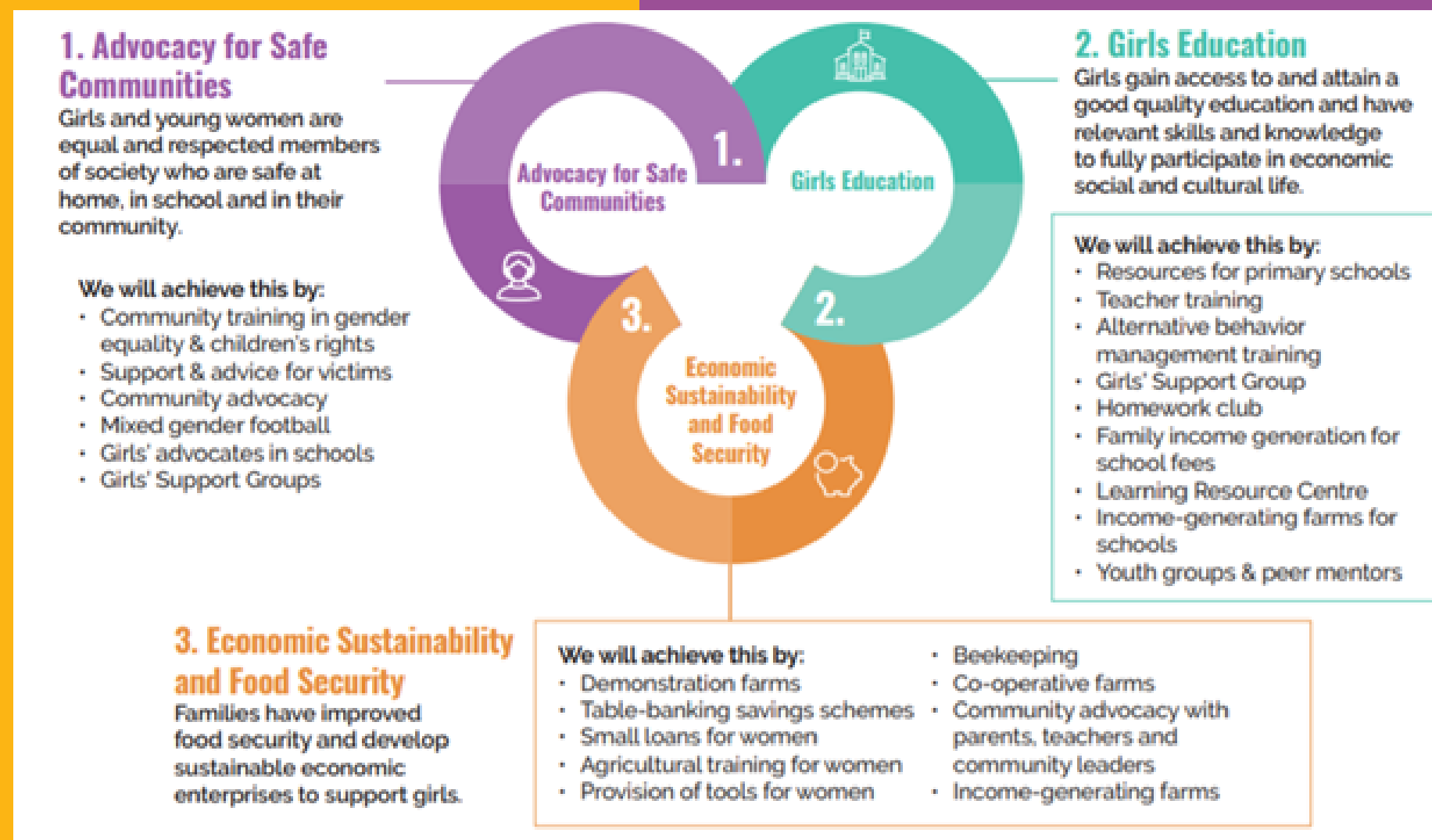
# WHY OUR WORK IS IMPORTANT

In Homa Bay County, 63% of people live in extreme poverty, and in Ndhiwa only 15% of children progress to secondary school, very few of whom are girls. We are passionate about ensuring that girls receive quality education, allowing them to access qualifications that will improve their quality of life, and help transform their communities.

In the UK, we believe it is essential students are educated on global citizenship in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. By engaging with Team Kenya students can learn about topics such as international development, climate change, gender equality, and global socioeconomic issues. Our volunteering opportunities also allow students to develop essential skills needed for the world of work, providing the experience needed to boost their employability.

# PROGRAMMES IN NDHIWA

## OUR HOLISTIC MODEL



The programmes we support in Ndhiwa have 3 focus areas:

1. Advocacy for safe communities
2. Girls Education
3. Economic sustainability and food security

Since Team Kenya was founded, we have impacted over 60,000 people. Through Twende Pamoja, we currently support 500 vulnerable girls across 16 partner schools in Ndhiwa by providing them with the resources needed to attend school. We are also empowering 740 women through 23 women's table banking groups by developing their financial security. We use a holistic approach to involve whole communities in education and gender equality.



# UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

## Research for your dissertation -

We can help provide you with information and relevant materials to use in your dissertation research. These can include real-life case studies from Twende Pamoja to help inform course work, or the opportunity to visit Kenya to collect the research yourself.

## Visit Kenya -

Visiting our projects in Kenya and learning about our work first-hand has proven to be a highly rewarding and invaluable experience for students. We have facilitated many successful trips using our accommodation at Karibuni Eco-Cottages.

**Volunteering -** We provide a diverse range of volunteering opportunities for students including blog writing, admin, event co-ordination and social media placements. We are flexible around student's schedules, allowing you to develop your employability and gain valuable experience alongside your studies.



## Establish a Team Kenya Society -

We have a thriving and successful society at Newcastle University which organises student-led fundraisers, and socials including bake sales, sky dives, and pub quizzes. The society is a great way to - meet like-minded people and develop your CV. Our society also has the opportunity to visit Kenya every summer.

## Fundraising -

You can raise awareness for Team Kenya and organise fundraising activities to support the schools and community in Ndhiwa, while simultaneously developing your professional skills including team-work, organisation, and leadership.



# TRIPS TO KENYA

Team Kenya can help facilitate trips to Ndhiwa for both staff and students. There may be an opportunity to secure funding from your University for your trip. Our previous visits to Kenya have proven to be greatly successful and had a profound impact on everyone involved.

## Example: Newcastle University

“After volunteering with the Team Kenya Society at Uni, I was given the opportunity to visit Kenya with some other students. We climbed Mount Kenya to help raise over £10,000 for the charity, and then got to visit all the amazing people and projects in Ndhiwa. It was one of the best experiences of my life, and was so humbling and wonderful to see the real-life impact of the work we were doing in the UK. I have gained a fantastic group of friends, and a full-time job as a result of my trip. It was truly life-changing - I can't recommend it enough!

”

-Ellie Sizeland, Newcastle University Student





# DISSERTATION TOPICS

Our work easily lends itself to both Geography and International Development students, but could also apply to other subjects. Some key topics linking to your studies could include:

- Gender Equality
- Sustainable development
- Girls education
- Women's enterprise
- Agricultural enterprise
- Climate Change
- Poverty alleviation
- Women's financial empowerment
- Grass-root NGOs
- Community-led development






There could be an opportunity for tech-based students who are interested in innovative technology, enterprise, or problem-solving to help us develop new solutions for certain problems experienced by locals in Ndhiwa e.g. drought



# RESEARCH AREAS

Team Kenya has supported community-led development work in Ndhiwa for over 15 years. We need help with both qualitative and quantitative undergraduate and postgraduate research to help understand the impact of our programmes, build a robust evidence base and inform future development work of the charity. Specifically we need support in the following areas -

-  Research investigating the success of outreach activities under the 'Advocacy for Safe Communities' programme of work with a focus on gender equality; children's rights; outreach work including girl's support groups, peer mentors, and mixed gender football.
-  Research investigating the impacts of the work focused on girl's education across our partner schools in Ndhiwa including teacher training, provision of teaching resources, provision of student's resources, establishment of youth groups, and extra tuition in our Learning Resource Centre including digital training.
-  Research investigating the effectiveness of programmes delivering training in sustainable agricultural practices, bee-keeping women's table banking, and agricultural enterprise.

To achieve the research aims we have a wealth of existing data that will provide a baseline for investigation. This initial base of evidence needs to be supplemented through further data collection, and could be used to facilitate comparisons over time. There is a need for stakeholder engagement to ascertain the success and effectiveness of established programmes of work. This could be achieved through interviews, questionnaires or revised reporting requirements focusing on the collection of data from beneficiaries and programme leads. Ultimately the charity requires a sound evidence base to gauge impacts and outcomes to inform future directions.



# WHY GET INVOLVED?

Partnerships with Team Kenya have many benefits for both staff and students on a personal and professional level. By working with universities we are able to positively impact the lives of young people in the UK and in Kenya.

## Staff:

- Collaborate and develop skills on embedding global themes into your teaching
- Share experiences and learn from teachers in Kenya
- Equip students with the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly global world
- Engage your students in teaching based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Fantastic opportunity to get your University in the local press through fundraising challenges or visits to Kenya
- Help support a fantastic cause
- Offer a diverse and engaging experience for your students
- Take part in a life-changing trip to Kenya



## Students:

- Help towards gaining qualifications including university credits
- Developing skills; organisation, team building and communication
- Learning new things about yourself; your strengths and your passions
- Gaining work experience and making links with potential employers
- Meeting new people from various backgrounds
- Develop your CV to make it stand out
- Engage in fantastic fundraising opportunities and challenge experiences
- Take part in a life-changing trip to Kenya
- Support an amazing cause





# GET IN TOUCH

If you would like to find out more about us, or how to get involved, please visit our website and social media pages, or send us an email.



[www.team-kenya.org.uk](http://www.team-kenya.org.uk)



Team Kenya



@teamkenya



[hello@team-kenya.co.uk](mailto:hello@team-kenya.co.uk)