



CENTRES for
HEALTH &
EDUCATION
PROGRAMMES

Empowering | Promoting Health, Education and Development | Improving lifestyles

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ABOUT US

The Centres for Health and Education Programmes (CHEPs) is a registered Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in Kenya. Its goal is to empower, promote access and improve quality of health and education for the benefit of under resourced individuals and communities.

VISION

CHEPs' envisions the underprivileged across Kenya empowered with equal access to quality health and education services, improved agriculture and environment for a dignified lifestyle.

MISSION

CHEPs' mission is to empower the underprivileged individuals and communities of Kenya, while instilling hope and dignity, by providing sustainable and quality health, education, agriculture, environment conservation, development and humanitarian projects through local initiatives, resources, and involvement of local volunteers willing to serve the community.

PROJECTS

Health care: eye camps, emergency medical treatment, limb prosthesis

Education: student sponsorship, student mentorship centre, set up libraries, solar lights, books' distribution to students, classrooms and desks for schools















Agriculture: farming support, irrigation projects, animal husbandry

Environment: tree planting, organizing clean up/hygiene projects in villages

Development: microfinance and infrastructure for promotion of health and education, improving water supply through digging & rehabilitation of wells, improving sanitation by building latrines in rural areas

Humanitarian: emergency relief during famine & drought, welfare of street children, feeding programmes

THIS QUARTER IN SUMMARY

-  **Conducted 3 Eye camps serving over 2000, and restoring vision of 330 blind**
 -  **COVID-19 prevention through distribution of 800 CHEPs produced reusable masks**
 -  **Distributed 1728 dental hygiene kits to students in 8 rural schools**
 -  **Constructed 17 shallow wells to provide water to needy communities**
 -  **Installed 2 water storage facilities for remote communities**
 -  **Constructed a block of toilets for rural needy school**
 -  **Constructed 6 homes for elderly and widows**
 -  **Two classrooms roofed and improved**
 -  **Produced 3195 reusable menstrual hygiene kits for distribution to school going girls**
 -  **Books and stationery donated to 1 school**
 -  **Supported 156 farmers with seeds**
 -  **Donated relief food to 100 widows**
 -  **School feeding program introduced to 3 rural ECDE schools**
 -  **Distributed clothes to needy residents of 16 remote villages**
-

IMPACT

To date CHEPs has achieved the following:

Sr.No	Indicators of activity progress	Units
1	Number of people provided with food support in emergencies:	214,876
2	Number of villages provided food support in emergencies:	63
3	Amount of food distributed in emergencies: (tons)	522
4	Number of eye camps organized:	107
5	Number of people screened for eye conditions:	46,619
6	Number of people provided eye glasses for refractive errors:	13,726
7	Number of people provided with eyedrops for various eye conditions:	33,036
8	Number of cataract blind people operated to see again:	5,666
9	Number of individuals assisted for emergency medical treatment:	78
10	Number of amputees provided with limb prosthesis:	28
11	Number of students ever supported with fees:	154
12	Number of students currently supported with fees:	6
13	Number of university students ever supported with fees:	85
14	Number of university students currently supported with fees:	3
15	Number of disabled students ever supported with fees:	15
16	Number of disabled students currently supported with fees:	3
17	Number of boarding schools in rural areas supported in food for fees project:	13
18	Number of students benefited from food for fees project:	524
19	Amount of food distributed in food for fees project:	Over 40 tons
20	Number of student mentorship centres set up:	3
21	Number of books distributed:	7809
22	Number of schools/institutions given books:	40
23	Number of libraries set up for schools/communities:	4
24	Number of classrooms constructed:	15
25	Number of sanitary facilities constructed:	67

26	Number of desks given to schools:	830
27	Number of solar lights given to schools:	2504
28	Number of solar lights given to institutions:	42
29	Number of trees planted:	13380
30	Number of wells dug:	441
31	Number of wells rehabilitated:	557
32	Number of dried wells re-dug:	50
33	Number of 'berkets' water storage tanks constructed:	2
34	Number of kitchen gardens supported:	329
35	Number of farmers supported	2000
36	Number of large irrigation (greenhouse)/farming projects:	3
37	Number of goats distributed to poor families:	90
38	Number of official presentations made at scientific conferences:	6
39	Number of workshops, seminars & community presentations:	8
40	Number of conferences and workshops organized:	3
41	Number of clothes distributed:	1600
42	Number of schools/institutions given clothes:	10
43	Number of water filters distributed	200
44	Number of families received water purification chemical	6400
45	Number of families received water buckets for water storage	2750
46	Number of households educated on COVID-19	6000
47	Number of masks produced	Over 42,000
48	Number of masks distributed	Over 38,000
49	Number of thermo gun given to schools	6
50	Number of sanitary pad kits produced	Over 5000
51	Number of menstrual hygiene kits distributed to school going girls	Over 4000
52	Number of houses constructed for seniors	24
53	Number of individuals assisted with wheelchairs	2
54	Number of households received solar lights	32

HEALTH



- EYE CAMPS
- COVID-19 PREVENTION
- DENTAL HYGIENE

EYE CAMPS

CHEPs 105TH EYE CAMP- July 2021

Held in Garissa which is located 370 km from Nairobi and 200 km from Kenya's border with Somalia. Garissa has a total population of over 1,020,000 people, most of whom live nomadic lives. The team held the surgical camp at the Garissa County Referral Hospital to provide the much-needed ophthalmic surgical services. The team conducted 127 surgeries to correct and restore vision free of charge and also complying to COVID19 prevention regulations.



CHEPs volunteer ophthalmologist examining a patient.



Administering local anaesthesia



CHEPs 106TH EYE CAMP- AUGUST 2021

The camp was held in Meru County at two villages: Nkubu and Mariri, one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located 225 km North east of Nairobi. It has a population estimated at 240,900 people.

Activity	People Served
Total number served	1621
Reading glasses dispensed	200
Eye drops dispensed	650
Cataracts operated	89



CHEPs travels far to deliver ophthalmic services



We access remote villages to serve the forgotten



Lower peak of Mount Kenya visible from the camp site





CHEPs 107TH EYE CAMP- September 2021

Once again, we travelled to Garissa, 370 km from Nairobi and 200 km from Kenya's border with Somalia. This was again held at the Garissa County Referral Hospital to provide the much-needed ophthalmic surgical services. The team conducted **114 surgeries** to correct and restore vision free of charge and also complying to COVID19 prevention regulations.



COVID-19 PREVENTION

The world has since the year 2019 been facing a major pandemic COVID-19. Caused by a novel strain of Corona virus that has been spreading fast and wreaking havoc worldwide. By the end of September 2021, over 230 million cases and 4.6 million deaths had been recorded. In Kenya, more than 249,000 cases and 5,123 deaths had occurred.

In order to prevent the spread of the virus, CHEPs has, since last year, been raising awareness of the communities on prevention of Covid-19, providing handwashing stations to villages and schools, training them on making handwashing stations from locally available materials, producing and distributing masks at the CHEPs tailoring unit in Chakama, Kilifi County. So far, over 42,000 masks have been produced, most of which have been distributed households in all villages of Chakama and to children and teachers in schools located in rural Kilifi. This quarter 800 masks were distributed to schools.



Low cost hand washing facilities installed in schools

DENTAL HYGIENE CAMPAIGN

Oral health and hygiene is essential for general health and quality of life. Some studies have even demonstrated a relation between oral diseases and major conditions such as metabolic syndrome, strokes and heart diseases. Oral health is however commonly ignored among communities especially rural ones. Surveys conducted by CHEPs showed that majority of children living in Chakama location which consists of 42 villages in remote Kilifi county, did not own tooth brushes, with some having never brushed their teeth before. CHEPs in collaboration with Kinga Africa Dental Center, distributed tooth brushes and tooth pastes to **1728 students in 8 schools**. Workshops were also conducted to educate them and their teachers on oral hygiene, and print material distributed to the schools



CHEPs CEO Dr. Muhsin Sherif educating students on oral hygiene





CHEPs CENTRES for HEALTH & EDUCATION PROGRAMMES
A subsidiary of the National Health and Medical Research Council of Kenya

BETA CHARITABLE TRUST
HEALTHY CHANGING AND TRANSFORMING LIVES

Well Digg
This BCT well is in memory of
Rubah bai Maier | Noorali Gulamhusein
Gulamhusein Wajji | Hyderali Anaria
with a humble request for Surat al-Fatihah for their departed souls.
July 2021 Tana River County, Kenya
www.chepkenya.org | www.betacharitabletrust.org

DEVELOPMENT

- SHALLOW WELLS
- WATER STORAGE
- SANITATION

WATER SUPPLY

It is reported that:









- Lack of access to safe drinking water is the number one crisis worldwide.
- At least 1 billion people all over the world lack safe drinking water, more than 80% of whom live in rural areas.
- 2.5 billion people (37% of global population) to date lack access to adequate sanitation.
- Such people are forced to practice open defecation, which has been shown to cause diarrhoea, the second leading killer of children below 5 years of age.
- Every 20 Seconds, a child dies due to poor sanitation.
- 80% of diseases in developing countries are caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation.
- Access to good sanitation and safe water could save 1.5 million children per year.

The situation in Kenya is no different. With 80% of its land found in arid and semi-arid areas, recurrent droughts, increased water demand and poor management of water supply have led to 17 million out of the 40 million people living in the country to lack access to the valuable commodity.

CHEPs WASH PROJECTS







CHEPs aims to save lives through provision of safe water and suitable sanitation facilities. We strive to improve the accessibility of water to alleviate thirst, improve farming, and lower poverty among marginalized communities. We do so by providing water to the worst affected communities through digging wells, drilling of boreholes, construction of sanitary facilities, educating communities on hand washing, hygiene, and disease prevention.

We have so far:

-  Dug 441 shallow wells
-  Rehabilitated and cupped 537 wells
-  Re-dug 50 dried wells
-  Drilled 3 boreholes
-  Installed hand pumps for 2 institutions
-  Constructed 46 sanitary facilities
-  Installed water storage and rain harvesting tanks in 3 villages
-  Set up 12 hand washing stations

This has helped ease the water problem, encouraged farming, growing of trees, improved access to clean and safe water and good sanitation practices.

Some of the key achievements of our water projects are:

-  Increased access to safe, and adequate water and sanitation, resulting in reduction of diseases.
-  Water availability for drinking and domestic use by households.
-  Increased school attendance by children who no longer walk long distances to fetch water.
-  Women have more time to undertake other socio-economic activities.
-  Increased household income as a result of using water for income generating activities such as farming.
-  Afforestation and environmental conservation to mitigate drought.

SHALLOW WELLS DUG THIS QUARTER IN TANA RIVER COUNTY

Tana River is one of the 47 counties of Kenya, located 582 Km from Nairobi. The county has a population of approximately 315,943 people most of them marginalized, extremely needy, and living under very harsh conditions, lacking essential needs including water, food, education, healthcare, electricity, and sanitation. The county was named after the river Tana, which previously cut through it, leading to the formation of villages around it as the communities settled nearby to farm and tap into its water for irrigation. The river however changed its course some years ago, leaving the communities with neither water for irrigation nor drinking. They were therefore forced to turn to digging a few shallow wells, and trekking long distances to fetch water, both of which cannot sustain their farming, resulting in widespread hunger in addition to thirst, over the year. Sanitation on the other hand is exceedingly poor leading to regular outbreaks of diarrheal diseases that are causing loss of lives.

Young children are commonly seen carrying jerrycans every day in search of water at the expense of schooling, lowering the communities' literacy, and thereby aggravating the vicious cycle of poverty. The men were forced to turn to menial jobs at the nearest major towns to earn a living, while the women remain behind to look after the families, fetch water and collect firewood.



Map of Kenya showing Tana River county

This quarter CHEPs dug and constructed **17 shallow wells** in various villages of Tana River County. Suitable beneficiary families which were in desperate need of water were identified, during community meetings, and assigned a well each as custodians. The families will benefit from the wells, as well as maintain them while always keeping them accessible to other neighbours and members of public in general.

The projects were successful and adequate water is now readily available to more than 1700 villagers living nearby the wells.



The road to Mnazini



The course of River Tana passing near the village, some years ago, before it changed its course.



Typical housing at Tana River County villages



Shallow well digging



The well





Pounding & plumbing



Capping, plumbing and trough completion

D425



D426



D427



D428



D429



D430



D431



D432



D433



D434



D435



D436



D437



D438



D439



D440



D441



WATER STORAGE TANKS

Bofu is a remote village within Kenya's rural Kilifi County. It has an estimated population of 2000 people, mostly elderly, living in extreme poverty. The community lacked access to water, having no water body nearby. They were forced to walk more than 20 km daily to purchase water from the nearest village at a cost of at least KShs 20 per 20L jerry can, a cost that would go up to as high as 100 depending on supply. The elderly and weak suffered the most, as they found it difficult to access water, given the distance, extremely rough terrain, and cost of purchasing water. It is reported that several attempts were made by the government to drill a borehole for the community, with no success. CHEPs therefore constructed for them a 60,000L water storage and rain harvesting facility in 2018. The community utilized the water harvested from rain, and when there is no rain, pooled their KShs 20s together to purchase water delivered in a water tanker from the next major town.

Last year however, the facility was destroyed by strong winds which blew the roof away and damaged the tanks. This quarter, CHEPs repaired the tanks so that they can be used to store water during the ongoing drought season and facilitated for water to be delivered by a tanker. Plans are underway to rebuild the rain harvesting facility.

Benzaro is another village within Chakama where communities live in extreme poverty and lacked access to water. They too trekked for tens of kilometres in search of the precious commodity. Having an estimated population of 1000 poverty-stricken people, mostly elderly, their suffering was worsened by the current drought. In order to avert potential loss of lives, CHEPs installed a water storage tank for the village and facilitated its regular filling.



The rain water harvesting tanks constructed at Bofu village in 2018



Villagers gather to fetch water from Bofu water tanks after their repair and filling



The newly installed Benzaro village water storage tank

SANITATION

It is reported that:

- 2.5 billion people (37% of global population) to date lack access to adequate sanitation
- Every 20 Seconds, a child dies due to poor sanitation
- 80% of diseases in developing countries are caused by unsafe water and poorsanitation
- Access to good sanitation and safe water could save 1.5 million children per year

Proper human waste disposal systems are unheard of in many remote parts of Kenya. Many people are forced to walk long distances to access latrines, practice open defecation, or even use ‘flying toilets’ where people defecate or urinate in plastic bags or bottles and throw them out into the open. This poses great danger to the communities due to the high likelihood of water and food contamination, leading to outbreaks of diarrhoea diseases that often lead to mass mortality.

ADIMAYE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Adimaye is a remote village located within Chakama Location of Kenya’s Kilifi County. The community there is a very needy one, living under very harsh conditions, and lacking essential needs including food, healthcare, water, electricity, and sanitation. Adimaye primary, the only public school in the village, hosts over 209 pupils in an environment that lacks a proper sanitary facility. Majority of the students were forced to urinate and defecate in the open, as they only had two existing mud latrines which were inadequate, unhygienic and dangerous to use. This exposed them and their community to severe disease.



Previous latrines that served the entire school population

Construction of toilets for the students

As always, CHEPs does not turn a blind eye! Through support from Humanity First, CHEPs constructed a modern sanitary facility bearing 6 cubicles for the students alongside with a hand washing facility. This provided the students with a facility to dispose their waste safely as well as practice hand hygiene after visiting the toilet thus protecting them from diseases. They are well ventilated, and easy to clean, hence maintaining hygiene.

Using surplus funds that remained from savings, we were also able to construct blackboards for two of the school's classrooms, repair their damaged 10,000L water tank and build a concrete base for it in preparation for rain water harvesting.



Construction in progress



CHEPs CEO Dr. Muhsin inspecting the work



Roofing



Each cubicle is individually ventilated and the pit has a long vent pipe to prevent bad smell and flies



3 cubicles for boys and 3 for girls partitioned to ensure privacy



Interior of the toilets



Hand washing facility with separate taps for boys and girls



Completed toilets

HOUSING

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FOUNDATION



HOUSING FOR ELDERLY, DISABLED AND WIDOWS IN CHAKAMA

Shelter is one of the basic necessities for a human being. According to the United Nations:

- 100 million people worldwide are homeless
- 1.6 billion lack adequate and secure housing
- 100,000 people die every year due to lack housing
- The housing deficit in Kenya stands at 2 million and continues to grow by 200,000 annually

The worst affected are the elderly who are commonly neglected by their children who move to towns leaving them in the villages. Some societies including those living in Kilifi even accuse the elderly of witchcraft and isolate or even murder them. With support from Salomsal Marnasbar Foundation, this quarter, CHEPs constructed an additional 6 houses for the elderly. This brings the total houses we have constructed to 30.

BEFORE



AFTER

CHEPS 025



CHEPs 026



CHEPs27/2021



CHEPs28/2021

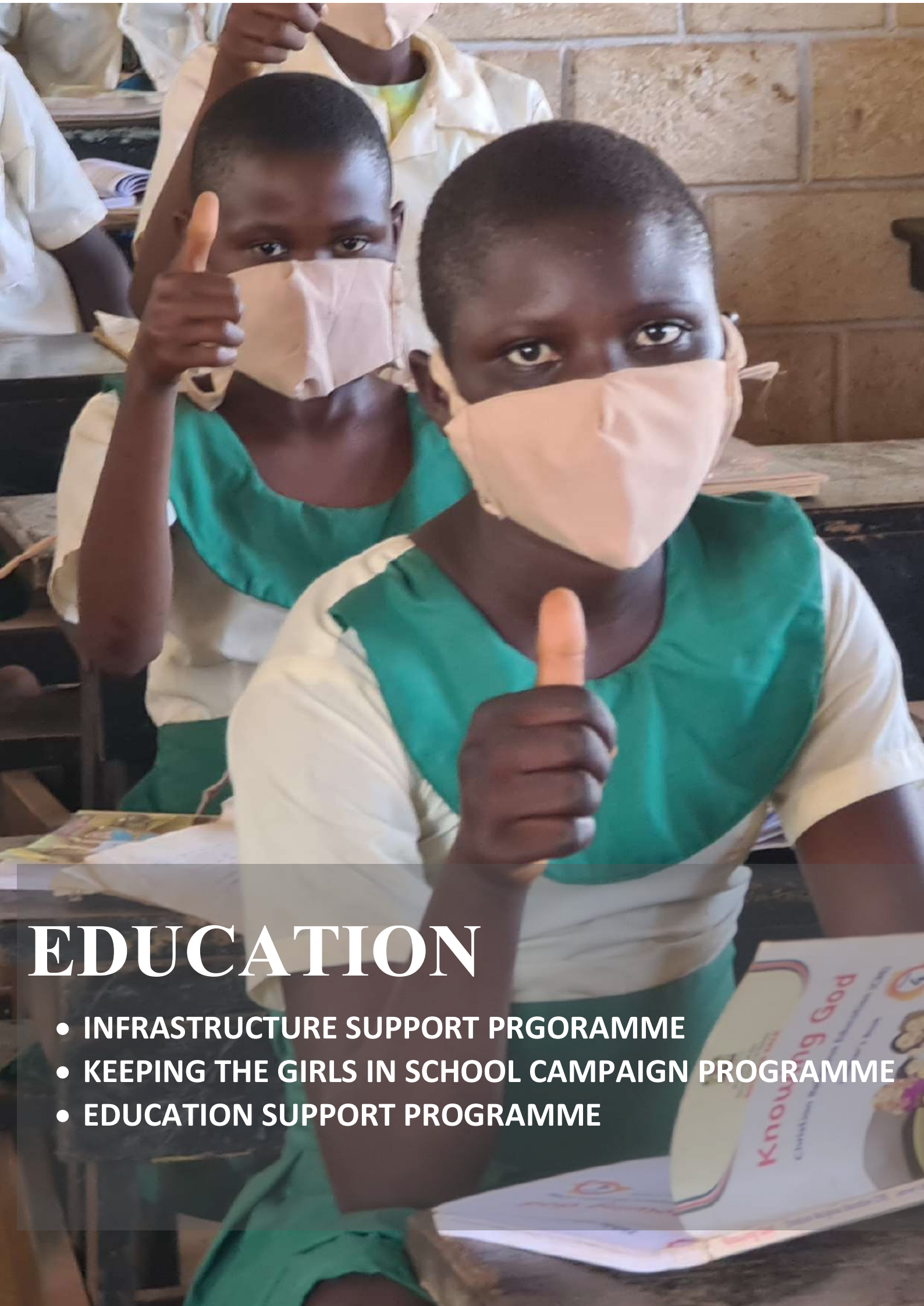


CHEPs29/2021



CHEPs30/2021





EDUCATION

- INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAMME
- KEEPING THE GIRLS IN SCHOOL CAMPAIGN PROGRAMME
- EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAMME

BACKGROUND

It is estimated that over 46% of the Kenyan population live below the poverty line. Such people face huge challenges in accessing education due to, among others, inability to afford levies, geographical proximity, lack of facilities, need to help out at home or undertake paid labour to support the family. Girls have unique challenges including inability to buy sanitary pads, early marriage and teenage pregnancy. These challenges have forced many children living in extreme poverty to be locked out of obtaining education. Poverty and education are intertwined at multiple levels. Such children grow up uneducated, preventing them from becoming productive members of an extremely competitive society. They, in turn, give rise to poverty-stricken off springs, who, in turn, are unable to access education giving rise to a viscous cycle. The situation only gets worse with the rising cost of living and increasing competition among societies. It is therefore imperative to break this cycle. The most sustainable intervention in breaking the cycle of poverty is that of promoting access to education to curb poverty.

SCHOOLS INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

Many communities in rural parts of Kenya lack educational facilities. They either learn in non-conducive environments or walk long distances through very rough terrain to access schools, thereby exposing them to hazards. As a result, most of such children drop out of education along the way, enhancing the poverty cycle. CHEPs education endeavors are in line with The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal #4 which seeks to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

ADIMAYE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Adimaye primary, the only school in Adimaye village, hosts over 209 pupils without proper classrooms. Two of the school's classrooms had neither roofs, windows nor floor. They were constructed through community fundraising but were left incomplete when the funds were exhausted. Children learning in them had to put up with harsh environmental conditions including unpredictable weather, direct heat from the scorching sun, uncomfortable ground, and insects.

This quarter, with support from Beta Charitable Trust, CHEPs was able to construct a roof and blackboards for the two classrooms. Plans are underway to improve the classrooms further as well as construct additional classrooms for the school.



The incomplete classrooms



Classes ongoing under improvised wooden shade within the classrooms



Roofing ongoing



Roofing complete



Students delighted to have a roof and blackboard in their classroom

KEEPING THE GIRLS IN SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

Many girls who grow up in poverty often cannot afford menstruation protection, which means that they do not fully participate in school, sports or social life when they have their periods. This commonly leads to increased school absenteeism, and for some girls even dropping out altogether. The United Nations estimated that 1 in 10 girls in Africa miss school because of their periods. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) number 4 states that all boys and girls should be able to have a quality education. However, studies have shown that girls from poor families in Kenya miss 20% of school days in a year due to lack of menstrual hygiene kits. Surveys by our team have revealed that the girls not only miss out in school but use unhygienic means to protect themselves during their menstrual periods including dirty rags and leaves. This exposes them to a wide range of reproductive health diseases which could lead to complications as well as mortality in the long run.

In order to address this grave matter, which has for long been ignored, last year CHEPs set up a tailoring unit in Kilifi County, through support from Beta Charitable Trust, to produce menstrual hygiene kits. Each kit contains a water proof carrying bag, 7 absorbent liners, 2 water proof shields, a towel, soap, 2 underwear, a menses calendar and user manual. Due to high demand for the kits, through support from Lady Fatemah Charitable Trust, we set up a second production facility in Nairobi's Kawangware slums, in June 2021. Operations began in July and by the end of September, the Kawangware facility had produced 3,195 kits bringing the total number of kits produced by CHEPs to 7,195.

The kits are distributed free of charge to school going teenage girls during school visits by CHEPs volunteers who also conduct workshops to educate the girls on various topics of sexuality including menstrual hygiene, teen pregnancies, gender-based violence, and sexually transmitted diseases. The volunteers also demonstrate to the girls how to properly use the kits.



Tailors in CHEPs Kawangware tailoring unit stitching menstrual hygiene kits



CHEPs volunteers giving talks to school girls



Students excitedly unpack their menstrual hygiene kits

BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES-BOOKS DISTRIBUTION

Chakama, an extremely remote location located in Kenya's Kilifi County, comprises of 32 villages. The communities there are very needy, living under very harsh conditions, and lacking essential needs including food, healthcare, water, electricity, and sanitation. CHEPs endeavors to support communities living in Chakama to break off the poverty cycle by enhancing education in the location. Other than poor infrastructure, majority of students learning in schools within the villages lack basic books and stationery. This quarter CHEPs distributed books, through the generous donation of Green African Global Foundation, to needy students in Chakama.



CHEPs CEO Dr. Muhsin distributing bags to students in Benzaro School



AGRICULTURE



Farmers support

According to the World Food Program, Close to 800 million people worldwide lack access to food. Furthermore, Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest prevalence of hunger occurring in 1 in 4 people! In Kenya, it is estimated that 40% of the population lacks sufficient food. With most of Kenya's land mass being arid or semi-arid, only about 20% is suitable for farming. About 80% of Kenya's work force engages in farming or food processing. Farming is typically carried out by small producers who usually cultivate no more than five acres using limited technology. As we seek to implement the 2nd United Nations Sustainable Development Goal, and eradicate hunger, CHEPs runs programmes aimed at enhancing food security.

Since 2011, CHEPs has been working to build young people's interest in agricultural enterprises. This helps generate income, create resilience and empower young people. We have created, strengthened and supported young farmers and institutions to establish and manage their farms.

This quarter CHEPs supported 156 farmers, living in 11 villages of Chakama, whose farms were devastated by prolonged drought and marauding elephants competing for scarce food and water resources, by providing them with farming seeds. We hope that this will help in improving food security in the area.



HUMANITARIAN



- RELIEF FOOD DISTRIBUTION
- SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM
- CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION

BACKGROUND

Over 2.1 million Kenyans are currently at risk of starvation due to the ongoing protracted drought, which has, since September 2021, been declared a national disaster. Having lost their source of food and water with the drying of their crops and dried water sources, masses of people risked losing their livelihoods if no intervention was put in place. The crisis has been an extension of food insecurity experienced last year which has only worsened with time. The year 2020 began with the country suffering the worst locust infestation ever witnessed in 70 years, which caused widespread destruction of farms. Following that was COVID-19 pandemic which led to travel restrictions and economic shutdown. Within the year, floods were also witnessed in many parts that caused massive destruction, and towards the end of the year, expected rains and hence harvests failed leading communities dependent on subsistence farming to fall further in poverty and go hungry. The year 2020 therefore saw very little food production and exhaustion of food reserves leading to widespread food insecurity. Failed rainfall in early 2021 exacerbated the situation further and many villages failed to grow food. The weather has since worsened the drought which was eventually declared a national disaster on 8 September by President Uhuru Kenyatta. Communities in rural parts of Kenya are the worst affected and are at risk of starvation. CHEPs has been undertaking some measures to mitigate the impact of the prolonged drought. It is also preparing for a drought response by distributing food to reduce hunger in the villages of Chakama, followed by Recovery and Resilience building phase to return dignity to the desperate people.

RELIEF FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO WIDOWS

Chakama, located in remote Kilifi County is one of such locations where communities are living in extreme poverty and at the risk of starvation. They mostly rely on subsistent farming to obtain food but due to harsh environmental and climatic factors, they grow very little. Furthermore, the little they are able to grow is commonly destroyed by free moving domestic as well as wild animals, pests, drought and floods. Among the most affected are the widows who are commonly neglected by the community. In order to avert potential loss of lives, through support from Beta Charitable Trust, CHEPs distributed **over 3.4 tons** of relief food to **100** of the most vulnerable widows in Chakama. This included 24kgs of maize flour and 10kg of beans. CHEPs is monitoring the situation and preparing for mass emergency food distribution to the entire Chakama population.



SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Universal access to free and compulsory basic education is a key principle of the Kenyan law. However, despite significant advancement, the education sector still faces regional inequalities. Children of remote communities still face disadvantages in education due to a combination of factors including food insecurity, inadequacy of schools, as well as high malnutrition and stunting rates. Accordingly, such children systematically achieve lower competency levels. Chakama is one such location where school children are disadvantaged. Schools there face low enrollment of pupils and high dropout rates due to numerous challenges they face. This year has seen very low school attendance due to severe drought and severe food insecurity. Most of the community are subsistence farmers who have gone months without any farm produce pushing their families into hunger. Worse affected are the younger children who are forced to remain at home in order to preserve the little energy that they acquire from their erratic meals unsure of their next one.

This has prompted CHEPs to intervene by introducing school feeding programs to Early Child Development Schools in Chakama to encourage children to report back to school. This quarter we rolled out the program to 3 school namely Kwamagandi, Benzaro and Roka schools. Indeed this has so far been fruitful as enrollment of pupils in all the three schools has exponentially increased. Plans are underway to increase the number of schools CHEPs supports to eventually cover the entire Chakama location.



CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION

Clothing is one of the basic needs of life. However, communities in many rural areas including Chakama lack access to decent clothing, and tattered clothes are a common sight. This adversely touches not only to their comfort, but dignity and health as well. This quarter CHEPs conducted a clothes distribution drive to provide decent clothes to destitute people living in the villages of Chakama. With the generous donation of clothes by SV Trading and Green African Global Foundation, we reached out to needy people living in 16 villages putting smiles on their faces.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We thank all organizational & individual well-wishers for their moral and material support which has helped CHEPs carry out these projects. Through this support CHEPs hopes to achieve its mission “to empower the underprivileged individuals and communities of Kenya, while instilling hope and dignity, by providing sustainable and quality health, education, agriculture, environment conservation, development and humanitarian projects through local initiatives, resources, and involvement of local volunteers willing to serve the community”

Our communities are in need of all manners of support. CHEPs believes in empowering communities to become self-sufficient. This is a more effective and sustainable approach. As demonstrated by this report and many others that can be accessed through our website, there is need for continued collaboration to empower needy communities and provide them with basic human needs and support community development. Join us in our endeavor to empower destitute communities to become self-sufficient.

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