

WATER IS LIFE - KENYA



A look back at 10 years:

- 16 successful water projects
- All operational
- 46,000 lives transformed
- Water for livestock/wildlife
- 42 Livestock as a Business programs completed and/or in progress
- 99.4% of micro loans paid back
- Average 30% profit from sales of cattle
- Women starting businesses
- Women have time to enroll in adult literacy classes
- Girls returning to school
- Health improved for people and livestock

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

10th Year Anniversary...looking back a bit.

Dear friends and generous supporters of WILK,

When we started WILK 10 years ago, our idea was simply “we want to help people solve their water problems.” We thought, “This is something we can do. Money and expertise are out there, and we are willing to be the ones to bring them to the ground where the problem is severe.”

We’re still “helping people solve their water problems,” but we have learned:

- Water supply is sustainable when people have more reliable income, thus we developed our “Livestock as a Business” Program to help WILK water project members and pastoralist communities we interact with to manage their asset, livestock, in a more profitable way.
- Our non-profit organization is more sustainable (read: we can worry less) when we have multiple sources of income. Selling Maasai beadwork off and on has developed into “Water is Life Beaded Handicrafts.” which now generates 10% of our income.

For the way you have supported us, whether you’re a new donor or have been with us since the beginning...we ARE SO GRATEFUL to you all for being part of WILK’S “LOVE AND WATER PIPELINE” which provides water every day to tens of thousands of Kenyans!

Thanks for your ongoing support, Joyce

It’s good that we didn’t know what it would take. Because if we had, we might never have begun.

We underestimated what it would take to:

- o Do water projects that work
- o Raise sufficient funds for water projects that will last
- o Inspire people to want to change in a way that is beneficial to them
- o Build relationships of trust with the community
- o See if new programs work
- o Understand what motivates different people
- o Get a mechanic to fix a broken down vehicle in the bush
- o Find spare parts from Nairobi to fix cars and the generators
- o Push a car out of the mud in the rainy season
- o Lead a team that does all the above

What's on Tap for 2017?



Kuku Community Borehole

In 2016 we heard about a community on the road to Tsavo West National Park with a serious water problem. The place is called Kuku, which in Kiswahili means “Chicken”. We haven’t uncovered the reason that the place is named “Chicken,” but we discovered the seriousness of their water problem!

Women walk 3-5 hours per day to dig in a dry river bed to get water. It takes 8 minutes to fill a 5-gallon jerry can. There are hundreds of women, and each woman needs 3-4 jugs to take care of her family. As a result, the water line is long and slow moving. Since water is slow to refill, especially during this harsh drought, women are forced to come at night in a group, with warriors to protect them. Wild animals, like elephants, hyenas, and lions also gather there at night to drink, making the water point dangerous. We hope to dig a productive borehole with ample clean water for them so their lives can be transformed.

Esukuta Community Borehole Progress

Brief background on Esukuta

WILK drilled, installed pump and generator, and constructed water storage for Esukuta Borehole in 2015. It was officially opened in 2016 and serves the entire community including Esukuta Primary School, impacting 2000 people and their livestock. WILK trained the Management Committee in 2016.

New developments

We always intended to deliver clean water to the neighboring community of Nasipa (pop. 1493). The water problem is even worse there. We were hoping to use an old pipeline installed by AMREF to carry spring water, but an initial survey indicated it was beyond repair. The Esukuta water management committee tried to revive the line to help their neighbors, including the 360 children at Nasipa Primary School, who were suffering. The good news is that, with a bit of pipeline rehabilitation, we are close to getting Nasipa online. This will bring huge relief to the students and teachers, who have been relying on the seasonal river bed water. Clean water will be very welcome as the water gives the children stomach aches and permanently stains their teeth!

Water Walk 2017



WILK Water Walk 2017 held on April 22nd started off with gray skies. It drizzled, then rained. We’ve concluded that any announcement of Water Walk automatically shifts the weather pattern to clouds and rain. That’s the power of a name! Still, people came, carried water around the Newark Reservoir and enjoyed themselves. Our amazing volunteers gave their time with enthusiasm. Here is a photo of volunteers, Emily and Monica, at one of the “Challenge Your Water Use” stations. They posted on Instagram that they “had so much fun volunteering at the Water Walk this year” and “walked the walk” themselves. Walkers found themselves becoming more aware of their daily water usage through the walk activities. We can all become better conservers of our precious resource, WATER!



The Water Walk 2017 attracted people from all walks of life: from Newark and Dover, from Cecil County and Chester County, members of school groups, clubs, churches, New Castle County leaders and family groups came to raise money for Kuku Community Borehole, WILK’s newest water project. For all of your support...WE ARE GRATEFUL.

We raised over \$21,579 towards the Kuku water project! With the addition of a \$10,000 grant, we plan to complete the drilling, and installing the pump and generator by October 2017. We hope to complete the other elements by January 2018. As you can see we are still short of funds to complete the whole project of \$51,500, so donations are most welcome!

Kuku Community Water Project

- \$20,000 - Drilling/pump testing of 180 meter Borehole, supervision, water analysis
- \$9,500 - Submersible pump, electrical, supervision, installation
- \$10,500 - Diesel generator, supervision, installation
- \$1,500 - 2 plastic water storage tanks, 300 gallons each
- \$2,500 - Water tank transportation, concrete platform, supervision
- \$6,000 - Pump house
- \$1,000 - Water Management Committee - capacity building trainings
- \$500 - Community sanitation and hygiene trainings
- -----
- \$51,500 - total project



Livestock as a Business Program (LAB)

We are thrilled to announce that we received a generous \$40,000 grant. This grant allowed us to add five new groups to our Livestock as a Business Program. This brings the total number of groups enrolled this year to 15. It costs approximately \$6500 per group. This innovative program delivers knowledge and develops skills in livestock keepers and increases the incomes they earn through their livestock. The revolving microloan part of the program has a 99.4% repayment rate, allowing us to loan the repaid money to new groups. We are constantly evaluating the program's effectiveness. For example, we are adding topics relevant to women since women's groups are joining in large numbers. This year we have four new women's groups, bringing the total of women's groups enrolled to ten. To date LAB has trained 390 farmers, in 27 groups, with groups earning an average net profit of 30% on sales of the livestock purchased with the WILK loan.



Inkishaiki Lenkisem Livestock Keeper Group members and Group Cows bought with WILK loan.

WILK Team - Kenya



Irene, daughter of WILK staff member, Veronica, often accompanies her mom into the field. She even lets WILK's Kenyan project manager, Joseph Larasha, hold her!

Development Corner

While "water is life," money is critical to our mission. And thanks to many of you, we continued to raise much needed funds this spring!

Thirst Reverse: \$7,230

Water Walk: \$21,579

Breakfast Event: informational fundraiser, targeting the friends of our 13 Table Captains. \$35,649 raised in 2017, plus \$30,886 total pledged over the next 5 years.

Our 2017 budget is \$200,000. The more money we have, the more good we can do together.

Ways you can help:

- Host a house party, where Joyce can introduce WILK to your friends.
- Host a jewelry party, where you can sell our beaded handicrafts to your friends.
- Join our Gala Committee, to help plan our 10th year anniversary event this fall.
- Consider leaving a bequest to WILK in your will.
- Consider designating WILK as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement account.
- Become a sustaining donor, giving monthly to support our work.
- Give what you can today (see the enclosed donation card).

Please contact us with any questions or to get involved.
302-894-7335 or info@waterislifekenya.com
Thank you for support!

We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit
Tax ID #26-3185829

Beaded Handicraft Division



Fair Trade Application and Certification

Water is Life Kenya beaded handicrafts is now Fair Trade Certified by the Fair Trade Federation of North America. The process was rigorous, but we made it! The benefits are many, like receiving a vendor listing on fairtradefederation.org. This certifies to potential customers that we are doing business with our artisans in a way that meets Fair Trade standards.



For example, we are paying a fair living

wage to our artisans. We don't allow children to work and we provide safe working conditions. In addition, we have development opportunities for our artisans by training them in skills and introducing them to networks that will be helpful for their work and lives. This new step allows for sales, profits, and incomes for our artisans to grow in leaps and bounds.



We are now selling our Kenyan made beaded handicrafts and sharing our mission **LIVE** every Wednesday night from 8:00pm - 9:00pm on Facebook! Check us out at @wilkbeads!

You can buy online at www.waterislifebeads.com

Follow WILK and WILKBeads:



Celebrating our 10 year Anniversary!

Check your mail box and inbox for details this Fall!



314 E. Main St., Ste. 2
Newark, Delaware 19711
302-894-7335

www.waterislifekeny.com

Water is Life Kenya is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.
All donations are tax exempt to the fullest extent of the law.

T0: