



Two of our supporters, Tom and Kate, enjoying some Kenyan Quench (Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant's signature beer) for our Thirst Reverse V. Money raised is going toward our newest water project in Namelok.

The Livestock as a Business training has helped me fully prepare for the drought. I built a store house for grass and now my store house is full for my cows for the next drought.

Nelson Tinayo
Secretary and member
of Amboseli Livestock Keepers Group

Transforming over 50,000 lives every day

WATER IS LIFE KENYA

Staying CONNECTED

WINTER 2018

Letter from the Director

Nothing changes the game like having clean water.

It is the first, most basic need. Our name, “**Water is Life**” reminds us, every minute of every day, of the importance of what we are doing.



We can only do it with YOUR help.

Clean water brings these **immediate changes**: better health, more time, and more energy (first and foremost for women, but also for children, men and livestock). For example, 50% more calves, kids, and lambs survive when they have clean water nearby.

Dear friends, consider yourselves effusively thanked for your kindness. Then, please continue to support our work generously, in

the spirit of this giving season. More people need the transformation that only clean water can bring! P.S. You can read more about our newest project in Namelok on the following page.

Thanks for your ongoing support,

Joyce Tannian

WHAT'S NEW!

New Way to Donate

Our donors use a variety of ways to give to our organization: we accept traditional payments like cash, checks, and credit cards along with donations made online, via text, or through the transfer of stocks. Did you know we now have added digital assets to our growing list of ways to donate? Use our QR Code inside to donate.

Beaded Handicrafts

Gorgeous new items are available! Remember, you can order online for all your gifts this year!

www.waterislifebeads.com

Imurtot Primary School Rainwater Catchment System Update

Who expected the rain? In October, Water is Life Kenya hosted our wonderful partners, Engineers without Borders – Newark Professional Chapter, for Phase 2 of the Rainwater Harvesting Project at Imurtot Primary School.



Ashley and Rachel hold their newly built box, which protects the pipes.

One day it was hot, windy and dusty, the next day... impassable mud! We worked around the obstacle by crossing the border to Tanzania, using their paved road, leaving our vehicle and crossing back to Kenya on foot. Joseph Larasha led us through the mud and foggy farmland with no visibility to the school. When we entered the school compound, the students saw us and wondered ... “where did they appear from?”

The work couldn't be completed due to dangerous roads and the slippery and wet work environment. But, the engineers will be back in January 2019 so that Imurtot Primary School can have gutters, downspouts and 40,000 liters of additional storage to collect and store every precious drop of rain that falls.

Unforeseen obstacles and workarounds... that is the name of the game in getting clean water for people in remote places. We are proud of the flexibility and hard work of the **Water is Life Kenya** and **Engineers without Border** teams!



Visitors join Joyce in the unveiling!

The Kuku Well opening ceremony was October 12th, and now people and livestock are drinking there in large numbers. The money collection for the monthly water tariff is going well. All see the huge benefit to having the clean water in what normally is a tough time, the dry season. The community tap house is a big hit, with 4 taps inside. One person can fill 4 jugs simultaneously, or 4 people can use it at once.

When Kuku construction was complete, the contractor came to dismantle the small iron sheet house used for sleeping by the construction workers. Someone said “Stop!” and bought the house from him to turn it into a “hotel,” a small restaurant selling the Kenyan favorite snack “chai and chapati,” tea and pan bread, to borehole members. Budding entrepreneurs! We love it!



Kuku well is up and running

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On tap: Namelok

Ahead of us is the borehole project for Namelok.

This will be a solar powered borehole installation that serves community members and Namelok Secondary School. Namelok is a growing area with 6,000 individuals and 15,000 livestock. Blessed by water close to the surface, people come from all around to use the water for irrigation farming; yet, due to the poor quality and lower water level in the dry season, it is still not reliable as a source of drinking water all year round. Community health workers report serious diarrhea occurrences, especially among school students during the dry period.

The plan is to drill a borehole and install a pump, solar panels, water storage tanks, and latrines. We are in the opening stages of the project. The community is electing their water committee to represent them as we plan the work and apply for the drilling permit from the Water Resources Management Authority. Once they have collected membership fees and their designated cost sharing contribution, we will begin the drilling.



Please
DONATE

Livestock as a Business — Trainings and Loans

Laikipia Field Trip



Our Senior Livestock as a Biz groups traveled north to Laikipia County from Amboseli, Kenya. For most, it was their first time to central Kenya.

We visited 3 ranches to see good breeds of cattle, sheep and goats viable for our area. Migwooni Farm had beautiful boran cattle, dorper sheep and galla goats. The rancher explained that their fence controlled livestock movement and kept them separated from wildlife. In this way they reduced livestock diseases spreading from wildlife to livestock and avoided the expenses of heavy use of livestock medications for deworming and spraying against ticks.

At Ol Karama Ranch we learned that the owners had recently shifted their focus to improving Sahiwal cows with Fleckvieh cows for their milk business. Our farmers were also amazed to see their drought preparedness strategy - harvesting hundreds of huge rolls of hay from their 400 acres of grass!

Ivan Tomlinson of Oldonyo Lemborro Ranch shared that he recently changed his business strategy based on market observations. He has shifted to importing breeds new to the Kenyan market, like the Kalahari red sheep from South Africa and very good dorper rams.

It was great exposure for our farmers to hear the thought, financial commitment, and planning each rancher used to decide which product to focus on for their livestock business. We expect to see our farmers applying this knowledge to their own business, hopefully increasing drought resilience, income, and quality of life. Stay tuned...



3 Generations: Cynthia (far right) her daughter and grand-daughter, sponsor of Jackline Yiamat (in orange/blue) with her mom and grandmom.

Will you be next?

Plan your trip to visit us now!

Karibuni Kenya! Welcome to Kenya!

We were delighted to welcome our supporters to Kenya. Our intern of three months, Helen, was joined in Oct. by her parents for the Kuku well opening ceremony. Cynthia and family came in late August. Mandy and Peter visited us in November.



Joyce, Mandy, Peter, and Joseph Larasha

Helen, #1 Intern

She is our first intern ever and has set the bar high for any who follow.

Helen began her Kenyan life in August. Her work included helping organize our beaded handicrafts workshop to streamline the work processes. For our Clean Water and Livestock as a Business programs, she designed online surveys to be used on smartphones, saving time and paper as we collect important data.

It was lovely to have her as my neighbor in Kitengela to chat with and drink tea. Now she is back in the US, giving talks like a pro, sharing about **Water is Life Kenya's** work and her experiences in Kenya with students at her Alma Mater, Archmere Academy.

Our whole team misses her, and we wish her well in the next chapter of her life!

Thirst Reverse

We ate, drank, welcomed friends and donors, and raised money for **Namelok** at our annual Thirst Reverse event. To support our efforts, Iron Hill Brewery and Restaurant brewed a “Kenyan Quench” signature beer. \$1 of every pint sold went to our newest clean water project in Namelok.



Water is Life Kenya board members and founder (l to r: Mary Woods, Carol Boncelet, Linda Stapleford, Joyce Tannian and Francis Tannian)

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ways to donate today

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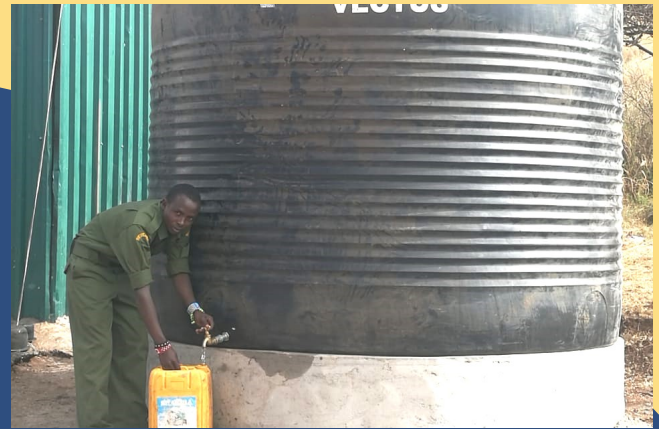


Protecting Elephants: Water is Life Kenya does that too!

Earlier this year, we received an urgent request to help 67 Maasai Game Scouts. These scouts, who serve as community rangers, prevent the poaching of elephants and other wildlife. They work within the **Water is Life Kenya** area of operation on the Kenya/Tanzania border just north of Mount Kilimanjaro.

The scouts lost their funding suddenly. Their partner pulled out, taking everything: pots, pans, radios, and mattresses. Most noteworthy, they took the water tanks critical to the scouts survival in the long dry months, as they patrol remote regions on foot, protecting wildlife.

The Guide Scouts asked us to supply food and 10,000-liter water tanks until a long-term solution could be found. Knowing the urgent need for wildlife to be protected against poachers, **Water is Life Kenya** couldn't say no. With a portion of the unappropriated funds we received from you, our donors, we were able to help them in a time of need. **Water is Life Kenya** supplied them with food for one month and four storage tanks to hold life-giving water. The scouts are grateful for our support and for the water they have to drink as they protect the wildlife in our region. **Water is Life Kenya** was pleased to be able to help at the critical time.



You can make a difference. Join our Sustaining Donor Group.

The need is real, and every little bit helps. Becoming a sustaining donor has two-fold benefits: a revenue stream we can count on and lower fundraising costs. You choose the amount you want to give each month. You can increase, decrease, or stop your gift at any time. Visit our website, waterislifekenya.com, click on Donate and follow the steps. It's simple and easy.



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