**PROJECT TITLE:** **EXPANSION OF WATER SUPPLY TARGETING WOMEN FOR FOOD PRODUCTION IN POVERTY REDUCTION**

**PROJECT COVERAGE:** **MUTONGUNI DIVISION , MUSENGO LOCATION, KITUI**

**DISTRICT, EASTERN PROVINCE.**

**NAME OF CONTACT PERSON: JANE KATETHYA**

**TITLE: PROJECT COORDINATOR/SECRETARY**

**IMPLEMENTATING AGENCY:** MEEMA **PROJECT**

**ADDRESS: P. O. BOX 196,**

**TULIA, KITUI.**

**EMAIL: meemaproject@yahoo.com**

**PARTNER AGENCIES: DDO,DSDO,COMMUNITY INFLUENTIAL INSTITUTIONS**

**FUNDING AGENCY:**

**AMOUNT REQUESTED: KSHS.7,235,000**

**USD 100,000**

**PERIOD/DURATION: JAN 2012 TO DEC 2013 (12 MONTHS)**

**APPLICANTS**

Meema women self help group is a community oriented centered and founded to advance human transformation and cohesiveness, based upon addressing the basic needs of human development in the (ASAL) semi arid and arid rural areas in Kitui District, Eastern Province, Kenya in the sub-Saharan Africa, specifically targeting the marginalized and vulnerable society members. The group is a registered CBO under the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Cultural Services Reg. No. K/M/G/S/C/S/S/15430.

The four key principal programmes are,

1. Community health initiatives, including HIV/Aids, Water and sanitation.
2. Environmental Awareness and natural resources Conservation.
3. Agriculture and Integrated food security.
4. Gender empowerment (women/Youth/Girl child).

**BENEFICIARIES: PROJECT BENEFIT**

The fundamental conditions of human development cannot be without sustained investment in essential basic human needs especially safe water and sanitation. Therefore, this project target 10,418 beneficiaries as indicated by the **population District plan as per 2000**.

Meema women group targets directly 10,418 beneficiaries seeking to strengthen potential of small holder farmer through water supply/conservation system to generate global environmental benefits particularly in semi arid and arid lands protection, climate change mitigation and adaptation. Therefore the objectives of reducing poverty, enhancing, food security and improving the natural environment are to be achieved.

BACKGROUND

**About Meema:**

Meema women self help group is a community oriented centered and founded to advance human transformation and cohesiveness, based upon addressing the basic needs of human development in the (ASAL) semi arid and arid rural areas in Kitui District, Eastern Province, Kenya in the sub-Saharan Africa, specifically targeting the marginalized and vulnerable society members.

We place special focus on working alongside poor women/girls became, equipped with the Skills/knowledge, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty. Women are at the heart of Meema's community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. Meema also delivers emergency aid to Victims of HIV/Aids, and helps people rebuild their lives.

Link on Gender empowerment workshop November 2002. The community based trained trainer of trainers facilitated the Meema Women Group formulation. The women lobby clubs at Mutonguni Division grassroots levels campaign against children human rights sex trafficking and gender in equality all from Meema Women Self Group.

The four key principal programmes are,

1. Community health initiatives, including HIV/Aids, Water and sanitation.
2. Environmental Awareness and natural resources Conservation.
3. Agriculture and Integrated food security.
4. Gender empowerment (women/Youth/Girl child).

To achieve the above employ communities participatory approach which enables and create self-help movement at grassroot levels to implement and sustain the projects.

**OBJECTIVES**

Improve quality of life in poor and most vulnerable community. To show compassion by beneficiaries centered approach and sharing same rights to fulfillment of basic human needs.

* To increase women involvement in problem solving process.
* To assist in the accelerating economic and social development of disadvantaged communities including through improvements in the broader policy environment.
* To create key influential responsible and potential informed society.
* To reduce sex trafficking, children abuse and domestic woman human rights violation.

**ACTIVITIES**

Meema W/S/G’s activities include the following community based programmes:-

* Environmental conservation
* HIV/AIDS sensitization
* Income generating and entrepreneurship
* Preventive health care

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

Meema Women Group appreciates achieving,

Appreciate achieving,

* One community 2 borehole
* one Earth dam,
* 15 sites of Earth sand Dams.
* Established one mobile Bamako initiative community health care.
* 5 acre land for vulnerable children rehabilitation centre/Construction of

Community Primary Health care

* Identified 267 orphans’/HIV/aids vulnerable children.
* 1 agro-processing Unit

**PROPOSED PROJECT**

Expansion of Water project/ supply targeting women for food production in poverty reduction

**OVERALL GOAL:**

To empower the community with water resource management ability and to contribute to the reduction of poverty through promotion of women’s self help projects and giving them moral and material support where possible so as to reduce the dependency syndrome and strengthen the mentality of ‘’ WE CAN.’’

**RESOURCES IN PLACE**

Meema Women Self Help Group has already elected a borehole and two shallow water wells to be the supplier sources of water for the target area. The identified influential community institutions will be mobilized to demonstrate the initiatives at house hold levels, village level and at community individual participation level.

**PROBLEM STATEMENT**

The welfare monitoring survey (WMS) 2003/2004 show that the incidence of rural poverty is above 53% of the overall population of the rural Kenya. The participatory poverty assessments (PPA) 1996/2000 showed Eastern Province score 57%. In Kitui District, poverty manifested itself inform of hunger, illiteracy, malnutrition, poor or lack of shelter and failure to access essential services such as, basic education, health, water and sanitation. The poor in the district can be clustered into certain socio-economic categories such as, people with disability, unemployed, unskilled and semi-skilled casual workers, female-headed households, orphans and windows.

The poor constitutes about 66% of the total population in Kitui District one of the 12 Districts that comprises Eastern Province. In other words at least two in every three people are poor. The district is predominantly low potential (66%) with 32% being medium potential and only 2% being or high agricultural potential according to the poverty report in Kenya June 2000 the poverty level in the district was 65%. People in the district defines poverty as the inability to meet basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing and medical services.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The Kitui District is among the 22 Districts found in the semi arid and arid (ASAL) regions in Kenya.The altitude ranges between 400 meters to 1,800 meters above sea level. The climate of the District is hot and dry for the most part of the year, characterized by unreliable rainfall. This explains why numerous rivers in the District are seasonal. The vagaries of climatic conditions are further compounded by lack of alternative sources of income as well as dependence on famine/relief services.

The achievement of Human resources Development currently in the District has shifted to emergency programmes due to persisted drought and the major development challenges that are likely to retard the achievement of sustainable growth and poverty reduction in the District include the following:-

* Inadequate agricultural/livestock support: livestock is a major economic activity in the District.
* Large family sizes: the average family size in the District is 6 members depending on one member of the family, mostly women since women head many families.
* Poor infrastructure
* Inadequate health and education facilities
* Shortage of water
* Gender inequality

There are two seasons of rain in a year:

1. Long rains – February to April
2. Short rains – November to December.

unfortunately the rainfall is characterized by erratic and unreliable patterns and fails most of the years. Therefore with Meema women group initiative will bring hope and practical solutions to inadequate water supply that hinders intensive land use and other related development activities in the community.

The Meema women group initiative is to address the true observed constraints so as to achieve the overall objective in the specific target beneficiaries at Mutonguni Division with pilot project at Musengo Location. The scenario as per the situational analysis Mutonguni Division has 68,729 people in 35,703 households.

**SCENARIO**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Males** | **Females** | **Total** | **House Holds** |
| **Musengo** | **7331** | **8379** | **15,710** | **2,941** |
| **Sub-locations** |  |  |  |  |
| Musengo | 4873 | 4999 | 9,872 | 1,795 |
| Kakumuti | 495 | 546 | 1,041 | 200 |
| Usiani | 1734 | 2023 | 3,757 | 668 |
| Yalatani | 721 | 811 | 1,532 | 278 |

Targeting key influential persons with women forming the majority to transform the normal trend in the process to activate viable manageable projects. If people were solely the products of their environment then one had only to change environments to perfect them and make repression unnecessary.

The Meema women group initiative provides the basis for mobilization and sensitization of the community for the expansion of water project and water resource management.

**METHODOLOGY:**

Meema use a community participatory approach whereby the beneficiaries plan activities in agro-forestry range and agronomic practices.The Chiefs, Community elected and the Project technical team will hold field meetings (barazas) at least in every sub location to mobilize the community on the goals, objectives and activities of the Project. In addition to explaining the groups at villages, schools and individual farmers approach.

The community will elect model farmer(s) who will act as result demonstrators in good environmental practices

and in turn CORPs manage information and skills while the beneficiaries will interact freely with technical

extension agents and exchange ideas, local knowledge and experiences.

Innovations that can work and conserve nature and social environments of the beneficiaries.

Activities can be implemented by confining Project activities in small manageable areas.

The logistics and infrastructure required for the Project to attain the desired results are in place.

Application of the ‘Participatory Technology Transfer will be emphasized. In this regard, local knowledge of the beneficiaries on environmental conservation will be valued as scientifically generated knowledge.

Beneficiary interactive extension (BENEX) (Elius, 04|) will be able to exchange information and experience between one another freely. They will be able to reconstruct innovations from their basic elements, as they understand them best. This will give them the opportunity to discuss the wider implications surrounding their environment conservation innovations, their conditions of success, their required inputs and skills, economic considerations, gender, stability and sustainability.

Meema will use the Enhanced Material Development approach whereby the beneficiaries will be provided with materials. The environmental conservation project continues to attain sustainability.

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**ANTICIPATED RESULTS**

The targeted beneficiaries are the poor rural women understanding the special character of their range of livelihood commitments in the family. The expected results in preventing land desertification,

* 90% of arid lands get conserved in the target areas
* 40 villages in 4 districts begin conservation demonstrations sites with appropriate investment.
* 800 PEK (Persons with Ecology Knowledge) get trained and volunteer too service in guiding environmental implementation committees (EIC) who are WAI facilitators.
* Over 40 conservation sites of soil/water/forest
* Manage to transform 80% of households.
* 5% increase of gross domestic per capital (GDP) at family
* Farm yard yield increase reserve strategic management
* Over 16,000 beneficiaries adapt reserve strategic management technology
* 20 FOA/PEK clubs formulated coordination and monitoring forum.
* Over 70% cattle / sheep access water at one kilometre square instead of long distance.
* 2 community environmental resource information centres begin.
* 50% of the population access safe clean drinking water for humans and livestock
* 30% of the beneficiaries use biological diversity resources, animals and plants for human sustenance
* 30% of the beneficiaries understand mystifying genetic modification of foods.
* 60% of the beneficiaries develop on tropical agriculture and public health.

70% change attitude / behaviour to live independently.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Meema women group observes with confidence the operations, enhancing accountability and transparency at all levels of the programmes. The responsibility of the project management is run by Board members Bidii Women management committee

**PROJECT STRATEGIES**

The average distance to water collection points in the District is 5km hence the need to provide nearer sources of water. The Meema women group initiative focuses on the major development challenges and cross cutting issues in the community to increase access to water by the local community members at Mutonguni Division , Kitui District. The key strategies are

**STRATEGY**

Generator installation, construction of 3 water kiosks and cattle troughs to supply water to the community.

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES:**

With the purpose of establishing an integrated approach to contribute to the above activities on providing direct

services to support poverty alleviation projects such as:

-Environmental conservation.

-Food security and nutrition.

-Capacity against poverty, hunger and disease, which address underlying causes of poverty.

The following activities are prioritized:

- Improved poutry keeping

-Earth sand dam construction.

-Beekeeping

-Keeping of goats for milk

-Boreholes and Shallow Wells Sinking.

-Run off water harvesting.

-Water Resources Management.

-Land Reclamation.

**OUTPUTS:**

The expected outputs of environmental Project are:

-Provision of techniques for planting and tending trees for establishment of farm forests.

-Adoption of appropriate methods of establishing farm forests by local residents.

-Share information on appropriate methods of environmental conservation.

**STRATEGIES**

**SOCIAL & RESOURCE MOBILIZATION.**

**BENEFICIARIES OUTREACH APPROACH**

Collaborate with provincial administration (Chiefs, Sub-Chiefs and local leaders) to mobilize the local community into barazas, farmers / pastoralists elect farmers who will act as models during the Project on environmental technologies.

**On farm Research and Development (R&D) / Situational Baseline Survey.**

Encourage the beneficiaries who are the model farmers to start on farm tree nurseries.

This method is quite applicable to those farmers who are near permanent sources of water.

The program will encourage the local residents to make use of locally available materials which include, milk packets (potting), plastic tins (for potting), sticks sharpened at the end for dibber plastic or metallic tins with holes perforated at the bottom (watering cans) banana fibres for potting and live fence.

**Local Resources:**

Local labour, locally available soil e.g. from shamba, farm manure, site land allocated for location of a tree nursery locally available nursery, tools include kitchen knives for root pruning, farm jembe, panga slash and domestic rakes.

**BENEFICIARIES CONTRIBUTION**

In the short term focus will be on the few strategic interventions that are most likely to have the greatest catalytic effect on expansion of water supply for food production in poverty reduction.

1. Consumption smoothing and protection of water sources
2. Monitoring and evaluation exercises carried by community and active partners.
3. Manual Labour for digging and laying of distribution line
4. To provide Land for water kiosks site
5. Management through participatory Meema women group extension initiative.
6. To provide land for laying of distribution line
7. To provide tools for digging of distribution line

**SUSTAINABILITY:**

**(a)Environmental sustainability**

The local community will undertake the restoration of the Mutonguni Division ecosystem and introduction of additional/alternative livelihood activities as proposed in this project. Some activities at the homestead level, and even communal level are going on even without the kind of support envisaged in this project. Whereas the capital outlay for rehabilitation and conservation activities are huge, most of the funds will be spent on supporting capital infrastructure like enhancing access to water, and replanting the forests.

Secondly, more cash injections is expected to be generated locally through the income generation activities (agro-processing unit, soil stabilisation blocks, bee-keeping), trees and fuelwood lots for sustainable resource management and conservation. It is also unlikely that these activities will suddenly cease at the end of the three-year funding period. Rather, it is more likely that measures put in place and the benefits accrued will act as catalysts to further spar concerted efforts aimed at sustainable gains and even more.

Thirdly, it is anticipated that the local development partner, and other actors (especially GoK agencies) will continue to provide significant technical and possibly financial assistance until the objectives are fully realised. But the critical aspect in ensuring sustainability is the anticipated cooperation, participation and enthusiasm of the beneficiaries.

**Economic viability beyond project period**

A key strategy in ensuring economic viability of the project post the funding period and for the long term lies in three major activities:

Revenue generated from the IGAs – principally the agro-processing unit and fabrication of stabilised soil blocks. This project has proposed that some of the income (profits) generated from the IGA initiatives be remitted to the project implementation committee to re-invest in rehabilitation activities.

Success is hinged on capacity building to manage the activities purely as businesses by developing business and marketing plans. Most of the IGAs are on going such as honey and all is required is to manage the activity purely as a business.

**Social acceptance**

The project was originally conceived by Meema Women Group, but has brought on board all households in the division who use or are affected in one way or the other by the Mutonguni Division ecosystem. During the field appraisal, residents of Musengo, where the project will be based attended several community meetings where they reiterated their support to the project. Pointedly, the sessions were presided over by the Provincial Administration – Chief and Assistant Chiefs from the entire ecosystem.

While surveying the proposed rock dam up in the hills, families that had settled there promised to vacate voluntarily, and this is a strong indicator of community support.

The coordinator of meema Women Group is a lady, who has used her skills and experience to rally women leaders and residents towards the project (the area councillor is a lady too). Therefore, women support the initiative. In addition to receiving the support from women, the project has deliberately designed the agro-processing unit as an IGA targeting women.

The youth expressed its desire to be involved, and the project design responded to their requests for the soil stabilisation blocks. In addition, the project has identified bee-keeping as a viable non-extractive use of the natural resources.

The project has received tremendous support and goodwill from local politicians, government agencies (especially the Provincial Administration), and other actors and Non State Agencies on the ground.

**Project Beneficiaries**

The project will benefit approximately 53,000 women and 70,000 youths directly, although the benefits are expected to reach more than half the District’s 600,000 population indirectly. Because of the continuing sub-Division of the Provincial Administration units, the Statistics Department has not kept pace and do not have verifiable figures for the populations of the new Locations and sub-Locations.

All members of the community will benefit from sensitisation and awareness creation on sustainable management and use of nature based resources. In addition, all members of the community are set to benefit from availability of water and improved environment.

The youth will benefit specifically from the soil stabilisation block machines, and bee-keeping, women will be the main beneficiaries of the agro-processing unit while men will benefit mostly from bee-keeping.

The community development Initiative (CDI) Committee, the Meema Women Initiative Committee, and influential leaders would continue protection and management always through practical demonstration initiative. The provision of water to the community reduces women and children walking distance to the water sources and income generating per house hold with or without rain would increase to reduce poverty.Income generated from the water supply would be used by the Meema water management committee to meet maintenance and fuel costs. With such expectations the community need to be sensitized on all aspect of water resource management.

**7.0 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION BUDGET**

**PROJECT BUDGET FOR 1 EARTH SAND DAM WATER HARVESTING SITE.**

Earth sand dam water harvest.

Dimensions river site 1.5 metres & 3 metres x 5.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Request Amount** |  |  | **15,201,250/** |
| **Equivalent to US $ at a rate of Kshs.80:1** |  |  | **250,000** |

**PEK CLUB INITIATIVE**

Meema women group initiative facilitate training the Trainer of Trainers and move into villages enabling replication of ready field result demonstrations and organizing for field days at community members’ convenient schedules and results at the field sites.

1. **LOG FRAME**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTIVITY** | **OVI** | **Resources** | **Expected outcome** | **Time** |
| Mobilize, identify 200 stake cluster members | * Village house holds meetings * Election records/returns * Action plans report * Identified crop/tree species * photos | * Facilitator * Writing/teaching materials * camera man | * 80 stake cluster sites * Water/soil conservation sites * Field crops planted & harvest high yield * Stake cluster members identified | January  2012  To  March  2012 |
| Stake cluster members establish result demonstration units | * Sites identified * Stake cluster members names * Monthly returns * Launching days * Field days schedule | * Spring jembes * Shovels tools * Members will * MOA extension staff visits | * 80 stake cluster sites identified * practical work day schedules * 359.2 square kilometres water/soil conserved | April  To  October  2012 |
| Establish Literature Information, advisory and Rehabilitation Centre(LIRC) | * Stake cluster members identify symbols, Art design. * Each stake cluster use literature at meetings | * Stake cluster member opinions contribution * Participation * Papers * drawings | * Literature printed. * 200 Stake cluster members informed | November 2012 to April 2012 |
| Train 200 Stake cluster members as Trainer of Trainers | * Curriculum drawn * Training schedule set * Number of trainees per session | * Facilitators * Participants * Writing/teaching materials | * Replicate practical demos beyond the location. * Ready model to teach other ASAL members. | February  2015  to  June 2015 |

**FUNDING SOURCES:**

Meema women group has several projects funded by DANIDA, CDTF, OPEC Fund, Embassy of Royal Netherlands then left uncompleted in 2001 up to date due to lack of financial support at Musengo Location,Mutonguni Division Kitui District, Eastern Province

**BIDII WOMEN SELF-HELP GROUP OFFICIALS**

**EXECUTIVE MANAGEENT COMMITTEE**

**Chairlady** – Juliana Ngonde

**Secretary** – Jane Katethya

**Treasurer** – Kavengi Muvea

**Group Coordinator** – Jane Katethya

**V/Chairlady** – Wanjiru Kasusya

**Co-opted –**

DSDO

Chief Kithuva

Elder Kitai

David Mwangangi

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