



EMERGENCY CALL FOR HELP WITH THE MEALS - CURRENT SITUATION AT RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL MBAGATHI NAIROBI, KENYA.

(Attachment Letter to New Green Impact (meals appeal))

In comparison with the recent past years, the expenditure rate has speedily gone up at an alarming rate. The revised meals budget shows an overall increase of 20% which is Ksh. 7,200,000. This is due to the following circumstances:

- Pandemic consequences
- War in Ukraine
- Recent drought in Kenya


Covid-19 had severe consequences to the general economy. Many jobs were lost, salaries were cut and the ones with businesses realized low sales as the spending rate went down. The number of financially stable earners in a family went down and the available resources had to be shared with a larger group. Here in Kenya, since mid-2021, Covid-19 had taken a back seat and the economy was slowly beginning to get back to recovery. Like the world over, Kenya has felt the effect of the war in Ukraine. Fuel prices have dramatically gone up affecting the prices of food products. The ripple effect of the war is stoppage of exports that have led to price escalation.

Farmers in our country have had a bad season as there was delay in start of rains that usually happen in the beginning of April. There was notable drought throughout the country. Livestock died in North Eastern part of Kenya, cow feed was scarce and so were other farm produce. Milk and meat price skyrocketed and even then it was not available for purchase. Milk price went up by 30% in the month of April. Cooking oils, sugar, maize flour, and beverages had the most notable price increase.

It is also important to highlight that it is an election year and so the business environment is not so friendly. Fear, uncertainty and lack of political goodwill are some of the feelings filling the air. One area of uncertainty is in pricing. Every month has come with increased cost of food. Desperate Kenyans had at one time turned to social media channel; twitter and created a hashtag lower food prices. However no results were seen.

Most of our parents are from the bottom most part of the economy and so they were most affected and became needier with every calamity that struck. Just before things got better after Covid -19, there were news about war in Ukraine and the latest drought in April that got severe by the day. This means our meals budget will be dramatically overstretched because of hiked prices and the high number of children in the school. School fees income may not be forthcoming since the families are struggling with affording basic needs. Sponsored parents do not afford all the meals in a day therefore the portions served have to be enough. The effects of the war are not only felt in Ukraine but the world over. Ukrainians need all the help they can get and so are the underdeveloped areas of the world. The school strives to provide healthy meals for the children something that maybe compromised if there is no breakthrough with the meals budget.

We therefore request for your help during this emergency situation which may become worse in the coming months. Your support is always appreciated.


Judith Brown
School Leader

and


Mercy Njoki
Sponsorship Office

HUNGER AND FOOD SHORTAGES IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN KENYA

A background for a whole

‘NEW GREEN IMPACT’



The current global hunger crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa areas is rapidly evolving in vulnerable informal communities in Kenya.

The crucial factors and the severe problems:

- **Covid 19 Pandemic's long term consequences on the social and financial sectors in Kenya**
- **An extreme and unprecedented rise in global inequality after the pandemic**
- **A high and growing inflation in the Kenyan society with sky high price rises**
- **53% of the Kenyan population is living under the poverty line**
- **Huge unresolved consequences of climate changes with immense food shortages**

- A threatening political situation facing a turbulent national election period in August 2022.
- The current global situation with the war in Ukraine is like an unknown, dark and overwhelming shadow, which can make the whole situation even more threatening with food shortages and even higher prices. Consequences, which are already showing its face in the daily life in today's Kenya with higher food prices.

The Mbagathi school, The Rudolf Steiner School in Nairobi in Kenya:

The school hosts 375 children coming from informal settlements living under the poverty line with their families; without disposable cash to buy the basic food and necessities. Poor shelters are their homes, no water, no electricity, inadequate food. Hunger and malnutrition is a life condition. Children are suffering the most.

THIS IS the human landscape we are working in.

BUT! The Mbagathi School is under these special conditions continuously spearheading a new 'Green Development', investing in nature and people, where life is most challenging.



Quality education is provided. The pedagogical approach has a targeted strategy to bring transformation and growth and one's own experience as a human being to underprivileged children. To implement and support independence in the thinking of the youth for future capacities is a modern schooling in Kenya.

The building of a farm and a school garden has had a huge pedagogical, but also social and environmental impact. The implementation of Biodynamic farming has been an inspiration for the Kenyan society, spreading to the whole of East Africa as an example of responsible production and consumption



Local workers have been employed in the farm, securing them a daily income.

A whole transformation towards renewable energy in the school from electricity to solar has reduced costs and given local solar entrepreneurs work and income.

The new greenhouse has made it possible to grow vegetables even if the threat of climate changes hardens and complicates the work with its continuous change between too much heavy rain and too much drought.

The cows give milk to drink, but also a natural compost to the soil. The farming is built on careful and conscious handling of the waste using the green waste for transformation to compost.



HERE a link to the Video:

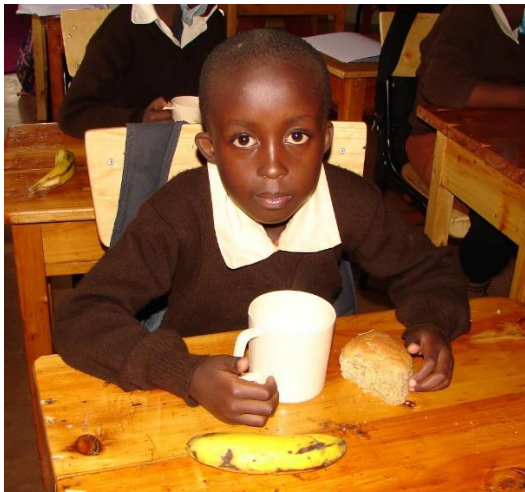
LIVING FARMS telling the story about the Farm at the Mbagathi School produced by 'The Section for Agriculture' - Goetheanum, Donach, Switzerland :

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqlSJl5D6Xc>)

FOOD FOR LIFE – FOOD FOR EDUCATION

The inauguration of the biodynamic farming, practicing natural farming, caring for the soil and the plants - has given the students not only a fresh and lively school compound, but also a crucial possibility of good and nutritious daily school meals. The meals are the basis for all learning, which are not provided in the government schools in Kenya.

From the meals the students at the Mbagathi School get energy and adequate strength to learn. A simple but very capable school kitchen with huge firewood ovens and old gas stoves provides the children with 2 healthy meals per day. Even under a pressure of raising prices and a very low budget it has been possible to keep a very basic, but still nutritious food level.



The Mbagathi School is financed fully by funding, it does not receive governmental support. Very few of the parents can pay school fees; the children's schooling is totally based on sponsorship.

We ask for help to continue this green development and continue to be able to feed the children in this whole green set-up. This is an inspiration for the future Kenya, an inspiration for the children and the school community, but also an inspiration for the East-African School communities.

**The Meal Budget for 375 children and 50 co-workers
for a whole year 2022 is:
KSh 7,200,000 or Euro 61,000**

Estimated to be about Euro 0.5 for a child per day

We need Partners who will support the school in its Green Development Strategy as an example for the future.



SUMMARY BUDGET MEALS for 2022:

Items	Kenyan Shillings	Euro
Fresh Fruits & Vegetables	2,400,000	20,339
Milk & Dairy Products	1,200,000	10,170
Grains, Cereals & Flour	1,236,000	10,475
Meat	720,000	6,102
Cooking Oil, Fats and Sugar	624,000	5,288
Cooking Gas & Firewood	480,000	4,068
Beverages and Snacks	240,000	2,034
Cleaning & Sanitation	300,000	2,542

Total: Kenyan Shillings 7,200,000 – Euro 61,000