

THE BURNABY BLUE FOUNDATION

(BBF-KENYA)

7 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR TURKANA, KENYA



Registered Charity No 1088020

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INTRODUCTION

This strategy is the articulation of the current and proposed activities of the Burnaby Blue Foundation (BBF) in Kenya. It attempts to provide a simple, clear and unsentimental logic against which our plans are based. It is a deliberately 'dry' document and we hope proves that we understand the 'what, how and why'. The evidence, emotion and detail can be found on our web site www.burnabyblue.com

TURKANA DISTRICT

Turkana district, is the largest district in Kenya with an estimated 77,000 sq kilometers land mass, and with a population of approximately 0.5 million is known to have one of the lowest levels of literacy (30%) and remains as one of the poorest districts in Kenya (overall poverty of 74%). According to district ranking on food poverty among the rural districts, Turkana is the third worst hit, while on overall poverty it is ranked fourth among districts with more than 60% of their population below poverty line (Turkana District Development plan 2002- 2008).

The district consists entirely of arid and semi- arid lands, characterized by an extremely harsh climate with low unreliable rainfall, high temperatures and poor soils. Pastoralism is the dominant economic activity with agriculture practiced on a small scale and only along two main rivers dissecting the district. Frequent severe drought and famine over the last few decades have decimated livestock and undermine the livelihoods of thousands of families.

Meaningful commerce is constrained by dilapidated infrastructure, illiteracy/ignorance as well as insecurity. The pastoralist livelihood is almost completely based on their livestock, which includes goats, sheep, donkeys, camel and cattle. While most pastoralist communities are involved in opportunistic cultivation, the cereals that they produce, mainly sorghum are not enough to carry them through the entire year.

Livestock, the cornerstone of pastoral society and economy represents both an investment for the future and a source of every day needs in the form of milk, blood and meat. Pastoralists are poorly integrated with the cash economy, and carry out their trade and bartering using livestock.

The major causes of poverty are harsh topography and climatic conditions, prevalence of animals and crop diseases, collapse of irrigation schemes, poor marketing systems of agricultural and livestock, poor infrastructure especially roads, unreliable rainfall, inadequate access to credit facilities, illiteracy and ignorance, limited employment opportunities, inadequate health facilities, large families and lack of access to productive assets, insufficient water supply, insecurity and cattle rustling, low school enrolment, retention and completion rates.

KATABOI – THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION

Kataboi is located approximately 85 km to the north of the town of Lodwar in the Turkana North of northwest Kenya. Kataboi Division is one among four established settlements within Turkana North District. Administratively, it is divided into 3 sub locations and is home to nearly 20,000 people who rely on fishing, pastoralism and small-scale enterprises for subsistence.

Kataboi was officially recognized as an established settlement in 1975, but the people have been living in this area for many generations. The location was built by Catholic Missionaries of St. Patrick who arrived from Ireland decades ago. The aim of these missionaries was to establish a branch of the Christian Children's Fund (CCF) in Turkana, a structured Christian community from which to spread the Gospel to the people's living along the shores of Lake Turkana. In 1977 the missionaries built a church and established a primary school offering free education for the local youth. It was the beginning of 'civilization' for these people and new hopes were instilled within the families and communities. Most families responded and sent children to school where they would learn the English language and develop other life skills. Since then there has been growing community awareness of the benefits of having a formally sponsored education system within the communities of Kataboi. Citizens are able to learn about the world at large and their condition within it, and work to advance themselves accordingly.

The Christian Children's Fund ended its service in Kataboi in 1992, due to the passing of its manager and a subsequent dissipation of funding. Consequently, the responsibility of ensuring that the children continue with their educations shifted to the residents of Kataboi but due to economic difficulties, this task proved financially impossible. Poverty indicators here are quite troubling: less than 2% of the population is salaried, and the remaining population is involved in mere subsistence production for livelihood.

Recent efforts made by the Kenyan government to introduce free primary education are commendable. Indeed since this policy was introduced, primary education has become more accessible to many young people throughout Kenya, as evidenced by 93% national enrollment statistics. However, little attention has been paid to expanding existing infrastructure to accommodate the ever increasing demand for formal education. Funding from the Kenyan government does not extend to early childhood education and yet this level acts as a springboard to other higher levels of education.

Before the intervention of BBF/KAPADO, Kataboi Division had only one nursery school for an estimated population of 3,000 children across the settlements. The nursery school is situated at Kataboi center and the remaining villages did not have any formal nursery education. The catholic mission and CCF had initially supported the nursery school but as soon as they terminated its aid, the situation became worse because all children were sent to the primary school before attaining the recommended age. When this happens, the child will have no basic education foundation and eventually affect the learning process. Provision of early childhood education must be a priority if meaningful learning process is to be

achieved. It must then become possible to increase access to nursery education so as to develop a holistic approach to education and lay foundation for higher levels.

Kataboi Division has only 2 primary schools situated in Kataboi and Lomekwi centers and the schools are 30 km apart. The operations of the schools are supported by the government under the free primary education programme but the existing facilities are not enough to cater for the increasing need for education. Children from other villages have to walk long distances daily to school and back and this affects the learning process. The government and non-governmental organizations working in Turkana have been stepping up the campaign on attainment of universal education by 2015 and the Turkana community increasingly appreciates the importance of formal education and is willing to send their children to school but the facilities are not sufficient for the increasing need. In order to accommodate the anticipated influx into the BBF supported nursery schools, 2 more primary schools are needed in places where there is none.

The government of Kenya recently introduced a cost shared secondary education system. This was indeed a relief to the poor. However, the government has just withdrawn its support of secondary education and the parents have to raise full fees and provide all the requirements. The children who graduate from Kataboi primary school don't have a school to further their education but are forced to look for chances in schools found elsewhere. Despite the importance of provision of secondary education, the infrastructure and facilities required are not currently the priority of the government and few other people are keen to get involved.

With the help of a partner called Kataboi Pastoral Development Organization (KAPADO) the BBF has already completed constructing one nursery school. The provincial administration and the community were very impressed and have given BBF one of the few buildings in Kataboi to develop as a second school.



Turkanans in Kataboi

Methodology and Approach used in compiling this plan:

This development plan is a product of a consultative effort involving the development partners working in Turkana, the provincial administration, the local community based organizations, ordinary members of the community and the BBF officials. The objective of the consultation was to create an understanding of the problem and the required interventions and also to avoid duplication of existing efforts. It contains realistic and concrete action plans synthesized from the findings from the various stakeholder interviews.

The Philosophy

This strategic plan has been drafted with a firm background belief and understanding that an empowered community can drive its own economy, create self initiatives and attain sustainable development. In attaining this, the plan proposes to implement projects with long enduring effects and also bring on board the community to participate. The all-inclusive approach advocated here is based on the high level of success guaranteed when a process is wholly participatory.

Vision

The overall vision of Burnaby Blue Foundation in Turkana is to create conditions for sustainable development by engaging in infrastructure projects with long term enduring effects, working with indigenous population and partners. These conditions are such that the children should have access to formal education, proper nutrition, clean water, alternative livelihoods and a healthy environment.

Mission

The Burnaby Blue Foundation is a charity devoted to promoting the relief of sickness, poverty and suffering, and to promote education amongst children and young people both abroad and in the United Kingdom. In Turkana, BBF Kenya is devoted to putting over 300 children per school per year through a formal education system thereby reducing illiteracy by increasing access to education, promoting transition rates and raising relevance of education.

Period of Plan/Objectives:

This development plan indicates the action plan for Burnaby Blue Foundation in Turkana, Kenya for the period 2009 – 2015. The objectives of the plan include:

- Reducing illiteracy levels
- Improving enrolments and transition rates from nursery school level through to the higher levels of education
- Recognizing and developing children with good cognitive and physical potentials
- Increasing access to clean water and raising the domestic water consumption levels for quality living
- Creating a mechanism for sustainability of the project

Key strategies/projects:

The specific strategies concentrate on the provision of education, water and nutrition to children living in Kataboi. The main strategies of the plan include:

1. Improving access to formal education in all levels from early childhood education through to university.

- Improving access to basic education by building and equipping 5 nursery schools around Kataboi with a yearly enrolment capacity of 300 children per school.
- Building 1 primary school with 3 classrooms to accommodate a yearly enrolment of about 200 children in the lower primary
- Constructing and fully equipping one secondary school with an enrolment capacity of 500 students

2. Promoting the children's physical development

- Providing food for breakfast and lunch to about 1,500 children from 5 nursery schools
- Providing clean water to the children while at school
- Providing nutritional supplements where needed

3. Supplying piped water to the institutions and an approximate population of 7,000 people living in Kataboi.

- Drilling a borehole and installing a solar pump with all the accessories at Nariding water point in Kataboi
- Installing a new piping system and putting up new connections
- Purchasing and installing an elevated steel water tank with a capacity of 100m³
- Constructing one 50m³ concrete tank at Nasechabuin village in Kataboi

4. Creating an environment for project ownership and sustainability

- Involving the beneficiaries in all stages from project initiation through to evaluation
- Encouraging collaborations and partnerships amongst stakeholders
- Soliciting for community contributions to meet about 10% of the project total expenses
- Forming management committees to help in the project operations and eventually sustain the project



Assumptions:

1. An inflation rate of about 10% per annum
2. Political stability and peaceful government transition in 2012
3. No changes in government policies before 2012

ANALYSIS

This strategic plan takes into account the following key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Strengths

- Two nursery school facilities are already complete
- Focused management and volunteers
- Limited overheads and expenditures
- Increasing network of volunteers, experts and partnerships in the UK and abroad
- Working with indigenous populations and organizations

Weaknesses

- Insufficient cash resources
- Limited capital and asset base for project design and implementation
- Overreliance on few key trustees and directors

Opportunities

- The government intervention on early childhood education does not cater for school infrastructural development but is limited to teacher trainings and production of syllabus. The BBF-Kenya therefore gets an opportunity to complement the government efforts by providing facilities in which government programmes can take place
- The free primary policy in Kenya has attracted an unimaginable number of children to the present primary schools thus overstressing the resources found and affecting quality of education. BBF finds it urgent to expand existing infrastructures so as to accommodate the influx.
- Provision and management of water facilities is no longer the government's concern but has been left open to any partners who are able to assist.
- The BBF-Kenya is looking forward to working in partnership with the Ministry of Northern Kenya and other Arid Lands to harmonize development plans for Turkana.

Threats

- Current economic crisis could reduce volume of donations
- Inability to ameliorate external negative factors
- Changes in the financial market causing inflation and varying exchange rates
- Changes in the political environment creating suspicion on policy changes
- The Global Credit Crisis



The current school

Stakeholders Analysis

The following corporate stakeholders are intimately involved with the BBF-Kenya action plan for Turkana; their individual inputs are all vital parts of the overall plan:

Government of Kenya

The development plan in its entirety is in tandem with the recently unveiled Kenya vision 2030 particularly on education and water and therefore we anticipate the government total support. The plan directly complements the strategy and investment that the government is currently undertaking in Turkana; our aim is to provide in those areas the government cannot (infrastructure) and ensure that we provide an opportunity to encourage further investment where the government can.

The BBF has established a relationship with the Kenyan High Commission in London. The High Commissioner, H.E. Joseph Muchemi, continues to be an important advisor and linkages with the appropriate government departments are being developed with his help.

The community

The community is where the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the action plans come and in that respect it is an important stakeholder. Before the project is designed the plan will always take into consideration the views of the beneficiaries so that priority projects are implemented jointly. The sustainability aspect of the projects shall be emphasized throughout the processes so as to change the “foreigners’ affair” mentality and encourage local responsibility.

Part of this area is the ‘wider community’ in Kenya within which we are developing a support network. Key to this is a non executive trustee in Nairobi who is a company director and acts as mentor and advisor when needed. We also have a number of other volunteers including one of the Second Secretaries in the British High Commission (who is Tanzanian and a Swahili speaker).

Kataboi Pastoral Development Organization (KAPADO)

KAPADO is a community based organization managed by indigenous people and has been the BBF entry point to Turkana, Kenya. The mode of working is a close project implementation partnership for purposes of ownership and supervision as BBF cannot in itself guarantee full project oversight. This partnership will continue throughout the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the projects in order to build capacity for sustainability.

The Non-governmental organizations

Also key to the implementation of these plans are the operations of other development partners in the project area and shall be harmonized to allay the fears of duplication of efforts. Continuous consultation and liaising will be an important ingredient right through the development plan timeframe. This will help in sharing of information and programmes and avoid areas of duplication.



The site of our first nursery school



The start of our first building

Burnaby Blue Foundation Kenya – Strategic Plan Summary Table

Objectives	Measures/activities	Human resource involved	Period or quarter	Value in £ yr 1	source	Value in £ yr 2	source	Value in £ yr 3	source	Value in £ yr 4	source
Increasing enrolment at preschool level	Constructing 3 more nursery schools	Contractors, BBF volunteers	3 months each	£12,000 for nursery school 3		£ 13,200 for nursery school 4		£ 14,520 for nursery school 5			
Promoting intellectual and physical development of a child	Employing teachers, supplying food, materials and uniforms	BBF volunteers, trained ECD teachers	5 yrs	£12,800 for 2 nursery schools per year each at £6,400		£21,120 for 3 nursery schools per year each at £7,040		£30,976 for 4 nursery schools per year each at £7,740		£42,592 for 5 nursery schools per year each at £85,18.4	
Improving access to primary education	Constructing 1 primary school with 3 classrooms	Contractors, BBF volunteers and government education officials	4 months					£ 14,520 for 1 primary school			
Increasing access to water and raising domestic consumption levels	Installing solar pump accessories, 2 water tanks, piping system	Water engineers and experts, water users association, BBF volunteers	6 months			£40,000 for all the water facilities					
Increasing access/enrolment to secondary education	Constructing and equipping 1 boarding secondary school	Contractors and government education officials, BBF volunteers	1 year							£80,000 for a full boarding secondary school	
Charity Administration	Payment for BBF Kenya Director (note 3)	BBF Personnel	5 Years	£2,500		£2,750		£3,025		£3,325	
Total				£27,300		£77,070		£63,041		£125,917	

1. The local contributions shall always constitute 10% of the respective projects total costs.
2. An annual 10% inflation rates underwrites through all the annual budgets for the various projects.
3. Provision of in country support (vehicles, office space) is not yet costed.