



CENTRES for
HEALTH &
EDUCATION
PROGRAMMES

Empowering | Promoting Health, Education and Development |
Improving lifestyles

CHEPs Update #37 **January-March 2022**

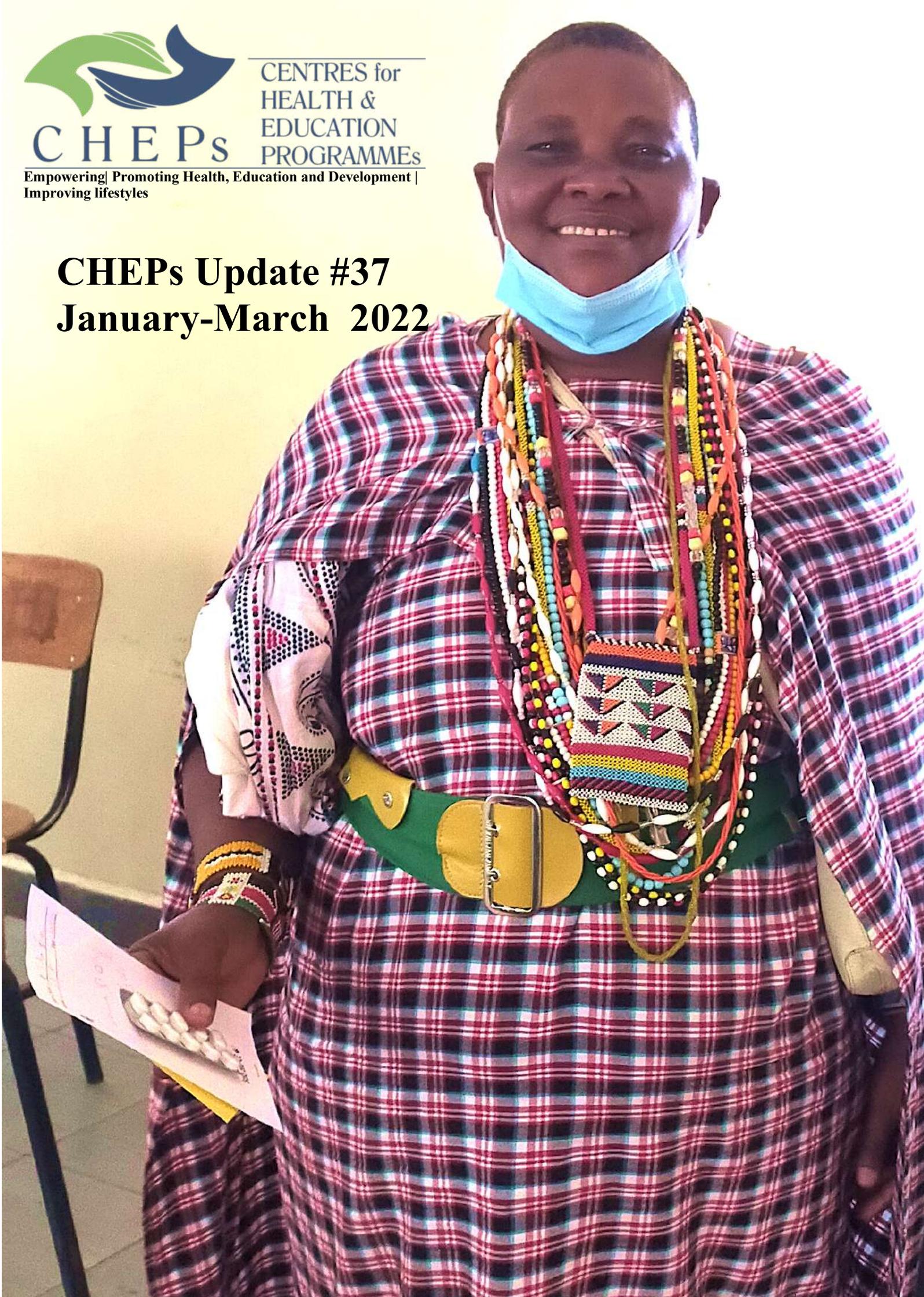


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ABOUT US

The Centres for Health and Education Programmes (CHEPs) is a registered Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in Kenya. Its goal is to empower, promote access and improve quality of health and education for the benefit of under resourced individuals and communities.

VISION

CHEPs' envisions the underprivileged across Kenya empowered with equal access to quality health and education services, improved agriculture and environment for a dignified lifestyle.

MISSION

CHEPs' mission is to empower the underprivileged individuals and communities of Kenya, while instilling hope and dignity, by providing sustainable and quality health, education, agriculture, environment conservation, development and humanitarian projects through local initiatives, resources, and involvement of local volunteers willing to serve the community.

PROJECTS

Health care: eye camps, emergency medical treatment, limb prosthesis

Education: student sponsorship, student mentorship centre, set up libraries, solar lights, books' distribution to students, classrooms and desks for schools

Agriculture: farming support, irrigation projects, animal husbandry

Environment: tree planting, organizing clean-up/hygiene projects in villages

Development: microfinance and infrastructure for promotion of health and education, improving water supply through digging & rehabilitation of wells, improving sanitation by building latrines in rural areas

Humanitarian: emergency relief during famine & drought, welfare of street children, feeding programmes

IMPACT

SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS THIS QUARTER

Programme Area	Activity Area	Indicator	Result
HEALTH	Eye camps	Number of eye camps held	5
		Number of people screened	1,700
		Number of surgeries (cataract) performed	450
	Orthopaedic camps	Number of orthopaedic camps held	3
		Number of patients treated for orthopaedic conditions	150
		Medical support	Patients supported to access various medical treatments
EDUCATION	Fees for students	Number of students whose fees were paid	27
	Furniture for schools	Number of furniture provided	40
	Repairs	Number of schools repaired/upgraded	2
	School feeding programme	Number of schools supported with food for students and teachers	10
		Number of students reached through school feeding programme	600
		Wells	Number of wells completed
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)		Number of villages where wells were dug	20
		Number of villages supported with water trucking	3
		Food distribution	Amount of food distributed (tons)
HUMANITARIAN (EMERGENCIES)		Number of villages provided emergency food relief	2
		Number of households provided emergency food relief	70
		ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Staff training

CUMULATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

Sr.No	Indicators of activity progress	Units
1	Number of people provided with food support in emergencies	263,001
2	Number of villages provided food support in emergencies	83
3	Amount of food distributed in emergencies (tons)	840
4	Number of eye camps organized	118
5	Number of people screened for eye conditions	49,879
6	Number of people provided eye glasses for refractive errors	14,846
7	Number of people provided with eyedrops for various eye conditions	36,426
8	Number of cataract blind people operated to see again	6,390
9	Number of Orthopaedic camps	4
10	Number of individuals assisted for emergency medical treatment	84
11	Number of amputees provided with limb prosthesis	28

12	Number of students ever supported with fees	191
13	Number of students currently supported with fees	29
14	Number of university students ever supported with fees	88
15	Number of university students currently supported with fees	2
16	Number of disabled students ever supported with fees	16
17	Number of disabled students currently supported with fees	4
18	Number of boarding schools in rural areas supported in food for fees	13
19	Number of students benefited from food for fees project	524
20	Amount of food distributed in food for fees project	Over 40 tons
21	Number of student mentorship centres set up	3
22	Number of books distributed	7809
23	Number of schools/institutions given books	40
24	Number of libraries set up for schools/communities	4
25	Number of classrooms constructed	16
26	Number of sanitary facilities constructed	67
27	Number of desks given to schools	930
28	Number of solar lights given to schools	2504
29	Number of solar lights given to institutions	42
30	Number of trees planted	17,107
31	Number of wells dug	492
32	Number of wells rehabilitated	557
33	Number of dried wells re-dug	50
34	Number of 'berkets' water storage tanks constructed	38
35	Number of kitchen gardens supported	329
36	Number of farmers supported	4,931
37	Number of large irrigation (greenhouse)/farming projects	3
38	Number of goats distributed to poor families	90
39	Number of official presentations made at scientific conferences	6
40	Number of workshops, seminars & community presentations	8
41	Number of conferences and workshops organized	3
42	Number of clothes distributed	2600
43	Number of schools/institutions given clothes	10
44	Number of water filters distributed	200
45	Number of families received water purification chemical	6400
46	Number of families received water buckets for water storage	10,577
47	Number of households educated on COVID-19	10,000
48	Number of masks produced	Over 42,000
49	Number of masks distributed	Over 42,000
50	Number of thermo gun given to schools	6
51	Number of sanitary pad kits produced	10,001
52	Number of sanitary pad kits distributed to school going girls	9500
53	Number of houses constructed for seniors	30
54	Number of individuals assisted with wheelchairs	2
55	Number of households received solar lights	122
56	Number of schools supported in feeding program	10
57	Number of school laboratory constructed	2
57	Number of sexual health talks to schools/community	3

HEALTH



- EYE CAMPS
- ORTHOPAEDIC CAMPS
- MEDICAL SUPPORT



EYE CAMPS

BACKGROUND

It is alarming that 2.2 billion people worldwide have vision Impairment, half of them preventable and correctable. The commonest cause of distant vision impairment is refractive error accounting for 88.4million people, and cataract blindness makes up 94 million, while that of near vision impairment is presbyopia accounting for 826 million. Also of concern is the fact that 90% of visually impaired people live in low-income settings, a large proportion of them unable to access ophthalmic services.

CHEPs has over the years been on a mission to improve eyesight of destitute communities by conducting free eye camps all over Kenya. During the camps, we screen and treat various eye ailments using a variety of medication, and correct visual impairment by giving out spectacles all free of charge. We also perform eye surgeries to treat cataract blindness and other surgically corrected ailments all free of charge to the beneficiaries.

We have so far held a total of 118 free eye camps across the country during which:

-  49,765 people have been screened for eye conditions
-  Over 14,844 pairs of spectacles were given out to correct visual impairment.
-  Over 36,426 eye drops of different types were dispensed to treat eye diseases.
-  Over 6,390 blind people have been operated for cataract to restore their vision.

DURING THIS QUARTER

-  **5 camps were conducted**
-  **1700 patients attended to**
-  **450 issued with spectacles**
-  **1450 given eye drops**
-  **450 operated to restore vision following blindness**

CHEPs 113TH EYE CAMP- January 2022

The camp was held in Gilgil Nakuru county, one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located 128 km North west of Nairobi, in the Great Rift Valley. The county has a population estimated at 570,674 people.

The following services were offered:

- Total number of patients served – 450
- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 200
- Cataract blindness diagnosed and operated– 77



CHEPs 114TH EYE CAMP- February 2022

The camp was held in Elgeyo-Marakwet at Kapcherop town, one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located 393 km North west of Nairobi. It has a population estimated at 369,998 people with over 55.5% poverty rate. The following services were offered:

- Total number of patients served –150
- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 300
- Cataract blindness diagnosed and operated– 37



CHEPs 115TH EYE CAMP- February 2022

Our 115th eye camp was held in Maili Tisa in Namanga, one of the 47 counties in Kenya, located 150 km South East of Nairobi at the border of Kenya and Tanzania.

The following services were offered:

- Total number of patients served –300
- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 250
- Reading glasses dispensed- 150
- Cataract blindness diagnosed and operated– 16



CHEPs 116TH EYE CAMP- March 2022

The eye camp was held in Garissa which is located 370 km from Nairobi and 200 km from Kenya's border with Somalia. Garissa has a total population of over 1,020,000 people, most of whom live nomadic lives. The following services were offered:

- Total number of patients served –200
- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 400
- Cataract blindness diagnosed and operated– 178



CHEPs 117TH EYE CAMP- March 2022

The eye camp was held in Gilgil and Olkalau in Nakuru and Nyandarua county respectively, located 128km and 160km respectively North west of Nairobi.

The following services were offered by the CHEPs team free of charge:

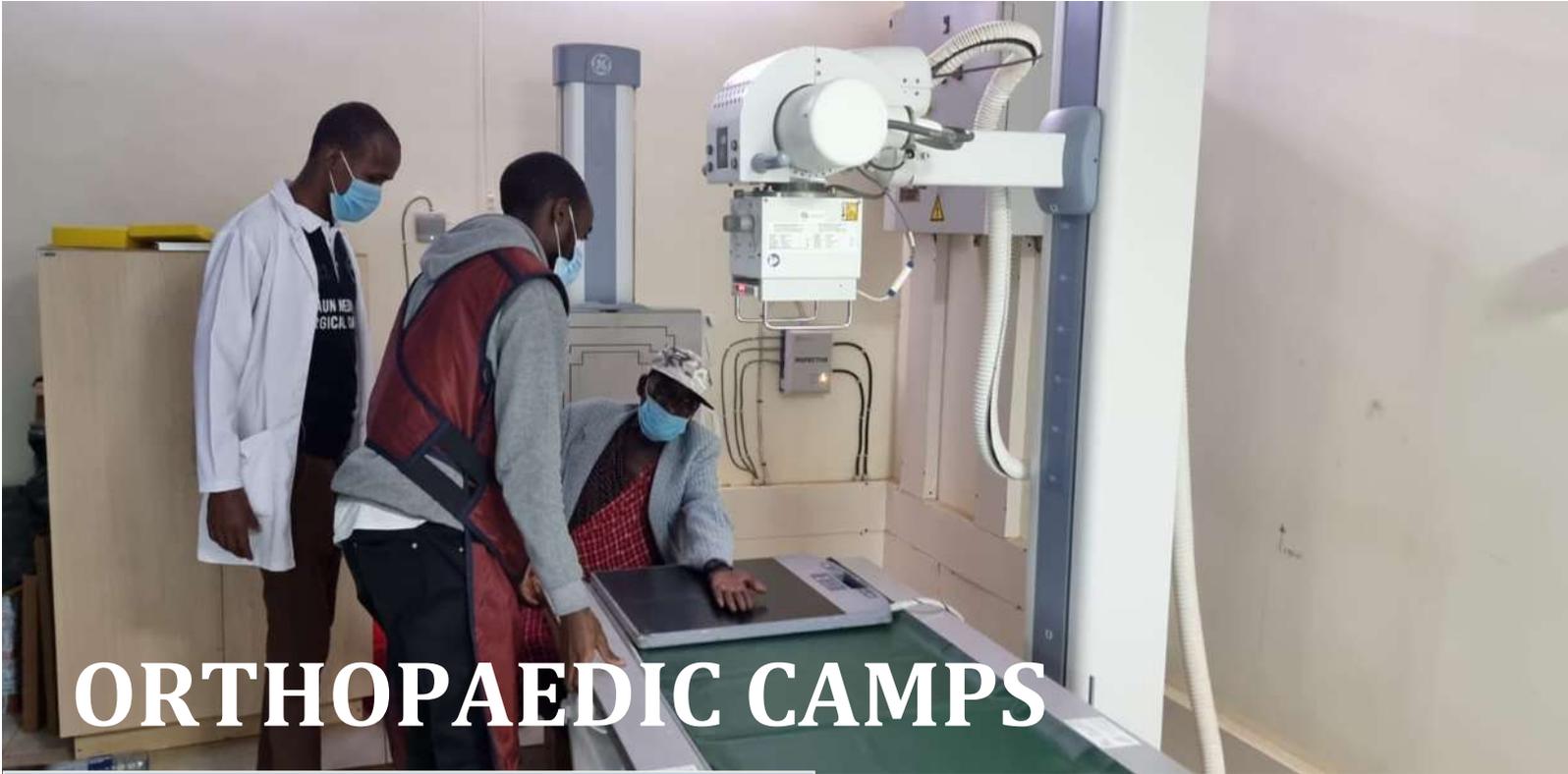
- Total number of patients served –600
- Eye drops dispensed to treat various eye diseases – 300
- Reading glasses dispensed-300
- Cataract blindness diagnosed and operated– 97



CHEPs 118TH EYE CAMP- March 2022

This camp was held in Nairobi's Kawangware slum, one of the largest slums in Kenya, where close to 100,000 people reside in extreme poverty. This camp specifically targeted school going children with the aim of enhancing literacy through improved vision. A total of 206 children were screened and treated. CHEPs made and issued spectacles to those that require them to aid in their studies.





ORTHOPAEDIC CAMPS

BACKGROUND

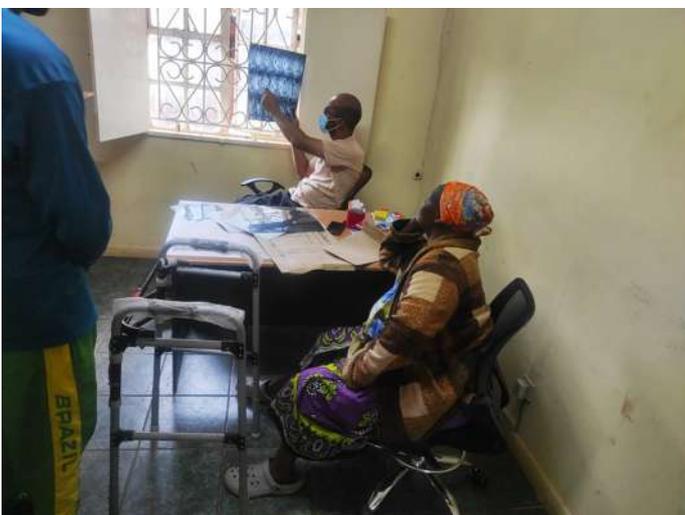
Globally road traffic injuries kill more than 1.3 million people every year and are the leading killer among 15-29-year old age group. Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) like Kenya account for 93% of all road traffic accident (RTAs) deaths worldwide and close to 50 million cases of disability. In Kenya RTAs cost the country 5% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Orthopaedic fractures are the commonest injuries that occur. Most of the times, such injuries affect young breadwinners who get involved in accidents while at work or on their way to or from work. Fractures commonly require early surgery to prevent disability and loss of opportunity to earn especially for the poor who form the majority of patients in Kenya. Many are however unable to afford the high cost of surgery, remaining untreated which leads to disability. Their families therefore loose a breadwinner. This leads to a vicious cycle of poverty as the breadwinner loses ability to earn, and the dependents loose empowerment opportunities such as education resulting in them also growing up in poverty, and subsequently giving rise to another generation of poverty stricken off springs.

CHEPs aims to break this cycle by assisting needy patients access surgery and heal quickly so that they can resume their breadwinning responsibilities.

This quarter, CHEPs conducted 3 orthopaedic outreach camps. One was held at Namanga, the Kenyan border town to Tanzania and 2 were held within Nairobi's Kawangware slums. More than 200 patients were screened and treated for various orthopaedic ailments and minor procedures performed. Those patients that require surgery were registered for surgery when the opportunity arises. Furthermore, plans are underway to start orthopaedic surgical outreaches within the year.

We hereby acknowledge Krishna Pharmaceutical and Synermed Pharmaceutical for their donations of medication that have made it possible to treat patients during the outreaches.





CHEPs Programmes Manager, Dr. Faraj Alkizim, an Orthopaedic Surgeon, treating orthopaedic patients and booking for surgery those that require it

MEDICAL SUPPORT

This quarter CHEPs supported the following patients to access medical treatment for various conditions.

Jane Njeri

A 15-year-old girl hailing from a humble background in Kiambu, Kenya. She was raised by a single mother after her parents separated while she was very young. She was born with a rare eye condition which resulted in lens displacement of both her eyes causing poor vision. Identified by a CHEPs volunteer, she was assisted to undergo surgery so as to treat the condition. Surgery was successfully performed to one eye, allowing her to sit her final Kenya Certificate of Primary Education examinations a few weeks later. She managed to score 250 out of the maximum 500 marks, a commendable score considering her poor vision. She has since been admitted in secondary school. Plans are underway to operate on her second eye in due time. We acknowledge Dr. Fayaz Khan and Eye and U hospital for their kind support.



Remy Kiptarus

A 32 year old graduate of economics from Moi university, but unemployed. He developed a Keratoconus, an eye condition that causes progressive blindness if not corrected. The condition was so severe that his right cornea was ruptured. He was assisted to undergo cross-linking of his left eye, a procedure that aims to strengthen the eye to prevent further damage. Plans are underway to have his right eye undergo cornea transplant. We acknowledge Dr. Fayaz Khan and Eye and U hospital for their kind support.



Joseph Kihara

Born in Kiambu, he also developed keratoconus at a young age and progressively lost his vision. He was supported to undergo crosslinking in order to strengthen his eyes and prevent further deterioration of his vision. Plans are underway for him to undergo cornea transplant. We acknowledge Dr. Fayaz Khan and Eye and U hospital for their kind support.

Elizabeth Ndumo

A 40-year-old vegetable seller in Nairobi's Kawangware slums. She developed a tumour on her head, which was causing her great pain, but she could not afford to seek medical treatment. She reached out to CHEPs and was assisted to undergo surgery under the care of Dr. Shitsama, a renown neurosurgeon, whom we appreciate. She is currently recuperating before she goes back to her work of selling vegetables.





EDUCATION

- INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAMME
- SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME
- ADULT LITERACY

BACKGROUND

It is estimated that over 46% of the Kenyan population live below the poverty line. Such people are unable to access education due to various challenges including inability to afford levies, geographical proximity and lack of facilities among other challenges. These have forced children living in extreme poverty to be locked out of education. Poverty and education are intertwined at multiple levels. Such children grow up uneducated, preventing them from becoming productive members of a very competitive society. They in turn give rise to poverty stricken off springs, which in turn are unable to access education giving rise to a viscous cycle. The situation only gets worse with the rising cost of living and increasing competition among societies. It is there imperative to break this cycle, and the most sustainable intervention is that of promoting access to education to curb poverty. CHEPs strives to enhance literacy among communities by addressing these challenges. We have constructed classrooms, toilets, science and computer laboratories, sponsored students, provided girls with menstrual kits and donated books furniture, supporting school feeding programs among other projects.

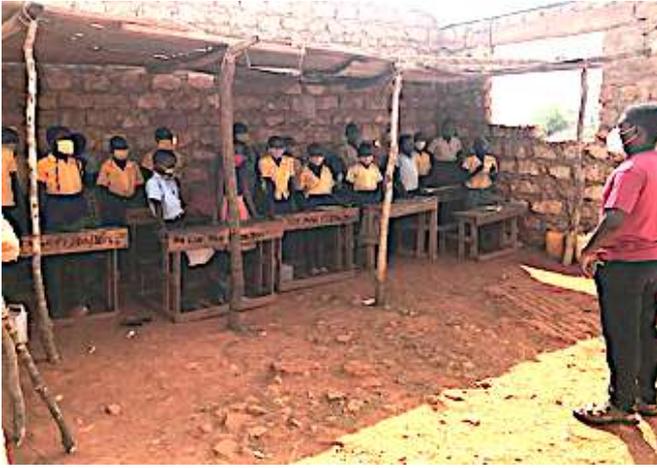
SCHOOLS INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

ADIMAYE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Adimaye Primary School is the only school in Adimaye village, one of the 45 villages of Chakama. The school hosts over 209 pupils without proper classrooms. Two of the school's classrooms had neither roofs, windows nor floor. They were constructed through community fundraising but were left incomplete when their funds were exhausted. Children learning in them had to put up with harsh environmental conditions including unpredictable weather, direct heat from the scorching sun, uncomfortable ground, and insects. Through support from Beta Charitable Trust, CHEPs was able to provide a roof to them and subsequently upgrade them through support from WF-AID. Projects like this are envisioned to enhance literacy in the area so as to sustainably enable to community to break off the cycle of poverty.



The incomplete classrooms that were used by the students for years after the community was unable to finance its construction to completion



Classes ongoing under improvised wooden shade within the incomplete classrooms



Roofing done as first phase of upgrade to provide the students shade from the scorching sun



The classrooms upgraded to a modern facility

BENZARO EARLY CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL

Benzaro is a remote village located within Chakama location of Kenya's Kilifi County, one of the poorest of the 47 counties of Kenya. It has an estimated population of 1000, mostly elderly, living in extreme poverty. The community lives under very harsh conditions, and lacks access to essential needs including clean water, food, healthcare, electricity, and sanitation.

The literacy level among the community members is extremely low. Nursery school level children were previously taught by a community volunteer (primary school drop-out), in a collapsing temporary structure, while sitting on rotting logs. They were forced to put up with harsh environmental conditions including unpredictable weather, the uncomfortable ground, insects and animals. On learning of their condition, CHEPs constructed for the children 4 classrooms 4 years ago through generous support of Beta Charitable Trust. The school was also furnished, and teachers employed. It also received various school supplies and is currently receiving support from CHEPs for its feeding program. This support exponentially enhanced school enrollment from a handful to more than 120 currently.

This quarter the roof started leaking, due to deterioration from the harsh climatic conditions over the years. CHEPs undertook renovation of the roof to protect the students during rain. This has been completed and learning resumed.



The collapsing classrooms in which Nursery school children were taught for years in Benzaro



The classrooms CHEPs built for them 4 years ago



Renovation of the classrooms roofs



SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Children of rural communities face disadvantages in education due to a combination of factors including food insecurity, inadequacy of schools, as well as high malnutrition and stunting rates. Accordingly, such children systematically achieve lower competency levels. Chakama is one such location where school children are disadvantaged. Schools there face low enrolment of pupils and high dropout rates due to numerous challenges they face. Prolonged drought has affected Chakama exposing residents to the risk of starvation. Worst affected are the younger children who are forced to remain at home in order to preserve the little energy that they acquire from the little food available.

Since last year, CHEPs has been supporting 10 Early Child Development schools in Chakama location through feeding programs. These are Bahati, Benzaro, Kwamagandi, Chambuu, Majengo, Zowerani, Kalongoni, Raukani, Kararacha and Habura ECD schools. This has so far been fruitful as enrollment and attendance of pupils in all the schools has significantly increased.



ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMME

The community in Chakama has very low literacy levels. For many years, children drop out of school at an early stage due to poverty, geographical distance and other challenges. They therefore grow up into uneducated adults who lack the knowledge and skills for employment, leaving them in poverty. They too give rise to poverty-stricken children who also drop out of school and the cycle continues. Cultural factors and despair among the communities, as they see no opportunities to aspire to, also contributes to the low literacy. CHEPs therefore promotes adult learning to promote literacy among them with the aim of breaking the cycle of poverty. Helping adults gain literacy and skills is a sustainable approach to reduce poverty, improve public health, and promote human rights.

Our adult literacy programme aims to:

- Assist adult become literate and obtain skills necessary for employment and self-sufficiency,
- Empower parents to participate in the educational development of their children,
- Give adults another chance to obtain school credentials.

We recently rolled out adult literacy classes in Muyeye, Ramada, and Majengo villages of Chakama location and are working towards strengthening the programme.





CHEPs
CENTRES for
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PROGRAMMES

Empowering | Promoting Health, Education and Development | Improving Lifestyle

Saqqa-e-Sakina Water Project

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

- WATER SUPPLY
- WATER STORAGE
- SANITATION

WATER SUPPLY

It is reported that:

- Lack of access to safe drinking water is the number one crisis worldwide
- At least 1 billion people all over the world lack safe drinking water, more than 80% of whom live in rural areas
- 2.5 billion people (37% of global population) to date lack access to adequate sanitation
- Such people are forced to practice open defecation, which has been shown to cause diarrhoea, the second leading killer of children below 5 years of age
- Every 20 Seconds, a child dies due to poor sanitation
- 80% of diseases in developing countries are caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation
- Access to good sanitation and safe water could save 1.5 million children per year

The situation in Kenya is no different. With 80% of its land found in arid and semi-arid areas, recurrent droughts, increased water demand and poor management of water supply have led to 17 million out of the 40 million people living in the country to lack adequate access to the valuable commodity.

CHEPs aims to save lives through provision of safe water and improved sanitation facilities. We strive to improve the accessibility of water to alleviate thirst, improve farming, and lower poverty among marginalized communities. This is done by providing water to the worst affected communities through digging wells, drilling of boreholes, construction of sanitary facilities, educating communities on hand washing, hygiene, and disease prevention.

Achievements to date:

- Dug 492 shallow wells
- Rehabilitated and cupped 537 wells
- Re-dug 50 dried wells
- Drilled 3 boreholes
- Installed hand pumps for 2 institutions
- Constructed 46 sanitary facilities
- Installed water storage and rain harvesting tanks in 3 villages
- Set up 12 hand washing stations

Key results of these include:

-  Increased access to safe, and adequate water and sanitation, resulting in reduction of diseases
-  Water availability for drinking and domestic use by households
-  Increased school attendance by children who no longer walk long distances to fetch water
-  Women have more time to undertake other socio-economic activities
-  Increased household income as a result of using water for income generating activities such as farming
-  Afforestation and environmental conservation to mitigate drought

WATER SUPPLY IN TANA RIVER COUNTY

Tana River is one of the 47 counties of Kenya, located 582 Km from Nairobi. The county has a population of approximately 315,943 people most of them marginalized, extremely needy, and living under very harsh conditions, lacking essential needs including water, food, education, healthcare, electricity, and sanitation. The county was named after the River Tana, which cut through it, leading to the formation of villages around it as the communities settled nearby to farm and tap into its water for irrigation. The river however changed its course some years ago, leaving the communities with neither water for irrigation nor drinking. They were therefore forced to turn to digging a few shallow wells, and trekking long distances to fetch water, both of which cannot sustain their farming, resulting in widespread hunger in addition to thirst, over the year. Sanitation on the other hand is exceedingly poor leading to regular outbreaks of diarrheal diseases that are causing loss of lives.

Young children are commonly seen carrying jerrycans every day in search of water at the expense of schooling, lowering the communities' literacy, and thereby aggravating the vicious cycle of poverty. The men were forced to turn to menial jobs at the nearest major towns to earn a living, while the women remain behind to look after the families, fetch water and collect firewood.



Map of Kenya showing Tana River county



The course of River Tana passing near the village, some years ago, before it changed its course

CONSTRUCTION OF SHALLOW WELLS

This quarter, CHEPs dug and constructed 33 shallow wells complete with hand-pumps for 20 villages in Tana River County in order to provide them with sustainable water.



Digging of in progress



Pounding and plumbing

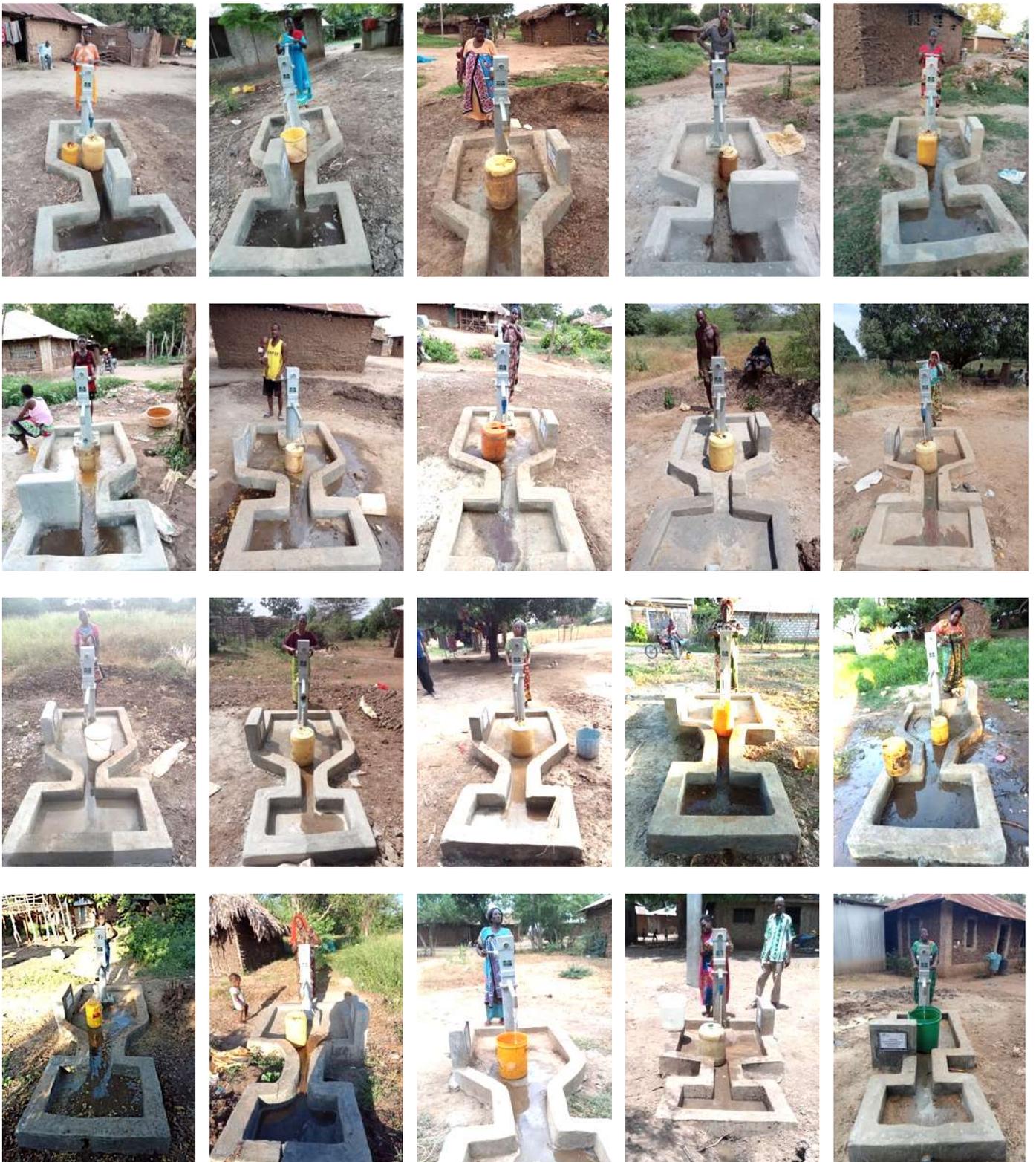


Capping



Hand pump installation

WELLS DUG BY CHEPs THIS QUARTER





WATER TRUCKING

Chakama's estimated population of 4500 households, scattered in the 46 remote villages, are living in extreme poverty. For many years, the area has been neglected, therefore lacks basic infrastructure including electricity, piped water and access roads. They rely mainly on subsistence farming to obtain food, however due to harsh environmental and climatic factors, and since they mainly rely on rainfall to water their crops, they grow very little food, therefore suffering chronic food insecurity.

Other than hunger, thirst is a major challenge with no reliable source of water. Majority of villagers walk tens of kilometres daily in search of water. In order to alleviate the suffering of villagers, CHEPs constructs water storage facilities in the different villages and distributes drinking water through water trucking. This quarter we have distributed 40,000 litres of drinking water to 3 villages benefitting over 1000 villagers.



WATER DESALINATION

In order to provide a sustainable water source for distribution to villagers in Chakama, CHEPs has installed a high volume, solar powered, desalination plant through support from Lady Fatema Trust. The plant is purifying saline borehole water which, after being certified by government agencies as safe for consumption, is being distributed to villagers free of charge. So far, 30,000L of purified drinking water has been distributed to 400 households and it is expected that the plant will produced 250,000 litres per month.



Rally car zooms past the CHEPs desalination plant during the recent East African Classic Safari Rally which saw 45 rally cars battle it out 1760 km across Kenya

COMMUNITY LED TOTAL SANITATION CAMPAIGN

Access to safe sanitation in Kenya is a major obstacle to attaining good health and well-being. It is reported that only 65% of the Kenyan population has access and the number falls lower to 56% in rural areas. Chakama, a remote location that comprises of 46 villages in Kenya's Kilifi county, has even worse statistics. According to a survey conducted by CHEPs, 87% of villagers had no access to safe sanitation and relieve themselves in the bush. This number even rises to 100% in some of the villages. Furthermore, only 365 of the total 4800 households in the entire Chakama had latrines. This demonstrates that the practice of open defecation is rampant in the area, leading to contamination of water and food sources and resulting in diarrheal diseases that are costing lives.

On March 9th, CHEPs embarked upon creating open defecation free villages through community led total sanitation (CLTS) approach. This entails promoting communities to analyse their sanitation and defecation practices and take corrective measures to ensure that they are open defecation free. Efforts are concentrated at debunking social and cultural myths which are proving to be barriers in promoting and maintaining safe sanitation. The communities are then guided in constructing low cost latrines for their daily use to properly dispose their waste. Monitoring efforts have revealed good progress. Communities have understood the significance of a proper human waste disposal in lowering the rate of diseases and also overcoming the economic burden of sanitation related diseases. They are constructing their latrines so as to jointly protect their community and '*Ushirikiano*', which means cooperation, is now their motto.

The project has been rolled out in all villages in Chakama and CHEPs personnel are moving around monitoring progress and ensuring the recommended guidelines and standards of latrine construction are met, other than motivating the communities.



CHEPs CEO Dr. Muhsin Sheriff meeting with community members to discuss CLTS



Some low-cost latrines constructed by community members following CHEPs



HUMANITARIAN

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Kenya has been experiencing severe food insecurity for several years not. Recurrent droughts are exposing marginalized, remote rural communities like those in Chakama to the risk of starvation. Having run an extensive campaign towards the end of last year during which we distributed over 350 tons of food to 4499 households in Chakama, this quarter we focused on the elderly and disabled who are the most vulnerable, by distributing 1.7 tons of food to 70 of them. Due to continuation of the extended drought and increasing hunger in the area, a larger food distribution campaign has been planned for all the 46 villages in Chakama next quarter.



Kahindi Kazungu Mumba is a 40 year old resident of Paola village Chakama. He has 5 school going children who are regularly sent home due to tuition fees arrears. He sustained a road traffic accident a few years ago which led to the amputation of his right leg. Since then he is unable to seek employment. He has been dependent on farming for their food however due to the drought that has been experience in Chakama over the last 2 years, he has not harvested any food in a long time and is dependent on food aid from CHEPs. He also reported that elephants from the nearby Tsavo National Park had destroyed the little food that he had managed to grow “I am grateful for the continued support from CHEPs”.

Idza Mwamganga Katama is a 52 year old mother of 5 is a resident of Katama village of Chakama. She previously depended on subsistent farming for food, however has not been able to grow any food due to the ongoing drought. As a community, they even prayed for rain, but their prayers are yet to be answered. She reported that apart from crops not growing, their animals are also dying from thirst and hunger. She expressed that the little food that she received from CHEPs would alleviate some suffering temporarily however there is dire need for a sustainable solution.





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