

National Office Information

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Local Partner Information

Project Number(s): 1877

Project Name(s): MITUBIRI FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Meaning of LP Name(s) in Local Language (if applicable): MARUI MERI (TWO RIVERS)



Pupils from Mukerekenju ECD displaying some of the play materials provided by the project



Children from Peter Kariuki primary school were all smiles after receiving school uniforms.



A CHW conducting growth monitoring among children under 5.



Food processing students during a practical exam

Local Information

Mitubiri Family Development Project is located in Methi sub location, Wempa location, Kimoriri Division, Murang'a South District in Murang'a County in Kenya and it's in the northern part of Nairobi the capital city of Kenya.

Mitubiri is in low land where two seasonal rivers pass by namely Nginyi and kabuku rivers. Kabuku River used to be a huge river but due to human cultivation the river level of water went down resulting dry of the river during hot weather.

The weather is generally hot during the month of January and February. In March and April Mitubiri experience heavy rain and in May and June the weather is hot. July is the coldest month that extends to August. In September and October the weather is hot. In November and December Mitubiri experience the short rain.

There are two planting seasons where the harvesting period is in February and June. Maize and beans are the common crops that are grown in Mitubiri although some farmers who are near the river grow horticultural crops like French beans and vegetables.

Mt Kenya is always visible from north during morning and evening hours, The Aberdeire rages are visible from west throughout since they are not very far as well as Kilimabogo hill which is visible from east throughout the day since it is not very far from Mitubiri.

Community Profile

Income Sources

Majority of supported families are rural dwellers. Mitubiri is surrounded by big farms where the local communities work as casual labourers for their dairy bread and quarry mining. The approximate wage per month is 70 US Dollars per month that is not enough to cater for the family's basic needs.

Access

Roads within Mitubiri are all weather roads and there is 6 kilometer tarmac road that connect Mitubiri to Kabati market and Nairobi which is 55 kilometers away. Some areas are not accessible during the rainy season due to cotton soil. Locals use motorbikes as there means of transport from one village to another.

Risks

Drought is a major threat to children due to unreliable rainfall. Currently Mitubiri is facing drought since the rain was not enough for three consecutive seasons. Malaria is the common disease that attacks almost everybody during the rainy season where the communities are advised to use insecticide treated nets. The issue of drug abuse is very low as compared to other areas in town but use of alcohol is rampant. Child trafficking is not practiced within the area. HIV/AIDS continues to be a big challenge in the area where some children are left with their grandparents and others are left as child headed families. Family breakdown relationships have affected so many children and most

of them have either stayed on with single parents with very low income or are sickly, some children have gone to the streets.

Culture

The Mitubiri residents are migrants from other Divisions since the area was occupied by white settlers since colonial time. The land was purchased by Mitubiri residents after independence. The land had coffee plantations then uprooted by communities here to build homes. The majority of residents here are Kikuyu followed by Kamba, Luo, Karenjin, Meru, Maasai, Luhya and other communities in small numbers also live in the area and most of them are employees in the local farms. The Kikuyu and Kamba observe their cultures especially during dowry payment. Christians are the majority followed by Islamic where Kikuyu language dominates other languages.

Mitubiri community observe all Kenyan and International holidays that include the New Year's 1st January, Good Friday and Easter Monday that comes early April, Labor Day 1st May, Heroes Day October 20th, Jamuhuri Day 12th December, Christmas Day 25th and Boxing Day December 26th, Idi Fitri and Idi Mubarak.

Housing

Majority of the families that are enrolled live in a maximum of three roomed houses made of mud walls with iron sheets on the roof and most of the floors are not cemented. The doors and the windows are wooden.

Nutrition

The main food for this community is Githeri which is a mixer of maize and beans that are boiled together in a pot. Ugali (Mixer of Maize flour and water) is the second main dish that is taken together with sukuma wiki (Kales), cabbages or spinach mixed with potatoes. Meat is available but very costly. Most of the families have meat in their food during holiday and other parties. Rice and chapati (Mixer of Wheat flour and Water) is also taken together with sukuma wiki (Kales), cabbages, spinach mixed with potatoes and tomatoes. Other common foods that children enjoy are sweet potatoes, arrowroots, cassava with the above mentioned sauce and bread. The commonest fruit is the banana, oranges, pawpaw, pineapple and water melon and avocado that comes in different seasons. Children from this community are also fed with cow or goat milk.

Poverty Level

Mitubiri community has been struggling for decades with issues of poverty. The migration of residents from rural (Mitubiri) to urban (Thika and Nairobi City) is very high in search of dairy bread and greener pasture. The unemployment rate is very high that also contributes to high school dropouts among

school going children at all levels. Many children go to school without lunch and some also do not take breakfast every day.

Basic Indicators

Health

The children under 5 years are mostly affected by pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria. Mothers encounter child birth related complications. HIV/AIDS continues to be a significant challenge contributing to increased number of orphans. Few homes access piped water and the majority do not have access to clean water for domestic use. This exposes them to water born diseases.

During the rainy season water is harvested by families with water tanks. The main source of waste disposal in the community is pit latrine. In some areas the pit latrine are not well constructed due to related high cost. During the construction of a house cotton soil that is not raised up with stones as a foundation usually collapse during the rainy season.

Health Access

Mitubiri community has two health centers that have full time trained nurses and managed by government health Ministry officials.

The community also has two referral District hospitals namely Thika and Maragua although they are very far away. The health centers and referral hospitals some time do not have adequate medicine. Patients buy medicine from the chemists and are costly.

Both the health centers and referral hospitals conduct standard immunizations, offer services in family planning, preventive medicines. The referrals Hospital treat minor and major illness and injuries, dental, maternity, psychosocial counseling and pediatric care services.

In the community there are many private owned hospitals and clinics that are of high quality and modern with trained practitioners and are well equipped. They charge quite exorbitant fees for the services to be offered. The distance from the community to a full service medical center, maternity center and pediatric medical center is 30 km.

Education

Kenya encourages education for all its citizens. The Education system in Kenya is 8-4-4 system: 8 years in primary education, followed by 4 years in secondary education, then 4 more years in university.

In Primary and Secondary school in Kenya there are three school terms and each term last for three months. While is the Public University there are two semesters that last for three months and in Private University there are two systems of learning that student choose from either two semesters per year or three trimester. Again this depends in different Universities and the course that a student is taking.

About 232 of our children are below the age of 5 and these are either still young and at home or attending centre based ECD or in a Kindergarten, approximately 791 children are in primary and 155 are in either secondary School, vocation institutes or tertiary Colleges and University. With the introduction of free Primary Education by the Government, there are many children going to school and the education for most of the children start at age 6 due to diverse problems which are mostly socio-economic where parents are unable to pay for children lunch in schools.

Most of the primary schools are overcrowded with a ratio of teacher to pupil at 1:55 per class. Toilet facilities do exist in these schools: girls and boys sections are separate but are insufficient with no provision for children with disabilities.

Due to the high enrolments, four children share a desk; there are but limited reading materials in these schools. One book is shared by 4 or more children in a class. The distance that most children travel to an Early Child development centre is 2km, primary children cover an average distance of 3km or less and secondary students either walk or ride bicycle to school covering a distance of about 4km. Some students in secondary schools and vocational training are boarders.

ChildFund Program Interventions

SECTOR	LIFE STAGE	PROGRAM	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Healthcare	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	ECD	50 mothers of under five children on early childhood care and development.	The mothers to be trained in partnership with ministry of health in order to get information / knowledge on how to take care for the young children
ECD	L 1 Healthy & Secure	ECD	Facilitate developing of	ECD Teachers to be trained in partnership with ministry of

	Infants		learning materials for 6 ECD centers	Education on locally materials development and use
ECD	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	ECD	Support 6 ECD centers with outdoor play materials	The project to procure and distribute outdoor play materials
ECD	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	ECD	6 ECD centers supported with furniture	The project to procure and distribute furniture that are appropriate to the young children in ECD Centres
Governance	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Education	Train 25 school management committee members on School governance	The project in partnership with ministry of education quality department to train the board on roles, functions & governance
Education	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	ECD	3 monitoring visits to ECDs centers	The project in partnership with ministry of education to facilitate monitoring visits to the 6 ECD Centres to ensure that ECD are delivering quality stimulation
Education	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	ECD	renovate 1 ECD center	Through the ministry of public works Mitubiri will facilitate renovation of Mithi ECD classroom in order to provide conducive environment for learning
Education	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Water & Sanitation	distribute 4 water tanks to ECD centers	Mitubiri will procure and distribute 5,000 litres capacity plastic water tanks to Etc. This will ensure access and improve hygiene in these centres
Education	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Health	Growth monitoring to 6,000 ECD children and make referrals to health facilities	Mitubiri in partnership with ministry of health will continue to facilitate community health volunteers in conducting growth monitoring for children under 5 years for the purpose of ensuring proper growth and development for the children
Healthcare	L1 Healthy &	Health	Support 2 malezi bora	Mitubiri in partnership with ministry of health will continue to facilitate

	Secure Infants		activities	community health volunteers in reaching all children under 5 years and pregnant mothers during malezi bora exercise, for them to receive immunization, vitamins etc
Healthcare	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Health	Distribute blankets to 200 children.	Project to continue to procure and distribute blankets for the children comfort
Healthcare	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Health	refresher training for 1 community unit	The project in partnership with ministry of health to continue training community health volunteers on community level 1 strategy in order to control and prevent diseases incidences
Healthcare	L1 Healthy & Secure Infants	Nutrition	Purchase unimix for 6 ECD centers	The project to procure and distribute unimix to 6 ECD Centres. This ensures a one meal per day, improve nutrition and retention of children in the centres
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Procure examination revision materials	To procure and distribute examination revision materials to 19 primary schools intended to improve performance in national -KCPE
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Procure 60 reading lamps to children	To procure and distribute reading solar lamps to children in schools intended to facilitate learning / doing home work and improve performance
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Pay school fees for 70 children in secondary schools	To continue supporting children in secondary school pay fees in order to retain them in school and ensure transition to the next level
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Procure school uniforms to 200 needy children	To procure and distribute uniforms for children in primary schools, this will give confident and dignity to the learners
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Health	Procure 400 sanitary towels	To procure and distribute sanitary towels/inner wears to girls 9-18years to ensure during their monthly cycle are retain in school

			for needy girls	
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Health	Procure inner wears for needy girls	To procure and distribute sanitary towels/inner wears to girls 9-18years to ensure during their monthly cycle are retain in school
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	3 meetings to monitor school performance.	To facilitate the ministry of education to hold meetings to look and discuss performance
Governance	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	3 days training for 40 SMCs on school leadership and management	To facilitate ministry of education conduct training for board to ensure good governance and improve school management / performance
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Motivational talks for children on life skills.	To continue offering motivational talks on life skills in collaboration with church ministers, professionals and other respected personalities
Child Protection	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	3 days training for teachers on ROC	To continue partnering with children department and ministry of education in offering training on children rights to teachers in primary schools. This ensures teachers understanding on their rights and responsibilities
Child Protection	L 2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	3 days training for children on ROC.	To continue partnering with children department and ministry of education in offering training on children rights. This ensures children understanding on their rights and responsibilities
Governance	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	1 day training on the functions and roles of the elected children leaders in	The project will continue facilitating formation of children council in collaboration with ministry of education / children department as part of children participation

Child Protection	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	review meetings for the children council	The project will continue facilitating children review meeting in collaboration with education office as part of children participation in decision making
Education	L2 Educated & Confident Children	Education	Educational tour to attend parliament session.	Project will continue supporting children to visit and attend parliament session as way of exposing them and realizing their leadership skills
Health	L3 Youths	Health	Conduct reproductive health training on sexuality and adolescent related issues for 200	The project in collaboration with ministry of health / youth affairs department to continue offering reproductive health training for the youths. This will give youth opportunity to understand issues affecting on them sexually / HIV /AIDS.
Sports	L3 Youths	Sport / Talents	Facilitate 1 tournament for 10 teams to participate in sports/athletics championships.	The project in collaboration with youth affairs to continue supporting youth tournaments for discovery and nurturing of talents among the youths for self reliance and employment
Dancing	L3 Youths	Sports / Talents	Facilitate 1 dancing competition for 200 youths in a dancing competition.	The project in collaboration with youth affairs to continue supporting youth tournaments for discovery and nurturing of talents among the youth for self reliance / employment
Vocational Training	L3 Youths	Vocational training	Payment of vocational fees for 50 youths.	The project to continue supporting youth acquire skills through payment of fees to enable the access these trainings

Vocational Training	L3 Youths	Vocational training	Procure distribute 10 start-up kits to youths	The project to continue supporting youths who complete courses with startup kits to enable them start business
Resource Mobilization	L3 Youths	Resource mobilization	Training on proposal writing and resource mobilization for 50 youths.	The project in collaboration with youth affairs and other players will continue to train youths in resource mobilizations and linking the youth to Uwezo funds and other devolved funds

Quotes from Children and Families

To	PROGRAM	NAME	AGE	QUOTATION	DATE
[Sector Name]	[Program Name]	[First Name]	[Age]	[Sector Quotation]	[Month/Day/Year]
IGA	Livelihood	Mary	47		1/13/2015
Education	Education	Beatrice	22		11/28/2014
Water & sanitation	Water	Esther	15		10/01/14

Parent

Mary is 47 years of age and a mother of 3 children: "...the project supported my enrolled child to start a welding business so that he can support himself and the entire family. The business is moving on well. Am a casual labourer where the income is 2.5 US Dollars and unreliable. Sometime we go a week without working. I am very proud of Mitubiri project for supporting my son in the starting of a business that will shape up his future life. Long live Mitubiri.

Youth

Beatrice is a young lady aged 22 years; she is currently working in a private school as a teacher. She was enrolled in Mitubiri program as a very young girl. By then she had only the mother who later passed away and was left on the care from her old single grandmother. She has another sister who is now in class seven and was also brought up by the same grandmother from a tender age. "... I will never forget Mitubiri Family Development Project for the support that I had received since when I was

a young child. I can't forget the school fees while in secondary school and in college when I was doing my P1 teaching cause that I completed in November 2014 at Mosoriot teachers training college. I am now a qualified teacher and am able to support my young sister and grandmother. My future was shaped by Mitubiri Family Development Project. My dream is to acquire a diploma in the same career so to teach as a secondary school teacher and earn more. Mitubiri Project Thank you for in stepping in as my parent and caregiver. You are truly unique. Keep up good work in giving many children hope.

Child

Esther is 15 years old in class 8 and a complete orphan, she can't forget Mitubiri Family Development project for piping water to their door step. The family does not buy water anymore which cost 2 us Dollar per 1000 liters. She used to spend 1 hour to fetch 20 liters of water which was not clean for human consumption. They are now planning to establish a kitchen garden.



Sponsored Youth from Kiranga Polytechnic receiving School fees Cheques from Mitubiri Project