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# LWF KAKUMA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

*October 2022 Issue*



**LAUNCH OF THE NEW  
PRM PROJECT SPELLS  
BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR  
CHILDREN IN KAKUMA  
REFUGEE CAMP.**

**NASINYONO VILLAGE  
ERUPTS IN CELEBRATIONS  
AS 600 HOUSEHOLDS  
BENEFIT FROM WATER AND  
JERRYCAN DONATION.**

**'KK' STARLETS COMPETE  
AGAINST FOOTBALL  
'POWERHOUSES' IN KITALE**

This Publication Highlights Activities of the LWF Kakuma Area Program





*Aerial View of Kakuma Reception Centre.*

*Dear Readers,*

We bring you news from our Kakuma Area program with an emphasis on defining how our work is bringing hope and a better future to the most disadvantaged populations that we serve.

This edition highlights our collaborative efforts focused on delivering success through our three programmatic areas targeting refugee and host communities;

- Quality Services - (early childhood, primary education and reception centre management)
- Sustainable Livelihood
- Protection and Social Cohesion

We sincerely hope you will find this information to be both fascinating and insightful.  
Happy reading!



*Carolyn Wainaina.*

Area Manager,  
Kakuma Area Program

## KAKUMA AREA PROGRAM AT A GLANCE



### Quality Services



**87**

Early Childhood Education (ECDE) teachers trained on data collection, analysis and dissemination

**1100**

Learners benefited from provision of new school uniforms

**11506**

Learners supported to enrol for KCPE and KPSEA examination

**75%**

Enrollment rate with over 46,000 learners enrolled across 21 primary schools.

### Social Cohesion and Protection



**631**

Children with living impairments, mental health, and other psychosocial issues benefited from therapy sessions.

**500**

Women from host and refugee community attended leaders congress

**530**

Adolescents and youth of between ages 15 to 25, from Kakuma & Kalobeyei received mentorship training.

**760**

Contestants from host and refugee community participated in Kakuma Got Talent Season 9 auditions.

### Sustainable Livelihoods



**892**

20-litre water containers plus 20,000 litres of water distributed to host communities affected by ongoing drought.

**194**

Households from host community benefited from livestock restocking initiative.

**16**

New Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) established and trained

### Accountability

**256**

Staff trained on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).

### Reception

**13074**

Total number of asylum seekers received since start of year.

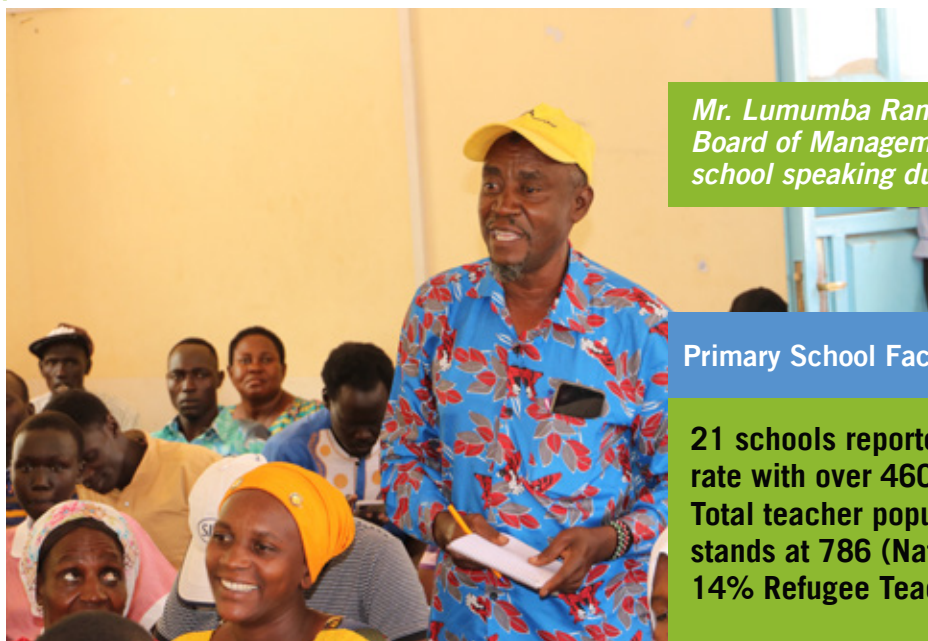
### School Meals Programme

**49560**

Learners from 34 schools in Kakuma Refugee camp benefited from SMP. Goal is to ensure that all school aged children have access to school meals & are healthy & ready to learn

Note: All data shown is current as of September 30.

## Launch of New PRM Project Spells Brighter Future for Children in Kakuma Refugee Camp.



*Mr. Lumumba Ramadhani, a member of the Board of Management, Lokitaung Primary school speaking during the project launch.*

### Primary School Facts & Figures

**21 schools reported 75% enrollment rate with over 46000 learners enrolled. Total teacher population currently stands at 786 (National Teachers 14% Refugee Teachers 86%)**

In August 2022, LWF Kakuma office staff and representatives from the Kakuma refugee camp got together to celebrate the launch of the Education and Safeguarding for Refugee Children program, which is part of projects in our child protection portfolio.

Residents expressed optimism about the project's efforts to improve children's safety and increase their access to high-quality education.

"I am so much excited to attend this project launch because investing in our children's education and general wellbeing is investing in the prosperity of our community." Remarked Lumumba Ramadhani, a member of the Board of Management, Lokitaung Primary school.

Speaking during the event, Carolyne Wainaina, Kakuma Area Manager reiterated LWF's commitment to protecting the interest of children and thanked the U.S. Department of State: Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) for supporting this project with impactful potential.

"We are really grateful to PRM for entrusting us with the duty of implementing this new project that seeks to promote the wellbeing of children. This is a unique chance for us to test collaborative strategies and deliver success. The fate of an entire generation has been put in our hands" She mentioned.

Education is a fundamental right that is essential for restoring hope and dignity to those who have been displaced from their homes and is therefore very crucial intervention in emergency situations.

LWF works with refugee children, families, and communities to defend these rights by giving children access to information and decision-making opportunities, easing access to resources, and helping adults understand the laws in place to protect children.



*A block of four new classrooms being constructed at Kadugli Primary School courtesy of UNHCR.*



## Passion Driven: Securing the Future of Young Learners



### ECD Facts & Figures

<b>Learner Population -</b>	<b>7,559</b>
<b>Teacher Population -</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Schools Supported -</b>	<b>13</b>

**M**eet Nancy Tabot, our Education Officer in charge of Early years at the Kakuma office. She is a former Early Childhood Development (ECD) teacher who believes that our future is determined by the inspiration we acquire at an early age.

For close to 15 years, she has strived to transform the lives of children by ensuring that they get quality education. This is a passion that, she says, started at an early age while serving as a Sunday school teacher in her local church.

“ Being around smiling children makes me feel heavenly. Over time, I have noted that understanding their unique needs requires someone with a big heart. It is the genuine smiles that I consider the priceless reward for attending to their needs.” She explains.

Nancy, who joined LWF Kenya Somalia Program in 2014, is currently supporting a project seeking to see displaced children in Kakuma achieve their full potential through education. She is determined to redefine the perception of society toward ECD learning by creating awareness in the community.



*A block of two new classrooms recently constructed at Lokitaung Pre-School*

## 'KK' Starlets Compete Against Football Powerhouses in Kitale



*KK Starlets warming up before kick off time.*

The temperatures in Kitale were low but our Kakuma Kalobeyei Starlets, better known as 'KK', remained in high spirits as they played friendlies against seasoned teams listed in the Kenya Women's premier league - Tranzoia Falcons and Majesty Queens FC.

Benjamin Eyanae, LWF Kakuma Deputy Youth Officer, was happy that the two-day event provided the girls with the necessary exposure as they prepare to join the national premier league season that kicks off soon.

"I am so much excited to see the dreams and aspirations of these young girls being fulfilled. For the very first time, we are joining the national premier league to compete against well-established teams. We thank God for enabling us to achieve this rare milestone." He adds.

Established in 2019, KK Stars has played a crucial role in developing young female footballers from the Kakuma refugee camp, the host community, and the Kalobeyei settlement. Aside from showcasing the players' abilities, this initiative aims at securing academic scholarships and promoting sports as a livelihood activity.

We appreciate the UNHCR's generosity in supporting this life-changing initiative.



### Sports Facts & Figures

**Kakuma Premier League - 16 Teams**

**Kakuma Divas League - 10 Teams**

**Total Players (30 per Team) - 780 Players**

**League Matches Played by Sept - 134**



## Let's Prioritize Awareness of Menstrual Health and Hygiene in Our Schools



*Sharon Samburuma is a Child Safeguarding Assistant supporting LWF Kenya-Somalia program field operations in our Kakuma office. She shares some insights about the promotion of menstrual health and hygiene learning in schools.*

**How would you describe the current situation?** Unfortunately, menstrual health is still considered a taboo topic in many circles, including schools. This is despite the fact that it is a sensitive issue that deserves more attention.

**What are some of the immediate areas of intervention?** My answer to this is simple. Let the policymakers and actors rally towards ensuring that girls experiencing periods have access to education, clean toilets (even in refugee camps), and dignity packages containing necessities like sanitary pads and underwear.

**Is there a link between mental well-being and menstrual health?** Yes, there is a very strong connection between the two. Period-related myths, misconceptions, and misinformation contribute to stigma, which can be very harmful to many school-going girls or women.

Learners in this position often have low self-esteem because they avoid making new friends and participating in group activities for fear of being called 'filthy'. LWF provides dignity kits to our girls through UNHCR to keep them in school and promote dignified living in our reception centres and youth facilities.

**How is awareness creation important in addressing this issue?** It is only through awareness creation that we can address the issues I mentioned earlier.

I'm particularly interested in awareness-raising programs illustrating the usage and disposal of pads for learners, school caregivers, and parents. As LWF, the trainings we've offered young girls and women in Kakuma and Kalobeyei have shaped how they respond to menstrual health and hygiene.

**Any parting shot?** Let's join forces to create a world where menstruating young women no longer have to feel inferior, unsafe, or ashamed.

### Menstrual Health & Hygiene Numbers

**Girls & Women Provided with Dignity Kits at Reception Centre - 261**

**Girls & Women reached in during Awareness Campaigns - 871**

## PICS SPEAK



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1. Mr. Joseph Wekesa, Social Cohesion Officer, at LWF Kakuma discusses our peace initiatives on Atoo Sifa 90.7 FM.
2. An excited learner at Unity Primary displays new uniform distributed courtesy of UNHCR.
3. Risper Ekuwam Safety and Security Assistant presenting group findings during the Project Management Cycle training conducted in July Courtesy of ALWS and PRM.
4. A contestant presents a rap during the recent series of Kakuma Got Talent Season 9 auditions.
5. LWF Country Representative, Girma Gudina and team from Nairobi and Kakuma office visiting Lokitaung Pre-primary school
6. Mawuor Gai, a visually impaired learner happily punching the keyboard of his braille machine as he receives guidance from instructor.



## Enhancing the Potential of Learners Through Promoting Digital Literacy



*A learner taking notes as she follows instructions from illustrative video on volcanic eruption.*

The Kakuma morning sun is already up as young learners of Angelina Jolie girls boarding school settle down for their social studies activities lesson. Today, the grade 6 class, comprising girls between the ages of 13 to 16, will be learning about volcanoes.

Mr Isaak Limo, a teacher at the school, begins by introducing the topic as the attentive girls strategically prop their tabs against stacks of textbooks. In a minute or so, the teacher transitions from traditional or 'textbook' studying to digital learning. He simply moves from pointing at the chart and textbook pages to tapping on one of the instructional videos saved on the tablets.

It is amazing to listen to the young girls enthusiastically explain the benefits of digital learning. Kabuka Kaluka is a 14-year-old learner who says the introduction of tablets has made learning very interesting.

'Today we have been learning about the process of volcanic eruption. Initially, textbooks would leave us imagining how such processes would occur but thanks to the tablets, we can now practically experience the processes through videos.' She explains amid claps from her fellow learners.

Mr. Limo says that the introduction of digital learning in schools has not only made the learners become more informed but it has brought about a very interesting phenomenon.

'We are witnessing a race between learners and teachers in the acquisition of digital skills. I personally support the initiative because it has made learning very interesting. Besides, I no longer have to waste time drawing diagrams on the blackboard.'

The Lutheran World Federation Kenya Somalia Program, through the support of MTÜ Mondo, has been implementing digital competency training targeting teachers and women groups from around the Kakuma refugee camp. This initiative seeks to enhance their skills while maximizing the value they get from digital technologies.

### Digital Literacy Initiative Facts & Figures

**Learner Devices Distributed - 1465**

**Teacher Devices Distributed - 58**

## LWF Supporting Communities in Northern Kenya to Relieve the Painful Sting of Drought



(Left) James Echoto and (Right) Esther Alemlem, sharing their stories of drought. Photo: Danyell Odhiambo/ LWF

Esther Alemlem, a 46-year-old mother of twelve, living in Komotogae of Kakuma, Turkana County pensively sits on the dusty floor of her hut as she rubs her cheek. It's already approaching lunchtime but she has no idea of where to get the family's next meal.

Her husband, 70-year-old James Echoto, sits alongside her and gives a similarly perplexed expression as he scratches his silver hair. The noises of their children joyfully playing outside in the sweltering sun, oblivious to the worsening food crisis, can be heard.

'We fully understand the pain caused by the sting of drought. The sight of lactating mothers and children begging for food and water on the roadside or herders watching their animals starve to death is so heartbreaking.'

'What do you do in an environment where everything has dried up? Part of our way of dealing with this biting hunger has been to survive on a single meal a day or supplement our diet with wild fruits. Sadly, the fruit trees that once lined the riverbanks have also dried up over time.' Explains Mrs. Alemlem.

After many years of below-average precipitation, Northern Kenya is experiencing its worst drought in the past four decades. Mr. Echoto is at pains as he recounts the community's devastation caused by the prolonged drought.

'We fully understand the pain caused by

the sting of drought. The sight of lactating mothers and children begging for food and water on the roadside or herders watching their animals starve to death is so heartbreaking.' He emotionally elaborates.

Mrs. Alemlem says the severe drought has taken a heavy toll on especially women and their children. 'Being a mother of 12, I know the pain of watching emaciated children cry for food and water. Thankfully, we now have a nearby borehole maintained by LWF. Women in this village are relieved that they no longer have to endure the 5-hour walks to fetch water at the seasonal river Tarach in Kakuma.' She happily narrates.

To amicably address this crisis, The Lutheran World Federation's Kenya-Somali program through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Turkana County Government has been working with drought-affected communities to build their adaptive capacity in responding to drought.

Apart from providing water and food donations as temporary solutions, LWF has embarked on key initiatives including advocating for climate-smart farming practices, building and repairing boreholes, hygiene promotion campaigns and training of water management committees on water supply and water services act, among other strategies.



## Hand pump Repair and Refurbishment Set to Revive Agricultural Economy in Turkana West.

At least 451 households have gained access to clean and safe water after the ACT Alliance supported LWF to repair and rehabilitate 3 hand pumps supplying water to Nawotom, Komotogae and Komudei B villages.

The sight of clean water trickling from the restored pumps delighted the locals who have endured drought. “It is a new dawn for our village. The time we used to spend walking long distances to fetch water for our families can now be utilized for farming” stated a community member.



Hand pump repair in progress at Nawotom.

“Turkana region is widely recognized as an arid region that has no dependable water sources. Due to this devastating situation, many people in the rural areas have lost their livelihoods, and households have been exposed to water-borne diseases.” States Dominic Atambo, a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Officer at LWF Kakuma.

The Turkana County, Public Health Office, and LWF have collaborated closely to raise public understanding of the need of clean environments. This initiative has mainly involved disseminating information on Hygiene and sanitation during the community dialogue sessions.

## Nasinyono Village Erupts in Celebrations as 600 Households Benefit from Water and Jerry-can Donation

On September 23, we visited Nasinyono Village to deliver hope to a community that has endured prolonged periods of water shortage. The villagers gathered to receive 20,000 litres of water, 600 pieces of heavy-duty 20 litre jerry-cans and water treatment packs.

It was a rare opportunity for celebration as their state of disillusionment was taken over by hope. Hundreds of mothers couldn't hide their joy as they lined up to each take home a 20 litre jerry-can filled with water together with treatment packs.

“As women of Nasinyono, we like to thank LWF and partners for coming to our rescue. The timely donation has brought smiles to our faces that were initially filled with sadness” Stated Napeikar Ebur, one of the beneficiaries.

The ACT Alliance supported this collaborative effort between the LWF and the Ministry of Health and Sanitation of the Turkana County Government.



## Kakuma Girl Child Mentorship Program Recounts Transformative Journey



*A cross-section of the girls proudly pose for a photo as they explain the message behind the training*

They say a journey of a thousand kilometers begins with one step. In the month of June 2022, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), set out on a very unique journey that brought together 270 girls from Kakuma and Kalobeyei refugee camps. The sole target was to lead them towards empowerment by offering interactive mentorship and life skills training.

On July 27, 2022, the girls gathered to formally celebrate the success stories brought about by the training that had transformed their lives. This event represented (revise sentence) a new chapter in their journey towards empowerment.

Many of them could not hide their joy as they each received a t-shirt beautifully branded by the message. “As a girl...I am...and I can.”. The cheerful young girls of between the ages 15 to 25 utilized the opportunity to reflect on the lessons and skills acquired during the training period.

“I am very thankful to the team that organized the training because I have learned new techniques of managing stress. The self-awareness sessions also enabled me to make better choices that I’m confident will lead me to a brighter future. *Asanteni sana!* (thank you so much)” Says Cecile Mishimwe amidst a radiant smile.

The event ushered them into the next phase of training where they will be required to utilize the skills acquired to mentor other vulnerable girls. Through this noble project, LWF Kenya Somalia Program seeks to create better communities through mentorship that will benefit at least 800 girls by the end of the year.

Our special appreciation goes to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the Act Church of Sweden for their generous support towards the successful initiative.



## Women Leaders Congress Reflects on Wins Attributed to Embracing Unified Goals



A lot of exciting conversations have recently taken place among women leaders from Kakuma, with one such session being the series Women Leaders Congress that happened in September.

Together with partners, LWF convened the Women Leaders Congress, a platform seeking to boost the proportion of women in leadership roles and promote their participation in decision-making forums.

We want to further shape these women into change agents. That is the reason we are incorporating inspirational talks from successful women leaders drawn from partner organizations and the local community.

Mr. Joseph Wekesa, LWF's Social Cohesion Officer, acknowledges that the dialogue platform has been a key pillar supporting women's empowerment in Kakuma.

"The congress series is uniquely designed to motivate, inspire and celebrate the resilience of refugee women leaders who have successfully navigated through challenging situations." States Mr. Wekesa

He further adds that they want to further shape the women into change agents. That is the reason they incorporated inspirational talks from successful women leaders drawn from partner organizations and the local community.." He adds.



Driven by the theme 'celebrating the past and planning for the future,' the 2022 Women Congress brought together 500 women leaders from Kakuma, Kalobeyei, at various locations to assess their accomplishments and difficulties and decide on the future course of action.

"Our advancement is still being hampered by persistent forms of discrimination, social constraints, and inadequate institutional support. We are however happy that LWF has given us a platform for empowerment and voice issues affecting our communities." Stated Laliya Asende, one of the women leaders.

Women at the event expressed their gratitude to the partners through jubilation, song, and dance, as they donned branded blue and white tshirts

The activity which was supported by ACT Church of Sweden brought together representatives from the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR), Kenya, Department of Refugee Services-Kenya (DRS), Kenya, and the Danish Refugee Council Kenya Programme.





“

Despite the challenges associated with field operations, I still enjoy serving in the humanitarian world. Our job is to deliver project resources on time and where needed. Respect for others, sound judgment, and the ability to get along with diverse personalities are key requirements in this job.

**Fred Ekalale**  
**Driver, LWF Kakuma**



“

My position gives me the chance to recognize the diversity and uniqueness of learners with special needs. I was particularly inspired to pursue a profession in special needs education because I wanted to give specially-abled children an equal chance to realize their full potential.

**Lilian Mumaina**  
**Inclusive Teacher,**  
**Gambela Primary School**





We value your relentless commitment in supporting our impactful projects:

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### Contributors:

Carolyne Wainaina  
Robert Elima  
Sylvia Wekesa  
Danyell Odhiambo  
Dominic Atambo  
Kevin Odhier  
Joseph Wekesa  
Benjamin Eyanae  
Sharon Samburuma

### Photography:

Danyell Odhiambo  
Klaus Tongoren  
Benjamin Eyanae  
Dominic Atambo

### Concept, design & layout:

Danyell Odhiambo  
LWF Kakuma, Communication Officer

### The Lutheran World Federation Kenya Somalia Program

Nairobi Office  
P.O. Box 40870 - 00100  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Gitanga Road  
Tel: +254707 818 182 / +254723 115 737  
Email: [reception.nairobi@lutheranworld.org](mailto:reception.nairobi@lutheranworld.org)  
Website: [www.kenyasomalia.lutheranworld.org](http://www.kenyasomalia.lutheranworld.org)



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