



2009: utooni, kitandi, kyumbuni & kyumuma

This year TR Aid has donated £40,000 to fund the *Excellent Water, Soil and Trees* project. It will transform the lives of four communities (4,000 people), improving water and food security and help them adapt to climate change.

We will support the groups to create their own sustainable water supply and farm effectively. Six sand dams and one dam extension will provide a secure supply of clean water for domestic use and farming.

The project will also support the planting out of 8,000 trees from 3 tree nurseries. Farmers will terrace the land. We will support 2 seed banks and provide training to help reduce vulnerability to drought.

A school water tank will improve children's attendance at school. Usually, while their mother goes out for hours to collect water, they may be needed at home to do chores. Sometimes young children may miss school through having to collect water themselves. Safe water will enable pupils to stay healthy and concentrate better.



TR Aid is a charity working to raise funds to fight global hunger and poverty through its clothes recycling and environmental activities in the UK.

www.traid.org.uk

Charity registration no. 297489

about excellent development

We enable disadvantaged communities in Africa to transform their environment sustainably and improve water supplies, food production, health and incomes



our patrons

Lord Joel Joffe CBE, Sir Edward Clay

our 2010 goals

- To build: 300 sand dams
- To plant: 1 million trees
- To dig: 600km of terracing

contact us

e-mail: team@excellentdevelopment.com

office: +44 (0)20 8232 9050

website: www.excellentdevelopment.com

© Excellent Development Limited,
Registered Charity No. 1094478,
Incorporated in England and Wales No. 4432166. Registered Office: 2 Water Court, Water Street, Birmingham B3 1HP.

printed on paper made from 100% cotton waste

Textile Recycling for Aid and International Development



excellent!
DEVELOPMENT.COM



development that doesn't cost the earth

In Kenya, half of the population – 16 million people – lack access to clean water. Excellent Development's strategy is developed in partnership with community based self-help groups working to address the problems of water shortage and lack of livelihood security for themselves.



The small-scale dams that we build capture the seasonal rain and the river sand. The rain water is then stored behind the dam, with the sand, which keeps it clean. A sand dam typically supplies safe water all year round to 1,200 people and enables farmers to start vegetable and tree nurseries. Thanks to terracing land and planting trees, soil erosion is reduced helping to improve food production, incomes and health.

In 2008, TR Aid donated £34,000 to fund the following projects with these Kenyan communities:

- **Kithito Kya Kima – 3 sand dams, 1 school water tank and the planting of 2,115 trees**
- **Utooni Youth Group – 1 sand dam and the planting of 6,531 trees**
- **Woni Wo Tithi – 1 school water tank**



sand dams

The three sand dams funded by TR Aid have significantly increased the amount of clean water available in the area. The water captured by the sand dams has enabled the communities to start vegetable and tree nurseries.

Nearly 40,000 people live in Kalama location of Machakos, where the TR Aid dams are sited, providing an essential service in an area where lack of water is the key obstacle to sustainable livelihoods.

terracing the land

Digging terraces and cut-off ditches is an effective soil and water conservation method. It also improves the performance of the sand dam as it prevents silt washing off into the dam catchment. Excellent Development field officers work with community self-help group members to implement these simple and highly effective farming techniques.

The farmers' positive experience of the impact of terracing is reflected in the amount which they choose to dig. During the 2007-8 season, the 31 members of Kithito Kya Kima self help group dug 4,294 metres of terraces.

tree nurseries

Water from the sand dam enables tree seedlings to be germinated in nurseries, meaning that they are strong enough to be planted out successfully when the rains come.

This is a key strategy for reforestation in semi-arid Africa. Trees are an essential provider of medicines, building material, fuel, food and fodder in the region.