

**PROPOSAL FOR BICYCLE GRANTS
FOR THE YOUTH AND WOMEN
OF
KAJIADO DISTRICT,
NGONG' DIVISION**



**Bicycles
for
Youth and School Children in Ngong' Division**

CONTACT PERSON

Sharon Sian Loorematta

P. O. Box 43 00280 Ngong' Hills

P. O. Box 39493 00623 Nairobi Kenya

Tel 254 020 2713540/ 2719313/ 2719413

Cell 254 721 707416

FROM
INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GROUP-EATERN AFRICA (ITDG-EA)

PROPOSAL FOR BICYCLES FOR KAJIADO DISTRICT, NGONG' DIVISION

THEME OF THE PROJECT

Bicycles for the Maasai Rural Youth and School Children

AREA/TARGET POPULATION

The target population is sparsely distributed in the Arid and Semi Arid Lands [ASAL] of Kajiado District, Ngong' Division.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Owing to the difficulties of accessing school facilities in the ASAL region of Kajiado District the Maasai community have resorted to not taking their school aged children to school by instead are tendering livestock. This has resulted to poor development in the area. Due to lack of uneducated community the area is under developed having a larger group of young girls and boy getting married at a very early age with lack of incomes subjecting them to poverty with little incomes for food and fee for the health care.

With free education since the take over by the new government in 2002 it is clear that all Kenyans should access free education. The Maasai remain marginalized with lack of the services and needs. Their regions are not well developed, physical facilities are far apart with schools, hospitals, trading centers and markets and other social places lacking.

Why the bicycles? The children come from very long distances and this is time consuming and it drains them both physically and mentally. This thus causes them to under-perform and this marginalizes the community further. The bicycles will help them redeem time and improve performance. There will also be extra time to perform other chores within the homesteads.

The target group to benefit from the bicycles would be the school children aged between 5 to 18 years of age and other considerations will be made for the young men and women who are engaged in micro-enterprise development and the health workers who are training groups on health especially HIV & AIDS activities,

BACK GROUND OF KAJIADO DISTRICT

Kajiado District is located in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) areas of Kenya which comprise 88% of the country's land surface and carry 20% of the total human population. Kajiado district is located in the southern part of the rift Valley and covers an area of approximately 21,902.9 km² and is occupied mainly by the Maasai community. The ASALs areas are not only poorly utilized but their productivity is seriously declining owing to inappropriate technologies which result in the degradation and destruction of the natural environment that sustains them.

PROJECT GOAL

Increase and Improve access to mobility for the children and the youth of Kajiado District.

PROJECT PURPOSE

To shorten the distances to be covered by the community by supporting them with non motorized transport

To improve the socio-economic base of the young women and men in the Maasai community through providing a means of delivery of services

To bridge the performance of the school children by reducing the time spent traveling

OBJECTIVES /AIM

- ④ To provide bicycles to school going children so as increase the numbers and reduce distances.
- ④ To facilitate the young women and men in business to transport their good to the markets.
- ④ To facilitate community health workers to reach their clients and reach interior where one cannot reach by foot.
- ④ Encourage cycling as an environmentally friendly activity which can be used as a form of sports.

PROJECT RATIONALE

According to reports done by the Ministry of Education it was found that 55.8% of the Maasai boys and 50% of the Maasai girls have the opportunity of getting basic education (Primary school). The dropout rates are at 8.5% and 6.27% for boys and girls respectively. This is as a result of the distances covered by the children to school everyday. This discourages the young children as they would sometimes meet wild animals on the way to school. Most of the times, they would go hungry the whole day. Most pupils fall out in the process due to this kind of stress. At the same time some parents would prefer their children to go to school when they are older to cover the long distances. This too has its own effect and they do not get very far as they would sometimes get their suitors and in the process dropping out of school for marriage or early pregnancy.

PROPOSED OUTPUTS OF THE PROJECT

1. The number of school-going children will be increased owing to the intervention aimed at reducing the distance traveled on foot to and from school.
2. The young women and men in business will get to the markets with larger loads as opposed to carrying goods on their backs.
3. The health of the general Maasai community will be improved because the health workers will travel longer distances and reach more clients.
4. This will create employment opportunities with new bicycle repair shops in the market centres.
5. A larger community will gain cycling skills and embrace cycling as a healthy sport.

PROBLEMS TO BE ADDRESSED BY THE PROJECT

The project will address the problems of long distance trekking by children going to school and the young women and men in business.

By facilitating the children with bicycles, more children will attend school thus increasing the numbers in enrollment.

The health workers will reach their clients in good time and will attend to them more often.

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

- More community members gaining skills in cycling
- Insurgence of bicycle repair shops in market centres
- More children attending school and their performance increased.
- More business opened and the incomes increased.
- More community members buying their own bicycles for replications
- Neighboring divisions starting similar projects

BENEFICIARIES

The bicycle project will target children who go to school the health workers and the young women and men in business.

After the implementation of the project the whole Maasai community in the district will benefit. Most of their children will go to school, business brought closer to the people and health workers providing services to the distant clients efficiently.

The general development of the community will improve and hence beneficial to the entire community.

MANAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP

- The management of this project will be addressed in a partnership with ITDG as the lead agency.
- The Government of Kenya will assist in the clearance and tax waivers on the bicycles.
- The school heads, teachers and parents associations within the schools will form the link to the students and pupils.
- Youth groups in business whose work involves long distance treks will involved in the running and management of the project.
- The general running of the infrastructural needs will be handled by the local authority in this case the Olkejuado County Council.
- The Traffic police will be involved in the training on the road safety and traffic rules for the bicycle users.
- Corporate bodies and companies will be involved in the campaign and promotion of environmentally safe mode of transport - the bicycle.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The project will have a continuous evaluation. This will help to monitor the impact of the project and share the lessons learnt with the other Maasai in the region for replication.

SUSTAINABILITY

The general Maasai community in Ngong' Division and the partners will be involved from the inception to the implementation stage of the project at various levels to ensure continuity. The strengthening and empowerment of the community institutions promotes self governance in the foreseen future. However it is important to note that change of attitude is a slow process that takes time therefore community needs be given time to realize this change.

KAJIADO DISTRICT STATISTICS FOR PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS

AGE GROUP	PRIMARY		SECONDARY		AGE GROUP
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1999					
6-13	52303	50276	18069	17838	14-18
2002					
	59880	57560	20685	20422	
2004					
	65533	62993	22640	22346	
2005					
	71718	68939	24777	24460	

Source: Kajiado District Development Plan 2002-2008, Ministry of Finance & Planning, Republic of Kenya, Government Printers 2002