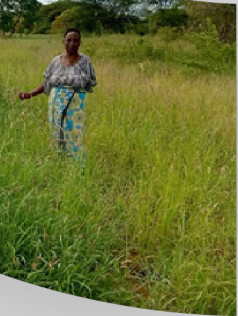


LOVE IN ACTION



2025

IMPACT REPORT



OUR VISION

A sustainable community inspired by the Love of God.

OUR MISSION

Enhance integral human development through partnerships and innovations to achieve a sustainable community.

CORE VALUES

- Faith
- Stewardship
- Dynamism
- Teamwork
- Charity
- Respect
- Integrity
- Charity and Empathy
- Professionalism
- Accountability

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Who We Are

Caritas Kitui is the Development Department of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui. Caritas is a Latin word that means Works of Charity/Mercy. The Department was established in 1974 under Community Education whose focus was on Humanitarian Assistance and Establishment of structures for social development. In 1977, the Department became a fully-fledged development department and was consequently renamed as Caritas Kitui in 2010.

In FY 2025, the organisation had a team of over 50 staff members who supported the planning and implementation of its development initiatives, working closely with a range of partners to enhance impact and reach.

In 2025, Caritas Kitui implemented 8 integrated development projects across Kitui County, reaching over **304,100 vulnerable and marginalized individuals**. Our work is anchored on three key pillars: **Innovation, Transformation, and Sustenance**, and is delivered through integrated, human rights-based approaches guided by Catholic Social Teachings. Through these efforts, the organisation strives to build resilient communities and promote inclusive, sustainable development.

Acknowledgement

We extend our profound gratitude to the Catholic Diocese of Kitui, whose vision and pastoral leadership continue to anchor our work. We particularly appreciate the guidance of Rt. Rev. Joseph Mwangela, the Apostolic Administrator to the Catholic Diocese of Kitui, for his unwavering commitment to social transformation and empowerment of the communities we serve. His leadership remains a source of inspiration to the Caritas fraternity and all partners involved in this mission.

We acknowledge with deep appreciation the Board of Management and the Caritas Kitui Management for their strategic direction, support, and stewardship throughout the implementation of our programs. Our sincere thanks also go to our development partners, the Government of Kenya, the County Government of Kitui, and the local administration for their continued collaboration, technical input, and solidarity. Their collective efforts have helped deliver impactful, sustainable development interventions across the county.

We further extend heartfelt appreciation to the entire Caritas Kitui staff, whose dedication, hard work, and community-centered commitment made the achievements documented in this report possible. In a special way, we recognize the Impact Report Writing Committee: Chrispine Njega, Dianah Riungu, Stella Dolly, Stephen Mbuva, and Peter Mwinzi, for their diligence and professionalism in compiling this report. Their contribution reflects the spirit of teamwork and excellence that defines Caritas Kitui.

Message From The Apostolic Administrator Catholic Diocese of Kitui, Chairperson Caritas Kitui Board of Management

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF KITUI



Message From The Apostolic Administrator Catholic Diocese of Kitui, Chairperson Caritas Kitui Board of Management

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with profound gratitude and renewed hope that I share this message on the 2025 Impact Report of Caritas Kitui. As the development arm of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui, Caritas continues to live out the Church's mission of promoting the integral human development, guided by Gospel values of love, compassion and justice.

This year, despite ongoing climate challenges and resource constraints, Caritas Kitui has strengthened its roles as a source of hope and transformation. From sustainable agriculture initiatives and water and sanitation projects to peacebuilding and social inclusion efforts, our works restores dignity and empowers communities to shape their own future.

I extend heartfelt thanks to our development partners for your unwavering support, technical expertise, and generosity, which allow us to reach the most vulnerable people in our society. To the board of management, the Director, Management team, and staff, your dedication exemplifies faith in action and the compassionate presence of Christ in our communities.

As we move forward, let us be guided by the words of Pope Francis: "...because with us what is highest must be at the service of others." May this reminder inspire us to continue serving with hope, solidarity, and courage in our mission to uplift and support those most in need.

May God bless you all abundantly.

In Christ's Service,



Rt. Rev. Joseph Mwangela

Apostolic Administrator of Kitui

Chairperson, Board of Management - Caritas Kitui

Message From The Director



**The Caritas Kitui Director:
Ms. Florence Ndeti**

It is my privilege to present the Caritas Kitui 2025 Impact Report, showcasing our collective efforts to strengthen livelihoods and community resilience across Kitui County. As the development department of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui, Caritas Kitui continues to deliver practical, community-centred initiatives in livelihoods, water and sanitation, environmental conservation, social inclusion, humanitarian response, and governance strengthening.

Guided by faith and service, we are reminded that “Let all that you do be done in love” (**1 Corinthians 16:14**). This enduring spirit of charity inspires our mission.

I extend heartfelt appreciation to the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Kitui for his unwavering leadership in promoting institutional governance and accountability. I also thank our Board, Partners, and Staff for their dedication and continued support.

As Pope Benedict XVI reminds us, “the Church cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice.” Guided by this calling, Caritas Kitui remains committed to accompanying communities in building resilient, dignified, and hopeful futures.

*The Church cannot and must not
remain on the sidelines in the fight for
justice*

Pope Benedict XVI

CARITAS KITUI

PROJECTS PROFILE

CLEAN COOKING

Promotes E-cooking to reduce fuel costs, reliance on biomass, conserve the environment, and foster positive health impacts for users.

INTEGRATED RISK REDUCTION PROJECT (IRRP)

IRRP focuses on agroecology, animal and pasture production, water structures, and conservation .

CARBON OFFSET

Carbon offset project constructs cook stoves that reduce CO2 emissions

KITUI INTEGRATED ANIMAL WELFARE AND LIVELIHOOD PROJECT (KIAWLP)

Creating a world in which working horses, donkeys and mules are free from suffering and have a life worthy living.

BEN-MAP PROJECT

Strives to create an inclusive society where persons with disabilities are resilient and lead a quality life

GOAT AND SHEEP PROJECT (GASP)

Works to improve livestock productivity, income sources, and sustainability.



GOVERNANCE, ADVOCACY, AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

Caritas Kitui advocates for good governance ,accountability,human rights,social inclusion and access to justice.

PARTNERSHIP

Seeks to increase access to clean and adequate water for human consumption, livestock and agricultural productivity to at least 1500 households

List of Abbreviations

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| FY 2025 | Financial Year 2025 |
| CRW | Community Rehabilitation Workers |
| SILC | Savings and Internal Lending Communitie |
| WASH | Water Acces, Sanitation and Health |
| VIP | Ventilated Improved Pit latrines |
| CBRW | Community Based Rehabilitation Workers |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| NCPWD | National Council for Persons with Disabilities |
| NGEC | National Gender and Equality Commision |
| EPC | Electric Pressure Cooker |
| SWC | Soil and Water Conservation |
| KPT | Kitchen Perfomance Test |
| DCC | Donkey Care Club |
| KCCB | Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops |
| CJPD | Catholic Justice and Peace Department |
| KIAWLP | Kitui Intergrated Animal Welfare and Livelihood Project |
| AHPs | Animal Health Practioners |
| ATM | Automatic Teller Machine |
| KES | Kenya Shillings |
| EARC | Educational Assesment Resource Centre |
| BEN MAPP | Building Effective Networks Multy annual Program Plan |
| IRRP | Intergrated Risk Reducton Program |
| GASP | Goat and Sheep Project |



164

community groups supported in 2025

FY 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



KES 18

Million Saved
174 SILC members



6 water

structures constructed
and equipped



15+

youth already earning
income through digital
jobs

KES 350,000

Generated
through Goat restocking



93%

Reduction in Offspring
Mortality



37,494

Donkeys supported through
welfare services and veterinary
care

754

**Children & Youth with
Disabilities Identified**

Screened and assessed for early
support and rehabilitation.

56%

Increase in Household
Income among
Agro-pastoralist

9,113+

Community Members
Reached with Clean Cooking
Awareness

2,266

Energy Efficient
Cookstoves

10

CRW Trained

KES 5.97

Million in Farm Revenue

3

Sustainable Livelihoods and Humanitarian Response

In Financial Year 2025 (FY 2025), Caritas Kitui strengthened its commitment to transforming household economies and building resilient communities across Kitui County. Through an integrated, multi-project approach, spanning WASH, climate-smart agriculture, livestock improvement, SILC savings, disability inclusion, humanitarian response, and natural resource management, the organisation delivered significant livelihood gains for thousands of households. Across all thematic areas, investments in

water security, improved livestock breeds, pasture production, income diversification, financial inclusion, and inclusive economic empowerment produced measurable and lasting improvements in household stability.

**59
Million**

Total funds in Ksh. invested to strengthen livelihoods and improve household resilience across Kitui County in 2025.



Household Income Growth & Economic Resilience

Caritas Kitui strengthened community livelihoods through a mix of savings groups, livestock support, and climate-resilient agro-pastoral practices throughout 2025. SILC groups became a strong foundation for financial empowerment, enabling members to save consistently, access small loans, and meet essential household needs without falling into debt. This collective discipline has boosted confidence and improved households' ability to manage shocks.



17.81
Million Kenya shillings saved by SILC groups



56%
Percentage household income increase by agro-pastoralists



5.97 M
Income generated from Livestock, fodder honey and farm produce sales - GASP

Goat restocking initiatives supported families in rebuilding productive assets that grow over time. These goats are now a reliable source of income, food security, and economic stability, especially for vulnerable households. As herds multiplied, families gained greater control over their livelihoods and reduced dependence on external support.



350 M
Amount earned by goat restocking groups

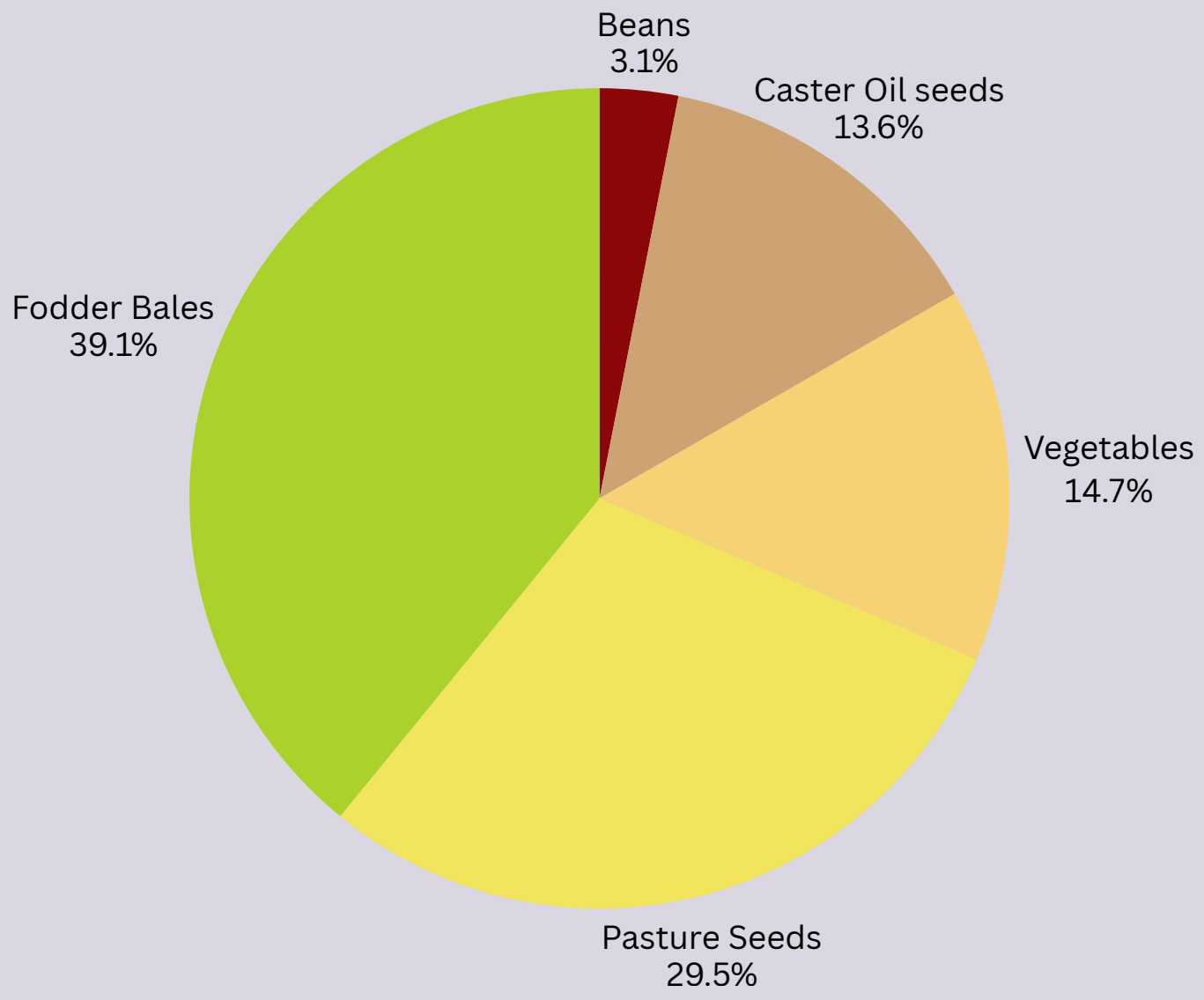
Training under the IRRP enhanced agro-pastoralists' skills in improved farming, livestock care, and sustainable land use. With better knowledge and practices, households increased their farm productivity, diversified their sources of income, and improved their overall resilience to climate-related challenges.

Across broader value chains, integrated support in livestock, fodder, honey, and small-scale farming helped communities embrace commercial production. This shift has strengthened local markets, encouraged entrepreneurship, and supported continuous economic growth at household and community levels.

Overall, these interventions have equipped families with stronger assets, better financial habits, and more stable income sources. This led to improved well-being, greater resilience, and a more empowered community.

- **KES 1.65 million saved by 174 SILC members** in Nuu Ward, improving financial resilience and access to essential needs.
- Goat restocking groups earned **KES 350,000**, increasing household income and supporting long-term economic stability.
- Agro-pastoralist income increased by 56% under IRRP, with households earning an average of KES 4,124/month, a 14% rise from baseline.
- GASP generated **KES 5.97 million** in revenue from livestock, fodder, honey, and farm produce sales, reflecting strong commercial performance.

IMPACTS



Total in ksh. 441,325

Livestock Productivity, Breed Improvement & Fodder Security

Through targeted livestock interventions, communities achieved stronger, more productive herds. The introduction of improved bucks enhanced genetic quality, resulting in better meat and improved milk yields for households. The beneficiaries are also guaranteed higher income in the future due to improved breeds. Livestock mortality reduced significantly as farmers adopted better husbandry practices, accessed improved fodder, and benefited from strengthened animal health services.

Under IRRP, offspring survival improved dramatically, giving families greater confidence in herd growth and long-term productivity.

GASP further expanded community resilience by increasing fodder production, installing solar-powered water systems, and enhancing breeding practices. These efforts contributed to healthier, higher-performing livestock.

Donkey welfare support also reached a wide population, ensuring that working animals remained strong, safe, and productive assets for households that depend on them daily.





55 improved goats distributed, boosting genetic quality and improving meat and milk productivity.



Livestock mortality significantly reduced due to better husbandry, improved fodder, and stronger animal health services.



IRRP achieved **93% reduction in offspring mortality**, surpassing the **50%** target.



GASP expanded fodder production, installed solarised water systems, and strengthened breeding, leading to increased livestock performance.



Donkey welfare work reached **37,494 donkeys and 15,064 donkey owners/users**, ensuring working animals remain productive assets.



49 casuals (38 Men & 11 Women) employed at GASP



WASH as an Enabler for Livelihood Growth

Water infrastructure investments in Kitui significantly improved domestic well-being, livelihoods, and community resilience to frequent droughts. Key initiatives included;

- **The Mtunze Punda Tseikuru Water Project**, which enhanced access to safe drinking water through a solar-powered water system with storage tanks, water ATM, and livestock watering facilities while also supporting vegetable production and environmental conservation.
- **The Lundi Furahia Mtoto SHG Water Project**, supported by Caritas Kitui with financial assistance from Brooke East Africa, established a solar-powered well with irrigation infrastructure and livestock watering points, enabling a reliable water

supply for households, livestock, and small-scale farming.

Complementary interventions included the construction of **sand dams and sump wells, installation of school water tanks and sanitation facilities, and rehabilitation of boreholes**, strengthening community access to safe and sustainable water.

Communities were further empowered through training on **water treatment, governance, and operation and maintenance of water systems**, ensuring sustainable management of the water resources while improving health, hygiene, food security, and local livelihoods.

“Before the project, we spent so many hours walking for water that it limited our work and our children’s schooling. Now that water is close by, our families have time for farming, learning, and small businesses, and life has become much easier and more hopeful.”

Chairlady - Mtunze Punda Tseikuru WP





Fieldwork in action: Stella Dolly of Caritas Kitui quenches her thirst with water drawn from a sand scoop hole.

IMPACTS

- **5 sand dams** constructed: Katila and Kavoko in Mwingi Central and Kyambiu, Kwa King'utu, and Kwa Julia in Mwingi West. The sand dams serve over **420 households**.
- **1 solarized sumpwell** constructed and equipped along Kithyoko River at Kamumbuni, Kyusyani Sublocation.
- By October 2025, **804 households (67% of the target)** were accessing safe water, significantly improving community water security. This access reduced women's water collection time from three hours to about **25-30 minutes**, freeing up time for productive livelihood and household activities
- Improved WASH for learners through installation of **10 school water tanks and 4 VIP latrines**, alongside household training on water treatment and distribution of purification tablets
- Rehabilitation & solarization of GASP borehole improving livestock & crop production



Dr. Judith from EARC conducting a hearing assessment during the 2025 Disability Registration Exercise in Kitui, ensuring accurate identification and support for persons with disabilities

Inclusion for Vulnerable Groups

During the reporting period, Caritas Kitui implemented a range of integrated interventions aimed at improving the wellbeing, inclusion, and empowerment of children and youth with disabilities in Kitui County. The interventions focused on four key thematic areas: **healthcare and rehabilitation, inclusive education, inclusive livelihoods, and social inclusion and empowerment.**

Key activities included organizing medical assessment camps to facilitate early identification, referral, and rehabilitation services for children and youth with disabilities. Caritas Kitui also strengthened inclusive education through **teacher training and education sponsorship** to support learners with disabilities in school. In addition, it promoted economic empowerment and social inclusion by supporting family livelihood initiatives and equipping youth with disabilities with digital and advocacy skills.

These activities were implemented through the Multi-Annual Program (MAPP) project. The project trained Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) workers and teachers to enhance early identification and support for children with disabilities, strengthened Parent Support Groups to improve household economic resilience through savings and livelihood initiatives, and facilitated advocacy and awareness campaigns to promote disability rights and reduce stigma within communities.

The implementation of the project was made possible through **strong partnerships with both county and national stakeholders.** Key partners included the Kitui County Government's Ministries of Health and Sanitation, Education, and Culture, Gender, Youth, ICT, Sports and Social Services, as well as national institutions such as the (NCPWD), (EARC), (NGEC), the Children's Department, and the Ministry of Interior and National Administration.

As a parent, nothing hurts more than seeing your child struggle without the help they need. Caritas Kitui brought us hope we had waited for years, our children were finally screened, treated, supported in school, and given the care we could never afford on our own.

Caregiver - Kitui County



10+

households supported with livestock



15+

Youth with disabilities earning through digital jobs



22

Youths with disabilities trained on digital jobs



754+

754 children and youth with disabilities were identified, screened, and assessed



40+

community rehabilitation workers trained on early identification of disabilities

STORY- From a Small Start to a Steady Income: Stella Kula's Journey

When Stella joined the Imani SILC group, she relied on irregular seasonal labour to support her family. With no formal business experience and limited income, meeting daily household needs was a constant struggle.

Through the group's savings culture and financial literacy training from Caritas Kitui, Stella learned essential skills in budgeting, record-keeping, and simple business planning. With her newfound confidence, she took out a small startup loan and used it to open a salon. She began modestly by purchasing basic equipment and setting up a simple workspace.

Step by step, guided by the skills she acquired from the training sessions, Stella expanded her business. Within just 12 months, she had built a loyal client base at the local market. Her monthly income increased from **KES 15,000 to KES 30,000**, enabling her to consistently pay school fees, improve her family's nutrition, and make regular contributions to the group's savings.

Today, Stella is a respected role model within the SILC group. She has fully repaid her loan, continues to grow her business, and mentors new members on income-generating activities. Her story demonstrates the power of community support, capacity building, and personal determination in creating sustainable livelihood improvements.

Patience and hard work brings abundance

Stella





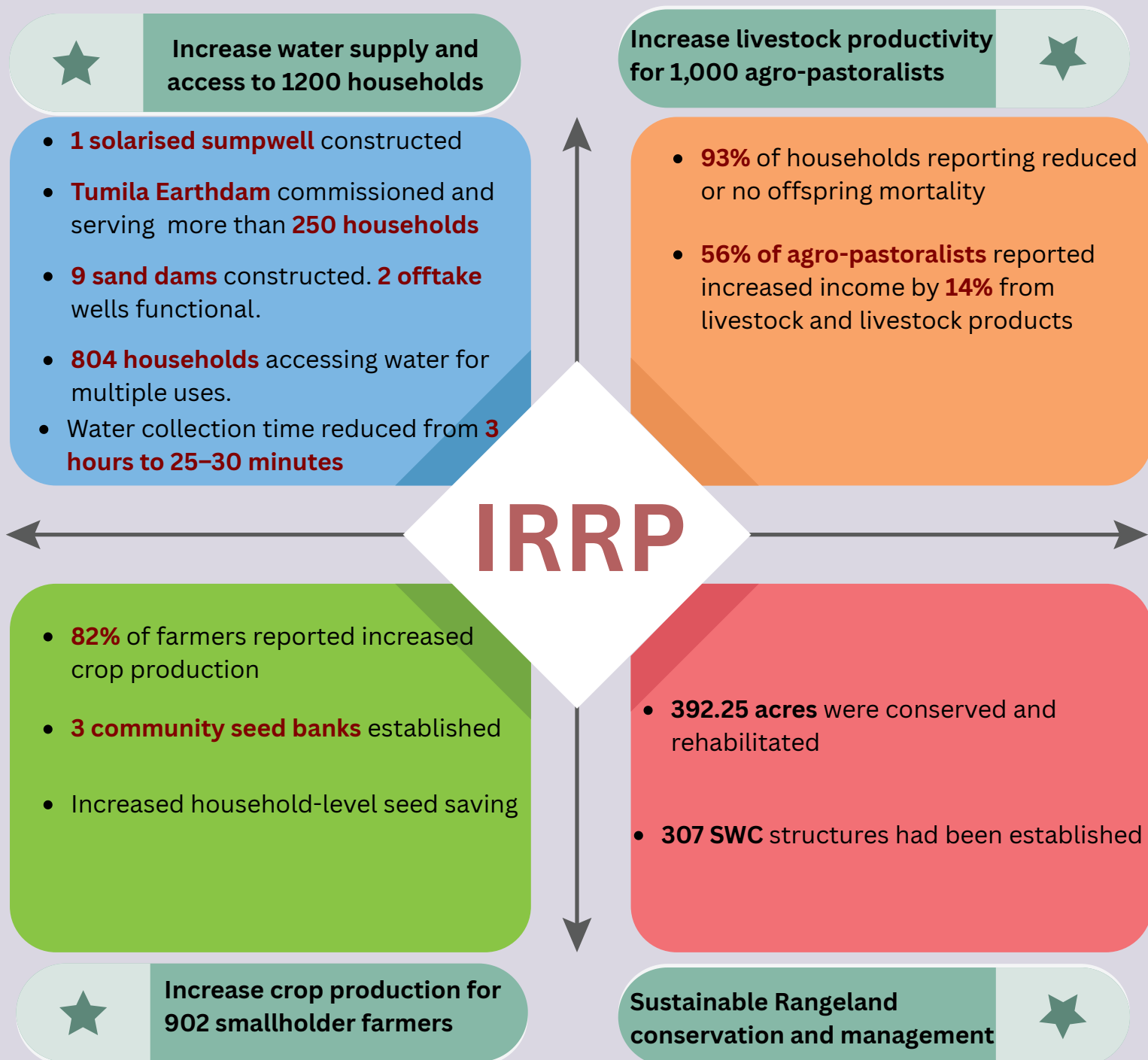
Project Spotlight: The Integrated Risk Reduction Project.

The IRRP has been a mainstay of the Caritas Kitui projects. During Phase IV (May 2023 – April 2026), the project was highly relevant to Kyome/Thaana Ward, addressing key challenges such as drought, low crop yields, poor water access, soil erosion, and livestock health.

Interventions including sand dams, terraces, zai pits, seed promotion, and livestock support were appropriate for the semi-arid context, aligned with county and Caritas priorities,

and widely recognized by households as meeting their most urgent needs.

Community participation, including women, PWDs, and the elderly, strengthened ownership and ensured interventions were locally appropriate. Overall, the project's integrated, multi-sectoral approach effectively responded to the area's socio-economic and environmental realities, while fostering sustainability.





Fr. Edward Mulwa and Fr. Charles Maingi take part in the 2025 Caritas Kitui's Tree Planting Day, symbolizing hope and commitment to a greener future.

Environment & Climate Change

Across Kitui County, the harsh impacts of drought, water scarcity, and land degradation continue to shape livelihoods, pushing households to rely on low-yield farming, unsafe water sources, and fragile natural resources.

In FY 2025, Caritas Kitui intensified efforts to safeguard the environment and strengthen community resilience through water harvesting infrastructure, sustainable land management, and climate-smart agriculture. These interventions not only restored degraded ecosystems but also improved food security, livestock health, and household stability.

Clean Cooking for Carbon Reduction

Caritas Kitui in FY 2025 advanced climate-friendly and sustainable household energy solutions through the promotion of clean cooking technologies, particularly Electric Pressure Cookers (EPCs) and energy-efficient stoves. The interventions aimed to reduce dependence on biomass fuels, thus improving household well-being, environmental conservation, and economic resilience. Through community awareness campaigns, demonstrations, and technical support, the project encouraged households to adopt efficient cooking technologies that are cleaner, safer, and more affordable.

Caritas Kitui implemented a range of activities, including live cooking demonstrations, public awareness campaigns, household monitoring surveys, and technical capacity-building for artisans. These activities were conducted in collaboration with community leaders, schools, local administrators, and institutional partners to strengthen community understanding of clean energy solutions and their role in addressing climate change. Demonstrations held during events such as Clean Cooking Week and

the Mashujaa Energy and Petroleum Week enabled communities to witness the efficiency, safety, and cost-effectiveness of modern cooking technologies, increasing trust and willingness to adopt them.

Through these combined efforts, the project has delivered significant environmental, economic, and social benefits by reducing carbon emissions, lowering household energy costs, improving indoor air quality, and saving time for households, particularly women. The initiative has also strengthened local capacity through training artisans for stove construction and repairs, ensuring sustainability and continued access to clean cooking technologies within communities.

Since I started using the improved rocket cookstove, my firewood use has dropped by about 50%. It cooks faster, uses fewer sticks, and my kitchen is now cleaner and healthier.

Bellita - Energy-efficient stove owner



Queen Wambua leads a live demonstration on the proper use of Electric Pressure Cookers (EPCs), equipping staff with hands-on skills to adopt clean, efficient, and safe cooking technologies.



Environmental Impacts

- **31,556** improved cookstoves installed since project inception in 2014, with each stove reducing 1 tonne of CO₂ per year.
- **2,266** cookstoves were installed in 2025.
- By 2023, the project had achieved a cumulative reduction of **152,465 tCO₂e**.

Economic Impacts

- Adoption of Electric Pressure Cookers (EPCs) significantly reduced cooking costs and energy consumption.
- Cooking githeri with an EPC costs approximately **Ksh. 22** and takes **25 minutes**, compared to **Ksh. 160** and **two hours** using charcoal.
- Cooking rice with an EPC costs **Ksh. 7.7** in electricity compared to **Ksh. 60** using charcoal.
- These savings improve household disposable income and enhance food affordability for families.

Social Impacts

- Clean cooking technologies improved household health and wellbeing by reducing exposure to harmful smoke and soot.
- Women benefited significantly through reduced cooking time and less need for constant supervision of meals.
- More time is now available for productive activities, childcare, and other domestic responsibilities.
- Direct job creation, enabling **70 artisans (38 M & 32 W)** to earn a stable income through the production of improved cookstoves.

Community Engagement, Monitoring and Sustainability

- **9,113 community members** reached through clean cooking awareness and live demonstrations (**1,184 men, 7,929 women**)
- **420 households** surveyed during the 2025 monitoring and usage assessment, confirming that most stoves are actively and consistently used.
- Kitchen Performance Test (KPT) conducted in **51 households**, showing a significant reduction in fuelwood consumption compared to traditional three-stone fires.

Climate-Resilient Water Infrastructure

Water security remained at the heart of environmental action.

The construction of sand dams, complete with offtake wells and cattle troughs, improved groundwater recharge and created stable water points for domestic use, livestock, and small-scale farming.

Solarisation of existing boreholes and sampwells ensured year-round, clean, and energy-efficient water supply, reducing dependency on diesel pumps and minimising carbon emissions

Communities now walk shorter distances to access water, a shift that has reduced pressure on natural resources and allowed more time for productive livelihood activities.



A mature Kasunguni sand dam in Nuw Ward is transforming the surrounding landscape by enhancing groundwater recharge and sustaining lush vegetation.



TIME FOR FACTS

Sand dams play a vital role in restoring dryland ecosystems. By slowing and storing seasonal floodwater, they increase groundwater recharge, which raises the water table and ensures moisture remains in the soil for longer. This supports the growth of vegetation along riverbeds, reduces soil erosion, and encourages natural regeneration of trees and grasses. Over time, sand dams create greener corridors, stabilize landscapes, and strengthen biodiversity—transforming previously degraded environments into productive, resilient ecosystems.

Did You Know?

A fully built sand dam doesn't store water as an open pool, the sand itself is the reservoir.

In fact, 25–40% of the sand mass is actual water, safely stored between the grains, while the remaining 60–75% is sand. This natural filtration keeps the water clean, cool, and protected from evaporation.



Pollinah Kongo proudly stands on what was once bare land—now fully restored and covered in thriving grass, a testament to the transformative initiative by Caritas Kitui.

RESTORATION OF DEGRADED LANDSCAPES

Caritas Kitui continued to drive large-scale restoration of degraded landscapes across Kitui County. The organisation worked with community groups and households, strengthening soil health, reviving vegetation, stabilising catchments, and enhancing climate resilience through practical, community-led interventions.

Restored & Rejuvenated Landscapes

- **Restoration measures included:** terraces, tree planting, pasture/grass strips, zai pits, check dams, and gabions
- **392.25** acres of degraded land conserved and rehabilitated
- **392.25 acres** of degraded land conserved and rehabilitated

Soil & Water Conservation Structures

- **307 SWC** structures established Kyome/Thana Ward, an impressive **68.2%** of the annual target
- **Comprising of:**
300 check dams
7 gabions
Additional terraces, zai pits, and tree-based conservation sites

Environmental Improvements

- **98% of households** reported reduced soil erosion, healthier pastures, and greener vegetation
- **Water-harvesting structures** significantly improved access to water for both domestic use and irrigation



Marion, a grade 8 pupil at Kaveta Comprehensive school displays swimming floaters she made using plastic waste.

Donkey Care Club Pupils Turning Plastic Waste into Tools of Beauty in Kitui

When you walk into St. Stephen Kaveta Comprehensive School, just 3 km outside Kitui town and about 161 km from Nairobi City in Eastern Kenya, you are greeted by colorful flowerbeds lined with neatly painted plastic bottles. What was once discarded waste now tells a story of resilience, creativity, and care for the environment, for people, and for animals.

The school, homes 615 pupils (320 Boys, 295 Girls), sits in a peri-urban community where bottled water and single-use plastics are part of daily life. Without proper disposal, bottles often litter compounds, roadside markets, and even grazing fields. Donkeys, vital animals in Kitui that fetch water and carry goods, sometimes swallow plastics, leading to painful conditions such as colic. Open burning of plastics further pollutes the air, silently endangering both people and animals.

Through the partnership of **The Brooke East Africa and Caritas Kitui**, the Donkey Care Club (DCC) was established, one of 25 school-based clubs formed to nurture compassion for donkeys while promoting environmental care. With support in the form of paints, colors, and 200 tree seedlings during the March-May rains, 44 pupils (23 girls and 21 boys aged 8 to 15) began collecting, decorating, and repurposing plastic bottles.

They transformed them into flower vases, pencil holders, fences for flowerbeds, and drip irrigation systems that now water more than 10 seedlings, an innovative solution in a county where every drop of water counts. So far, the pupils have produced 5 key holders, 34 flower vases, 10 pencil holders, 1 swimming floater, 1 basket, 2 decorative table flowers, 15 wrist bands, and fences protecting 10 flowerbeds

The impact goes beyond the school. With over 500 bottles reused, fewer plastics end up in dumpsites and grazing fields, reducing risks to donkeys and livestock. The schoolyard has been visibly transformed into a cleaner, greener, and more inspiring space. Learners have also become ambassadors of change, influencing families and neighbors to reuse rather than discard. As Faith, the club patron, reflects: “Our learners are not just reusing, they are learning creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration as envisioned by the Competency-Based Curriculum.”

This story is not just about waste management. It is about children in a semi-arid part of Kenya, showing that solutions to global challenges can begin with simple, local actions by turning plastic bottles into tools of beauty.

I love turning trash into something beautiful. My parents now help me collect bottles at home, and I use them to make beautiful wrist bands,

Alex, 15 - grade 9 pupil.

Governance, Advocacy, and Social Inclusion

In 2025, Caritas Kitui advanced its governance and advocacy agenda through interventions that strengthened social justice, community empowerment, and animal welfare systems across the county.

ADVOCACY

Caritas Kitui advocates for transparent leadership, and equitable access to justice. It also engages in policy processes to influence the development and implementation of responsive government policies that address community needs.



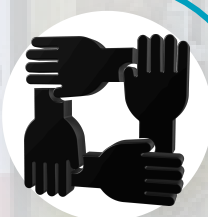
GOVERNANCE

We foster responsible stewardship in the exploitation and utilization of mineral resources to ensure communities benefit from local natural wealth. Caritas Kitui promotes inclusive participation and community representation in governance structures,



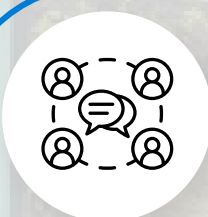
SOCIAL INCLUSION

Caritas Kitui supports peacebuilding and reconciliation initiatives that strengthen social cohesion and stability. Caritas Kitui works to strengthen the voice and agency of vulnerable and marginalized groups so they can access justice, claim their rights, and participate in development processes.



APPROACHES

- Civic engagement and awareness efforts
- Communities empowerment
- Fostering a culture of accountability and participation in governance processes that influence development outcomes at the local level.





Lenten Campaign 2025 – “The Kenya We Desire”

The National Lenten Campaign was launched on 28th February 2025 at the Archdiocese of Mombasa, followed by the diocesan launch on 9th March 2025 at St. Andrew’s Catholic Parish, Kwa Vonza. Through advocacy rooted in social justice, the campaign restored dignity to vulnerable families, with two households (one in Boma Parish and another in Endau Parish) receiving new, safe, and decent homes.

Awareness creation was intensified across all six deaneries through sensitization workshops held between 12th and 21st March 2025.

These efforts contributed to significantly improved participation, culminating in Ksh. 699,660 remitted to KCCB-CJPB, reflecting strong community ownership of the campaign's vision for a just and peaceful nation.

Donkey Welfare and Protection under KIAWLP

In parallel, governance and advocacy for animal welfare were advanced through the successful construction of a 150-capacity donkey shelter at the GASP farm. This facility now serves as a model centre for humane rescue, rehabilitation, and long-term welfare management.

After case resolutions, **59 donkeys were released to traders, 18 were recorded as**

Casualties, 24 remain under rehabilitation at the farm, and 12 have been successfully rehomed. The initiative drew international attention, including a visit by Brooke UK Ambassador Dr. Scott Miller, highlighting the broader governance issues surrounding donkey theft and the impact on community livelihoods.



2025 Financial Summary

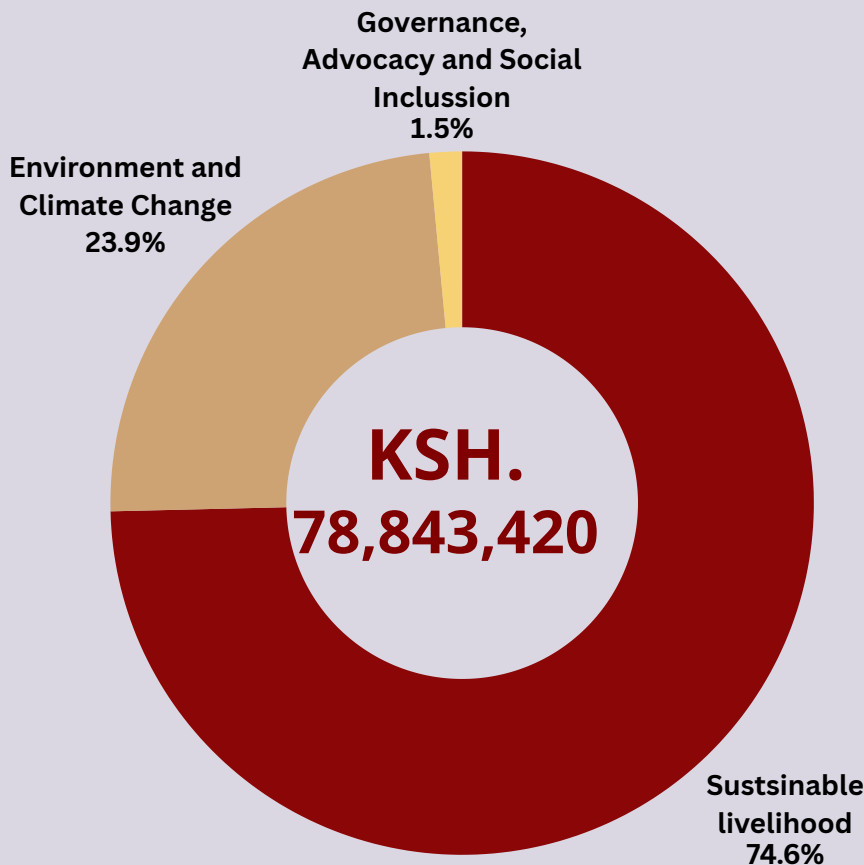
In 2025, Caritas Kitui mobilised a total of **KSh 78,843,420** to implement programs aligned with its strategic priorities and commitment to improving community resilience and wellbeing across Kitui County. The funding portfolio reflects the organisation's strong focus on strengthening livelihoods while addressing emerging humanitarian needs.

A significant **74.64%** of the total funding was invested in **Sustainable Livelihoods and Humanitarian Response**, reflecting Caritas Kitui's strong commitment to improving food security, strengthening smallholder farming systems, supporting livestock production, and

assisting vulnerable households affected by climate shocks.

Environment and Climate Change interventions accounted for **23.83%**, supporting climate-smart agriculture, natural resource management, and environmental conservation to enhance community resilience and ecosystem sustainability.

The remaining **1.52%** was allocated to **Governance, Advocacy, and Social Inclusion**, promoting community participation, strengthening local voices, and ensuring that marginalized groups are included in development processes and decision-making structures.



The 2025 financial allocation demonstrates Caritas Kitui's strategic and accountable use of resources to address immediate needs while advancing sustainable, community-driven development. Caritas Kitui values the trust of its donors, partners, and communities, and continues to uphold high standards of transparency to demonstrate how resources translate into sustainable development outcomes for the people of Kitui County.



Partnerships and Collaboration

Partnerships were central to Caritas Kitui's success in 2025, enabling the organisation to expand its reach, strengthen implementation, and deliver sustainable impact. Through collaboration with **development partners, government institutions, community structures, and private-sector actors**, Caritas Kitui effectively mobilized resources, leveraged technical expertise, and enhanced community ownership of its interventions.

Strategic development partners provided critical financial and technical support, enabling the delivery of programs in livelihoods, WASH, environmental conservation, and emergency response. These partnerships also facilitated the adoption of global best practices, improving overall project quality and impact.

Collaboration with **county and national government departments** ensured alignment with policy frameworks and development priorities. This strengthened implementation through technical support, joint supervision, and increased sustainability through government involvement.

At the community level, partnerships with **local leaders, committees, and faith-based groups** promoted inclusive participation and ownership. This enhanced the effectiveness of project implementation, monitoring, and maintenance of key investments such as water infrastructure and soil conservation structures.



Engagement with the **private sector and technical and higher learning institutions, such as Kenyatta University** improved the quality of project delivery by providing access to skilled labor, modern technologies, and innovative solutions, while also creating economic opportunities for local communities.

Through networks and consortia, Caritas Kitui benefited from shared learning, joint advocacy, and increased visibility, strengthening its ability to address complex development challenges.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

In 2025, the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEAL) function played a central role in strengthening the quality, accountability, and impact of programs implemented by Caritas Kitui. Through systematic monitoring, rigorous research, and improved knowledge-management practices, the MEL desk ensured that interventions were evidence-driven, responsive to community needs, and aligned with organisational strategy.

Our MEAL Approach

The MEAL desk applied a structured and results-oriented approach, focusing on:

- **Evidence-Driven Programming:** Continuous tracking of project indicators, field verification missions, and real-time data reviews ensured that program teams had reliable evidence to guide planning and adaptation.
- **Accountability and Transparency:** Strengthened data quality checks, beneficiary feedback systems, and field monitoring visits promoted responsible

use of resources and improved responsiveness to community priorities

- **Learning and Adaptation:** Regular after-action reviews, reflection sessions, and knowledge products (briefs, dashboards and summaries) supported teams in identifying successful practices and areas requiring improvement.

This integrated approach enabled Caritas Kitui to generate actionable insights that informed new project designs, enhanced implementation quality, and guided strategic decision making across sectors.

1. Research and Evaluation:

- Conducted outcome assessments across livelihoods, WASH, and environmental conservation projects, identifying evidence of improved household resilience and increased access to critical services.
- Produced evaluation briefs that supported partners and donors in understanding project performance and sustainability prospects.
- Developed and piloted new data-collection tools—including digital survey instruments—that increased efficiency and data accuracy across field teams.

2. Monitoring and Accountability

- Undertook structured field monitoring visits across all sub-counties, strengthening oversight of activities and ensuring timely corrective actions.
- Enhanced beneficiary feedback and response mechanisms, enabling communities to contribute directly to program refinements.
- Rolled out standardised indicator tracking tools that improved consistency and helped teams monitor progress more effectively.

3. Knowledge Management and Learning

- Facilitated quarterly learning sessions that brought together program staff, partners and community representatives to reflect on progress, challenges and emerging insights.
- Produced user-friendly communication materials—including infographics, dashboards and success stories—that made evidence easy to understand and apply.



Meet Our Partners



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