



Foundation Welcomes New Managing Trustee

Thrilling Mombasa Trip for GIC III Winners

Using Mobile Tech in Tracking GIC Projects

Unshackling the chains of HELB: KenGen Education Scholarships Stipend



The Giver

The Giver is a free for distribution publication of the KenGen Foundation.

© KenGen Foundation July 2019

The KenGen Foundation was established in the year 2012 to upscale and take charge of KenGen's Corporate Social Investment programs.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has been involved in various activities. These include afforestation programs; expansion of the education program to include mentorship; and the establishment of partnerships and other fundraising activities.

The Giver newsletter is published and distributed by the KenGen Foundation.

Edited/ Compiled by: Ernest Nyamasyo - Communications Officer

Cover image: KenGen Foundation Team, July 2019.

Photography/ Layout & Design: Ernest Nyamasyo

For enquiries and contributions:

Tel: • 0711 036 507
• 0711 036 709

info@kengenfoundation.co.ke
www.kengenfoundation.co.ke



 [kengenfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/kengenfoundation)

 [KenGen_Foundatn](https://twitter.com/KenGen_Foundatn)

Table of Contents



Corporate

- 5 Schools Tree Planting Awards Come of Age
- 6 Meet Anthony Igecha, KenGen Foundation's New Captain
- 10 Remembering Champion of Corporate Philanthropy, Dr. Reginald Mengi
- 16 Online Fundraising: Lessons from Notre Dame



Education

- 16 Unshackling the Chains of HELB: KenGen Education Scholarship Stipend



Environment

- 9 Thrilling Mombasa Trip for GIC III Winners
- 10 Using Mobile Tech in Tracking Tree Planting Projects
- 13 Olkaria Tour and Camping for GIC III Winners
- 15 Kyusyani Primary School Tours Gitaru Power Station



Giver Initiative

- 17 Central Office Givers Lend a Hand during Ngong Medical CAMP

Word from the Editor



Kyusani Primary School, Kitui County, during their tour of Gitaru Power Station. The school emerged number three in Phase III of the Schools' Green Initiative Challenge.

Welcome to the July issue of the Giver Magazine!

This month we celebrate the appointment of Anthony Igecha as the Managing Trustee of the KenGen Foundation. Anthony, previously the Senior Programmes Officer, takes over the helm of the organization from Mike Njeru who retired early in 2018.

Our cover this month features the KenGen Foundation team as we welcome the new MT Anthony.

In this issue, we look into the KenGen Education Scholarships Stipend and how it has benefitted the students under the Education Scholarships Programme. Did you know that all scholarship beneficiaries are entitled to an allowance courtesy of KenGen PLC? Read about it here...

The Giver magazine this month also reflects on the achievements of Dr. Reginald Mengi – accomplished Tanzanian businessman and philanthropist – following his passing on earlier in the year. This issue also touches on the evolving world of fundraising from the perspective of the Paris Notre Dame fire.

Meanwhile, our projects have evolved to become increasingly agile and unlock further value. Who would have thought that a simple mobile application could revolutionize project monitoring and evaluation?

Enjoy the issue!

 E. Nyamasyo

Schools Tree Planting Awards Come of Age.

Each year, the Schools' Green Initiative Challenge tree planting project recognizes the winners in each phase. Various prizes are awarded for the top three institutions to appreciate their efforts in mitigating the effects of climate change through sustainable environmental management.

The GIC is KenGen Foundation's flagship environmental conservation programme, and is structured as a competition for participating schools in arid and semi-arid areas.

Currently in phase 5 with over 600 schools involved, the afforestation project recognizes outstanding institutions at the end of two-year cycles based on the survival rates of distributed tree seedlings.

The GIC winners are young environmentalists who have gone above and beyond to achieve their prizes – perhaps when others thought they might fail.

The grand prize is an educational trip for the environmental champions to Bamburi Cement's Haller Park, inclusive of a sight seeing excursion in Mombasa, a 20,000 ltr. water tank, schools infrastructure support, cash prizes and certificates.

The runner's up gets a chance to tour KenGen PLC's Olkaria Power Station, a night of camping at the shores of Lake Naivasha, a 16,000 ltr. water tank cash prizes and certificates, while number three visits Gitaru Power Station, and receives a 10,000 ltr. water tank, cash prizes and certificates.

So far, the project has awarded 9 schools, with over 300 students appreciated for their efforts in tree planting.

The awards mean different things to different people. The GIC awards are not solely for tree seedlings survival rates achievements – they also recognize the most innovative "green teacher" from each county involved in the competition.

These patrons personal involvement ensured the success of the project at their institution right from the start. Nine green teachers have so far joined the winning schools on their educational trip to Mombasa, and have received shopping vouchers, certificates and cash prizes.

A unique feature of the recognition is the awarding of scholarships for selected



This success reflects on the company's image as a responsible corporate citizen.

tighter. The students involved act as change agents through the transfer of knowledge on proper trees and woodlots management. Ultimately, communities living within such environments benefit from alternative sources of timber, fruits, and wood fuel.

The success of the GIC reflects on the company's brand image as a responsible corporate citizen, and positively impacts on the overall business performance and outputs.

The Schools' Green Initiative Challenge not only address poverty alleviation through social entrepreneurship, but also creates entrepreneurship opportunities, while conserving hydro buffer zones for stable power production.



KenGen PLC's Corporate and Regulatory Services Affairs Director Eng. Simon Ngunjiri during the awarding ceremony of GIC Phase III winners, Kyusani Primary School, Kitui.

students from the top two schools. The choice is open for a limited number of bright, but needy pupils. Currently the project is sponsoring eight secondary students, courtesy of Bamburi Cement Ltd.

The awards have proven to be a big motivator in the development of the project, as each year the competition for seedling survival rates becomes

The GIC is a partnership involving the KenGen Foundation, Better Globe Forestry Ltd., Bamburi Cement Ltd., and KenGen PLC aiming to green over 500 acres with indigenous tree seedlings in Embu, Machakos, and Kitui counties.

The project has so far expanded with pilot programmes in Mombasa, Kilifi and Kwale, and plans to upscale to West Pokot and Turkana counties. ■

Getting to interview the new Managing Trustee of the KenGen Foundation Mr. Anthony Igecha opens your world to the intricacies of corporate philanthropy. It also helps if you have an inquisitive mind into the nature of community development projects.

Anthony ushers me into the “MT’s office”, and if you’ve ever been in there before, you’d noticed that not much has changed since the last occupant left.

“Sasa?” he beams.

“Karibu, have a seat”, he says as he gestures me to one of two visitor chairs opposite his desk.

The former KenGen Foundation Senior Programmes Officers receives a phone call, and asks to call later as he adjusts his seat, his large frame making the leather squeak.

He cancels yet another call on his mobile phone.

Sensing that he’s a bit busy nowadays with his new dispensation, I get into the heart of the matter.

“So, how has the journey been; how did you end up at the KenGen Foundation?”

Anthony began his career at the Co-operative Bank as a banker, where he quickly developed an understanding of



KenGen Foundation Team: (L-R) Mary Kimani, Lydia Mbaka, Esther Kamaara, Anthony Igecha (Managing Trustee), Jovita Ateya, Dorcas Arama, Caroline Wangu, Ernest Nyamasyo.

NEW CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP! Foundation Welcomes New MT

financial management for projects. Rising through the ranks, Anthony played a key role in setting up the Cooperative Bank Foundation in 2006, later becoming its Coordinator.

“I was in the banking sector for eleven years”, recalls Anthony with a glint in his

eye. “I remember that we had to be trained in all aspects of the financial world.

As destiny would have it, I ended up managing the bank’s bursary kitty of around Ksh. 300 million. The Foundation by then had grown, and I was managing the scholarship fund for around 2,000

students annually”, he adds.

He then moved on to the KCB Group Foundation as the Programs Manager where he was in charge of the Education and Health pillar.

While still new at KCB, Anthony successfully organized the first students’ mentorship at Starehe Boys Center, with more than 600 students receiving scholarships during his tenure.

“Despite my responsibilities to the Foundation’s bursary scholarships programme, I was also privileged to be part of the first team



Anthony Igecha during his tenure at the Co-operative Bank Foundation.



to spearhead the distribution of dialysis machines across the country for kidney patients, managing the first 10 pediatric kidney transplant beneficiaries at Kenyatta National Hospital, he adds.

Curious to know what has changed in the non-profit world since his banking days Anthony explains, "With the unveiling of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, Governments, Corporates, Foundations and Charities should align their programmes with these.

There are a lot of thematic areas with great opportunities for strong partnerships between the Government, corporate world and private businesses. It also minimizes the chance of replicating community projects, while increasing the scope of desired impacts and eases monitoring and evaluation activities".

Diverse in his scope, Anthony participated in the formulation of The Public Benefit Organizations Bill 2012, which was tabled in parliament and passed into law.

What has this long path to where you are now taught you, I ask?

"Three things. One. Respect. No matter where you go in the world, you will find that all people share one similar trait: they all want to be loved. Respect every person you meet, no matter who they



Anthony Igecha at KCB Foundation.

are or what type of status they hold. As for your friends and family, love them unconditionally, and never forget about them no matter how busy you are.

Second lesson is that it's OK to take risks. In fact, it's great to take risks. However, these need to be calculated risks. Taking risks without weighing your options is just foolish and reckless, but calculated risks tend to lead to the biggest rewards.

No matter what journey you take in life or where your professional goals take you, there are certain life lessons that you can always apply to your own path. It doesn't matter where you came from or where you are going, I've learned these lessons can be universally applied to us all.

Lastly, that no person is perfect. Everyone

has faults, no matter how successful or unsuccessful they may be. Don't waste your time trying to cover up your faults. Instead, accept them, face reality and do your best to work around these faults. There is no greater sign of confidence than self-acceptance".

A member of the East Africa Philanthropic Network and Kenya Association of Fundraising Professionals, Anthony has been feted in several awards including Best in Corporate Governance Award (Annual Financial Reporting (FiRe) awards), The Co-op Bank 2011; Employee of the Quarter (Knowledge excellence award), -The Cooperative Bank of Kenya; Best non agro based financial institution stand-ISK Show theme 2013 -KCB Group Foundation; Best Exhibition Stand 2018 G2G Conference- paper on Schools Green Initiative Challenge (GIC) -KenGen; 2nd Runners up on Environment & Social reporting under the Corporate Governance Award at the Annual Financial Reporting (FiRe) awards 2018.-KenGen.

Anthony sees a bright future ahead as he takes the reins of the Foundation. "I am incredibly honored to be given the opportunity to be KenGen Foundation's new Managing Trustee. Under the leadership of Mike Njeru, we have grown tremendously since inception. My goal is to continue shaping our path forward and to focus on guiding the vision, mission and values that are the driving force of our organization."

Anthony sits on several key committees including the Stakeholder Coordination Committees for Eastern, Western



Anthony at a tree-planting exercise, Eburru Forest, Naivasha

Region and Olkaria; SAP ERP ECC6.0 KenGen Foundation Implementation Project; Working Committee for Ndula Power station conversion into a museum; and the Project Implementation Team- Development of Naivasha Level 5 Hospital

“ I see the KenGen Foundation taking the KenGen brand to the next level as it embarks on a revamped delivery of focused impactful programs that will



The new MT during a recent site visit in Nyakach West, Kisumu County.

ensure our communities become self-sustainable.

We plan to accomplish this by ensuring that our long-term approach to community activities is very clear and

continuously engaging all stakeholders with a view of realizing a shared value approach- win-win strategy for both the community and the company at large.

I quote the words of Swami Vivekananda.

“Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life--think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, and every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success”, he concludes. ■

Remembering Champion of Corporate Philanthropy, Dr. Reginald Mengi

The world is still reeling in shock at the death of Reginald Mengi, Tanzanian media mogul, entrepreneur and philanthropist, who passed away on Thursday, May 2, 2019 in Dubai.

Born in 1944 in Kilimanjaro to extremely impoverished parents, he rose above arduous circumstances to become one of Tanzania's most accomplished and wealthiest businessmen. FORBES estimated his net worth at \$560 million in 2014.

Dr. Mengi owned the IPP Media Group, one of the largest media conglomerates in Africa. Operating 11 newspapers, radio and television stations and Internet properties, he also had a huge stake in Tanzania's gold, uranium, copper, chrome and coal mines.

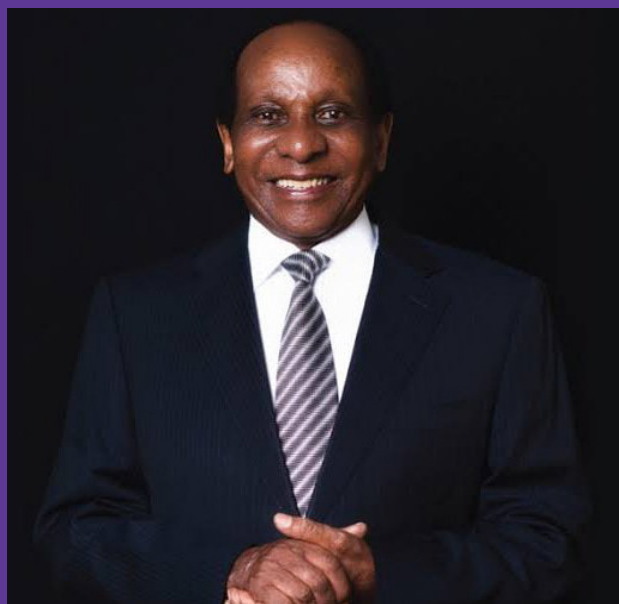
But even as his wealth grew, Mengi never forgot his humble beginnings. Considered Tanzania's pioneer in corporate social

responsibility in Tanzania, the devout philanthropist sent hundreds of Tanzanian children with heart ailments to India for treatments. He started The Rodney Mutie Mengi Foundation following the demise of his own son in 2005.

Dr. Mengi philanthropic efforts focused on financing youth and women based economic groups and community development projects through various grassroots programmes. He also awarded scholarships

to encourage students to do well in their studies and to assist those who do well, but are unable to pursue further studies due to financial constraints.

Dr. Mengi's initiatives in the area of



The late Dr. Mengi

conservation have included initiating and funding a campaign to reforest Mount Kilimanjaro in order to reserve

Cont'd on pg. 10



Thrilling Mombasa Trip for GIC III Winners

The rare chance to sit in the chair of Captain Harriet Kadzo Ngoka of the Mombasa ferry was the highlight of the educational tour of Wikithuki Primary School, winners of GIC Phase III tree-planting competition, on 6-7 June.

Led by the Foundation's Dorcas Arama, Ernest Nyamasyo and Esther Kamaara, the 30 students arrived in Mombasa on day one of their educational tour by SGR. It was the first time for some to ride the train and visit the city. It was also the first time for others to hear of, or even meet a lady ferry captain!

The students were accompanied by their Head Teacher Mr. Jacob Nguli, the Green Teacher Mr. Paul Mwangangi, and Susan Mwandikwa. Ms. Diana Muithya from Kwa Wanzilu Secondary School and Mr. Mbugi Njue of Rugogwe Secondary School were also present representing the best green teachers from Machakos and Embu counties respectively.

The visit to the ferry's cockpit was earlier preceded by a tour of KenGen's Kipevu III 120MW Power Station. After a short briefing by Eng. Samuel Oloo, acting station chief, the visitors explored East Africa's largest diesel power plant, led by Chief Security Officer Rtd. Major Abdulahi Mumin.

Next stop was Haller Park, a rehabilitated quarry where GIC project partner Bamburi

Cement Ltd. used to manufacture cement from limestone. The park, an exemplary case of sustainable environmental management, hosts a variety of flora and fauna including the rare Rothschild giraffe and a family of 30 crocodiles. Later on during the feeding session, the students got to witness the savagery of these wild reptiles!

A chilly morning did not dampen the group's spirit as they toured Fort Jesus the following day.

The Portuguese built the massive structure, currently hosting several varieties of antique canons, in the 16th century to protect Mombasa from outside invaders. According to the tour guide, Omani Arabs managed to eventually ransack the fort and replace the Europeans. Since then, it has changed hands severally through the years, and is now under the Kenya National Museum's custody.

Joining the tour, much to the excitement of the GIC III winners, was the Foundation's Managing Trustee, Anthony Igecha. He congratulated the students on their accomplishment in the afforestation competition, and urged them to continue planting trees, while also encouraging the community to do the same as a way of improving their environment.

Wikithuki Primary School was crowned winner of Phase III of the Schools Green Initiative Challenge after recording the highest survival rates of trees. This was after two years competing against 98 other

schools in the semi arid counties of Embu, Machakos and Kitui. The competition involves the planting and nurturing of *Senna siamea* and *Melkia volkensii* seedlings in school woodlots.

The KenGen Foundation implements the GIC afforestation project in a partnership that includes KenGen PLC, Bamburi Cement Ltd. and Better Globe Forestry. It aims to green over 500 acres with trees to benefit the schools' environments while benefiting the surrounding community. Currently in Phase V with 100 new schools, the project has so far involved over 600 schools and planted over 150,000 tree seedlings.

The GIC directly contributes to mitigating the effects of climate change, targeting communities around KenGen's power installations. The project incorporates four Sustainable Development Goals of Quality Education, Clean Water & Sanitation, Climate Action, and Partnerships.

Capping off two days of wonder and fascination, the students gleefully jumped into the Indian Ocean on their last afternoon at the coast. The screams and shrieks from their excitement signified the ultimate pay off in their efforts to contribute in greening the country, an experience forever to be etched in their minds.

Pictorial on pg. 11 - 12

cont'd from pg. 8

the melting of its famous snowcap due to global warming and deforestation. This campaign which Dr Mengi was funding since it started in 1987, has led to over twenty -seven million trees being planted, with a target of one hundred million trees by the end of 2019.

Mengi was a mentor to the Tanzanian youth. They drew inspiration from his business acumen; his kindness and his devotion from his mentorship seminars, with the most memorable being his roundtable contribution during the Microsoft Thought Leadership conference held in 2016.

According to 23-year old Ali Khatau, founder of Elimu Tanzania, an online platform that helps increase Tanzanian

students' pass rates, as well as improve their IT literacy, "I always tell myself if Dr. Mengi could go from such poverty to the very top and impact all those people, then life is limitless; then I could also go from what I was to the very top with hard work, ambition and a huge amount of persistence". Elimu Tanzania currently has over 50,000 users and has donated hundreds of books that have gone on to help thousands of people read and learn.

Admittedly, there are very few such individuals in Kenya's philanthropy scene who can achieve such fetes as Dr. Mengi. One will have to look hard for the few charities and foundations that have a multi-thronged approach to address society's problems through self-funding initiatives.

The late Mengi will be remembered by many for his tireless efforts to help the needy, not only because he gave generously, but also, because he popularized causes that had not been talked about before. His legacy lives on through his philanthropic work that has transformed more than 10,000 lives.

While there are many people who can be said to be richer than Dr. Mengi, their presence in the philanthropic scene is obscure to say the least.

It is likely that East Africa will remember this soft-spoken man, not for the amount of money he gave to charity, but for the rich heart that made him give gladly. Let's all fete him, for Reginald Abraham Mengi was a true hero in corporate philanthropy.



Using Mobile Tech for GIC Project Monitoring and Evaluation

The recent rains have been a blessing for schools participating in Phase IV and V of the Schools' Green Initiative Challenge tree planting competition at Embu, Kitui, and Machakos counties.

'Green' teachers, the schools' environment patrons, had earlier expressed their worries on the chances of survival for the delicate tree seedlings earlier distributed to the institutions courtesy of Better Globe Forestry, one of the project partners, that also includes KenGen Foundation, Bamburi Cement Ltd., and KenGen PLC.

The teachers are currently waiting for seedling replacements. They are also receiving real time professional tree nursery management advice from the GIC technical team through the project's WhatsApp groups.

"Mobile technology has improved our work immensely", says Daniel Ndolo, one of the project's Monitoring & Evaluation Officers.

"WhatsApp groups are our key exchange forums where we address immediate issues while at the same time prioritize our schools visits", he adds.

The GIC is an ambitious ten-year project aiming to plant over 500 acres in the three semi-arid counties of Embu, Machakos, and Kitui with drought resistant trees as a

way of mitigating climate change, besides other multiple benefits. The project is a partnership and targets schools as the change catalysts for sustainable environmental conservation.

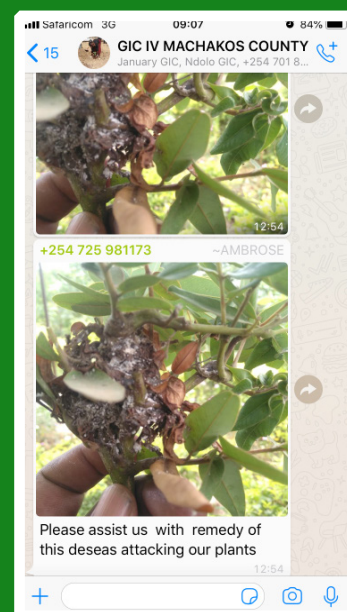
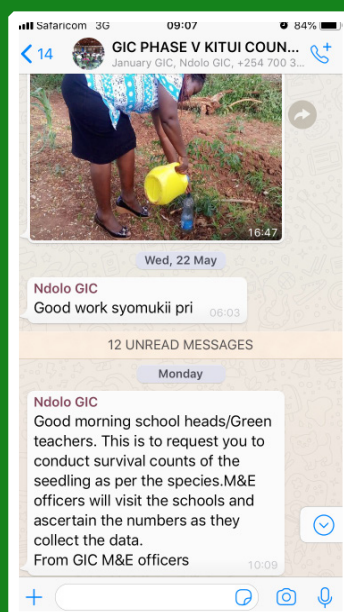
Indeed, advancements within the information and technology (ICT) sector are affording development projects, such as the GIC, new ways of improving the overall project implementation and management cycle.

Communicating more effectively with a larger audience in hard-to-reach areas has never been easier. In the past, data

collection, monitoring and evaluation were performed with paper and pen, which made them prone to error and difficult to conduct on a large scale without incurring high costs. Nowadays, mobile phones and tablets are widely used in surveys.

With social media forming an increasingly central part of how the world communicates, available tools have made communication easier, enjoyable and faster. This has proven to be an effective and efficient way of project management,

Cont'd on pg. 12



GIC III Winners Mombasa Educational Tour



GIC III Winners Mombasa Educational Tour



Olkaria Tour and Camping for GIC III Runners Up

A trip to Olkaria Geothermal Power Station was the highlight of the Educational Tour for 30 students from Kwa Wanzilu Secondary School, runners up of Phase III of the Schools Green Initiative Challenge tree planting competition from 6-7 June.

Led by Olkaria's Peter Kahuhia, the students started their excursion at the viewpoint overlooking Olkaria AU, before proceeding to the station itself to learn more about geothermal power station. They were accompanied by their Green Teacher Ms. Diana Muithya and MRRRRRR, and Dorcas Arama, Ernest Nyamasyo, and Mary Kimani represented the KenGen Foundation, with January Muthoka, David Ndolo and Kariuki from Better Globe Forestry.

Situated at Hell's Gate National Park, KenGen's Olkaria Power Station is the largest geothermal power station in

Africa and the second largest in the world. The power plant has 4 main units, with the latest installment Olkaria IV producing up to 140Mw. It hosts the only geothermal spa in East Africa.

The students got to experience first hand how the power plant operates. They also had a chance to interact with engineers and find out more about what it takes to become one.

Kwa Wanzilu Secondary School emerged number two after two years of competing against 100 other schools in Phase III of the GIC. The school recorded the second highest tree seedling survival rates in Machakos County.

The tree planting competition is a partnership between KenGen Foundation, Better Globe Forestry, KenGen PLC and Bamburi Cement Ltd aimed at greening over 500 acres of trees within schools at the Embu, Machakos

and Embu counties. The project aims to address the challenges brought about by climate change while empowering the local communities and improving their environment. So far over 600 schools are involved in the GIC with approximately 250 acres already greened.

A brief game drive through the 56-km² national park showcased the area's unique flora and fauna. From jutting rock towers, to herds of buffalo and families of baboons, set in the background of rising volcanic steam, the ecstatic students couldn't have enough of the afternoon!

Tucking in at Fisherman's Camp, the students enjoyed a night of camping at the shores of Lake Naivasha, waking up to the indistinguishable cry of the African Fish Eagle, proud of their achievements as champions of environmental conservation. ■

Pictorial on pg. 14

Cont'd from pg. 10

getting feedback and learning from each other.

This approach has fostered more inclusive, collaborative and responsive processes across the project cycle right from planning, implementation, to monitoring and evaluation.

There are currently six WhatsApp groups under the GIC project with approximately 200 members. The project's technical team, which includes representatives from the four organizations, is also included in the groups.

The GIC Technical Team had initially set up a WhatsApp account to communicate program logistics, but it morphed into a space for the M&E officers and 'green teachers to provide other kinds of information and respond to questions.

"We started to see patterns and we could track how engaged the different schools were based on how often they engaged on WhatsApp groups", says Ndolo. In

addition to the content, it was possible to gain insights into which of the participants were more engaged based on their time and responses on the platform.

"It has made the GIC project more interactive. The teachers use the WhatsApp groups to communicate with their peers as well as seek the advice from us," says Ndolo.

In the groups, the teachers exchange best tree nursery management ideas, consult on challenges and share success stories. Photos and short videos shared through the groups have provided opportunities for knowledge sharing and exchanges among the participants from the different schools.

The GIC WhatsApp groups act as two-way communication channels. On the one hand, the teachers can inform the GIC Technical Team on the challenges they're facing. On the other hand, it facilitates better project management through real time updates.

The GIC is an afforestation project

implemented by the KenGen Foundation and facilitated by Bamburi Cement Ltd., Better Globe Forestry and KenGen PLC. The project is designed as a competition amongst the participating institutions for the highest seedling survival rates through the application of various innovations at the schools' woodlots.

Currently, there are over 200 schools from the three counties taking part in Phase IV and V of the tree planting competition for the ultimate prize of educational trips, scholarship opportunities, and other prizes.

Today, use of social media is critical and inevitable. It is not costly, it has no age limit and no distance barrier, and it can be used both formally and informally in managing projects and stakeholders. ■

GIC III Runners up Olkaria Educational Tour



Kyusyani Primary School Tours Gitaru Power Station

Arriving at the end of the 1-km KenGen Gitaru Power Station's descending tunnel, 30 young environmentalists from Kyusyani Primary School gazed in amazement at the massive machinery and rumbling turbines as they prepared for their tour of the power plant on 14 June.

The students, accompanied by their Green Teacher Josephine Manda, Head Teacher Michael Karimi, former Head Teacher Elijah Mutua and Mr. Christopher Kea, were on an educational tour of a power plant, having emerged position three in Phase III of the Schools Green Initiative Challenge tree planting competition.

Despite the din, the group was keen to catch every word from the technician, asking questions and scribbling notes as she explained how the power plant's control panels works.

Kyusyani Primary School recorded the third highest in Phase III of the Schools' Green Initiative challenge tree planting competition, beating 97 other schools in Embu, Machakos and Kitui counties to earn the trip.

The GIC is an afforestation project structured as a competition between participating schools. It involves schools planting indigenous tree for multiple benefits not limited to climate change mitigation, while creating awareness on environmental conservation and empowering communities.

Producing approximately 225Mw, Gitaru Power Station is the biggest station in terms of installed and effective capacity. It is part of the 7 Forks, which include Kamburu, Kiambere, Kindaruma and Masinga hydroelectricity dams.

The students were later treated to lunch at Matendeni Senior Staff club and spent the rest of the afternoon enjoying themselves at the club's swimming pool.

"I can't thank the KenGen Foundation and the Green Initiative Challenge project partners for making our day", said the school's headmaster Mr. MMMMM at the end of the day. "Kyusyani Primary School has something to be proud of as we head home from this trip". ■



Unshackling the Chains of HELB:

KenGen Education Scholarships Stipend



In the US recently, the Morehouse College senior class of 2019 had their college debt cleared by a fellow student upon graduation. One of his classmates had a whopping debt of close to \$35,000, an astronomical burden for someone yet to be employed.

The exact amount to be covered by billionaire investor Robert F. Smith for the 396 students in the historically black college is still being calculated, but the sum will likely be in the tens of millions of dollars.

And with the global students debts running into trillion of dollars according to an article in Forbes magazine, the choices about what graduates can do after college or university are limited. Smith's gift gave them the liberty to follow their dreams and their passions.

Back at home the situation has reached alarming levels, with the Higher Education Loans Board reporting close to 440,000 higher education loan defaulters with debts amounting to Sh52.1 billion are on the run.

Another 390,000 graduates are holding Sh37.2 billion in loans that have not yet matured, with 150,000 graduates are repaying their Sh23.6 billion loans, the board says.

Currently, 45 per cent of students in higher learning institutions are covered by HELB. Smith's donation could be more than enough to clear half of what the beneficiaries owe the board.

Unemployment levels among youth joining the job market stands at 75 per cent, demonstrating that university graduates do not have the ability to repay what they owe.

But for University students under the KenGen Education Scholarships things are different.

In 2015, KenGen PLC approved the disbursement of accommodation and food allowance for the all university students under the KenGen Education Scholarships, thus cushioning them against an insecure future of debt.

The decision was made after the government upgraded the status of 15 constituent colleges to full universities, leading to an accommodation crisis, as the infrastructures could not accommodate all the students.

Universities were stretched to their limits, and the extra students were forced to look for cheap and affordable accommodation outside the institutions, usually at sub standard and dangerous neighborhoods.

The total sum per student is Ksh. 50,000 per year, with Ksh. 25,000 transferred to their accounts at the beginning of each semester. The funds enable all the students enjoy the full scholarship since most of them come from humble backgrounds and are in need.

For some students, the stipend has also

been a source of furthering their education by enrolling in short courses. Others have saved and invested the allowance for laptops, printers and photocopiers to generate separate income for their subsistence.

With over 350 students graduating since the Education Scholarship stipend was implemented, KenGen continues to demonstrate its commitment to improve the quality of life of university students under its sponsorship.

The allowances have enabled the students excel in their studies, and be comfortable so as to attain improved academic outcomes as envisaged in the awarding of the scholarships.

The stipend has also been a blessing to the beneficiaries as a solution to financial growth, educational advancement and a guaranteed future free of debt.

Through the education scholarships, KenGen emphasises on creating a pool of trained, competent and patriotic individuals that contribute towards building a vibrant economy and transforming the country into a middle-income economy. The company has so far invested approximately Kshs. 7 million in supporting students from marginalized areas across the country.

For top performers in selected courses, KenGen offers them an opportunity to join the workforce in their professional capacities.

Robert F. Smith, the son of educators, started his career as a chemical engineer for Goodyear and Kraft. He expects the recipients of his generous donation to "pay it forward" and hopes that "every class has the same opportunity going forward."

The entrepreneur is the founder of investment firm Vista Equity Partners, a private equity firm that invests in software, data, and technology-driven companies.

He is worth about \$5 billion, according to Forbes, which reports he is the richest black person in America. ■

Central Office Givers Lend a Hand during Ngong Medical Camp



25 KenGen Givers including staff from the KenGen Foundation volunteered their time for patients during an eye and dental medical camp organized by Nairobi Women's Hospital, the Rotary Club of Ngong Hills, and the Rotary Club of Ongata Rongai at Ngong Sub county Hospital on 15 April.

The medical camp saw over 900 people from Ngong Sub county benefit from free consultations, diagnosis and treatment, with the patients first being tested for diabetes before they could be examined for any other ailment.

The medical personnel in attendance included doctors from the US, dentists, nurses, and first aiders from St. John Ambulances. KenGen Givers complemented their efforts in attending to the patients.

The camp registered a total of 404 dental patients and 506 eye patients, with 9 undergoing eye surgery, 11 dental surgeries and 53 had their teeth extracted

or filled. 13 more patients were referred to eye specialists.

62-year-old Naserian, who had a tooth problem, received medication and was referred for specialized treatment. She thanked the team for coming to her rescue. She said she "hopes to fully recover soon and enjoy some nyama chemsha".

Access to health care for rural communities in Kenya faces several challenges such as poverty and poor infrastructure. On average, over 40 percent of citizens are hindered by cost and another 18 percent by distance in access to health care.

The doctors said most rural dwellers die of noncommunicable diseases because they are not detected early.

The KenGen Foundation, which partners with organizations and institutions to improve and transform lives, has over the past 3 years held medical camps countrywide.

The medical camps stand to positively impact the lives of local communities that have few or no medical facilities or face the challenge of access to healthcare.

The camps leave a significant impact in terms of providing better healthcare to the marginalized sections of the society, especially children and women in the communities.

The KenGen Employee Giver Initiative is part of the company's Corporate Social Investment strategy in involving staff in addressing social issues of communities living around its installations.

The initiative is designed so that subscribers not only give a valuable service, but also gain fantastic experience with the support of experts and specialists.

The KenGen Foundation is grateful to all Central Office Givers. ■



Online Fundraising: Lessons from Notre Dame

The recent Notre Dame Cathedral fire disaster revealed the extent of how philanthropy plays a vital role in humanity when such crises occur.

The determined efforts by the French government and donors around the world saw almost a billion euros pledged within hours to restore the centuries-old building to its former glory.

People, corporations and foundations rushed in with donations to restore the cathedral, despite the fact that humanitarian crises, natural disasters, disease outbreaks and other such calamities are as pressing as ever.

Yet, unlike other previous global disasters, the cathedral fire recorded virtually no human casualties.

So what motivates such an instant outpouring of donations? Why do we feel compelled to respond to some causes more than others?

More importantly, why has so much been committed for the cathedral, while other calamities such as ongoing starvation tend to receive less attention? Has the way we give evolved?

Most people, like you and I, are driven to donate in support of important causes in our community because we are invested emotionally to whatever influences our lives. However, the bulk of the donations are primarily an emotional reaction to a tragic circumstance, usually involving a large number of casualties and destruction of property.

So it comes as no surprise that the magnitude of the Notre Dame fire attracted a lot of attention within the donor and philanthropic community due to the aesthetic value attached to the cathedral and the widespread destruction witnessed in the wake of the inferno.

As the world stopped and watched the fire ravage the globally recognized iconic landmark, so did the donor and philanthropy community.

A quick look at the faces behind the Notre Dame donations reveals powerful brand names such as Gucci, Louis Vuitton, L'Oreal, and French oil producer Total SA just to highlight a few.

Certainly, media of both the news and social variety influenced the response to the Notre Dame Cathedral fire, but more

importantly, how the donations are being made. Indeed, the nature and extent of media coverage of the disaster affected the response.

When it comes to giving money, donors and philanthropists are increasingly connecting with their beneficiaries online and online giving is becoming more important. Giving online has become much more common over the past few years, especially among millennials who are younger, educated and those with higher incomes.

Over the past decade and a half, Internet access has become universal and internet-based communications platforms have boomed. This has seen the rise of various fundraising platforms designed to cater to virtually any cause, with the most popular being crowdfunding, a revolutionary online practice of funding a project or venture by raising small amounts of money from a large number of people through websites such as Kiskstarter or GoFundMe.

Granted, traditional donor organizations are skeptical of crowdfunding though admitting that it is a simpler way to raise money than getting a loan or a grant.



Nowadays, donors want to be more involved and meaningfully engaged and crowd giving helps them feel more connected to the causes and other supporters. An online donation is like a vote of support, useful to the beneficiary on a financial level and to the donor on a psychological level.

Other donor organizations are increasingly turning to the creation of online donation tools for transparency and monitoring of funds and activities. Nonprofits stand to benefit because their funding sources will become more diverse and accessible. And donors will get the satisfaction of seeing their money going toward the specific causes they choose.

Results are important too, with donors seeking to see the biggest possible impact from their donations and to see problems permanently solved. While most development organizations are prone to putting a 'spin' on the facts to show them in the best possible light while reporting to donors, online crowdfunding is transparent and the impacts are instantly seen by all the stakeholders.

Surprisingly, Facebook arguably one of the most popular social media sites has already introduced fundraising tools on their sites. It launched a donate button on its social-networking site in 2015 and

later added tools that make it easy for people to raise money for their favorite causes.

If you feel like you've seen more notifications in your Facebook feed that someone is raising money for a good cause to celebrate a birthday or other milestone, you're probably right. On Giving Tuesday in November, nonprofits raised \$125 million with Facebook tools.

Facebook's photo-sharing app, Instagram, is also developing a tool for nonprofits to collect donations. The new feature will allow charities and their supporters to include a donate button in their posts. When users click on it, they will go directly to a donation form.

Facebook expects to share details on ways charities and their supporters can use the tool, which is still being developed, in the next few months.

While the Instagram donation button will open a new fundraising opportunity to charities, it's unclear how much overlap there is between Instagram and Facebook users.

We may think we know the motivation of the French billionaires who donated to the cathedral. Perhaps we do. And perhaps we don't.

Donors today increasingly see the appeal of putting their money into a firm or a fund that will give them a return while affirming their values or supporting a cause they believe in. Impact investing is one such notion that one can make a difference by investing in a company that has a social mission

By making philanthropy easy and accessible, digital tools such as online fundraising platforms have encouraged a tremendous surge in giving by individuals and donor organizations. This shift presents opportunities for stakeholders with the resources and capabilities to take advantage of new digital channels, particularly online fundraising, which offers significant room for growth.

It is also an opportunity for industry leaders to start conversations geared towards embracing conventional fundraising on how to leverage digital infrastructure to maximize donor engagements; donation options and other services for the digital platforms; improvement of internal operations by leveraging new digital tools and capabilities; analytics to measure and track key activities, and how can we apply digital tools to manage them; and how to tailor operating models to cater to digital needs. ■

Our Impacts



140,000>

PUPILS and 4,000> teachers actively involved in environmental conservation, climate change mitigation and agro-forestry.



120,000+

TREE SEEDLINGS planted in 400+ schools, greening 150+ acres of land.



1000+

STAFF MEMBERS currently donating their skills, time and money towards community projects.



186

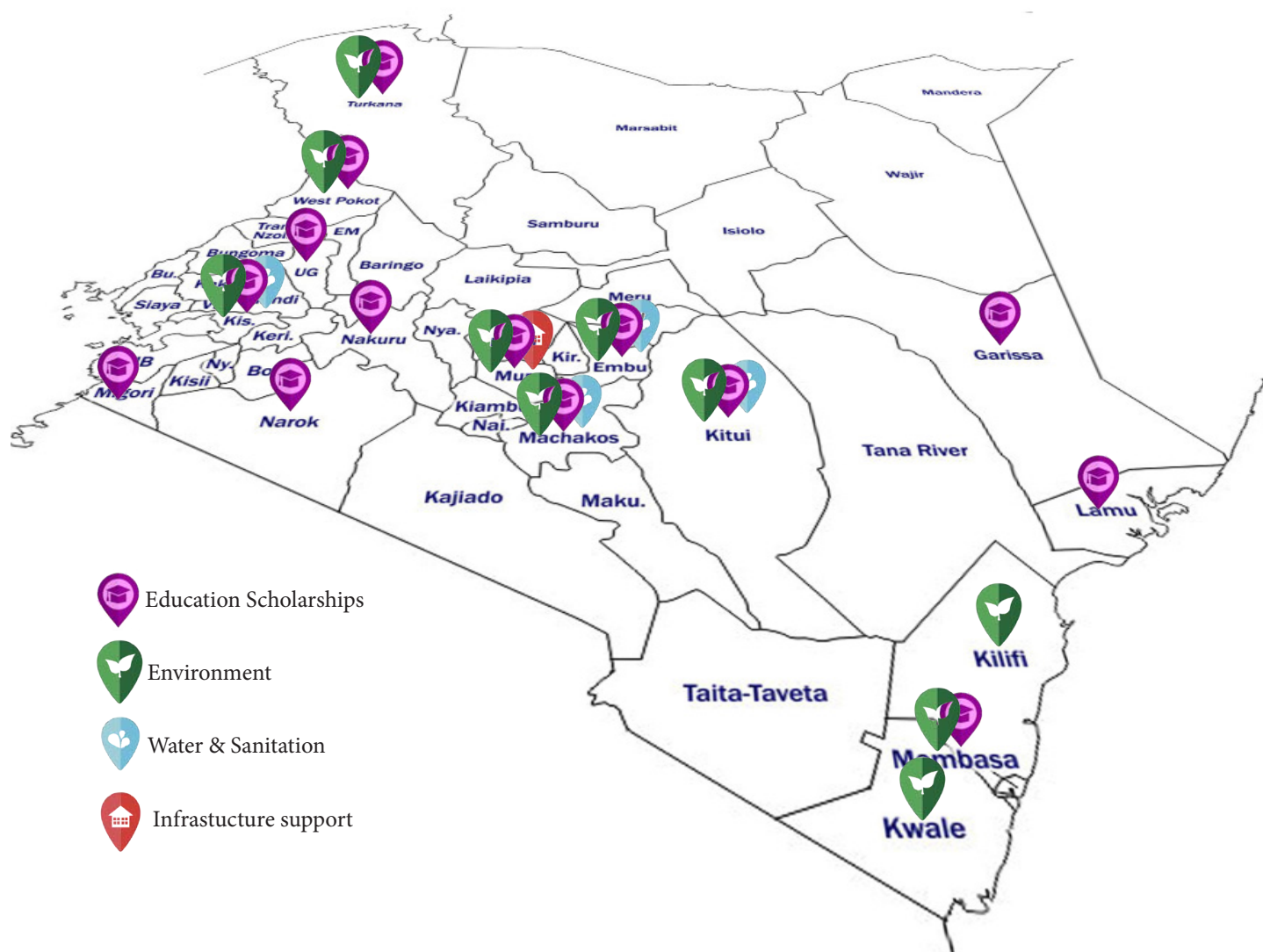
STUDENTS currently sponsored and mentored through secondary and University education.



1

RESTAURANT successfully running as a social enterprise.

Our journey so far...



Our Partners



www.education.go.ke



nema
mazingira yetu | uhai wetu | wajibu wetu

www.nema.go.ke



Energy Regulatory Commission



KENYA
Forest Service

www.kenyaforestservice.org



Prosperity With Purpose

www.betterglobeforestry.com



www.tullowoil.com



Bamburi
cement

Part of you. From the start

www.lafarge.co.ke



www.stareheboyscentre.ac.ke



KENYA INSTITUTE OF PUPPET THEATRE
Development through Art of Puppetry/Folk Media

www.kiptkenya.org



NURTURING TALENT, GROWING ORGANISATIONS

www.resourceassociates.co.ke



www.gerties.org





KenGen Foundation • Tel: 0711 036 507 • 0711 036 709
info@kengenfoundation.co.ke • www.kengenfoundation.co.ke

