

Dear donors and supporters,

As I had mentioned in my previous report, one of our goals for 2019 is to help the community improve the preventive maintenance of all Karimu projects. While maintenance of our projects by the community continues to get better, there is definitely room for improvement.

The community has developed a process in which representatives visit all projects every 3 months and create a report of incidents to be shared with the group of community members responsible for addressing maintenance issues. For the water project, for instance, there is a water committee at ward level and one at each village. Similarly, the school committee of each school checks maintenance items for its respective school in Ayalagaya ward.

The maintenance leaders within the community keep a paper report, so that both water and school committees can check the progress of the maintenance issues. Their agreement with us is that they are fully responsible for creating the report and fixing the issues within one month of the issue being reported. Karimu has created an electronic version of the paper report so we can also verify the progress of all project maintenance issues.

Maintenance of schools

During this year there has been a total of 201 maintenance items in the facilities (school buildings, student & staff bathrooms, washing sinks, teachers' houses, etc.) of the 6 schools of Ayalagaya. They include simple actions such as oiling the door hinges to more complex issues as fixing dripping faucets or replacing broken windows. Today,

- 37% of the 201 issues have already been addressed
- 39% will be solved by the end of October according to a plan developed by the community
- the remaining 24% are non-urgent items to be solved by the end of December



Maintenance of clean water project

As for the water project, 207 maintenance items were discovered:

- 29% of them have already been solved
- all other issues will be addressed by the end of December following the plan developed by the community.



We follow these processes very closely and are happy the issues are being addressed, assuring the sustainability of Karimu projects. However, there is still room for improvement. Here is what we are now working on with the community:

1. ensuring everything is discovered by the community (our volunteers identified several additional issues during our trip in July)
2. the preventive maintenance process runs like a well-oiled machine
3. all issues are being fixed within 1 month.

Update on Current Projects

Besides the focus on maintenance, we continue to make good progress in the current projects. Four projects are within weeks of being completed:

1. New classrooms for Ayalagaya Secondary School: we are currently painting and putting final touches in the buildings.



2. Bathrooms for Gajal Primary School: construction work is going extremely well and everything (bathrooms for students, teachers, and staff as well as the sink for handwashing) should be completed this month.



3. Extensions for the girl's bathroom at Haysam Primary School: the building is up and we are now working on the finishing.



4. Expansion of girl's bathroom at Bacho Primary School: just like the extensions at Haysam, the Bacho building is also up and we are now working on the finishing.



Next steps

Our next steps are to

1. Continue the ongoing projects:
 - a. Small improvements for Dareda Kati Clinic
 - b. Construction of dispensary for Gajal village
 - c. Training of Ayalagaya Savings Groups
 - d. Donation of books and school material for all schools in Ayalagaya
 - e. Computer training for Bacho Primary School teachers and medical staff of the Dareda Kati Clinic
2. Start the remaining projects funded with the 2018/2019 donations:
 - a. Patient bathrooms and laundry for Dareda Kati Clinic
 - b. Bathrooms for students and staff and sink for hand washing at Dareda Kati Primary School
 - c. Bathrooms for students and staff and sink for hand washing at Ufani Primary School
 - d. Housing for medical staff
 - e. Remodeling of Ufani Primary School
3. Support the community in the projects they committed to execute on their own:
 - a. Student desks to reach a ratio of 2 students per desk at all Ayalagaya Schools
 - b. One desk and one chair for each classroom in all Ayalagaya schools

- c. Cupboard & shelves to keep schoolbooks, goals in the soccer field and posts for volleyball net for all Ayalagaya Schools.

In November I am travelling to Tanzania with 4 Karimu volunteers. We will then have the opportunity to check the progress of our projects and to meet with the community and government officials to discuss their commitment to the 2020 projects. In the next couple of weeks, I will send you an overview of our plans for 2020 so you can see what I plan to discuss with the locals in November. You will see that we expect next year to be as exciting as 2019!

I wish you could travel with me. I am sure you would be as proud as I am to see the difference we are making in the lives of all community members.

Please keep in mind that you are the enabler of the positive difference we are making. You deserve the credit! So, in the name of the villagers of Ayalagaya and Arri Ward, I want to thank you for your help and support. *Asante sana!*

Nelson Mattos

Karimu, Chief Operating Officer