

Update on Karimu's projects: Building for Bacho Primary School is 6 weeks from done, Haysam Primary School is getting flush toilets, and lots of progress on teachers' professional development

Dear Donors,

On behalf of the Tanzanian communities of the areas of Dareda Kati, Haysam, and Gajal I would like to thank you for your generous contributions to Karimu International Help Foundation. They have allowed us to achieve a lot in the last few months.

The **reconstruction of Bacho Primary School** for which many of you contributed funds in 2016 and early 2017 continues to make steady progress. As you may already know, since July 2017, children are studying in the 1st building and teachers are preparing their lessons in a bright and spacious office. The 2nd building, whose construction started with the help of 28 volunteers who went to Tanzania in June, is also in use since end September. However, due to the unusually heavier rainy period in November, the construction of the 3rd and last building will not be finished at the end of December as planned. Nevertheless, all walls are done, roofing is about to be completed (as you can see from the picture below), and we expect it to be done and functioning by the end of January 2018. A one month delay. :-)



Immediately after completing the building, we will start the construction of the flush toilets and washing sink, followed by the kitchen. Building the kitchen after the toilets instead of in parallel is a small change in plans so that the “Bacho Primary School Project” will be concluded by 2Q2018 (instead of 1Q as originally planned). And as I have mentioned before, the project is already having a positive impact with school enrollment up by 23%. Very exciting!

Great news: our fundraising to bring “**Clean water for the villages of Gajal and Haysam**” is going well. We are still short of approximately \$50K to reach our goal of \$255K, but we are confident we will get there. For this reason and because the government threatened to close Haysam Primary School due to poor sanitary conditions, we decided to immediately start what was supposed to be phase 3 of the project: the construction of flush toilets and washing sink at Haysam Primary School. Until water is available as planned, the villagers committed to fetch it in buckets, so the students and school staff can use the toilets. The construction started on December 4th and is moving rapidly. These 3 pictures show the progress at the end of the 1st week: laying the foundation and digging the hole for the septic tank.

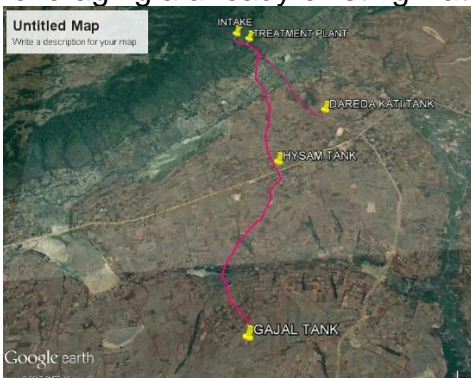


And these 3 pictures show the progress at the end of the 2nd week: walls of the toilets and septic tank partially done.



We are optimistic that the toilets will be ready by the time the students return to school after the holidays in the 2nd week of January 2018. I am still reluctant to believe that we might build the toilets in 1 month. That would be record speed! So, fingers crossed!

We are working hard on fundraising to achieve our target so we can start the remaining 3 phases of the project “Clean water for the villages of Gajal and Haysam”: water collection and distribution to Gajal, water collection and distribution to Haysam, and flush toilets and washing sinks for Gajal Primary School. The great news, however, is that we will be able to use gravity to bring water to both Haysam and Gajal as you can see by the following Google map illustrating where we will collect the water, treat it, where the tanks will be installed, and water pipes will be laid. A new plus of being able to use gravity for this project is that we will also provide clean water to the area of Dareda Kati, leveraging a already existing water tank and pipes.



The “**Ayalagaya Learning Center Project**” kicked off in June is also a huge success. Using the 4 laptops and 39 modems donated by Karimu, teachers of

Dareda Kati, Haysam, and Gajal are being trained on technology weekly: how to use a computer, leverage the internet, do Google searches, send emails, and use MS-Word and Excel, among others. The Learning Center has proven to be such a valuable tool to help teachers work with their students, better connect with each other and find new ways to keep on developing their own careers, that we are now also training the teachers of two new districts: Arri and Secheda. The picture below shows one of the classes at Secheda district.



Acquiring these technology skills has become extremely important for teachers in Tanzania because the government is mandating all teachers to have a university degree within 5 years and distant learning is the most adequate way to achieve that, so they can obtain their degree and keep on working in classroom with their students. To facilitate this, Karimu is providing opportunity for 11 teachers to obtain university degree by funding 75% of their distance learning education cost. Here is a picture of the teachers receiving their Karimu Scholarship.



As of next year, Karimu will be expanding the “**professional development project**” to health workers of the Dareda Kati Clinic, such as nurses and lab technicians.

Finally, in January 2018, four experts in teachers’ professional training will hold a workshop for about 70 teachers from four districts at the Ayalagaya Learning Center. Focus of the training is the implementation of curricular standards in their schools and classrooms, so they can act as multipliers in the respective districts. The experts include: the executive responsible for curriculum at the largest Latin American education institute, a US professor, a highly experienced trainer, who has worked extensively in Africa, and a PHD student specializing in Education leadership.

As you can see, there is a lot happening and we are excited with Karimu's expansion and increased impact.

Once again, thank you very much for your support. We hope we can count on you to continue help us eliminate poverty in these areas of Tanzania. We would be tremendously thankful for any donation you make at <http://www.karimufoundation.org/>. Claudia (my wife) and I will match your donation up to a total of \$30,000.00 and the Santa Cruz, California business Quantaphy will also match any donations up to \$30,000.00. Because Karimu is run 100% by volunteers, be assured that every dollar of your donation will be fully used to execute these projects.

Feel free to spread the word so that your family, friends, and co-workers – just like you - can also help these communities to improve their well-being, defeat poverty and face their three biggest challenges: poor health and sanitation, meager income and lack of access to financial services. We, at Karimu, wish you a wonderful and peaceful holiday season and a very successful 2018.

Asante sana! Thank you so much,

Nelson & Cláudia Mattos (with a lot of support by Karimu's founders: Don and Marianne)