

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Sustainable Futures for Kenya's Women and Young People

Focus:	Fighting hunger and the impacts of the climate crisis
Location:	Kwale, Kilifi and Mombasa counties, coastal Kenya
Target Impact:	13,000 people



The challenge facing women and young people

In the Kwale, Kilifi and Mombasa counties of coastal Kenya, agriculture holds huge potential for income generation. However, women and young people are often excluded from these opportunities, making them vulnerable to extreme poverty, lack of education and decision-making powers at home. In this region, although fruit production is a key source of food and income, families are unable to earn enough to meet their needs due to the impacts of the climate crisis, poor soil quality, lack of skills and knowledge and post-harvest losses. This project will support women and young people to increase their access to food, employment opportunities and income. Project members will take part in training linked to business skills, how to improve soil quality to boost fruit production, especially for pineapples, mangoes and passionfruit as well as mitigating the impact of the climate crisis.



Project aims

- **Sustainable agriculture:** Families will learn how to restore and re-green their land and soil through fruit tree planting. Training will be provided in natural resource management to prevent soil erosion and increase water conservation.
- **Boosting income:** Women and young people will grow different types of nutritious fruit trees to eat and sell, increasing their nutrition and yearly income and ability to save for future challenges.
- **Enterprise development:** Women and young people will develop the knowledge and skills to transform their fruit trees into thriving businesses. They will receive training in adding value to their produce such as fruit processing, turning their harvests into profitable products like juices and dried fruit.
- **Sustainable businesses:** Families will build strong relationships with existing market stakeholders, ensuring competitive prices for their produce and repeat trading into the future.
- **Increase knowledge and awareness amongst young people and women:** Events and activities that raise awareness on nutrition and gender will ensure communities can break down gender barriers, improve their nutrition and create sustainable, inclusive businesses.



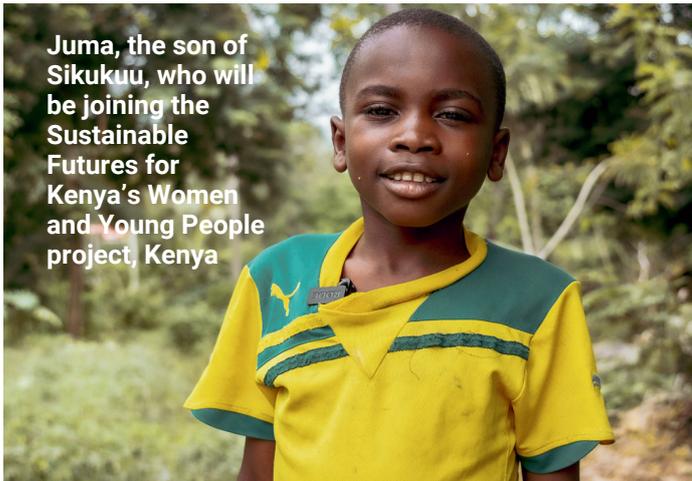
Meet Fatuma

"From this project that I intend to undertake, I want to generate income to buy another farm so that I can purchase goats and cows for rearing. My biggest dream for my children is for them to receive education until university level so that they can secure jobs and support themselves, and then they can also support me" Fatuma, Kenya



Fatuma is taking part in the Sustainable Futures for Kenya's Women and Young People project

OUR APPROACH



Juma, the son of Sikukuu, who will be joining the Sustainable Futures for Kenya's Women and Young People project, Kenya

Addressing gender inequality

Agriculture holds huge potential for income generation, but women and young people are often excluded from these opportunities and decision-making in their communities. Training in gender and social inclusion as part of our work is a real catalyst for change in the community, helping to break down gender barriers, improve nutrition and create sustainable, inclusive businesses. Our training ensures that workloads are shared fairly and, as a result of this, families become more food secure in the longer term. When you empower women, you empower the whole community too.

Fighting the climate crisis

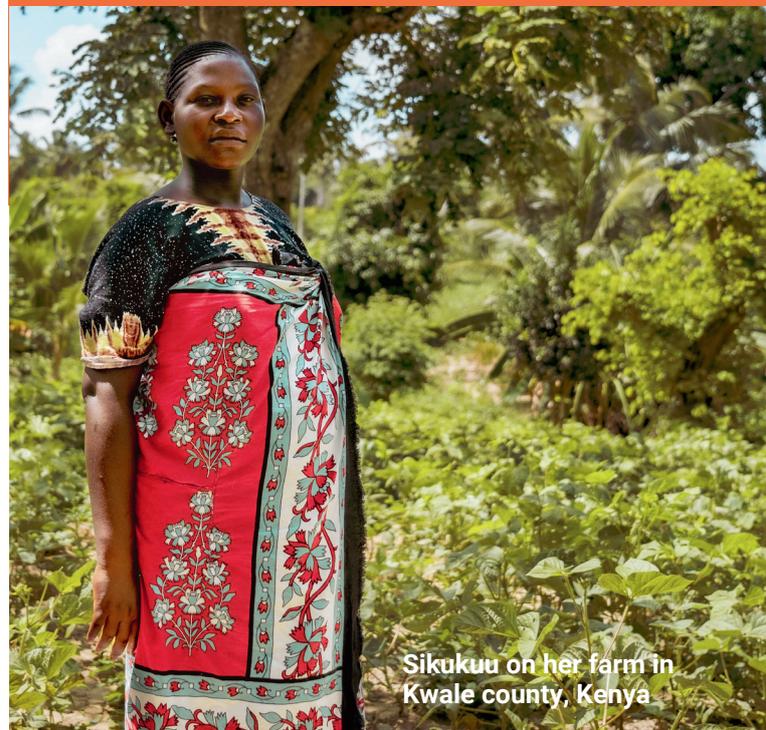
The climate crisis is leading to unpredictable weather including periods of drought and heavy rainfall, making it harder for families to grow enough to eat and directly impacting on poverty and hunger levels. Cycles of drought and heavy rain are leading to poor soil quality and erosion. Through the project, families will learn about composting and how it can be a valuable technique for enhancing soil fertility and promoting healthy plant growth. Preventing and controlling soil erosion through mulching and tree planting will also improve soil fertility by helping to preserve the topsoil layer and reduce nutrient loss.

Tackling hunger and malnutrition

Families will learn climate-positive farming techniques as part of the project such as establishing keyhole gardens. Keyhole gardens are designed to retain moisture and allow for better drainage, preventing waterlogging during heavy rains while ensuring that plants have access to water during dry periods. These types of gardens will help families adapt to the challenges of the climate crisis while ensuring they have access to nutritious food. Families will also be encouraged to plant fruit trees which not only provide food but help to prevent soil erosion and put important nutrients back into the soil making the land more fertile.

For every family we work with, three more families benefit too.

As farmers learn more, grow more and sell more, the benefits are shared with their families, neighbours and communities. Then they do the same, creating a ripple effect across rural Africa.



Sikukuu on her farm in Kwale county, Kenya



“As the Project Officer for the Sustainable Futures for Kenya's Women and Young People project, I have the urge to positively transform people's lives. Every person deserves shelter, sufficient and nutritious food, as well as an income.” Hamisi Hassan, Project Officer, Kenya