

The Turkana Food Supply Program
A Black&White Project, sponsored by Achim and friends
VILLAGE LOKWAKEL



Waiting – curious, full of hope and gratefulness

Preamble

How you can make a difference - Help for Turkana – A Cry for Hope in the Drought

The region of Turkana in Kenya suffers from the cruel effects of climate change and relentless droughts. Children go to bed with empty stomachs, mothers cry silently in worry, and the land cries out for a drop of rain that simply never comes.

Every donation is an act of love and can save lives. I was there; I've seen the tears, felt the hopelessness, and experienced the joy when we brought hope. Children laughing because they get to eat today; mothers smiling for the first time in months knowing their children will go to bed full tonight.

Your donation is not just money — it's a lifesaver, a spark of hope, a promise of a better future. Let's stand together so the people of Turkana know they are not alone, that there are people who care.

As dedicated hunger fighters, we are deeply committed to alleviating the pain and suffering caused by food insecurity in Turkana. Every day, we witness the devastating effects of hunger on families and communities. It is in these moments of hardship that your support becomes a beacon of hope.

Alone, I can't but Pamoja tunaweza (Together we can). With your generous contributions, we can make a profound difference. Together, we can provide nutritious meals to those in need, create sustainable food programs, and empower communities to achieve long-term food security. Your support is the lifeline that turns despair into hope, hunger into nourishment, and dreams into reality.

Thank you for standing with us in this noble cause. Your compassion and generosity are the driving forces behind our mission. Together, we can create a world where no one goes to bed hungry.

Who/What is the Black&White Project

Help for direct help.

Together, Pamoja

Patricia and Achim met in 2016 as members of a non-profit organization working on an aid project to correct vision problems. At that time, Patricia was the Kenyan director, and Achim was the German country coordinator. During our work, we encountered an albino lady who suffered severe mobility problems, crawling to the hospital for treatment. This experience inspired us to initiate small projects to assist those in need, leading to the creation of the Black&White Project, which we plan to register as a charitable organization in Kenya.

To date, the Black&White Project has:

- Donated 10 wheelchairs to individuals with mobility challenges.
- Fully financed the education, including fees, food, shelter medical and clothing, of 3 girls and a boy (2 girls of a single mother living with HIV and 2 - one girl and a boy - partial orphans mother died as a result of suicide).
- Partially supported the education and food of 2 students from a family affected by alcoholism.
- Currently Conducting online leadership training for Kenyan university students, in collaboration with a Canadian NGO.

Since 2023, our primary focus has been on providing food aid to the needy kids and people of Turkana. Despite not having a dedicated website or promotional materials, we maintain low administrative costs by working directly with the nuns who have direct contact with the children

and villagers in need. However, we are planning to design a homepage soon once we identified ways how to cover the host costs.

Our Partner in Turkana: Social Missionary Sisters of the Church (SMSC)

SMSC was founded in Ecuador, South America, on September 13, 1965. Their mission is to serve the poorest and most remote areas, including the Turkana desert in Kenya, where they began working in 2001. Back then, the region lacked basic amenities such as mobile phone signals, internet, public transportation, schools, hospitals, and nutrition centers. The people, primarily nomads, moved frequently in search of water and grass for their goats and cows.

Thanks to the efforts of many missionaries and the support of benefactors from Europe, significant progress has been made. Wells have been drilled, allowing people to settle and some of their children to attend school. Nutritional centres, medical dispensaries, shelters for orphaned girls, schools, and churches have been established. Currently, SMSC operates 11 centres, caring for over 2,000 children. Their focus on the education of nomadic girls, particularly through the St. Patrick Nomadic Girls Centre, plays a crucial role in empowering this underserved community.

Note from community mother Superior Sr. Ligia

"In 2023, I communicated via email with Patricia Makori to seek assistance for the Turkana children we work with. After our first conversation and a tour of our centers, she generously donated tons of food for our children and expressed her desire to continue supporting our mission.

Not long after, we reconnected, and Patricia shared her eagerness to collaborate further. I proposed assisting the community of Lokwakel, which was abandoned and in dire need of help. Patricia discussed this with her friends, and soon I met Achim, the project mentor residing in Germany, via video call. We agreed to work together with this community, and since August, we have been reaching out to them."

Lokwakel

Though much has been accomplished, there is still a lack of resources to reach the isolated remote neighbourhoods desperately asking for help for their children.

One such area is Lokwakel, composed of four closely situated villages: Apokot, Lonyangamoi, Lomyenkoparet, and Kasukuru.

This hamlet, 200 km from the SMSC headquarters in Lokitaung, is home to 380 families, each with a minimum of eight children.

The families live in Manyattas—traditional homes made of tree poles, smaller branches, twigs, plastic bags (no grass for the roof), hide anthill mud, and water. Animals and people alike drink from the same well dug with government assistance. They eat whatever providence provides each day; some are fortunate to have one meal a day, while others do not. Yet, they all survive

despite the harsh famine and extreme temperatures, which range usually from 30°C to over 36°C.

Arrival

On August 21st, 2024, the team arrived at Lokwakel Village around 4 PM. The village was quiet, with only a few villagers seeking shelter from the scorching sun under trees or in their homes, contemplating their livestock, sick children, or the uncertainty of their next meal. With the help of a few leaders, word was sent out that visitors had arrived at the center. Immediately, many villagers came over, delighted to see us. Upon our arrival at the first homestead, we encountered some tall, slender men enjoying the cool breeze and sharing laughter over engaging stories. The community's spirits lifted at the sound of our vehicle, a symbol of hope and support, even when it arrived empty. They believe that our presence always brings something positive, even if it's just words of encouragement.

Challenges

We realized that delivering food was not enough; there were essential items needed, such as sufurias (cooking pans), cooking sticks, and ladles. Additionally, we needed a food logbook, a warehouse for food storage, a kitchen, and a shelter where children could sit down to eat. We identified someone to keep the children engaged and entertained while the food was being cooked. With the help of the community leader, the community committed to providing these needs, and we assisted with sufurias and cooking sticks. We were informed that a homestead constructed of iron sheets had been designated as the storage facility for the food supplies and was ready for use.

During our visit, a traditional wedding ceremony was taking place, which is highly valued and respected among the Turkana people. This celebration drew almost everyone in the village, making it challenging to meet all the children and caregivers who assist in meal preparation and other activities. The wedding attracted many villagers, all hoping to enjoy a free meal and drinks.

Food Ratio

According to the [food delivery list \(see below\)](#) the daily food ration was organized to cover the months of August to November at least.

Although not every day is the same, a good number of 120-150 children coming for lunch daily was recorded in the logbook. The last visit was on November 22, for monitoring, calculating the food stock, and taking some videos and photos.

The good news is, that every month there was a balance of food, so there was still food left for month of December 2024.

Closing remarks and words of prayers from Sr. Ligia Giron

Thank you, dear friends. May God continue to grant you the strength to serve the children of Turkana. May God bless you abundantly.

We, as a Congregation, are deeply grateful for your generosity towards this noble cause. Barbara, we recognize your immense sacrifice. Patricia, your journey to Turkana North, despite the challenging transport conditions, was a true testament to your commitment. Thank you for enriching our efforts. Our children enjoyed the snacks immensely.

May our Lord expand your territories and guide your paths as you continue to serve humanity in diverse ways.

Despite all challenges, our mission to provide food to the needy children in Lokwakel remains unwavering. Your generous donations can make a significant difference in their lives, ensuring they have access to nutritious meals and a brighter future. Be blessed and asante sana!

Delivery List

Item	Unit	Unit size	Number	kg total
Maize	1 sack (45 kg)	45	44	1.980,00
Rice	1 sack (45 kg)	45	4	180,00
cooking oil	15 Jerry cans (20 L)	20	35	700,00
Salt	10 (bales) (10 kg)	10	13	130,00
Beans	1 sack (45 kg)	45	21	945,00
			Sum kg tons	3.935,00 3,94

Attachment

Photo Section



Gate to the village – Manyattas in the background



Elder and Community welcoming the symbol of Hope



Elder giving instructions



Listening thoroughly



Keeping the children entertained



We arrived earlier



Sacks of maize, beans and rice



bringing the food to the warehouse



So grateful for your help



asante sana new sufuria



How we keep the plates for children



Boiling maize and beans



Almost ready



Asante sana