



Stawisha
Africa Initiative



2022

ANNUAL REPORT

www.stawishaafricainitiatve.org



Foreword

We are delighted to express Stawisha Africa Initiative's milestones over the last year by sharing our good moments, opportunities, lessons learnt and challenges that we overcame in the year 2022. Last year was a kick-start for more partnerships and development of new projects ideas with prospect partners. This was made possible because of the recognition and support that we received due to our commitment to change lives of children, youth and their families within the community.

We had good moments working with our beneficiaries, exploiting new partnership opportunities and overcoming challenges experienced along the way.

This annual report gives details about our achievement in various thematic areas and the partnership forums that we took part in accord with strengthening relations with like-minded partners in Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Governmental departments at the County level.

We wouldn't have reached greater heights without unwavering support and commitment of our staff, donors, well-wishers and partners. In addition, we are really grateful to Stawisha children and their parents for letting us be part of their lives.

Thank you all for trusting and believing in Stawisha Africa Initiative's vision. Let us continue with the same spirit and make our community grater. I believe that 2023 will be an even greater year.

Yours in service,

Dan Joshua Oduor,
Founder and Director
Stawisha Africa Initiative

About us

Stawisha Africa Initiative (SAI) (meaning "Develop Africa" in Kiswahili) is a Non-profit Organization established and registered in Kenya under companies Act of 2015 in the year 2021. Stawisha operates in Western Kenya with rural communities to help transform the lives of children and youth from vulnerable families by recognizing and addressing the community development gaps through its participatory approach. Stawisha Africa Initiative provides an interactive environment to build on collective strengths, shared resources and facilitate partnerships for the positive growth of its beneficiaries.

Our vision:

A world where vulnerable youth and children are meaningfully engaged to reach their full potential to improve their lives.

Our mission:

To improve the lives of the vulnerable children and youth by working with their families and identifying gaps to realize and gain sustainable development.

Core values

Teamwork-Stawisha Africa Initiative supports working together by combining the individual's strength to achieve the results.

Integrity- we believe in working environment where we act with honesty and honor without compromising the truth.

Empowerment- we aim to encourage our employees to take initiative and give their best.

2022 Highlights

01 Dignity Restoration

02 Climate Change Solutions

03 Provision of SRHR
commodities

04 Distribution of dry
food

05 Workshops

06 Partnership Forums

EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

DIGNITY RESTORATION PROJECT

Stawisha Africa Initiative started Dignity Restoration Project in December 2021 with the mobilization of funds to purchase school uniform to support most deserving pupils from ten partner schools in Karemo Division, Siaya County, western Kenya. The fund drive was organized through a one-week charity bike ride in December 2021, from Mombasa to Siaya (A distance of 933km). We kicked off the New year, 2022 with the continuation of the Dignity Restoration Project. The project involved providing one hundred pupils with the new school uniforms. The aim was to boost the pupils' self-confidence and contribute positively to their performance. We got national and international recognition from well-wishers, partners and friends of Stawisha who immensely supported the project.



Joshua Dan, Director Stawisha Africa Initiative taking measurements of the beneficiary



Beneficiary receiving new uniform from Stawisha Staff

We documented touching stories from the pupils; indeed, a lot needs to be done to support them. A decent school uniform is a starting point for self-confidence and good academic performance. We completed the dignity restoration project in July 2022, by donating uniforms to Bar Kagwanda Primary school, Kiríndo primary, and Ulafu Mixed primary in Karemo Division, Siaya County. That made 100 donations and 100 smiles from the pupils who received the uniforms.

Readership/ Library Access

We have set up a mini library at the Stawisha office ground equipped with reading materials and educational games for children during school holidays. The library targets a population of one thousand children who are learning from different schools within Mur Ngiya community. So far, we have fifteen primary schools that Stawisha Africa Initiative is partnering with in areas of Education Support and Agroforestry and school gardening project. Early last year, 2022, we received over 200 books and assorted toys donated from Technology Without Borders Germany



Kirsten Essig (right) from Technology without Borders engaging with Stawisha beneficiaries and staff at the mini library



This was a major boost to our library readership program that have been attracting up to one hundred children during school holidays. The mini library is open every day during the school holidays and we have put in place a system of borrowing books during school days. We are aiming to inculcate reading culture among the young generation. This is also in partnership with Story Moja publishers who are supporting various readership programs for children

A display of book donations presented by Beatrix Becker from Technology without Borders

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Agroforestry and School Garden

The garden set up involved vegetable fields planted around banana tree (at the center) in four circles of diameter of 4m each. The concept is called Island of abundance. Around the Island of abundance are fruit trees such as paw paw, tangerine, mangoes, oranges and avocado planted. We were also supporting and enhancing water catchment processes through gutter installation, provision of water tanks and fencing or reinforcement of school gardens



The project continued with phase two funded by REHAU, a polymer processing company in Germany. The company supported five more schools in July 2022. Through the partnerships: Fifteen school gardens were fenced, provision of water catchment equipment, provision of fruit tree seedlings, vegetable seeds, and environmental awareness sessions were conducted with two hundred pupils.

The long term benefits of the project will be:

- Promote healthy eating of pupils by planting fruit trees and vegetables at ten different partner schools
- Long term conservation of nature by starting tree nursery at Stawisha Africa to allow further agroforestry projects in future
- Improve economic situation of schools, which can sell surplus fruits at the market

In reference to the objectives in the project proposal document, the following objectives have been achieved during the project implementation process:

- Establishment of fifteen school garden with the partner school
- Provision of fruit trees, vegetables and tools for gardening
- Conducted climate change workshop with environmental club members from partner school.



Dr. Franziska Enzmann from Technology without Borders conducting climate change workshop

Climate Change Response

Stawisha Africa Initiative is actively involved in climate change response through agroforestry projects. This has been successful through the help of partnership activities and forums. To promote a greener environment in our schools, we received over 1000 assorted tree seedlings from the Siaya county Environment and Kenya Forestry offices. The seedlings were distributed to five partner primary schools. The seedlings included: *Maesopsis eminii*, *Markhamia lutea*, *Bischofia javanica*, *Trichilia hirta*, and *Croton megalocarpus*.



Stawisha Staff assorting tree seedlings

Organic compost making

One of the agriculture best practices Stawisha Africa Initiative is implementing with its partner schools is organic compost production. During the implementation process of the Agroforestry partnership project with Technology without Borders and REHAU Company, we conducted organic compost production workshops in various schools and trained over 450 pupils from March to July 2022.



Stawisha Director, Dan Joshua Oduor leading pupils in organic compost making

Tree planting Activity

Stawisha Africa Initiative had exciting tree planting activity with pupils from its partnering schools. We aimed to boost tree cover within our region and save our environment. We also established school environmental clubs that will help take care of the trees.



Pupils taking part in tree planting



Distribution of tree seedlings

We strengthen local partnerships to promote our program growth. Working in partnership with the Siaya Muungano network, we distributed two hundred passion fruit seedlings to different youth from various sub-locations in South East Alego, Siaya County to promote fruit tree farming among the youth



Rehabilitation of Community Water Point

Access to clean water from water sources such as boreholes is very key to community water supply and sanitation. Through our partnership with Technology without Borders We restored the community borehole at Umala village that broke down over 1 year ago. 2 schools and over 80 homes depend on this borehole.



Beneficiary using tap water after the restoration of the borehole.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Provision of SRH Commodities

To promote access to Sexual Reproductive Health rights commodities, we distributed sanitary towels to adolescent girls at Agoro Oyombe Primary School in Siaya county. This was a partnership project that will see to it that girls do not miss school due to menses experience.

Project supported by Zana Africa.



Distribution of dry food



Parents posing for a group photo with packs of dry foods

WORKSHOPS

Child Rights and Responsibility Workshop

We had a successful child rights and responsibilities workshop. 82 Children attended the workshop.

The workshop was to educate our children on their rights and what to do when their rights have been violated. We also educated them on the difference between responsibility and right



Financial literacy Workshop

We conducted financial literacy workshop for Stawisha Africa Initiative parents and caregivers. This was the first step toward financial Liberation and Economic growth



Farmers Mobilization Workshop

We had the opportunity to pass on skills and our success stories to over 40 farmers from the Homabay county Suba area. The forum was made possible through our partnership with world vision _Kenya Suba area, who mobilized and helped organize the bench marking visit



PARTNERSHIP FORUMS

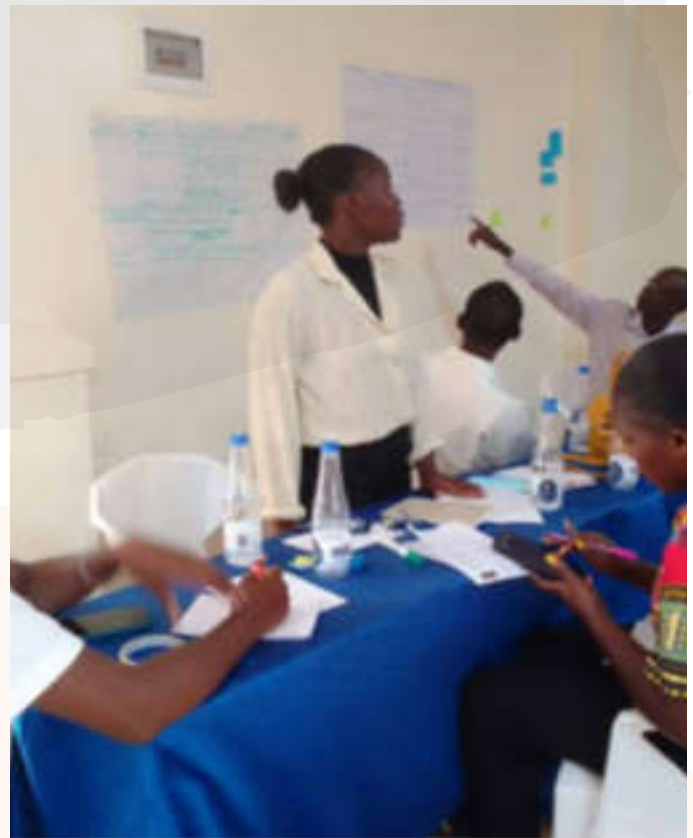
World Environment Day

We joined other stakeholders to commemorate World Environment Day on 5th June 2022. The aim was to motivate stakeholders to protect the earth and coalesce into one voice for strong community involvement in matters of environmental conservation. The event took place at Hareka village, West Uholo, Ugunja Sub County



Climate Financing Forum

Stawisha took part in a 3-day training about climate financing and women's voices in climate action. The training aimed to empower women and build their capacities to demand responsive climate action, budget, policies, and plans in Siaya County



Day of the African Child.

The celebration is commemorated every 16th June as a remembrance of the Soweto massacre in which more than 700 school-going children were killed while protesting for the poor apartheid education policy in South Africa. The 2022 commemoration focused on "eliminating harmful practices affecting children: progress on policy since 2013".



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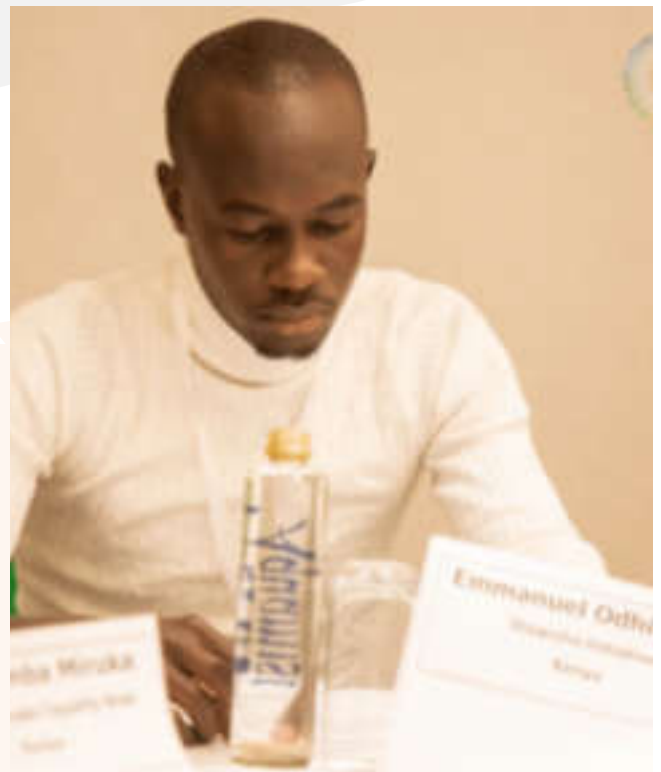


Men and Boys Forum

Stawisha took part in a 3-day training about climate financing and women's voices. This was an in-person Regional Dialogue Forum for the Men and Boys Network. Stawisha Africa Initiative was represented by our project trainer Mr. Emmanuel Ochieng. The regional network partners and event participants made this pledge...

"I pledge to end Violence against Women and Girls.

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Business Model Training

We took part in a three-day Trainer of Trainers training in a Business Model Canvas training supported by the US Embassy under the Public Diplomacy grant in Kisumu. Supported by WISE.



Challenges

High expectations from the community members who are willing to bring their children to Stawisha programs. This is in terms of getting financial support such as paying school fees for their children and receiving various commodities for livelihood support.

We had inadequate program funds to implement various interventions across our thematic areas. This including limited long term projects that we missed to secure during last year project implementation process. We sometimes relied on good will relationship with prospect partners to implement joint interventions. This has mostly been done through forums and trainings on climate change and dignity restoration projects.

Low involvement of partnering schools to support the environment club's activities including the management of school gardens that was established during Agroforestry and school gardening project. This was due to irregular academic calendar caused by COVID 19 effects. Schools limited time to fully participate in co-curriculum activities hence there was minimal involvement in garden work.

Recommendations

- We recommend the need to strengthen partnership between Stawisha Africa Initiative and sector working groups within the county government and national government through information sharing, capacity building trainings and joint forums with other stakeholders.
- Need to improve resource mobilization strategy to increase chances for financial support through applications for open call for proposals, internal funds raising plans by adopting Income generation units for the organization and/or organization yearly charity fund drives.
- Continuous engagement of Stawisha parents and children in workshops and other activities to give them opportunity to learn and express their concerns about the organization support services.

Conclusion

Stawisha Africa Initiative indeed carried out different initiatives that enabled the organization to obtain its 2022 objectives. The year was a kick off of more partnership initiatives that paved way for greater project ideas that are set for the year 2023. This included but not limited to Adolescent Girls Power Program and Digital literacy. We are looking forward for continued growth and partnership strengthening for greater achievement.