

Fun fundraising ideas

- > **Make waves...** organise a sponsored swim.
- > **Put yourself to the test...** hold a sponsored spelling bee at your school.
- > **School's out...** why not have a sponsored sleepover at school?
- > **Clean up...** do the washing up for a week at home – for a price.
- > **Run away...** pay tribute to Kenya's marathon prowess with a sponsored run.
- > **Go online!** Set up a page on our fundraising website www.myactionaid.org.uk where you can collect donations, share ideas and upload photos.



Photo:istock

Real lives: Angela's story

The last time Angela Lokishar had a harvest was three years ago, before the onset of a drought that has left her family dependent on food aid from the World Food Programme and ActionAid. "I had three cows but I had to

sell them to raise money to send my children to school. That was not enough to pay the Kshs 15,700 for secondary school, and some of my children had to drop out of school," she explains.

The last time Angela's community had a bumper harvest was 13 years ago, before the government regulation of irrigation systems came into force. Community elder Peter Eshwaa explains how government restrictions have affected the lives of the community – particularly children:

"For many years the community depended on livestock. However, cattle rustling, disease, and drought wiped out our herds. Since then we had to settle here and farm using the waters from Isiolo river. Since the government put regulations on irrigation, many families have been unable to till their land. Those with money lease our land and hire our children to plough the land, they then sell us the produce – which we can barely afford."



Angela Lokishar has to collect up to 100 litres of water per day for her family.

Photo: Frederic Courbet/Panos/ActionAid

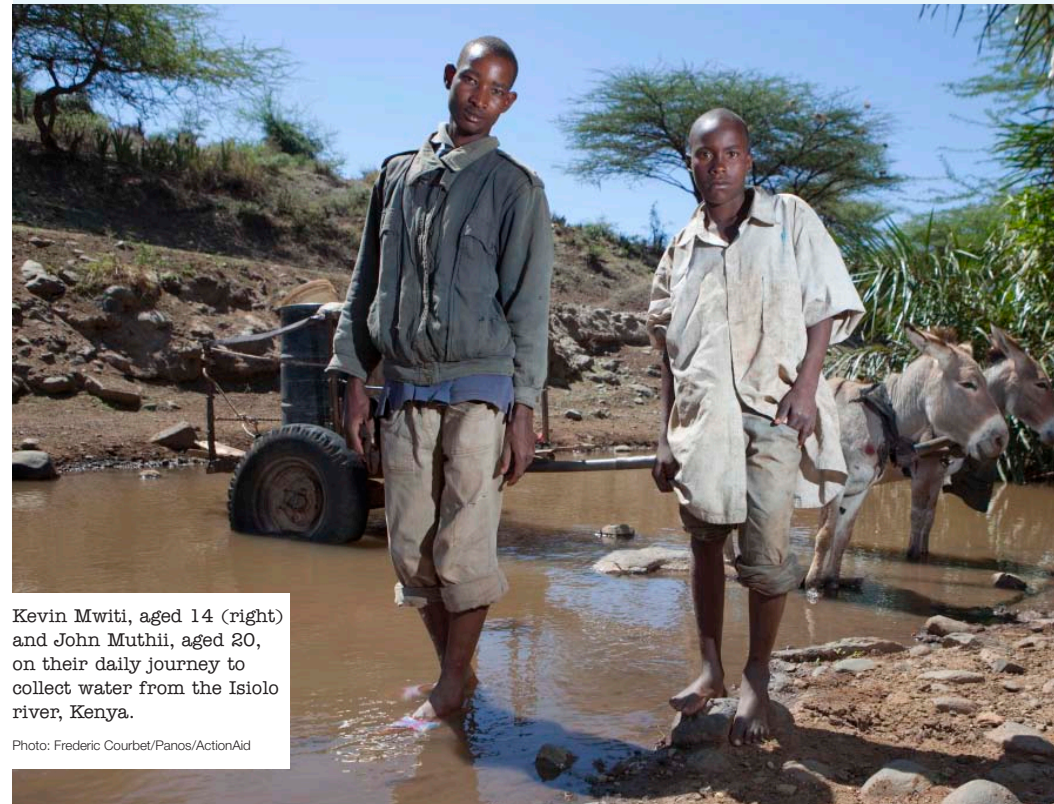
Priority Projects

actionaid

Kenya: improving education for nomadic children

Fact: schools in Isiolo, in Eastern Province, Kenya, are poorly built and equipped and have little sanitation. Nomadic children – especially girls – are missing out on a decent education.

Aim: to improve access to quality schooling for children in Isiolo through refurbishing schools, and to work alongside government in improving education.



Kevin Mwiti, aged 14 (right) and John Muthii, aged 20, on their daily journey to collect water from the Isiolo river, Kenya.

Photo: Frederic Courbet/Panos/ActionAid

Missing out on education in eastern Kenya

Nomadic communities in Isiolo rely heavily on livestock, but recurrent drought means livestock are dying, and people are finding it ever harder to recover from the loss. Constant migration in search of dwindling pasture and water makes long-term development difficult, and children's education suffers as a result.

Though Kenya's government recognises the problem, it has provided little support for Isiolo's schools, which are poorly resourced. Enrolment rates are among Kenya's lowest. Emejen and Daaba primary schools cater for 400 pupils – but each has just four wooden classrooms, shared between students of different grades.

Kenya factfile:



- > Population: 40 million.
- > Life expectancy: 54 (the UK's is 79).
- > 20% of 15-24 year olds are illiterate.
- > 43% of people have no access to a reliable water source.
- > 71% of people in Isiolo live below the national poverty line.
- > ActionAid has been working in Kenya since 1974, working with over a million people to improve livelihoods, water, health and education.

Real lives: Kevin's story

Kevin Mwiti, 14, has not been to school for a year, because he has had to work to supplement the meagre income of his parents from a small plot of land. Every day is hard, and he and his cousin travel 16km using a hired donkey and cart in search of water. For Kevin and his family, food is hard to come by, and each day is a struggle to earn enough for a decent meal.

" I miss some of my friends and would still like to go back to school if my parents are able to get enough food for us. If I go back to school I would like to be a teacher, but if that is not possible I would like to get a motorbike and start a taxi business."



Kevin Mwiti, aged 14.
Photo: Frederic Courbet/Panos/ActionAid

How you can help

The project

ActionAid's aim is to bring fresh drinking and irrigation water, and quality education to the community. The first phase of the project will directly benefit 400 pupils in Ejemen and Daaba primary schools, and indirectly another 3,000 children of school-going age, especially girls. Better facilities will lead to higher enrolment and retention rates in school, and – more importantly – this project will engage the government in committing to provide long-term resources for education across the district.

What this Priority Project will do:

- > Increase access to quality education for 400 children by building and equipping four classrooms in Ejemen and Daaba primary schools.
- > Build two new sets of ventilated pit latrines.
- > Increase school enrolment and retention rates through parents' meetings with district education officials, where they can demand better school resources from central government.
- > Improve transition rates from primary to secondary school through better facilities and resourcing, including ongoing government commitment to provide teachers.



Kevin Mwiti and John Muthii, collect water in Kambi ya Juu.
Photo: Frederic Courbet/Panos/ActionAid

What your money can buy

£10

could pay for one bag of cement to help build one classroom

£50

could purchase two truckloads of sand (20 tonnes) – enough to help build one toilet

£139

could help train a school management committee

£500

could purchase 75 bags of cement – enough to complete three toilets

£2,380

could purchase 70 desks for two schools



A crowded classroom in Emengan primary school, Isiolo, Kenya.
Photo: Frederic Courbet/Panos/ActionAid