

The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

Kids Alive International

#T5CGKVTV2K submitted on 14 February 2024

1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

We are seeking £4,000 from you to help us develop a solar powered water irrigation system for our school and community centre in the impoverished Karundas region of Kenya.

Our farming project has been badly affected by recent droughts caused by climate change, which is crucial to help us feed the children and their families to prevent them from having to work long mind-numbing hours in nearby quarries, or be married off young.

1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

Background

Karundas has always been a fragile region of Kenya. Ravaged by HIV and extreme poverty, it has some of the highest suicide rates in the country. Children are especially vulnerable, many raised by single widowed mums or grandmas, with little choice but to work full-time or be married off, typically in the local quarries, where many work long mind-numbing shifts breaking up stones. All live in shacks made of sticks with no electricity or running water.

Our Hall Mead School has been established to serve the most vulnerable, providing an outstanding Christian education, including free food, uniforms, trauma care, life skills, family support and more. The more vulnerable the child, the more chance they have of being admitted. Our nearby Community Centre provides additional support to the most vulnerable families at Hall Mead as well as others referred to us by the community.

At the heart of this support is our own farming programme, where we grow crops to help feed the children and support more vulnerable families with livelihoods.

The problem we need your help with

In recent years climate change has made the region even more fragile, with droughts impacting local farming, with an especially bad drought in 2022-2023 devastating crops, including our own.

We need to establish an effective water system for ensuring crops can be retained even during drought conditions. We have a water pump which has been out of use for a year, meaning we have been buying water in from a third party. Having recently received a water test certification from the Kenyan government, we know the water is sufficient in both supply and quality to justify repairing the borehole. We need to:

- Repair the existing bore hole, providing a 2500 litre per hour capacity of clean water
- Run new pipes directly to the school
- Install solar, to ensure the water can be pumped without incurring huge electricity bills and during power outages

In particular, we are asking for your support to:

- Dig water pans (mini reservoir areas) to hold water for irrigation

- Install a drip irrigation system, using non-drinkable water to ensure a constant supply of water for crops
- Provide new seeds, plug plants, compost areas, and organic fertilisers to kickstart the food growing process

The innovation

1. Solar-powered water pumps are unheard of here and especially innovative. The benefits will be financial, environmental, and sustainable.
2. By installing the water pans and drip irrigation system, we are taking advantage of a simple but innovative method to ensure crops can be continuously fed, preserving rain water when it does fall.
3. It provides an opportunity to develop livelihood projects for impoverished families, helping them to grow their own food for both private consumption and to sell. We believe this approach to be an innovative way to address poverty in this region.

The impact

- It will help ensure that 570 of the most impoverished children in Kenya are fed daily and can remain in school.
- It will support 100 of the most vulnerable families.
- It will keep the school's costs down, and provide nutritious 'home' grown food.
- It will empower the school to expand curricular activities to include growing food, composting, water harvesting etc.
- Once the water irrigation system is in place, the school will be able to work with local parents to develop a livelihood project along the lines of allotment plots, teaching parents these same skills, and giving them the opportunity to grow their own food.

1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?

D - Climate change mitigation

1.3d Climate change mitigation

Climate change is ravaging our land and we need to use innovative environmentally-friendly methods to overcome it. As we seek to reestablish our devastated crops, and plan for the next inevitable drought, we believe this approach will protect the many vulnerable children and families we serve for generations to come, not to mention influencing other key players in the region.

1.4 Which country is the project based in?

Kenya (KE)

1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?

Yes

1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended

The ongoing costs of the project will be reasonably small. We estimate £5,000pa to include seeds and growing materials, running the water storage system, and paying for two staff to manage the land and the livelihood project.

We are exploring with the Kenyan government whether there could be farming expertise provided to the school to help in this regard, and we will seek support from trusts who would be interested in continuation funding.

1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?

As with all of Kids Alive's projects, we use a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation questionnaire to

assess the project's impact (copy available in request), which is completed by the local Project Manager at least 3 times a year. This will include number of lives directly and indirectly impacted. We will also be delighted to provide an impact report using qualitative information from our team in Kenya.

2.1 Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Bore hole repair and improvements, including solar power	£12,000	We have received a detailed quote from a reputable company known to us. Details available on request
Water storage and irrigation system set up	£3,643	Again we have details on request, breaking down costs
Year 1 seeds and equipment	£350	Estimate, based on previous years' experience
Costs of running and maintaining water systems	£700	Estimate, based on planned maintenance and minor repairs
2x part time farm workers	£4,300	Based on current salary levels in the region; break down on request
TOTALS	£20,993	

2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Major Donor	£10,000	£0	Relationship with an individual who is considering a significant donation
Donor campaign	£5,000	£5,000	From a recent campaign
Grant Making trusts	£6,000	£0	Including this application, we have another trust to approach and can research further options if needed
TOTALS	£21,000	£5,000	

2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£4,000

2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

Yes

2.4b Please provide the date of the previous application

20.5.2022

2.4c Was this previous application successful?

No

2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£280,623

2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Kids Alive International
13843427
60-24-37

3.1 Your name

Lorraine Wheeler

3.2 Your contact telephone number

07513881991

3.3 Your position within the organisation

Trusts & Foundations Manager

3.4 Your email address

Lorraine.wheeler@kidsalive.org

3.5 Organisation name

Kids Alive International

3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK Registered Charity

3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

Kids Alive International is a UK registered Christian charity that cares for some of the world's most vulnerable children, of all faiths and none. We work across 40 projects in seven developing countries, bringing a unique model of all round holistic care for the most vulnerable children and their families. We focus on family strengthening, child advocacy and support, trauma interventions and therapy, and community education. We also advocate for systems change when appropriate.

3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation

PO Box 1529, Stamford, PE2 2YD

3.9 UK telephone number

07513881991

3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)

1140641

3.11 Year established

2011

3.12 Website (if applicable)

<http://www.kidsalive.co.uk>

3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)

<https://www.facebook.com/kidsaliveinternational>

4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?

Previous application to The Edith M Ellis Trust