



## A Special Request from Carol Carper, Sasa Harambee Co-Founder

February, 2021

*“My therapist set half a glass of water in front of me. He asked if I was an optimist or a pessimist. So, I drank the water and told him I was a problem solver.” – Unknown*



Dear Supporter,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. To date, Sigomere, Kenya has been spared the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and though public health measures are in place, a case is a very rare occurrence. Grateful for that. Life is so busy here with work on two projects for 2021: **water** and **farming sustainability**.

This afternoon, I came across some children carrying water in big jugs down a narrow road. It’s a frequent sight, you see, because in Sigomere access to water for children like Layla, Owuor, and Yaro is really a 24/7 journey.

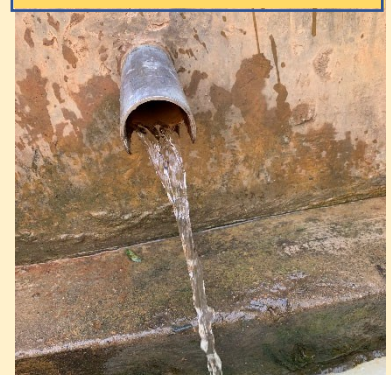


Unprotected Spring



Here on the left you can see what a natural, unprotected spring looks like in Kenya. It is a spot where water gurgles out of the muddy ground. There are almost 300 natural springs like this in our area. Each day, 90% of Sigomere families send their kids to springs like this one to gather water for their hygiene, washing, cooking, and drinking needs. You can imagine that related chores are many, because this water must be boiled and decanted repeatedly. It is a constant walk and quest for water. Women take the night shifts to the springs down dark, lonely

Protected Spring



paths.

Five years ago, Sasa Harambee donors like you joined Rotarians to build protections for 15 springs where natural filtration and pipes were installed. These protected springs continue to serve as a reliable source of clean water, practically eliminating disease from water-borne bacteria for users. Local committees and families care for these protected springs and additional Kenyans walk long distances to them during our two annual periods of sub-Saharan drought.

For most families in Sigomere, though, access to water remains a challenge and there is still have much to do. The goal in 2021 is to provide safe water to over 5,200 more people by installing 21 more spring protections. Your support is needed to reach the \$39,000 goal for this project. Rotary Clubs from the Bronx, New Jersey, and Nairobi will match your gift 4 to 1 up to \$7,500. ***Can Sigomere families count on you to be a “problem solver” and send your generous donation to get this water project done? The value of your gift goes through the roof with every single dollar you send!***

## Building Long Term Sustainability to Organic Farming

In October, 2019, you helped a team of 15 farmers begin producing and selling hay through SOAP (Sigomere Organic Agriculture Project). You'll remember it felt like a huge win back then. Because of you, SOAP continued to grow and serve more families. Leap forward and by January, 2021, 345 farmers were actively producing organic hay. ***Your kindness did this. You make this farming program possible!***

For 2021, Sasa Harambee has developed two key farming sustainability projects. First, to increase organic hay production, a USAID-funded project will increase farmer plot sizes of hay production through our 16 farmer teachers. A German government grant is currently supporting additional expansion of marketing and sales activities for this, so, the first initiative for this year is up and running. The second farming project is to develop incremental storage for hay bales and aggregation centers *and your support is important to make it happen!*

Farmers have figured out how to move bales to central aggregation areas but they are open air. Sasa Harambee proposes acquiring four small (0.5 to 1-acre) plots across its project area to install SOAP demonstration centers with Push/Pull grain production and hay plantations. In the first phase, farmers will install temporary shelters for hay and once the hay sells, they will begin erecting a barn. Each structure will become a hub of economic activity. In addition to hay, farmers will begin to create silage using other fodders such as corn stalks. As local dairy production grows, each barn can become a collection site for milk, too. The acreage and barns will belong to SOAP. You may recognize a tried and true community development path that was prevalent at the turn of the last century in the American West. ***Yes, the American West is coming to Kenya!***

I would like to invite you, dear supporter, to give a significant donation to launch the first phase of this project. Almost \$10,000 has already come in from donors like you and another \$5,000 is needed. **If you've ever wanted to help people who are suffering and trying to rise out of poverty, and if you've ever wanted to create real, lasting change in their lives, this is your time.** Thank you for being so thoughtful and generous.

With a grateful heart,

*Carol*



**SASA HARAMBEE**  
Now, Let Us All Pull Together!

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Yes, Carol!

Enclosed is my gift to Sasa Harambee for the:  
(check one or both)  Water  Farming  
program. I am enclosing a donation of:

\$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check made payable to Sasa Harambee and mail to: **Sasa Harambee, 225 Union Blvd., Suite #150, Lakewood, CO 80228.**

*Sasa Harambee is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, #94-3435198. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.*