FRIENDS OF MAKAANI
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PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL WATER TANKS FOR NEEDY MAKAANI VILLAGE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

I. Executive Summary

Friends of Makaani Foundation (FOM) Water tanks project intends to target 103 households within Makaani village. The project has a **total budget of Kshs 10,300,000** (Ten million Kenya shillings). Each beneficiary will get 10,000litre tank a **buying price of Kes 70,000** (Seventy Thousand plus an **installation cost and branding of Kes 30,000** (Thirty Thousand). Each individual beneficiary will contribute 10% of the total cost of a tank and also provide locally available building materials such as hardcore stones, gravel, sand and water for the construction of the water tank stand. The project can be implemented in 2 or 3 phases

II. Organization Description and History

Friends of Makaani Foundation (FOM) is a Community registered society based in Makaani village, Nzatani sub-location, Mwingi West Sub-county, Kitui County. The Society is managed by board of Management in Makaani and funded by Friends of Makaani-Switzerland. It has 3(three) Officers-Project Manager, Project Assistant and a Farm Hand. Its Offices are located around 500m from Makaani Market and 200m left off-Itoloni/Nzeluni Road in a 0.5 Acre farm.

The Society was initiated in **2012** with the main goal of enabling the community to become self-reliant and **support the education of their children**. Every year FOM partially sponsor at least **100 children in primary, secondary, polytechnic and university levels**. In partnership with the Ministry of Health beneficiaries are offered **Health talks/counselling** on behavior change, drug and substance abuse.

Through FOM the community is in the process of improving their agricultural livelihoods by acquiring more knowledge through **agricultural organic trainings** offered. Among its key pillars is the provision of **clean, safe and sustainable water sources** to Makaani community and its environs. More very needy beneficiaries are **assisted with Cash and Food**. FOM also benefits from the **CO2 credit Fund**.

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III. Background information (Problem)

Kenya's Water Situation/Crisis

With a population of 54 million, more than 15 million Kenyans lack access to a safe water. Growing water demand and water scarcity has turned into a notable challenge in Kenya. Between 2020 and 2022, Kenya experienced an extreme drought that saw 2.5 million cattle lost. In Kenya, over 300,000 people were displaced by environmental disasters, and 10,000 people were displaced because of environmental conflict in 2018. Kenya's water supply sits at 647 cubic meters per capita, significantly short of the recommended 1,000 cubic meters per capita. This is estimated to drop to 235 cubic meters per capita by 2035.

Women and children are especially impacted by this lack of water, having to spend up **to one-third of the day** getting water for their families. This has caused **girls to disproportionately drop out of school** in a country with already significant **gender gaps** in society and its economy.

Water resources are stressed and unevenly distributed throughout Kenya, with approximately 85% of the country classified as arid or semi-arid.

Water situation in Kitui County

Kitui County lies in lower eastern part of Kenya. It is constitutionally county No.15, with a population of 2 million. Kitui County experiences significant water scarcity due to its arid and semi-arid climate, characterized by erratic rainfall patterns and long dry periods, leading to limited surface water availability and a high reliance on unreliable water sources like seasonal rivers and rainwater harvesting techniques like rock catchments and sand dams, earthpans and boreholes. This often results in acute water shortages for residents, particularly during droughts, impacting access to clean drinking water and livelihoods in the region.

Key points about water scarcity in Kitui County:

- **Climate factors:**
  The primary cause is the semi-arid climate with low and unpredictable rainfall, causing rivers, earth pans, sand dams, water wells to dry up during dry seasons.
- **Deforestation impact:**
  Large-scale deforestation further exacerbates the water scarcity issue by reducing water catchment capacity.
- **High water demand:**
  Growing population in Kitui County puts further pressure on the limited water resources.

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- **Water access challenges:**
  Many residents rely on surface water sources like rivers, ponds, water pans, earth dams, bore-holes which are often unreliable during dry spells and also such water is not even safe/clean for drinking due to exposure to contamination during the rain water run offs collection process which carries all sorts of contaminants ranging from animal wastes, human faeces, farm chemicals, plant residues and debris. Such water has very high chance of causing infection to people of water borne diseases, like typhoid, Amoebiasis, diarrhea, cholera, hepatitis, gastroenteries, giardiasis, scabies etc. Which are very common in Kitui County

- **Community initiatives:**
  To mitigate water scarcity, communities in Kitui County are adopting water harvesting techniques like sand dams, earth pans, rock catchments and roof water using tanks. The techniques have been challenged by the high cost of the structures involved. In some areas in Kitui county women groups are using the merry go round system to purchase tanks for their members, where each member contributes equal amount of money calculated to cater for the cost of purchasing one tank for one member of the group. This continues until all members get a tank each. But due to the high cost of purchasing a tank, they only buy low capacity and compromised quality of tanks that collects very little water and as a result of their poor quality, will only last for like 5 years.

Makaani Village Water Situation

Makaani is a semi-arid region. The community mainly practice subsistence mixed farming that is rain fed. Crops grown include beans, maize, Pegion peas and cow peas most of which is consumed by the household. Few exceptions (those bordering springs) do irrigation farming of vegetables for sale locally including kales, onions and tomatoes.

Small livestock like chicken and goats are also kept with very few having cows. These are kept as tradition and culture, rarely for profit. Others engage in charcoal burning and women do basket weaving whose market is very exploitive due to middle business women and men.

At least once per year farmers sell mangoes within the harvest window of two months between December and January. Casual labor is most common, employment happens during planting and harvesting seasons.

Small scale trade at shopping centers and weekly in market centers enables transport, purchase of goods and financial transfer services. Youths have taken up motorbike (boda boda) taxi operation which has gone down due the increased fuel prices.

Farms are small portions of average one to 2 acres, those close to springs are used for vegetable farming. The community has access roads covering some upper part of the region, the mountainous area is not accessible even by motorbikes. There are pre-schools, primary, and recently junior Secondary schools and upcoming senior secondary schools with the Competency based Curriculum in the area. Health services are available at Nzatani dispensary and the Migwani sub-county hospital.

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Water supply is mainly from springs and a church borehole about 5 kilometers from Makaani. The springs occur in the river course at the bottom of the valleys. This makes their access difficult due to steepness, distance and increasing depths as the dry season progresses. The same sources of water are used for watering livestock, irrigation and construction. As the dry season progresses the springs keep drying and thereby making women and children to go further and dig deeper to get water. Therefore over the years, water problem in Makaani and its environs has not been solved, thus women and children have carried the burden of walking long distances and spending many hours lining for water which is not even clean and safe for drinking.

To counter the water problem in 2020, the National irrigation Board excavated household small water pans for a few families which only dry immediately the rains seize. Several attempts by FOM to dig shallow wells and a borehole failed to get enough water to supply the community.

Water harvesting techniques like roof water are also scarcely done by the more economically able. This potential is therefore not fully utilized, thus this proposal intends to actualize the roof water harvesting for the Makaani Community.

IV. Project Description

The proposed water project by FOM is designed to supply water tanks of 10,000 litres (Ten Thousand) capacity to less economically abled community members of Makaani village for them to harvest rain water from their roofs during the yearly 2 rainy seasons. This will cushion them during the dry weather seasons to ensure the families get good supply of clean and safe water. In so doing the families will have less visits to seek for medical care due to reduced infestation of water-borne diseases and also minimizing the long hours used in the search of water hence engaging themselves in more economic activities. The project is intended to benefit **103 Households**. The project targets to have beneficiaries collect rainy water from their roofs during the March/April/May rains of 2026 which are expected to set in the 2nd or 3rd week of March 2026. The project total cost is Kes 10,300,000(Ten Million Shillings only). The beneficiaries will contribute 10% of the Project cost and also provide locally available building materials for the construction of the water tank stand.

The tank material FOM intends to purchase is of high quality of 30 years lifespan.

A 10,000 litre tank will take 4 weeks to 8 weeks to fill depending on the roof collection size and the intensity and frequency of the rains. This tank can serve a family of 4 for 3-5 months as they supplement with other sources of water for cleaning and for their livestock.

<u>The project aims to achieve the following objectives</u>

a) To provide the household beneficiaries with clean and safe supply of drinking water

b) To have access to water for household use during rainy and dry seasons

c) To reduce the risk of water borne diseases

d) To safe time used to search for water and engage into more economic activities

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V. Project Component and Budget

PROJECT COMPONENT (Activities)	NUMBER OF UNITS	COST PER UNIT	TOTAL COST
Purchase of tanks	103	KES 70'000 (CHF 490)	7,210,000
Cost of Installation and branding	103	KES 30'000 (CHF 210)	3,090,000
Total Cost of tanks & installation	103		10,300,000
Tank beneficiary Contribution (10%)	103		1,030,000
Proposal Funds Request	103		9,270,000

NB: The project will be implemented depending on the availability of funds

* The cost in CHF is based on an exchange rate CHF / KES of 143 in March 2025.

VI. Community Participation/Contribution

The community will pay 10% of the cost of the tank and installation and provide locally available materials for the construction of the water tank stand. Local materials in terms of Sand, gravel, hardcore stones, bricks and water.

VII. Project Monitoring and Impact Assessment

The project will be closely monitored by FOM staff by making regular visits to water tank beneficiaries in order to track progress of the project and look on how the materials and equipments are being used and maintained. The beneficiaries will be involved at every stage of the project to ensure ownership.
In addition, an impact assessment will be carried out once the project has been completed. The positive impact of the project on the community will be reviewed and evaluated – in particular the improvement in health of the community, the reduction in water scarcity and the improvement of livelihoods.

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Annexed are photos of some of the FOM activities, water situation in October 2022 and examples of some water tanks installed at Homesteads in Kenya

Figure 2: Evans Kariuki, a Clinical Officer based at Nzatani Dispensary conducting a health talk/counselling session to FOM School fees beneficiaries during one of the holiday break

Figure 1: FOM Students Pose for a photo on front of a water kiosk during their routine students meetings

Figure 3: FOM girls could not hide their happiness after receiving their yearly package of reusable sanitary pads.

Figure 4: Bio-vision Officer taking TOT (Training of Trainers) farmers through the process of making organic manure

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Figure 5: Food Distribution at FOM offices during famine period

Photos below show Water situation at the springs during dry Season(This was October 2022)

Figure 6 & 7: Women and children collecting water from very deep and risky water wells during a dry season

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Figure 8: Women collecting water from a deep well

Figure 9: Vegetables drying in a farm due to lack of water

Figure 10: Women and a girl taking collected water from a well home

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Figure 11 & 12: Water Tanks installed at Homesteads in Kenya

Figure 13: Example of how guttering is done to collect water from the roof to the tank

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Figure 7: More tanks at homesteads in Kenya

Figure 8: A water tank collecting water at FOM Offices roof

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Thank you for reading our proposal. We are looking forward for a positive response

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