MBAITU INC. 2022 EDUCATION, FOOD AND SEED FUNDRAISING AND DISTRIBUTION REPORT

November 2022





Mbaitu Inc. is a 501c3 Organization that brings together the Southeastern Kenyan community living in the diaspora. The organization currently has **500** registered members.



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1. About Mbaitu Inc

**Mbaitu Inc.** is a 501c3 Organization that brings together the Southeastern Kenyan community living in the diaspora. The organization currently has 500 registered members.

Mbaitu Inc. was formed to give its members an opportunity to network and interact through virtual and in-person events, share opportunities which enable members to thrive in the diaspora, and promote each other's businesses in social media platforms that reach an audience of over 2.000 members and friends of the organization in the diaspora and back in Kenya. The organization seeks to build a bridge between its members and the villages in the three South Eastern Kenya counties namely, Kitui, Makueni and Machakos, with a goal of partnering with the communities to raise living standards and engage in long term projects in the areas of housing, health, economic empowerment, education and food security. The Southeastern region in Kenya is semi-arid and sometimes extremely dry making it very challenging for farmers.



#### 1.2. Mission

To create a thriving diaspora community from Southeastern Kenya engaged in the empowerment of members and the development of the target community.

#### 1.3. Program

#### 1. Food security

The pandemic greatly impacted farmers and families in Kenya. The impact of the pandemic on the counties of Southeastern Kenya and the marginalized in rural Kenya has continued to be severe. This calls for Mbaitu Inc. and other similar organizations to be a part of the solution towards addressing food insecurity and revamping economic activities that were heavily impacted by the pandemic.

#### 2. Education scholarship

The **Mbaitu Inc.** Scholarship and Education Fund is a program that seeks to impact children and youth to realize their full potential. The fund provides comprehensive secondary school scholarships to academically promising yet financially disadvantaged youth. **Mbaitu Inc.** is currently sponsoring 13 students in the following schools: St. Luke Yatta Boys, Katulani High School, Kyangondu Mixed School, Loreto Kiambu Girls, Kiambani Secondary School, Nairobi School, Malili Girls, St. John Tala High, Yemulwa Secondary, and Augustine's Secondary schools.





# 2.0 2022 EDUCATION, FOOD AND SEED DRIVE



#### 2.1. Funds Drive

Based on its mission of empowering communities from the Southeastern part of Kenya, **Mbaitu Inc.** in January 2022 embarked on an Education, Food and Seed fund drive campaign to meet the rising needs of the communities.

To achieve this, **Mbaitu Inc.** engaged in an education fund drive to keep already sponsored students in school and support newly sponsored students who joined high school in 2022. Several strategies were used during the seed/food and education drive. This included social media campaigns, fund drive during the Annual general meeting and committee virtual meeting fund drives. These activities enabled members to support one or more of their areas of interest such as education, food, seeds. Mbaitu inc. also contacted different sponsors and foundations to support the organizations mission. The organization organized its annual giving day, which was a success. The organization also had a "\$50 challenge" to allow more members to give towards the food drive. Supporters in Kenya were also invited to give towards the course. Members who wanted to give to a specific village had the opportunity to do so. The total amount received through the 2022 fund drive was \$13,786.46. Pledges not honored totaled to \$330

The success of the education, food, and seed drive saw the commencement of the food and seed distribution from October 5th, 2022, to November 2nd, 2022. The distribution took place in 26 villages in Machakos, Makueni and Kitui Counties, Kenya. It also enabled **Mbaitu Inc.** to pay school fees for the 13 students that the organization sponsors in different secondary schools in Kenya.

The drive was divided into 10 categories as shown below:

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#### 2022 EDUCATION, FOOD AND SEED DRIVE

SUMMARY OF THE SUB-TOTALS PER SECTION				
		Without Pledge	With Pledge	
٦	Board and leadership giving	\$1,610.00	\$1,610.00	
2	All three area	\$1,235.00	\$1,435.00	
3	Education	\$1,360.00	\$1,360.00	
4	Relief and Seed Fund	\$1,360.00	\$1,360.00	
5	Sponsors	\$635.91	\$635.91	
6	Foundations	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	
8	Annual Giving Day	\$1,325.00	\$1,325.00	
9	\$50 Challenge	\$2,291.00	\$2,421.00	
10	Designated Funds to Syumbeni	\$413.00	\$413.00	
	Total	\$12,329.91	\$12,659.91	
	M-Pesa(Ksh.)			



149,359

2,000

Sub-Total

Balance

# The giving was done in different categories as listed below:

Giving towards the three categories started in January and ended in September 2022:

**a. Board and leadership category:** The leaders of the organization lead by example by giving throughout the giving period. Some leaders gave in multiple categories and sponsored the event through their businesses.

**b. Education:** This category allowed members who are committed to education to give towards educating the children in need in the three counties.

**c. Relief and seeds:** This allowed members who are committed to food security in the counties to give towards purchase of seeds and food.

**d. All three:** This category allowed the members to support education, food and seed. The money received in this category was divided equally among all three categories.

**e. Annual Giving Day:** Mbaitu Inc. held its virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM) on July 30th, 2022. One of the meeting's agenda was the annual giving where the members were encouraged to give towards Mbaitu Inc. projects. The guest of honor, Bishop Peter Sila, gave and encouraged others to give. Dr. Vincent Muli, who was also present, encouraged others to give after his giving. The members and the guests of honor also gave generously.

**f. \$50 Challenge:** To reach the set goal, the fundraising committee came up with the \$50 challenge idea.

**g. Designated Funds:** All money raised was divided equally among the villages that the committee agreed on. These were mostly villages suggested by members who had also given towards the drive or who live in the communities that Mbaitu.inc. partners with and had volunteered a venue where the farmers and families were hosted to receive seeds and food. Members who on top of their annual giving towards the food drive wanted an extra amount to be given to their village had an opportunity to do so. This went a long way in ensuring the village received more food and seeds.

**h. Foundations and sponsors:** The education, seed and food drive attracted support from various sponsors whose missions and visions aligns with those of Mbaitu Inc.

**i. M-pesa:** This is money sent by donors and foundations from Kenya to the Kenyan number. This method was used to ensure ease in sending of money by the willing donors in Kenya.

#### Mbaitu inc. Appreciates our 2022 Sponsors listed below:



#### 2.2. Food & Seed Distribution

After a successful funds drive, Mbaitu embarked on the food and seed distribution exercise. Mbaitu Inc. worked closely with the community leaders to identify the families in need in the communities that we partner with. These families were then vetted to ensure that only the ones in need were supported by the program. This drive reached 3,000 families, who received food and seeds that perform well in their area. The seeds that were given include maize, beans, green grams, *nthooko*, *mawele*, and cowpeas. While the maize given was to meet the immediate needs of the families by solving the hunger challenge that is facing many communities in Kenya, the seeds will in the long term ensure availability of food in the region.

#### The Villages Reached

**Mbaitu inc.** reached 26 villages that are profiled below based on information collected from the host pastors and the families reached during the seed and food distribution.



#### 1. Nguuni Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Nguuni village on 10/08/2022 at IPC Nguuni hosted by Pastor Benson Mutemi. We distributed 7(90ks) maize at a cost of ksh.42,000, 20(1kgs) ndengu at a cost of ksh.5000, and cowpeas 4(1kgs) at a cost of ksh.1,200. A total cost of Ksh.48,200 was used in this village. A total of 95 families were reached by the program.

Nguuni village is in Mwingi North, Tseikuru District of Kitui County and has about 100 households. It is one of the driest villages within the district. The cash crop in the area is mostly green grams, while food crops are millet, sorghum and cowpeas.



# 2. Mutulu Village (Nuu)

Mbaitu Inc. Mbaitu Inc. visited Mutulu village on 10/10/2022 at CCM church hosted by Pastor William Maundu. We distributed Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,900, Ndengu 30(1ks) at a cost of ksh.4,500 and Mawele 30(1kgs) at a cost of ksh.3,600. The total cost was ksh.48,600, inclusive of ksh.600 used for transport. The total number of families reached was 97.

Mutulu Village in Nuu location is in an arid zone and the residents are dependent on agriculture and livestock (mostly cows and goats). Water is fetched from the springs located in the Nuu Hill, but also along dry riverbeds. The dry season and the failure of rains in the past two seasons have left the farmers in a state of despair. Mbaitu Inc. distributed seeds, green grams (ndengu), and millet (mawele). These seeds do well in very dry areas.



# 3. Kitungulu Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kitungulu village on 10/11/2022 at Interior Mission Church hosted by Pastor Ann Kalunde. We distributed Maize 6(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.37,800, 4(Hybrid 1kg) at a cost of ksh.1,600 and Nthooko 4(packs) at a cost of ksh.1,600. The total cost incurred was ksh.41,000. A total of 116 families were reached.

Kitungulu B is located in Syomakanda sub-location, Kanyangi location, Kitui County. The climate is dry, and the farmers have experienced dry seasons continuously. Villagers depend on hunting game meat and local fishing across Athi River, which is 5 kilometers from the village. They also do peasant farming along River Athi using hand-lifted buckets. Only a few families keep cows and goats because of lack of grazing land.

**Economic activities include:** charcoal burning, selling of firewood, breaking rocks, and crushing concrete with hammers.

**Education:** This is a challenge especially to students from vulnerable families. Many of the students after standard 8 are employed as house helps and construction assistants due to the economic challenges.



Kitungulu Village

#### 4. Wakililye Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Wakililye village on 10/10/2022 hosted by Pastor Benson Mutemi. We were able to distribute Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.45,500 and beans 17(1kg) at a cost of ksh.2,500. The total cost incurred was ksh.48,000. A total of 134 families were reached.

Wakililye is located in Wikililye sub-location, Mulango location, Katulani sub-county, Kitui County. The climate is arid zone and residents are dependent on agriculture. Only a few families keep cows and goats because of lack of grazing land. Water scarcity is also a huge problem faced by the locals. The farmers have experienced two consecutive dry seasons.

**Economic activities include:** The economic activities mostly practiced in the region are burning charcoal and selling stones for constructing house foundations.

**Education:** Education is a challenge especially to students from families in need. Many of the students after standard eight join Mulango Technical College. Only a few manage to go to high school.

#### Wakililye Village



#### 5. Kikule Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kikule village on 10/12/2022 at Neno Church hosted by Pastor Joel Kivinda.

We distributed Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,550, 38(1kgs) at a cost of ksh.5,320. The total cost incurred was ksh.47,870. A total of 126 families benefited.

Kikulevillage is in Muthesya Ward, Masinga sub-county, Machakos County. The climate of the place is dry. The village mostly experiences lack of rain leading to food insecurity. Water is a major problem because they rely on Masinga Dam, but the dam is drying up. To get water, which in most cases is dirty and contaminated, they have to spend almost the whole day looking for it. The village needs "silanga" for water harvest; this can help the area because the land is fertile and has many streams from Ithanga Hills down to Masinga Dam.

**Education:** Due to low income, accessing education is a challenge leading to a high rate of school dropout. Some children opt for sand harvesting, house help jobs, charcoal burning or tomato farming.





#### 6. Kimangu Village

Mbaitu Inc. visited Kimangu village on 10/13/2022 at St. Agnes Catholic Church hosted by Very Reverend Father Fedelis Nyile represented by Fr. Charles. We were able to distribute Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,900, Ndengu 30(1ks) at a cost of ksh.4,500, Mawele 30(1kgs) at a cost of ksh.3,600, Nduma Maize 13(2kgs) at a cost of ksh.7,800. The total cost incurred was ksh.47.700. A total of 90 families benefited from the distribution.

Kimangu village is in Kithimani Ward, Yatta sub-county, Machakos County. The climate is dry and harsh. Kimangu continues to experience dry spells due to lack of enough rainfall to sustain farming. The situation is dire in Ukakaani Village. Lack of water is a perennial problem as the villagers rely on water from Mataki Dam and Yatta furrow. These two water sources are in other villages and not readily accessible. To get water, which in most cases is dirty and contaminated, the villagers must travel long distances and use oxen-driven carts to fetch the water. The village needs a dam or boreholes, which will be of great help as the land is fertile and the farmers are industrious.

**Education:** Low income has made the village produce many uneducated people. Many children resort to charcoal-burning rather than education, while others go to the nearby villages for cheap labor



#### Kimangu village

# 7. Lulamba Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Lulamba village on 10/25/2022 at Neno Church Kikule hosted by Pastor Joel Kivinda. We were able to distribute Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,550 and Beans 48(1kg) at a cost of ksh.5,320. The total cost was ksh.47,870. The distribution reached 138 families.

Lulamba village is in Muthesya Ward, Masinga sub-county, Machakos County. The climate is harsh and arid. There has been insufficient rain over the past three seasons. Water remains a challenge, with Masinga Dam gradually drying up. Fetching water is done using donkeys and oxen-driven carts as the lack of clean water exposes families to various ailments. People from Lulamba village spend a lot of time walking long distances to fetch water. The village is reliant on rainfall for crops like cowpeas, maize, and beans

**Education:** Most young children walk long distances to nearby schools. However, due to challenges with paying fees, others drop out and opt to work in farming fields and cutting down trees to burn charcoal.



#### Lulamba village

#### 8. Malikini Village

Mbaitu Inc. visited Malikini village on 10/19/2022 at Mwea Population hosted by Pastor Philip Mutava. We distributed Maize 3(90kgs) and Ndengu 3(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.48,000. We reached 91 families. Malikini village is in Riakanau location, sub-county of Embu. The village is occupied by Kambas who migrated from Machakos and crossed the Tana River in search of greener pastures for their cattle. The living standards are low, with poor road connections and lack of infrastructure.

Farming is the main source of income and includes maize, cowpeas, tomatoes and green grams. Most people depend on Tana River water that has risks such as attacks from hippos, crocodiles, and children drowning.

Education: Education standards are low, and most students turn to selling firewood by traveling for more than 2 hours to look for market.



## 9. Kyaume Village

Mbaitu Inc. visited Kyaume village on 10/15/2022 at AIC Kanduma hosted by Pastor David Kitiku. We distributed Maize 6(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.42,000 and Beans 42(1kg) at a cost of ksh.4,900. The total Cost incurred was ksh.47,900. We were able to reach 118 families.

Kyaume village is in Tala location, Matungulu Sub-county of Machakos County. The climate is not quite dry. There is presence of mixed vegetation, and the roads are accessible. However, the proliferation of drugs like bhang and other narcotics has led to high moral decadence and poor living standards.

Families depend on subsistence farming and livestock keeping. The region has been experiencing depressed rainfall. There is little water available due to persistent drought. Due to lack of grazing land, few families keep livestock like cattle and goats. Water is collected by oxen-driven carts, wheelbarrows, and carrying jerry cans on the backs.

**Education:** The area has a good spread of both primary and secondary schools within a 2-kilometer radius. Parents are faced with school fees paying challenges due to the rainfall that has affected fruits like bananas and avocados that the farmers sell to pay fees.



#### 10. Kalembe Raha Village

Mbaitu Inc. visited Kalembe village on 10/22/2022 at AIC Canaan hosted by Pastor Abednego Makite. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of 48,000. We reached 144 families.

Kalembe Raha village is located at Kiboko C Settlement Scheme in Muuni sub-location, Nguumo location, Makindu sub-county, Makueni County. The village is inhabited by squatters who migrated from various places and live in ramshackle houses. The area experiences hot-dry climate thus drought resistant crops such as maize, green grams, peas, cowpeas, sorghum do well in the region. The soil is clay to loamy-sandy. The roads are inaccessible in some places during rainy seasons, though short.

Economic activity: The main economic activity is peasant farming.

**Education:**Studentslearnuptoclasseightlevelorlower then drop out of school due to financial constraints. After class eight level, some move to various villages in search of house help jobs or construction labor with low pay to cater for their needs, while others burn charcoal. They also trespass game reserves and fetch firewood for sale.



## 11. Mathiani Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Mathiani village on 10/20/2022 at AIC Kathiani hosted by Pastor Jackson Kavatha. We distributed Maize 7(90kgs) and Beans 40(1kgs) at a total cost of 48,100. We were able to reach 127 families. Mathiani village is in Kathiani sub-location, Kangundo Sub- County of Machakos County, 17 kilometers from Machakos Town. The climate is not bad but is affected by inadequate rainfall patterns due to global warming and it lies in the Kitungo Forest. Farmers are facing a challenge due to less rainfall that is causing severe hunger and desperation among residents.

Most residents are peasant farmers of maize, beans, and cowpeas and they keep livestock like cows and goats. Water is a challenge and is drawn using donkeys and oxen-driven carts from dry riverbeds. Due to the dry weather, farmers face myriads of challenges and have low incomes due to poor harvests. Some of the elderly are also affected by this situation and rely on handouts and donations to survive.

**Education:** There are adequate schools but the drought is causing some children to drop out of school due to lack of fees and food to eat. Majority lack fees and access to bursaries to further their education.



#### 12. Ukia Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Ukia village on 10/29/2022 at AIC St. Andrews Ukia parish hosted by Pastor Philip Kilungu. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.48,000. We were able to reach 120 families.

Ukia Village is situated in Ukia location, Kaiti sub-county in Makueni County. This is an area under the arid and semi-arid part of the county prompted by the lack of rains and climate change. Some of the crops grown include, maize, ndengu, among others. Most of the residents rely on agriculture and have not been able to harvest in the last few seasons, thus causing famine in the region.

In addition, the region has many needy cases in the area ranging from orphans, widows, and widowers who need a lot of help during this trying moment. The region has many children dropping from school due to this catastrophe because the parents cannot put food on the table.



# 13. Kitwii Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kitwii village on 10/19/2022 at AIC Kitwii hosted by Pastor Daniel Kimuyu and Pastor Rose Mbuya. We distributed Maize 6.5(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.46,800. Transport cost ksh.500, bringing the total cost to ksh.47,300. We reached 141 families.

Kitwii village is in Kanzalu location, Kangundo Sub-county of Machakos County. The climate includes unreliable rains due to global warming. Though the soil is rich, farmers are struggling with short and delayed rains in place of the original long rains.

Farmers are mainly small scale holders who keep cows and goats and grow maize, beans, coffee, bananas, and mangoes. Water remains a perennial challenge and is fetched from seasonal wells. The poor quality of water puts the farmers at risk of waterborne diseases. Most of the farmers engage in economic activities like keeping and selling chicken, small retail shops, and selling charcoal.

**Education:** There is a lack of Community Development Funds (CDF) in some zones, which has affected the families in need who are unable to pay fees for their children. These youths have resorted to taking drugs, which is becoming a big concern for the community.



#### 14. Kambi ya Mawe Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kambiya Mawevillage on 10/27/2022 hosted Captain Ann Mayondi of the salvation Army Church and assisted by the assistant chief Jane. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.30,000 and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.18,000. The total cost incurred was ksh.48,000. We reached 108 families.

Kambi ya Mawe village is in Kikumini location, Wote division, Makueni sub-county, Makueni County. The sub-location has 9 villages. The population is estimated at 6,000.

**Education:** Many children drop out of school due to lack of school fees.

**Economic activities:** Most of the residents are small-scale farmers. They normally use their cows for planting drought resistant crops like green grams, cowpeas, and millet. They also plant citrus and mango.



### 15. Kanthuni-Kamuithi Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kanthuni village on 10/25/2022 at Kamuithi AIC hosted by Pastor Munyambu. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.49,500. We reached 126 families.

Kamuithi is in Kathonzweni sub-location, Kanthuni location. The people mainly grow maize, ndengu, nthooko, and nzuu. The challenges faced by people in this area include water scarcity, poor medical services, and lack of food. The roads are also in bad condition.

**Economic activity:** The main economic activity in this area is farming, which is challenged heavily by drought.

**Education:** Access to education is another big challenge as most of the students go up to class eight.



16. Jua Kali-Mtito Andei Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Jua kali mtito Andei village on 10/30/2022 at Mtito Andei hosted by Pastor. Rev. Nicholus Wambua. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.30,000 and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.18,000. Total Cost incurred was ksh.48,000. We reached 110 families.

Jua Kali Mtito Andei is a village within Mtito Andei sub-location, Mtito Andei location in Kibwezi East sub-county along Nairobi to Mombasa highway in Makueni County.

**Economic activities:** Most people here engage in business, while others do small-scale farming in the village. Water and wildlife conflict is a big challenge even in the town center. Due to the corona pandemic, businesses have gone down, thus rendering most people jobless. Mtito experiences hot seasons mostly throughout the year.

Jua Kali



# 17. Kathamboni Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kathamboni village on 10/25/2022 at Kathamboni hosted by Pastor Katoni. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.49,500. We reached 118 families.

Kathamboni village is in Thavu sub-location found in Kathonzweni location, Kathonzweni sub-county, Makueni County.

**Economic Activities:** The people mainly grow maize, ndengu, nthooko, and nzuu.

The challenges that people in this area face include water scarcity, poor medical services, lack of food, and poor road conditions.

**Education:** Access to education is another big challenge as most of the students go up to class eight.



#### 18. Uiini Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Uiini village on 10/26/2022 at Uiini Redeemed Gospel hosted by Pastor Asuriuse Mulinge. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.30,000 and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.18,000. The total cost incurred was ksh.48,000, and 115 families benefited from the distribution.

Uiini Village is in Utithi sub-location in Kambu location, Kibwezi East sub-county, Makueni County. The climate here is Savannah type.

**Economic Activities:** Most residents in this village practice farming. The crops that do well in the area are ndengu, nthooko, millet, maize, and nzuu. Water is a big challenge as they do not have ready access to it. The soil in this area is volcanic, which is among the best types of soils, and with enough water, it is possible to ensure increased crop yield in the region.

**Education:** Education is also a challenge due to high poverty levels in the area.



## 19. Kyeleni Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kyeleni village on 10/19/2022 at Mount Zion Church hosted by Pastor Bosco. We distributed Maize 6(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.43,200 and Beans 28(1kg) at a cost of ksh.4,200. The transport cost was ksh.700 bringing the total cost to ksh.48,000. We reached 119 families.

Kyeleni village is in Kyeleni sub-location, Matungulu Sub-county of Machakos County. The climate is very dry and lies on the leeward side of River Athi. The roads are not accessible and the terrain is characterized by clay soils that hamper movement during the rainy season.

**Economic Activities:** Families depend on fishing, working at the quarry, crushing concrete with hammers, and peasant farming along the river beds using buckets carried by hand. Farmers have been experiencing drought for the past two seasons. Due to lack of grazing land, few families keep livestock like goats, sheep, and cows. Water remains a problem as River Athi is spewed with waste from Nairobi. Donkeys are the main source of collecting and selling water that is prone to have harmful substances.

**Education:** Most students achieve primary certification and are employed as house helps, construction assistants or resort to burning charcoal to earn a living.



#### 20. Syumbeni Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Syumbeni village on 10/17/2022 at ACK St Andrews Ukia hosted by Pastor Bosco. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.48,000. We were able to reach 112 families.

Syumbeni village is located in Ukanga Mbooni by the eastern side of Mbooni Hills in Mbooni constituency, Makueni County. The village is inhabited by natives well-known for high rates of poverty due to lack of economic resources. The area is sloppy with steep gradients, and the valleys are good for small scale sugarcane farming used to make the local brew (kaluvu). Steep gradients make maize and beans farming challenging

**Economic activity:** Coffee farming was rampant in the 80s but the old who valued coffee farming are either deceased or too old to farm.

Soil erosion has taken a great toll on loose soil, and metric tons head to the Indian Ocean annually.

**Education:** Ukanga village has a history of inability to thrive academically, partly due to genetics and partly due to poverty.



## 21. Itumbule Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Itumble village on 10/24/2022 at Itumble redeemed hosted by Pastor Jacinta Thuka. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of 48,000. We reached 120 families.

Itumbule Village is in Kavisi sub-location in Kathonzweni location, Kathonzweni sub-county. The area here is very dry, facing a great challenge of water scarcity. Poverty is very high in this village due to lack of rain for close to two years.

**Economic activity:** People here depend on farming. Cowpeas, ndengu, maize, and nzuu are the main grown crops here.

Itumbule Village



#### 22. Muambani Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Muambani village on 10/15/2022 at Muambani Muthesya Primary School hosted by Pastor Joel Kivinda. We were able to distribute Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,550 and Beans 48(1kg) at a cost of ksh.5,320. The total cost incurred was ksh.47,870. We reached 126 families during the distribution.

Muambani Village is in Muthesya Ward, Masinga sub-county, Machakos County. The situation here is dire with drought looming due to lack of rainfall over the past two seasons. For this reason, children are dropping out of school due to hunger and lack of school fees to undertake activities like sand harvesting, hunting, and charcoal burning.

**Economic Activities:** Muambani village is reliant on rainfall for crops like millet, green grams, maize, and beans. Fruits like mangoes, paw paws, and watermelons are grown near the river bed. Most people depend on the dam water that has risks such as attacks from hippos and children drowning.

In Muambani, the health center is very far and people walk long distances to access health facilities. This affects expectant mothers leading to high child mortality.

**Education:** Most young children walk long distances to schools. However, due to challenges with paying fees, others drop out to work in farming fields and to harvest sand, which impacts the water table and causes the river to dry up. This is having a direct impact on the climate in Muambani.



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### 23. Mwendwa Village

Mbaitu Inc. visited Mwendwa village on 10/14/2022 at Neno Church Kikule hosted by Pastor Joel Kivinda. We were able to distribute Maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.39,550 and Beans 48(1kg) at a cost of ksh.5,320 incurring a total cost of ksh.47,870. We reached 100 families during the distribution.

Mwendwa Village is in Muthesya Ward, Masinga sub-county, Machakos County. The climate is quite dry and arid. The village has not had sufficient rainfall in the past three seasons. Water is an endemic challenge as the Masinga Dam is drying up. Water is fetched using ox-driven carts and donkeys along dry river beds. Residents of Mwendwa spend a considerable amount of their day fetching water.

**Economic activity:** Mwendwa Village relies heavily on rain-fed agriculture for crops such as maize, beans, and cowpeas among others.

Education: The primary school in Mwendwa is very far, about 3 kilometers away, and most young children take a long time to get to school. Most children drop out of school due to economic hardship and opt for manual labor in nearby farms and burning charcoal, which impacts the climate.



#### Mwendwa village

#### 24. Kakuswi Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Kakuswi village on 10/28/2022 at AIC Kakuswi hosted by Pastor Munyambu. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a total cost of ksh.49,500. We reached 113 families. Kakuswi village is located in Kathonzweni sub-county, Mavindini ward, Kanthuni sub-ward, Kanthuni location. The area experiences a hot-dry climate, thus drought-resistant crops such as green grams, cowpeas, and sorghum do well in the region. The soil is clay to loamy-sand. The roads are inaccessible in some places during the short rainy seasons.

**Economic activity:** The main economic activity is farming but rain is not consistent because of climate change. Water for use is a big challenge because villagers collect it from River Athi which is around 10 kilometers to and from the village.

**Education:** Students learn up to class eight level or lower then drop out of school due to financial constraints, Additionally, secondary schools are at a far distance.


#### 25. Ilumani Village

**Mbaitu Inc.** visited Malikini village on 11/01/2022 at Malikini Market hosted by Pastor Phillip. We distributed Maize 5(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.30,000 and Ndengu 1(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.18,000. The total cost incurred during the distribution was ksh.48,000. The process reached 98 families. Ilumani Village is in Mavindini sub-location, Mavindini location, Kathonzweni sub-county in Makueni. The area has been very dry since 2018. Poverty and unemployment are a big challenge in the area. With a good climate, people in the area grow mangoes, maize, ndengu, nzuu, and cowpeas.

**Education:** Most children drop out at primary school level due to lack of school fees.



 26. Kyangundu Village
Mbaitu Inc. visited Kyangundii village on 11/02/2022 at AIC Kyangundu hosted by Pastor Kyalo Mutuku. We distributed maize 7(90kgs) at a cost of ksh.40,600 and Ndengu 30(1kgs) at a cost of ksh.4,500. Transport cost ksh.1500 bringing the total cost incurred to ksh.46,600. We reached 126 families.

> Kyangundi Village is in Kipandini sub-location, Muvuti location, Masaku sub-county, Machakos County. Most people in the village live in poverty due to persistent drought experienced in the last two seasons.

> **Education:** Children drop out of school due to lack of school fees, and they opt to do income-generating activities such as excavating sand 'soil', an activity that has taken the lives of five of young men. They also sell nursery trees, which they rely on seasonal rivers to grow.



## 2.3. Scholarship Programme

The **Mbaitu Inc. Scholarship and Education Fund** is a program that seeks to impact children and youth in the South Eastern counties of Kenya through education. Through this fund, students can access high school education. Through the 2022 funds drive, Mbaitu was able to pay third term fees for 13 students. Some of the funds have also been reserved for the following term's fee. To support learners, Mbaitu was able to visit some of the learners in school to offer moral support and advise as continue with their studies.





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#### 3.1. Village Challenges

While distributing food, Mbaitu staff and the hosts managed to identify the following as some of the key challenges in the area:

**Food insecurity:** Being that the area is in the Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) zone, most people suffer from food insecurity. They are not able to eat three meals a day due to low crop yields in the area. This is caused by lack of water for farming due to delayed rainfall.

**Education:** Most villages identified education as one of the main challenges they face. They cited a high rate of school dropouts as a result of a high poverty rate in the region. Most children do not transition to secondary school due to lack of school fees as parents prioritize food over education. Young people opt to do manual jobs such as sand harvesting to support their families.

**Health Facilities:** In Muambani, the health center is very far, and people walk long distances to access it. This affects expectant mothers, leading to a high child mortality rate.

#### 3.2. Mbaitu Challenges

**Financial: Mbaitu Inc.** lacks sufficient financial resources to meet the intense needs of the vulnerable people in the villages.



## 4.0 ACCOUNTABILITY

### 4.0 Accountability

To promote accountability and transparency, **Mbaitu Inc.** has a list of all those who have contributed to the drive. This list is frequently posted on the different WhatsApp groups so that all members can confirm that the amounts they give are well documented.

Also, **Mbaitu Inc.** posts all its expenses to the Relief and Education WhatsApp group. The members can thus verify the expenses against the money raised. Expenses are planned for and approved by the board. Mbaitu also posts its financial records for the members annually.





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# 5.0 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Mbaitu Inc., with the support of the foundations and in partnership with existing organizations, wishes to grow its efforts to a sustainable program through:

#### Income generating programmes

Mbaitu will empower farmers to be self-reliant; this will ensure they have extra resources to sustain their livelihoods.

#### Training

Mbaitu will invest in training that will ensure the farmers use the best seeds that will enable them to have a harvest even during the dry seasons to which this region is prone.

#### Market Linkages

In future, Mbaitu will play a major role in providing market linkages that will enable the farmers to sell their produce across the regions.

#### Table Banking

Mbaitu plans to mobilize the farmers to form table banking units that will act as a source of funds to members for either startups or expansion of their farming activities.

#### **Collaboration with agricultural experts**

Mbaitu will also ensure increased collaboration with agricultural experts to ensure the farmers are advised on the best seeds to use to get quality produce.

#### Water Supply and irrigation

Mbaitu will strive to ensure that the members have access to continuous water supply as this is one of the challenges that the farmers face in the region.

Appendix 1: Mbaitu food and seed distribution event aired by Athiani FM



Silikali oundumwe na makundi matema kiiserikali nimakulwa matetheesye aamwaitu ala akuu, andu ala methaa na mamutha me mwanya vamwe na misyi ya syana ila ndiwa na masukulu na leu wa utethyo kumanwa na aingi moo maendeeye kwiliitania na thina wa nzaa misyini.

Uu waneenwa ni ikundi yimwe iteya kiiserikali ya mbaitu INC yila yatetheesya aamwaitu ala akuu na syana kuma nduani ya kyaume kuya matungulu countyni ya masaku na mbeu sya kuvanda na leu wa kuya.



#### **Appendix 2:**

Link to live food distribution

#### https://youtu.be/PXdoSIOfNyM

You are invited to follow today's live stream food drive at Malikini village.

#### Appendix 3:

**Appreciations** 

**Mbaitu Inc.** wishes to appreciate all those who took part in the food and seed distribution process. The organization also received appreciation from the hosts, members and the communities. Some of the appreciations are listed below.

The beneficiaries and partners say

MBAITU INC.2022 PARTNERSHIP WITH INTERNATION MISSION CHURCHES OF KENYA -KITUI



Youth ready to leave for the camp.

The **Mbaitu inc.** members Sponsored 15 youths from the Interior mission church located in Kanyangi. Kavumbuni location Kitui Kenya to attend a 3-day camp IMC at Imara Daima in Nairobi. This exposure tour will enable participants to get Godly guidance, listen to seasoned speakers, and make friends from other parts of the country. This is the first time for all the students to visit the capital city. They will also visit the animal orphanage in Nairobi. Mbaitu inc. is thankful to the members who gave our youth this opportunity through their giving.



This farmer and her family are looking forward to a good harvest because of your generosity. Thank you for ensuring that she got seeds in readiness of the ongoing rain season. Photo Credit: Pst. Oscar. Wikililye village. Dec. 2022



#### Carolyne Musyimi

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Syumbeni, ukanga appreciates the Mbaitu fraternity, the ndengu and maize was supplemented with beans, rice and maize floor. The population that received thanks Mbaitu again and again. People who were not listed in the group showed up and the leadership shared with those too. Mbaitu, your future is bright. 19:42

#### Mbaitu Julius Muange

All the families from Mathiani, Kathiani who benefitted from the food/seed drive would like Mbaitu Inc to kindly accept their deepest gratitude for their generosity & kindness that was extended to them. They asked me to pass their tons of appreciation to each & every Mbaitu member who in one way or the other contributed to make the food drive exercise a success. A vote of thanks to representative Josiah for his humility & guidance that ensured things ran smoothly.

Again thank you & may God bless you all

Today if there are people who are blessed are the Mbaitu members who have given their money and time to feed the hungry people in Kitui, Makueni and Machakos. May you live to swim in God's abundant blessings. Amen A A A

05:45

# Thank you for making a difference!



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#### TO GIVE TOWARDS OUR WORK:

Zelle: info@mbaituinc.org Cash app: **\$MbaituCorporation** Website: www.mbaituinc.org



+1 (781) 985 8340, info@mbaituinc.org, www.mbaituinc.org

APA Arcade, Hurligham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Suite 22, Argwings Kodhek Road, Nairobi, Kenya