

# HEART and Lift Up Africa Monthly Story

**Project Name:**

KFS Greenhouse

**Project Contact:**

Isaac Mzee

**Date:** 05<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

## TRIUMPHS AND CHALLENGES OF GREENHOUSE PROJECT

After the launch of the project in the three districts; Manga, Gucha and Nyakach in Nyanza province, we have witnessed sustained enthusiasm towards the projects from the Kids for School beneficiaries. During our monthly monitoring visit in December, we found the beneficiaries at the site busy putting their best into making sure that this greenhouse is a success.

The leadership teams comprising those that were trained on the Greenhouse care, and the local subcommittee in charge of the Project together with the guardians and children, were all seen actively involved in different ways respectively. The leaders and guardians had grouped themselves into working shifts.



*Beneficiaries working around the greenhouse.*



*Tomatoes two weeks after transplanting.*

One of the challenges identified (this will be true for all the districts) is a continued supply of water. HEART had given this requirement to the communities for installation of greenhouse. The community came up with a solution of addressing this need by digging a borehole which they embarked on manually (literally hand dug). “The greenhouse is a double blessing for it has made us dig a borehole which upon completion will serve our household needs as well. Even though it is taking as a while to reach the water-bed we are certain we will get it”, said one of the smiling guardians as he pointed at the drips of water already beginning to sip in at the bottom of the hole. They have so far dug fifty feet using hoes, shovels and buckets.

The guardians cannot believe that they are seeing very healthy tomato plants in the greenhouse. This is because



*Beneficiaries fetching water.*



*Digging of the borehole.*

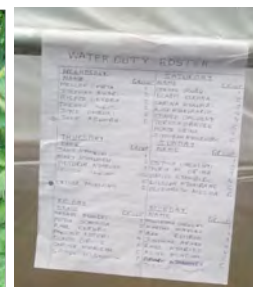
the climatic conditions of this area are not conducive for tomato farming but the greenhouse has provided the right environment for them to grow!



It is their commitment and hard work that continues to inspire and urge us (HEART) to be excited about this partnership. These guardians, majority of them elderly have demonstrated that given a little empowerment, they will go the extra mile in making sure there is a difference in their lives and that of their children. This is an example of teaching someone how to fish rather than giving them a fish. Other members of the community caring for orphaned children cannot wait for their turn to have their greenhouses that will provide them food security.



*Tomatoes at flowering time.*



*Duty Roster for fetching water used by the beneficiaries.*



*Beneficiaries in Manga.*