



MLANGO FARM FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Mlango Farm Foundation is a non-governmental organization based in Ngecha, Kenya. The main objective of this organization is to give city children the opportunity to visit a farm, have a practical experience of what they learn in school and to generally appreciate nature.

Below are a number of activities carried out during the year 2020.

School visits

2020 was a difficult year for the Mlango Farm Foundation due to the Covid 19 virus, that led to all schools in Kenya being closed for a long period of time.

In 2020 we only had a total of 521 children and 61 adults visiting the farm. This is much less than the number of visitors of last year: a decrease of 84 % compared to the previous year 2019.

School	Date	Nr of children	Nr of adults
Nairobi International School	5-Feb-2020	40	6
Taalim UI Islaam	12-Feb-2020	22	6
Waldorf Karen	18-Feb-2020	65	7
Total Care Academy	4-Mar-2020	45	6
Total Care Academy	5-Mar-2020	49	5
Cathsam School	6-Mar-2020	65	7
Kinderworld	11-Mar-2020	97	10
House of Grace	12-Mar-2020	38	8
Banda School	13-Mar-2020	50	
Little Harvard School	13-Mar-2020	20	3
Happy life home Juja	21-Sep-2020	30	3
TOTAL		521	61

The schools mostly asked for a morning programme with general information about farming, environmental care, appreciation of nature, knowledge of different vegetables and animal care. With school groups who stayed for a whole day programme we often carried out the 'farm to fork' programme. With this programme the students prepare their own lunch with fresh farmproduce. About 40 – 50% of the students visiting Mlango Farm have never been to a farm before. Usually the main purpose of the visit is to experience farm life, get an understanding of healthy food and where our food comes from and the importance of caring for the environment.

Additional work during Covid

During the Nairobi-lockdown it was quiet at the farm. No more schools, no more visitors. We decided to give the compound a big make-over. Over the years our nice field of grass had slowly turned into a sandy and muddy field, so it was time for an upgrade. We made patches with tables and paths in-between. We decided to create the educational center in parts. First, we created an 'educational area' and we increased the animal housing. The rest of the building; the toilets, the roof, the guesthouse, toilets will all be added later.



Interns and volunteers

We had no volunteers this year, apart from one stranded (due to Covid19) traveler Sheetal, who contacted us through the 'workaway' website and stayed with us for several weeks. She helped us with the upgrade of the compound, painted our gates, stairs, and storage and helped out a lot in general.



Marketing

In 2020 we had the following marketing activities:

- We shared flyers with potential visiting schools;
- We shared information on the Facebook page of Mlango Farm;
- We shared posts on Facebook of schools who posted about their educational visit;
- All school children who visited the farm received a small present with our website and logo;
- At the period when many schoolchildren were at home due to Covid-19 measurements, we informed our contacts about possible family visits with physical distancing at the farm;

Meetings

In 2020 the Mlango Farm Foundation held three board meetings and the Annual General Meeting. Minutes are available upon request.

Grants, Fundraising and finance

In 2020 the MFF started with a financial balance of Ksh 126.662.30 In 2020 only a few funds were raised, and due to the Covid crisis we did not have enough income from visiting schools. Below an overview of income and expenditures in 2020, all in Kenyan Shillings (Ksh). Most of the expenses are made to take care of the farm animals. Our host Mlango Farm has contributed generously towards the costs of expanding the animal houses and the educational area. We worked on these areas in the period when no schools were coming for educational visits. After expenditures a positive balance of Ksh 148,432.30 remained.

Balance as at 1 Jan 2020	126,662.30
Income	
Donations	25,000.00
Mlango Farm contributions to expenses	500,000.00
Visitors	<u>274,350.00</u>
Total Income	799,350.00
expenses	
Animals	419,181.00
Consumables / Supermarket	52,772.00
Educational materials	4,670.00
Hardware / animal housing	220,337.00
Office costs	50,410.00
PR + Marketing	3,130.00
Volunteer compensations	<u>25,000.00</u>
Total expenses	775,500.00
Balance as at 31 Dec 2020	150,512.30

In 2020 we received free advice from the organization PUM Netherlands (see www.pum.nl). The plan was to welcome an expert from the Netherlands to visit us in Kenya. Due to the Covid -19 pandemic, all travels were cancelled. The expert help changed to a remote coaching advice, which was fruitful. We received advice on improving our educational programs and hosting expertise.

Planned activities for the upcoming year and the future

The Mlango Farm Foundation hopes to collaborate more with PUM Netherlands in future, to continue receiving expertise help through this organization.

We will continue developing our educational programs, assuming the COVID-19 crisis will not last forever and schools will be going 'back to normal' at some point. With our improvements and developments the Mlango Farm Foundation will then be going 'back to better' even!

Acknowledgment and thanks

We wish to thank the visiting schools for their support; visiting the farm, spreading information about the Mlango Farm Foundation and giving their very useful feedback and ideas. Following the ideas of visitors we constantly work on improving our services.

We thank the volunteers for choosing to work with the Mlango Farm Foundation, and to make the school farm visits a great success. The training materials they developed are being used during every school visit.

Contact information

For further details about this report and other information about the work of the foundation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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