



*An NGO with the consultative status for the Economic and Social Council,  
ECOSOC - United Nations*

## **NEWSLETTER –November 2011**

Dear members and friends,

The days are getting shorter and daylight is starting to lack. Despite the grey weather, there are still rays of hope and sun: a young girl's smile when she gets to go back to school thanks to a sponsor's support...or the confident step of another after a serious surgery which allowed her to recover the use of both legs...or a whole village's promise to stop practising FGM its girls...and lots of other small events which, **from our point of view** can seem minor, but which make a big difference **for them over there**.

MAA tries to use at best the resources you provide.



**Put some sunshine in your heart, help a child.**

### **Projects**

The construction of a new schools' first classroom in Engasakinoi village is on its way.





This school, which will first open with a 1<sup>st</sup> primary class for...300 children of the Rombo area, aims to get larger in order to offer the 8 grades of the Kenyan curriculum. MAA has committed to build the two first classrooms, with 6 toilets (to insure regulations conformity) and to provide the interior equipment for each classroom. For the moment, there is only one donor, the BNP-Paribas Foundation, which indicates that when the first classroom is built, the villagers will have to wait for an indeterminate period.



**We need your donations to finance the construction of the 2nd primary classroom in Engasakinoi!**

### **Campaign against FGM (Female Genital Mutilation)**

In its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the campaign for the eradication of FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is in full swing. During the months of November-December 2011, we are going to organise information workshops for parents, pupils and authorities in several Kenyan villages.

We plan to graduate with an alternative ceremony at least

- 300 girls in the Maralal area (Samburu)
- 300 girls in the Wamba area (Samburu, Isiolo)
- 300 girls in the Transmara area (near Maasai Mara)
- 300 girls in the Loitokitok area (near Tsavo)

Here are a few photos taken in November, during workshops for pupils given by our Kenyan collaborators: everybody is getting ready to say « **No to FGM!** »





### Workshops organised in villages:

### Surgery for handicapped children

As announced in the September Newsletter, 2 children with serious burns were sent to the Cure Children Hospital in Kijabe, accompanied by their mother and our collaborator in Transmara, Rebecca, and underwent surgery with success. Sempeyo, one of the girls, still has a plaster, the other, Nesiamon, was able to walk thanks to a prosthesis on both feet (all her toes were burnt).



4

At the moment, we know of another 2 handicapped girls from Loitokitok area, Tsavo. Even though the picture are hard to look at, we prefer showing to you as we only see them but these girls have to leave with it.



Born with bow legs, moving around is extremely difficult for the young girl. Even getting to school is a suffering.



Club foot, a quite common pathology among Maasai babies.

We want to have the 2 of them taken care of by AIC-CURE International Children Hospital in Kijabe, close to Nairobi.



**For this, we need one-time donations.  
You can help us by sending us any amount and indicating  
as the reason for payment « Children surgeries ».**

**Thank you very much in advance.**

### **Transport of mothers in labour and in danger of death**

This is an activity MAA pursues continuously, thanks to small funds that we earn from various happenings. It consists of one-off events:

1. A Kenyan collaborator alerts us by text message that a mother is experiencing difficulties whilst giving birth and has been in labour for several days (the death risk of the baby and the mother is real because of the excessively long time – which is a consequence of the FGM

the mother underwent as a child). If we don't intervene in time, there are big chances the mother and baby won't see it through. In the best of cases, the mother-to-be risks getting fistulas, that horrible after-effect which makes African women incontinent and rejected by society.

2. MAA alerts a taxi in the town closest to the village and ask it to pick up the young woman and drive her to the nearest hospital. The taxi ride would be a lot of money for a family of villagers. Impossible for them to pay. The young woman is often alone, without her husband by her side, with the only company of her mother-in-law and a few women from the village who act as "midwives".
3. After having delivered in the hospital, with worthy medical attention, the new mother and her baby goes back home by taxi, also paid for by MAA. The taxi drivers trust us, as we are now well known in the area. They usually receive their money within 12 hours. It once happened that the driver didn't have any cash with him to pay for petrol and the garage gave him credit when they knew MAA was his client. This shows we have forged ourselves a good reputation and are trusted.

These last months we helped:

- Lanoi Mako who gave birth to a boy,
- Matayian Sampao who gave birth to a girl,
- Priscilla Samate who gave birth to a girl,
- Lempaka de Olkutoto who is still in the maternity ward as she has just been taken there.

That's for the MAA baby news!

**Please don't forget your sponsorships!**



We hope you enjoyed the read.  
Thank you for your attention and support,

**Annie Corsini-Karagouni**  
For MAA committee

[www.e-solidarity.org](http://www.e-solidarity.org)