

KENFAP Assistance: The KAHOLIFA Youth Group Story.

By Grace Ngambi, Lucy Mwangi, Mary Muthami and David Kammo¹.



Members of the KAHOLIFA Youth Group

KAHOLIFA Youth Group

Grace Ngambi says that the first LLL training has had an effect in Nyeri; it has assisted the KENFAP office to start this youth group and to give them Internet training. Karurumo horticultural and livestock farmers' youth group was started in 2005 under the National Agricultural and Livestock Extension programme. The group is in Karundu in the Tetu division of Nyeri district. KAHOLIFA youth group is registered with 100 members of which sixty are men and forty ladies aged 18-35 years. The group is registered with KENFAP; has a bank account and weekly meetings. Members contribute 50/- Ksh per month for project maintenance. The group is rearing pigs and growing peppers and other vegetables.



The Youth Group's Vegetable Gardens

Their aim is for each member should have at least two piglets and also to start a tree nursery. The group would like to rent a four acre farm for growing more horticultural crops. However, they have financial concerns over funding for pig feed, seeds and farm inputs. The high cost of building and materials for pig pens is also a worry. They need to get a better market for the pigs and build a water reservoir for domestic use and water for the pigs to sustain the group.



The Pig Pens

The 'dot com' Group

The members for the DDC (District Development Committee) of the area are a very young group. The idea is that youth should be given the leadership. They want to change the culture of thinking that money can only be earned from White Collar jobs showing by that it can also be earned from farming. The DDC appreciates the work being done by the Kaholifa Youth Group which they nickname 'the dot com group'. This is because of the internet training that they have received and the email address that the group uses. KENFAP through the Linking Local Learning programme has trained the group secretary free of charge in order that she is able to run the group emails. In case the group wants to send an email KENFAP offers free services to its members in typing and saving documents. The group has other various means of communication: verbal, mobile phone and letters.



The KAHOLIFA Committee addresses a meeting

¹ Story based on interviews with Grace Ngambi, Mary Muthami; David Kammo and Lucy Mwangi of KENFAP Nyeri Branch, Kenya by Anne Dennig in August 2006.

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