

SASOL PROFILE

1. NAME: Sahelian Solutions Foundation (SASOL).

2. ADDRESS: 1 Isukuuni
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3. PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE ORGANISATION:

1. Professor G-C. M. Mutiso	- Board Chairman
2. Mr. Francis M. Katua	- Member
3. Mr. Peter Van Dongen	- Treasurer
4. Ms. Jennifer Mutia	- Member
5. Mr. Evans Ngava	- Member
6. Ms. C. Mumo	- Member
7. S. Muthoka	-Field Manager and Secretary to the Board

4. PRINCIPAL CONTACT:

Mr. S. Muthoka
Field Manager
SASOL
P.O. Box 85
Kitui.
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5. REGISTRATION:

SASOL is an NGO registered in the Republic of Kenya.

6. OBJECTIVES OF SASOL FOUNDATION:

SASOL was established to render social, technical and financial assistance for the development of arid and semi-arid regions. Special emphasis is laid on the solution of the problems of water, land, shelter, health, education and employment.

7. CURRENT FOCI:

Currently SASOL is involved in two related activities. These are: 1. Creation of a school water-net through construction of improved shallow wells. 2. Development of stable community water supplies dependent on the construction of river barrages on seasonal rivers. SASOL is seeking funds to complete this kind of activity in an area 100 sq. km.

8. SASOL PHILOSOPHY:

Most communities in the Arid and Semi-Arid (Asal or Sahelian) parts of Africa have suffered development. This is so because many of the activities are not planned to address key issues in the development of these areas. Often knowledge is borrowed from wetter parts of the continent and applied irrationally. Expertise is usually from without those communities. More often than not development agents do not listen to the communities who have operated some of the most sophisticated social institutions in human history. All these problems are compounded by short-term sectoral development strategies.

Increasingly, development of these areas has to be within the context of sustainable ecological resource use. This demands that communities participate in the design and implementation of activities. It also means that new ideas, technologies and techniques have to be generated to produce for the exploding populations. New natural and human resources management techniques are called for if these populations are not to lose their humanity and die off in the degrading environments and attendant poverty. The need is urgent.

Central in SASOL philosophy is commitment to participative development, which can not be if resource conservation, within the framework of time tested technologies sustained by ASAL populations, is ignored. This does not mean that the scientific approach, planning and new ideas are not introduced to base communities. It simply means that the beginning point is what is known and sustainable by the base communities as evaluated by multidisciplinary teams. Clearly water is central in this.

9. COMMUNITY MOBILISATION:

PRA Training is the preferred method used to involve the community in all aspects of development. As people deliberate together, they discover their ability to initiate, plan and execute their projects with commitment resulting in effective implementation.

10. BRIEF HISTORY:

SASOL was duly registered as an NGO in the Republic of Kenya in July 1992. It was involved in the distribution of food during the famine of 1992 both in Kenya and Somalia.

Since 1993, SASOL has been involved in the development of water points in schools. In this programme, ////////////////SAM UPDATE ////////////////80 shallow wells and 12 water tanks have been developed to date. The development of water-points in schools is the first stage of SASOL's policy of "Schools Approach to Development".

In 1993-1994, SASOL supported 13 schools by sponsoring a total of 750 children in Kitui District.

A pilot project for community water supply was started in March 1995. A total of ////////////////SAM UPDATE////////////////////94 river barrages with 15 ////////////////sam update//////////////////// offtake wells have been constructed by April 1997. The estimated water storage capacity of these barrages without considering extra channel storage is in excess of ////////////////SAM UPDATE////////////////////106000 cubic meters. This water serves a population of 20000 people in the Kiindu, Kisiio and Mwewe catchment areas.

SASOL
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