

SASOL PROFILE

1. NAME OF THE ORGANISATION: Sahelian Solution Foundation Kenya (SASOL).

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3. BOARD MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Professor G-C. M. Mutiso | - Board Chairman |
| 2. Mr. Peter Van Dongen | - Treasurer |
| 3. Mr. Albert M. Kyambo | - Director |
| 4. Mr. Josphat M. Mulungi | - Director |
| 5. Ms. Susan Mwikya | - Director |
| 6. Mr. Evans Ngava | - Director |

4. PRINCIPAL FIELD CONTACT

Mr. Sammy Muthoka
SASOL Kitui
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Kitui.
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5. REGISTRATION

Sasol is a locally registered NGO 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 areas of the Republic of Kenya. Special emphasis is laid on the solution of the problems of water, land, health, education and employment.

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 to

development problems. Expertise is usually from without. More often than not they 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 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. The need is urgent.

Sahelian Solutions was created by founder members with more than one hundred and fifty years of experience in research, teaching, management and consultancy in ASAL development. The experience spans Africa, Asia, Australia and Latin America. The individuals come from Holland, Ireland and Kenya. Their training backgrounds are as diverse as theology, social sciences, development studies, hydrogeology, ecology and construction and land use planning. The unity in this diversity is experience in ASAL development. Their different national backgrounds and experience is a strength in imaging problems and finding solutions tested by time.

The founder individuals professionally work in varied activities as consultancy, project planning and implementation and NGO and private sector management. Central in SASOL is commitment to participative development, which can not be if resource conservation within the framework of time tested technologies sustained by ASAL populations are 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.

7. ACTIVITY 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. Since 1993, Sasol has been involved in the development of water points in schools. In this programme, 50

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". For a brief period 1993-1994, Sasol Foundation was involved in the support of 13 schools with a total of 750 sponsored children in Kitui District.

A pilot project of 5 sub-surface dams was started in March 1995, with a more substantive project to follow starting July 1995.

8. CURRENT FUNDING

Current Sasol operations are funded by SIMAVI and WaterAid.

A contract worth Ksh.6.3m for the construction of 50 school based shallow wells was signed on 24/7/95 with SIMAVI.

WaterAid will continue to support Sasol for the construction of river barrages. The pilot stage phase has been completed with the construction of 5 barrages, principally to ascertain the construction techniques and establish community mobilisation systems. The next phase which started in August 1995 consists of 25 barrages to be constructed over a year. Transfer for initial payment for August operations was requested from WaterAid London Office. The WaterAid/Sasol contract worth Ksh. 6.1m, for the construction of 25 barrages was signed on 13th September, 1995.

In order to diversify funding sources for a stable cashflow avoiding over reliance on any particular source, other donors are being sought. A target of five main sources of funding by 1996 is thought to be ideal. Anticipated new sources of funding include - OXFAM, UNDP, ActionAid and IDRC.

9. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND 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 which results in effective implementation.

Prepared by: **Mr. S. M. Mutiso**
Field Manager