



Project goal – Support SHARIANI SECONDARY SCHOOL by improving the infrastructure, the education of the children and the sustainability of the School.

Shariani Secondary school, a mixed day school, is located in Kilifi District, one of the poorer areas in Kenya. When Mr Cornelius Mnene was appointed the headmaster of Shariani Secondary School he wanted to face a challenge. Indeed Shariani provided a challenge since it was on the verge of closure.

The school clearly needed to improve since only 65 students were enrolled when he joined. The facilities were nothing to speak of and he immediately drew up a physical plan of buildings the school needed. To begin with they needed an administration block. For this they had no money.

Fortunately a neighbour brought his dentist friend, Mr. Raguvir Patel, to see the school and Mr. Patel pledged to assist. However, he laid down one condition, that the parents themselves contribute towards the construction.



Above: The courtyard of the school



Above: Mr Mnene the former principal of Shariani was able turn the school around after attending a management course for School Heads in Strathmore.

The parents raised 20% of the costs but many were only able to give their labour. The students themselves gave up some sports and activities in order to save money for their school. With this the community completed the building and prepared for the next stage.

The school also began a feeding programme after which enrolment increased to the current 320 students. Later a girls hostel was opened for them to get time to study while school is on.

Kilifi– A poor area with great potential

The position of the district put it in a strategic location for industrial growth in the Kenyan coast. It borders Mombasa (the second largest city in the country) and Kenya's main seaport of Kilindini. However, most of the residents are poor. Poverty in Kilifi District manifests itself, in the inability by the majority of the population to access basic needs due to geographical, economical and social-cultural barriers. Out of the 544,305 people in Kilifi District (1999), 65.35% are food poor and 43.02% hardcore poor meaning that they cannot meet the minimum food requirements even after spending all their income on food alone.

The greatest challenge the residents of the area face is their lack of education and inability to defend themselves from unscrupulous traders who buy their agricultural products at a throw away price. Poverty is therefore endemic and education is the key to helping the people harness the agriculture and tourism possibilities that the area has.



Above and right: Some pupils of the primary school section

Strathmore learnt about the school and immediately began to provide motivational talks to the students. A pledge of scholarships was made for all those who qualified to join university and this greatly motivated the students to aim high.

None from the first group was successful, because the students all have to share textbooks. Strathmore staff members donated Mathematics textbooks to be used by the top 10 students in each class. Finally in 2008 the first student was able to qualify to join university.

1999 – Mr. Mnene was appointed headmaster of Shariani Secondary School which had a total of 65 students between Form one and three.

1999– Mr Patel begins to assist the school by funding construction.

2006– The school begins a feeding programme to encourage students to attend school.

2007– Shariani is chosen as one of 213 schools to pilot the e-learning project of the Government.

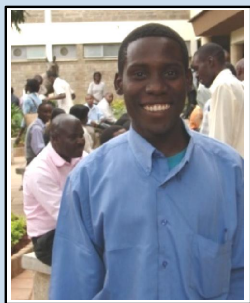
2008 – A donation of Mathematics textbooks was made by staff members of Strathmore to the best students in the school.

2009 – The first student from Shariani qualifies to join University and wins a scholarship.

In order for the school to enable its students qualify for university it will need support in the following areas:

Item	Need (Ksh)	Raised
Scholarships	210,000	
Acquisition of text books	300,000	
Library Books	150,000	
Desalination unit	500,000	

1 EUR = 105 KSH (approx.); 1 USD = 77 KSH (approx.)
August 2009



Qualifying to join university

Jonathan Katana lives in Kilifi District. When in 2007 Strathmore began offering motivational talks in Shariani, he was in form three. The university pledged to give a scholarship to those who were able to qualify to join university. This he saw as his chance to change the lives of his family and the members of his community.

Jonathan passed the Strathmore entrance exam and should begin Certified Public Accountant (CPA) in July 2009 under a full scholarship funded by friends of Strathmore in Singapore. He plans to study Commerce once he completes CPA because he sees this as the best way of helping his poor community.

August 2009

A private initiative supported by:
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 For more information on this and other initiatives please visit
 www.strathmore.edu/cop

Mission Statement of Strathmore University

"We dedicate ourselves to the advancement of education through teaching, scholarship and service to society by providing an all-round education in an atmosphere of freedom and responsibility, creating a culture of continuous improvement, fostering high moral standards and developing a spirit of service and respect for others"