A Corporate Social Investment (CSI) programme by Kenya Ports Authority
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“We now have a very conducive environment for studying – it is comfortable and noiseless. Besides we have access to many books including e-books...”
Foreword

The Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) is committed to uplifting the standards of living of the communities within the Coastal region and other areas where it operates. This commitment is entrenched in and supported by our Corporate Social Investment (CSI) Policy.

The Authority has invested enormously in improving education and health facilities in each of the Coastal Counties aimed at assisting and developing the communities since 2000 when the Authority drew a more structured programme of reaching out to the communities to address specific socio-economic needs. It is through this initiative that KPA as a responsible corporate entity continues to positively impact on communities by lessening their burdens through provision of health and education facilities.

The Authority’s CSI plan was founded on three basic principles:
- Kenya Ports Authority was the single largest employer within the Coast Province and thus the need to invest in various community projects in each of the then districts.
- The Coast region was largely lacking in education facilities, especially for primary schools and thus there was a need for the Authority to invest in promoting this area. This has since extended to include secondary schools as well.
- The Authority also incorporated healthcare as a focus for the outreach programme through construction of healthcare facilities and holding of medical camps.

KPA’s Corporate Social Investment Policy is rooted in the organisation’s values, guided by international standards and best practices, and driven by its aspiration for excellence in the overall performance of the business. Through the efforts of each of the employees, KPA is determined to take pride in being responsible, respected, and welcomed in every place where it has its presence.

Thus the Authority allocates two percent of its profits to needy causes. Education and health projects receive about 65 percent of this funding with the remainder earmarked for charities, disaster, relief funds and other worthy causes. This Corporate CSI brochure seeks to showcase a sample of the projects that the Authority has supported for the last few years across the Coastal Counties.
Swahili Pot Hub, an initiative of the ICT Authority, Seacom, Cisco Systems and the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) at the Mombasa Swahili Cultural Centre was started to foster and promote youth entrepreneurship and innovation in the coastal city.

Kenya Ports Authority has constructed a multi-purpose hall to support the hub which focuses on socio-economic technology empowerment of the youth. Swahili Pot offers a platform for innovators, technologist, entrepreneurs, learners, artists and investors to network and develop new business ideas.
The Memorial Uhuru Gardens in Mombasa County remains a good place of rest and enjoyment for both locals and visitors. Since 2006, the Authority has been at the forefront in the maintenance/beautification of the facility. The activities included planting of ornamental trees and upgrading of the gardens.
This ultra-modern library complex is one of the projects sponsored by KPA in Tana River county.
It is all smiles at Bubesa Primary School in Tana River County following KPA’s construction of four permanent classrooms which has made perpetual interruption of learning at the school a thing of the past.

With no buildings, initially the pupils and teachers at this school were exposed to extremely harsh learning conditions having to sit under trees to undertake their lessons. “We never could afford to concentrate for our lessons under such an environment since we were forced to contend with other external forces like noise, scorching sun and heavy rains,” says Aligawawa Omar, a pupil at the school.

The head teacher Mr. Abdalla Galgalo says his school was in a pathetic situation before they were rescued by KPA. Besides rain, he says his pupils faced myriad other challenges especially dust and strong winds which could even blow away the blackboard and other learning materials.

“We are very grateful to KPA for constructing for us four class rooms. This has really transformed our school from poor learning to a conducive learning environment,” he affirms with a broad smile.

The comfy academic environment has also attracted pupils from other schools increasing the school’s enrollment from 237 to 261 pupils within the year 2017 according to the head teacher Mr. Galgalo.
At Furaha Primary School also in Tana River County, KPA constructed an ultra-modern library complex which is billed to be a game changer in the reading culture of the learners. According to the school’s academic teacher Mrs. Kerna M. Manase, the pupils at the school could initially only study at home or in classrooms before this facility was constructed.

“The school also didn’t have adequate books for lack of storage space but with the facility we have now stocked many books,” she says.

The school’s Deputy Head teacher Mr. Bonaya says he expects the school’s population to grow when the facility is put to maximum use.

Looking at the KPA logo embalmed on their library complex, Ann Wanjiru, a standard 8 pupil exudes confidence saying that the logo drives her to work extra hard and reminds her not to take the existing opportunities for granted.

Parents at the school are equally ecstatic because this library is now attracting support from all corners.

“We have for instance received furniture from the County Government of Tana River and books from Non-Governmental Organisations,” says Kenneth Gandaro, a parent.
Our children in the lower classes and part of upper classes were learning under very miserable conditions, under trees and sitting on earthen floor, says a teacher at the School.
Little thought is given to the impact of developing a handwriting if a pupil has no space to write. The difference between a sentence written whilst a student is using their thigh to support the exercise book and another written on a book placed atop a desk is akin to night and day.

According to Sosodemu school head teacher, Mr. Joseph Ziro, an examiner is attracted to handwriting and therefore illegible scribblings may lead to low marks especially with subjects that require essays such as compositions and sciences. Such was the deplorable state of learning facilities at Sosodemu in 2010 that the teachers considered taking pupils in upper classes through handwriting exercises.

When KPA undertook to build classes and provide desks at a cost of over Kshs 4 million, the first major notable improvement was legibly written compositions. Located in Vitengeni, Ganze constituency of Kilifi County, Sosodemu’s fortunes have dramatically improved. The enrolment of students has risen by an average 30 percent. Fostering an effective learning environment is at the heart of this project. Classroom environment is one in which students feel a sense of belonging, trust others, and feel encouraged to tackle challenges, take risks, and ask questions. By improving the class atmosphere, it is expected that the amount of stress levels attributable to the process will significantly reduced. A parent at the school, Mr. Macbaya Mwanyule, expresses gratitude noting that the KPA constructed structure is the only permanent building in the school. “When you look at our mud walled structures you will understand the value of the KPA sponsored building which is a prized model winning admiration from all quarters. It is one of the best in Kilifi Sub-County,” notes the parent.

Sosodemu
Primary School
Kilifi County

How fostering a conducive learning environment led to improved handwriting
In Kilifi County through the KPA CSI initiative the residents are thankful to KPA for constructing a General Ward at Gede Health Centre.

This facility according to Ms. Askah Moraa, a Clinical Officer is expected to improve delivery of services and a relief to other referral hospitals. “The reason behind this ward was so as to manage patients who need inpatient care because Malindi is near but quite congested. We therefore thought Malaria, Pneumonia and Diarrhoea patients could be managed here,” says Moraa. The clinical officer is grateful to KPA for constructing the ward which she says will have a positive impact on the inhabitants and save them the burden of traveling for long distances for medical attention.
KPA constructed a dormitory for the girls at this special mixed school in 2012 and later a dining hall in 2013. “Our situation was terrible because being a mixed school we purposed to host both boys and girls in school but it wasn’t possible to accommodate the girls. We visited KPA as a committee in the year 2010 and that is where the project idea was mooted,” says head teacher Mr. Eric Salim Muramba.

He explains further that initially the school had got sponsorship from the Commonwealth Society for the Deaf for construction of the boys’ dormitory.

“Girls were sleeping in the classroom with primary school pupils and during the time for meals again we had a challenge so our students had to move at the primary school because that is where there was a kitchen and dining hall,” he narrates. Mr. Muramba is pleased to observe that with the KPA constructed dormitory which houses girls, the students are now able to undertake their evening preps up to 9.00 pm. This he adds provides them the opportunity to focus and concentrate on their studies.

“Our school performance is steadily improving because of the favorable learning environment. When we started the school in 2009 we used to get a mean score of zero point but now it has gone beyond 2 points,” he adds.

Similarly, the dining hall has come with a lot of benefits for the school community ranging from eating comfortably, multipurpose hall and at times an alternative classroom for some lessons.

The head teacher acknowledges KPA’s generosity noting that “we really appreciate because our children are disadvantaged and their parents are not rich. If you look at existing statistics, children with disabilities come from poor families.” Through sign language, the school’s head girl Gertrude Charo expresses gratitude to KPA for saving them the agony of sleeping very far from their school by constructing the girls’ dormitory.

“If possible we would appreciate if they can construct for us an additional facility because our school is expanding,” she adds. Deputy head boy Omar Kambi is equally contented with the KPA constructed dining hall noting that in the past they would sit down under the trees to eat their meals.
With a conducive learning environment the pupils of Kidumbani can also find time to compete with pupils from other schools in extra curricular activities.
The head teacher of Kidzumbani Primary School Mr. Sebe Shee Hassan reminiscences how children from Kidzumbani used to travel for about 7 kilometres to Milalari in pursuit of education before the construction of classrooms at his school.

He says KPA constructed four classrooms for the school and this has seen the enrolment to continue rising steadily from 232 pupils in 2013 to 280 pupils in 2017. “By having this building it makes us and even the community to feel proud of KPA because it shows that indeed this organisation cares," says Hassan.

The school’s head boy Rashid Abdalla Mwayoyo is in standard 8, and he says because of the good facilities he transferred from Milalari Primary School to Kidzumbani Primary School.

“The classrooms have given us the opportunity to introduce other programmes besides the normal lessons for example every Thursday debate. We really thank KPA and praying for them to continue enjoying God’s blessings in their work,” he says.

Kidzumbani Primary School
Kwale County

Kenya Ports Authority | TUNAHUSIKA CSI PROGRAMME
In 2014, Mbuluni Primary school had only two permanent classrooms and the rest were improvised. Improvising meant that a tree, a few stones and logs were all that was required for a classroom. The two classrooms would have as many as 200 pupils at any time. Far from an ideal classroom setup.

In 2015, KPA through its CSI Initiative to improve learning conditions provided 64 desks. The initiative attracted other donors and soon the Japanese Government gave a grant towards the expansion of the school. The funds were used to fence the school and build a kitchen for the school.

A significant milestone was the electrification of the school. Significant because it meant that students who were about to seat for their KCPE exams could extend their classes up to 2100hrs in the evening. Students find it easier to learn in school rather than at home, where chores and learning space would restrict the revision time.

Deputy headmaster Mr. Bakari Makungu echoes the sentiments of his boss saying the KPA sponsored project has helped them to keep pupils in school.

“We are now able to run two streams for some classes and the pupils learn in a very comfortable academic environment.”

The school’s enrolment has shot up significantly from 200 pupils to the current 850 pupils.

The school expects to register better results in this year’s KCPE exams following their last year’s good performance having achieved a mean score of 268 marks.
“This is a big achievement for our school, parents have been relieved in a big way and therefore we sincerely pass gratitude to KPA for the enormous support which was given to our school unconditionally,” Leonard Tole, Board Chairman, Mwangoji Secondary School
Initially there were plans to construct three science laboratories for the school but instead KPA opted for one that is fully equipped.

The school’s Principal Mr. Boniface Mwambingu says his students are now advantaged in their study of pure sciences because they are exposed to practicals unlike previously when they could only gain theoretical knowledge. “We are grateful to KPA because besides the laboratory, they also constructed for us boys’ toilets and bought for us 100 desks and chairs. Most importantly, this facility is also benefiting students from other schools as they come to do their exams here,” he adds.

Similarly, the school’s Board Chairman Mr. Leonard Tole expresses appreciation to the Authority noting that the project has put the school ahead of others and saved parents the financial burden. “This is a big achievement for our school, parents have been relieved in a big way and therefore we sincerely pass gratitude to KPA for the enormous support which was given to our school unconditionally,” he says. Luciana Chao, a form four student at the school is confident of registering good performance in the forthcoming final year national examinations since the laboratory has given them adequate exposure to practicals. Her classmate Samuel Mwaisaka is equally enthusiastic saying that the laboratory is equipped with everything they require to pass the exams.

LABORATORY at Mwangoji Secondary School
Taita Taveta County
The school has adopted the KPA corporate colours; blue, white and yellow to signify their appreciation to the Authority for the massive investments towards construction of 8 classrooms, an administration block, chemistry, biology, physics and computer laboratories.

Principal of the school Mrs. Grace Lesilale says 55 girls were admitted to join form 1 at the time the school started in 2009. At that time there were four classrooms, a staff room, guidance and counseling room, teachers’ special rooms (4) and also special rooms for the students (8).

“KPA came back into the picture in 2011 with a sponsorship to finish the remaining part of the tuition block. They did the administration block, four other classrooms and also the finishing of the washrooms for our West wing and the four rooms that we converted to our laboratories. We now have a facility that can accommodate up to 360 students. At the moment we have an enrolment of 250,” says the head teacher.

Lesilale is quick to observe that through the facility girls who had dropped out of school for lack of fees and other reasons revived their academic hunt. She says members of the community are proud of the school which has brought beauty in an environment that was initially deserted.

“At the time we were admitting the first 55 students, people didn’t take education very serious. They came from everywhere and anywhere and some had been married. I am very happy with the first group which did their KCSE in 2012. One of them is now doing her third year at Kenyatta University and the other one is now a teacher in this school.”

Emily Wanjiku, was working as a house help for a pastor in Taveta after dropping out of school for lack of fees. She was glad to join Mahoo Girls when it started in 2009, did her KCSE in 2012 and managed to score an aggregate grade of C+ (plus) which earned her a scholarship at the East African University in Kajiado where she pursued Bachelor of Education Math and Business Studies. She is now a teacher at the school and compliments KPA for the support which restored the hope of many girls who had given up on their academics.

“I am encouraging my students to develop a positive attitude towards mathematics,” says Emily.

Besides Emily, other successful students living in accordance to the school’s vision – ‘establish and maintain standards of excellence’ are; Margaret Joseph who is pursuing Bachelor of Education (Mathematics and Business) at Kenyatta University, Esther Waceke pursuing the same course at Pwani University, Esther Mbute pursuing Bachelor of Science Nursing at Maseno University. Mariam Sengo and Grace Nyambura are also doing degree courses.
Hope encourages peace seemed to be a mantra that former MP Mwandawiro Mghanga used when he arbitrated a dispute between two warring communities in Wundanyi.

The Sangenyi and Mworoko communities had a long-standing dispute over land. To appease both communities a committee led by the Member of Parliament came up with a brilliant idea of constructing a health facility that would cater for the needs of both communities.

An approach was made to KPA and in 2006; the Sangeroko dispensary was commissioned courtesy of KPA funding. The area – part of it in Werugha and the other in Mghange in Wundanyi, in Taita Taveta County has a population of 3800 people.

“We offer a lot of services including outpatient, maternity, family planning and dispensing of drugs,” says Dr. Eliud Ngoje who is in charge of the facility.

“The residents of this place urgently needed this kind of facility. In its absence the nearest one is Kishushe which 8 kilometers from here.

The other ones are Weruga which is around 10 kilometers, Mghange 12 kilometers and Mwanda Health Centre 15 kilometers from here. You can just imagine the distance patients had to cover albeit the tough terrain with impassable roads,” says the doctor.

He is quick to observe that the dispensary has enabled people to easily access medical services making them healthier and as a result child mortality and maternal mortality rates have lessened. However, he regrets that the health facility is still faced with challenges the major ones being inadequate staff and lack of a laboratory.

“We only have two members of staff and they are also limited in their field. We are requesting KPA to consider supporting our community unit – these are wananchi who have volunteered their time to offer services and we really need some little resources to sustain and motivate them as they continue disseminating health messages to the community,” he appeals.

Their role he adds include; capturing children for growth and development monitoring through weighing and also giving feed program for the underweight.
“Mine is just to give a lot of appreciation to KPA which has given us great support that has given our school a new face thus creating a positive image...” Samuel Charo, Headteacher, Amkeni Primary School

Lamu County
In an area where early marriage is rampant due to culture and religion, sits this school which was started to take care of weak pupils to ensure they do not opt for early marriage. This school now boasts of a state-of-the-art library constructed by the Kenya Ports Authority.

“We received with joy the news about KPA’s consent to offer us support for the library because initially we used to store our books in a very tiny room. We now have one of the best facilities in the country,” says Deputy Principal Ms. Martha Alfayo Ingasiani.

She says the library which was officially opened in 2016 has provision for a smart board section which allows students to download and interact with a variety of learning materials “Colleagues from other schools describe our library as the best in Lamu County.

The facility offers our students from form 1 to form four with the opportunity to undertake library lessons. Since the year 2016 our performance has continued to improve considering that this school admits students with below 200 marks.”

According to Jannat Wakat, a form four student and the school’s head girl, the library has helped students to develop a positive reading culture.

“We now have a very conducive environment for studying – it is comfortable and noiseless. Besides we have access to many books including e-books and at times we watch educational videos. We are very grateful to KPA because through this library we are building our future,” she says. Mr. Yusuff Mwinyi, the school’s librarian is also pleased that because of the facility his services are relevant at the school. He says after KPA constructed the library, a Canadian NGO by the name Knowledge Empowering Youth (KEY) through Charles and Rita Field Marsham Foundation donated the smart board to the school.

“It really assists in our learning because we get a lot of content digitally for example we have a program called e-kitabu and once we project anything on the laptop, it reflects on the smart board,” he explains.
Amkeni is a Swahili word meaning wakeup. In retrospect, many parallels could be drawn with Amkeni Primary school.

The school was in a slumber for several years. Learning and other academic programs were often interrupted by the vagaries of weather. "This school has four trees which were acting as classrooms. Classes 1-4 were learning under trees while those from classes 5-8 were in temporary structures. In 2014 the rainy season had extended for over two months and the school had to close for the whole month of June," says head teacher Mr. Samuel Charo.

Loice Pendo, a standard six pupil vividly narrates the challenges; "Whenever it rained we had no option to shield ourselves since there were no buildings so our books became wet and messy. At times the wind could blow away our learning materials" she recounts.

The makeshift classrooms were congested too. Students used tree logs as alternatives to desks and chairs.

The school was not fenced which led incidences of wild animals strolling into the school and consequently paralyzing schooling have been recorded. One such incidence involved a lone buffalo that stampeded into the compound. Pupils had to take to their heels. Fortunately, the buffalo was felled by an officer from the Kenya police reservists.

A visit in February 2016 by the KPA CSI committee under the aegis of the Education office marked the end of the slumber. The construction of a permanent classroom started in earnest.

The new facilities attracted teachers and pupils within the area. The school’s enrollment shot up from 195 students in class 1-8 to 525 pupils by the start of the year 2018.

"We are happy to note that KPA’s support has a positive impact on our performance. For example five of our pupils got admitted in top National schools after registering impressive performance in 2017 KCPE exams."
Mokowe Arid Zone Boarding Primary School Lamu County

Mokowe Primary School is a public mixed day primary school located in Mokowe Location, Hindi Division, Lamu West Constituency in Lamu County.

For centuries, Lamu has been regarded as a religious centre in east Africa; however, education standards have dwindled. Equally, the state of infrastructure in has been deplorable. Whereas the school had several permanent structures that served as classrooms, the said rooms were congested thus making the learning atmosphere stressful for the pupils and tougher for the teachers since the student to teacher ratio would stand at over 70 students per teacher.

Courtesy of KPA, the school now has an additional three big, which can accommodate 60 pupils per classroom. The conducive learning environment for the pupils and boarding facilities has attracted learners from Mombasa, Malindi, Nakuru and other towns.

The new classrooms are comfortable and secure, which meant that students could now undertake evening preps up to 9.30 pm and the morning preps from 5.00 am to 6.30 am.

The school’s head teacher, Mr. Abubakar Ruhuma says that the impact of the development was immediate. “Our enrolment had dropped from 360 to 300 pupils because of mushrooming private schools. We only had six classrooms and two were used by the unit for the deaf pupils. After the completion of the KPA sponsored project our enrolment shot up to 420 pupils in 2015,” he says.

In terms of performance, Mr. Ruhuma is quick to add that his school has been producing over 10 candidates with above 300 marks in the KCPE exams. “In 2016 we were position two in our zone with 11 of our candidates scoring 300 and above marks compared to the number one school which had only four candidates with a similar performance.”