

# WELL-WISHING

## NEWSLETTER-2024



*Celebrating 10 years of well-wishing*

**Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has**  
~ Margaret Mead



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# Editor's Note



As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to share the remarkable milestones that Kibwezi Wellwishers has achieved in the areas of environmental conservation, education promotion, and public health. This newsletter encapsulates the essence of who we are, what we stand for, and the collective efforts that have made this year truly transformative.

Within these pages, you'll find highlights of our key programmatic areas, showcasing the impact of our work in the community. From planting thousands of tree seedlings to supporting educational initiatives and improving public health, the dedication of our members has been central to our success.

We've also included a recap of the key events held throughout 2024, where we came together to make a difference. These events have not only strengthened our bonds but have also created lasting change in the communities we serve. Furthermore, the newsletter features testimonials from our members, whose stories reflect the heart and soul of Kibwezi Wellwishers—individuals united by a shared vision of making the world a better place.

The achievements of 2024 are a testament to the power of collaboration and the tireless efforts of each and every one of you. As we look ahead, we remain committed to our mission and excited for the continued growth of this movement.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Here's to another year of well-wishing, impact, and community!

Benjamin Mutua  
Chief Editor

## Founder & Chairperson

# 2024 Message: Celebrating 10 Years of Well-wishing

Founder's Message: Celebrating 10 Years of Wellwishing

As we mark 10 years of wellwishing, this is a moment to reflect on an incredible journey. What began in 2014 at Masaku Ndogo Primary with a simple act of kindness has grown into a powerful movement spanning seven counties, four chapters, and countless lives touched.



In 2024 alone, we've planted over 20,000 tree seedlings, donated 500 sanitary towels, broadcast 500 seedballs, mentored over 2,000 students, supported children's homes and hospitals, and launched initiatives like Friends of Mang'elele and Mbee Nthei, focused on conservation. These achievements showcase the strength of unity and the ripple effect of kindness.

This decade has brought moments of joy, love, and fulfillment, alongside challenges that taught us resilience. None of this would have been possible without your unwavering support and shared vision. Together, we've proven that small acts of kindness can transform lives and communities.

Thank you for standing with me on this journey. Here's to the next chapter of wellwishing, as we continue to inspire change, nurture communities, and protect our planet.

Wishing you happy new year 2025

With gratitude,

**Dr. Sonia Nzilani**

**Founder & Chair, Kibwezi Center for Sustainability**





# Introduction of Kibwezi Center for Sustainability



## About Us

Kibwezi Center for Sustainability (KCS) is a grassroots non-for-profit organization involved in promoting environment conservation, gender balance, access to education, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and public health care services with an aim of increasing socio-economic empowerment, improving food security and safety, promoting equality and equity, climate change resilience, and improving ecological balance, thus achieving sustainable development.

KCS provides a holistic gender-sensitive approach of a fully integrated three-pronged solution that combines social, environmental and economic aspects of promoting sustainable development in line with the UN sustainable development goals agenda of 2030, AU agenda 2063, Kenya's Vision 2030 and the National Development Plan of Kenya.

KCS has an affiliate voluntary group of members under the name Kibwezi Wellwishers, which has three chapters namely: Coast, Nairobi Metropolitan and Highway chapters, that organize and conduct charity events in line with KCS objectives. Further, KCS partners with community members, local government, corporates, sponsors and donors to successfully implement projects and hold impactful events.

### Vision

A healthy, educated and environmentally sustainable society responding to the livelihood needs of the vulnerable communities and threatened environment

### Mission

To provide solutions through practical environmental, health, education programmes, research, capacity building for enhanced livelihoods





# Objectives and activities

To conserve the environment through tree planting programmes, seedballs broadcasting, garbage clean-ups, and environmental advocacy



To promote education for vulnerable and marginalized children and youth through scholarships, mentorship, technical trainings and psychosocial support sessions and capacity building



To advocate for a healthy society through health awareness and education, Sanitation, & Hygiene (WASH programmes) medical and veterinary camps, fight against period poverty and shame, mental health awareness, domestic violence, sexual and drug abuse awareness



To promote socio-economic development through capacity-building on sustainable climate-smart farming systems, marketing and entrepreneurship, renewable energy, value-chain management, food production systems, best farm management practices.



## Target population

KCS operates within the Counties of Makueni, Kitui, Machakos, Nairobi, Kwale, Kilifi, and Mombasa. Our target populations are rural communities that are constrained socially, culturally and economically mainly needy students and girls, whom are exposed to abuse, rape, early pregnancies, forced/early marriages and period poverty, thus dropping out of school and denied their freedom of choice and expression.

## VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

KCS is governed according to the following principles:

- Transparency, honesty and accountability
- Love and respect for nature and environmental
- Volunteerism, self and community empowerment
- Inclusiveness and respect for human dignity
- Professionalism with integrity

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# KEY PROGRAMMATIC AREAS

## CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION <<<

We Keep the environment better and safe through tree planting, seedballs broadcasting, garbage collection, pollution control programs and public sensitization while pushing for climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in our communities. Under this programme we have the below projects.



## >>> PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

KCS is committed to ensuring a healthy community. We improve the health of the vulnerable families and the elderly through hospital visits, guiding and counselling, health and nutrition talks, medical and Veterinary camps, and vaccination campaigns.

## ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGN <<<

KCS advocates for better policies and strict implementation/regulation on environmental conservation and against gender based violence. The strategies we use in our advocacy are: Engaging duty bearers to formulate the missing legal frameworks and also implement effectively the existing ones. Engaging media for publicity and awareness creation, that is, through radio and TV talk shows, Zoom conferences, event media coverage, social media campaigns. Creating and also joining County and National networks, movements and committees to do advocacy We also hold peaceful processions and demonstrations



## >>> PROMOTION OF EDUCATION

We create better access to excellent education through facilitation of learning materials, mentorship and ensure that our girls and boys to learn in safe and enabled environment. we believe that all learners deserve access to education which is also in support of the UN SDG 4.



# 2024 WELL-WISHING EVENTS~1

*Well-wishers Lifestyle*

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## Kithasyu Mega Restoration Event

In November 2024, during our Kithasyu Mega Restoration event, we were thrilled to have made a significant impact on both the environment and the local community. Our environmental efforts began with the planting of over 400 tree seedlings at Metava and Kithasyu Primary School. In addition, we distributed 600 more seedlings to community members who joined us in this important exercise.

We also took time to mentor the pupils at Kithasyu and Metava Primary School, encouraging them to value education, cultivate leadership skills, and become advocates for the environment. Education is a powerful tool for change, and by inspiring the younger generation, we hope to empower them to grow into responsible, environmentally-conscious citizens. We also focused on breaking the silence surrounding menstruation and addressing period stigma. Through open discussions and educational outreach, we were able to raise awareness and distribute sanitary pads to all the girls, ensuring they have

Finally, we ended the day by sharing a meal with the pupils and community members, fostering a sense of unity and belonging. This moment of togetherness reflected the strength of the community spirit we were building throughout the day. To close our event, we visited the Kithasyu Cultural Center, where we were able to immerse ourselves in the rich Akamba culture and learn about the region's eco-tourism initiatives. This experience emphasized the interconnectedness of culture, nature, and sustainable development, and we are excited to see how these efforts will continue to flourish.



## Kambui Special School Event

The event kicked off the day by planting 30 fruit trees, including delicious tree tomatoes and nutrient-rich Hass avocados. These trees will not only beautify the school grounds but also provide fresh produce for the students. Tree tomatoes are packed with vitamins and antioxidants, promoting good health, while Hass avocados are a fantastic source of healthy fats and essential nutrients, supporting brain development and overall wellness. Imagine the joy of watching these trees grow and knowing they contribute to the students' nutrition and learning environment!

As we moved forward, we prepared a common meal that brought together around 300 students. Sharing food is a beautiful way to foster community, and it was heartwarming to see everyone enjoying the meal together, exchanging stories and laughter. This shared experience reminded us of the power of unity and support in our school community.

To top it all off, we handed over gifts that we had lovingly prepared for the students. Seeing their faces light up with joy was priceless! These gifts are not just items; they represent our commitment to nurturing their dreams and aspirations.

## Mazingira Day-October 10, 2024

During Mazingira Day this year, we collaborated with Equity Bank Kibwezi to restore Thange River catchment where we planted around 300 tree seedlings, an area lovingly protected by the Kenya Forest Service (KFS). The day kicked off with an enlightening session led by the KFS officer in charge, who shared valuable insights on the importance of forests and the vital role they play in our ecosystem. We learned about the necessity of nurturing the trees we plant to ensure they grow strong and healthy.

Our founder, Waziri Dr. Sonia, also took the time to explain how the Chyulu water tower feeds water to over six springs along the Chyulu belt. She emphasized how deep-rooted trees, like the ones we planted, play a crucial role in pulling water to the surface, supporting both the environment and our communities. With shovels in hand, we dug holes and planted each seedling, while others watered them lovingly.





# 2024 WELL-WISHING EVENTS~2

*Well-wishers Lifestyle*

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## **Makindu Event-14/09/2024**

On Saturday, 14/09/2024, we had a magical day at the Makindu Blessed Hand Children's Home, filled with laughter, love, and learning. We started by cooking a delicious meal together, sharing recipes and stories, and enjoying the simple joy of togetherness as we ate with the children. The day continued with uplifting mentorship sessions where we exchanged ideas, dreams, and inspiration, seeing the children's eyes light up with possibility. Fun games followed, filling the space with laughter and cheers, and the moment we cut the cake brought sweet smiles and celebration. We also shared gifts, witnessing the joy that small acts of kindness can bring. To conclude, we planted ceremonial trees, symbolizing our commitment to growth, hope, and the lasting connections we made. We were honored to be joined by members of the Makindu Sikh temple, who added even more warmth and generosity to the day. Later, in the evening we had the incredible opportunity to plant and water tree seedlings at Kiu Wetland, a vital restoration site managed by the dedicated KFS rangers. As the sun set, we gathered at the KFS campsite for a festive evening, enjoying goat BBQ and building camaraderie around the fire. Our commitment to conservation continued the next morning, as we conducted a vigilant patrol to prevent illegal activities in the protected area.

## **Operation Safisha Shimo Estate Event**

The Kibwezi Well-Wishers Wote Municipality Chapter organized the "Operation Safisha Shimo Estate" event, a community-driven initiative focused on promoting environmental cleanliness and sustainability. In partnership with the Department of Trade, Marketing, Industry, Culture & Tourism and Wote Municipality, the event involved three main activities: garbage collection, environmental awareness, and tree planting. Volunteers participated in cleaning up Shimo Mlika Mwizi, improving the area's aesthetics and hygiene. Educational sessions were held to raise awareness about sustainable waste management practices and the long-term benefits of a cleaner environment. Bamboo trees were also planted at the Nduenguu dumpsite as part of efforts to rehabilitate the area and promote soil stabilization and carbon sequestration.



## **Ivingoni Event March 30, 2024**

We had the privilege of visiting Ngukuni Primary School, where we planted over 100 tree seedlings, fostering environmental conservation and sustainability. We also shared snacks and refreshments with the pupils, particularly those with disabilities who are supported in a special wing. As part of our commitment to their well-being, we gifted them with foodstuffs and crocheting supplies to encourage their creativity and self-reliance. Our next stop was Makindu Sub-County Hospital, where we planted ceremonial tree seedlings and left approximately 200 seedlings for the hospital to plant during the onset of the April rains. We were honored to celebrate women at the Makindu Sub-County Hospital Maternity Wing on Saturday, March 9th, 2024, in commemoration of International Women's Day. During this special day, we gifted over 42 women in the ward with care packages containing assorted items to welcome their newborns. We express our heartfelt appreciation to the Medical Superintendent for the opportunity to be part of this meaningful celebration and for joining us in honoring these remarkable women. We are deeply grateful for the immense support provided by KCB Group-Kibwezi branch, Equity Bank Kenya-Kibwezi branch, Busbul Supermarket Kibwezi, Richie Stores Kibwezi, Adams Store-Machinery, and Kibwezi Well-wishers, whose contributions helped make this event a success. In the afternoon, we also participated in a blood donation drive, donating over 20 pints of blood to support those in need. We remain committed to making a positive and lasting impact in our community.



# 2024 WELL-WISHING EVENTS~4

*Well-wishers Lifestyle*

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## **Africa Child Kenya/Young Mothers Rescue Centre visit**

On 9th March 2024, our Coast Chapter had the privilege of touching lives at the Africa Child Kenya/Young Mothers Rescue Centre in Diani, Kwale County. The day was filled with uplifting activities aimed at empowering the children and young mothers at the center. We held an inspiring mentorship session, where we shared words of encouragement and guidance to help them navigate the challenges they face. This was followed by an entertainment session, bringing joy and laughter to the children and mothers alike, creating a sense of community and support. It was a truly heartwarming experience that allowed us to make a meaningful connection with these resilient individuals.

In addition to the mentorship and entertainment, we were honored to present the children and young mothers with a variety of much-needed gifts. These included assorted food items as well as non-food essentials such as sanitary pads, diapers, panties, crocs, and clothes for both children and mothers. These donations were made with the intention of alleviating some of the burdens these families face, and we hope they bring comfort and support to their daily lives. Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who made this visit possible, as it was a truly transformative day for both us and the individuals we had the privilege of serving.

## **Katheka Kai Primary School Event**

Our Nairobi Metropolitan Chapter has made significant contributions to the community, including planting 400 tree seedlings to promote environmental sustainability, donating sanitary towels to school girls to support their education and well-being, and conducting mentorship sessions at Katheka Kai Primary School and Katelembu Center of Excellence to empower and inspire the next generation.

These efforts reflect our commitment to creating a positive, lasting impact in the areas of education, health, and the environment.



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# Our Community-Based Initiatives



We believe that effective environmental conservation begins with the active involvement of local communities. To this end, we have established two Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and one self-help group, empowering community members to take ownership of conservation efforts in their area. By working closely with the community, we ensure that conservation efforts are not only sustainable but also aligned with local needs and aspirations.



## Meru Young Well-wishers

In early 2022, we had the exciting opportunity to establish Meru Young Well-wishers, a group committed to environmental protection through tree planting and raising public awareness about sustainability. One of our members, Musau Meshack, who works in Meru, was particularly inspired by our efforts. He brought several of his friends from Meru to witness our work firsthand, and they were so moved by our mission that they expressed a strong desire to adopt and implement similar initiatives in their own community. Their enthusiasm marked a pivotal moment, as it demonstrated the potential for our cause to resonate far beyond our immediate group and inspire broader action in other areas.



## Friends of Kiu Catchment CBO

In early 2023, we established Friends of Kiu CBO, a community-based organization focused on preserving and protecting Makueni County's largest water catchment area, Kiu Catchment. The CBO is composed of individuals living around the catchment, working in partnership with the County Government of Makueni, local organizations, community leaders, and well-wishers who are champions of community-based natural resource management. Our mission is to conserve, restore, and protect this vital water source through sustainable practices, driven by a shared vision of economic, social, cultural, environmental, and territorial justice for the catchment area.

Kiu Catchment is facing significant threats due to uncontrolled human activities such as overgrazing, land grabbing, illegal farming, tree cutting, and unsustainable water abstraction. These actions have severely impacted the water table, jeopardizing livelihoods, cultural heritage, and the future of the ecosystem. If left unaddressed, these issues could lead to conflicts, food insecurity, and irreversible environmental damage. To address these challenges, we are seeking support from friends, family, local organizations, the national and county governments, and the community. Key activities include community sensitization on conservation agriculture, digging water bunds, broadcasting seedballs, tree planting, grass planting, spot fencing, controlled water abstraction, and advocacy for sustainable practices. Together, we aim to safeguard the future of Kiu Catchment and ensure its sustainable management for generations to come.



## Friends of Mang'elete Wetland CBO

In 2024, we established Friends of Mang'elete Wetlands, an environmental conservation group dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Mang'elete wetland. This initiative brings together passionate individuals, local communities, and environmental advocates who are committed to safeguarding this vital ecosystem. The Mang'elete wetland, with its rich biodiversity and crucial role in maintaining local water systems, faces increasing pressures from human activities and environmental degradation.

Through collaborative efforts, we aim to restore the health of the wetland, promote sustainable land and water management practices, and raise awareness about the importance of wetlands in preserving biodiversity, mitigating climate change, and supporting the livelihoods of nearby communities.



## Tree Nursery Group Establishment

In mid-2024, we established a group of 20 women in Masongaleni Ward, supporting them in creating a tree nursery to promote environmental sustainability. Empowered by creativity and determination, this incredible group has demonstrated the true power of resilience. During the dry season, they ingeniously utilized the merry-go-round (Mwethya wa Miti) method for hole-pitting and manuring, an innovative approach that made light work of what would otherwise have been a strenuous task. By working together and using this method, they efficiently dug pits and prepared the soil, ensuring the perfect conditions for planting once the rains arrived.

As the season shifts, their hard work is now paying off. The group is ready to plant tree seedlings, bringing life to the land and contributing to the fight against deforestation. The importance of tree planting cannot be overstated, as it not only helps restore the environment but also improves air quality, conserves water, and provides shelter and food for wildlife. This initiative highlights the strength of community collaboration and the vital role women play in driving sustainable change.



# Member Testimonials



*Dr. Sonnia*

Kibwezi Wellwishers has created ripple effects on its activities. What's more fulfilling is that Well-wishing helps both ways—it enriches those you support and fulfills you as well. I have grown through this journey and have seen our members grow alongside me.



*Lydia Mueni*

Kibwezi Wellwishers is more than an organization—it's a lifestyle. Through our work in environmental conservation, education, and health, I've discovered that giving back means gaining so much more. This journey has transformed my perspective and enriched my life in countless ways. I'm here for a lifetime, dedicated to making a difference.



*Steve Ndeto*

This is the hotbed of Well wishing. The Only NGO where well wishing is our lifestyle. Driven By Three pillars that directly touch human life's i.e., Education, Health and Environment. KWIKI NESA TU



*Ankole Tuors CEO*

Kibwezi wellwishers has taught me to be humble and patient, to give and expect blessings, Kibwezi wellwishers has turned out to be my closet family, it is not only an organisation but a true friend to walk the journey with Merry Christmas, Kibwezi wellwishers



*Eusebia Lakwii*

No one has ever become poor by giving, For it is in giving that we receive, In Kww I have found that giving liberates the soul of the giver that, the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more, and You can give without loving, but you can never love without giving. Happy Holidays to all Kwwians 🎉



*Johmu Global*

TPA(Thayu Promoters Association) team 😊. Well-wishing is our lifestyle.

We live it.



*Drasta Corp.*

Since joining Kibwezi Well-Wishers, my spirit of giving has flourished in ways I never imagined. Through this journey, I have forged meaningful connections and made lifelong friends who share the same passion for making a difference. It is through our acts of giving and active participation that I have been truly blessed in return. Wishing all my fellow Well-Wishers a joyful and fulfilling holiday season!



*Dkt. Eve Mueni*

As Kibwezi Well-Wishers marks its 10th anniversary, I celebrate a remarkable journey filled with purpose, compassion, and transformative impact. Over the past decade, this community-driven initiative has demonstrated the power of unity and selflessness, becoming a pillar of hope and progress in Kibwezi and beyond.

From supporting local projects to empowering individuals and fostering development, Kibwezi Well-Wishers has left an indelible mark in my Life. Each effort, no matter how small, has contributed to building a stronger, more resilient community. The dedication of its members and the unwavering support of friends and partners have been the driving force behind this success.

As we commemorate this milestone, I honor the past achievements and look forward to an even brighter future. May the next decade bring greater opportunities, deeper connections, and continued impact. Cheers to 10 years of shared vision and heartfelt generosity—here's to many More

Everlyne Mueni  
Chair Nairobi metropolitan chapter.



# 2024 ACHIEVEMENTS



Tree Seedlings Planted  
**20,000**



Sanitary Towels Donated  
**500**



Seedballs Broadcasted  
**500**



Students Mentored  
**2,000**



Blood Donated  
**50 pints**



Key Ecosystems Restored  
**3**

## Partners



We sincerely appreciate our esteemed partners for their unwavering support of our well-wishing events and initiatives over the past decade. Together, we have accomplished so much, and these shared achievements stand as a testament to the strength of our collaboration. As we continue to serve those in need and work toward the conservation of our environment, we eagerly look forward to further partnerships and greater successes in the years ahead.



# SUPPORT OUR WELL-WISHING ACTIVITIES

We are deeply committed to using every donation we receive responsibly and effectively. All funds are dedicated to advancing our core causes—education, environmental conservation, and public health. We ensure that every contribution is allocated with care and transparency, directly supporting programs and initiatives that make a meaningful, lasting impact on the communities we serve.

## How to Donate via M-PESA

The following steps will help you make a donation to our course:

1. Open your SIM Tool Kit and go to M-PESA Menu
2. Go to Lipa na M-PESA
3. Select Pay Bill and enter Business no. 247247
4. Followed by Account no. 006580
5. Enter the amount you want to donate.
6. Input your pin number and confirm the transaction then send
7. After payment, you will get a transactional message from M-PESA confirming your contribution.



## How to donate via Bank account

Send your donations to: –

Equity Bank Account: **1730282006580**

SWIFT CODE: **EQBLKENA**



## Kibwezi Center for Sustainability

## CONTACT US

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