



PO Box 5118 Burlington, NC 27216 · (336) 263-7641 · www.equipkenya.org
EquipKenya is a ministry of MissionLink International – www.missionlink.org

Malili/Itivanzou Well Project

The village of Malili is located at the Itivanzou sub-location, Kamuwongo division of the Kyuso District. This village like the entire district falls in a climatic region classified by the Kenyan government as an Arid/Semi-Arid area. Drought and famine are common in this area, usually occurring every other year. The population of Itivanzou is over 6,000. Most people in the area farm and raise livestock to sustain their families. This year alone over 80% of the cattle in the area have died as a result of the drought. The lack of available water has contributed greatly to the impoverishment of the community.

The village depends on rain for all of their farming ventures. The nearest reliable water source is more than 6 kilometers (3.73 miles) from the village. The other sources of water utilized by the community include one seasonal stream (dependent on rain fall) and open wells, which are dug in the riverbed. These open wells are subject to many problems. They repeatedly collapse, and are also a source of contamination from human beings, domestic and wild animals. Prevalence of water-borne disease and childhood mortality is high in the area as well. The majority of children are unable to focus on education, as they spend a great deal of time searching for water. In the community there is a water duty roster and the children must take turns missing school to search for water. Despite the great need for a stable water source, the people cannot afford to support this well project on their own.

The well in Malili would serve several functions. The major well would be located directly in Malili. There would be pipeline extended from the well in four directions that would take water to four neighboring villages. Once this well and pipeline are completed more than 6,000 people within the Itivanzou area will have easy access to clean water. This project would provide water that the villagers could use for drinking, as well as, farming. The use of the water to aid in their farming would greatly increase the crop yield while also boosting the nutrition of the area villagers as well as assisting them in sustaining their families. In addition, they will have an abundance of crops to trade and sell. The well project should also greatly reduce the cases of water borne disease in the area. Finally, the children and adults that formerly spent so much time searching for water would now have time to focus on school and work which would help the area to advance as a whole.

Due to the nature of the rocky soil in the area, the depth of well required, and the pipeline needed to pipe the water to the neighboring villages, the approximate cost of this project is

\$25,000. This well would not only supply the people of Malili with many opportunities, as the establishment of a stable water source would eliminate many problems that the villagers are currently experiencing (long searches for water, disease fostered in the open wells, insufficient water to sustain the people, crops and livestock), but it would also be an answer to the prayer of many saints. These saints can most certainly identify with David when he said, “O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, In a dry and weary land where there is no water” (Psalm 63:1). This well project will not only meet a practical need, but it will also create an opportunity for spiritual needs to be met. Thank you for prayerfully considering this well project.

Below is a picture of Rev. Robert Bullard, President of EquipKenya and Rev. Euticauls Wambua, National Director of EquipKenya at the well site in Sept. 2009.

