



## **Kenya Travel Report October 2024**



# TRIP TO NAIROBI

On October 20, 2024, it was time again: our journey to Kenya began. This year, our group had grown to four women. From the board of the WeCare-Association, Susanne Riz, Manuela Pastore, and newcomer Esther Enkelmann joined. Marcia Da Costa Huber also supported us again as a representative for Germany and Brazil.



The next day, we were picked up by the Kenya team—Agnes Gitonga, Keren Happuch, and Sarah Mutheu—and we set off toward Kitengela. After a short car breakdown due to a flat tire, we made our usual stop at the supermarket to buy gifts for almost 700 children.



After a short flight to Frankfurt, we were able to embark on our long-haul flight to Nairobi without much waiting. Upon arrival, we smoothly collected our eight suitcases (!) and headed to the airport hotel, where we relaxed with a gin and tonic to end the evening.







## REHOBOTH SCHOOL

After the supermarket, we drove to the Rehoboth School in the slum area of Nonkoopir, where we were warmly welcomed. We have been supporting this school since 2023, and since then, we have seen numerous improvements thanks to secure funding.

The students receive multiple meals a day on a regular basis, and their health is monitored. The provision of school materials has improved, and guaranteed salaries for the teachers also allow for higher expectations of them.

The classes had proudly prepared songs, dances, and plays, including an impressive performance on the topic of FGM (female genital mutilation).









# OLEOPOLOS TEACHERS' TRAINING



The following day was a major milestone that filled us all with excitement and a bit of nervousness: we had invited around 20 teachers from six different schools to a full-day seminar. Through this seminar, we were able to reach about 1,200 children. Topics included FGM, alternatives to corporal punishment, the importance of sports and physical activities, libraries and teaching materials, as well as the importance of school feeding programs and the availability of water to motivate parents to send their children to school. The teachers were very engaged, and the catering, gifts, and certificates were well received.





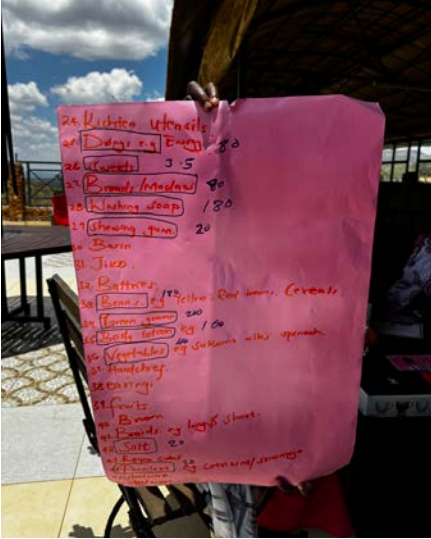


# OLEOPOLOS - SEMINAR CRAFTING YOUR BUSINESS



At the same time, part of our team, led by Manuela Pastore, held a seminar for women titled "Crafting Your Business." The idea: In Mperrishi, a teacher had launched a shop, creating a job, increasing her income, and simplifying life for the local population. Impressed by its success, we decided to share this concept with other women. Our expectations were far exceeded, as all the women were enthusiastic and actively joined the discussions. A WhatsApp group was set up for ongoing exchange, and all participants received a certificate and a gift. A follow-up meeting is planned for early 2025, and we are eager to see progress.







# VISIT MPERRISHI



The next day, we traveled early to Mperrishi, where the community awaited us. There were numerous performances by the students, including a touching poem pleading with parents to send their children to school and provide regular meals. Particularly impressive was a traditional Maasai song performed in colorful attire. The community then proudly showed us the site for a potential borehole, identified through a hydrogeological study. The prospect of water readily available sparked great enthusiasm.





Our day in Mperrishi was filled with meetings with parents, teachers, and students, as well as a moving reunion with the girls we support. Sadly, we also met two girls (aged 13 and 15) with their newborns, whose early motherhood will likely end their school journey. Their difficult situation highlighted the need for further education and prevention projects.



A highlight in Mperrishi was witnessing the school's progress under the leadership of head teacher Mr. Reuben, whose dedication to the community is truly inspiring. The entire school appeared more organized and structured than during our previous visits. Another item on our "Christmas list" is a first aid kit, as the school currently lacks basic medical supplies.











# VISIT EMBOLIEL PRIMARY SCHOOL



After our visit to Mperrishi, we had another new experience: a visit to the Emboliel School, now headed by Mr. Immanuel, the former director of Mperrishi. This school is quite large, with 354 students, and faces similar challenges to Mperrishi, particularly lack of water and a school feeding program. We arrived just in time for the school closing ceremony, and our FGM activist Agnes delivered a passionate speech against the mutilation of girls to protect them during the long school break.









As it began to rain, we had to hurry back, as the sandy paths quickly turn into muddy tracks where even a four-wheel drive can get stuck. Back in Kitengela, we visited the Rehoboth School once again the next day and concluded our trip with a team meeting and a final dinner with Lucy's foster family.







Overall, our visit to Kenya was an intense and educational experience filled with many new endeavors. We are proud of what we accomplished and have numerous new projects in mind which we will now work on funding.

