

Bamburi Community Survey

Key Findings

In June 2011 ACTION THIS DAY conducted a survey of the community households that have children attending the Kookaburra Community School (“KCS”) in Bamburi, Mombasa. The school, which provides free primary education to 144 severely disadvantaged children, was established and is being funded & operated by the charity.

The main objective of the survey was to gain a greater understanding of our community members, the hardships they face, and how we can achieve the greatest lasting and positive impact.

Financial situation

- The average community member lives on 25 Kenyan Shillings (KES) per day, equivalent to AUD 0.25, GBP 0.17 or USD 0.27. The official World Bank poverty threshold is USD 1.25 per day.
- 70% of households have outside relatives who are financially dependent on them.
- Average household rent is KES 1,150 per month. On average households are 2 months behind in rent payments.

Living conditions

- 50% of households live in one room despite having on average 6.5 members.
- 80% do not have to their own toilet or bathroom.
- None of the households have access to running water in their home¹.
- 80% do not have access to power.



¹ 20% have access to running water in a communal area next to their home.



Education

- Nearly all families expressed concern at being able to afford sending their children to secondary school.
- The average parent has not completed primary school.
- Parents stated that their children have improved in reading and English proficiency since joining the Kookaburra Community School.
- The children's discipline and courtesy has improved at home after joining the Kookaburra Community School.

Methodology

The survey is based on interviews with 15 of the 70 households, selected at random, that have children in education at the Kookaburra Community School. The interviews were held with the head of each household in the local language Kiswahili and then translated into English.

The questions posed concerned mainly the following topics:

- **Household composition** incl. size of household, languages spoken, education levels;
- **Living conditions** incl. housing, access to water & electricity;
- **Financial situation** incl. monthly income, dependents, rent, debt;
- **Education levels** incl. school attendance by parents, affordability of secondary education;
- **Community impact of ACTION THIS DAY** incl. performance of KCS, observed improvements in children.

The interviews and analysis were lead by Calvin D'Souza, a former senior analyst at Kroll Associates and an experienced researcher in developing nations.