

# TURKANA EMERGENCY



Please help thousands of animals dying of thirst in Kenya



In the far north of Kenya, in one of the driest places on earth, water is life. After years of poor or failed rains, the vast, drought-ravaged Turkana region is in a state of emergency. Thousands of animals are already dead and many more are suffering terribly, in desperate need of our help.

Devastated by prolonged and repeated droughts, most natural **water sources in Turkana have dried up**. Shallow wells, rivers and sand dams are now bone dry or have become too salty to drink.

Even hardy camels, so perfectly adapted to life in this extreme landscape, stand emaciated in the scorching sun. Thirsty and desperate for water, they are dying slowly of dehydration.

**Where there is drought, starvation follows close behind.** As water sources dwindle so too do the edible plants and pasture. It's pitiful to see animals trying to graze on vegetation devastated by drought.

The nomadic, pastoralist communities of Turkana are dependent on their donkeys, camels, goats and oxen for survival. They are adept at surviving the harsh climate, migrating vast



*This camel, with young calf, shows signs of severe malnutrition. Its ribs protrude and its humps, its reserve of energy, is deflated*

distances in search of pasture and water with their animals. But this drought is now so harsh and prolonged, that to keep their animals alive, people are forced to travel even further, crossing borders, risking conflict and digging for water with their bare hands.

This migration places tremendous stress on all animals, but particularly on the younger ones. Along with dehydration and starvation, they are especially **vulnerable to disease**.

Where vast numbers of weak and exhausted animals gather desperately around the last meagre water sources, diseases spread rapidly and death rates are as high as of 60 to 100 per cent. The further they travel, the further animals are from **crucial veterinary services**.

Without vet care, their helpless and desperate owners have no choice but to watch the animals they depend on collapse and die from dehydration, starvation and disease.



***Without water, these oxen are thirsty, hungry and vulnerable to disease***

***'The animals and people of Turkana are suffering terribly. Animals are dying slowly and painfully. The lives and livelihoods of their owners and their families hang in the balance. We have to act – urgently.'***

***Ben Sturgeon, Director of Veterinary Programmes***

Forced to travel vast distances in search of water, Turkana pastoralists and their desperate animals risk dangerous conflict - several people have already died trying to get access to water and pasture.

We met Nawette, a young mother, and her family. They had lost many animals to starvation in the drought and, like so many others, were in desperate need of water and food for their surviving animals and their families.



***Nawette and her family have lost all but one of her precious donkeys to dehydration and starvation. Jama, her last remaining donkey, carries on his back whatever water they can find. Without Jama, Nawette fears her goats and oxen will also perish. With your help we can bring water to donkeys like Jawa and stop animals dying of thirst.***

# SPANA'S SOLUTIONS

While the situation is bleak, there is still hope and a chance for animals that are dying of thirst, starvation and disease, to survive.

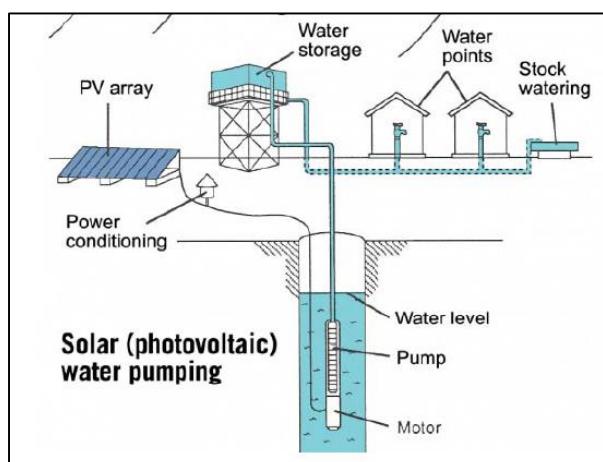
Although most shallow water sources are either completely dry or saline, boreholes deep enough to reach the water table are still functioning. These boreholes are a lifeline for the local communities and their animals. But they are now under considerable pressure and serve almost double the numbers for which they were designed.

**We desperately need to build another borehole to provide fresh clean water.**



**Oxen drink fresh, safe water at a lifesaving borehole**

SPANA has been working in Turkana for many years with local organisations. We're working with a trusted partner with experience of constructing boreholes in the region - but we need your help to bring lifesaving water to the animals of Turkana.



**A key feature of this borehole is a built in trough for animals – ‘stock watering’. When our partner discussed a borehole with the community, the first thing they asked was ‘what about the animals?’: such is the value of animals to the people of Turkana**

**A solar-powered borehole could be built in just six months and would bring clean water to 7,200 animals and 4,000 pastoralists like Nawette every year.**

In this blisteringly hot desert, the borehole will be powered by the sun. Solar-powered technology will ensure our environmentally sustainable and low maintenance borehole will save lives and ease suffering, not just today but for many years to come.

A solar-powered borehole has an advantage over one with a diesel pump - communities won't have to travel to purchase diesel when diesel supply can be unreliable and costly.

With your support, we will also train local people to maintain and manage the water point, protecting animals for generations to come in this drought-prone desert region.

**Please help bring lifesaving water to thousands of animals and save them from a slow and agonising death**

# YOUR IMPACT

**Will you help save animals dying from thirst, starvation and disease?**

With your help we can:

1. Construct a solar-powered borehole and stock watering facility to provide lifesaving water to 7,200 animals and nearly 4,000 pastoralists every year. To provide the biggest impact, the borehole will be situated in a village where shallow wells have dried up and there has already been conflict over this scarce resource
2. Establish and train a community water management committee to maintain and secure the borehole
3. Support the community to prepare for drought and increase their resilience to crises. We'll help them plan for extreme weather and adapt to a changing climate
4. Improve the community's access to local veterinary services so their animals receive lifesaving care when they need it most



## Budget 2018

Item	Cost
Constructing the solar-powered borehole	£25,523
Project team	£14,317
Operational, Community Management, Monitoring and Evaluation	£5,797
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£45,637</b>

***'Drought has ravaged the Turkana region for years and dried up rivers and water holes. Thousands of animals have already succumbed to agonizing death from dehydration and starvation. Without help, thousands more animals and their owners will soon follow. Please help us end this tragedy.'***

**Geoffrey Dennis, SPANA Chief Executive**

Please **help us raise £45,637** to build the borehole and train the local community to save lives and ease suffering not just today, but for many years to come.

## THANK YOU