

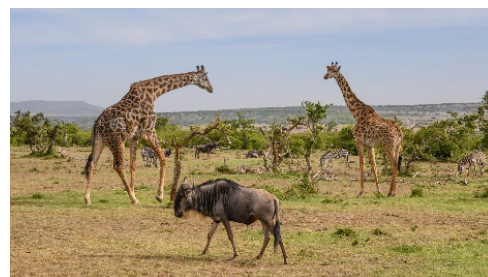
Sopa, Hello,

What bizarre times! The COVID-19 pandemic has turned many lives upside down: many people are sick, countries are in lock down, and the economy in decline. In times like these we are in need of some good news! As the OsoTua Foundation, we have been working intensively with the Maasai in Kenya for 8 years now. As you can read below, we have already been able to achieve a lot in this time!

What are we doing? Eratamare (formerly Olosinko)

Eratamare stands for sustainable land use in “Maa” and perfectly expresses our vision. Sustainable land use protects nature, increases biodiversity and improves the livelihoods of the Maasai. We promote sustainable land use by combining nature-inclusive agriculture with social enterprises. The goal is to make the ecosystem healthy again to ensure that Maasai, their livestock, and wild animals have a good future again. Additionally, the advantage is that the savanna will become more resistant to climate change! We are working together with four communities: Nkoilale, Olesekin, the Mara Insinya Conservancy and Tepesua. **Together they represent nearly 500 households and in total more than 4,500 people whom we reach directly.** All OsoTua Foundation projects are a puzzle piece within this framework of sustainable land use.

The first positive effects are already visible! In Tepesua they have put theory into practice – during this crisis, they are one of the few in the Mara who were able to sustain themselves and generate income!



Enjoy the beautiful photos of **Mariëlle de Valk** (see **photo book**)

Current projects

- Oloip Mara Innovation Hub: a test farm for sustainable living and land use. Here a **school for permaculture** has been set up and a design made for an easy to build, affordable, comfortable, and sustainable **show home**. This is rented out to generate income
- Training: holistic grazing management
- Training: setting up social businesses
- Natural cosmetics project to promote the income of women, biodiversity and culture.

What are we doing in times of Corona?

Water and soap are both difficult for the Maasai to obtain and are essential in these trying times. Through **the Wilde Ganzen Corona Fund's support of doubling every euro we have been able to collect**, we were able to take the first steps in providing these indispensable products for the Maasai! In addition to a large water barrel of 1000 liters and soap packages, **Zeepziederij Borssenburg** will provide online training to make soap which the Maasai women will be able to sell. Next to soap, we aim at creating a natural cosmetic line. Our next step is to collect money to let Em van Bommel from the Zeepziederij Borssenburg go into the field with the Maasai and see which native plants are suitable for their own cosmetics. More information can be found in this **video**.

What have we done in recent years? A summary.

For the Enkiteng Lepa school we have:

- built 1 classroom and 1 sanitary block
- built 1 dining room for 150 people
- donated 30 computers (via Safaricom)
- arranged sponsorship for 2 students for primary school and for 1 former student a university education
- 40 sports vests and other clothing received from donors

In Nkoilale we have:

- built 1 Animal Health Center where cows can be vaccinated and weighed
- built 1 Women's Arts & Crafts Center (co-financed)
- bought 1 bull for cattle breeding and 1 motor for education
- provided training in Permaculture, Holistic Grazing Management & Social Business.

Our strength lies clearly in networking and collaboration

With Michiel de Koning we made the **Virtual Reality film 'White Mountain'** about the Maasai and climate change. Together with Mariëlle de Valk we made a **beautiful photo book** about the Maasai and the Eratamare project. Our women's group works together with **Maa trust**. The ladies receive quality training in jewelry making and this jewelry is sold. The holistic grazing training courses are provided through **Narok County Natural Resource Network. ReNature** will set up an experimental farm and school on Oloip. They develop a food forest hedge that provides protection, biodiversity, medicinal herbs, fodder and herbs/vegetables for the people. **So finally, a fence that does not cost money but makes money!**

With Celine Kusters and Maarten van Asselt from **Tsavo** and Juan Nibbelink from **Werkterrein** we are designing an ecologically sustainable, energy-neutral, comfortable, but above all a beautiful house!



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How can you help us?

- Book a screening of the Virtual Reality Film about the Maasai via info@osotuafoundation.com
- **Order** the photo book by Mariëlle de Valk
- Become a volunteer for OsoTua foundation!

In order to finance all our projects, we need 100,000 € per year. You can support us by becoming a member of our community and donating 5 € per month to IBAN: NL03TRIO 0390 938890 (BIC: TRIONL2U) t.n.v. Stichting OsoTua Foundation.

For more information and donations: www.osotuafoundation.com or mail info@osotuafoundation.com.
If you want to hear more about holistic grazing and permaculture, we recommend this podcast by **Allan Savory**.

Thanks! Ashe Oleng!

