



# La Nostra AfricA Onlus

Aiutiamo la popolazione Maasai in Kenya



# Maasai Mama Africa Center (MMAC)



“ La Nostra AfricA Onlus” Associazione di Volontariato  
via A. Bergami,18 – Bologna ITALIA cell. 3356788136  
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Associazione iscritta nell'elenco delle Libere Forme Associative del Comune di Bologna con Pgn. 82209/2008 del 22 aprile 2008  
Associazione iscritta nel Registro Provinciale di Bologna delle Organizzazioni di Volontariato Onlus con Prot. 216808/2008 del 26 maggio 2008



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## PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION:

# La Nostra AfricA Onlus

Since 2008, the voluntary association "La Nostra Africa Onlus" of Bologna has been implementing projects in support of Kenya's Maasai population in the district of Kajiado.

Living by our motive, "Education is Life", we started the construction of schools for three different Maasai communities: Olpirikata, Naudot and Iloshion.

Our goal is to allow thousands children to get an education where they were born.

Unfortunately, in recent years there has been a strong migration from the savannah to the city of Nairobi. Instead of finding comfort and good prospects for them and especially for their children, the Maasai have poured into the slums of violence and misery.

Our aim is to stop this process, allowing Maasai to find education, employment and well-being even in their own homeland. The way we operate and direct the community is not by sending money, but rather by organizing volunteer camps in Kenya during which the Italian volunteers share the life of the Maasai such as sleeping on the ground, cooking with fire and living with one liter of water per day.

In addition, volunteers work on projects such as cooperating with local construction workers to build the classrooms, painting them with different colors and drawing maps of Africa, the alphabet and numbers; making bracelets, earings and necklaces with Maasai women that are sold to raise money in Italy; and teaching children English, math and geography.

In August 2012, thanks to our friend Susi, we were able to drill a well for the Maasai community of Olpirikata that will improve the lives of thousands of people. Once we have finished our projects in the savannah, they are self-managed by the Maasai.

Only in doing so are we sure that everyone will ensure that the project is successful and will not be ruined.

It is amazing how people with similar ideals and the possibility to adapt can turn donations into tangible results.

"Collaboration" is the motto that has sprung to life between the Maasai population and Italian volunteers.

We are like zebras: the black and white stripes complete each other.

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Presentation Project :

## Maasai Mama Africa Center

Center for training and the fight against female genital mutilation (FGM)

**Kenya - Kajiado district - Maasailand**

**Maasai women's rights and sexual health**

### **Project background**

Female genital mutilation is a traditional practice in many African ethnic groups in 28 countries in Africa.

In general, girls are subjected to this practice during childhood and before puberty, with significant differences for specific ethnic groups. For example, among the Maasai community of Kenya, girls undergo FGM just before marriage which is arranged by families usually around the age of 15. Women, girls and children who undergo FGM must deal with serious irreversible health risks as well as heavy psychological consequences.

### **How the project works**

The center for Maasai women's rights will be built on the basis of a draft drawn up by Italian architect Raffaella Malservisi. It will function as a multi-service center for women's health:

**Sexual and reproductive health clinic:** This clinic will be based on the Italian model.

There will be an obstetrician, a midwife, a nurse and other personnel to provide primary gynecologic care, pre- and post-partum services, information on the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and contraception and psychologic counseling.

**Training Center:** This will be used for courses geared towards people active in the community who can promote the fight against FGM.

**Community awareness activities:** These will be geared towards the community, men and teenagers to bring more awareness to the issue.

**Research program:** This will be a pioneering research program to study the psychologic consequences of FGM and the causes of the persistence of the practice.



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## MMAC - MAASAI MAMA AFRICA CENTER

- **Construction project:** Maasai Mama Africa Center
- **Proposer:** La Nostra Africa Onlus – via A. Bergami, 18 - 40010 Bologna ITALY  
Mobile phone: +39 3356788136  
e-mail: [info@lanostrafrica.it](mailto:info@lanostrafrica.it)  
website: [www.lanostrafrica.it](http://www.lanostrafrica.it)  
Legal status: O.N.L.U.S.

Number of members: 58 people since January 1, 2013

People involved in the project: Giorgio Girella, Anna de Togni, Massimo Augelli

Since 2008, year of establishment of the association, to date, the association has been involved in promoting and implementing projects for Maasai people of the Rift-valley in Kenya.

- **Legal guardian:** Girella Giorgio, mobile: +39 3356788136 - [info@lanostrafrica.it](mailto:info@lanostrafrica.it)
- **Partners in the recipient country:** women in the community of Olpirikata
- **Staff in charge of the project in Kenya:**  
**Coordinator:** Joel Rise  
**Head of construction:** Kagiri Duncan  
**Management of activities:** Shadrack Mututua

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## - **Background and context:**

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a widespread and complex phenomenon, which includes traditional practices ranging from the incision to removal, in part or in whole, of the external female genitalia.

Children, girls and women who undergo this practice, have to deal with serious and irreversible risks to their health, as well as heavy psychological consequences.

It is estimated that in Africa the number of women living with genital mutilation are 140 million. Considering these data it is necessary an intervention aimed at prevention and health promotion that puts particularly attention to the cultural context in which it takes place and seeks the involvement of the entire community.

## - **The idea of the project:**

The female genital mutilation is a traditional practice in many African ethnic groups, among the Maasai people too.

They are distributed in 28 countries in Africa.

In general, girls are subjected to the practice during childhood and before puberty, with significant differences for specific ethnic groups.

Among the Maasai of Kenya, the girls are subjected to the practice just before marriage which is combined by the families usually around 15 years.

The project stems from a request for help from the women themselves and the community of the village headman, who intend to oppose this practice and to uproot it from traditional practices as archaic and harmful to health. The intent is to create a shelter for Maasai women, in Kajiado district, Karero sub-area, Olpirikata community (Kenya), where women can take advantage of a service support, assistance and information relating to female genital mutilation.

## - **General objectives:**

Create a structure that welcomes the Maasai women who have had or plan to escape genital mutilation.

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## - **Specific objectives**

Activate a clinic for sexual and reproductive health on the model of the Italian ones, where will operate a gynecologist, a midwife, a nurse, in addition to staff, and providing primary gynecological care, pre-and post-natal information on a prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, contraceptive services, counseling;

Activate a training center for the development of courses for the social actors who can contribute actively to promote the abandonment of female genital mutilation. In particular, we will seek to engage the operators involved to perform genital mutilation, in order to facilitate their social and economic relocation within the community.

Carry out activities to raise awareness among the Maasai community, to women, to young people;

Implement a program of pioneering research on the psychological consequences of female genital mutilation and the causes of the persistence of the practice.

## - **Building activities : Maasai Mama Africa Center**

Site inspection for suitable area: 1 day

Excavation for foundation: 20 days

Construction of the outer walls: 60 days

Lintel, ceiling, windows: 8 days

Internal definition of the reception center (plaster, floor): 12 days

## - **Expected results:** abolition of the practice of female genital mutilation among the Maasai of Olpirikata

## - **Recipient :** 820 maasai women

## - **Intervention methodology:** The district chief, Shadrack Mututua, will be responsible for the reception center, so that the Maasai women have a place of welcome and sexual education.

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- **Sustainability:** The entire community will work to improve maasai women's rights .
- **Follow up and evaluation:**  
In the early stages the project will be followed by Giorgio Girella (Italian manager of projects) and Raffaella Malservisi (architect). Then the Association will carry out systematic checks on the progress. The chief of the district will be responsible for managing the smooth continuation of the project.
- **Link with other projects:** the reception center will be built at an area where there are already under implementation and development of two other projects involving the construction of the well and the school
- **Project duration:** 12 months
- **Fund raising activities:** during the year, La Nostra Africa Onlus will work to the fund raising through the organization of cultural / recreational meetings such as photo exhibitions (photos taken by volunteers during the summer camp), supportive dinners, banquets and all those activities that promote cultural exchange and human ... "**because the problems are solved by talking ..."**

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	Details	Amount in Kshs	Amount in Kshs
1	Cement 640 bags	80000	640000,00
2	Iron sheets	32000	256000,00
3	roofing ridges 56 pcs G30	1750	14000,00
4	Barbed wire 4880 mtrs i roll	4000	32000,00
5	binding wire 32 kgs	360	2880,00
6	Y-10 twisted bar 48 pcs	3600	28800,00
7	R - 6 16pcs	1000	8000,00
8	D.P.C. 4 roll	6000	48000,00
9	Roofing nails 96 kg	2400	19200,00
10	Ordinary nails 120kg	2250	18000,00
11	Metal door 4pz. 8x3	30000	240000,00
12	windows 4 pcs 4x4 pcs	120000	960000,00
13	putty 80 kg	1200	9600,00
14	Tina turpentine 52 ltr	700	5600,00
15	paint blur 8pz. 2x8 ltr	1800	14400,00
16	paint emulsion 2x4 ltr	1200	9600,00
17	stones 6x9 pcs. 5.376	250000	2000000,00
18	ballast 118 tonnes	30000	240000,00
19	hardcore four lorries	35000	280000,00
20	sand fifteen lorries	48000	384000,00
21	labour	250000	2000000,00
22	timber 6x1 2000 ft	9250	74000,00
23	timber 4x2 4800 ft	25400	203200,00
24	timber 3x2 4400 ft	16200	129600,00
25	timber 8x1 3000 ft	12500	100000,00
Grand Total Kshs		964610	7716880,00

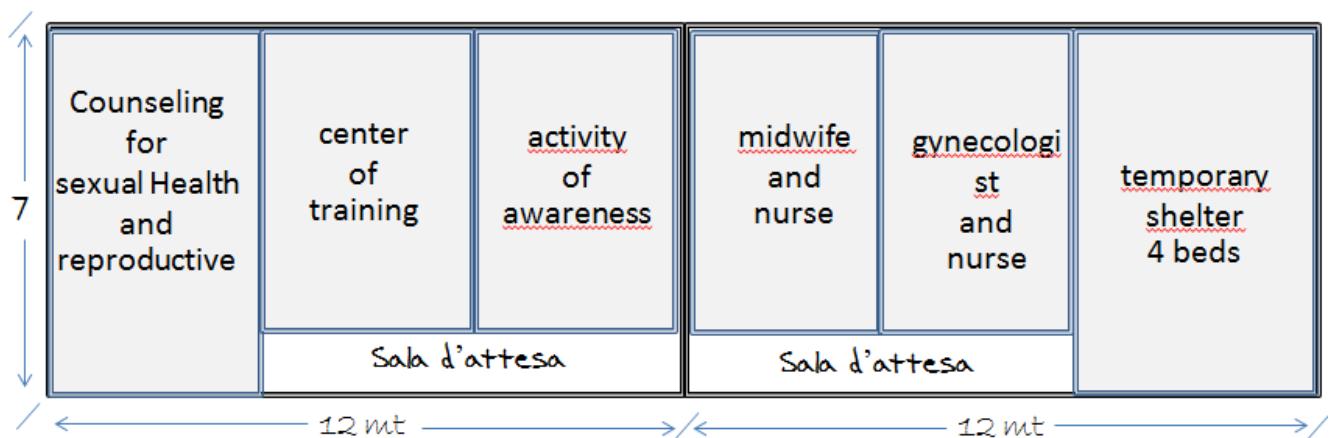
100 Kshs = 1 \$

Total Cost = 77.168,80 \$

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## Maasai MaMa Africa Center



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