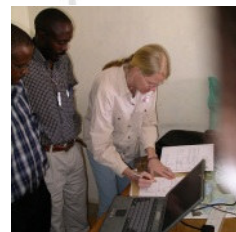


Liana
annual
report
2006



Ric Coe and Eija Soini

Liana

Liana is a non-profit Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) operating in the field of development cooperation. It was established in 2005 and is registered in Finland*.

The organisation was established to link local development initiatives with expertise, resources, information and knowledge. It helps fill the gap that often separates proven knowledge and practical development activities. Liana's role in development is advisory and supportive, aiming at building local capacity. It accepts only development and development research professionals with considerable developing country and project management experience as its Regular members. Other individuals or registered organisations can become Supporting members.



Purpose

The purpose of the organisation is to use the best proven knowledge to improve the livelihoods of the poor in developing countries and other poor areas while sustaining the environment, emphasising equality and joint responsibility.

To fulfil its purpose the organisation operates

- to meet local development needs by generating, finding and evaluating relevant reliable information
- to enable local organisations and through them local people to use this information by connecting sources and experts
- to follow the livelihood status of the poor, putting forward proposals and initiatives, and giving statements
- to support local practical development work through local development organisations with whom agreements of collaboration have been signed
- to facilitate action by development professionals who have the knowledge, the skills and the vision to develop and implement projects aiming at alleviating poverty

To support its operations Liana

- applies for project funding from governments, foundations and other relevant bodies
- helps local development organisations secure funding
- finances its activities by accepting donations and other assistance

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* Liana registration number 192.207, Y-tunnus/Business ID number 1982505-3

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1. Introduction

Liana, a non-profit Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) operating in the field of development cooperation, was established in April 2005 by a group of research and development professionals representing different fields of expertise. 2006 was therefore the first full working year for Liana. It was a busy year, and a year of learning – learning that everything takes much longer than expected, learning how much work there is to do in keeping an organisation functioning, learning what can be expected from others both inside and outside the organisation. But it was also a year of some achievement summarised in this report.

As I write this sitting in Tanzania, there is war in Somalia, floods in Kenya, a fragile peace in Northern Uganda but a worsening situation in Sudan. Looking at these large-scale events, one may wonder whether the limited activities of an organisation like Liana can ever have an impact. But attending a village meeting this morning brought home the fact that the lives of so many of the poor continue in much the same way irrespective of events further afield. And it highlighted the determination of the villagers to improve things, the commitment and energy of local people working for change, and the fact that even small positive impacts by Liana and other organisations are worthwhile and valued.

2. Improving rural livelihoods by rainwater harvesting in the lowlands of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Tanzania

In August 2006 the McKnight Foundation approved Liana's first substantial grant, US\$30,000 for a project, the proposal for which was submitted in September 2005.

2.1 A short summary of the project

The project is based on needs identified by Eija's research on the slopes of Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. It raises awareness of rainwater harvesting and facilitates building rainwater harvesting structures to provide water for home consumption, easing women's work in water collection. Tank constructors will be selected for training. It also introduces drip irrigation structures with the aim of diversifying crop options for improved food security. It facilitates collective action for continuation of the activities to enable as many families as possible to start harvesting rainwater and diversify their farming.

2.2 Successful Start-up

So far the first three months of the project have proceeded as planned.

In October Eija was able to finalise arrangements with local partners, agreeing on terms of reference and contracts with the various implementers. The main facilitators for 2006 were:

- Albin Kessy, an extension officer, who manages the project in Tanzania
- Istamil Msangi, from Sokoine University of Agriculture's Makanya Field station, and an expert in rainwater harvesting
- Magreth Maringo, from Mwanza District Council and Traditional Irrigation and Environmental Development Organisation (TIP), experienced in facilitating formation and functioning of women's and other groups
- Anenmose Maro, from Traditional Irrigation and Environmental Development Organisation (TIP), a water engineer.

Eija is overall coordinator. During 2006 this has amounted to about 7 weeks work, all of it voluntary.



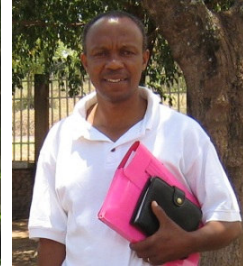
Albin Kessy



Istamil Msangi



Magreth Maringo



Anenmose Maro

Awareness raising village meetings were held in the selected four pilot villages: 22 November in Kilototoni, 23 November in Makaa, 24 November in Makuyuni, and 28 November in Matala. Despite heavy unexpected rains and muddy roads, about 50 people gathered together in each village to listen to our presentations on rainwater harvesting. Presentations covered water harvesting, rainwater harvesting from roofs, drip irrigation and working in groups by organised collective action. We were received with warmth and with great interest in the subject. The meetings lasted approximately three hours, but no one was in a hurry to finish and a lot of questions were asked at the end of each meeting. Finally villagers recommended and selected eight people (four men, four women) amongst the ones attending the meeting to travel to Makanya where RELMA-in-ICRAF and Sokoine University of Agriculture together with village groups have started rainwater harvesting in 2004.



In December, representatives (4 women and 4 men) from each of the villages went to Makanya to learn about tank construction, drip irrigation, and the way groups can raise funds and manage the new water resources. They had discussions with a group from Bangalala, and met with the fundis trained within the RELMA-in-ICRAF and Sokoine University of Agriculture project.

The eight villagers who got the opportunity to do the study tour to Makanya were then assisted in preparing their reports which they will present in the January 2007 second set of village meetings.

The project has required more of Eija's time than was originally planned. Staying more often at the project site has been made possible by the generous contributions in kind by the Marangu Hotel. Thank you!

More details about the project are on the Liana web site: www.liana-ry.org/rainwater.htm.

3. Interactions with other organisations

3.1 A Maasai community, Olepolos, Kenya

In April Liana and KEPI (Kenya Environmental and Pastoralist Integrated Development Initiative) assisted 83 women in Olepolos, south of Nairobi, Kenya, in planting over 1200

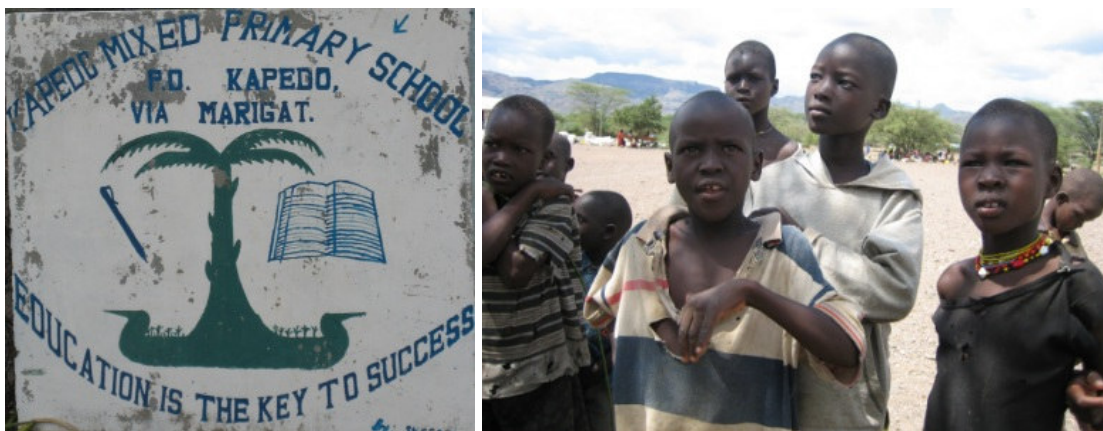


trees in their homesteads. Species included papaya (*Carica papaya*), orange (*Citrus sinensis*), *Casuarina* sp., *Grevillea robusta* and wild olive (*Olea africana*). To demonstrate tree planting some trees were planted together with the women in eight centrally located homesteads to which women's groups had gathered. Planting and caring for trees were also taught by using brief written instructions with illustrations. Photocopies of the instructions were left to the women to remind of the important points. Tree planting in the pastoral Maasai society is a new activity to many. Species descriptions were left for those who can read English and can translate the descriptions to the others. Donations to Liana in honour of Eija's and Ric's wedding paid for this activity. Thank you to all those who made this effort possible.

Liana was further able to support KEPI with donation of books on environmental management. Tom Coe donated a used laptop computer to them through Liana.

3.2 A Turkana community, Kapedo, Kenya

Kapedo is a village of a few thousand people in the south of Turkana District, northern Kenya. It is a harsh environment, hot and dry for much of the year, in an area with long-term security problems. Liana has been exploring possible project ideas with local organisations. In May Liana donated dryland agroforestry and rangeland management related books for the use of two local CBOs, KEDA (Kapedo Educational Development Organisation) and SUDE (Suguta Development Community Based Organisation). The seven books donated are the first ever exposure of many of the members of these two organisations to what opportunities trees can offer in the challenging environment of northern Kenya drylands.



Liana also facilitated the beginning of Friendship between a primary school in the UK and primary schools in Kapedo. We continue to assist with forwarding the post in both directions.

3.3 Learning from KEPA



In October Liana was accepted as a member of KEPA (Service Centre for Development Cooperation). KEPA exists to support the work of Finnish NGOs, providing a range of support services as well as acting as their voice to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and other parts of the Finnish government.

Eija and Ric were able to attend an evening introducing KEPA to new members.

Earlier Eija attended two training courses run by KEPA. These were on 'Gender in Development Cooperation' and 'Partnership agreements and MOUs'. Both have already proved useful in Liana activities.

3.4 Environmental education with Liike in Tanzania

Liana vice-chairman Ari Koivu runs a sports development NGO, Liike ry (www.liike.fi). Liana contributed contents for an instruction sheet on environment to be used –among other instructive material on health, nutrition, human rights etc – in schools in Mtwara on the Tanzania National Sports Day in 2007. On the same day youth and children's football clubs will also arrange a street cleaning campaign in Mtwara town.

4. Keeping Liana running

There has been much to do to keep Liana functioning despite it still being a small organisation:

- The Annual Meeting was held this year as an email meeting as this format allowed all members to take part. In addition to regular business, it finalised and approved the Liana Strategic Plan and Operating Principles.
- Board meetings as necessary have also been held by email.
- Eija keeps the website (www.liana-ry.org) up to date, so that it provides an archive list of activities, many of them with photos attached.
- All administration of Liana is done by volunteers, most of it by Eija. Miika Mäkelä audited the accounts. Anneli and Reijo Soini provide invaluable help by handling Liana post when Eija is away from Finland.

5. Members and Support

Liana exists to facilitate actions by members that are aligned with its goals and principles. As such it does not seek to increase its membership base but welcomes new members who wish to work with it.

During 2006 the major Liana activities were initiated by Eija. At the same time, in October she successfully defended her PhD and was engaged in a short-term research project on Mt Elgon, on the Kenya-Uganda border.

Kirsi Saaristo has been developing ideas for a tree planting project in East Africa, while at the same time moving jobs, first to Nairobi, then to Kampala then back to Nairobi. Funding has been tentatively negotiated, however, more planning is needed to have a detailed plan, partners, and a location selected.

Supporting members have continued to provide funding, part of which, during 2006, was used to buy books for local partners. Donations from individuals amounted to almost 1000 €. Both supporting member fees and donations are used completely for development activities and never for administration. A warm thank you to Liana supporters!

6. Accounts for 2006

Accounts & Balance sheet 31.12.2006

Profit and loss account

Program expenditure:	Revenue	Expenses	Total
Trees for Olepolos women's groups		-615.95 €	-615.95 €
Support to local NGOs (books, communication)		-106.02 €	-106.02 €
Project planning			
Project support (fairs, training, fund raising costs)		-95.00 €	-95.00 €
Administration		-40.44 €	-40.44 €
Improving livelihoods by rainwater harvesting, Mt. Kilimanjaro	1,058.37 €	-3,689.83 €	-2,631.46 €
-			
Unplanned activities			

reserves

Program expenditure total	1,058.37 €	-4,547.24 €	-3,488.87 €
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Fund raising:	Revenue	Expenses	Total
Regular members' fees	180.00 €		180.00 €
Supporting members' fees	300.00 €		300.00 €
Individual donations	941.72 €		941.72 €
McKnight funds for Improving livelihoods by rainwater harvesting	11,750.65 €		11,750.65 €
Interest from savings fund	43.50 €		43.50 €

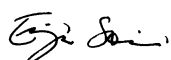
Fund raising total	13,215.87 €		13,215.87 €
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Balance of the accounting period			9,727.00 €
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Balance sheet

Assets:			
Bank account (Euro)		12,004.32 €	
Savings fund (Euro)		2,043.50 €	
Cash (Euro)		186.69 €	
Total assets		14,234.51 €	
Liabilities:			
Capital 01.01.2006		4,507.51 €	
balance of the accounting period		9,727.00 €	
Capital 31.12.2006		14,234.51 €	
reserves for...		0.00 €	
Total liabilities		14,234.51 €	

Marangu, 07.01.2007



Eija Soini, Chairperson



Richard Coe, Secretary

Liana is looking forward to the New Year 2007 with great expectations. May it bring the blessing of much valuable work accomplished - directly or indirectly - for the improvement of the livelihoods of the poor.