

## Everything Changed with the CARE–WWF Alliance

Narrated by Sein Lekimagusi

My name is Sein Lekimagusi. I am a mother of four and a grandmother of twelve. I have lived in ALOCA (Amboseli Land Owners Conservation Association) all my life, and I have seen both the good and the hard times. Before this project began, life was difficult. When the rains came, the water would rush away, carrying the soil with it. We watched our land dry up, our cattle grow weak, and our hopes fade with every season.



But everything changed with the CARE–WWF Alliance. When these two organizations came together, they brought more than just tools and training, they brought hope. I joined other community members to build the earth bunds, and though the work was hard, it gave us new purpose. Some of us walk nearly two hours every day to reach the site, but we don't mind. We know that every half-moon bund we shape helps heal our land.

Since the construction began, we have seen many benefits. The soil now holds water, and the grass has grown again, tall and green, enough to feed our cattle. We can even sell some grass to earn money. For the first time, we can afford to send our children to school. When I look around the homesteads and see children in their uniforms walking to class, my heart feels full. This project made that possible.

Our relationship with wildlife has also changed. In the past, when we saw elephants, we would shout and chase them away. We were afraid they would destroy what little we had. But through this project, we have learned that these animals are part of the same environment that sustains us. Now, when elephants pass by, we let them be. We understand their value and live peacefully alongside them. The bunds we construct have made it possible for both people and animals to share the land in harmony.

Even when the rains stop, we don't lose faith. We pray and keep working because we have seen how far we've come. The CARE-WWF Alliance has helped us restore our land and our dignity. We are now busy, productive, and proud of what we have achieved together.



Today, when I look at our fields, I see more than grass and bunds, I see life. I see a community that believes in its future, children who can dream, and women who know their hands have shaped change. The CARE-WWF Alliance has truly transformed our lives.

## Enchore Enkai – Springs of Hope in a Dry Land

Narrated by Raebeca Nzuve, Secretary of the Group and Mother of Three

My name is **Rabeca Nzuve**, and I am the secretary of the **Enchore Enkai Women's Group**, a community initiative we started in **2023**. The name "*Enchore Enkai*" means "*The River of God*" in the Maasai language. We chose this name because we see our journey as a blessing, just like a river brings life wherever it flows, this project has brought renewal, growth, and hope to our community. We truly believe that all we have achieved so far has been through **God's grace** and the unwavering **support of those who believed in us**.



We are 20 members, mostly women, and all of us share one dream, to improve our families' livelihoods and make our community more resilient to the changing climate.

When we began, we didn't have much. Our area is semi-arid, the rains are unreliable, and water is always a challenge. But we are blessed with a few springs of water, which we now use carefully and wisely. Through the support of the CARE-WWF Alliance, our group received training, dairy goats, and the knowledge to prepare and store fodder.

The CARE-WWF team has truly done a good job. They have walked with us from the very beginning, helping us build our capacity and showing us how to survive and even thrive despite the harsh climate. We've gone through several trainings, on fodder preparation, goat management, tree planting, and climate change adaptation, and I can confidently say that we are not the same women we were when we started.



One of the things I am most proud of is our demo plot, which we established through the CARE-WWF Alliance. All our members work together on this demonstration farm, it's truly a team effort. Every activity in the demo plot, from preparing the land to irrigating and planting, is done by us.

From this plot, we get fodder seeds and tree seedlings, which we use not only for our own farms but also to help other community members start planting. This way, we keep spreading the benefits beyond our group. It has also become a learning center, a place

where we can show others what we have learned about sustainable farming and fodder production.



We now have five demo plots in total, each with specific purposes: some for fodder, some for vegetables, and others for goat rearing. Seeing these plots green even during the dry season gives us hope.

Through the project, we received three goats as a group, two does and one buck. Taking care of them has brought a big change to our lives. The goats are healthy and multiplying; both does have already given birth. The manure from the goats has become very useful, we use it in our farms to improve soil fertility, and we've already seen better yields in our demo plots.



We've organized ourselves so that each member has a specific day to take care of the goats. Every day, one member is responsible for feeding, cleaning, and checking on their health. This system helps us share the work equally and keeps everyone involved.

Even though there are challenges, especially with fodder and water, we always support one another. During the dry season, when our cattle are taken far away to search for pasture, the goats remain at home. This is a great advantage, especially for us women and children, because we can still get milk for our families.

The milk may be little for now, but it means a lot, it feeds our children and gives us hope for the future. Once our production increases, we plan to sell the surplus goat milk to Loitokitok Dairies and join the local dairy cooperative. This will help us earn an income and further improve our household livelihoods.

Of course, it has not all been easy. Living in a semi-arid area means water is always in high demand. We rely on the springs and a borehole, but sometimes the water is not enough for everyone. We have a duty rota for collecting spring water, but there are days when our turn comes and the water is already finished. This affects our fodder production because we need water for irrigation.

We also face challenges with wild animals. Since we live near wildlife, our goats are sometimes at risk. We have learned that we need to build strong houses and cages to protect them, especially at night.

Still, we keep going. The trainings have taught us how to adapt, plan ahead, and make use of what we have.

Before, food was a challenge for many of our families. But now, with the fodder we grow, we are better prepared. We have feed for our goats and even extra food for our households. We are also proud to say that we have started planting trees as part of our climate action efforts, another thing we learned from the project.



For me, as a mother of three, this project has brought dignity and stability to my home. I now understand how to plan for dry seasons, how to feed my goats properly, and how to teach others in my community to do the same.

Our dream as a group is to keep growing, to have more goats, expand our demo plots, and reach more people in our community. We hope to see our milk being sold at the dairy cooperative and our members earning a steady income.

We also want to continue working closely with CARE-WWF and other partners who have walked with us. They have shown us that change is possible, even in the toughest of environments.

As we always say in our group, *when women come together, even the dry land can bloom again.*

## Growing Hope – The Story of Friends for Friends Group

Narrated by Peter Gachuri

My name is Peter Gachuri, and I am a member of the Friends for Friends Group, one of the 40 community groups supported by the Sowing Change Project. We come from a small farming community that once relied heavily on cattle and traditional farming practices. For years, we were just average farmers, doing what we could to get by, but struggling to make progress. Our land was dry, pasture was scarce, and the little we produced often wasn't enough to sustain our families.



Everything began to change when we became part of the Sowing Change initiative through the CARE-WWF Alliance. The project gave us more than just resources, it gave us knowledge, skills, and most importantly, hope.

Through participatory training sessions, we learned about a range of important topics, fodder preparation, breeding, climate change adaptation, and animal disease management. Before the training, I didn't know how to properly feed or care for goats beyond the basics. But now, we understand how to make and store fodder, prepare silage, and even identify and treat common diseases with the help of veterinary officers.

After the training, as a group, we were given three goats. It was a simple start, but one that changed everything. Our goats have since multiplied, one has already given birth, and another is expectant. The buck we were given has been serving many other goats, even

those belonging to non-members in the community. We now have a healthy and growing herd, and the excitement it brings is visible in every member's eyes.



Before, we only kept white goats, but after crossbreeding with the buck provided through the project, we've seen stronger, healthier offspring. We have even begun milking the goats, and although the yield is still small, every member of our group has had the chance to taste the milk. It's sweet, nutritious, and motivates us to keep going.

Our dream is that soon, as our herds grow, each member will own more goats and have a steady supply of milk for their families and income generation.

Our group has 20 active members, both men and women. Our secretary, Winfred Wainaina, often reminds us how far we have come. She says, "*As women, we were once so down, but the training opened our eyes.*" Today, the women in our group lead many of the activities, from fodder preparation to goat management. We have learned how to plant sorghum and Napier grass on our farms, preparing for the rainy season so that our animals have enough feed all year round.

Winfred and the other women often say that these goats are more than livestock, they represent independence. Once the goats multiply, we plan to sell the milk through our local dairy cooperative, so we can earn money for food, school fees, and family needs. For us, this is a pathway to dignity and stability.

Our journey didn't start with goats. We began years ago as a merry-go-round group, contributing just 200 shillings each month. Slowly, we grew and began saving 5,000 shillings at a time, leasing land and selling our produce. That's when we first connected with WWF, who trained us on tree planting and environmental conservation.

Later, through the CARE-WWF Alliance, we joined the Sowing Change program, which strengthened our capacity even further. They taught us how to make bean pod bales, how to store silage, and how to improve soil and fodder management. Each training was



hands-on, practical, and suited to our local realities.

Today, when I walk around our farms and see rows of Napier grass, planted trees, and healthy goats grazing, I feel proud. We have truly sown change both literally and figuratively.

Alice, one of our members, often says, *“We used to be down, but now we have*

*something to do to improve our livelihood.”* She is particularly passionate about climate change awareness, encouraging neighbors to plant trees and take care of the environment.

Our treasurer, Grace Ngare, laughs every time she talks about the goats. *“We never knew goat milk could be so sweet!”* she says. Every week, members take turns collecting milk, each having their week to share. Grace believes the milk has not only brought nutrition but also unity. *“As women, we are the ones who take care of the home,”* she says. *“These*



*goats remind us that we can provide and nurture at the same time.”*

Beyond our group, the benefits have spread throughout the community. So far, our buck has served 15 goats, including those owned by non-members. We have also shared our knowledge with neighboring farmers, what we call “cascading the training.” Through this peer-to-peer approach, we are reaching more people than we ever imagined.

We’ve also established grievance mechanisms within our group to ensure transparency and fairness. Every voice matters, and every decision is made collectively. This sense of ownership has strengthened our unity.



We now look to the future with optimism. The Sowing Change Project has shown us what is possible when communities are empowered and supported. Our goal is to expand goat production, improve milk yields, and continue planting trees and fodder crops. We hope to eventually have enough milk to sell regularly to the cooperative and use the income to improve our families' lives.

As Winfred often says, *"This is not the end. It's just the beginning."*

We are deeply grateful to CARE-WWF Alliance , and all the partners who have walked with us. Their guidance has given us confidence, purpose, and pride.

From a small merry-go-round to a thriving community initiative, Friends for Friends has become a living example of how sowing change can truly grow hope.