

# Schools and Hospitals in the Rift Region receive facilities worth Ksh 28 million from Safaricom Foundation.

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Thousands of people including over 1,600 pupils from different schools were amongst the beneficiaries as the Safaricom Foundation team traversed the Rift Valley region handing over the much-needed amenities in two medical facilities and seven schools.

Samburu Girls Foundation headed by Josephine Kulea received four classrooms valued at Ksh 5.9 million which will be used by the form 1 students in 2018 in the recently established secondary school. Josephine has received many accolades including recognition from former US President Barrack Obama for her work in rescuing Samburu girls from oppressive traditional practices like early marriages and Female Genital Mutilation.

(Safaricom Foundation Representative) said, “Health and education remain our key areas of focus as a foundation and that is why it is part of our strategic direction. By focusing on these two sectors, we will ensure that we positively impact the lives of many Kenyans especially those in marginalized regions through increasing access to equitable and innovative educational opportunities and improving the health status of Kenyans. This, we will do in the spirit of Twaweza as we believe that great things happen when we come together”.

The projects by Safaricom further tie in with the Sustainable Development Goals, a set of targets that aim at ending poverty by 2030. Goal 3 calls for good health and wellbeing while the fourth goal aims at providing quality education.

Other institutions that benefited from the handovers include Ewang’ang E- Suswa Community Health Clinic in Narok County, where the Foundation funded the construction of a maternity wing valued at Ksh 6.4 million and West Maternity Centre, Eldoret where the maternity wing was refurbished at a cost of Ksh 1.7 million.

Schools that received amenities are St Augustine Chepkopegh Secondary School in Pokot County, which now has a fully equipped science laboratory valued at Ksh 6.3 million, St Francis School for the Blind in Kapenguria which now has new ICT software and furniture worth Kshs 3.4 million, Tugen Estate Secondary School in Uasin Gishu County and Simotwo Primary School in Elgeyo Marakwet who received a library at a cost of Ksh 1 million each.

Makutano Primary School on Eldoret- Kitale Road and Kola Primary School in Pokot County received furnished classrooms worth Ksh 1.9 million.

“We thank the communities for their collaboration and ensuring that our partnership benefits the greater community. Good education and health are the very basics needed for a healthy economy. We will continue working with all to ensure that we raise the living standards of Kenyans while at the same time achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,” said (Safaricom Representative).

The Foundation has invested over Ksh 500 million towards improved infrastructural and sanitation facilities reaching over 1.2 million learners in Primary, Secondary and vocational training institutions across the country.

On health, over half a billion shillings has been injected towards the improvement of health for Kenyans. Through meaningful partnerships, the foundation aims at achieving improved health and survival for mothers and infants during childbirth and early childhood.