

Mrs Bokayo

Life has changed immeasurably for women like Mrs Bokayo in Northern Kenya since FARM-Africa started work in their communities.

Marsabit is a rural district in Northern Kenya and home to Mrs Bokayo – a widow with 5 children. The harsh terrain and scarce water supplies in the area left her struggling to sell enough milk from her meagre flock of sheep and goats to buy sufficient food to feed her family. Frequent droughts were slowly depleting her livestock, and making life increasingly tough for the family.

FARM-Africa has been working in many different ways to improve the lives of families like the Bokayos. The first priority was to secure a clean, reliable water supply by training local people in how to locate water sources and build safe shallow wells for themselves.



Having water much closer to home meant that Mrs Bokayo no longer had to spend a large amount of each day just collecting the water she desperately needed to keep her family and livestock alive. She even had time to attend a variety of training sessions run by her local women's group and FARM-Africa. From this she learnt valuable skills that would help her keep her animals healthy and set up her own small business.

As a widow with many children, Mrs Bokayo was also selected by members of her local women's group to receive 2 camels and some goats from FARM-Africa. Mrs Bokayo then used the camels to bring water to her goats during drought, and her goats produced offspring she could sell at market.

The camels also produce a large amount of highly nutritious milk. The family are now able to drink as much as they want and still have plenty left to sell. Mrs Bokayo has achieved more than she ever thought was possible and is now able to provide for all her household needs. Her children are now well fed and clothed and she is able to afford medical treatment for them when they become sick. Having previously been reliant on support from others, she is now able to send her children to school and give them the very best possible start in life.