



Product Campaign: Ease the Burden of Transporting Water - Kenya

Q Drum & Yaya Education Trust

Campaign Summary

Provide vulnerable women and children in Western Kenya with rollable Q Drum containers to ease the burden of water transportation.

The Problem

Women and children in Kenya are charged with the responsibility of providing water for household use. As a result of large amounts of water being carried on their heads over long distances, women and children are often affected by lifelong spinal or neck injuries. Furthermore, children often attend school late or miss classes to undertake their responsibility, affecting education levels in the country.

Proposed Solution

The Q Drum rollable water container will be a safer and quicker means of transporting water for both women and children. It will drastically reduce injuries caused by carrying water on the head and will speed up the transportation of the commodity, allowing children to attend classes on time.

Impact & Distribution

Approximately 90 families and over 500 individuals will benefit from this campaign. The targeted women will be put in groups of 5-10. The groups will then rent the Q Drum to community women and children at subsidized cost as a way of generating income for their livelihoods. 10% of the money raised through the rental system will be returned to the Yaya Education Trust in order to ensure sustainability of the project.

Campaign Costs

Total Costs \$8,812 USD

Cost Per Q Drum Unit \$65 USD

Timeframe for Implementation

8 months

The Technology Provider: Q Drum

The Q Drum is a durable, donut-shaped plastic container which holds up to 50 liters of water. Millions of people all over the world live many kilometers from a reliable source of clean water, leaving them vulnerable to cholera, dysentery and other water-borne diseases. We've all seen pictures of women and children in developing countries carrying heavy containers of water mostly on their heads invariably causing many neck and spine injuries.

Clean water is one of the simple necessities of life and the idea of the Q Drum originated in response to the needs of rural people for clean and potable water and easing the burden of conveying it. The unique longitudinal shaft or doughnut hole permits the drum to be pulled along using a rope run through the hole. There are no removable or



breakable handles or axles and the rope can be replaced by means available everywhere. It is a seamless container made of linear low density polyethylene through rotational molding.

Even a child can pull a 50 liter drum over flat terrain for several kilometers without undue strain and could shift the burden of water collection away from adult women - children play with it and love to fetch water and this can leave the women free to do other important work.

Although every effort has been made to keep the cost as low as possible, the Q Drum is unaffordable to most people - those who need it cannot afford it and those who can don't need it. Funded by international donors, non-governmental organizations and private corporations, the Q Drum can contribute to making life a lot easier for rural communities in Africa and elsewhere in the world and indirectly contribute to try and save and preserve our environment.

Invent for Humanity Profile: <http://inventforhumanity.org/technologies/solar-ear/>

Website: <http://www.qdrum.co.za/>

YouTube: http://youtu.be/XQ_n5y3-Xnk

Vimeo: <http://www.vimeo.com/4399802>

Image Gallery: <http://www.qdrum.co.za/image-gallery>

The Needs Organization: Yaya Education Trust (YET)

YET, a local community based non-profit organization in Matungu district of rural Kenya in collaboration with community members and Kopernik, has developed a project dubbed "Relieve the burden of carrying water for rural women." This project aims to supply marginalized poor rural women with Q Drums for transporting large volumes of water over long distances, which is an alternative means to the traditional way of carrying water on the head, which leads to severe ill-health among women and children in the target area.

With the YET's mission of providing practical solutions to the problems affecting needy and the marginalized members of the community, this project/ proposal shall help us improve the living conditions of women and children among poor community members by providing better means of water transport.

Invent for Humanity Profile: <http://inventforhumanity.org/needs/yaya-education-trust-yet/>

Website: <http://www.global1.youth-leader.org/2011/04/yaya-education-trust-how-benards-question-flourished-as-a-well-developed-organisation/>

Wiser Earth Profile: <http://www.wiserearth.org/organization/view/03bdfb3eb2f5c86d102be0ba68546435>

Ashoka Changemakers Profile: <https://www.changemakers.com/user/75342>

About the Invent for Humanity™ Technology Transfer Exchange Fair

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