

# PERMACULTURE IN PASTORALIST AREAS

A Case of Laikipia Permaculture Project  
(LPP) in Laikipia North, Laikipia County.



By Joseph Lentunyoi  
Laikipia Permaculture Centre (LPC)  
Manager – Laikipia Permaculture Project  
[joseph@pri-kenya.org](mailto:joseph@pri-kenya.org)  
[www.pri-kenya.org](http://www.pri-kenya.org)



**PRI Kenya**  
Growing Resilient Communities

## WHO WE ARE

**An NGO set up in 2011 to provide permaculture education, offer permaculture consultancy services, facilitate community permaculture projects and gather evidenced-based research information on permaculture based practices in East Africa.**

**PERMACULTURE IS A SUSTAINABLE DESIGN SYSTEM FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.**

## HOW WE WORK

**We work with local communities through organized grassroots organizations like LPC and many others across EA to implement permaculture work; offering permaculture trainings and demonstrations of whole system design practices aimed at building empowered, climate resilient, healthy and food-secure (FNS) communities.**

**Permaculture is more than just gardening, it is about designing holistic (whole-system) human habitats and environmental regeneration for a sustainable future. Our Education and Consultancy Programmes offers professional and comprehensive education in permaculture design knowledge and skills to create and implement stable productive systems that are truly sustainable.**

**Our Research Programme links in closely with Permaculture Education, Consultancy and Community Permaculture Programmes to map the social, environmental and economic impact of permaculture techniques, involving farmers through FLD and participatory monitoring of the permaculture work with communities.**

## A Case of Laikipia Permaculture Project (LPP)



© PRI-Kenya with Laikipia Permaculture Centre (LPC) started this project beginning of 2014. The project aim at promoting permaculture-based livelihoods in Laikipia region of Northern Kenya for environmental regeneration, rehabilitation of degraded lands and climate resilience building.



© The main socio-economic and environmental challenges, and vulnerabilities being addressed by this project include: food and nutritional insecurities, climate related hazards (droughts), land degradation and biodiversity decline that destabilizes communities' source of livelihoods.



© The project support Maasai pastoral women groups in Laikipia County of Northern Kenya to develop viable permaculture based models for resource-efficient ecological farming and create ecological based regenerative enterprises in [aloe secundiflora](#), [opuntia stricta](#), [moringa olifera](#) and integrated agricultural food products developed sustainably through permaculture techniques

© LPP design present a whole system approach permaculture model that link community trainings and demonstrations on environmental regeneration and degraded land rehabilitation techniques, livelihoods diversification and women empowerment to create climate resilient pastoralist communities.



## Laikipia Permaculture Project (LPP):

② Establishment and continuous development of LPC infrastructure as a full-fledged demonstration, learning and permaculture teaching centre providing demonstration for applications techniques on natural resource regeneration, food forest establishment, indigenous species propagation, FMNR, drought proofing, soil building, water harvesting, basic agro-processing of organic products etc. for food and nutritional security and community resilience building.

② Through the project support, the centre has continued to provide permaculture trainings and extension services to women groups in Laikipia North in their farms to develop integrated permaculture designed productive systems; growing [aloe secundiflora](#) and creation of regenerative enterprises





Ⓟ In the targeted Women groups farms, application of permaculture techniques learn at LPC are gradually getting replicated by integration of farm inputs and outputs; presenting pilot models for sustainable management of natural resources through diversified productive systems whilst regenerating environment and development of ecological based enterprises for steady income and to contribute to food and nutrition security of the local communities. e.g. Naatum is growing vegetables



Ⓟ LPP facilitated trainings for knowledge and skills on natural building for the local communities, demonstrations on construction and building with cob. Through trainings and practicum, knowledge on sourcing, preparation and mixing of local materials, a pool of natural builders are now available in the local communities and knowledge in natural building is spreading in EA.



## LPP Achievements:

1. **Creating linkages to local and international markets for;**
  - **On average the two women groups who are producing aloe products have annual sales of Kshs. 200,000/= for both aloe soap and aloe cream.**
  - **Aloe secundiflora fresh leaves exports of USD 8,000 annually**
2. **Established an intergrated approach of farming; aloe secundiflora, food crops, bee-keeping, bead work and indegeneous trees as well as preserving local knowledge.**
3. **We fully sponsored 15 local people to our Permaculture Design Courses and another 200 on IPM, Natural building, Composting.**



## LPP and Challenges:

Ω Increasing socio-economic and environmental challenges and vulnerabilities in the project area; food and nutrition insecurity, declining biodiversity, frequent & severe droughts (prolonged), land degradation, intensive chemical farming (highly unsustainable to smallholder farmers and which decreases quality of soil and contribute to climate related hazards).

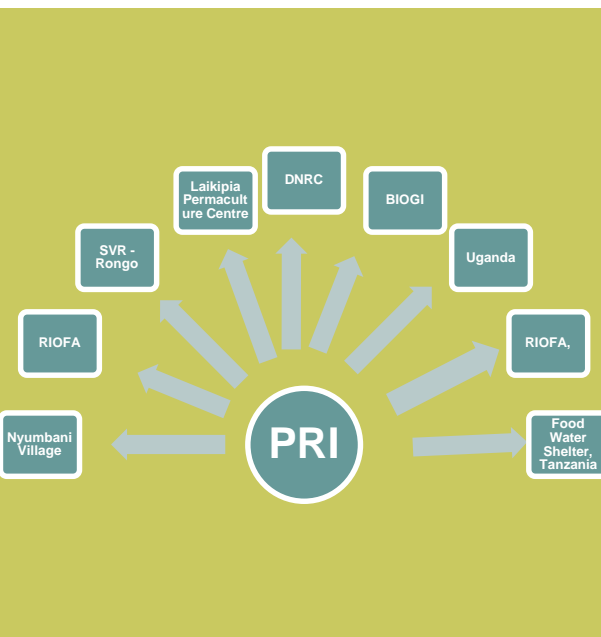
Ω Low funding for Community Permaculture work and research with the huge demand for sustainable agro-ecology whole system design based approaches to build climate resilient livelihoods and address vulnerabilities in climate extreme regions like Laikipia and Northern frontier.

Ω Mindset towards farming and sustainable livelihoods taking into consideration ensuring stable environment and ecosystem services. Declining application of local communities' indigenous knowledge on farming and livelihoods as the mainstream agriculture continues to focus on conventional techniques and green revolution technologies.



## LPP, Permaculture and Opportunities:

✧ **Permaculture is a sustainable design system for human settlement, looking at how humans interact with the landscape.**



✧ **There is huge opportunity for PRI-Kenya working with communities and organized community groups in partnerships to promote permaculture, design based livelihoods, provision of permaculture education and trainings, research and facilitating community permaculture work in East Africa.**

✧ **Growing permaculture work, research and centres for teaching, learning and demonstration of foodforestry, green energy and energy recycling, soil building, natural building and ecological based enterprise development that link producers in EA directly to markets and promote ethical sourcing of natural products. e.g [aloe secundiflora](#), utilization of [opuntia stricta](#), [moringa olifera](#), Baobab, sandalwood, frankensis, Gaba arabic etc.**



✧ **Working with other like-minded organization through consultancy and joint programming for synergy and for most impact in system thinking and design productive systems; to improve on communities' food and nutritional securities (FNS), climate resilient livelihoods, sustainable living etc e.g. PRI/MercyCorps in Wajir, Urban PC etc.**





**LAIKIPIA**  
**PERMACULTURE**  
**CENTRE LTD**

By Joseph Lentunyoi  
Laikipia Permaculture Centre (LPC)  
Manager – Laikipia Permaculture Project

[joseph@pri-kenya.org](mailto:joseph@pri-kenya.org)

[www.pri-kenya.org](http://www.pri-kenya.org)

Thank You

Questions/Comment/Feedback....