



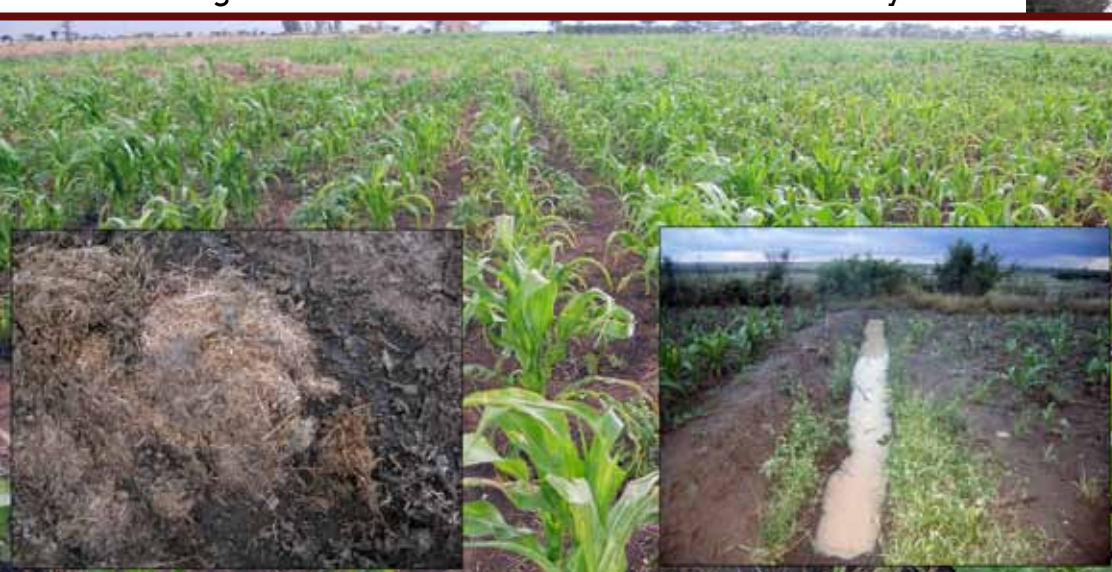
Mama Therero

**Endana Village,
Laikipia, Kenya**



I took these pictures to show my home. **We collect rainwater from the roof of the house** in buckets. To collect the water we have to cut a pipe and hang it at the end of the metal sheets. We use stones to hold everything in place. The collected water is stored in a clay pot that acts as a traditional fridge for the water. **The picture of the bamboo shows that I value the bushes.** They shelter our home from the wind. You can see from the picture inside the house that **we often rely on relief food** from the government because we have had very bad harvests lately. In 2009, during the drought, it was particularly bad.

On our premises there is a business that serves tea and food. **During droughts the business goes down**, because people migrate and there is no source of income. I am dependent on other people in my community to buy vegetables and milk for the tea. As an alternative income we have chickens. We sell the eggs and the chickens at the market. If I had more money I would make a better poultry farm. **We** also have a business aimed at selling the **curios and woodcarvings** to the tourists visiting the ranches around our community land.



This picture shows our maize field during a dry month. The rains here are always variable but **in the last 10 years there have been many dry years.** The maize plants are drying up, you can see the leaves are going yellow. There was no rain for a month and then suddenly the rain started again. I am worried for my daughter, who is studying, because I am not sure whether there will be enough food and money. **M**y plan is to build little troughs on the side of the fields to make sure that the water is stored. I also took a picture of the **elephant dung** to show that they come into our farms, especially when the crops are ready.

The water tank in this picture is abandoned. It was built in the past for the ranch that used to be here but now it is left for our community. If repaired it could be very useful to store the water that is pumped up from the river. The calves belong to the people from Marsabit. They are **welcomed** by fellow pastoralists in our community. They hire grazing land from the school grounds and from land owners in our community. We depend on the pastoralists for milk. The boy is repairing his shoe. It shows that we do not have a lot of money to buy new shoes. I took the picture of the aloe because it would be great if we could farm it as an alternative income. Aloes are full of medicinal value.



These pictures show my church. I go to church every Sunday. **The church is a tool of unity**; it brings people in our community together. We take care of each other and visit people from our church community when they are not feeling well. On the day I took the pictures there was no pastor but we still met as a group in the church. We contribute money to people who are sick because the hospitals are very far and we have to hire transport.

