



MARS SOCIETY KENYA

TERRA FORMING MARS

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Rising Together to Mars

**MARS 2020
PERSEVERANCE**

WITH INGENUITY HELICOPTER



Word from The President/Founder




MARS SOCIETY KENYA
NATIONAL CHAPTER
TERRAFORMING MARS

Dear Friend,

Your choice to join the **Mars Society Kenya** provides crucial resources to our efforts in advocacy, outreach, education and research. With your help, we will strive for a multi-planetary future not only for the benefit of our species but for all terrestrial life. Onwards, to the exploration and settlement of Mars!

Thank You!

Isaac Gathu
President

 Mars-Society-Kenya-606560359833789

 marssocietyke

 marssocietykenya

 youtube.com/channel/UCvV82BROC4INLH5DGs8yig



Contents

Introduction - 01

Corporate governance report - 02

Financial Review - 03

Moving Forward - 04

Introduction

There have already been adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the several sectors of the economy in particular; tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and trade putting people's jobs and livelihoods at risk.

Despite been a challenging time, some adapted quickly and found better ways to survive and advance their year's goals.



Space For Humanity

We as the Mars Society Kenya couldn't be here had I not been shortlisted by the non-profit; Space For Humanity, for the planet's First Sponsored Citizen Astronaut programme.

Space for Humanity is organizing the planet's first Sponsored Citizen Astronaut Mission, where leaders, from any walk of life, can apply for an opportunity to go to space and experience the Overview Effect: the cognitive shift in awareness that occurs when a human being looks down on the Earth from space.

At the end of the programme, these astronauts will have to carry out a year's project of their choice under any of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

I was still trying to figure out which goal to implement when I became aware of the existence of the Kenya Space Agency. Fortunately, KSA was in the process of launching their 5 year Strategic Plan (2020-2025).

I decided to implement goal no. 17 on Partnership for Profit. This would facilitate the sharing of ideas and resources with space actors in Kenya to revive the space economy in the country.

As a space enthusiast, I have always fantasized about distant worlds and the adventurous experience in exploring them. When I heard that certain countries were planning on how to take humans to the planet Mars, I couldn't think of a better adventure than this.

With the aid of The Mars Society; the worldwide non-profit organization (American), the Mars Society Kenya was established to promote human exploration and settlement of the planet Mars .

Corporate Governance Report

Receive warmest regards for being part of this great project and for helping my dream come true.



From Grass to Grace

"Failure is an option here. If things are not failing, you are not innovating enough."

- Elon Musk

At a time I thought I was alone in all these, you all saw something unique in my efforts and decided to be part of this journey.

We might have had several setbacks but together we rose and found something better to further our agendas.

Each one of you has a special role to play and if only we pushed a little bit harder, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Mars Society Kenya was established as a Chapter on 15th October 2020 at the 23rd Annual International Mars Society Convention.

Part of the agenda was to access funds from the Mars Society to facilitate the establishment of a Mars Simulation Habitat somewhere in Turkana.

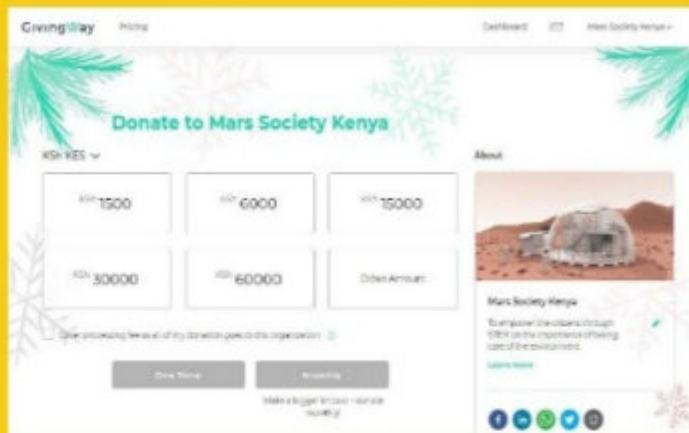
However, things got to a rough start in terms of the best organizational formation as per our mandate, which made the proposed project almost lost.

The criteria was to be formed as a University Chapter. The Technical University of Kenya (TUK) was selected for this, thanks to the words of praise concerning one of its lecturers, Dr. Prof Paul Baki, on matters space in Kenya.

He was chosen to Chair the Chapter's agenda since most of the members will one day be students of the university.

Financial Review

A Little HELP goes A Long way.
Help us fulfill our mandate through STEM or any of our projects as we work together in reviving the space industry in the country and as we journey together to Mars.



Having successfully registered the Chapter, registration of members followed and backed up with a membership fee. Unfortunately to date, no monies have been received in this regard. However, this has not derailed any of our agendas, although much is yet to be done to finalize most of the activities.

The website was created but it is hosted as a sub-domain. We need to have our own domain for clarity.

A donations page was also launched, we need to publicize it to facilitate fundraising. This will help in the delivery of projects requiring financial assistance.

One such project is the Bitmoji Exolab-8 Mission which we decided to sample while we await partnership with Zaidi-STEM on the same once schools reopen.

A number of positive events have however taken place; such as securing a free licence for a Data Management software by Valispace.

I have also been fortunate to attend various conferences and activities that promote my level of understanding on our mission. Such activity is the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) Mentorship Programme, where I was fortunate to have Madam Basia Nasiorowska as my mentor. She has been instrumental in helping me realize some of our weaknesses and work on how to solve them.

The other significant task was connecting with Captain Stephan Reckie of Gen Space. He was to help us with some startup funds but the process, which is still being worked on proved lengthy as we were still drafting our concept of what the ideal Chapter should look like in the end.

Thanks to his effort, the road is now clear. A lot more has happened; good and bad, but of importance are the lessons learnt and the best way moving forward.

Moving Forward



Through Basia, we were able to identify key information lacking in our Chapter formation criteria and thanks to the understanding of Dr. Adero (TUK) who was picked by Dr. Prof. Baki to help as the Chapter Chair, the Mars Society heard us and now things are back in line.

According to Dr. Adero, we are supposed to have similar organizational formation as the Mars Society, which will depend on how we move forward. Our goal is to see us recruit and involve the general public and partnering with various universities in Kenya, which will be represented via their respective clubs/societies on space science.

Next to follow will be a yearly calendar of events for both our Chapter activities and incorporating those of the Mars Society. Through this partnership with TUK, we shall be partnering on various space related activities as we grow our ideas together. For this, TUK has agreed to share the 10th floor of their new building with The Mars Society Kenya.

TUK is one of the beneficiaries of the 1M tender by the Kenyan government to do trials on how to best assemble a nano satellite. For this, TUK has dedicated the entire 10th floor for space science to support these trials.

Also in line is the partnership by the Moon Village Association – Participation of Emerging Space Countries (MVA-PESC Kenya), implement their project through being part of their Robotics department. This is part of the global Moon Village Association plan to help emerging space countries with no official plans for missions to the Moon to be part of the Artemis Mission in 2024.

Last but not least is the African Rover Challenge courtesy of Madam Basia, which is targeted for 2021. It is my hope and prayer that we shall all find our right spot and act accordingly. We are all in this together.

We welcome donations in kind or cash. Kindly help in supporting any of our activities as we RISE TOGETHER TO MARS. Thank you and Ad Astra!!!!

THE 23RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
MARS SOCIETY CONVENTION

RISING TOGETHER TO MARS



AROUND THE WORLD
VIA THE INTERNET ON OCTOBER 15-18-2020

THE MARS SOCIETY 