

Sarova Shaba Game Lodge: Daaba Primary School



Sarova Hotels associates and Kenya Rugby teams at Shaba
National Reserve

Isiolo District has in the past been affected by man-made and natural disasters that include tribal clashes, cattle rustling, drought, famine, and poverty among others. The district is a semi arid area hence receives very low or no rainfall in a year, leading to long dry seasons. The main source of income among the people is the keeping and trading of livestock however, there are few who are employed on casual basis. Poverty, disease, food insecurity, poor shelter, dire infrastructure and retrogressive cultural practices are very high in the district.

Some factors attributed to the high rate of poverty are the 1997 and 2000 tribal clashes where numerous families were displaced and a high death toll of breadwinners within families was recorded. In addition, the theft of livestock and property as well as the destruction of businesses meant that families ceased to have a source of income. Formal educational services offered in the area are few and far between and those that do exist struggle in serving the communities sufficiently.

Daaba Primary School located approximately 20km from Sarova Shaba Game Lodge lies in the same administration region of Isiolo. The school serves a population of approximately 2000 residents and provides the only education service within a 25km radius. The school since its inception has had support from the Africa Church of Kenya (ACK), a Catholic Mission and the Kenyan Government. The support yielded a 2 classroom block, 2 pit latrine toilets, a kitchen facility, a 20,000 litre water tank, a generator and pump.

Sarova Shaba Game Lodge has been supporting the school since 2008 providing the children with reading and writing materials and facilitating extra curricular activities.

Recently the lodge partnered with Kenya Rugby Federation Union (KRFU) in an initiative that will see Kenya's 7's and 15's Rugby team work on various projects for the prosperity of the students.