

**Update of the Ishiara School Project**  
**Pictures and Short Summary**  
March 7, 2013 + update December 19, 2013



*status follows...*

## Status

1. Land purchase was successfully concluded and all documentation and legal requirements and compliance done.
2. Group now legally registered under the right legal regime and has a certificate of registration
3. Environmental Impact Assessment body given provisional node to proceed as they finalize certificate issuance
4. Entire Master Plan completed
5. Architectural drawings of funded phase only completed and approved by Embu County
6. Bills of Quantities done
7. Bidding by contractors done (total number who applied = 7) and went to the wire with 3. The consultants picked best qualified to do building works - Labour Only. It is cheaper and we would have better control over quality and cost
8. Farming fields prepared, and first crops harvested with great success due to oversight by **David Njeru**, QA Expert at **GreenMarkHerbs.com** in Hawassa, Ethiopia.

## Challenges

When consultants presented recommended contractor choice last week and criteria of selection the Bahati Ya Mke Group had a different opinion and felt that they would be more comfortable with someone from the community. Their rationale is that the contractor understands the environment and people of Ishiara better. They also insist that all labour should come from the local community, which we wholly agree with. Granted, but we also think capacity and qualification for certain specialized works must be ensured.

## Solution

The architect and team has reached an agreement with the group on condition that someone else who will ensure that work quality is not compromised, namely the Clerk of Works, be someone neutral/objective and one very knowledgeable about construction work be hired. We concur and this will also give Beverly Foundation some level of control in the financial accountability of this fund.

## Next Steps

Letter of Award to be issued to contractor as per choice of Bahati Ya Mke Group by this weekend, with clause that if quality and work schedule are wanting, then consultants have right to terminate contract upon notification. Once contractor work schedule is out work begins next week and payment is only made upon evaluation of works by QS through certificates. Otherwise it has been a long process, viewpoints can also bog down group projects. Our experience with BSK construction has given us some valuable lessons, it however depends on who and how it is perceived.

**Status as of Dec 17, 2013**, the school walls and roof are complete,



**Fruit tree farm:** The passion and paw paw fruit trees are already yielding quality fruits. Mangoes need three years.



**Ishiara Bahati School student enrollment process has begun!**



**Pioneer students of the Ishiara Bahati School!**

