



**NAYIARI COMMUNITY INITIATIVE**  
Building Resilient, Equitable Communities.

# Strengthening Indigenous Women and Girls

## About Us

Nayari Community Initiative is an Indigenous, women-led, non-profit organization working in Narok and Kajiado Counties, Kenya. Established in 2025, our name Nayari a Maasai term meaning "one who is sought after for help" reflects our commitment to becoming a trusted space of hope, information, and empowerment.

We work to create safe environments where women and girls can access opportunities, build confidence, and realize their full potential. Our work is supported by an advisory board of five women and three men dedicated to community transformation.

## Our Goal

We strive to:

- Build community resilience especially among women against climate change
- Promote environmental conservation
- Advance gender equality and equity
- Improve sexual and reproductive health for school-going girls
- Advocate for maternal and infant health
- Preserve and document Maasai Indigenous knowledge

We partner with five schools, two health centres, the Narok County Government, and multiple community-based organizations.



Happy learners at Osero Lempere School

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1. Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) SRHR for School-Going Girls

We are working with five schools, directly supporting 300 girls through:

- Distribution of sanitary kits (pads, soap, undergarments) for girls and undergarments for older boys.
- Interactive sessions for boys and girls on sexual and reproductive health, child rights, and the dangers of harmful cultural practices
- Discussions on the importance of education and the risks of FGM and early marriage
- Encouraging boys to act as protective allies for their sisters
- Engagement forums with teachers, parents, and students on harmful practices and the legal implications of failing to protect children

### Maternal and Infant Health

Key achievements:

- Advocacy for improved antenatal and postnatal care
- Distribution of mother-baby packs to encourage health facility-based deliveries
- Development of Maa-language posters promoting antenatal visits
- Advocacy for better health infrastructure to improve access for mothers



Nayari team and school girls packaging sanitary kits

### 2. Climate Change, Environmental Conservation & Livelihoods

We are empowering communities to adapt to climate change by:

- Planting and nurturing fruit and indigenous trees in three schools
- Supporting three women's groups through; Beadwork training and product development, Market linkage, and establishment of indigenous tree nurseries.

#### Our Vision:

Resilient, healthy, informed, and empowered communities living in a conducive environment.

#### Our Mission:

To build climate-adaptive and gender-responsive health services for women and girls and document Maasai culture; —while collaborating with like-minded individuals and organizations.

#### Our Core Values:

Integrity | Innovation | Inclusiveness | Transparency | Compassion

## 3. Gender Equality and Equity

We continue to promote women's leadership by:

- Training Boards of Management on the importance of women's participation in school leadership,
- Training boards and teachers on the legal implications of harmful cultural practices and on their role in protecting school girls.

### School Spotlight; Osero Lempere Comprehensive School

Located at the foot of the Oltatuani Hills in Naroosura/Majimoto, Osero Lempere Comprehensive School serves 291 learners, including 159 girls, supported by a team of 12 committed teachers. Despite thhard work and determination of the learners, the school faces significant challenges. Many children walk up to 12 km one way toattend school. Access to clean water remains the biggest concern The school currently relies on an open community dam shared by people, livestock, and wildlife, posing serious health risks and contributing to ongoing human-wildlife conflict. A water storage a treatment facility is urgently needed to safeguard the health of the students and support the school feeding programme. Support received so far includes:

- Sanitary kits for girls and undergarments for boys.
- Mentorship sessions for boys and girls on sexual and reproductive health and rights
- Engagements with the Board of Management on women's leadership in school governance

Osero Lempere continues to inspire resilience and hope, and Nayiari remains committed to supporting its learners and educators.



Osero Lempere Community dam

### Feature

#### Sento Taki, Environmental Champion

At just 15 years old, Sento Taki is already making her mark as an environmental champion and student leader at Esupetai Comprehensive School. We first noticed Sento when she confidently organized her classmates during a tree planting activity, ensuring order, teamwork, and enthusiasm among the students. Her leadership was natural, calm, and deeply inspiring. Sento has continued to shine through her commitment to environmental conservation and her ability to mobilize her peers. Now, having completed her primary education and sat for her national exams, she is preparing to join secondary school next year.

Sento represents what is possible when girls are empowered to lead, in their schools, their communities, and beyond. As she begins the next chapter of her education journey, Nayiari is committed to supporting her growth and following closely as she continues to thrive.



Sento Taki with the Nayiari team

### Events and Highlights

**International Day of the Girl;** Celebrated on 11th of October, Nayiari joined other stakeholders at Oltulelei, Enkutoto Primary and Olderkesi Secondary Schools in Narok County. During the event, we supported the girls by donating sanitary kits to both schools.

**Mentorship Sessions;** We partnered with Nomad Child Foundation for a mentorship session at Maasai Girls High School, Narok County. The session focused on empowering girls through confidence-building, leadership, and life skills.

**Elders' Declaration Against Harmful Practices;** As part of launching the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, Nayiari together with other stakeholders, supported an Elders' Declaration against harmful cultural practices such as FGM and early marriage. Elders from both Narok and Kajiado Counties participated in the historic event, presided over by Her Excellency Rachel Ruto, First Lady of the Republic of Kenya.

**Mara Girls Summit;** As part of the 16 Days of Activism, we joined partners for a three-day mentorship event with 80 girls from the Maasai Mara region (Narok West).

The summit ended with a celebration where girls showcased poems and skits reflecting what they learned. Mothers also engaged in open discussions, identifying challenges and encouraging their daughters to remain in school. The event was hosted by the Matasaru Ntoyie Foundation.

**School Support Activities;** We continued our quarterly support to all five partner schools, providing sanitary kits and conducting engagement sessions with learners, teachers, and parents.

**End-of-Year Advisory Board Meeting;** Scheduled for 12th December, this meeting will review progress made in 2025 and plan for Financial Year 2026.

**Women in the Wild Visit;** The Nayiari team conducted a learning visit to our partners in Maasai Mara, Narok West, focusing on establishing indigenous tree nurseries and supporting women's beadwork enterprises.

**Stakeholder Collaboration Meetings;** Throughout the year, Nayiari held several coordination meetings with the Health, Education, Youth, Environment, and Gender Departments to strengthen partnerships and advance our shared goals.