2007
Anti-jigger Campaign launched.
Daily Nation 13-04-2007

2008
Journalists feted for highlighting the jigger menace.
The Standard 02-04-2008

2009
US Missionaries join anti-jigger drive.
Daily Nation 24-11-2009

2010
Anti-jigger campaign launched in Uganda.
The Star 25-10-2010

2011
Big Brother Africa 2011 stars join the anti-jigger campaign in Kenya.
The Star 24-10-2011

2012
Miss World 2011 Ivian Sarcos joins the anti-jigger campaign.
The Star 09-01-2012

2013
1st Lady, H.E. Margaret Kenyatta launches the shoe distribution campaign.
Daily Nation 30-05-2013

2014
Dr Stanley Kamau recognised for efforts to eradicate jiggers.
The Standard 17-11-2014

2015
The Government launches the jigger awareness day and a policy on prevention and control.
People Daily 05-03-2015

2016
Victoria Beckham congratulates Ahadi Kenya Trust for use of mobile ultra sound in the Ambulance Mashinani.
Daily Nation 07-10-2016

2017
Former jigger victims are rehabilitated after holding a mass wedding.
Daily Nation 03-04-2017

10 Years of Jigger Eradication
Ahadi Kenya Trust - Celebrating 10 years

“The Beyond Zero initiative partnered with Ahadi Kenya Trust to expand health care to rural communities through Ambulance Mashinani.”

As we recognize 10 years of jigger eradication efforts in Kenya, we reflect on the issues that have posed challenges and at the same time celebrate the great gains that have been made. It also provides us with the opportunity to renew our focus for the next 10 years.

Ahadi Kenya Trust was set up to focus its efforts in jigger eradication across the country, and we have worked together in this effort for ten years. There has been nothing predictable in the journey for those working as volunteers, participating in medical camps, or helping to rebuild homes for victims of the jigger menace.

Recognizing that all health issues are interrelated, the Beyond Zero initiative partnered with Ahadi Kenya Trust to expand health care to rural communities through Ambulance Mashinani. I also take this opportunity to thank all the other partners in the public and private sector who have also contributed towards Ahadi’s success; together we have made great progress.

Four years ago, we also launched the shoe distribution project under Ahadi Kenya Trust – this initiative was intended to benefit millions of school going children to prevent and control infestation and keep them in school. In 2015 the Government intensified its efforts to fight the condition through implementation of the National Policy Guidelines on Prevention and Control of Jiggers and has built on this momentum by launching the first ever national Jigger Awareness Day to be held every March 3rd. All these initiatives address one reality—that to win our health battles the spirit of public-private partnerships must be embraced so that together, we can find sustainable solutions to eradicate diseases affecting our communities.

So, as we mark 10 years of the Ahadi jigger initiative, let us remember that the battle is not over yet. We must continue to commit resources, human capacity and compassion. We must find and apply interventions that unlock people from the vicious cycle of poverty and ill health and protect them from social discrimination. Let us join hands to eradicate jigger infestation in Kenya.

Dr. Kepha Ombacho PhD, MBS, Director of Public Health
Ministry of Health

In the coming financial year, we hope to conduct a comprehensive, nation-wide baseline survey of jigger infested people and households and their characteristics. The results of the study will help us to lay out better strategies and work plans for the control and eventual elimination of jiggers. It will also help identify areas mostly affected by jiggers and the conditions that render some households vulnerability to jiggers infestations.”

Dr. Kepha Ombacho PhD, MBS,
Director of Public Health
Ministry of Health

Statement by the Cabinet Secretary for Health on Policy Direction for Jigger Prevention and Control

“The Ministry of Health has prioritised the implementation of the National Policy Guidelines on Prevention and Control of Jigger Infestations.”

Jiggers (tungiasis) affect four percent of the population in Kenya. Another 25 percent, mainly children, are at risk of infestation. Jiggers contribute to significant morbidity and sometimes mortality in endemic counties. Its complications are a leading cause of disability. School age children, the elderly and people with mental illness are particularly vulnerable. Per capita socio-economic losses attributable to the disease have not been computed, but they are considerable. The school hours lost by children infested with jiggers due to inability to walk, the decreased agricultural productivity of infested adults and the loss of social capital due to stigma associated with jiggers, hamper the victims’ participation in nation-building.

As such, jigger infestations frustrate Kenya’s attempts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal on poverty reduction, and as well reduce the pace of national development as envisioned in Kenya’s Vision 2030.

However, lack of standardised approaches to prevention, control and treatment, and the widespread use of harmful or ineffective methods, have led the Ministry to develop a policy to guide prevention and control efforts. The Ministry of Health has therefore prioritised the implementation of the National Policy Guidelines on Prevention and Control of Jigger Infestations.

This policy framework is a good capacity building and advocacy tool that the ministry and various stakeholders can use for effective realisation of a jigger-free Kenya.

Dr. Cleopa Mailu, EBS.
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Health
Today marks a very important milestone for Ahadi Kenya Trust - Executive Founder/CEO Dr. Stanley Kamau, HSC and inspired Ahadi Kenya Trust to convert its programmes into an NGO.

This expanded the reach of the campaign, and inspired Ahadi Kenya Trust to convert its programmes into an NGO.

Today, I am happy that Kenyans in general, the government and other partners have joined the campaign. With the government setting aside March 3rd as the National Jigger Awareness Day."

"I am happy that Kenyans in general, the government and other partners have joined the campaign. With the government setting aside March 3rd as the National Jigger Awareness Day.”

Ahadi Kenya Trust introduced a new pin-less disinfectant three times a day, for two weeks. Infested persons just need to dip their feet in a pinless method of removing jiggers. Ahadi Kenya Trust introduced a new pin-less disinfectant three times a day, for two weeks. Infested persons just need to dip their feet in a pinless method of removing jiggers.

Ahadi Kenya Trust has launched Ambulance Mashinani. The mobile project has enabled jigger-infested expectant mothers to access health care.

We have also introduced portable ultra-sound scanners, with which we test mothers at the comfort of their homes.

"We don't give because we have excess. We give because we have access.”

Thank you for enabling Ahadi Kenya Trust to deliver its promise to Kenyans.

Happy 10th birthday, Ahadi Kenya Trust!

"People who have recovered from jigger infestations have the power to change the world. Many lives have been changed. We could not have done that without the help of our volunteers and partners. Thank you for your support.”

Miss World Kenya 2005

Cecilia Mwangi, HSC

Ahadi Kenya Trust - Anti-jigger Campaign Ambassador

"From my political background and work with grassroots communities, I thought I had gone to the lowest of the lowest until I joined the anti-jigger campaign 10 years ago. The level of poverty I have witnessed has taught me to appreciate how privileged I am and so are many other Kenyans and how much all of us have to share with the less privileged"

Mr. Joseph Mathai

Ahadi Kenya Trust - Programmes Director
Ten years ago, only the affected knew about the jigger menace in Kenya. Ahadi Kenya Trust has been leading a local and international campaign to create awareness, prevention, and control of jigger infestation. This has been done through electronic and print media, community fora, public health campaigns, and partnerships.

The treatment of jigger-infected persons was a key objective of Ahadi Kenya Trust. Before Ahadi, victims used pins and other sharp objects to extract jiggers which exposed them to other infections like tetanus. Ahadi Kenya Trust pioneered a painless and pinless method of suffocating the parasites, whereby the patients dip the infested areas in a disinfectant three times a day for two weeks. We also undertook fumigation of both homes and schools to get rid of the jigger-causing flea. In cases of severe infection, Ahadi Kenya Trust referred the victims to hospitals for specialised treatment. Jigger-infected people are often at the bottom of the poverty cycle. Most cannot afford decent food and clothing. Ahadi Kenya Trust has been distributing foodstuffs, bedsheets, sanitary towels, and clothes to the affected families.

When we realised that the number of jigger-infested people is in millions, and in every county, Ahadi Kenya Trust came up with capacity-building programmes. Ahadi has trained Community Health Workers, NGOs, school communities, care givers, social workers, and thousands of volunteers. Today, we have people in each county who are conversant with jigger eradication methods. Ahadi Kenya Trust came up with educational materials and implemented Hygiene Clubs in schools. The success of the capacity building programmes is evident from the number of NGOs that have adopted jigger eradication projects, since 2007.

One of the major causes of infestation among school-going children is lack of footwear. Ahadi Kenya Trust launched a programme dubbed ‘Fukuza Funza na Kiato’, whereby we gift pupils from poor families with new pairs of shoes. Ahadi Kenya Trust, together with other organisations, have so far distributed millions of shoes. Our target is to ensure that no child goes to school barefoot. Ahadi also came up with the ‘Usafi Bora’ campaign, which explains how to manage jigger infestation at the school community and the general public on good hygiene practices of their classrooms, homes and environment.

During our home visits, Ahadi Kenya Trust came across jigger-affected young expectant mothers who had never accessed pre or anti-natal care. This was due to immobility occasioned by jigger infestation. Others that had been lucky to be taken to public hospitals had been transported there on motorbikes, wheelbarrows or carried on sacks, causing more injuries to the patients. We devised a more dignified way of transporting the expectant mother dubbed ‘Ambulance Mashinani’ (Village Ambulance). This is an innovation where a light-weight caravan equipped with a First Aid kit and stretcher is powered by a motorcycle and is thus able to access any location, especially those prohibitve to motor vehicles. Some of these ambulances are fitted with ultra-sound machines which can be used to examine patients at the comfort of their homes.
Ahadi Kenya Trust has created awareness locally and community fora, public health/hygiene campaigns, and also opened information centres countrywide, where the

Healthcare

Access to Awareness Prevention

01

with ultrasound machines which can be used to examine patients. Motorcycle and is thus able to access any location, especially those equipped with a First Aid kit and stretcher) is powered by a Ambulance. This is an innovation where a light-weight caravan expectant mother dubbed ‘Ambulance Mashinani’ (Village patients. We devised a more dignified way of transporting the hospitals had been transported there on motorbikes, jigger infestation. Others that had been lucky to be taken to public pre or anti-natal care. This was due to immobility occasioned by

02

public can seek advice on jigger-related issues also through community groups like churches. Ahadi Kenya Trust has also opened information centres internationally. This has been done through electronic and print media, community fora, public health/hygiene campaigns, and volunteers being trained on their new classrooms, homes and environment. Volunteers came up with the ‘Usafi Bora’ campaign, which educates both the target is to ensure that no child goes to school barefoot. Ahadi Kenya Trust organisations, have so far distributed millions of shoes and slippers. Our ‘Fukuza Funza na Kiatu’, whereby we gift pupils from poor backgrounds lack of footwear. Ahadi Kenya Trust launched a programme dubbed ‘Usafi Bora’, whereby we gift pupils from poor backgrounds

03

One of the major causes of infestation among school-going children is programme dubbed ‘Usafi Bora’, whereby we gift pupils from poor backgrounds and slippers. Our Ahadi Kenya Trust educates both the hygiene practices of

04

Jigger-infected people are often isolated, stigmatised and neglected. After treating and empowering them, Ahadi Kenya Trust helps rehabilitate and re-integrate them to the community. We take the initiative of bring them together to form useful groups and/or SACCOs. They are trained on how to invest and start new programmes with the funds derived from livelihood projects. Ahadi Kenya Trust also helps in taking pupils who had dropped out due to jiggers back to school. Ahadi Kenya Trust, with partners, has also helped in building decent homes and sanitation facilities.

05

Severe jigger infestation causes disability. Most people who were disabled by jiggers had been denied their basic civil rights e.g. voting. Ahadi Kenya Trust launched a civic education guide on how such victims can participate in the governance of the country by engaging in the electoral process and vying for elective positions. We have also been motivating them to register as voters. Hundreds of thousands of jigger victims had not been exercising their democratic rights. This year, the majority of those who have recovered will be able to vote for their preferred leaders.
“Everybody comes from a village and a community that has transformed them. The best thing that we can do for our communities is to give back to them. I want to thank Ahadi Kenya Trust for coming today to give shoes.”

H.E Mrs Rachael Ruto
Speaking during an anti-jigger medical clinic and shoe distribution camp in Kakamega County in 2016.

“We have to individually talk to our governors, and I am glad that the senate is here to make sure that they understand that this is a problem we have to deal with. His Excellency the President; he called me about jiggers and said, “What are you going to do about eradicating this menace?”

James Macharia, CS Ministry of Transport & Infrastructure
Speaking during the launch of the policy as Cabinet Secretary for Health in 2015.

“County Directors of Education who are here, who are listening to me, you should begin to map out your counties... tell us the schools that are affected by jiggers because we will only do reasonable things if we map out all these areas... We are reviewing our curriculum so that we have a new curriculum and prepare our children for the 21st century. How can we prepare our children for the 21st century but they have jiggers?”

Dr. Fred Matiangi, CS, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Speaking during an anti-jigger medical clinic and shoe distribution camp in Kakamega County in 2016.

“Where did we go wrong that jiggers can still torment people in the 21st century?”

H.E. Daniel arap Moi, Former President Kenya
Speaking during the Kenya we Want conference at KICC in 2010.

“Our partnership in Education and Enterprise Development continues to impact and empower grassroots communities. We applaud and acknowledge the commendable contribution of Ahadi Kenya Trust towards eradicating rural household poverty, and commit to a continuous and sustainable partnership”

Pauline Ndonga- Gakuo, KCB Foundation
Speaking while presiding over an empowerment project in Murang’a County in partnership with Ahadi Kenya Trust in 2014.

“It was an honour partnering with you in the fight against jigger infestation and eradication programme in various communities in Kenya as we implemented our corporate social responsibility role.”

Dr. Anthony Omerikwa, Ag.CEO/Managing Trustee, NSSF
When commenting on their partnership with Ahadi Kenya Trust in 2016.

“In the past decade, you have gained much-deserved recognition locally and abroad. We wish you success for the next 10 years, and hope you grow even more.”

Brian Waluchio, Chairman, Lotto Foundation
Speaking about their partnership with Ahadi Kenya Trust in 2017.

“It’s important to think good, speak good, and do good. If we want to see positive change in the world, then we need to connect to goodness. Ahadi Kenya Trust has influenced us all to doing good to make a positive change in our communities in the space of upholding dignity and good health.”

Alex Nyaga, Group CEO Parapet Cleaning Services
Speaking during an anti-jigger event in 2011.

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Alex Nyaga, Group CEO Parapet Cleaning Services
Speaking during an anti-jigger event in 2011.

“Nimefurahi sana na maendeleo hii ya Ahadi Kenya, naomba serekali ya Kenya isaidie.”

Mama Sarah Obama
Speaking during shoe distribution exercise in Siaya county in 2015.

“If jiggers can totally disable you so that you are unable to go to school, then this is very sad because Kenya is a very progressive country. We need to watch out as a nation.”

Dr Edah Gachukia, Educationalist
Speaking while handing over assorted items donated by pupils of Riara Group of Schools in 2012.
Your support is a gift generously given, happily accepted and deeply appreciated by all beneficiaries of the Anti-jigger campaign.

I would like to thank all Ahadi Kenya Trust staff, social workers and interns from all our offices for your hard work, dedication and selfless devotion.

My sincere appreciation to all our volunteers, well wishers and friends of the anti-jigger campaign, you gave generously.

To our esteemed partners, we recognize and appreciate your giving and support.

Cecilia Murungi
Miss World Kenya 2005
Anti-jigger Campaign Ambassador - Ahadi Kenya Trust

Thank you for your support;

Administration Police
Alive and Kicking
All 47 County Government’s
Amadeus Group
Ashleys
Athletics Kenya
BAKE
Beyond Zero
Bidco
Blue Sun Africa Ltd
Canon
CITI Group
CMC Motors
Coca-cola Kenya
Compua
Consolidated Bank
Digital Divide Data
DiMaye Media
EABL
Eco Bank Kenya
Exclooosive
Family Bank
Fanisi Company Ltd
Fast Energy
First Ladies 47 County
Governments
Ford Foundation
Fountain Media
G4S
Gaso Women Football club
Getrude Childrens Hospital
Gulf Energy
Haco Industries (K) Ltd
House of Manji
HP Kenya
IMG
Interconsumer Products Ltd
Inua Dada Initiative
Jaguar Youth Empowerment Foundation
Jamii Bora Bank
Jipsy Contractors
Jordia Enterprises
Joywo Organization
KASNEB
KCA University
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Kenafric Industries
KenGen
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Kenya Dairy Board
Kenya Orient
Kenya Ports Authority
Kenya RedCross
KICC
Kikuyu District Citizen Initiative
Kirawa Road Primary School
KWAL
Laico Regency
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Lydia Mochache Foundation
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Off The Wall
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Radio Africa
Rafiki Microfinance
Raha Kids
Real Insurance Ltd
Resolution Health
Rhino Special Products
Rotary Club of Kenya
Royal Media Group
Safaricom Foundation
Samsung Kenya
Sanlam Group
SAP Group
Sarova Hotels
Sasini Tea
Scan Group
Sidian Bank
SMEP Microfinance
SOS Children’s Village
SouthWest Airlines
Spero Africa
SportPesa
St. Mary’s School Nairobi
Standard Media Group
Sunny Money
Telkom
The Convention Place
The Kenyatta Trust Foundation
The Nairobi Water Company
The Nairobi Womens Hospital
Therapies for kids
Three Cube
Tile and Carpet Center
TOMS
Uniliver
Valentine Cake House
World Vision
Wrigleys Kenya

...you helped remove a jigger!
“On 1st April 2017, Ahadi Kenya Trust marked 10 years of jigger eradication by organising a mass wedding for ten jigger recovered couples. This is one way of rehabilitating and integrating them back to the society. They can now go out and get involved in community service and seek leadership roles after undergoing rejection, trauma and isolation for many years.”

Dr. Stanley Kamau Maina, HSC
Ahadi Kenya Trust Executive Founder/CEO