

Lost everything in fire

12 families lost their homes and all their belongings in a fire Thursday last week. Now they are begging for help to feed themselves.



Members of the Lopeto's village show torches and jerry cans that got completely destroyed in the vicious fire last week. The whole village was burnt down, and the inhabitants were left only with the clothes they were wearing when the fire started.

Text and photo by: Miriam Hagen

“We only have the clothes we are wearing. Everything else is gone. We ask God why he brought us this infortune. We are crying for our empty stomachs and we hope someone can feed us, “ the women said when staff from Holy Trinity Peace village Kuron (HTPVK) visited on Monday this week. They were talking loud and using their arms to express their helplessness. Lopeto's village still smelled burnt and only ashes were left of the 12 huts which were housing twelve women, six men and their kids.



Apparently the fire started when someone was burning a tree in the mountain. The wind caught the fire and carried it to Lonio's village where two granaries were destroyed. The fire was then spread to Lopeto's village where nothing was left.

"We lost seven calves, and the chicken and goats also got lost. The Sorghum was burnt very

badly, but it is the only thing we have got left to feed ourselves. It tastes very bitter and our kids get diarrhoea from eating it," the women explained.



They showed pieces of plastic which used to be jerry cans, and the melted aluminium which used to be pots. Only the cover was left of their torches'. HTPVK decided to contribute to help the families who lost everything. On Tuesday they gave 14 blankets, jerry cans, besides plastic boxes that they had received from the UN.

Unfortunately, HTPVK do not have enough food in stock, even for their own school children, so they request for anybody to come to assistance for these families in need. At this point the families only have burnt Sorghum and their cows are giving some milk, but not a lot since it is the dry season and the cows are not feeding very well.



The fire started around noon on Thursday last week, so most of the inhabitants were out fetching water. The few people who remained in the village, fled for their lives. There was no loss of life or injuries. Sunday the men started to go around to the neighbouring areas to beg for any assistance.

“We need how’s and spades so we can start producing food again. We need everything, we only have what we are wearing,” the villagers said.



Holy Trinity Peace village Kuron gave blankets, jerry cans and boxes to help members of Lopeto’s village to recover after the fire last week. They appeal to anyone to assist in feeding the unfortunate families.



This box with a blanket and jerry can contribute in rebuilding the lives of people in Lopeto’s village, but much more is needed.