

## How a \$33 Investment Helped One Family Out Of Poverty

**Felix Mururi** is a landless Kenyan in his early 30s who is married with three children. His eldest children are twins who are 7 years old and in the first grade at a local primary school. The youngest is 3 years old and hopes to join a nursery school.

work to save the needed funds. He rented a small plot of land and he and his wife started using a bucket to irrigate a few French beans from a shallow well. After two months of hard work they harvested their first crop and made enough money to buy a Hip Pump.



Since then they have rented five more small plots of land with a total area of an acre. They are paying \$53 per year to rent the land and they have started to grow French beans, tomatoes, baby corn and green maize. They planted the land so that they will have a mature crop to sell throughout the year and their lives have already changed drastically. **After two months they harvested the crops on two of the six small plots and they made \$580 profit.** They are also renting out the pump to a neighbor who pays them \$0.65 per day.

In order to make enough money to look after his family Felix left his rural home to look for a job in the city. He found work serving food in an informal restaurant in the slums of Nairobi where he managed to earn \$40 per month - but this was barely enough to meet his family's most basic needs. One day last August he saw a KickStart Hip Pump being demonstrated in a local shop. It was selling for \$33 and he saw that it was both affordable and easy to operate. **He realized that with this pump he could make more money farming than he could make in the city.** He decided to go back to his home area and



**Felix says “hii pump ni faida tupu” – “this pump is purely for profit”** and the family are making plans for their future. They plan to rent and irrigate another acre of land and they hope to soon have enough money to reach their dream of buying land and building a decent house. **And as Felix’s wife says “halafu tuendelee na tuendelee kabisa” – “then we will continue to prosper”.**