



Rainbow Development in Africa is a small charity and we want to stay that way. This allows us to maximise cost-efficiency and remain a truly grass-roots organisation. Working always through our excellent local partners, ADMAPE, we can make a real difference to people's lives in the difficult circumstances of southern Mauritania. We could not do this without your support. Please help us to continue and expand this work.

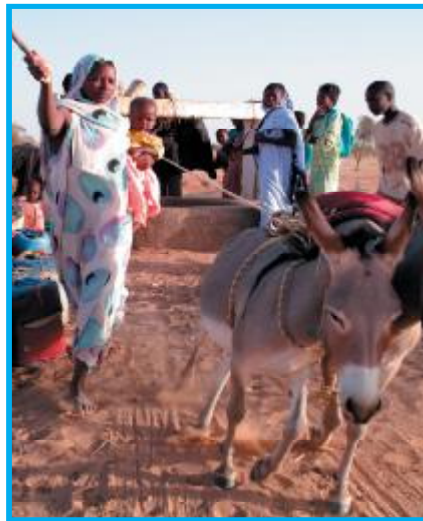
Peter Hudson, Director

A Changing Climate

Last year, floods devastated the south of Mauritania. This year, the droughts came back. Newly planted crops of maize and millet wilted in the fields. Pastures were quickly exhausted. It is marginal regions such as these that are most affected by climate change. Even small changes in precipitation can cause havoc in areas where the inhabitants are already on the poverty line and rainfall is, at best, barely adequate. Poverty means real hunger, a higher mortality rate, rural exodus and political disempowerment. But this need not happen. Careful use of natural resources and building people's organisational capabilities can help them face climate change.

Well Digging

We have dug a well for the 1000-strong Windy Jammy community of livestock herders in southern Mauritania, **right**. This has transformed their lives, as previously they had to walk 8km to their nearest supply of poor-quality water. Now the women have time for other tasks, people's health has improved and a small vegetable garden has been established. But there are many other communities in the same region who do not have access to clean drinking water and whose very existence is at risk. We wish to help these people and are currently researching a programme of well digging for which we hope to find sponsors.



The Big Walk

September '08 saw the Cape Wrath to Land's End sponsored walk, **left**, kick off with Peter and Mark Hudson covering 177 miles in all to Fort William. June and September '09 will see the next two sections completed. Anyone wishing to walk, please contact us.

Other funding news

We have as usual received many generous private donations, as well as the support of Trust Funds and of those who help us so much by giving regularly via Standing Order. A great many thanks to all.

ADMAPE..Micro Credit..the Future.?

With our support, partner ADMAPE are working with women's groups and others on a micro-credit scheme (potential recipient, Fama To of Sylla village, **above**); they will also develop a seed and fruit-tree project in '09 as well as participate in a 10,000-hectare fencing project, protecting farming land from livestock and improving the lives of 36,000 people.

For more information, please see:

www.rainbowdevelopmentinafrica.org

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