



In the Babati District of Tanzania, communities are harnessing locally available resources to overcome their most pressing issues using the Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP). Here, a group gathers to take part in one of the regular CCMP sessions which is helping them plan ways to bring about a change which lasts. Source: Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro/Tearfund

Prayer update - Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Tanzania

In Tanzania, it is estimated that around one third of the population are living in poverty. Ensuring access to basics, like food, can be tough, especially in rural areas. Here, most people depend on agriculture to provide the food and income they need, but the weather can play a big part in a farmer's success. A failed harvest can mean less food and less money, and with little or nothing to fall back on at times of shock or stress, life becomes harder. Families, without anything to fall back on are pushed further into poverty.

But thanks to your support, Tearfund's partner, the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro, is helping to break cycles like these in the communities they serve. They are equipping local churches with the tools to help people overcome their day-to-day challenges and bring about lasting transformation.

Since the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro started running the Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP) in Babati District more than four years ago to help communities bring about the changes they wanted to see, a huge amount has happened. In the communities of Dirma, Dareda, Pongay, Kiru and Wahari, five local churches led Bible studies and training sessions on subjects like resource mobilisation. This inspired a whole range of ideas and activities within the communities. People started self-help groups, which gave them a way to save money together and cover the cost of basic essentials or grow their livelihoods. It also gave them safe spaces to come to when they needed support or encouragement.

Then in 2019, the Diocese was able to scale up the work they were doing, to offer seven more communities a chance to take part in the process, including Kirusix, Maji ya moto, Erri, Kokomay, Singu, Qwam and Imbilili.

James (pictured, right) is just one of those who was able to take part in the process and became a self-help group member himself.

Before he joined the group, James had been raising a cow at home that gave him milk for his family, and extra, which he was able to sell to make money. But when the cow died suddenly of an unknown disease, his family's income took a sudden hit.



James explains: 'I joined [the] CCMP at the right time, I was very confused after I lost my cow, which was one of the main sources of income for my family. CCMP has educated me to identify other opportunities and resources that can increase the income of my family.'

'I have strengthened my relationship with other group members [and] also got time to study the bible together. This is so valuable in my life and my family'.

Regina (pictured, right) took part in CCMP sessions at her local church and joined a self-help group too. She would always return home from meetings and share all they had discussed with her husband.



As they spoke, Regina and her husband decided that they would start a venture of their own. They wanted to keep chickens, so they built a chicken coop, and Regina took a loan to buy their first 50 chickens. They hope that rearing chickens becomes the main way they raise income.

Regina shares: 'My family and I are much helped by the CCMP holistically. We are now able to sit and plan for our future and agree on what should be our priority in the family and how as a family we can mobilise resources to accomplish the planned activity. Also, we have started to attend church services and CCMP sessions regularly that makes us continue to grow spiritually'.

To date, the 26 self-help groups who have formed as a result of the work with the Diocese (which are each made up of around 15-20 people) have raised more than 141,372,500 Tanzanian Shillings together - that's about £46,000 - which they have been able to use to support one another and to make investments. It is money that many would not have been able to access at all if working alone. But encouraged by their training sessions and spurred on by local leaders and facilitators, it is helping people choose the path they would like to take into the future. This is seeing people opening small shops, keeping livestock, starting motorbike taxiing businesses, and expanding their agricultural businesses.

Please pray

Since March 2020, when the World Health Organisation announced the coronavirus pandemic, the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro has experienced many ups and downs in its work. It became difficult to implement the activities they had hoped to run in line with their plans. However, the situation in Tanzania is now returning to normal, with people taking care to follow measures that prevent the spread of Covid-19.

- **Please pray that the Church and Community Mobilisation Process continues to be of help to the communities the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro serves.** Most of the communities involved in the work the Diocese is currently doing have learnt the basics of the process and how to identify and use resources and opportunities to help bring about the kind of transformation they would like to see. Pray for their ongoing work, and pray that more and more communities can apply the skills and information from the CCMP sessions to strengthen and grow their livelihoods.
- **Please pray for those leading, supporting and providing training sessions for all those involved in the Church and Community Mobilisation Process.** Pray for the local facilitators, the project's field officer, the program coordinator, the Diocesan Management team and their families as they try to organise and implement the activities they have planned to support communities. Pray they experience good health and ongoing peace and strength.
- **Pray for the nation.** Like many other countries, the Covid-19 pandemic has affected Tanzania economically, socially and spiritually. Pray that no other waves of this pandemic emerge both in Tanzania, and globally. And pray for the leaders of Tanzania as they work to ensure peace and unity across the country.

'Dear brethren your dedication, understanding and time all mean so much to us. We feel very lucky to be partnering with you in this program, we will cherish you all the time. Thank you!'

Rev Elia, Diocesan CCMP coordinator

Thank you



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