

Sustaining and enhancing flourishing churches and communities through CCMP

Tanzania

Report for All Saints, Ecclesall
April 2020 to March 2021



Around the Babati District of Tanzania, self-help groups are starting new income-generating activities together. One of these groups, Tumaini, pictured above, are busy sewing and ironing school uniforms as part of their new business. Source: Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro/Tearfund

Results

- In the Babati District of Tanzania, the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro is running initiatives to help communities tackle poverty and improve wellbeing. Using an approach known as the Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP), they are helping people to pinpoint the biggest issues they are experiencing and to identify potential solutions. Meanwhile, to equip themselves with all they need to make changes, people are forming small self-help groups, as a way to build up their collateral, request loans to invest in their businesses or to buy essentials for their families.

Thank you

Emanuel lives with his family in Endasago, where he relies on his work as a farmer for food and a wage. A good harvest might mean food for his family and money for other essentials. A bad harvest can mean periods of hunger and having to make careful decisions about what to go without as a family.

2020 opened a new chapter for Emanuel and his family. His church began organising groups of around 15-20 people into 'self-help groups', where people were coming together to save money. From their savings members could request loans - something that had been hard to do through a bank if you didn't have enough collateral in the first place. With no other option, people would often be forced to turn to moneylenders, who require returns at a high rate of interest. But the self-help groups provided a new option.

Emanuel joined his self-help group 'Jerusalem' and was able to start saving by purchasing shares. After just three months he took his first loan, and bought a pregnant cow. After giving birth, the cow provided Emanuel with around 10 litres of milk a day - keeping two for his family, and eight to sell. His income from the milk sales quickly built up, allowing him to repay his loan on time.

Back at his farm, Emanuel thought about other ways he could make improvements and early in 2021 Emanuel took another loan. Instead of hiring oxen from his neighbours, to plough his fields, he planned to buy two of his own. It is an investment that will make farming much easier. And something that might not have been possible without the savings and loan initiative run by his self-help group.

Across Babati this year, communities like Emanuel's are discovering the power of coming together to form self-help groups like Jerusalem. They are finding their groups a valuable way of accessing affordable credit. Those taking loans are finding ways to cover essentials and make investments that will benefit the long term wellbeing of their families. But in addition to this, members are finding their groups to be spaces of support - places where their self-esteem and confidence is growing. Particularly amongst the women taking part, for whom opportunities like these aren't always available.



Emanuel stands with two oxen that he purchased using a loan from his self-help group. They should make farming far easier.
Source: Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro/Tearfund

Thank you for praying, offering encouragement and support for their work. In what has been a year of challenge for so many around the world, your support has meant families like Emanuel's have a source of support to fall back on.

What difference did your support make across Babati?

This year, self-help groups across Babati - in the communities of Kiru, Wahari, Pongay, Dareda and Dirma - have seen more and more unfolding through their work. With online registration of groups now required by law, local government officials have supported the self-help groups with their writing of introductory letters and recommendations to councils. One bank has even been helping group members with the procedures and management that will enable them to hold a group bank account.

The Church and Community Mobilisation Process (CCMP) continues to be a key part of the work happening in Babati. The approach, designed to help churches and communities work hand in hand to unlock their God-given possibilities through a series of Bible studies and training sessions, continues to receive positive and constructive feedback. People are sharing how the process has opened their minds to new opportunities and, having identified their own locally available resources after sessions on subjects like *Resource Mobilisation*, they are taking action to build sustainable sources of income and become self-sufficient. They are now keeping livestock, such as poultry, and are maximising what they have by incorporating methods like irrigation on their farms, which should help improve yields when it's time to harvest.

To date, 3,376 people have been directly impacted by this project, while another 6,752 have benefitted indirectly. This year, the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro:



Ran CCMP sessions with 644 people. The community members began developing action plans after each session and are putting what they are learning into practice.



Six new local churches started on the CCMP journey, with 452 people taking part in their training sessions.



The churches and their communities learnt about self-help groups, and how to go about forming the transformative small groups. Since their sessions, 22 groups have formed, which represent 457 members.



Held two days of training on self-help groups, as a refresher to the 30 group leaders and Community Resource Persons.



Raised awareness on COVID-19 and its prevention with 1,356 community members. This resulted in an increase in handwashing, the regular wearing of masks and social distancing. Incidents of COVID-19 infection remained low amongst the communities.

Challenges

When the World Health Organisation declared the coronavirus a pandemic on the 11th March, communities around the world took action to prevent the spread of the virus. In Tanzania, during the same month, the first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed. The government closed all learning institutions, banned gatherings and introduced travel restrictions, but allowed places of worship to remain open. Social and economic activities faced a drastic downfall for those living within the Diocese. In June 2020 the government declared Tanzania free of COVID-19, but communities remained concerned. Illnesses such as coronavirus can put already stretched healthcare systems under strain, so prevention measures, particularly in rural areas, where health centres might only have limited medical equipment, can be vital.

To help prevent the spread of the virus, training on COVID-19 has been included within the Church and Community Mobilisation Process, allowing church and community members and self-help group members to learn more during their weekly meetings. They also start their meetings with a mandatory washing of hands.

Over the past year Tearfund's Country Program in Tanzania was also restructured, which led to a relocation of the Tearfund country office. The combination of this, alongside the pandemic, meant some delays to the activities the communities had planned for this year. Despite this, facilitators and Community Resource Persons were still able to run training sessions for their communities, with those taking part in sessions observing the COVID-19 prevention measures recommended by the World Health Organisation.

Where it was not possible to complete all activities, they will instead be carried out during the coming project year, when the Diocese hope to run CCMP workshops about *Information Gathering* and *Information Analysis* for facilitators (which will help communities gain accurate data on their current situation so they can best prioritise need and take action), workshops to 20 Community Resource Persons on small, transformative self-help groups, and on group management and entrepreneurship.

Discovering new ideas, finding a new security

As a result of your support, families like Emanuel's are finding security, even in the face of weather-related shocks and challenges. Through the Church and Community Mobilisation Process they are discovering new ideas and creating new visions of the future. With the support of their transformative self-help groups they are building on all they are learning and putting some of their new ideas into practice. For Emanuel, this has meant a way of sustainably feeding his family, while providing him with information that he can use to revisit any challenges and plans again and again.

Where did your money go?

Without generous support like yours, Emanuel's self-help group might not have emerged to become the powerhouse it is today. You have invested in an initiative that he can turn to for support again and again. The final amount spent from April 2020 to March 2021 was **£10,014*** and we are so grateful. For those activities that were budgeted for, but that it was not possible to carry out this year, your donations will be carried over to the new project year, when these activities will be completed. Thank you.

ACTIVITY OR ITEM	BUDGETED (£)	SPENT (£)
Two days refresher training to 20 Community Resource Persons	728	734
Conduct workshop to 20 Community Resource Persons on the Self Help Group concept, using the Pamoja approach	1,241	0
Workshop on <i>Information Gathering</i> to 15 CCMP Facilitators	1,379	0
Training on <i>Information Analysis</i> to 15 CCMP Facilitators	1,431	0
Workshop to Community Resource Persons on group management, entrepreneurship and good agricultural practices	1,103	0
Monitoring & Evaluation	1,379	672
Personnel	7,034	7,034
Administration & Indirect costs	2,190	1,573
TOTAL	16,486	10,014

* Using an exchange rate of £1 to 2900.1151 TZS and calculated to nearest £

** As a result of your support via Connected Church, until August 2020 5% of your gift went to our wider international work, ensuring your money is well spent. 5% went to help cover running costs in the UK which includes fundraising enabling us to raise further vital resources. Any Gift Aid received from your donation went to Tearfund's general work to help where the need is greatest. From September, and the conclusion of Connected Church, 7% of your gift went to our wider international work while 7 % went to help cover running costs in the UK.

Please keep praying

- Give thanks for self-help groups, like Jerusalem, who are providing spaces of encouragement and opportunity for members like Emanuel. Praise God for the investments Emanuel has been able to make to secure food for his family, and for the growing collaboration of groups like his with local officials and banks.
- Please pray for the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro, as they continue to support churches and communities over the coming year. Please pray for wisdom as they provide CCMP sessions on subjects like *Information Analysis*, to help provide them with data on the major issues people are experiencing, in order to prioritise actions and plan a way forward.
- Please pray for the church and the government as they respond to COVID-19. Tanzania had not shared data on its COVID-19 situation since May last year, although the new President Samia Suluhu has set a different tone to her predecessor. Since her appointment, the country has received one million vaccines through the COVAX scheme. When the pandemic took hold, Tearfund's country team began working with partners across Tanzania to raise awareness about COVID-19 prevention measures and dispel myths. 245 hand-washing stations were installed at local churches and 250,455 people have been reached directly with COVID-19 hygiene and sanitation education. The country is now experiencing its third wave of infections.

Thank you

We'd love to tell you more, over the phone, or over a coffee. Please get in touch!



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