



defakto

COLLABORATION
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REPORT
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About us

TATU Project is a non-profit organization that facilitates an equal and sustainable development for the rural community of Msitu Wa Tembo and Londoto in Northern Tanzania. In 2014 we carried out surveys in the community and we set up 5 problem areas to work in: **marginalization, health, water, environment, and education.**

Since then, we have worked on:

- Women Empowerment (W.E program)
- AFYA (Health program)
- Clean & safe Water
- Green project (Environment program)

Discover all our projects on www.tatuproject.org



Our updates

These last 6 months, TATU Project mainly focused on:

- Increasing the capacity of 5 CHW and 10 HBC through training (new topic and refresher training). The team gave 2 **seminars** to primary school students and 3 to secondary school students.
- Raising awareness in the community about **Gender-Based Violence** with **imaginative educational tools** and sports activities
- Giving **pedagogical capacities** to Water Committees in order to promote a good use of water
- Enabling Environmental clubs to make the community aware of environmental issues. 900 trees were planted in school's nurseries. They are taken care of by the **Environment club students.**
- Women celebrating IWD (International Women's day) advocating for increased **women leadership** participation and positive response toward pandemic challenge. 250 women attended.
- The **Bike Shop cycling competition** that took place on World Bike Day with the goal to promote **interactive sports** and celebrate the intangible benefits of the bike rental business

Theater as a pedagogical tool in our projects

Education is present in all our projects. We also use theater for its **potential of expression.** We take the position that **women**, especially the oppressed ones, can better express themselves through image theater for its **artistic value** and the fact that it is **opposed to male verbal expression.**

Theater in AFYA Health Program

In order to better understand the **functioning of the body**, the AFYA team organized a **role play**, a **life-size staging**, of the digestive system during one of the HBC's training sessions which took place in February.

8 HBC and the 2 members of the AFYA team participated in the game. Each person received an organ of the digestive system in a **picture** (the mouth, the esophagus, the stomach, the intestine, the colon, the rectum but also the pancreas, the gallbladder and the liver.) Each part of the digestive system has been distributed randomly. The goal of this game was to **restore the digestive system in the right order and describe which one it was and what role it played.**

Each participant took their role seriously, all were **able to explain their function** even if certain organs were more difficult to visualize. The next day, when the team had to explain the class seen the day before to an absent HBC again, all of the HBC **spontaneously replayed the scene**, which allowed their absent colleague to quickly understand the functioning of the digestive system; an initiative warmly congratulated by the AFYA team.

Seeing the concrete results of this role play, the team decided to keep going with this method and will **apply it to other explanations of the human body**. The next one will be on the **respiratory system**.



Theater in W.E. Grow Program

School club girls

Students in the **Secondary school** of Msitu wa Tembo performed **theater** to demonstrate **violence experienced by students** as a consequence (post lockdown effects) of last year's mandatory school break. Some students couldn't make it back to school because they had to work to support their families, some engaged in risky behaviour. The theater was performed by **6 students** and in the audience were **80 students of the Gender-Based Violence club** during the February session. Club teachers and the TATU team were at the session.

After the play, students reflected on **what happened to students in other parts of the world**. Using a **guessing game**, different scenarios were demonstrated and the student in the audience had to guess where that could even happen. It was a **fun and engaging** game.



African Child Day

Students in the 4 schools gathered together for a **joint celebration of ACD**. It is commemorated every June 16th, but since the schools will be closed on this day, we decided to have it celebrated in advance. The event took place at the Secondary school. Students from Msitu, Kikwete and Londoto Primary schools attended, mostly those involved in the **UTAWWEZA club**. They played **drama, poems and drums**. It was very interesting to see the **motivation** around the students.



The topics highlighted issues of:

- **Teachers discrimination to students** in schools based on academic performance which the students commented as violence to a child
 - **Early forced marriages** and consequences: how parents are involved in arranging marriages to their children who are under age, and they demonstrated support available for such cases. In this drama, the students reported the perpetrators to the village authorities who made follow up to the police and parents arrested.
 - **Female Genital Mutilation** appeared in drama as a session taught in class
 - **Child labor** especially in agriculture where children are forced to work as laborers
- There were **more than 500 students** in the event including 80 students from the Secondary school club, 16 students from Londoto, 14 from Msitu wa Tembo Primary and 18 from Kikwete Primary.

Theater in Environment Program

To celebrate **Environment Day** on 5th of June, **30 students** from the **Environment club** of Msitu wa Tembo Secondary school debated on different topics related to the environment. They **performed a play** on the consequences of human actions on the ecosystem and the positive impact of **restoring the environment**. They used a lot of **accessories** to represent the different animals, the humans, etc. They were very **involved** in these activities, it was **a fun and educational day**. They also **wrote a poem and performed a dance** to go with it.



Body expression in MASAA & KiliPads

In **KiliPads** and **MASAA** meetings, women always **stretch** at the beginning, they **change seats** every time it becomes too noisy in order to focus back. This method also enables the women to **interact with every other woman** from the meeting and not just sit beside a woman they are comfortable with. It promotes dynamics for **body consciousness**, **relaxation** and stretching methods they **can use at home** or for **team building** purposes.

Moreover, in seminars conducted by the KiliPads team for **girls in the schools** of the community they also promote **stretching**, **interaction** between the students to **create bonds** and **release body pain and stress**.



Theater in TATU Team

The TATU Project team reserves **1 hour of team building every Friday** that we like to call: **FAMILIA TIME!** It is a moment where **we share time together** and we work to **keep growing as a team**.

Every session is prepared by a different member of the team. The sessions have a very **huge variety** from **funny games**, **collaborative dynamics**, **competitions** to knowledge sharing. In these sessions the **corporal expression**, **representation**, **imagination**, and **creativity** are clues.

Being part of these sessions enables the team to **share experiences**, **empower as individuals** but also as a team, **create stronger bonds** between coworkers and get to know the people you work with better. It is also a great transition between the end of the week and starting the weekend.



Next steps on theater activities

The team **keeps on including theater methods** in future projects as they have noticed the **positive effects** on women, children and on the community. For instance, the **GREEN Project** plans on **training children about recycling in a fun and interactive way**.

Moreover, in a general way, the team keeps on **valuing creativity, team building, self-expression, body expression and oral expression** throughout particular projects and within the team.

We are really looking forward to implementing **new theater initiatives** in our **projects, trainings and events**. We can truly see the difference regarding **self-expression and team building**!

In the name of the TATU Project team, we would like to **THANK YOU** for your **support** and your **trust**. Your support is **making a huge difference** for the inhabitants of **Msitu wa tembo and Londoto!**



If you want to know more about all the projects supported by TATU Project **follow us on social media** or **subscribe to our newsletter!**

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