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## INTRODUCTION

TATU Project is a non-governmental organization, created in 2013. TATU Project's mission is to facilitate equal and sustainable development projects together with the community members of Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto in northern Tanzania.

## Theater as a pedagogical tools in our programs

Education is present in all our projects. In our programs, theater allows beneficiaries' like students to explore challenging social scenarios and vulnerable emotions in a safe and supportive environment. Performances have helped to develop empathy for the experiences of others and explore diverse perspectives.

## **Project Updates**

- In the "Afya" health program, Increasing the capacity of 5 CHWs and 10 HBC through training (new topic and refresher training). The team gave 2 seminars to primary school students on health topics.
- Increasing awareness in the community about **Gender-Based Violence** with imaginative educational tools, sports activities, and campaigns.
- Capacity building to the village Water Committees through the use of pedagogical tools in order to promote good use of water
- Environmental school clubs advocate for environmental awareness, through seminars and training.
- International African child day celebration in Londoto, students prepared a short play, poem, and drama to portray the day's message.

The impact of the pedagogical tools in our projects includes; the facilitation of effective capacity-building sessions for beneficiaries of TATU's projects in Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto. Increase in awareness and advocacy in different topics such as environment, health, and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in the community. In addition, through our project/ programs, the community has benefited improve access to healthcare, clean and safe water, and economic, social, and personal empowerment of the women group.

# W.E.GROW Program

## Seminars with "Kazi na Sala" group of women

In the same way as the training, the team tries to make the seminars "alive". In one of the seminars organized for the Serengeti women's group on **non-violent communication**. Activities were carried out to illustrate the importance of communicating well in complicated situations, in everyday life, and in a group setting. In addition, to identify the emotions that may be felt. It is through **role-plays**, and **physical expression activities** that the group was able to understand the notions that we wanted to share with them.

In another seminar session, the group was asked to use illustration through drawings, for example, a tree or house in order to realize the importance of each element in the same set. The participants enjoyed and learned from these sessions.





Photos showing Serengeti group in role play

# "UTAWEZA" Program

## African child day

June 16 was the African child and on this occasion, the UTAWEZA team, with the participation of the schools of Msitu wa Tembo & Londoto, organized a community event to commemorate this day. GBV school club students presented a **short play**, **poems**, and a song.

This year's theme was: "Eliminating Harmful Practice affecting Children: Progress on Policy & practice since 2013".

Among the subjects represented by the children, we could find:

- lack of parental responsibility for children's schooling, prefer to keep them at home to take care of household chores
- The forced marriage of young girls in order to recover the husband's money
- The students also recited a poem in honor of the events in Soweto as well as the unfortunately still present violence against children and women.





Photos from the African Child day event in Londoto village.

#### Teacher's training

UTAWEZA is also working with teachers to advocate against GBV in the community. The team facilitated a training session aimed at developing a curriculum and understanding GBV cases that may happen in these schools, protocols to follow, and a support system for GBV victims. Through the **use of scenarios**, the team used real and fictional scenarios to ensure understanding to teachers, and that they can put the protocol into practice in a concrete way.

#### Gender-Based Violence (GBV) School club session

In the GBV school clubs, the UTAWEZA team conducts weekly meeting sessions. During these sessions, primary and secondary students carry out **short role-plays**, which were inspired by images and which illustrate either the consequences linked to the violence suffered, but also on the help that can be given to victims. Also, the team made games with the younger ones to learn more about the body's parts.

Experience has shown that visual demonstrations or the use of concrete cases help in understanding a subject. Depending on the audiences encountered, children, adults or teachers, the team adapted the training or seminars so that they are dynamic, using a pedagogy that is more playful than just transmissive.

- **Observation** showed that children like to put themselves in the scene, it is not rare to see groups carrying out role-plays taking stories of daily life.
- Role-playing can be useful to get a better view of a situation and how to solve a problem.
- For children, in the 5-10 age group, role play seems to be a bit difficult to conduct.
- Adults have shown to be more receptive during training or seminars, but the team tries as much as possible to use concrete cases to illustrate certain subjects as well as group work facilitating exchanges.

## W.E.THRIVE Program

W.E.Thrive is a women empowerment program that facilitates economic empowerment by training its members in entrepreneurship to the "Kazi na Sala" women in Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto.

In the W.E Thrive project; The team conducted several training sessions for the Micro Lending Initiative Panel (MLIP) and Bicycle project leaders. **Brainstorming and participatory approaches** were applied through questions and answers. Through the training evaluation in the Bike project, the participant commented on these methodologies "I enjoyed the session today, question and answers are the best approaches to get everyone to interact with each other, engage, and explore challenging social scenarios related to the project in a safe and supportive environment" Suzan commented.

As part of the exit in the bike project, the WE Thrive started involving the project team leaders to facilitate the training using similar methodologies; which proved to be easier for the community team.





Photo 1: from the bicycle training led by Luice- One of the Bike project leaders. Photo 2: from the MLI training panel training.

## W.E.CARE Program

In the last few months, Kilipad conducted training for the group, members, and menstrual hygiene management seminars for girls in primary and secondary schools. Usually, in these seminars, the team utilizes traditional tools such as worksheets, and handouts to demonstrate the topic of menstrual hygiene to girls.

The participatory approach used by the Kilipad team enabled the students to be engaged, and ask and answer questions based on their understanding. In addition, it increased their confidence in discussing menstrual hygiene issues.

In addition, during **menstrual hygiene day**, the Kilipad team prepared an event in Londoto to commemorate this day. Girls from secondary and primary school were in attendance and they were provided with reusable pads and a short seminar demonstration n how to use Kilipads led by the Kilipad team.





# In Photo 1: Menstrual hygiene management seminar led by Maryam one of the Kilipad members.

In Photo 2: International menstrual hygiene day, during the short demonstration on using KIlipads.

#### **TATU Adventures**

TATU Adventures team conducted marketing training together with the guide. The aim of this training was to increase understanding of the marketing of TATU Adventures to clients and the general public. In addition, there was first aid training to equip the team with first aid knowledge that will help during the travels with clients.

Methods or means used in these sessions were questions and answers, role play, a short demonstration, charts, etc. Also, concrete examples, discussions and questions/answers, practical exercises, the creation of tourist offers, videos, diagrams, and photos. Through these approaches, there was demonstration of engagement in the participants, it was easier for the guides to understand some complex marketing content like; customer care and etiquette. The impact of the methodologies used was assessed through a post-evaluation questionnaire conducted, feedback from participants, etc. One of the comments in training evaluation showed; that pedagogy approaches encourage participation, memorization, and engagement with the team as well as giving the participant a chance to give vivid or lived examples.





In Photo 1: Marketing training session with TA team. In Photo 2: First aid training session from the Afya team.

# "Afya" Health Program

The training for the new Community Health Workers (CHWs) was also conducted this month, this is the second session of the three sessions planned. The training was about how to effectively prepare and conduct community seminars and teaching skills. In this session, there was a **group discussion and questions and answers** related to the topic. The methods used in this training helped CHWs with skills that will support them in conducting community health seminars for the Afya program.

In April, the Afya team facilitated training for Home-Based Care workers (HBCs) on HIV/Aids, on how to manage HIV patients. In this training, the method used was the **discussion** method, which was followed by a series of **questions and answers**.

This helped the participants to understand the topic as well as be engaged and through this, they are able to attend to patients in the community





HBCs in the training session with Afya project manager

## **Environment Program**

The Environment program consists of the tree planting project and trash-free campaigns in the communities of Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto. The Environment team conducted several trainings, seminars, and events to celebrate World Environment Day.

One of the sessions conducted for environment club students was about the Ecosystem, what it is, its challenges, threats to ecosystem services, benefits, and how the students and community can support the ecosystem.

The team facilitated Focus group discussions with the environment school club students in discussing these topics. The method encouraged engagement and learning for students. Paper sheets and digital material is shown by computer and projector were also prepared to support content clarification and facilitated open discussions, the digital material taught the students to identify ecosystem services through pictures and videos. Overall it enabled the understanding of the topic students, as well as their ability to engage with others in different ways.

On **World Environment day**; a public screening of a film called "A boy that harnessed the wind" about environmental issues like drought and how he used the resources to generate energy to make water. Trash and plastic waste were collected, as entrance fees to watch the movie.

The community responded well to this and because it was the first event to be conducted in this way, it seems to be something they would be interested in the future. One of the **challenges** during this event was the lack of proper equipment used to project this movie to the public. We hope in the next event we can have the proper equipment and digital materials so we can use technology as a method of sending our message.





Photo 1: Environment student club seminar on Ecosystem
Photo 1: Pictures for the World Environment Day seminar event

# Next steps in our projects

In TATU Projects, some of our projects are in the exit process such as in Bicycle and Kucheza ni Afya projects. Even after the exit, the team is proud that through the sustainability plans implemented throughout the project life, the projects will continue to use theater methods in our projects and program.

For the Kazi na Sala group of women, the projects will continue to take ownership of conducting training, seminars, and presentations, especially with the new sub-group from Serengeti. Also, the UTAWEZA and Green environment clubs plan to conduct more training and seminars about advocating against GBV and taking care of the environment.

Theater activities are crucial in our projects because they contribute to developing skills, and creating a more creative and energetic environment for the community and participants.

TATU Project would like to **THANK YOU** for your **support** and your **contribution**, and for supporting theater activities in our projects.