

Bi annual report
Defakto - TATU Project
January - July 2023



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Introduction

This report gives an overview of the projects and initiatives that the TATU Project carried out in the Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto communities. It focuses on the accomplishments, challenges, and effects of these endeavors, emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts, community involvement, educational approaches, and positive changes brought about by the projects. By including testimonials and feedback, the report showcases the perspectives and experiences of those involved in the projects.

Project update

Afya Program




Home Based Care services (HBC): The home-based caregivers have continued receiving support from the AFYA program. Thanks to the annual training they receive, HBC caregivers have been able to provide primary healthcare to 84.5% of community members with chronic

illnesses, exceeding their target of 80%. Over the past six months, the AFYA program has provided additional capacity-building training to HBC caregivers, expanding their knowledge of opportunistic infection management. Through practical demonstrations and illustrations, caregivers have received training on topics such as acute abdominal pain, cardiovascular diseases, and ear infections, explaining their occurrence, prevention and treatment. The participatory mode of training allowed for interaction and engagement from the HBCs, which contributed to their proper understanding.

In February of this year, a medical team held the **Medical Caravan no. 17** at the Msitu wa Tembo health center where they consulted with 217 patients. Alongside this, local **community health workers** (CHW) conducted a seminar on breast cancer awareness for both males and females. The seminar covered topics such as the causes, risk factors, prevention, and treatment of breast cancer, as well as self-examination techniques.



Pictures above: CHW demonstrates breast cancer detection at a training conducted at this year's start.

Quote from community " CHW-  *This year we want to continue reaching more people in the community, especially each sub-village, to ensure our seminar reaches more people.*

TATU Value synergy: *Embracing Synergy as a TATU value, the Afya program continued collaborating with other projects in finding ways to solve the medical problems in the community. To increase awareness regarding urinary tract infections (UTI) in the community, a short seminar was conducted to the women who work at Kilipads, our reusable menstrual pad manufacturing facility. Moreover, we plan to insert a small brochure with UTI information in the pads' package together with their instructions paper.*

W.E. Care Program - Kilipads



Women's Day Celebration: As part of their Women's Day celebration, Kilipads organized an MHM (Menstrual Health Management) seminar for 39 women from the Serengeti group. The seminar focused on natural birth control by understanding their menstrual cycle, as well as addressing urinary tract infections (UTI). To ensure inclusiveness regardless of literacy levels, the team used demonstration, pictorial, and Q&A methods as both communities have a vast number of women who cannot read and write. Additionally, the team reached out to young mothers in the remote village of Olichorinyori, providing a similar seminar on postnatal clinic day.

On May 26th, the team celebrated **World Menstrual Health Day** with students, teachers, village authorities, and women leaders. Here, the team engaged in dialogue and focused discussions to gather information that would aid in developing strategies for involving men and boys in menstrual health management (MHM) seminars and education. In addition to in-person discussions, the team also conducted several radio interviews to raise awareness about the topic. Moving forward, women will lead MHM seminars for young boys and men within the community, both through internal village meetings and organized school sessions.



The need for men/boys engagement was raised by the girl students as a way to eliminate menstrual shaming and bullying in schools and encourage fathers & male guardians to participate in the provision of menstrual products to their female children.

Quote from community “ Student- 🗣️ with the Kilipads seminars, I gain enough understanding on what is happening to my body during menstruation, so I do not feel ashamed to speak about my feelings on those days.

TATU Value - Continuous Dialogue: *The Kilipad team realized that to reach a bigger goal, multiple actors' involvement is necessary, instead of bringing*





Picture above: WE Grow seminar at Serengeti women's group

WE GROW Seminars: The Kazi na Sala (KnS) and Serengeti subgroup of women held seminars on child maltreatment and child diseases, organized leadership development meetings, and provided refresher training. Additionally, fundraising efforts were made by reaching out to key individuals, and video documentaries were created. To evaluate the impact of the initiative, a personal agency survey was conducted. The group plans to continue growing and empowering themselves by conducting visits to other women groups and learning from them.

The UTAWEZA Gender Based Violence (GBV) program visited schools and conducted sessions with school clubs, while teachers received refresher training. The community program recruited GBV champions, conducted campaigns, and organized future training. The Rotary Club of France, a partner of this program, came to Tanzania to visit this and other community development projects. Lessons learned highlighted the importance of involving men and the increase in personal agency.




The Vijana (young men) champions group continued their mission to raise awareness against gender-based violence (GBV). They recently organized a two-hour workshop for a group of male motorcycle taxi drivers to discuss the role of men in creating a GBV-free community. A participatory approach was taken, which allowed for participation through Q&A. Furthermore, the drivers also decided to show their support by spreading the message "Vunja Ukimya" or "Break the Silence" by printing it on their reflector jackets and explaining it to clients.

Our WE Grow team also held a **Non-Violent Communication (NVC) training** session for teachers, women representatives, and village authorities who play a direct role in preventing and addressing GBV. The training aimed to equip these stakeholders with the tools and mechanisms to balance school punishment policies with creating a safe and violence-free environment in their schools.



Picture above: Participants in a group discussion during NVC training

Quote from the community “ A teacher-  *Bringing us together in workshops like this gives us an opportunity to discuss and share individual challenges in addressing Gender Based Violence issues at the school. We are looking forward to establishing a mentorship within ourselves to ensure we are kept connected and keep sharing our experiences.*

TATU Value - Sustainability: *The WE Grow/Utaweza team continued to ensure the local teams in the community were ready to engage/participate in creating solutions towards the challenges faced concerning women's personal empowerment. The engagement of multiple local actors and their preparedness ensures the sustainability of our interventions in the community.*

MASAA project

Capacity building training: The Masaa jewelry group of women continued to receive orders from global partners, while actively participating in capacity-building trainings organized by the TATU project. At the start of the year, they underwent goal-setting training, which utilized interactive games and role plays to ensure clear comprehension. In March, a second training on conflict management was conducted, employing similar engaging techniques. The women's enthusiastic engagement in activities and discussions demonstrated their understanding and dedication. These initiatives highlight their active participation in training programs, awareness campaigns, and personal development activities.



W.E. Thrive Program

The Micro Lending Initiative Project (MLI) leaders actively continued receiving capacity-building training started in the previous year. Furthermore, they have taken the initiative to provide their own loan management and entrepreneurship skills training to other women's groups in the community. In collaboration with Moshi Cooperative University (MUCCOBs), the leaders underwent Training of Trainers (TOT) sessions, focusing on defaulter control, risk management, capital management, and financial recording and reporting. The leaders expressed satisfaction with the financial literacy and money-saving training, prompting them to recommend extending the program for further knowledge acquisition and improvement in their saving practices. The training sessions were characterized by active participation, cooperation, and compassion from MUCCOBs lecturers, fostering positive changes within the groups and communities.

Wholesale Shop and Serengeti Business group: The Wholesale Shop (WSS) and the Business Committee (BC) held joint meetings to share plans and ideas about entrepreneurship, collaboration, and sustainable business development. Furthermore, progress was made in promoting collaboration among the projects and establishing a committee for a future agro shop business.



Picture above: MLI project panel in one of the weekly accounting meetings

Water project

TATU Project's Water Team has been conducting capacity-building training for local water well committees as we prepare to **exit from the water wells management**. Over the past six months, the team has focused on identifying gaps in the management of the wells and providing refresher training based on their findings. They have successfully completed 4 refresher trainings and 2 training of trainers (TOT) sessions, which equip current members with the skills necessary to train new members regarding water well management.

Currently, we are focusing **water safety** by reaching out to potential partners and asking for their support in the removal of harmful fluoride from well water, while also training our

Community Health Workers (CHWs) on water safety and hygienic behavior. In addition, we worked with village government officials to align our plans with their expectations. The project's successes include managing resources effectively, expanding the water supply, researching water safety, training CHWs, and collaborating with village leaders.



Picture above: Village officials after 2023 plan meeting

Environment Program

School environment clubs: The Green Team has been collaborating with teachers who specialize in environmental education, overseeing school clubs and organizing environmental seminars. Over the last six months, we have hosted three seminars on trash reduction for students at Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto schools, with the goal of enhancing their knowledge and engagement on the subject. To make the sessions more engaging, we employed a novel method by incorporating videos that illustrated the concepts. The outstanding results of the quiz that followed the seminars indicated the success of this video-based approach.



Pictures above: During school club seminars

The Green Team's innovative use of video demonstrations has effectively fostered students' interest in sustainable practices by enabling them to more easily grasp the concepts involved. The successful completion of the first seminar series sets the foundation for the upcoming trash-free campaign, which aims to further promote waste reduction and environmental awareness among the student community.

Quote from community “ **A student-** 🗣️ *We have learned a lot, and we have understood better through the video. Today I discovered that bottles and jars have logos that we do not usually read, and learned the sign of a product that can be recycled back to the factory. From now on, I will be checking that on each product*”

TATU Adventures

TATU Adventures has been very successful in providing unique and **unforgettable safari experiences** to their clients, like Defakto's employee Rainer Bigge. The company received very positive feedback, demonstrating high customer satisfaction due to its exceptional service and expertise. TATU Adventures partnered with well-known accommodations to offer a variety of safari options that catered to their clients' interests. Moving forward, their goals include expanding their market, offering more personalized experiences, promoting sustainability, and advancing our technology.

Over the past few months, TATU Adventures has focused on enhancing the skills of its guides through **extensive training programs**. The company has invested in sustainable tourism

training to educate guides on responsible practices and minimize their environmental impact. Moreover, the guides have undergone first aid training to ensure the safety and well-being of clients during safari experiences. TATU Adventures is committed to continuously improving the capabilities of its guides to deliver exceptional service and enhance the overall client experience.



In Photo 1: Sustainable tourism evaluation. In Photo 2: MOU signature.

TATU TEAM

Team building activities: Our team recently marked a milestone of 10 years of sustainable community development efforts in Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto. To commemorate this achievement, strengthen our bonds, and reflect on lessons learned, we organized a trip to Mto wa Mbu Arusha. The trip included hiking, games, and meetings to discuss future plans for sustaining our work in these communities. We would like to express our gratitude to all our partners who have supported us in making this journey possible.



Pictures above: team pictures during team trip in Mto wa Mbu

We embrace all the opportunities pedagogical approaches give us to share and exchange knowledge, information, skills and experiences in support of our projects' implementation.

Next Steps

In General:

At TATU Project, we prioritize sustainability in all of our endeavors. To achieve this, we will be conducting capacity-building sessions, workshops, and meetings with local community committees and stakeholders. Furthermore, our team is currently preparing a **pedagogy tool** that utilizes participatory action research and multiple pedagogical approaches to support the organization and conduction of these sessions.

In our projects:

In our **water project**, we aim to install a filter for defluoridation of wells' water in Londoto and Msitu primary schools, which will require several community meetings to clarify the installation process.

The **Green Team plans to plant vetiver grasses** in a pilot area (800 m²) alongside the river bank to reduce river breakage and flooding during rainy seasons. Volunteers from the community will assist in planting, and the community environment committee will receive seminars on grass care. We also intend to **plant bamboo trees** around schools to fence the playgrounds and protect other trees planted in the school from goats. Students will receive seminars on bamboo processing, planting, and care.

The WE Thrive team is currently conducting participatory action research on the design of an **agrovet shop**. The team will collect more information from consumers and beneficiaries of the Agroshop business and will finalize a proposal for the business in the next few months. This project will help a community where the vast majority are farmers by increasing the availability and accessibility of affordable agriculture inputs.

We appreciate your support and contribution to the **theater pedagogic activities** in our projects. **Thank you for supporting TATU Project.**