





**COLLABORATION BI-
ANNUAL
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CONTENTS

1

INTRODUCTION

**THEATER AS A PEDAGOGICAL TOOL
IN OUR PROGRAMS**

PROJECT UPDATES

2

W.E.GROW PROGRAM

3

W.E.THRIVE PROGRAM

4

W.E.CARE PROGRAM

5

AFYA “HEALTH” PROGRAM

6

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

7

CONCLUSION

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, we received the visit of two neurologists from Spain. They were conducting seminars about mental health to our local volunteers.
- TATU Project took part at the **Tanzanian Gender Networking Program**, in Dar es Salaam. This engagement was an opportunity for us to contribute to the transformative feminist movement
- We were able to conduct three Kilipad free distribution sessions in several schools in the rural areas of Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto.
- We've conducted a series of engaging seminars in primary and secondary schools located in Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto, focusing on the critical topic of **managing plastic waste**.

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

Women empowerment coordinators went to the Serengeti group for conducting a seminar about **Conflict resolution**. The main purpose of the seminar is to make the women able to develop skills and abilities that allow conflicting situations to be resolved as effectively as possible in their group without help from the coordinator, also to make the women resolve a problem or dispute in a positive way and still maintain a healthy and happy relationship within themselves and other parties that involved. We use different method in this seminar eg human knot games and a song.

In another seminar session, the group was asked to use illustration through drawings, for example, a tree or house in order to realise 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

Promoting Respectful Communication

The Conscious Language Seminar held with the mamas of Kazi na Sala and the Serengeti group was a pivotal session aimed at raising awareness about the impact of our choice of words and fostering respectful communication within the community.

Words and Their Impact:

- The seminar highlighted the significance of using appropriate and non-offensive language, especially in situations where individuals might inadvertently use words that could be insulting or disrespectful.
- The trainer facilitated discussions to showcase the emotional impact of offensive words, drawing attention to the feelings of disrespect, hurt, and insecurity they can cause.

Understanding Needs and Emotions:

- Emphasising the unmet needs behind hurtful words, the seminar delved into the emotional needs of individuals, such as respect, safety, visibility, belonging, and security, that might not be fulfilled when offensive language is used.

Practical Exercises:

- Participants engaged in practical exercises to understand and implement alternative, more respectful language when addressing mistakes or issues, focusing on creating an environment of understanding and compassion.

The Conscious Language Seminar proved to be an impactful session that encouraged reflection on the power of words and their emotional impact. The positive response from the participants prompted a request for future seminars, showcasing their eagerness to reinforce the lessons learned and apply them within their communities.



Mamas during respectfull communication seminar

W.E.THRIVE Program

W.E.Thrive is a women empowerment program that facilitates economic empowerment by training its members, women from Kazi na Sala and Serengeti group, in entrepreneurship.

The WE Thrive Project, within the TATU Project, has been crucial in empowering women by imparting basic business management knowledge using role-play and theatrical dynamics. In a collaborative effort with the Kazi na Sala women's group and the Serengeti group, the initiative aimed to foster sustainability by facilitating knowledge sharing among local communities.

Empowerment Through Knowledge Transfer:

- **Utilization of Role-Play Techniques:** The project utilized role-play and gesture-related activities in previous seminars and training sessions with the Kazi na Sala women's group. This approach was instrumental in imparting new concepts and ideas related to business management effectively.
- **Commitment to Sustainability:** TATU Project's core value of sustainability drove the approach to equip local communities with the necessary tools and knowledge. This ethos ensures that when TATU Project phases out, the communities are self-sufficient and independently managed by locals.

Knowledge Exchange Between Women's Groups:

- **Collaborative Learning:** Building upon years of collaboration with the Kazi na Sala women's group, they extended their expertise to the Serengeti group, a much younger one eager to develop their business activities.
- **Annual Balance Role-Play Dynamics:** Kazi na Sala women taught the Serengeti business committee how to conduct an annual balance by engaging 14 volunteers in a role-play exercise. Each volunteer represented a month, with two additional volunteers representing the previous years (2022 and 2021).
- **Interactive Learning Activity:** The exercise involved dialogue between volunteers, simulating a financial audit by asking each "month" about their earnings for the year. This collective data was then used to calculate the annual earnings, followed by a comparative analysis with earnings from the previous years.

- **Effective Understanding Through Role-Play:** The role-play activity facilitated a comprehensive understanding among Serengeti women on how to conduct an annual financial balance. It provided a hands-on experience that made the process clear and understandable.



Picture of the annual balance seminar

W.E.CARE Program

We are delighted to provide an overview of our successful endeavors within both the Kilipad Project and MASAA, showcasing the effective use of theatrical and role-play techniques in our seminars and sessions.

KILIPAD

Distribution Sessions with Theatrical Demonstrations:

- One of our partners enabled us to conduct three Kilipad distribution sessions in schools located in the rural areas of Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto. These sessions were instrumental in ensuring girls had access to menstrual health support.
- Through gestural impressions and live demonstrations, Mariam, one of our Project Managers, effectively taught girls how to use Kilipads (reusable pads). Mariam demonstrated the usage step by step, utilizing a hands-on approach by displaying the pads and panties. This interactive method allowed the girls to witness the process firsthand.

Impact of Live Demonstrations:

- The live demonstration proved highly advantageous as it allowed direct visualization and interaction. Girls expressed happiness upon receiving the Kilipads and showcased an understanding of their usage, thereby demonstrating the effectiveness of this technique.



Pic 1: Student showcasing her classmates how to wear a Kilipad

Pic 2: Mariam teaching the students how to wear a Kilipad

Travel to Namanga

Expanding our collaborative efforts, we ventured to Namanga, near the Kenyan border, to impart pad sewing knowledge to women associated with LSF (Legal Services Facility), an NGO working with Maasai women to empower them through pad-making education.

- Over five days, Mariam and Margaret engaged with twelve Maasai women, demonstrating the pad-making process through step-by-step theatrical demonstrations. Additionally, they provided patterns to serve as references for accurate measurements.
- The women demonstrated remarkable learning capabilities, and both Mariam and Margaret were pleased with the progress, highlighting the effectiveness of using role-play techniques in educational sessions.



Miriam and Margaret, from Kilipad, teaching the mamas from LSF how to make pads

MASAA

The MASAA project, focused on empowering Masai women in the jewelry-making industry, has integrated engaging role-playing and gesture-based activities into their training sessions. These activities were designed not only to impart knowledge but also to foster effective communication, trust-building, and problem-solving skills among the participants.

Activity Descriptions:

- Back Sketch Challenge:
 - Participants engaged in an exercise where they took turns drawing an image on the back of another participant, aiming for the final person to reproduce the same drawing.
 - Importance: This activity emphasized the significance of attentive listening, clear communication, and trust within the group, highlighting the necessity of conveying information accurately.

- The Broken Phone Game:
 - A short story containing essential information for the functioning of the MASAA group was passed from one member to another, with each participant passing on selected information to the next person.
 - Objective: Assessing communication quality within the group, the game aimed to see how well the information was transmitted and retained throughout the chain of participants.
- Role-Play and Gesture-Based Games:
 - Participants engaged in role-playing activities by crossing and joining hands with the opposite person in a circle, subsequently untangling themselves.
 - Objective: Promoting efficient communication and problem-solving skills, this activity encouraged the group to work together to achieve common goals, fostering teamwork and coordination.



Mamas from Masaa playing back sketch and gesture based game during a seminar

"Afya" Health Program

Empowering Home Based Care (HBC) Volunteers:

The AFYA program has fostered a robust partnership with our group of local volunteers known as Home Based Care (HBC) and Community Health Workers (CHW). These dedicated individuals play a key role in delivering essential healthcare services to the most vulnerable members of our communities who lack access to hospital care or cannot afford it.

- **Training and Support:** AFYA actively contributes by providing comprehensive training sessions and necessary supplies to empower these volunteers. They are trained to provide basic healthcare services, making house-to-house visits and attending to the healthcare needs of those unable to access medical facilities.

During October, the AFYA program counted on two Spanish doctors specialized in neurology. Over a period of four weeks, these doctors conducted informative seminars for HBC volunteers.

- **Seminars on Neurological Disorders:** The seminars focused on crucial topics including dementia, pediatric epilepsy, stroke, and neurodevelopmental disorders. The key highlight was the integration of role-play dynamics in these sessions, enabling an immersive learning experience.

Impact of Role-Play Techniques in Seminars:

- **Realistic Simulations:** Role-play scenarios were employed during the seminars, where volunteers actively participated in simulated situations related to health emergencies. For instance, volunteers enacted epileptic seizures while the doctors provided demonstrations on proper handling techniques.
- **Hands-On Learning:** Through these simulations, volunteers gained practical insights into emergency procedures such as positioning individuals during an epileptic attack or providing immediate aid during a stroke.
- **Impressive Commitment:** The level of commitment demonstrated by both CHW HBC volunteers during these sessions left a lasting impression on the Spanish doctors. Volunteers actively engaged in the role-play exercises, showcasing their dedication and eagerness to learn.



One of the Spanish doctors during the mental diseases seminar

Environmental Project

The Environmental Project aimed to address the pressing issue of plastic waste in Msitu wa Tembo and Londoto communities. Given the adverse effects of plastic pollution on the local ecosystem and daily life, seminars were conducted focusing on educating students about plastic production, waste management, and the importance of proper recycling.

Objective and Approach:

- **Raising Awareness:** The seminars aimed to create awareness among students regarding the detrimental effects of plastic waste on the environment and the community's traditional waste management practices.
- **Combining Theory and Practical Learning:** The sessions covered the theoretical aspects of plastic production and waste treatment, complemented by interactive role-playing games and visual aids to facilitate a more engaging and memorable learning experience.

Role-Playing Game Description:

- **Group-Based Activity:** Students were divided into smaller groups, each provided with various recyclable waste items.
- **Blindfolded Navigation:** The activity involved blindfolding all students except the last person in each group. This individual guided the group using shoulder taps (one tap for right, two taps for left) towards designated trash bins (organic, plastic, paper, glass).
- **Verification Process:** Environmental managers stationed at different bins verified the decisions made by each group upon arrival. If all agreed on the correct bin, they handed over the item for confirmation.
- **Continuous Rotation:** After each round, students rotated positions, ensuring everyone had the opportunity to lead and follow, thus actively engaging in decision-making and navigation.



Students from Msitu wa Tembo primary school playing waste management game

Conclusion

We are steadfast in our commitment to utilizing role-play and theatrical dynamics as essential educational techniques across all our programs. These methods have proven to be incredibly effective in engaging our audiences, fostering deeper understanding, and driving positive behavioral changes within the communities we serve.

As we move forward, these educational techniques will remain fundamental in our approach, enabling us to create impactful and interactive learning environments. We are dedicated to continually exploring innovative ways to incorporate these dynamics into our future projects, ensuring a sustained and engaging learning experience for all participants.

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