



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

YEAR 2022 TRUE FACTS WE CANNOT IGNORE

1) CLIMATE CHANGE

Small-scale farmers in Tanzania rely heavily on rainfed agriculture, so flash floods, or even a short spell without rain, can cause harvests to fail, resulting in hunger and a lack of money for school or seeds for the next growing season. The livelihoods of vast numbers of rural people are connected with food systems, Mwanza region possesses great development potential, the introduction of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices presents an opportunity to reduce post-harvest losses, build resilience, improve productivity and farmer incomes, and contribute to climate change mitigation.

Climate change is especially dangerous for young children. They bear the overwhelming share of climate-related diseases and are highly vulnerable to air pollution and heat. Yet discussions about climate change seldom refer to the fate of young children. (*Early Childhood Matters* edition dedicated to examining ways that climate change and early childhood intersect)

2) COVID 19 IMPACT

The COVID-19 pandemic has killed more than 400,000 people worldwide and has generated a massive global economic crisis. The world economy is projected to contract sharply (IMF 2020) and poverty is set to rise for the first time since 1998, bringing 40-60 million people into extreme poverty (World Bank 2020). However, unlike previous economic crises, this crisis will negatively affect women more than men, creating a significant blow for gender equality.

Saadia Zahidi, Managing Director and Head of the WEF's Centre for the New Economy and Society writes: "The Covid-19 pandemic has raised new barriers to building inclusive and prosperous economies and societies. Pre-existing gender gaps have amplified the crisis asymmetrically between men and women, even as women have been at the frontlines of managing the crisis as essential workers."

3) UKRAINE CONFLICT

East Africa is facing a looming famine, as a severe drought hits the region alongside the disruption in food supply caused by the war in Ukraine. Russia and Ukraine are indeed thousands of miles away from Tanzania; but the impact of a military conflict between the two countries have a profound impact on the cost of living of Tanzanians, from fuel to wheat flour costs.

The conflict has affected prices for world traded commodities such as fuel, some listed companies are experiencing rising production and operational costs, such as disruption of the supply of wheat, with both Russia and Ukraine being major sources of the product.

HER STORY OUR STORY

Learning is everywhere



The countdown of my career development officially started in 2016 when I joined Tanzania Home Economics Organization (TAHEA – Mwanza) as a field officer in Early Childhood Education program called Fursa Kwa Watoto; Ever since I joined the program, I met a good professional team who taught and supported me in my career development to become the person I am today.

Through the extraordinary support I received at work, helped me to perform very well in the project and therefore I was promoted and became a project officer in another project popularly known as Watoto Wetu Tunu Yetu (integrated school readiness program), where I work with the communities, schools, teachers and the local government in ensuring children are ready for school and meet their full potential, especially in improving classroom practices among children attending pre-primary classes.

The organization have given me a wide range of learning opportunities and exploring new knowledge and skills in child development and other several areas including financial management, project management, partnership management, project monitoring and evaluation, community mobilization, basic knowledge on research and research analysis, health budget analysis when conducting SAM/ PETs and all of these made my journey full of passion and excitement.

I am delighted to work with Tanzania Home Economics Organization because it has made me to grow and enabled me to see different career opportunities which a social worker need. The organization and the communities I work with have shaped my life because the skills and practices have extended to my family and children as a responsible parent. **TAHEA Mwanza** is a great place to grow, both personally and professionally and I am proud to be a part of the organization family.

Farida Mzimhiri

Project Officer at TAHEA Mwanza

Message from The Board

We all hoped that the global pandemic impact would be slowly addressed globally, regionally and nationally and life will be normal again, to our surprise, another challenge is facing the world, and that is the Ukraine/ Russia conflict, every one of us thought it was a place specific just as other conflicts which happen in many countries, where internal and external conflicts affect people's lives, but this conflict is different, it has affected the whole world as it has touched the world economy in a bad way.

In Tanzania, it has an impact on food security and income, globally, food, fuel, and fertilizer prices have risen driven in large part by fallout from the on-going war in Ukraine and sanctions imposed on Russia. The war against Ukraine has highly impacted energy and food markets, the war has resulted in extreme price shocks and a disruption of the supply chains of various commodities across Africa ranging from wheat and sunflower oil to crude oil, the global economy continues to be weakened by the war and this contribute much to high inflation and subsequent tightening in global financing conditions. In addition, the war is creating displacement crisis in Europe and majority of those displaced are women and children. Apart from war, there is rising hunger among people which was previously exacerbated by Covid-19 pandemic and of current the climate change which is affecting people's livelihoods.

With that in mind, our work as non-profit making organization, TAHEA Mwanza has faced the same challenges which have evolved around budget cuts, replanning of activities and mostly coming into terms with the working environment where the target communities who have all the above burdens on their shoulders, struggling with their source of livelihood and family care. Every day we see the impact of our programs and the impact of our donor's generosity which have led to our annual achievements amidst the pandemic impact, the climate change and now the war in Ukraine. Having learned lessons in the past, we are still wondering what the war in Ukraine and the climate change in the pandemic recovering environment might mean for our work, our target families, our organization and our country going forward. We also have to think on how we can help our target communities through the uncertainty and how our programming can help navigate the challenging times in the future.

We see our role is to come with measures on how to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic, the Climate Change and the Ukraine war on families, children, households, farmers, CBOs, and the community at large. Most of the future planned activities will embrace the mitigation aspects areas of focus i.e., promoting Health and Nutrition, Responsive Caregiving, Improving Children Early Learning & School Readiness, Supporting Access to Adequate Housing and Land Ownership for Women and Young People, Climate Smart Agriculture promotion, and climate change mitigation in all that we implement.

Lastly but not least, I offer my sincere gratitude to all TAHEA Mwanza staff who have worked tirelessly apart from the changing funding volumes, to all our donors, partners, advisors, and all our collaborators including our target communities, I thank them for the inspiration they had for joining our efforts in realizing our mission.

Chairman of the Board





The organization mission: TAHEA Mwanza mission is to empower families and communities in Mwanza and Tanzania as a whole to transform their lives socially, economically and with Gender Perspective. We do that through education, training, and information sharing and consultancy. In order to achieve this, TAHEA Mwanza uses the expertise of its professional members to facilitate development processes by networking and collaborating with other organizations with similar vision and mission.

The organization vision:

Our Vision gives us a sense of direction and destination, it captures our aspirations for improved standards of living with sufficient food, well-educated and a strong economic base which is the basis for what TAHEA Mwanza stands for as a nonprofit professional organization. Our Vision and our values guide the choices and the decisions we make every day in serving individuals, families and communities.

We envision a society which is well educated, with improved living standards, sufficient in food and a strong economic base.

Values: To adhere to:

- Professionalism,
- Responsibility,
- Transparency,
- Accountability,
- Gender Equality.

Organization Objectives:

- 1) To promote and strengthen home economics, agriculture, education, health and nutrition, housing and habitat, to improve livelihood of communities.
- 2) To promote and advocate for the protection of human rights of communities.
- 3) To cooperate with various state and non-state actors in fighting against gender discrimination, environmental degradation, corruption and poverty.
- 4) To support and establish initiatives for economic and social empowering for women, young people and vulnerable groups.
- 5) To cooperate and affiliate with national and international organizations/ agencies which supports objectives/ programs similar to our aims and objectives.

TAHEA Mwanza Coordination

Tanzania Home Economics Association (TAHEA Mwanza) in year 2022 was a year of yet other new happenings for our organization which includes new registration. Tanzania Home Economics Association (TAHEA) is a Professional National Non-Government Organization (NGO's) founded in March, 1980. The Organization was registered in October, 14th 1980 under the Tanzania Society Ordinance with its registration number being SO.6179. And later TAHEA attained a certificate of NGO Compliance No. 1732 on 4th of December, 2006 under NGO Act of 2002.

Having a sound organization which is grounded and committed to the changing world is key in making it operational. We noted that our Constitution was outdated and was not meeting the current needs of the organization, so we mobilized members to participate in the process of the constitution review which was a success and we were able to have in place a new constitution which started to be operationalized in 2020, a process which had an implication to most of our organizational development activities which included policy/ manual reviews, structure review, Board review and others, this happened at national level.

The Tanzania NGO Act of 2002, NGO regulations of 2019 Code of conduct required all NGOs to re-register and the word Association could no longer hold, this had to go hand in hand with the regional chapters autonomy, with this effect, Mwanza Chapter was re-registered on 22nd April 2022 as TANZANIA HOME ECONOMICS ORGANIZATION (TAHEA MWANZA) with registration number 00NGO/R/3129 which becomes our new organization reference, and it can operate in all regions of Tanzania Mainland.

Our organization Vision and Mission remains the same as follows:

The organization mission: TAHEA mission is to empower families and communities in Mwanza and Tanzania as a whole to transform their lives socially, economically and with Gender Perspective. We do that through education, training, and information sharing and consultancy. In order to achieve this, TAHEA uses the expertise of its professional members to facilitate development processes by networking and collaborating with other organizations with similar vision and mission.

The organization vision:

We envision a society which is well educated, with improved living standards, sufficient in food and a strong economic base.

Our history of 48 years working as a professional organization in Tanzania continues to be our anchor to facilitate development processes among resource poor families and communities, supporting them to utilize their potential to improve their living standards socially and economically. We continue to support their full inclusion in the communities, while acknowledging the potential within families and communities, we facilitate people, families and communities to enhance what they have. By changing attitudes and behaviors they themselves become the solution towards transforming their lives. We believe that education is a key factor to accelerate changes; TAHEA Mwanza continues to build capacities of community groups from target rural communities to equip them with capacities to deal with outside pulling factors towards individuals and community development as a whole, knowing that they are well positioned to enact change.

We would also like you to know our contact Addresses (both physical and postal) slightly changed to Tanzania Home Economics Organization.

We look forward for a continued partnership which will be strengthened as we serve our common goal in Tanzania. Our organization, having transitioned from an association to an organization will be legally eligible to work in all regions of Tanzania Mainland.

TAHEA Mwanza has in place a 5-year strategic plan (2021/ 2026) which commenced in July 2021, unfortunately the new 5-year strategic plan was developed and started operating under the COVID – 19 Challenges, fundraising activities have been faced with a number of challenges, one being budget cuts and no funding to most of our planned activities, as this was not enough to the world challenges, the conflict in Ukraine, the climate change challenges has added to not only to the organization, but also the communities that we target. However, Our Mission-driven approach to our work has remained consistent, focusing on Changing lives of the resource poor communities, empowering families and communities in Mwanza. We continue to use the expertise of our professional members and staff to facilitate development processes by networking and collaborating with the local government and other organizations with similar vision and mission.

TAHEA believes that being professionals gives us the basic skills and knowledge about different disciplines however, in utilization of the acquired knowledge and skills in the field one has to have the ability to open up for challenges as you work and being best at what you do with a room to fit in the changing situations, as development is not static. Our role as Home Economists is to expand our target population’s capabilities to fit into the systems or give them skills to enact change that gives them the power to transform without compromising their beliefs and the already existing indigenous knowledge and skills. We believe that **“Everything we do in life is Home Economics”**



Mrs. Asia K. Kapande

TAHEA Mwanza Organization Coordinator

TAHEA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Coming to an end of the year 2022, TAHEA Mwanza had time to reflect back, assess where we were and make projections for the future, especially now that we have in place a new 5-year strategic plan which has not been fully funded. In few words we thought about changing our way of doing things so that we influence systems which we think, can be more contextually relevant, community driven, effective and more sustainable.

TAHEA Mwanza believes that the community is our super power and if this is what we are, then we should strengthen the community change makers/ drivers of change through strong partner-ships, strong relationships so that mobilization of communities impact systems that will ensure the wellbeing of our target population in the communities we serve, we shall ensure that what they do are contextually relevant and community driven, we shall invest in collaborative processes of prioritization of issues and actions by planning with communities and the local government, while emphasizing the need for different stakeholders to carry out different activities and become responsible for the different actions as they interact with the local communities. We believe if we closely monitor and evaluate, learn and reflect we shall improve the positive actions over time.

Systemic change that we aspire at the current time have to be improved by shifting the relation-ships and power structures that affect what we want in the social sector, and which can benefit the poor through their direct participation, supportive systems which are open and inclusive.

TAHEA Mwanza has an obligation of implementing programs on the ground in reference to the national conceptual framework aiming at addressing the needs of Tanzanians, and having interventions that are delivered within the community context. All the programs which we implement in Early Childhood Care and Development, Adequate Housing, Agriculture, Nutrition and Health use the existing community structures and systems in the country. TAHEA Mwanza broader scope of work include short-term planned outcomes on families providing responsive care to their children and educators who adopt child-centered pedagogical skills in their practice. Our intermediate



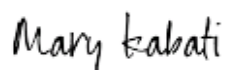
outcomes include number of children who meet their developmental milestones and families who experience a reduction in household poverty.

TAHEA has been promoting gender as a crosscutting issue by mainstreaming it in programming as we understand that, gender is of key importance in defining the power, privilege and possibilities that some people have and some people do not have in a given society. It affects progress towards equality and freedom from discrimination. The programs in the long term wants to contribute to improved practices, attitudes towards the wellbeing of communities that we target, using the community driven systems change approach, conducting advocacy and use of social behavior change in attitudes and change of practices while empowering women and young people socially so that they are able to speak-out, and economically by using Community Managed Micro Finance groups to facilitate affordable loans for them to engage in income generating activities. A household with diverse sources of income earning activities has better chances of survival financially than a household which has only one source. When women are empowered economically their earnings are spent on food for the family, nutrition for their children and meeting the school needs for their children.

Social issues are complex and systemic, and affecting change in them often requires similar systemic and complex responses. Similarly, focusing on policy change at national and regional levels is important, but it is also critical to take systemic and contextual approaches at grassroots levels where the implementation and enforcement of policies and guidelines actually take place.

For effective social change processes, there is a growing agreement that systems approaches are necessary, in which different root causes, stakeholders, systems and the interplay between them are considered and acted upon to create lasting change. This kind of change takes time and it is complex and messy, is often non-linear and involves many processes and outcomes that are not tangible or easily quantifiable ([Community Driven Systems Change - the power of grassroots-led change for long-term impact and how funders can nurture it, Firelight, 2017 – 2020 findings](#))

In order for TAHEA Mwanza to realize the systemic change, the organization will always conduct learning checks and challenges/ barrier assessments to help analyze and interpret situations in our target communities. We understand that change happens in phases and it takes a long time, changing how we do things is a transition to enable us to reach where we desire to be, so changing how we deliver the change will encompass mobilization of stakeholders, capacity building, collaboration and forging partnerships. In addition, we shall make sure that we adhere to rules which govern how other functions operate to help us implement harmoniously.



Ms. Mary Kabati

Executive Director

Early Childhood Education, Care and Development

1) Community ECD Services

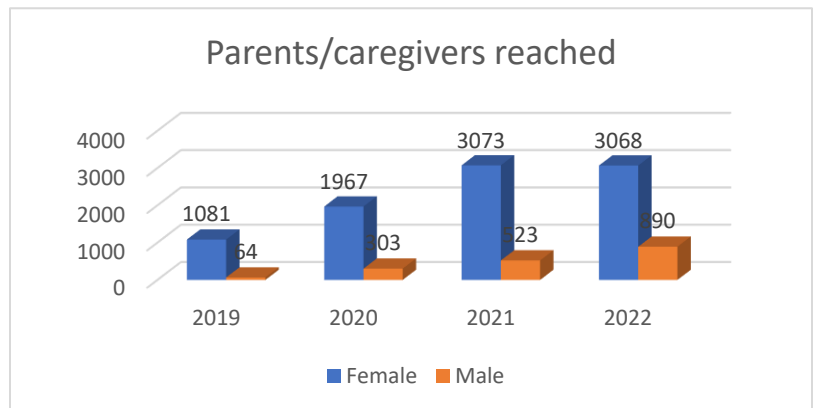
Objectives:

1. Young children’s age-appropriate opportunities in CBOs targeted communities increase through play and early learning supported through families and communities by 2022
2. Caregivers and Service providers in CBOs targeted communities improve their skills and knowledge on nurturing care to support young children to grow to their full potential by 2022
3. Quality provision of integrated ECD services to young children increase in TAHEA targeted families and communities by 2022
4. Right holders and office bearers in CBOs targeted communities increase their ECD services provision accountability to families and communities by 2022
5. ECD interventions at family and community levels in CBOs targeted communities have updated information systems that track quality and coverage by 2022.

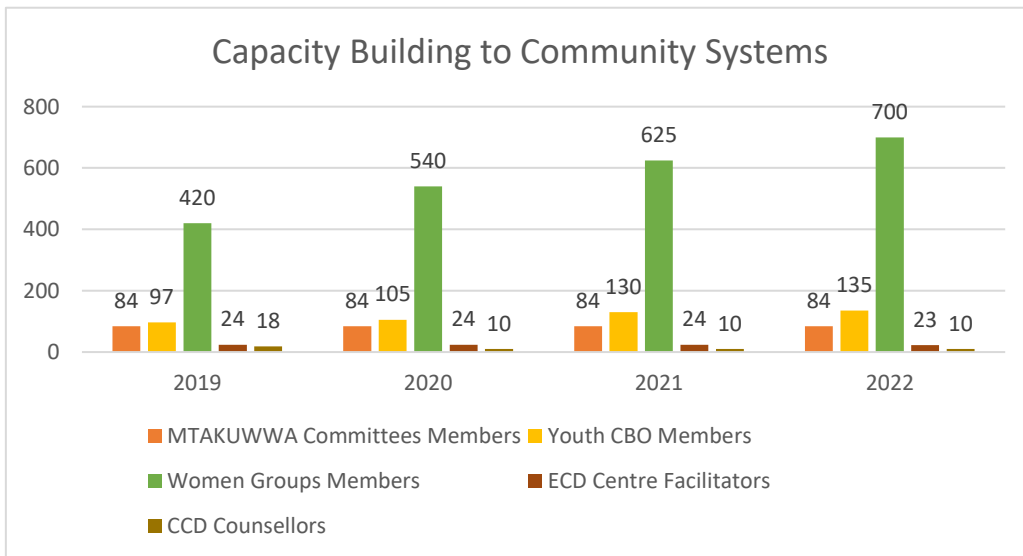
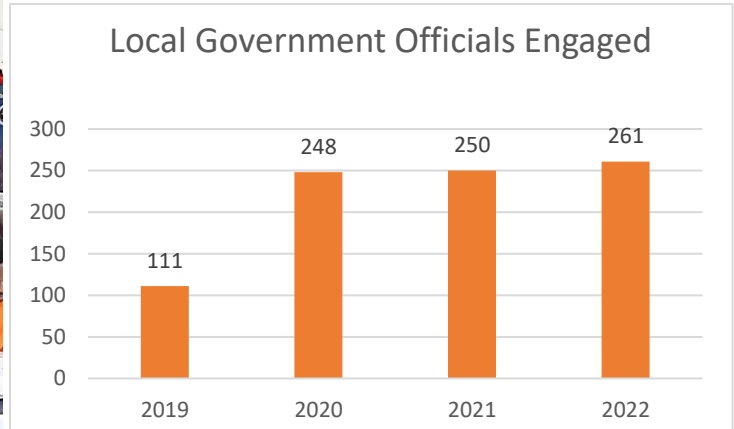
Achievements

“Initially, the learning of children was considered only in formal settings when the child is enrolled into Pre-Primary school at age 5/6 years. For the past three years the project has increased awareness that children 0-4 years have home and center-based learning opportunities which can set foundations for future learning and development” Julieth Joseph, the ECD Project Assistant commented.

702 children under five years in 500 target families are using porridge and other foodstuffs made from fortified flour in a mixture of soya, millet/sorghum, sesame, pumpkin seeds/groundnuts which are rich in protein, carbohydrate, fat and iron helping children to grow. The nutrition training provided on importance of nutrients, sources of nutrients and symptoms of poor diet is helping in identification of children



with nutrition deficiencies. For the past three months a total of 21 cases of children under 5 years with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) has been identified and reported in Ilemela District where the project is implemented through Women Nutrition Groups Coordinators who have been trained by TAHEA.



to



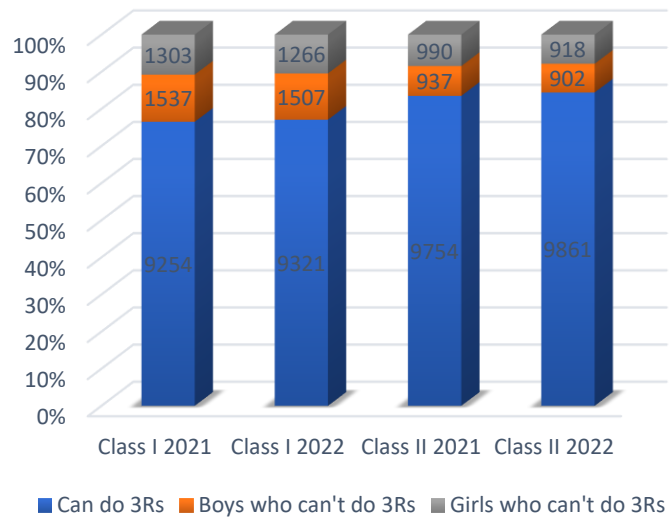
The project has created and strengthened community systems (introducing systemic change mindset) which was a desired need have in place systems which can play the role of TAHEA and continue promoting the

FEEDING PROGRAM PART OF SYSTEMS ROLE

welfare of young children for sustainability.



Performance of children in Reading, Writing and Mathematics (3Rs) in 76 Public Schools in Ilemela



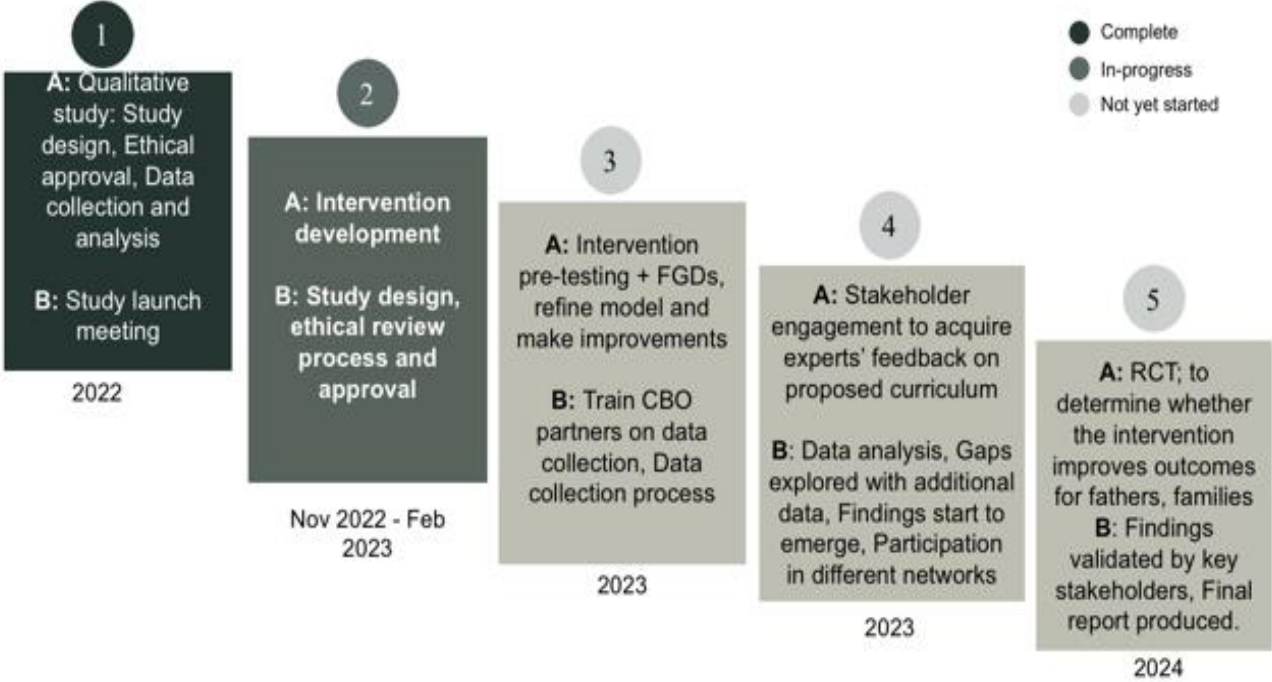
In 2021 Ilemela Municipal through the Primary Education Department rolled out in all 19 wards the VUTAMDOGO program which was initially implemented by TAHEA in 4 wards. Since then, TAHEA has been providing financial support for assessment of children in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Research/studies (Evidence based interventions)

TAHEA MWANZA uses evidence from research, mini-studies, baselines and successful models to inform the interventions. We started building up our research wing in the recent years, in 2021 we participated in research with Euromonitor International on Women’s economic empowerment in the Sub-Saharan Africa, and another one with National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) on the interlink between severe acute malnutrition and psychosocial

stimulation for children under 2 years. For the year 2022 TAHEA MWANZA collaborated in two studies which are ongoing, one with Harvard University School of Public Health, titled Formative research to develop and refine a parenting intervention for fathers in Mwanza (A), two; Community based research on the intersections of Early Childhood Development and Women’s Agency and Choice in Tanzania (B).

Stages of the studies A and B



2) School Readiness



Objectives:

TAHEA Mwanza implements Integrated School Readiness Programme (ISRP) also known as “Watoto Wetu Tunu Yetu project” in two districts of Misungwi and Ukerewe district. Watoto wetu Tunu yetu project has been a five years project (3018-2022) being implemented financed by an international al organization called Children in Crossfire (CiC). Other key implementers of this project include the ministry of community development gender, women and special groups, presidents office- Regional Administration and local Government-TAMISEMI and two local governments of two impacted districts and Mwanza regional Authority as a whole.

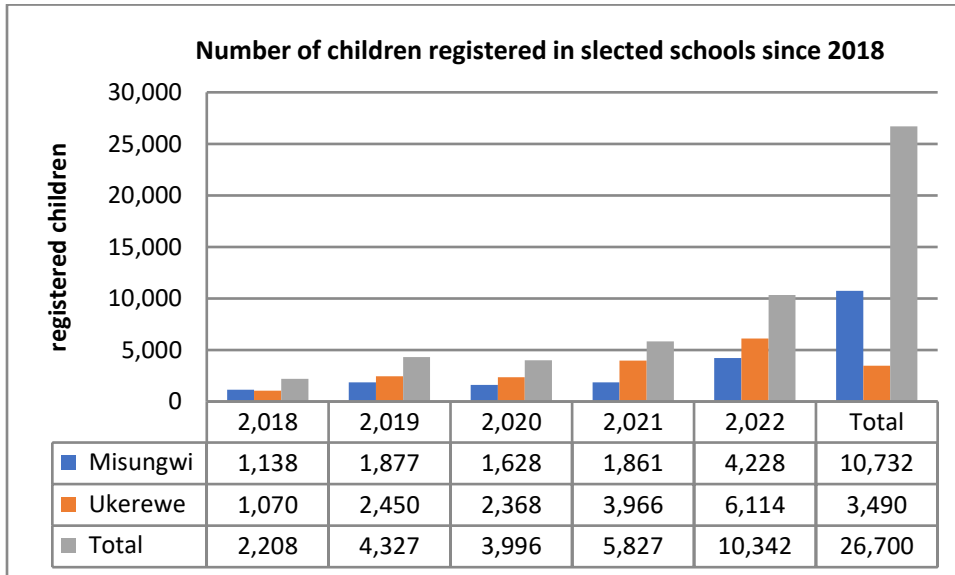
In this year of 2022, the project emphasized to consolidate gains from the previous 4 years of operation and expanding proven and effective interventions into additional supportive and inclusive environment for child centered learning by ensuring parents/caregivers have good knowledge, skills, and tools on parenting and ECE, ensuring pre-primary teachers in the impacted areas achieving average score on quality classroom practices. Other emphasize encompassed the strengthening of the ability of local government officials and local leaders to build their structures, systems, and having additional skills to enable them to define and achieve the intended project objectives.

The project touched all areas of quality delivery of the program which include, improvement of the school infrastructure, enhancing the classroom environment by setting stimulative classrooms with adequate learning and teaching materials delivered through learning corners, well arranged furniture which include floor coverings for warmth, age appropriate out-door games as part of the learning environment improvement.

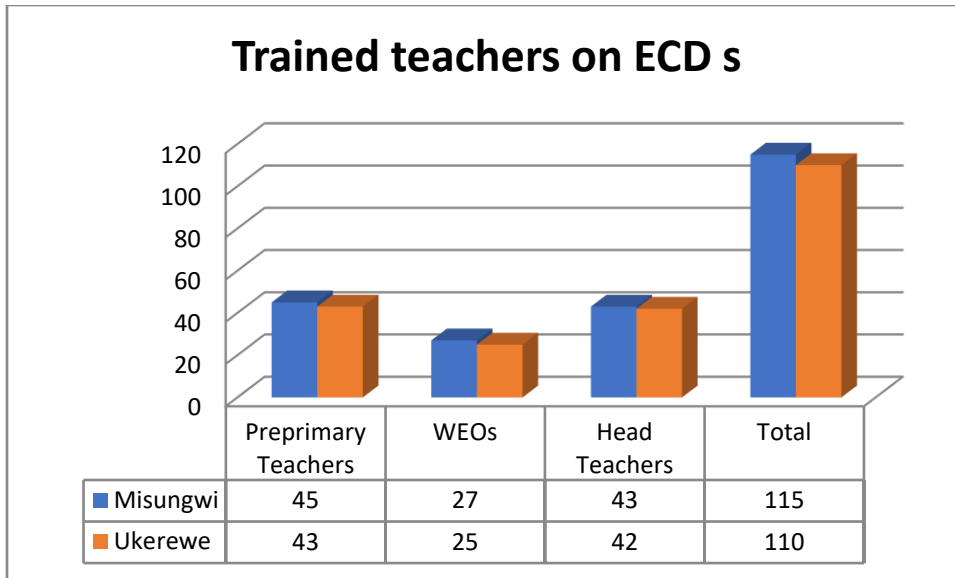
Achievements

The following part summarizes all main impact achieved during the five years of this project.

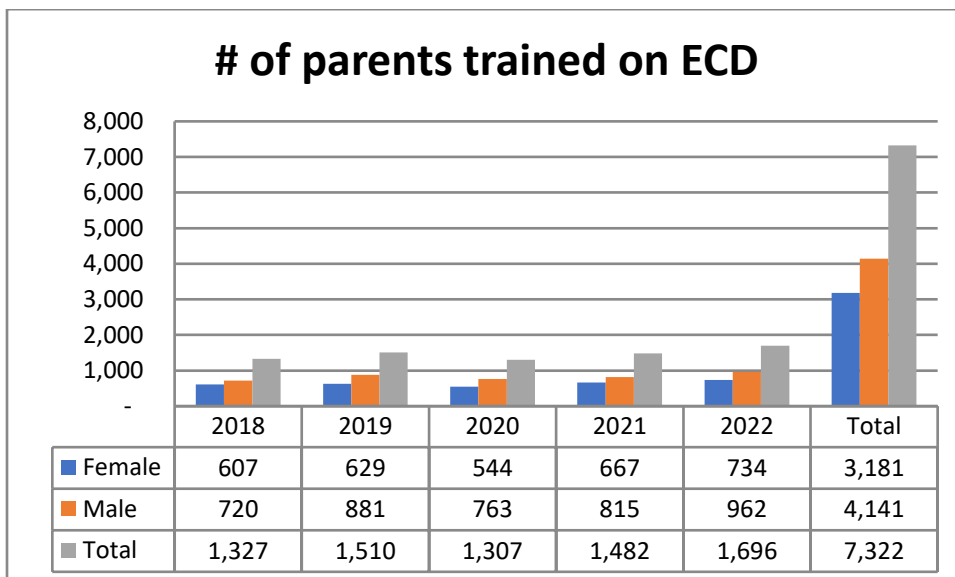
Project achievement 1: Improving PPE children registration in government preprimary in the impacted districts. The project intended to ensure a good number of children aged 5-6 years are registered in selected schools to access preprimary education. The figure below indicates that, for the past 5 years (2018-2022), the project has been emphasizing an improvement of children registration in pre-primary classes reaching a total of 26,700 children in 85 government primary schools. Starting from 2,208 children in 2018 to 10,732 children by 2022



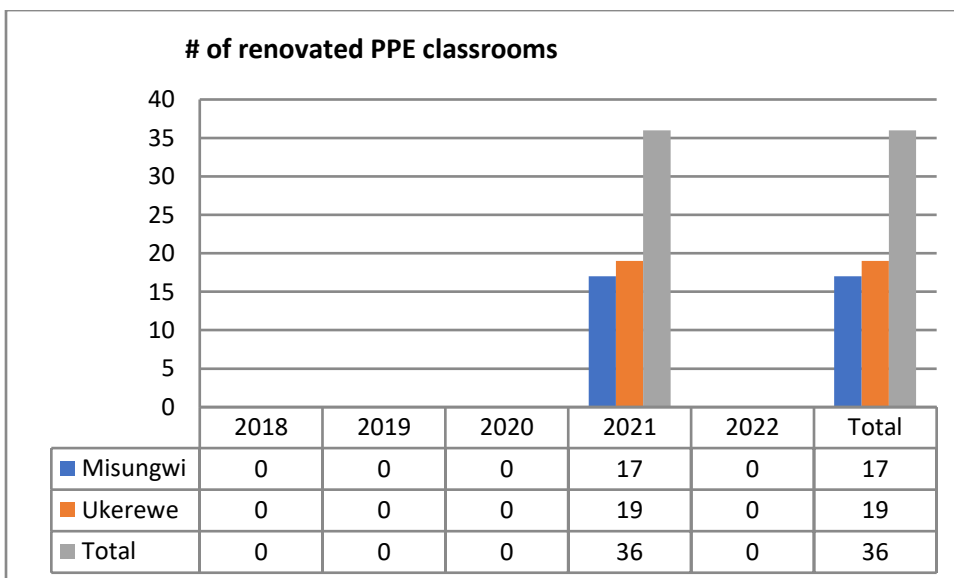
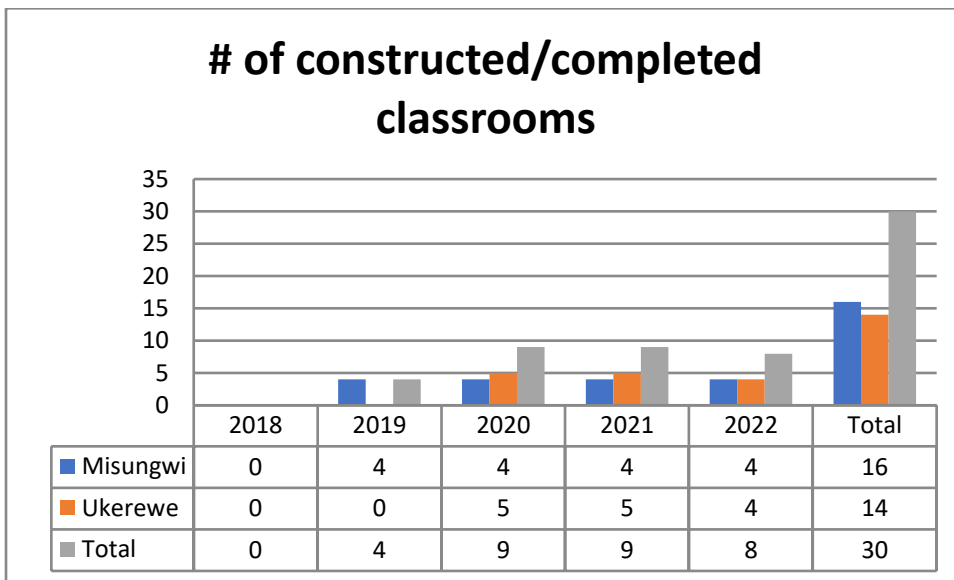
Project achievement 2: Deepening understanding of female and male officials (PPE, HTs and WEOs) on early year's development with specific areas of social interaction, play, language, emotional development, physical development, literacy and fine motor. The report informs that a total number of 225 teachers being preprimary teachers, Head Teachers and Ward education officers received in service training of five to eight days followed by several follow up trainings in the intended districts. These are the champion teachers who demonstrates the knowledge and skills gained to reach out the rest of other teachers who were not reached in the districts. The following figure indicates number of teachers (PPE, HTs and WEOs) trained by the project on early year's development since 2018.



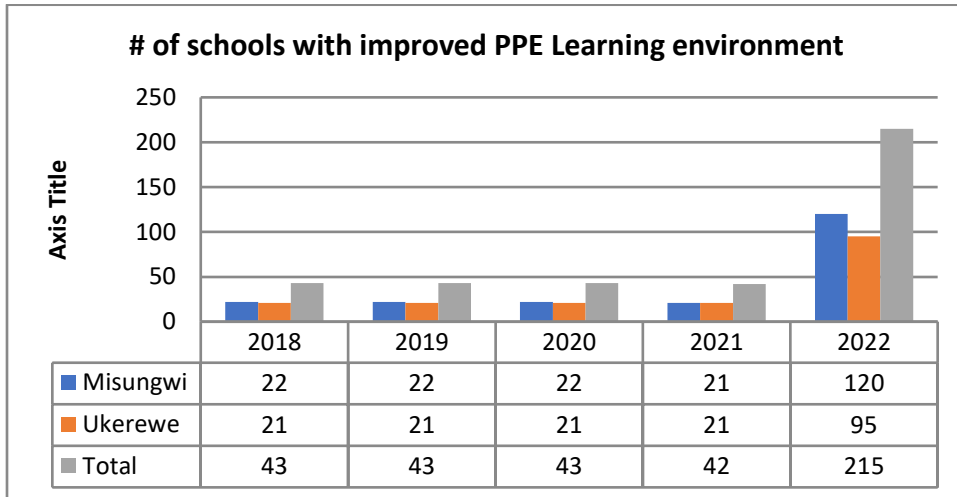
Project achievement 3: Parents and Caregivers acquiring knowledge, skills and tools for parenting and ECE in the impacted areas. The project also aimed at helping parents have a remarkable knowledge and skills for parenting and earl childhood education. Through parent partnership interventions, a total number of 7,322 parents have been reached in both Misungwi and Ukerewe districts. The figure below informs number of Male and female parents/ care takers reached since 2018 are proven to demonstrate the acquired knowledge, skills and tools for parenting and ECE in their households.



Project Achievement 4: Infrastructure improvement support is one of the main components of the project. The project aims at improving children learning especially to schools which have shortage of classrooms where mostly in such scenario, preprimary children the ones who suffer mostly are. The project targeted to finalize a total number of 28 new classrooms in the impacted districts from 2018-2022. However, by minimizing project resources, the project has been able to finalize a total number 30 new classrooms together with 8 latrines and 2 teachers offices within the allocated budgeted as indicated in the figure below. While 36 classrooms being improved by creating minimum standards to support provision of preprimary education in selected government schools



Project achievement 7: Improving PPE classrooms in government schools for enabling young girls and boys who receive at least one year of quality pre-primary education. The project informs that at this stage, a total number of 85 classrooms been set as modal classrooms with at maximum standards required for PPE classrooms while a total number 215 classrooms are reported to have reached a minimum standards of improved learning environment including the PPE classes to have learning corners, outdoor games, wall displayed with photos.



Adequate Housing



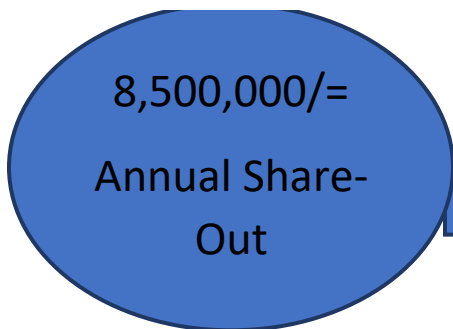
INCOME GENERATION ACTIVITY



HOUSE-CONSTRUCTION



RAIN WATER HARVESTING TANK CONSTRUCTION



HOUSING INVESTMENT



IRON SHEETS FOR ROOFING

In 2022, TAHEA continued to implement Promoting Adequate Housing for Women and Young People (PAHWaYP), which aimed at promoting access to adequate housing and land tenure, which is a key component of the cooperative empowerment. A key focus in TAHEA Mwanza adequate housing approach is the Cooperative Housing Model with a Community Managed Microfinance synergy, the project was designed to strengthen adequate housing in Mwanza Tanzania with special emphasis on cooperative housing model for women and young people.

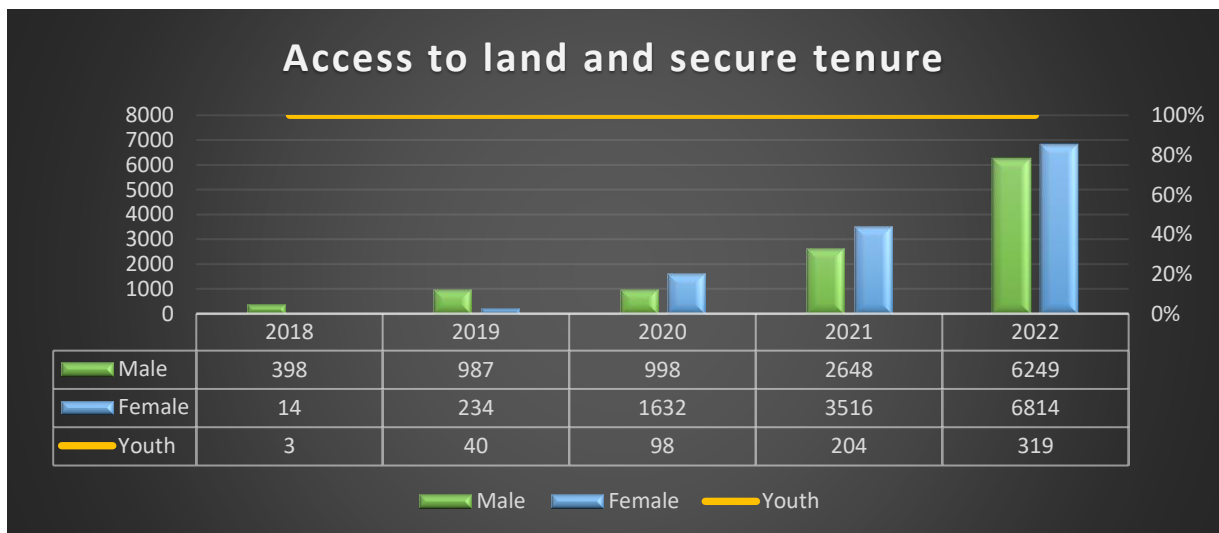
Objective:

To empower 1,600 women and 600 young people to access the right to land and adequate housing leading to improved quality of life in Ilemela and Buchosa Districts by 2022

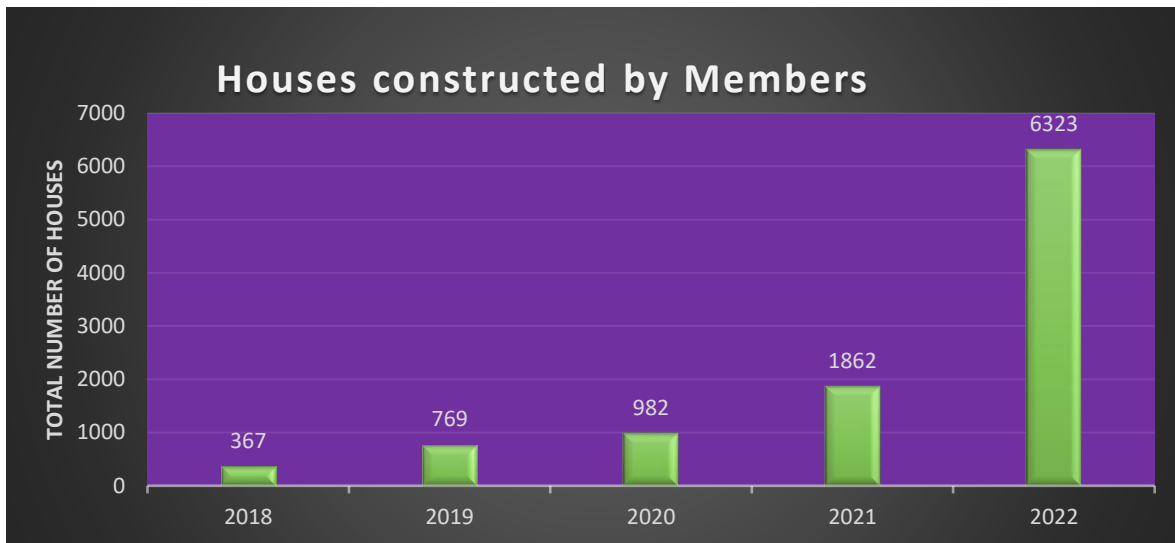
This has been achieved by Strengthening capacity of TAHEA Mwanza to deliver demand driven services related to land rights and adequate housing, Integrating Right to food initiatives in adequate housing, Promoting Cooperative housing model for increasing access to adequate housing by women, young people and men, Enhancing capacity of women, and young people to cope with adverse effect of poor sanitation and unsafe environment, Women and men accessing affordable financial services and products, Enhancing uptake of micro insurance products and services, Empowering women and young people participating in leadership and decision making processes and Enhanced economic rights for women and young people

Achievements

1) Number of women and young people with secure tenure documents have increased from 14 women; 3 youth in 2018 to 6,814 women; 319 youth in 2022

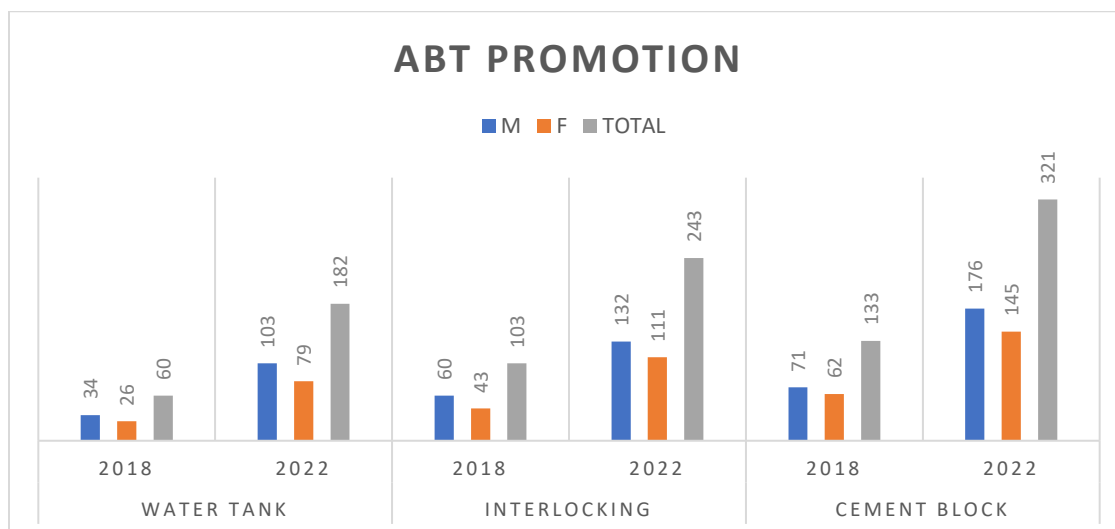


- 2) Number of houses constructed by women and young people increased from 367 in 2018 to 6,323 in 2022.



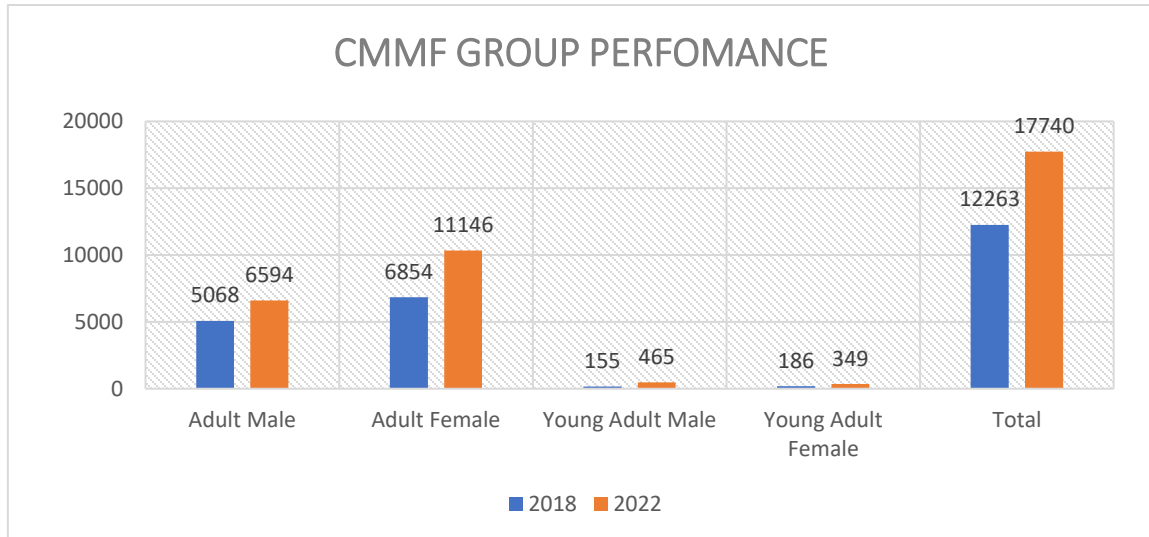
- 3) Number of Appropriate Building Technologies promoted increased for water harvesting tanks from 60 water harvesting tanks to 182 water harvesting tanks in 2022, use of interlocking blocks, from 103 in 2018 to 243 in 2022 and use of cement blocks from 133 in 2018 to 321 in 2022.

Type of ABT Promoted



- 4) Number of women and young people accessing affordable financial services and products increased from 418 saving groups to 472 savings groups with a total number of

17,740 members (6594 male; 11,14620 females) with accumulated savings of 501,322,350 Tanzania Shillings, and cumulative loans of 625,822,450 Tanzania shillings in 5 years.



- ❖ **Challenge:** The baseline household survey revealed that, very few members (only 6) in the implementation area had insurance cover, and the type of insurance was for health, between 2018 and 2022 the number of members with insurance cover slightly increased from 6 in 2018 to 364 (194 women & 170 men) by Dec 2022, more efforts is needed for mobilization of insurance covers not only for health but in other areas as well.

Right to Food



TAHEA Mwanza also implemented Right to Food activities in 2022 under support from Weeffect, TAHEA Mwanza needs to bring the attention of all stakeholders on the importance of the sweet potato in promoting the right to food. We ask all stakeholders to please take a closer look at the sweet potato when thinking of Holistic Food Systems Interventions (*food availability, food access, food stability, food utilization, food safety, public health, economic development, waste management, and climate change and environmental degradation*). Considering the 2030 Agenda, sustainable development and tackling climate change go hand-in-hand, and therefore, there is a need to protect our food systems to prevent hunger.

“As a woman in Tanzania, I feel powerful and peaceful to see my children not lacking food. This is because I have a sweet potato field from which I harvest sweet potatoes to feed my children.



I utilize the sweet potato in various ways. I can cook it with other food items like beans, fish, and vegetables to prepare a nutritious meal for my family. I can make breakfast buns and nutritious beverages for my family members using the orange sweet potato variety.

Besides feeding my children, I harvest sweet potatoes that I sell in the local market and get money to meet my basic needs, i.e., buying exercise books, soap, salt, and other

necessities for family use. Furthermore, from the proceeds from the sale of sweet potatoes, I am able to raise money for my contribution to my women’s group weekly savings.

When the crop is plentiful at harvest time, I process the sweet potatoes into dried chips, which I then preserve for use during the off-season, sweet potato is a drought-resistant crop”



Agriculture Program



**FARMERS CHALLENGE FOR SWEET POTATO PLANTING MATERIAL
MARKETING STRATEGIES**

2022

TAHEA Mwanza facilitated the challenge fund supported by the sweet potato Genetic Advances and Innovative Seed Systems (SweetGAINS) project. SweetGAINS which aims at improving breeding operations and methodologies, ensuring integration between breeding outputs and early generation seed availability to accelerate genetic gains and varietal turnover in farmers' fields. The purpose of the challenge fund is to design and implement innovative seed marketing strategies.

Background

Sweet potato is one of the major food security crops in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) but commercialization of *sweet potato seed* (i.e., vine cuttings) is still in a nascent stage due to the vegetatively propagated nature of the crop and socio-cultural behavior around exchange and trading the crop. Yet there is huge scope in the sweet potato seed business to position the crop and add value propositions for sweet potato seed business to attract markets, particularly for seed of improved varieties.

Problem statement

In recent years, many improved varieties have been released in SSA with additional value-added traits to attract market demand. However, the adoption of these varieties is low due to several reasons as follows:

- The lack awareness among root producers of the improved varieties and their traits, this has resulted in a disconnect between breeding programme outputs and the seed producer, and thereby inefficiencies in the seed distribution channel.
- The sweet potato seed business is predominantly in the informal seed sector, where trust is built based on individual relationships, so this might limit scaling opportunities.

Therefore, to scale sweet potato seed businesses in both the formal and informal sector, it is necessary to build a trust and brand for improved varieties through innovative marketing strategies. Thus, TAHEA Mwanza and International Potato Center (CIP) called for applications to implement and showcase innovative marketing strategies to create more awareness and scale the sweet potato seed business. Successful applicants were required to demonstrate feasibility of implementing the marketing strategies.



FIGURE 1 NET-TUNNEL MULTIPLICATION



LOCAL VARIETIES MULTIPLICATION



LOCAL VARIETIES



LOCAL VARIETIES MULTIPLICATION



IMPROVED VARIETIES READY FOR SELLING



LOCAL VARIETIES READY FOR SELLING

Achievements

- 1) The challenge enabled the participants to sell sweet potato planting materials worth 6,000,000 Tanzania shillings in the month of December 2022 through advertising their seed businesses.

- 2) The use of mass communication means like radios, Tv, Posters, brochures and flyers enabled the challenge fund participants to increase number of customers.

Challenges faced

- 1) There was persistent drought during the month of October onwards which delayed the purchase of planting materials by farmers.
- 2) Continued use of unclean sweet potato planting materials through neighbors affected the seed business.
- 3) Delay of clean seeds from the research Institute.

Health and Nutrition



We promote holistic child development by integrating health and nutrition in ECD. In promoting health and nutrition services in 2022 we did the following:

Nutrition education and awareness focusing on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices

- Demonstrations on food preparation and preservation and storage with attention to foodstuffs for pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, young children after exclusive breastfeeding and during complementary feeding.
- Provision of reproductive and child health services through mobile clinics on monthly basis targeting Bezi island community which is far from health facilities.

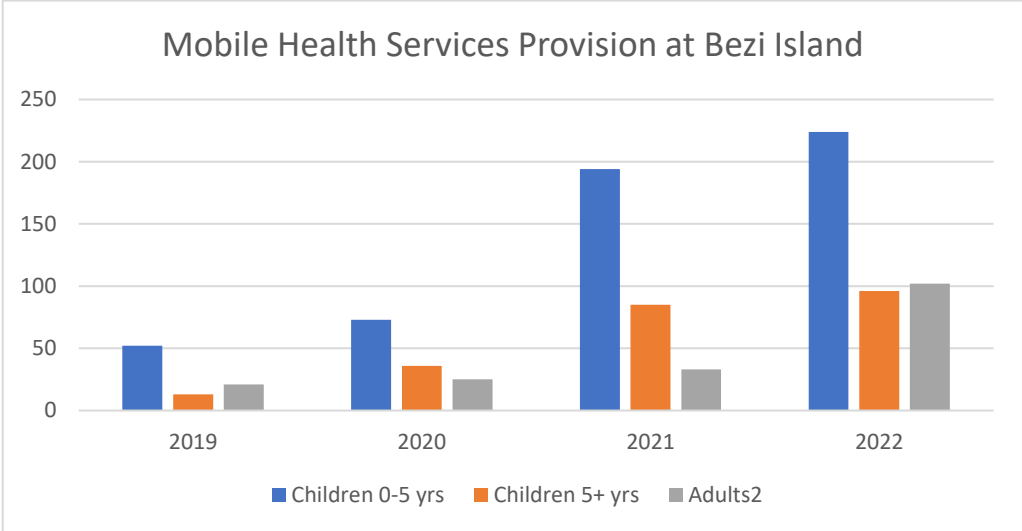
As a result, 702 children under five years in 500 target families are using porridge and other foodstuffs made from fortified flour in a mixture of soya, millet/sorghum, sesame, pumpkin seeds/groundnuts which are rich in protein, carbohydrate, fat and iron helping children to grow. The nutrition training provided on importance of nutrients, sources of nutrients and symptoms of poor diet is helping in identification of children with nutrition deficiencies. For the year 2022 a total of 21 cases of children under 5 years with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) has been identified and reported in Ilemela District through Women Nutrition Groups Coordinators who have been trained by TAHEA MWANZA.



The monthly mobile clinic services at Bezi Island have increased demand by the people in the nearby islands who come monthly at Bezi to access services, and therefore creating need for

improved and reliable health services to the island communities. From the start in 2019 the mobile clinic services targeted the Bezi Island community, but the recent data indicate that 102 young children, mothers and adults were recorded attending the services from the nearby islands of Tefu and Nyarubano. Responding to this need the Local Government through Ilemela Municipal Council started constructing a dispensary which is expected to provide health services to almost 2045 people of Bezi, Tefu and Nyarubano islands upon completion. TAHEA MWANZA is happy about this achievement which has taken almost 10 years to realize since the start of intervention in 2012.

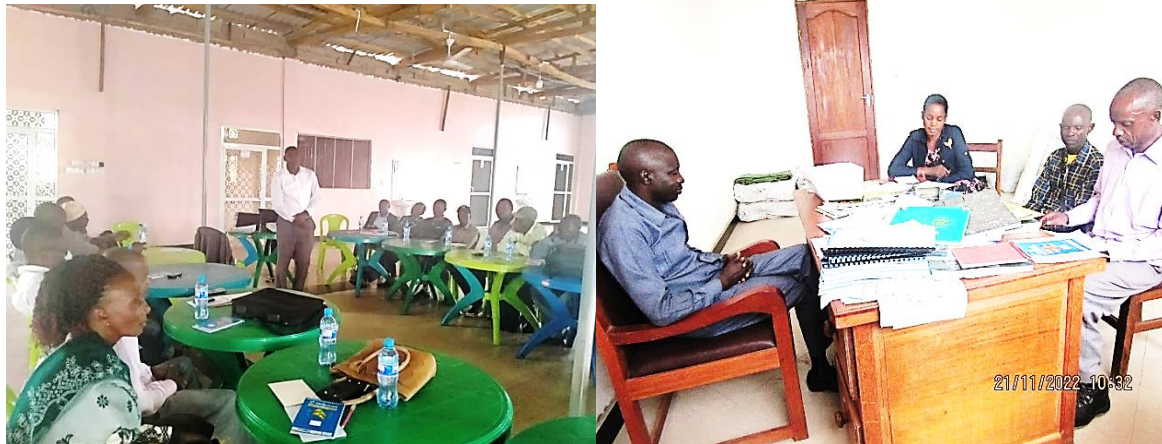
Achievements:



The mobile health services at Bezi Island were meant to target young children under 5 years, but because of limited health services in the island other groups of children and adults were

attending.

SAM/ PETS PROGRAM FOR AGRICULTURE IN BUCHOSA DISTRICT



Thematic Area SAM/PETS – Agriculture (Tufuatilie Raslimali za UMMA Pamoja) Project.

Agriculture sector is the backbone of Tanzania economy, employing more than 65.3% of the population contributing more than 28% of the GDP, and supply more than 95% of food consumed in the country (NBS, 2020 and NBS 2021). However, the contribution of the sector in the economy is far below the existing potential. The Government of Tanzania is therefore implementing number of initiatives including Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) implemented through Five Years development plans, Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP), Agenda 10/30 and Building Better Tomorrow programme (BBT) programme (2022-2030) among others seeking to transform agriculture sector.

While number of Government programmes and plans are designed and implemented at national and local levels, TDV emphasize citizen participation in deciding the matters that affects their lives, planning for their own development as well as executing the plans (URT, 1998). Tanzania five years development vision (TDV-2025) cherishes to ensure that citizens are empowered with the capacity to make their leaders and public servants accountable. Citizen's participation is among the features of good governance as it ensures a culture of accountability, rewarding good performance and effectively curbing corruption and other vices in the society. Article 146 of the constitution of URT of 1977 as amended from time to time expressly obligates Local Governments to institutionalize citizen participation in decision making processes.

The 6th term Government under Hon. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of United Republic of Tanzania has been making number of reforms to support the agricultural sector, this among others includes improvement of extension services (including distribution of transport facilities extension kits to all extension officers) and further budget increase in 2022/23 which includes increasing extension budget from 11.5 to 15 billion, irrigation budget from TZS 46.5billion to

361.5 billion, and storage infrastructures from TZS 2.02 to 25.16 billion 2021/22 in 2022/23; 150 billion for fertilizer subsidy, among others.

TAHEA MWANZA works in collaboration with Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) to implement the *“TUFATILIE RASILIMARI ZA UMMA PAMOJA Project”* in Buchosa District of Mwanza region to promote accountability and transparency through Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) that aim at improving the quality services delivery at both local government and national levels.

Project objective

The main objective of project is to strengthen opportunities of participation for small holder farmers including youths and, women participation in enhancing good governance in local government authorities in improving their livelihood in Buchosa District.

Project achievements:

The project has managed to achieve the following:

- ❖ 3 SAM Committee formed and trained with a total of 30 members.
- ❖ 650 farmers are participating in social accountability monitoring for fertilizers inputs
- ❖ Holding dialogues with duty bearers and right holders.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

1) TAHEA/ GPN



TAHEA Mwanza have been working in collaboration with Global Peace Network (Canada) for a number of years where global health has been an issue of concern. TAHEA/ GPN and Magu District worked together to establish rehabilitation centers in Magu and Kanyama to support a rehabilitation programme where GPN brought health experts from time to time to support the technical knowledge. The partnership also has supported a Cohort of clinical officers and nurses to undergo a training programme in clinical kinesiology where 9 participants graduated and received their certificate of completion.

The partnership experienced some challenges in 2022 due to COVID-19 impact that the agreement to work together to promote a programme called Tanzania Rehabilitation Initiative was suspended until 2023.

The partnership expects to have in place a person who will support training for clinicians in clinical kinesiology/ physical rehabilitation for 3 years starting with the next co-hort of learners. We hope that some of the graduated colleagues will want to continue as instructors in the future as the management of our clinical kinesiology programme will be handed over to Tanzania.

The Network also expects to form a larger, perhaps global network of organizations working especially in the field of rehabilitation in the near future.

2) TAHEA/ GERMANY SISTERS



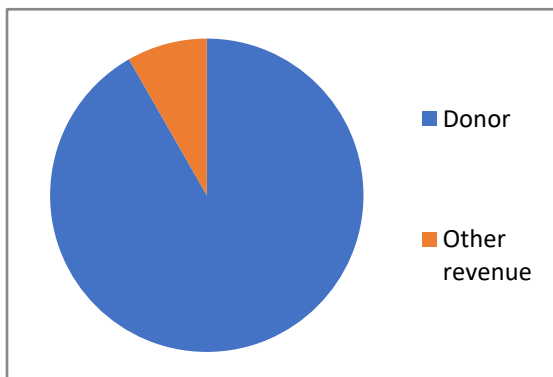
TAHEA/ German Sisters -International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) partnership and collaboration has a long history in supporting education to prevent school drop-out due to school fees and personal needs related to education in Mwanza region since 2012 where 307 Secondary School Students were supported by 2022, the support was also extended to 2 College students who were desperate orphans who needed to pursue Clinical Medicine training.

Through this partnership, Students from Osnabrück University have been able to conduct their undergraduate studies in TAHEA Mwanza program sites where nutrition is promoted.

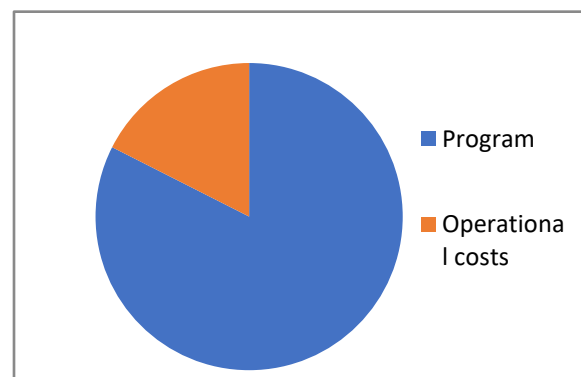
In 2022, the partnership decided to look for ways where they can implement development projects in their line of professions to advance Home Economics and this collaboration invited Sokoine University to join the partnership. In this regard, TAHEA/ Osnabrück/ Sokoine University have been able to develop a research proposal together and are waiting for possible funding for implementation.

2022 FINANCIALS

Income



Expenditure



HUMAN STORIES

My Husband's Fishing Employment has affected my life

Agnes Henry is a 35-year-old, abandoned by her husband, currently living at Kabangaja (fishing community), Mwanza, Tanzania. Agnes has seven children, among them, one has completed primary school education and works as a house maid in Iringa region. The youngest child is only one year and 3 months old and is still being breastfed.

Agnes' husband always disappears from home, abandoning his wife without providing for his family. He usually comes back, just to disappear again after a short period. Last time he disappeared was in March 2019 and came back in May 2020. It was the same month he left without giving his wife any money for household expenses.

Her husband works as a fisherman in Bukoba Islands and currently hasn't called his wife since he left. Agnes decided to delete her husband's phone number because she has been going through a difficult time and it was too painful that he has never been reachable by his phone.

When she asked about his husband's wellbeing from his workmate who came back in 2021, she was told that her husband still works in Bukoba islands but does not have a phone.

Agnes is tired of her husband's behavior, because she has a hard time caring for her children alone. Also, whenever the husband comes back, he only impregnates her just to leave again. When asked if she gets any help from her husband family she said "My mother-in-law and my father-in-law are all deaf and they need assistance, my brother in-law is still in school. So, his husbands' relatives also need help".

Agnes said she has been struggling to have food for the family, medication for the children when they get sick, clothes for children and even shelter for her children. Her house collapsed and she decided to re-build a new small two-room house out of mud blocks. As she couldn't afford it herself, she got some money from her daughter who works as a house maid in Iringa.

In her miserable situation, Agnes decided to start a small business, selling small sardines at a village 3 kms from her home and is able to get a profit of 3 USD per day. She started with one big can of dried sardines worth a capital around 9 USD in 2020 and now her capital is around 22 USD which is equal to three cans of sardines. Selling sardines, is her day-to-day activity in the fishing season. She leaves at 6 am and comes back around 6 pm, taking her youngest child with her.

Agnes joined the women's group WANAWAKE TUNAWEZA, consisting of 15 vulnerable women, 8 of whom are single women. Here, she gets new ideas from other women on how to take care of the family single-handedly, but also on how to save money for her children's education. In the group every member has to save 2 USD a week and at the end, each woman takes the amount she saved. Agnes is happy to be in the group because she also gets education on children's health and nutrition provided by the group chairperson who has received training from TAHEA Organization.

Her dream is to expand her business and be able to sell the sardines in bulky and in different places.



Housing and Micro Finance Linkage Case Stories for Women in Buchosa District

Lucia Nikolausi Maduka (46 years, married with three children)

Lucia is a chairperson in Bangwe ward and lives with her husband and three children in Mwangika village. Lucia is a very active woman in her community, besides being chairperson, she is also a member of two Community Managed Micro Finance groups which she says the groups has added value to her life. She received a total loan of 200.000 TZS from both groups. She used part of the loan (100.000 TZS) to pay additional labor and bean seeds for their farm as the family livelihood depends on agriculture. She used the other half of the loan to pay for children school needs.

Lucia is also busy improving the family's housing situation, she received a loan of 150.000 TZS from housing cooperative, which she used to buy fertilizer for maize field which helped her to get a good harvest, which the family sold and got 1,650,000/=, with the earnings they have been able to buy corrugated iron sheets for roofing their new house, which contains a sitting and 2 sleeping rooms. Lucia says: "My children are growing up and maybe my daughter will be getting married in the future, she would like to have enough space in case she wants to visit us with her future family". She also highlights that she has already been able to repay the loan to BHCS.

She also adds that the overall health of the family is an important issue for Lucia, so she ensures that the family has good access to clean and safe water and sanitation. The family has a well near the house and a tank to collect rainwater, Lucia makes sure that the drinking water is either boiled or treated with safeguard tablets. In addition, the family has two toilets available, one of which uses water and has a septic tank.

Lucia is not only part of the sweet potato project, but she also assists in the training sessions provided by TAHEA organization as a community resource person. She is already growing the Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes on the family's field next to their house, she shares her knowledge and experience with other women. For her, the consumption of OFSP in her own household is more important than selling it on the market. She explains: "One of my children was always sick, but since we started eating the orange sweet potato his health has improved a lot. She further adds, "I expect to grow more orange fleshed sweet potato in the next season and I want to sell some of the harvest, because I can get a good income".

Thereza Alfonse (60 years old, 1 son and five grandchildren)

Thereza Alifonse is a widow who lives with her son and five grandchildren in Luhama village (Bangwe ward, Sengerema district). She gets her income mainly from agriculture, but also from selling sardines (dagaa) from Lake Victoria. Thereza is very active in different micro finance groups. Besides being a member in Buchosa Housing Cooperative Society (BHCS), she is also a member of the groups called “MAMA KUSAIDIANA” and “TUINUANE”. She explains: “It is good to be in groups as the groups are supportive and they strengthen me”

Currently the family’s housing is very poor, her son lives in a small house made from bricks, but Thereza and her grandchildren still sleep in two small houses made from wood panels, popularly known as “*Mabanzi*”. The kitchen collapsed last rain season so Thereza prepares the family meals outside. Thereza decided to take action and asked for a loan from her groups.

She received a loan of 300.000 TZS from the Building Society and another loan of 150.000 TZS from her 2 other groups. With the loan money she was able to buy bricks and started to construct a new house. Thereza tells us: *“I want to build the house not only for myself, but also to provide my grandchildren with a good place to sleep. I want them to be better protected from the rainfall.”* For the roof she doesn’t need to get another loan as Thereza plans to use the roofing sheets which are on the wooden houses. She explains *“My husband started to construct another house, but it is very big and now being a widow, I can’t afford to put a roof on it”*. So, she decided to build a smaller house, which will provide her and her grandchildren with enough space.”

Thereza is also engaged in growing sweet potato together with her group. In the next season she will be able to grow them on her own field. Thereza plans to sell products made from orange sweet potatoes, but she also adds: “Even if I can’t find a market to sell the products, I like the taste of the orange fleshed sweet potatoes, my family and I can eat them, and benefit from the health perspective.”

Sana James (43-Year-old, a husband and four children)

Sana James is a woman living in Mwangika village with her husband and four children. Her experiences with housing, she said “their first house is built with bricks which herself and her husband made”. The house has two sleeping rooms, one for them and her little daughter and one for the two male children, they also have a sitting room. Currently, the house has not been plastered and has earth floor, she further explains *“We improve the house step by step”*. She goes on and says that with the proceeds from selling their cassava harvest, they were able to buy a cow, which after a while had a calf. The family sold both the cow and the calf to buy roofing material and a solar panel.

Sana also wants to plaster the walls of their house as she is now saving in two micro finance groups where she asked for a loan and has already bought the cement for plastering.

Moreover, Sana and her husband want to finish the half-constructed house, which was on their property when they bought the land. She explains that the former owner stopped building, as it was too big, and he could not afford finishing it.

Sana is also engaged in the sweet potato project, currently they are growing the orange sweet potato on a group farm. Sana tells us that the group will decide whether to sell the tubers or products made from the sweet potato, but she adds that she is looking forward to get the orange fleshed sweet potato vines from the group, so she can grow them on her own field. Sana explains that this is important for her as she plans to use the income from selling the orange sweet potato to finally finish building the big house.

Witness Hayaga (32 Years old, a husband and 5 children)

Witness lives in Ishigwandama sub village, Mwangika village, in Bangwe ward and has a primary school education. She said, *“My dream is to live in a good house even if I am old.”* Witness Hayaga is a married woman who lives with her family in a small house of two bedrooms with a sitting room which is too small for her already big family which she says is a challenge.

Witness and her husband do not own land and to her is one of the biggest challenges as their children are growing, but the house in which they live is small and rented. The household is always under stress because of food shortages every year, she further said *“We hire land every year to grow food and cash crops, but the food we harvest does not meet the household expenses as our only source of income is farming and casual labor, especially for my husband.”*

Of all the challenges faced by Witness family, she had no one to turn to for solutions, she became frustrated. One of members from Amani group saw Witness frustrations which made her to be unhappy all the times, she asked her some few questions which Witness responded to them, the only advice she gave her, was to ask her to join Amani group as there is still one vacancy left, of which maybe can be her golden chance to overcome her challenges. From the advice she got, Witness referred the advice to her husband and asked him about joining Amani group, the husband did not reject her request but allowed her to join.

Witness was happy joined Amani group, with 14 members and all were women. This group was formed for the purpose of weekly saving and exchange of family experiences and ideas, including saving lending activities.

The first week for Witness was to introduce herself to the group, but also learn from the group what to do. *“I realized that being alone was a weakness but being in a group is acquiring strength that makes you to be a strong woman”* says Witness. After 6 months as a group member Witness accessed a small loan of 50,000 TZS, which she requested for land

hiring for the next rain season. The borrowed money was directly paid to the landowner who gave them 1 acre which they ploughed using family labor and planted maize, beans, and sweet potato. The harvest from the 1 acre planted crops was at an average production because of intercropping, e.g., maize harvested was only 6 bags (600 kg), beans 80 kg and sweet potato 10 bags (100 kg fresh roots). The earning from these products was:

Maize sold two bags x 36,000 = 108,000

Beans sold 20 kg x 1500 = 30,000

Sweet potato fresh roots 6 bags = 216,000

Total 354,000/=

This was the annual household income but could not fulfill the household expenses, this money was used to cater for the family needs. The earned income was an outcome of Amani group membership, Witness found herself becoming happy following good results from her joining the group, but challenges facing her were not resolved, only that his husband was able to purchase a small land for housing.

When Bangwe Housing Cooperative Society (BHCS) was established, and Amani group was registered as a member, she saw it as an opportunity for housing projects because BHCS focus is to support women and young people in accessing housing/ house improvement of which was her main challenge.

After 8 months of saving Witness managed to get a loan of 100,000 TZS from BHCS. This loan was spent on buying foundation stones and laying of the foundation as startup of her dream, other added income was from Amani group as share out of ending the cycle, which was 125,000 TZS and was used to buy cement and paying the artisan during construction of the foundation we were able to see. *"If women are trusted by their husbands like me can do wonders especially at the family challenges"* says Witness. Although her dream is at an early stage, for her is very convincing, what she needs is to strengthen her capacity on agriculture crop husbandry practices so as to improve production of the crops she grows for both home consumption and surplus for cash earning.

Mwanza Region Population (2022 Census)



Council	Population			Sex Ratio	Number of Households	Average Household Size
	Both Sexes	Male	Female			
Mwanza Region	3,699,872	1,802,183	1,897,689	95	751,631	4.9
1 Ukerewe District	387,815	191,217	196,598	97	76,285	5.1
2 Magu District	421,119	204,166	216,953	94	80,681	5.2
3 Mwanza City	594,834	282,342	312,492	90	153,226	3.9
4 Kwimba District	480,025	237,054	242,971	98	75,394	6.4
5 Sengerema District	425,415	209,066	216,349	97	77,509	5.5
6 Buchosa District	413,110	206,538	206,572	100	81,692	5.1
7 Ilemela Municipal	509,687	241,137	268,550	90	127,507	4.0
8 Misungwi District	467,867	230,663	237,204	97	79,337	5.9



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