

TANZANIA LIFE PROJECT (T) 2ND REPORT SEPTEMBER 2006 - FEBRUARY, 2007

INTRODUCTION.

Prior to the first report that carried the project to the month of August 2006, the following depicts the other project span September to December 2006, and also January to February 2007.

TLP (USA) continued to support TLP (T) Financially and technically. The first report included the news that the small gardens at Mtumba were producing green vegetables abundantly.

TLP USA pumped another financial assistance in September in terms of tools for gardening, such as water cans, insecticides, seeds, water containers and spraying machines for Mtumba village. This time the number of participants in gardening increased from 20 to 40. The size of the gardens also increased to twice or thrice as much. While the first assistance was done on competition basis, the second one drew participants on self will basis . People were gathered and told that the exercise was for their own advantage.

HIV/AIDS:

The killer disease is continuing to be a threat in the area. Productive activities are dropping down due to manpower reduction as a result of deaths especially of the young generation. NGO'S dealing with fighting against AIDS are providing commendable service to the community around Dodoma. Recently an American friend, through TLP (USA) has requested for appropriate information on HIV/AIDS so that he and the others can see the possibility of assisting to fight the spread of the disease. Through Jim Vanderheyden we have sent a proposal and budget for consideration. To start with the proposal covers three villages of Ihumwa, Mtumba and Vikonje which together make up Mtumba ward. The coverage has a population of 20,000.

TRACTOR:

The month of October was a hectic month for most of us. Jim kept himself busy with making sure the purchase of a tractor for TLP (T) was done. After contacting Dumelow of the UK, he was given quotations of used tractors. After communicating for several times a paid in full invoice number JD/TLP 5 was sent to us indicating that his plan had succeeded. We were notified the tractor was on the way to Mtumba and without mistake we were able to receive it on the 23rd February, 2007. Everyone in the village was happy to see and many of them couldn't believe their eyes. Although it has arrived late, some members of the community are using it for crops which are drought tolerant such as cassava, yams, beans, sunflower etc. Each member of the community in Mtumba village

will have the opportunity of using the tractor free of charge (the cost which has been paid by TLP USA). The magnitude for free is 35 metres by 35 metres Mtumba will have the privilege of using the tractor this year and next year after which another village to be chosen will take over. The tractor had to cost TLP (USA) us \$17,088 excluding the shipping and handling costs for items ranging from the tractor, the plough, the harrow and the trailer.

FOOD SECURITY:

Food situation in the village has improved tremendously. Rains were good this year starting in mid November 2006 and continuing up to the time of this report. During the serious months of year 2006 TLP (USA) bravely assisted the village of Mtumba with consignments of maize which was really a blessing for the people. Up to now people are happy with every crop they planted ranging from maize, sorghum, beans, potatoes, garden products such as Tomatoes, cabbages, groundnuts etc. Everyone has started tasting fresh maize and beans.

In the months to come people will have the access of using the tractor to irrigate their farms especially gardens. The tractor will easily fill the water tank purchased by TLP (USA) at the borehole where a valve (also constructed through TLP (USA) assistance is in place.

It is expected that there will be no food shortage in the village for the next two years. People are being educated of not misusing their food by either selling or making local beer. Strict regulations have started being imposed. With TLP arrangement of continuing to support with garden tools and insecticides there is 80% reliability in food security.

WATER AND ELECTRICITY:

The community of Mtumba is continuing to enjoy clean water from the borehole that was seriously renovated by TLP. Electricity is greatly assisting the primary school and secondary school students during their night studies. One businessman has erected a flour milling machine, two residents of Mtumba have installed electricity in their houses and more others are planning to do so. Requests by many residents is for TLP's initial arrangement of spreading one or two lines to enable them reduce the electricity provision costs.

SCHOOLS:

Machineries (oil machines and carpentry machines) were allocated to the schools for running. The primary school was allocated with the oil and milling machines while the secondary school was allocated with the carpentry machine. Later it was discovered that all the two motors for the primary school were oil machines. No flour milling machine was received. The oil machines have been

fixed and are waiting for power. Application, VAT arrangements and payments have been done.

The carpentry machine has also been fixed. Unfortunately the circular saw was wrongly placed. Instead of placing an 18 mm circular saw they packed a 20mm circular saw which is 10" in diameter instead of 8" diameter. Arrangements are being sought to buy the correct one so that testing of the machine can be done. The electrician has completed his work.

MACHINERIES BUILDINGS:

TLP (USA) had to incur money for building the workshops of the machineries. More than 1,000 US\$ were spent on the primary school building and more than 3,000 US\$ were spent on the secondary school building.

WOMEN AFFAIRS:

TLP (T) USA brought Tshs 1,000,000/= one million shillings for women Empowerment activities specially intended for capacity Building. 120 women attended the workshop. They were divided into two groups of 60 women each. The first group of 60 took four days from 27/10/2006 to 30/10/2006 while the second group of 60 took three days from 2/11/2006 to 4/11/2006. A fair choice comprising of 20 women from each of the six sub-villages forming Mtumba village provided a good democratic participation. The participation achievement was far better compared to the first one which drew only 28 participants in February 2006.

Workshop modality:

The workshop was facilitated with a social Development worker as the Main facilitator and two others (Grace Marumbo and Mrs. Mrema) as assistant facilitators. Mrs. Mrema is the Mtumba village agricultural Instructor while Mrs. Marumbo is the Mtumba Women Empowerment coordinator. The workshop was conducted with full provision of the participant's experiences, understanding, ideas, knowledge and were allowed to give suggestions, advice and direction in a participatory approach.

The General Objective of the Workshop

Was to enhance the efforts of the women in a move to disengage from the strings of poverty, starvation and a marginalized section in the community by promoting education, fighting gender discrimination and improving their economic status.

They formulated several topics, discussed and digested issues on women rights to education, health, inheritance, ownership of land and decided to put more efforts and emphasis on income generating activities.

Finally, seminar participants requested the support of TLP (USA) to enable them in horticulture, poultry, food and fruits processing, entrepreneurship and to enable them to purchase TV and video deck.

The TV, Video deck and generator have already been purchased through the funding by TLP (USA). Other requests estimates will be sent to USA for future funding.

FUTURE PROJECT PLANS:

- (1) The Mtumba Primary school have asked for renovation of three classrooms, completion of one staff house, completion of one classroom and renovation of student's latrines and staff latrines. Estimates and pictures to be sent soon.
- (2) Secondary school have asked for building of one girls hostel and staff houses. Estimates and drawings to be sent later.
- (3) Mtumba residents are requesting for one or two low voltage lines to enable them install electricity into their houses.
- (4) TLP (T) and TLP (USA) are planning to move on to another village (Chisichili) to continue serving the needy.

GOD BLESS US ALL.
Vicent Chiwamba
Project Manager
TLP (T)