

“OUR STORIES OUR PRIDE!, LETS CHANGE THE COMMUNITY”

Story number: 01

Message: My commitment my destiny

Name: Neema Masunga

Marital status: Separated

Disability: Albinism

Age: 31 Years

Sex: Female

Neema Masunga, is a person living with a disability (Albinism). She says *“I started noting my difference from my fellows during maturity age where my skin was bit different from others, and it confused me a lot as even some of my friends were not comfortable to play and seat with me together”*. The birth of her young brother who also had albinism gave her courage as they were able to share their feelings and comfort each other. Despite of joining primary education, the barriers and threats within communities like poor customs and traditions such as the killing of people with albinism to get wealth or having members with disability as curse in a community haunted her dream and did not gave her opportunity to join secondary education. She then opted for vocational education training on tailoring skills where she graduated.



With a certificate, she was very happy but again her efforts to get employment in other Tailoring shops was difficult, even part-time and volunteer could not work for her. She then decided to



establish her own Tailoring shop with very few customers (mostly their fellow with disability and neighbors). Later on, she married a husband with no disability who also ended up abandoning her with very little baby girl who she started to raise. Her life story, commitment and creativity in designing clothes and tailoring moved the hearts of many people as more customers started to join in. She was able to earn (30,000TZS to 50,000TZS per day) the money which helped her to cater for family, pay fees to her daughter undertaking Primary studies and her young brother at College. She took further step and enrolled three students who learn tailoring skills from her tailoring shop. Neema is a champion who advocates for self-independent, PWDs rights, needs and opportunities. Her dream is to become a great and popular tailor, conquer the Ward she lives with her remarkable tailoring skills and open new opportunities to PWDs who wish to learn from her. During implementation of this Project, Neema has fully and actively participated as one among the 36 Participatory, Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) Team members and her work was impressive and exceptionally great.

Story number: 02

Message: Accepting our disability is a way to success

Name: Stanley Macha

Marital status: Married

Disability: Physical

Age: 47 Years

Sex: Male

Stanley Macha is a father to four (4) children. He was born healthy and when he was 9 years old, he fell off a tree, an accident that made him to be hospitalized for 7 months. He was diagnosed with a serious problem and it appeared he had a spinal cord injury. After the treatment he was allowed to go home and continue with a few exercises as he cannot be able to walk again as before and the condition has made him to do everything while sitting.

He started working on the pebbles, making wooden bicycles, and later he started a sewing machine because it all required him to stay in one place because of his legs being weak and hence not mobile. Stanley could not attend medical treatment as he has not money and his family was not able to support his medical treatments.

Stanley after joined a VICOBA group he was able to invest his shares as for him to buy a wheelchair to support herself on other activities like operating a small shop etc. He faced some challenges which made him think far for other options on how he can meet his needs and condition.

As it was difficult for him to use a wheelchair during rainy season. Therefore, TUSONGE help him on developing his individual work plan which show type of business he wants and share with community development officer for further support and luck enough he was among the people who accessed the grants from government a total of 8,000,000 Tsh. He invested this money by purchasing a tricycle motorcycle namely BAJAJI, and as for now he is at final stage to own it.

He is a famous in transport at Njia panda and interview with him he confirmed to earn a total of 360,000/=Tsh per month and the same income is taking care of educational support to his four children who are (primary and secondary) schools and support food at his home.



Story number: 03

Message: Life means being ambitious and daring

Name: Loyce Swai

Marital status: Widow

Disability: Visually impaired

Age: 62 Years

Sex: Female



Loyce Swai is an ambitious woman with great vision to realize great things. Loyce Swai is visually impaired but her parents were able to enroll her to school and she was able to complete her studies. She was then employed as a Primary school teacher before retiring to her position recently. Being a PWDs is no longer a challenge to her as she joined the Project. She is a mother living with 7 family members within her household.

Being retired means cut off of the expected monthly

incomes. She then decided to engage in small farming activities. Hearing TUSONGE news, she decided to join the course and contributes towards PWDs union. Currently she is a Vice chairperson of the Union of Persons with Disability at Njiapanda Ward. "I was able to get various skills and knowledge such as entrepreneurship, financial management, Covid-19 and Vocational Education Training through TUSONGE and I appreciate for that, mostly important is the network for PWDs whom we share our ideas, concerns and help each other to resolves our problems.



In 2020, I raised 120 Chicks but unfortunately not even a single chicks survived despite of consulting poultry keeping expertise. Having got the loss, Loyce was not discouraged, she continues to share her story. In 2021, I was able to access the 2% of soft loan from Moshi Rural Municipal, in fact I have accessed One million shillings and was able to open up my own Shop for selling domestic products". The shop has also given employment opportunity to my Son (20yrs) who completed university studies with no formal job to engage with and earn incomes. Loyce Swai claims to have additional access to loans in VICOBA groups which has helped her too in establishing a Soap making business.

Story number: 04

Message: Value and put into practice your potentials

Name: Ramadhan Idd

Marital status: Separated

Disability: Physical

Age: 43 Years

Sex: Male



Meeting with Ramadhan Idd, a father to two kids, a boy and girl with 21 and 19 years of age. Ramadhan became physically disable as his leg was cut off after falling into accident since 2013. His mobility is somehow limited unlike the previous time. His disability affected not him psychologically but also his relatives and family members. His wife decided to separate from him and currently he is raising his kids alone.

Before joining the Project, I was involved with selling ladies' clothes to different markets. I realized the project through awareness raising campaign (Caravan) where I attended and decided to join after hearing good interventions being done to both PWDs and Non PWDs. I was happy to see that PWDs have formed their union too. Through the project, my capacity and understanding on entrepreneurship, financial management and vocation skills have increased too.

Availability of loans in VICOBA groups helped to improve my business. With PWDs Union, I had an opportunity to hear about 2% of soft loans from Ward Development Officer, I then decided to apply and submit my business plan as taught by Tusonge. I finally was able to access two million shillings which I have started my business of selling nylon bags that are used pack sands in mining centers.

Ramadhan shares that the challenges facing him is shortage of markets due to outbreak of COVID 19 as most mining were closed, increased number of suppliers and lack of assistive device to support the leg costing 1.2 Million which currently he cannot afford. Ramadhan continue by saying that despite of those challenges at least now I afford the cost for accommodating my children in their studies, cater for meals and other needs too, and am happy to join the project which has enlightened my future and uses his experience to lobby other PWDs to promote self-independence.

Story number: 05

Message: Explore opportunities and act timely

Name: Evetha Kimaro

Marital status: Widow

Disability: Physical

Age: 65 Years

Sex: Female



Evetha Kimaro is an old woman living with physical disability. Her disability was a result of experiencing severe pain in the back born where she was hospitalized for nine years at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) Hospital in Kilimanjaro, at this time Evatha was as standard seven pupils. She is blessed with only one daughter who has delivered a baby also. Her parents were supportive and she was able to study in Nairobi where later on she was employed at KCMC

Hospital and Good Samaritan Hospital all found in Kilimanjaro. Before joining the project, Evetha claims to earn incomes through small business of keeping poultry and remittance from well-wishers and relatives, although her incomes was not enough, even her daughter ended in form four and had no opportunity to continue with studies.



Despite of those efforts, she still lacked entrepreneurship skills, financial management skills and loans to expand her ventures. Joining the project had relived her from the problems, she acquired the skills and loans from VICOPA where she expanded and improved her poultry keeping (Chicks and pigs).



Currently she supplies snacks, eggs and produce liquid hand wash soap to her fellow beneficiaries, neighbors and even with Tusonge project officers, earning incomes and sustain her family. "I have also shared this skill to Six (06) people on how to engage in poultry and am happy to see them excelling well too. Evetha secured 1 Million soft loans from 2% and with VICOPA loans she plans to open a shop for selling domestic products.

She is proud to see her life and other peoples she has mentored too have transformed lives.

Story number: 06

Message: Do not let your past intervene your future

Name: Agatha Petro Barie

Marital status: Abandoned

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 27 Years

Sex: Female



TUSONGE meets Agatha Petro Barie, a passionate youth aged 26 years surviving with her daughter. Her husband abandoned them due to hardship of life and being unable to support the family needs. Since then, she has been raising the kid by herself.

The coming of project was an opportunity and avenue to her to learn new skills on entrepreneurship, financial literacy and VICOBA skills. She opted soap production sectors where she gained skills on how to produce soap and make snacks.

She is able to produce minimum of 600 pieces of baobab, pack and brand them, ready for selling

where she earns 150,000 TZS per month. With this amount, she was able to enroll her kid to skill, pay school contributions and meet my daily needs. The loans from VICOBA groups have been very significant and helpful as initial start of my current business, and I thank my fellow in the VICOBA for trusting me and still supporting me with advice and ideas on how to improve my business.

The elders in the VICOBA also encourages us youth to be confident and believe ourselves that we can still raise our kids even when we are abandoned. Those advices have been very powerful and cornerstone in shaping us, giving us confidence and a daring intent of exploring opportunities and get better achievements.

I was doing this business in a wholesale and retail way where I was distributing it in shops and some schools. As a result of the benefits I had, I was able to build a house for my mother, who lives in the village, and I was also able to pay my younger brother school fees without getting stuck, in fact the income situation is supporting me very well and I plan to improve and extend my business. With this project, I am able to supply these products to many as VICOBA groups have connected us with many people at Njiapanda ward.



My call to other young girl is to work hard and live an independent life where you can enjoy your rights fully, create opportunities to others and sustain your life.

Story number: 07

Message: My confidence my success

Name: Graciana Lyimo

Marital status: Separated

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 43 Years

Sex: Female



Graciana Lyimo is a Y3 project beneficiary and a CBT of Tuinuane Group. She is blessed with four children: two boys and two girls. She is currently living alone after being separated from her spouse for six years. Being alone, she is burdened with caring for her children and her two parents.

Before joining the project, Graciana was engaged in small business and farming activities to earn income, but the earnings were not enough to feed her family, cover academic costs for her children, medical costs, and other contributions needed for community development activities. The most important challenge she was facing was "FEAR" and a lack of confidence if she could accommodate her entire family given their numbers. Hearing about TUSONGE news from her neighbors, who are also beneficiaries, encouraged her to join TUSONGE for learning purposes.

With TUSONGE, she has received various skills that have shaped her into the person she is today. Her confidence has increased, and she has decided to work hard to accommodate her family. Through entrepreneurship, financial management, and marketing skills, her capacity to open new ventures has increased. With access to loans in VICOBA groups, she has opened a business of selling and printing T-shirts, which she sells to different people. In 2021, she sold T-shirts to VICOBA groups during a financial cycle, earning 860,000/- TSHS with profits of 184,000/- TSHS. With VICOBA loans, she has managed to establish a poultry and cow-keeping business at her home. Her ambition is to open a small industry and become a great supplier of milk production in the Njiapanda ward. Her call to others is to work on skills, as it is possible to achieve and realize your dream.



Story number: 08

Message: A positive mind is a key to achievements

Name: Consesa Mrina

Marital status: Married

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 45 Years

Sex: Female



Consesa is one among of the year three project beneficiaries, she is a mother with 3 children's. Before joining the project, Consesa used to stay home without any kind of job just take care of her children and farming activities. One day when she went to church, she heard about TUSONGE CDO and what they do in the community and there is when she decided join VICOBA group Y3 when they announced a mobilization. Among of the trainings received within the project intervention which includes:

VICOBA, Financial management skills, entrepreneurship and Vocational Education training (VET); where they she placed herself in poultry keeping sector. The knowledge gained from the training increased her business planning /production, Marketing, Packaging, customer care skills and knowledge.

The knowledge and skills he gained was used in her home poultry project. She decided to take a loan Tsh. 250,000Tsh from VICOBA group as a member where she built up a poultry shed and as a start she has 15 chickens. On the other hand, through entrepreneurship training. She was also able to start a vegetable garden by using the chicken excretas in her home where weekly she is earning a total amount of Tshs. 15,000 Tshs. From poultry business she is able to sell eggs and earn income of 20,000Tsh per month as a profit. With her incomes, she is able to support medical care of her child who is living with disability. Consesa confidence has increased as a wife and mother in her family as she is stable economically.

Story number: 09

Message: My dream my foundation for success

Name: Everista Mbuya

Marital status: Single

Disability: Physical

Age: 19 Years

Sex: Female



Around 10 years ago, Evarista started to develop problems. She has no feeling/function on the left side of her body, and also has epilepsy so suffers from seizures. When she started to have these problems, it was a very difficult period. There no support from wider family, their neighbors or their community- they were discriminated against and told it was witchcraft. Veronica and her husband prayed for Evarista, but when the problems continued they went to get medical advice from KCMC (a local consultant hospital). After the initial consultation, the hospital care/treatment became very expensive, and they were not able to afford it so she stopped

attending.

Teachers and students at Evarista's school discriminated against her and treated her badly- children would run away from her and say she had a curse. The bullying got so bad that Evarista wanted to stop going to school. Veronica encouraged her to continue, telling her they were government schools funded by tax payers, so her rights were the same as other children, and that she shouldn't listen to the teachers/other children as it's not their school.

Evarista: Before Tusonge came to the community, she was not accepted at her school. There was a lot of discrimination and bullying, so she didn't want to continue attending. Sometimes she would tell her mother she was sick to avoid going, or would leave school half way through the day to come home. Her mother encouraged her to keep attending, but it was very difficult. When her exams came up [*you take exams at the end of each year, and you have to pass to continue on to the next school year*], she rushed them and didn't make an effort in the hope she would fail and not have to continue going to school. However, in spite of this she passed with flying colors and had to continue to the next grade. They supported her to attend Kilemapofo clinic (supported by CCBRT, a local DPO) to get care and support for her condition. The training they have facilitated and support they have provided has made her much more confident. She knows her rights and feels much happier and has been able to accept her condition.

She still faces discrimination at school, but now she ignores them, laughs off their comments and knows that they are wasting their time. She is much happier at school and is focused on her studies. The teachers were surprised at such a significant change in her, and were asking how this has happened and what her secret to this happiness is. She really enjoys school now, and is focused and working hard to pass her exams.

She sat for final examination and the results were not good enough to help her join Advanced secondary school education but rather the pass mark allows her to join college education. Her plan is to join college education and become a teacher who will teach other PWDs, support them to overcome challenges and realize their dreams.

Story number: 10

Message: My vision is yet to lost

Name: Herbert

Marital status: Widower

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 84 Years

Sex: Male



TUSONGE meet Herbert, an old and very wise man with his dream still becoming clearer and focused as he wants to his life being improved and calm. He is engaged with making and selling Pebbles to the people which need it for construction activities earning 60,000TZS per month.

He lost his wife and has been struggling by himself with elderly challenges such as suffering from pain due to old age and also his leg is not much strong to support the weight of his body due to his old age.

His old age has also limited his mobility and reduced his capacity to work effectively as energetic youth.

TUSONGE and her partner (APT) launchment of the project was a golden opportunity. With the project he was able to learn and practice entrepreneurship, financial literacy and join VICOBA groups. With VIOCOBA groups, he gained new friends who can visit him when he was sick, obtain social fund support in case he needs it and also took loans to expand and improve his business.

Currently he is planning to take loans in VICOBA group and establish a Poultry keeping business where he can supply eggs and chickens to earn more and be able to accommodate his needs.

TUSONGE is very proud of his WISDOM and life experiences which has been very instrumental in shaping the Youths within VICOBA groups and provide them with parental guidance and advice on how best to respect their parents and value their families as key way to their success.

VICOBA leaders and member also appreciate his contributions especially in conflict resolutions within communities as many people were able to be attended, shared their differences and got best advice which solved their cases including family conflicts and other neighboring cases such as farm demarcations among landowners within communities.

Story number: 11

Message: My vision is yet to lost

Name: Agatha Petro

Marital status: Married

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 34 Years

Sex: Female



TUSONGE meets Agatha Petro, a young woman with three (03) children. Before the project came, she was engaged with selling vegetables in the markets at Njiapanda Ward with an average income of 5,000TZS per day. When TUSONGE introduced the project in 2018, she joined with no hesitation despite of her time was limited. She attended both theoretical and practical training sessions on Entrepreneurship, Financial literacy, Vocation Education Training (VET) and later on she joined VICOBA group.

With increased skilled and knowledge on both learnings, she was determined to establish and improve her ventures. She went further and took loans in VICOBA group to start a new business of buying basket in whole sale and sell in retail to Njiapanda Ward. Since her marketing skills grew up, she was able to gain new customers within VICOBA groups and other people at Njiapanda Ward. She went further and got new suppliers in different markets and she was able to distribute the Baskets in three markets (Njiapanda and Makuyuni both at Moshi rural and Mbuyuni Market at Moshi urban).

She sells different sizes of baskets with costs ranging from 2500 TZs to 7,000 TZS. During the visit at her business venture (Moshi urban), Agatha confirmed to sell 70 to 80 baskets per day and her incomes would range from 120,000 to 350,000 TZS per day.

The market demand for baskets are high due to the fact that they are environmentally friendly (made of natural materials), many Tourists are also in demand and also because of cheaper price most of businesswomen and men would come to buy from her and sell it to other location with high price.



With her income earnings, she is able to afford the cost of living and accommodate her children with school fees and needs also cover their medical costs and balanced diet.

Her plans are to keep on expanding her business to other markets and also open up new business of selling different products to raise more her incomes.

Story number: 12

Message: A dedicated mother is a hope to the family

Name: Elizabeth Ajuael Mallya

Marital status: Married

Disability: Non PWD

Age: 46 Years

Sex: Female



Elizabeth is a mother to four beautiful children and lives at Njiapanda Ward. Before the inception of the project, she was only engaged with local livestock keeping and a mother who depended her husband for income to accommodate the family needs.

When TUSONGE launched the project, Elizabeth joined the course and through the project she was able to learn entrepreneurship, financial literacy, VET and other skills necessary for her livelihoods.

As part of the project implementation, she developed her own business of selling vegetables to the market and

was able to earn 7,000 TZS per day, the amount of which was not enough to significantly contribute to the wellbeing of her family.

Given the skills and knowledge gained through the project, she was able to take loans and improve her business ventures by buying modern seeds, expand the land plots where she was planting her vegetables as strategy to improve the quality of the vegetables and quantity too.

Using VICOBA group connection she became famous and obtained more customers, her business started to grow significantly and currently she is one among the key supplier of vegetable at Njiapanda Ward where other businesswomen come to buy the vegetables and sells to their local shops while others selling themselves at different homes.

With different land plots, she is able to supply more bags of vegetables and earn incomes of 25,000 to 30,000 TZS per day which has become very significant in her family especially in supporting her husband to cater for their family.

Apart from this, she has gained skills and knowledge on disability matters and able to support her relative who has a child with disability.

Her encouragement and support to the Makundi's family (Christina Makundi with mental disability) has been great and project officers are proud of her as changing agent for disability inclusion. She is currently happy and her plans are to expand and capture the market for supply vegetables outside Njiapanda Ward.



Story number: 13

Message: My confidence is a foundation of my hope

Name: Gasper Remiji

Marital status: Single

Disability: Mental

Age: 32 Years

Sex: Male



Since birth he had severe health challenges where he would collapse, and suffer from memory loss, it would then take 2 or more hours for him to regain consciousness with lack of memory on what has really happened.

His parents tried their level best to admit him to hospital for medical treatment and hoping for change.

He was diagnosed and given medication which he took until when he was 20 years old where his severe loss of consciousness stopped but his memory continues to suffer as he could not remember well.

Due to poor customs and traditions within communities, he was experiencing discrimination and his Aunt, Mrs. Marisela who was living in another geographical location decided to take and raise him as she joined the project and gained knowledge on disability rights and inclusion.

His Aunt devised a simple business where he can also take part in raising incomes which will support his needs and also interact with others to reduce loneliness. He then started fetching and distributing water using the wheelbarrow where he can carry 200 liters (in 10 Plastic bottles of 20 Liters) earning 3,000 TZS per route. He can supply the water with 5 to 10 routes earning a total of 15,000 to 30,000 TZS per day.

With this incomes, he has been supporting his Aunt to buying family needs and also cater for his own needs. He is now very happy and cherishes his work as he is able to offer such kind of huge support to the family. The only challenges he faces is that some of the people used to hire him and buy more water with low payment as they took advantage of his mental disability.

Her Aunt has been also supporting to make sure that he supplies a particular water correlating with the amount required. TUSONGE during her public awareness raising campaign has been using the platform to condemn such misdeeds done by few and unfaithful people within communities.



Given the increased awareness of community and changes in their attitude toward PWDs rights, neighbors have been supporting him and ensure he is given the exact amount based on the quantity of water supplied. TUSONGE is very proud of him as he is demonstrating the notion of “Judging by Ability and Not My Disability”.

Story number: 14

Message: My hardworking spirit my life

Name: Eutropia Temba

Marital status: Widow

Disability: Physical

Age: 62 Years

Sex: Female



TUSONGE meets Eutropia with physical disability (being lost eyesight) and a mother to four precious children.

Before joining the project, Eutropia was engaged in selling clothes and she used to walk from different locations searching for customers where her earning was 10,000 TZS per day.

The earning was not enough to meet all needs of the family as she had many family needs to meet including school fees, medical and diet for her children and herself too. The coming of the project was a good opportunity to her as she learnt multiple skills and knowledge which shaped, expanded and improved her business.

Following the entrepreneurship, financial management, VICOBA skills and advocacy for PWDs rights and inclusion within a community, her life started to change as she put into practice what she was taught by the project officers during training.

She took loans from VICOBA group where she joined and then bought new products to sell all together with clothes and also she established another business of poultry keeping which raised her income to 20,000TZS per day.

Currently she is planning to access 2% grant loans to expand her livestock keeping business by having modern Cows and Goats where she will be able to supply milk and sell livestock in the near future. she has 15 livestock keeping.



Her dream is to become a big businesswomen and become a role model to her fellow PWDs. According to her, “life is useful when your determined to do something and you have all opportunities and supporters by your side”.

Story number: 15

Message: My grandson my precious gift

Name: Jovitha Assey

Marital status: Widow

Disability: Non PWDs

Age: 71 Years

Sex: Female



Jovitha is an old and very wise woman who lives at Njiapanda Ward. Jovitha's daughter gave birth to a baby with mental disability as she fell off from her mother's back to the ground which caused brain damage. Jovitha's granddaughter was married to a man who was able to live with her and were able to give birth to a Babyboy.

The Babyboy (Bryson) went through severe yellow fever which resulted to his physical disability a scenario which made his father abandoned both him and his mother. Bryson's mother remarried again and gave birth to a normal baby girl, but the father did not allow Bryson's mother to take in Bryson as he consider him as someone's else baby.

Knowing how a baby boy was experiencing, Jovitha took a role of raising Bryson since when she was baby till now. However, this task limited her mobility to great extend as she had to stay with Bryson for long and work little.

The coming of the project was an opportunity to both Jovitha and her Grandson, as the project was addressing issues of both PWDs and Non PWDs at the same time with more focus on PWDs livelihoods.

She was able to join VICOBA groups, managed to invest small shares based on her income and took loans to improve her business of selling food products and especially vegetables.

TUSONGE through this project was able to provide her with brand new wheel chair for Bryson, this helped her have more time in her work as other children could come and play with Bryson (Taking care) by supporting Bryson's mobility, increasing his interaction to them and also ability to attend religious services right as Jovitha is able to go with him regularly. With VICOBA connection, she is able to get many tender for cultivating and earn incomes which help Jovitha to accommodate Bryson and herself at home.



Story number: 16

Message: My business my hope

Name: Evance Kyara

Marital status: Married

Disability: Partial visual impairment

Age: 59 Years

Sex: Male



Evance Kyara is married to a beautiful wife and has only one baby girl. He is very committed and well-focused to his dream of becoming a big livestock keeper and supplier of chickens at Njiapanda Ward.

Before the project, Evance was engaged with local livestock keeping of chickens where he kept traditional chicks which would not provide him with enough earning as he could sell one or few as they take more time to grow and sometimes the market is not reliable ending up selling with loss.

Despite his commitment, he started losing his eye sight slowly and he was admitted to hospital for check-ups, but the medical professional advised him to take care of his eyes as there was no medical treatment which they could give to him to regain his eye sight as the problem was beyond medical professional's capacity (Irreversible) and this increased family burden as the income was cut off and only the mother had to work and feed the family.

When TUSONGE launched the project, Evance like any other PWDs joined the course with ambition to gain new skills and knowledge necessary to improve his livelihoods.

He then gained entrepreneurship, financial management, VICOBA and VET skills which opened up new opportunities and hope for his life. He opted for Poultry sector and was able to start keeping livestock. For the first time, he took 50 broiler chicks with costs of 25,000 and then sold them all each at 8,000TZS where he earned a profit of 175,000 TZS.

The second round he took again 80 broiler chicks with cost of 40,000 kept them for three months and then sold them where he earned a profit of 220,000 TZS. Currently he is planning to start keeping new livestock (New chicks), cows and goats so that he can supply eggs, milk and sell some of the chicks to others as way to increase his incomes.



Story number: 18

Message: My business my hope

Name: Eshi Fanuel Mushi

Marital status: Married

Disability: Non PWDs

Age: 63 Years

Sex: Female



Eshi Mushi, is a mother to two beautiful children and one among the project beneficiary of TUSONGE. Before joining the project, she was teaching at primary school and earned her income through government monthly salary where she was able to support her husband and cater for some of the needs to her children and herself.

Back then, she did not have any business as most of the time she devoted in teaching children at school and had not enough time to invest in business.

In 2014, she retired from her job and had to remain at home. The life was not easy as her monthly income sources (Salary) as a Teacher was cut off and only depended on staffs pension

which was not even enough compared to the salary she was receiving every month. Because she did not put enough saving and lacked necessary skills it was even cumbersome to start a new business.

The launching of the Project was the best opportunity she had ever gained as this was the strategy to refresh and make her vision clear on business matters. She joined the project and gained skills on entrepreneurship, financial literacy, VICOBA skills and Vocation Education Training (VET) where she opted for Poultry keeping.

Using VICOBA group where she invested her shares, she took loan of 1,000,000 TZS and bought 300 broiler chicks where she raised for three (03) months.



The chicks grew well and non-died and therefore she then sold them all each at 7,000TZS. She was able to cover all costs for keeping and earned a profit of 400,000TZS. Currently, she is planning on expanding her livestock business monopolize the Livestock keeping market of Njiapanda ward.

Story number: 19

Message: My venure my pay

Name: Stanley Kirali Swai

Marital status: Married

Disability: Non PWDs

Age: 64 Years

Sex: Male



Stanley is a father of two children and a beneficiary of TUSONGE project (Disability Inclusion in Village Community Bank). He used to earn his income through his official job where he was employed as Primary school teacher. Upon his retirement, life was not easy to him as his income was cut off and this means he had to establish new income sources to enable him earn living and also cater for his family needs as father is responsible to provide for the family.

The launching of the project meant an opportunity to reset his goal and build new foundation for income generation. He joined the project and the entrepreneurship, financial literacy and VICOBA skills shaped his business skills where he opted for Poultry keeping. With free and timely access of loans in VICOBA group where he invested his shares he was able to start with buying 15 chicks for testing and when he found the business was good, he took loans again and bought both 02 Ducks and 02 Turkeys. With these poultry keeping, he is able to collect few eggs and also sell in case he is need of income to sort urgent family needs.

The turkey laid eggs and recently he was able to sell one Turkey at 100,000TZS. During project officers visit, he claimed to need on expanding the market by raising more turkey as their costs are high compared to normal livestock like chicks and ducks which their costs changes over time due to change in market forces of demand and supply.

An inquire was made to VICOBA group where he joined and the leaders confirmed to have been benefited by tapping the new knowledge of raising Turkeys as currently he is the only one amongst all beneficiaries who tried to keep Turkey as part of exploring new opportunities and gain new business experiences of poultry keeping.

TUSONGE is very proud of him as his daring spirit helped him identify new opportunity in poultry keeping and was able to connect him with Poultry expert from Silverland Poultry Production Company in Tanzania with Headquarters in Iringa region where he is gaining technical support in poultry keeping.

Story number: 20

Message: My venure my pay

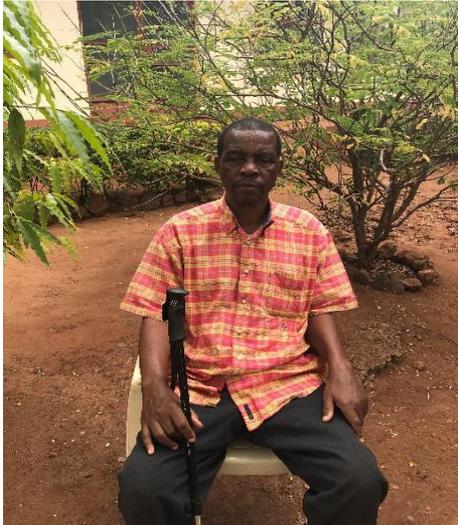
Name: Wilfred Kisanga

Marital status: Married

Disability: Partial visual impairment

Age: 61 Years

Sex: Male



Wilfred Kisanga is one among the project beneficiary of TUSONGE organization. He started feeling sick and in 1988 he was admitted to Hospital for medical check-ups, the diagnosis results brought him with information confirming his suffering from Diabetes.

His health worsened as treatment could not reverse the effects of the disease since he was negatively affected to the extent that medical doctors could not give him treatment to help him recover to his normality as the he reached to the server stage.

The family had to incur more costs for his medical treatment as a way to rescue him from severity of the disease and he was able to get at a better stage where the disease was no longer life threatening like the moment when he was admitted to hospital. Despite of all medical treatments, he started losing his eye sight slowly which also impacted his life negatively including limited mobility as he could need an assistant in case he wanted to visit or go anywhere.

When TUSONGE launched this project, his Wife joined the course and was able to gain new skills and knowledge on entrepreneurship, financial literacy and VICOBA skills which empowered their family by engaging in Poultry keeping activities where they are able to sell chicks and earn a living.

Having heard good news on how PWDs are also engaged and included into this intervention, he also decided to join the project. His fellow PWDs were able to visit him, give company, share ideas and also advised him to join VICOBA group as they did.

He accepted and started investing shares in VICOBA group, participating to VICOBA group by having support from his fellow PWDs who come and take him to VICOBA group weekly but also in new places to get new fresh air and exchange ideas. He is very appreciative of how VICOBA members gives him comforts and constructive ideas but also visit him at home when his health is not good by giving him social fund support and other goods as token of extending their concern on his illness.

He currently applied for the 2% loans from government and waiting for the response. His plans with the money is to open and business venture of keeping Cows and Pigs where he can get milk for domestic use to improve his health and also selling to earn incomes.

Story number: 21

Organisation: PWDs community champions

Members: 24

Disability: Different disabilities

Age: 18+ Years

Sex: Male & Females



TUSONGE through her Project was able to form PWDs community champions which comprised both male and female PWDs who was very influential, well experienced and had motivating stories which can change someone's attitudes.

The champions have been very potential in this project as they performed multiple roles during project implementation and are continuing to devote their efforts in doing so even after the project has phased out.

First, they develop messages and launch public campaigns in different market places aiming to raise community awareness on PWDs rights, needs and lobby for inclusion in accessing opportunities. Second, they conduct outreach activities by visiting PWDs families to provide knowledge on PWDs rights to families

with PWDs on how best to support PWDs potentials and create conducive environment for them to full their duties as non PWDs in the families and community in general. Third, the launch movement of exposing all hidden PWDs in the families by visiting the homes directly, talking with the parents and also seek support from TUSONGE and Police force especially in families where parents are conservative to change and in case they violet PWDs rights and limit them to freely and fully exercise their rights.

Fourth, they had been very potential in providing TUSONGE with good and timely feedbacks on the project at grassroots level by sharing new strategies on how best to support and include PWDs in different interventions.

Fifth, they have been very instrumental in publicly challenging the negative socio-cultural practices that violets PWDs rights and limit their access to opportunities such as poor customs within communities of believing that having a PWDs in the family is a curse to whole family and that they should be killed or hidden from the public to protect the image of the family.

Through this, TUSONGE has been able to reach many PWDs and Children with disabilities from different homes and link them with service providers including access to medical assistive devices such as wheelchairs, motor stats, hearing aid, Ankle foot orthosis and white can.



Story number: 22

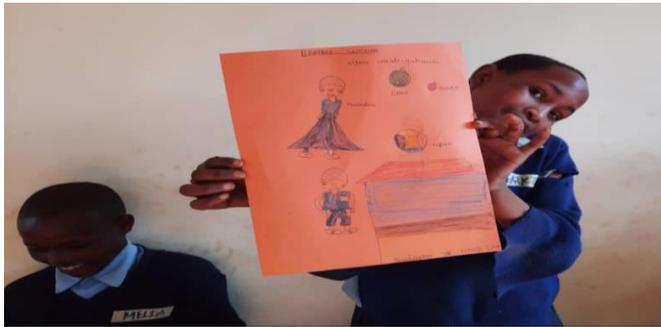
Organisation: Two (02) School clubs

Members: 30

Disability: 1 club with CWDs and 1 with no disability

Age: Below 18+ Years

Sex: Male & Females



TUSONGE during her project implementation was determined to reach different beneficiaries with different age category particularly Children.

In this project, TUSONGE established Two school right clubs, First the Club for pupils with hearing impairment and Second the club of pupils with no disabilities.

TUSONGE understand that advocating for PWDs rights should start by the PWDs themselves, in this case, pupils with hearing impairment would do great by helping them know each other and interact with their fellows without disability as to harmonize the situation, but also letting those with no disability know how best to support their fellows with disabilities.

Through this project, pupils confirmed to have an increased knowledge and skills in their rights, how demand and where to report in case of violation, but also understand fully their duties as children to their parents and communities. The project also helped them in



identifying and protecting their future dream as a foundation to help them go through a right direction of developing their careers. Safeguarding issues where highly given priority and taught to them including the knowledge of identifying safe and harm environment.

During this project, School teachers confirmed to receive a number of concerns from children as



they interact with their parents, relatives and neighbors. The teachers were able to also set specific time for month as mechanism to make follow-ups on reported matters and developing best strategies to protect them. One Boarding school for children with disabilities decided to buy a Television as part of ensuring Children with hearing impairment

have access to the right of getting information, entertainment and learn more through different programs to help them gain more skills and knowledge as those without disabilities.

Both school have been very appreciative of this project as it has helped them identify may Gender Based Violence (GBV) case from children and also set time in school meeting to speak with parents on safeguarding matters rather than dealing with academic issues only as they used to do previous time.

Story number: 23

Organisation: Union of Mothers having Children with Disabilities

Members: 30+

Age: 18+ Years

Sex: Females only



Parenting is something which needs and require skills and knowledge and that not any one can do it. TUSONGE during project implementation realized the importance of bringing in all mothers having children with disabilities.

This was because there were more concerns during homebased visits which confirmed more violence to children with

disabilities and their mothers. Most of the Women who gave birth to children with disabilities were being abandoned by their spouses or others trying to kill the children as a way to compliment the poor cultural set-up of believing that Children with disabilities or PWDs is a curse and shame to the family. In this case, most of mothers with CWDs experienced server stress and loneliness as there was no one to support and encourage them, with most of them failing to properly understand on how to raise those CWDs.

The inception of this project was a great opportunity and a way to reduce the burdens to them. The project mobilized them and brought together to form a union where only 10 members were available and the number kept on increasing. With this union, there were able to know each other, meet regularly, exchange and learn parental skills on how best to handle CWDs based on the disability types and conduct outreach activities amongst them. Furthermore, they were able to set goals and entry fees to new members as part of raising incomes.

TUSONGE through her partnership with likeminded organization dealing with health were able to partner and provide them with rehabilitation services to the places where they meet with free costs. This helped the children get better health and increased confidence among mothers in proper parenting and access to rehabilitation services.

Currently, the union is developing a constitutions ready for approaching the responsible authorities to register their union and open bank account as members are committed to pay contributions which will help run the union's activities including advocacy and lobbying for CWDs rights and needs.

Story number: 24

Organisation: The Union of People with Disabilities

Members: 100+

Age: All age category

Sex: Males and females



Since the focus of the project was People with Disabilities (PWDs), TUSONGE was committed to ensure that PWDs have a clear platform for talking and sharing their concerns openly and widely. TUSONGE through this project was able to mobilize and gather all PWDs from different sub-villages who were able to

form a Union of People with Disabilities (PWDs Union) at Project location. Since then the project started with only few PWDs who were easily reached and joined the course. As time goes on, the number of PWDs rose up and currently the Union has more than 100 PWDs.

In order to make the union more efficient, TUSONGE liaised with PWDs union leaders for official registration to make it more legal, powerful and visible in terms of its functions. The union was then registered on 2019 for the first time and with certificate they were able to open a Bank account. In order to generate incomes, member agreed to pay membership subscription fees of 1,000 TZS per month as part of supporting their activities. In 2020, TUSONGE was able to seat with PWDs union members and advised them on launching the union officially. The PWDs union and Project officers prepared a plan and series of events to make sure the launching ceremony became successfully and visible as planned.

The invitation was extended to potential and key actors including government officials from central and local government, medias, religious leaders, school teachers and other Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs). Making the Union visible was one but also fundraise event was planned to make sure the union has initial fund to support its works. During this ceremony, The Union was able to fundraise more than 400,000 TZS. With this union, PWDs have gained a safe space and platform to share their issues including raising their rights and needs to the communities and changing negative attitudes towards PWDs in the communities. Also, they were able to lobby the government to provide 2% grants and until now 05 PWDs (02F, 03M) have accessed this grant with total of 12.8 Million where they established new ventures which help them earn incomes, get respect, cater for their family needs and also create employment others.

One among the notable achievement for this union was the official visit of the Deputy Minister under Prime Minister's Office dealing with PWDs issues, Hon. Umyy Nderiananga who came with delegate of different government officials. They were able to greet them but also provided the union with Medical



assistive devices such as Wheelchairs, While canes and elbow crutches for the needy. She finally appreciated TUSONGE for the great work of nursing the platform to where it has grown and also directing other government officials to give their fully support to the PWDs through their registered union.

Story number: 25

Initiative type: Development of Video documentaries

Thematic areas: Inclusivity, advocacy and lobbying for PWDs rights

Number of Documentaries: 02

TUSONGE during this project implementation has been very determined to document her best impacts in both Narration and Video recordings. This is because video records and pictures would ideal speak a thousand words and provide more issues to the readers.

In this Project, TUSONGE was able to develop Two different video documentaries. **First**, the documentary speaking clearly how TUSONGE as a learning organization has transformed into an inclusive organization which does not only speak the real talk of inclusion but practically lives the talk itself. **Second**, a video documentary was taken from school right club of children having hearing impairment, the aim was to raise their voices to duty bearers and likeminded people and organization to promote inclusion, respect and promote their rights within communities. The links to these two video documentaries are given herein with:

a). Link to TUSONGE's inclusive office: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmeWsqH9zjw>

b). Link to school right club: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBUm807_VWc