

FROM ARUSHA TO MOROGORO: STRENGTHENING PHILANTHROPY INFRASTRUCTURE IN TANZANIA



FOUNDATION NETWORK

n our commitment to developing philanthropy infrastructure in Southern Africa, we recently conducted a successful community foundation training program in Tanzania. This initiative, a collaboration between SGS Consulting and the Tanzanian Community Foundation Network (TCFN), included workshops in Arusha and Morogoro. The training targeted new and emerging community foundations, with 11 CFs from each region and a total of 110 participants interested in community philanthropy and social enterprise development. Participants ranged from those beginning their transition into CFs, to established CFs refining their strategies and programs through the exchange of ideas and best practices.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES TO EMPOWER COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Understanding Philanthropy

Participants delved into the essence of philanthropy and its profound impact on community development. Through interactive sessions, they explored how philanthropic efforts, and the use of local household and community assets can catalyze positive change and uplift their local communities.

ROy Identifying Funding Sources

Understanding the diverse sources of funding is crucial for sustaining community initiatives. Attendees learned to identify potential funding avenues within their local contexts, building community funds, and enabling them to secure financial and non-financial resources for their projects.

资单)Institutional implications

Appreciating the institutional considerations and elements required when evolving into a community foundation critical. Through strategic exercises, participants is were exposed to the institutional arrangements such as registration and legislation, marketing, governance. systems and policies.







Ibrahim Kikoti, the co-facilitator for the Arusha training, emphasized networking among community foundations, fostering collaboration, and sharing experiences and strategies to expand philanthropy. Participants learned the origins, significance, and benefits of community foundations, formalizing informal philanthropic practices. The training highlighted the role of community foundations in mobilizing resources and empowering communities to address their own challenges without relying solely on government intervention. Community involvement and ownership were deemed essential for sustainability, with active engagement in decision-making and project implementation. Additionally, participants gained valuable facilitation techniques and skills for promoting community foundations effectively.



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COMMUNITY POWER - 'NGUVU YA JAMII'

On the second day of the training, participants demonstrated remarkable solidarity by collectively raising 100,000 Tanzanian shillings to support a woman struggling to cover her daughter's hospital bills due to a kidney disease. This act of generosity not only showcased the compassion within the group but also highlighted the immediate impact local community philanthropy or giving can have on individuals in need.



THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

L Thanks to networking opportunities facilitated by the training, the Lemara Youth Foundation has launched a project to support a disabled girl in Lemara village.

Despite losing her mother and being abandoned by her father, collective efforts inspired by the SGS training united various foundations for her aid. The Lemara Youth Foundation is repairing her house, Themi Youth Foundation is providing a bed, and Darajani Foundation is organizing startup capital for her to start a small business. This collaboration exemplifies the transformative potential of community philanthropy in addressing complex social challenges and empowering marginalized individuals.



Omary Ally, co-facilitator for the Morogoro workshop, and chair of the Mafuru Youth Action Community Foundation, highlighted Tanzania's philanthropic tradition in ceremonies, funerals, education, and support for friends. He praised SGS training for helping community foundations leverage resources effectively to address challenges, and amplify opportunities within their community. Ally emphasized philanthropy's role in community-driven solutions and the potential of social enterprises to enhance impact through local businesses, endowment funds, and external opportunities. The foundation gained valuable insights for future endeavors.



TCFN'S PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE GROWTH OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS IN TANZANIA

In 2016, there were 5 CFs with a membership of 1,300 people. Now, the number has increased to 23 CFs with over 20,000 beneficiaries. Youth make up 70% of the membership, women 20%, and a mixed composition of 10%. This growth was enabled through training, and the adoption of the community foundation concept. The 23-strong membership of TCFN now represents the voices and philanthropic interests of over 20,000 people in the country. Through the training, over 60 CF leaders were trained as trainers to help extend training and development to more communities on the ground, as well as promote the growth of more CFs in Tanzania.

As a result of the growth, government and NGOs are starting to recognise CFs and the roles they play in growing community agency and locally-led development. For example, a new CF in Arusha joined TCFN after learning about it from a training attendee, advocating the concept further. Similarly, in Morogoro, five CBOs and two NGOs visited the TCFN office for feedback and membership information. TCFN has received training requests from Bagamoyo, Kagera, and Dodoma, and new partners like Save the Children and IRTECO have reached out to discuss potential collaborations through memoranda of agreement.

THE VALUE PROPOSITION OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS IN TANZANIA

The growing interest in community foundations heralds a promising future for Tanzania's philanthropic landscape. These foundations, rooted in social enterprise, dignity, and economic sustainability, unite community leaders, experts, and policymakers to influence legislation, protect vulnerable ecosystems, and secure local livelihoods. Training sessions



highlighted their capacity to drive policy changes, enhance community development, and promote wellbeing. They facilitate resource mobilization and affordable grants, expanding individual involvement in charitable activities. Moreover, community foundations support social justice movements, shaping societal attitudes and policies on inequality. Through the Tanzanian Community Foundation Network (TCFN), they ensure structural stability and foster strong support networks, leading to joint income-generating activities like rice farming, exemplified by Care Youth Foundation, Tushikamane CF, and Umwale CF.



The Mkundi Women SLA Foundation empowered 25 women to collectively raise over \$8,000 annually, supporting education, orphanages, and personal investments like motorbikes, houses, and shops. Lemara YCF achieved similar successes. Both foundations promote environmental sustainability, integrating ecological considerations into their strategies and exploring joint projects. By funding entrepreneurship programs for minority-owned businesses, they contribute to a vibrant, diverse economic landscape that reflects community needs and aspirations.

As a Community Foundation Network, TCFN realizes that local help and resources abound, but technical partners are needed to enhance these efforts. Our communities are rich in potential, and with synergistic support, they can achieve much despite limited resources. By mapping our strengths, we see we can do more. Reviving our traditions of mutual help, like Ubuntu, Mrimo, and Harambee, demonstrate that unity makes anything possible.







ASANTE SANA!

Anna Mushi, Finance officer and Secretariat of TCFN and Mwadhini Myanza, Executive Secretary, TCFN are appreciated for their dedication and hard work in hosting these learning processes.





AN INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW EMERGING COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS JOINING THE NETWORK



Established in October 2019, the Alfigihiya Youth Community Foundation is focused on mutual development assistance and skill provision, emphasizing Islamic knowledge, and utilizing existing opportunities to enhance savings and loan systems in Morogoro. Activities encompass fundraising through individual income deductions, income-generating services such as wedding and religious ceremony assistance, and social entertainment events featuring educational sessions on SMEs, poultry, transportation,



CARE YOUTH FOUNDATION (CYF)

Is an initiative founded by graduates who recognized the challenges of unemployment and the importance of youth groups in community development. Through their observations, research, and experiences, they realized that although youth in the community have potential and creativity, they are often limited by their environment. Therefore, CYF aims to encourage and support these young individuals to achieve their goals through foundational knowledge and resources.

photography, and religious topics.



The Asilia Community Foundation, operating within the framework of Slow Food International, serves as a platform for members to engage in community activities aligned with local priorities. Adhering to Slow Food International's statutes, Asilia CF focuses on extending its community presence by recruiting Slow Food members, fostering relationships with various stakeholders to promote sustainable food systems and raise awareness about food production. Additionally, it collaborates with similar foundations and implements activities to support international and national projects and programs.

The Mafuru Youth Action **Community Foundation**

Established in 2022, the Mafuru Youth Action Community Foundation in Morogoro, is dedicated to empowering youth and catalyzing positive change. Through diverse programs focusing on youth empowerment, education, and community development projects addressing poverty, environment, and health, we provide opportunities for impactful transformations. By fostering partnerships with local and international stakeholders, we enhance our efforts towards sustainable change.



Mbuyuni Youth Community Foundation

The Mbuyuni Youth Foundation promotes universal respect and empowerment irrespective of gender, color, or tribe, fostering hope and dignity among youth. With a focus on environmental protection and sports initiatives, the foundation aims to elevate living standards within the youth community. Targeting SDG's 1 and 2, the foundation works towards poverty reduction through environmental protection and HIV prevention, while also establishing a multipurpose training center in the Mbuyuni ward. Additionally, it initiates, promotes, and supports economic projects spanning transportation, agriculture, poultry farming, sewing, tree nurseries, and floriculture.



Tushikamane Women Community Foundation

With the motto "Stand Together," the Tushikamane Women Community Foundation aids community development through financial aid, training, and guidance to enhance household livelihoods and nutrition. With 25 diligent members engaged in savings and loan activities, the foundation boasts high repayment rates and investments in soap selling, sewing, nutrition, and agribusiness projects. Receiving 4% of LGAs' contributions, they support orphans, classroom construction, and primary school nutrition, recording a profit of 2.8 million in 2022, with a portion dedicated to social causes.



Umoja Women Community Foundation

The Umoja Women Community Foundation (UWCF), driven by the belief in community power, was founded five years ago to support women amid political promises of prosperity through free markets that often don't benefit them. Today, it fosters hope and livelihood for women heading households, older women, widows, single mothers, and marginalized groups by creating opportunities and providing relevant training and management skills. UWCF focuses on sustaining group savings and loan practices and offers programs in entrepreneurship, poultry farming, and motorcycle businesses to ensure affordability, accessibility, flexibility, and social benefits.



SANARE WOMEN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Established in 2007 in the Sanare area of Arusha city, consists of 20 women dedicated to enriching and strengthening the community. They focus on maintaining a clean environment and promoting collaborative leadership to inspire and connect people. Their programs include environment cleaning, sewing, making liquid soap, and entrepreneurship.

UPENDO KILIMO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Established in 2005 and currently comprising 32 members, with 20 women and 12 men, the Upendo Kilimo Community Foundation, located in the Themi area, is dedicated to vegetable and fruit farming to enhance community wellbeing and sustainable health, while fostering agricultural entrepreneurship through farmer capacity building. Core activities include vegetable and fruit farming, poultry, liquid soap making, and charcoal production.

UWAMALE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROFILE, ARUSHA

The Uwamale Community Foundation, located in Arusha, is dedicated to supporting local initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life, reducing poverty and hunger, and increasing food and income security for resou poor farm families and rice consumers in Lake Tatu village. Established to ensure the long-term sustainability of vital community programs, the foundation focuses on rice farming, village savings and loan associations, incomegenerating activities, and farming vegetables and fruits.

The Darajani Youth **Community Foundation**

Established in 2014 in Daraja Mbili area of Arusha city, has experienced significant growth, expanding its membership from 10 to 38 youths within a year. Members engage in various small businesses such as shops, motorcycles, cakes, vegetable and fruit vending, and clothing and shoe sales. Recognizing the value of skills gained from the Tanzanian Community Foundation Network (TCFN) the foundation focuses on initiatives like catering services and liquid soap makina.

LEMARA YOUTH COMMUNITY (FOUNDATION (LYCF)

Established in December 2019 by young individuals in Arusha, the Lemara LYCF is committed to improving community life through youth-led initiatives. LYCF promotes values of love, kindness, and compassion, empowering youth to drive positive change by offering opportunities and resources for skill development and passion pursuit. Its programs include VICOBA for financial literacy, Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment, Leadership and Civic Engagement, and fundraising support for marginalized groups, addressing societal issues such as education, healthcare, poverty alleviation, and environmental conservation.





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