



UNITED NATIONS
TANZANIA



VOICES FROM THE FIELD



KIGOMA JOINT PROGRAMME

SPECIAL EDITION



BIO-FORTIFIED BEANS AND ORANGE FLESHED POTATOES SEED PRODUCTION FOR BETTER NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS



Bean seed multiplication and 25- acre plots for Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) vines.

As result of this, approximately 886,000 Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) vines were distributed to farmers and schools within the region, and an additional 10,000 Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP)

“Fluctuation of the weather has been a major problem for the Region and beans are more vulnerable, especially at flowering stage “

Lieutenant (Lt.) Hussein Eric
JKT Kanembwa Camp Farm Manager

Efforts to promote production and consumption of nutritious agricultural products as stipulated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), triggered the beneficial collaboration between the UN and 824 KJ Kanembwa JKT, a National Service camp located in Kakonko District, Kigoma region.

With an inadequacy of improved seed varieties coupled by recorded high levels of nutrition deficiency in the Region, the UN set

out to support the sustainable production of Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) vines and the bio-fortified Jesca bean seed variety (rich in iron and zinc). The ultimate aim of this being to improve access and ensure availability of the two commodities within and beyond the region. Interventions in the first year of the programme, focused on equipping JKT Kanembwa staff with knowledge on certified seed production and agro inputs for establishment of a 59-acre plot for

vines to Mtabila and Msange National Service camps located in Kigoma and Tabora the region respectively for further production and distribution. In addition to this, under prevailing bad weather conditions 6000Kg of jesca beans were harvested for replanting under irrigation and distribution to farmers.

“We are planning to expand seed multiplica-

Continues on page 2



under irrigation, to ensure seed production is conducted throughout the year and readily available to farmers by the start of planting season.



tion under irrigation as we have adequate land which is suitable for beans production”, said Lieutenant (Lt.) Hussein Eric, Camp Manager. “Fluctuation of the weather has been a major problem for the Region and beans are more vulnerable, especially at flowering stage”, he added.

Commitment towards these efforts has been further cemented following the directive issued by the Vice President during the SIDO Exhibition, for National Service camps around the country to engage in improved seed multiplication. With this push, the Programme plans to upscale seed multiplication by supporting the establishment of 100 acres for bio-fortified beans and 25 acres for Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes (OFSP) vines





Neema (38)(Alias) a mother of two deserted by her husband, where he sold everything and married another wife leaving Neema with their two children helpless, the life was hard to Neema with her children and her old mother who were now depending on her, She was referred to WLAC (Women Legal Aid Centre) in Kasulu to follow up with her case. Then she was referred to the Town Social Welfare Office to seek temporary accommodation while WLAC is looking into her case..... – During the investigation period by WLAC, Neema was temporarily taken to the Social Welfare Office, in which she was referred to WoteSawa safe house. The safe house provides services, such as food, vocational skills, legal counselling, medical, psychological support and family reunification to victims of trafficking and survivors of violence.

On arrival Furaha with her two kids looked unhappy and tired. Through Interviews and counselling session, she said that she would like to engage in vocational skills (tailoring) where by after completing the course she can employ herself.

At the safe house she was provided with accommodation, basic needs and the following services:

- Counselling sessions to enable her heal emotional and psychological
- Vocational skills and life skills that can enable her to take care of her children.
- Medical services
- She has been reunified with her family at Janda, in Buhigwe and she has been given a start-up grant to run tailoring business

During reunification monitoring through Visitation Furaha had the following to say:

"I am Neema, mother of two Children namely Feodola and Furazia, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the safe house for assisting me with my two Children when I was in Kasulu. My husband abandoned us and ran away after selling everything in the house. The safe house provided me with tailoring course and when I completed, I was reunited with my

family here in Janda, Buhigwe. I am now running my own tailoring business which enables me to support my children who are studying in standard two and the other in standard six by buying the exercise books, pens, uniforms, some school contributions as well as their daily needs. I am earning Tshs. 15000 to 20000 per month on normal days and up to Tshs. 50000 during the festive season and other religion celebrations; the amount which enables me to take care of my family I have also been able to grow beans that will be used by my family as part of our meals at my home that Thanks a lot to WoteSawa and IOM for supporting me, I have been able to become independent and I am not worried about my children and mother as I can take care of them. May God bless you all."



CHALLENGING STATUS QUOS WITH WOMEN-LED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA

Joynes Gasper, 50, is married and has five children. She is a leader of a savings group called Malengo, one of the groups supported by UNCDF Tanzania through a UN joint programme that cuts across multiple sectors to improve development and human security in Kigoma, a region in north-western Tanzania.

Joynes was born in a traditional society that believes women's duties are limited to household chores which means women have limited access to economic opportunities. Hence, Joynes like most women in her region had no source of income. She depended on her husband to meet all household needs.

But all that changed in 2018 when she joined a savings group and started providing for her family. "Thanks to the group and support from the project, I can meet some of my household needs without entirely depending on my husband. For example, I can feed my family, take the kids to school and contribute to other family needs."

The proliferation of savings groups has been a key driver of financial inclusion in Tanzania, particularly for women. According to Financial Sector Deeping Trust (FSDT) 2018 assessment of women and financial inclusion in Tanzania, savings groups are the only area where the gender gap is reversed, compared to other financial channels such as



formal and informal banking, insurance, and mobile money that are dominated by men in terms of access and usage.

Through the Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP), UNCDF Tanzania works with implementing partners to build financial capability and business skills amongst smallholder farmers by strengthening savings groups with the overall goal to pave the way for increased productivity, income and improved livelihoods. Today,

the project has strengthened and facilitated sustainable operations of more than 500 groups and empowered around 7,000 smallholder farmer members comprised of 70 percent women.

"Joynes and other members of her group have already received training on saving group operations and management, business and entrepreneurship as well as financial education.

Continues on page 5

Continued from page 4

After completing the trainings, the groups are given kits for Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) and their members are required to apply the gained skills to save and start collective and individual business activities. Joynes' group, Malengo, used their accumulated savings to invest in agro-processing. They now run a small grain processing and flour milling factory operated by two employees. It is a business that is profitable and has boosted her group's savings enabling its members to access more small loans they can repay 'safely and easily'.

Nevertheless, for Joynes, being in a savings group is also about social acceptance, gaining confidence in oneself, and supportive friendships.

"At a group level, we can raise our voices to express our opinions and demonstrate our

"Because the poorest people and those in the most remote areas are not always served by formal financial service providers, savings groups provide a convenient, trustworthy and affordable way to smooth irregular incomes, save for a goal, and access small loans. The potential exists for women participating in savings groups to contribute to the region's economy. At UNCDF, we are working to make women realize and believe that they have the means to save and invest in their own future."

Ivana Damjanov

Country Lead for Rwanda and Tanzania

abilities. For example, we now elect new leaders in every annual saving cycle for our group. Through this opportunity, I was elected as the group chairperson in this saving cycle. Also, joining the Malengo group has not only helped me generate income but Enabled me to connect with other people as I participate in social events such as funeral and wedding ceremonies. We also have a social fund to help each other in times of difficulty like funerals that directly affect a member of our group.

At a family level, we have gained skills to help make better decisions at home. For instance, I can decide on the kind of investment to make from my income unlike before where my husband was the only one who made all major family decisions, which often resulted in conflict or misunderstanding," Joynes emphasizes.

SCHOOLS CREATE SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT IN KASULU

“Changing room and clean water will be available soon in my school. Female students will not miss classes anymore during the menstrual period,”

**Sheila Yusuph,
form IV student at Titye Secondary
school**

Non-conducive learning environments, such as lack of access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities and services, including changing rooms, present significant challenges to girls’ pursuing and completing their schooling. Other challenges include adolescent pregnancy, early marriage and lack of family support. These challenges often lead girl students to dropping out of school.

Schools in Kasulu are working hard to reduce the challenges facing adolescent girls. A capacity building of school personnel on management and maintenance of WASH facilities as well as resource mobilization at school and community level, enabled ten primary and five secondary schools to trans-



form their schools into safe learning environments. Boreholes have been drilled and more toilets and changing rooms have been built. The support from community members played a significant role in constructing the facilities. Kinyaka and Titye secondary schools mobilized resources with massive support from community members and school committees for building special rooms for girls and WASH facilities. In particular, Mboni Ya Vijana, a local NGO, provided support in the drilling of water boreholes in

schools.

Nyankole Primary school is currently building eight flushing toilets and a special room for female students to use during their menstrual cycle. With only ten pit latrines to accommodate 804 students, Nyankole Primary School was in the worst condition, compared to other 15 schools, covered by the initiative. Students walked up to 3 kilometres to fetch water in the neighbourhood. UNESCO is providing extra support to build a rainwater-har-

Continues on page 7

Continued from page 6

vesting model at Nyankole primary school.

“The construction of the rainwater harvesting model will ensure that students have adequate water supply for daily use, especially during dry seasons,” said the headmaster at Nyankole primary school.

Titye Secondary School adopted additional methods for improving the school environment, including introducing a school feeding programme and accommodation for form IV students. The headmaster, Thobias Ntilema, said, “We launched a school feeding programme, built a changing room for female students and run a hostel for Form IV students. The availability of water was necessary to reduce barriers to their studies. We are proud of the safer and cleaner learning environment for the students in our school.”

These initiatives were carried out through the Kigoma Joint Programme under the Education theme, *‘Empowering Adolescent Girls and Young Women through Education.’* UNESCO leads the project with support from KOICA. It applies a collaborative, coordinated and multi-sectoral approach to ensuring girls and women’s right to quality education in Tanzania.



NYASATU: A SURVIVOR OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE, KIBONDO DC

Nyasatu (not her real name), a 17-year-old girl was Sexually violated and severely injured. She was abused physically and psychologically resulting in having thoughts of committing suicide.. Her case was reported to the Police by her aunt (who is a beneficiary of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Violence Against Children (VAC) community awareness sessions supported through UNFPA). *“The girl came with a lot of pain both physically and psychologically. I felt very sorry for her, as she is young and does not deserve this. As a trained Police Gender and Children Desk (GCD) Officer, I offered her psychosocial support and ensured her case is documented in a child-friendly manner and quickly referred her for other services”*

The SWO’s case management training and case management funds were supported by UNICEF. With that, and the support from the SWOs, Nyasatu was provided with legal, health and psychosocial support services.

Police took action on Nyasatu’s case and four (4) perpetrators were arrested, with one (1) escaping. The case was taken to court while Nyasatu was placed under the care of Ms. Rehema, who is a trained caretaker, called a “fit person”. When she was visited, Rehema said “being a fit person is not easy, but we felt



it is our responsibility to protect and support children who are in need. Although some children we care for come with their own special needs for support, but as parents, we treat them with care and enjoy seeing how they flourish”.

Due to security reasons, Nyasatu had to be taken from the fit person and placed in a shelter (supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)) where she received safe accommodation and continued

to receive other services including medical, psychosocial support counselling, and life skills. At the emergency shelter, Nyasatu was also enrolled in a tailoring class while she continued to attend her court sessions. Nyasatu was reunified with her family at Kibondo where she continued with tailoring classes and received a sewing machine from Help Age International (highlights engagement of other partners).

Continues on page 9

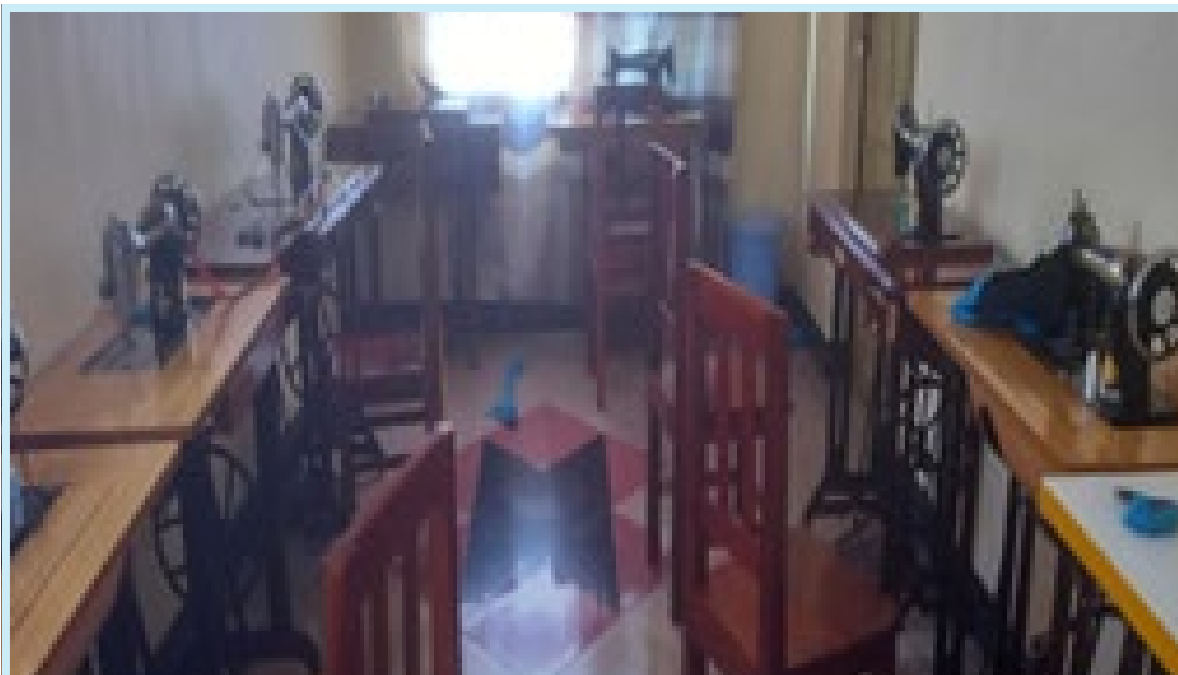
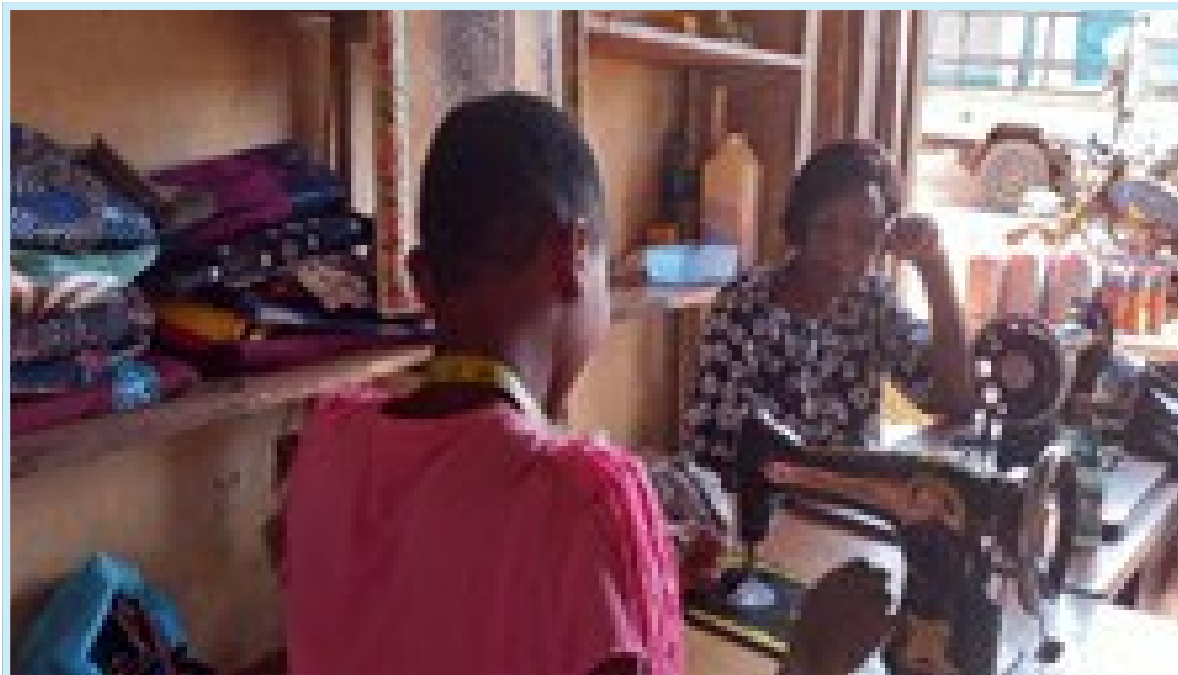
Continued from page 8

Two perpetrators were sentenced 30 years and the other two received life imprisonment. However, the perpetrators later appealed, and all were set free. The Police has supported the family to make another appeal and they are still waiting for court's response.

Nyasatu said "I appreciate the support I received from Fit Persons, Police and Social Welfare Officers. This has returned to me the value of life and made me stronger again. I am glad that I can still live."

Currently, Nyasatu is doing well with her tailoring project and she is happily living independently.

Violence, abuse, neglect and discrimination of children continue to require joint efforts of key front-line workers within the women and children protection system as demonstrated through the Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP). Through the KJP, all four agencies continue to work in collaboration to support different aspects of the government women and children protection system and other existing partners to address violence against women and children. Good communication between community members, Police Gender and Children Desks, Social Welfare Officers, fit families, result into direct positive impact in both reducing violence but also quick and quality services to women and children victims of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.



ACCESS TO ONLINE LEARNING FOR REFUGEES Daniel achieves career advancement through the Coursera platform.

Access to Higher learning for refugees in the Nduta refugee camp is limited due to encampment policy which limits access due to a lack of supportive infrastructures. Legal, Financial, and limited ICT facilities further intensify the problem. This prohibits career development for most refugees in Tanzania. Danish Refugee Council (DRC) through United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) funding facilitated an Online learning program (Coursera) through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) facilities for Nduta, Mtendeli, and Nyarugusu refugee camps and Host community in Kigoma Tanzania.

Nihenguruze Daniel is 25 years old living with his wife and one child. He arrived at Nduta Camp, Kigoma region on 5th May 2015. Daniel was a primary school teacher at Burundi after graduating from Secondary education (Diploma level). Then he joined the University in Burundi in 2014. While at the University; conflicts associated with Presidential elections started a year after, he was forced to flee to Tanzania to seek protection.

“In Burundi, I was studying at University pursuing the Logistic Program. But after one year of studies, the war started which forced



me to flee from Burundi to Tanzania. When I arrived at the camp, I tried to find opportunities for further learning, but the main challenge was accessing the internet in the camp. It took me five years from 2015 to 2020 until I got the opportunity to access online learning through Coursera – THE UN

REFUGEE AGENCY LEARNING PROGRAM which is sponsored by UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) and facilitated by DRC (Danish Refugee Council)”. Having stayed at the camp, he was still very interested in further studies (through online courses) or scholarships for studies. But

Continues on page 11

Continued from page 10

the main challenges were around refugees' status and lack of higher learning infrastructures in refugee camps which limit access to higher learning for refugees in Tanzania, approved ID from the government of Tanzania i.e national ID, certificates and passport, and others. During the conversation, Daniel explained how he joined the course while in Nduta refugee camp.

"I received information about the program on online learning from the adverts board in the camp, but the time I received this information, the applications deadline had passed. So, I decided to ask the UNHCR helpdesk for the

availability of a vacancy not yet filled. UNHCR communicated with the DRC livelihoods team and hence I was screened for eligibility. Fortunately, I was successfully selected and registered for the program at Multipurpose Community Center (MPCC) in Maloregwa-Nduta camp".

Daniel testified about the achievements after joining the program; "I managed to complete over ten short courses from Coursera platform from July 2020-January 2021. Those courses include; (i) Project management, (ii) Managing Project Risks and Changes, (iii) Budgeting and Scheduling Projects, (iv)

Human Resources Management (v) Capstone: HR for People Managers, Managing Employee Performance, Recruiting, Hiring and Onboarding Employees, (vi) Preparing to Manage Human Resources, Managing Employee Compensation, (vii) Initiating and Planning Projects, (viii) Confronting Gender-Based Violence: Global Lesson for Health Workers, (ix) International Migrations: Global issue, (x) Business Process Management in Healthcare Organizations and (xi) Covid-19 Contact Tracing. He also managed to secure incentive work with International Rescue Committee (IRC). After completion of these courses for six months, I received certificates and I succeeded to be hired at IRC as an incentive worker supervisor in Nduta camp. This work helps me to apply gained knowledge, get income for my family and my living standard has improved".

Daniel plans to explore more learning opportunities and areas of applying the gained skills and knowledge while in the camp or after returning to Burundi. He extends his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to UNHCR and DRC for facilitating an online learning platform especially for the refugee community in Tanzania He requests the program to be extended to other People of Concern (PoCs).



ACCESS TO VOCATIONAL SKILLS THROUGH MULTIPURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTRE (MPCC)

Penina has improved her livelihood through tailoring business.

In a western side of Kigoma region-Kasulu District, Penina Venance (18 years) lives with her parents at Makere village; a Hosting community to Nyarugusu Refugee Camp. Penina as most of youth in poor families didn't manage to receive proper education because of poor conditions of her family. "My mother fell sick and I couldn't continue with studies because I had to take care of her which made me to study up to form two (2)" this was 2019.

"I had to stay home doing some casual labors for me to earn some money until I heard an announcement at a village office that DRC is registering students for various courses at Nyarugusu Multipurpose center"



Penina joined Vocational Skills Training (VST) Programme for tailoring course from June to December 2020. Upon graduation she received certificate and a complete sewing machine which is now using it for income generating activities at Makere business center. "After graduating I had to think of how I can start my own business, I opened my business at home, saving some money for capital and a rent. After some months I succeeded to open a tailoring office at our village business center with a help from my brother". Penina can earn about 50,000TZS per week from her tailoring business and few items like Vitenge which she also sells at her shop.

Before UNHCR support, Penina said that she had hard time doing casual labors which didn't earn that much (about 1,000TZS per day mainly due to lack of skills for her to do a productive business. UNHCR and its partner provided me with training and support on establishing my business which I couldn't manage to do before having this knowledge. Penina insists that UNHCR should continue support the vulnerable population in obtaining this kind of skills because a lot of people are in need. Programs that aimed at improving access to Vocational Skills Training programme for youth is important as it is one

of the ongoing challenges faced by youth in most of remote areas.



"On May 2021 I opened my tailoring shop. I have one student now who I'm facilitating this tailoring knowledge"

**Penina Venance,
Refugee at Nyarugusu Refugee Camp**

UN HABITAT ENHANCES THE CAPACITY OF COMMUNITY BASED WATER SUPPLY ORGANIZATIONS (CBWSOs) TO MANAGE AND OPERATE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

Under the UN KJP, UN Habitat and UNICEF, through their implementing partners, RUWASA, LGAs, and NGOs, have enhanced construction and rehabilitation of several water supply systems mainly in Uvinza, Kasulu TC, Kasulu DC, Kibondo DC, and Kakonko DC. As a result of the construction/rehabilitation of water supply systems, UNICEF and UN Habitat, have managed to increase access to safe drinking water among vulnerable communities, schools, and health care facilities in areas where the said projects are.

Most of the rehabilitated and/or constructed water supply systems have been handed over to the communities through their Community Based Water Supply Organizations (CBWSOs). Under the new law, the Water Supply and Sanitation Act 2009, CBWSOs are entrusted to manage and operate water supply systems in their respective areas. The supervision of CBWSOs is under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RUWASA). Being relatively new creatures, many CBWSOs lack capacity of managing and operating the rehabilitated and/or constructed water supply systems. Under the law, CBWSOs are supposed to collect tariffs from their clients, water users, for operating and managing water supply systems so that the constructed water supply systems can last



longer. CBWSOs are very key in ensuring that water supply systems are properly working and offer water services to the communities. On that note, CBWSOs are very key.

Kigoma region has 103 CBWSOs. However, few CBWSOs have been reported to have started operating and managing the constructed and /or rehabilitated water supply systems. Further, the operating CBWSOs are at different stages of growth, most of them are at infancy stage. The well performing

CBWSOs have enough resources generated from the tariffs they collect from their clients. They have well established leadership systems and tools for managing their water supply systems. It is generally agreed that water supply systems where CBWSOs have capacity to operate and manage them well, sustainability is guaranteed.

The non-performing CBWSOs are faced with several challenges. The key one is lacking capacity to manage and operate the con-

structed and/rehabilitated water supply systems, including the ones constructed or rehabilitated by UN Habitat and UNICEF through their implementing partners.

From 29-30 March 2021, UN Habitat and RUWASA Kigoma region organized a two days' training mainly aimed at enhancing the capacity of CBWSOs so that they can effectively manage and operate water supply systems in their respective areas. The training brought CBWSOs from Kasulu Town Council (04), Kasulu District Council (03), Kakonko District Council (04), and Kibondo District Council (04). Each CBWSOs had 4 participants. The training focused on the how CBWSOs are formed; roles of the members of CBWSOs; CBWSOs governance-financial management and reporting-tariffs; customer care and tariffs collection (RUWASA-Kasulu). The training also enabled CBWSOs to discuss and propose working solutions to all the factors that cause CBWSOs' failure to manage and operate water supply facilities. The participants also were able to learn how Kakonko CBWSO, one of the best performing CBWSOs in Kigoma operates and manages its water supply systems. Tools Kakonko CBWSOs use in collecting revenues, prepare financial and narrative reports were shared.

1. The Nengo Water Supply System

The Nengo Water Supply system in Kibondo DC, is a state-of-the-art project jointly implemented by UN Habitat and UNHCR. The duo,



UN Habitat (through its implementing partner TCRS) and UNHCR combined their efforts to ensure that the Nengo Prison and Nengo village have access to clean drinking water. UNHCR drilled the borehole, solarized the borehole, and supplied water to the Nengo prison with 230 inmates whereas UN Habitat through TCRS laid pipes from the solarized borehole to the elevated tank in the far east of the Nengo village and throughout the village, and constructed DPs.

The project is providing clean drinking water to 3 schools namely Kibondo High School (788 students), Nengo Primary School (917 pupils), and Kanyinya Primary School (675 pupils) supplied with water services. One health facility (Nengo dispensary) has access

to clean drinking water. The Nengo Market has also access to clean water. Furthermore, more than 7,560 people in Nengo village has access to clean water (through 7 DPs).

The size of the pipes used allow private individuals to have access to water into their houses. RUWASA Kibondo is the one that will be managing this water project on the part that is off the Nengo prison. Nengo Prison and RUWASA Kibondo are tasked to collaborate in maintenance of the source/borehole and the solar system.

Handing over the project to Nengo Prison and RUWASA, Mr. Nyembea from UN Habitat insisted on the need for the two organizations to closely work together for making

Continues on page 15

Continued from page 14

sure that the infrastructures last longer and continue provide services to the community.

The Kibondo District Council commended UN Habitat, UNHCR and the UN KJP project for the project. He said, " this project has come at the right time." The Nengo community has been using unclean and unreliable sources of water for decades. This project is one of the best projects. It will reduce cost for running it. I call upon UN agencies to continue supporting our district as we have so many other vilages without water services."

The Nengo prison management thanked UNHCR and UN Habitat for the project. The prison in charge remarked, "this project has eliminated water woes for both inmates and the prison staff. We shall endeavor to keep the project well maintained and protected." We real struggled to get water."



2. Grand School Water Supply system

This is a solarized water supply system that was constructed by Water Mission International (WMIT) through UN Habitat under the UN KJP Project. The borehole is solarized to reduce the cost of running the project and is designed to serve up to 5000 people. Currently, the school has 563 students and is expected to have 1260 students upon its completion.

The project is a solarized system, has Chlorination for water treatment, has total storage of 40,000 liters with two existing and two new tanks each of 10,000 liters volume, six (6) tap stands have been installed around the school compound, each with a water meter, gate valve (for throttling/balancing the system), and ball

valve (used as an on/off isolation valve), six (6) household connections installed, one (1) Administration Block is connected to the distribution system where two existing 5,000 liters HDPE water storage tanks are filled from main storage

The project has the following impacts: It has reduced operational costs-solarized system; Reduced water related diseases: -ring-worms, diarrhea, typhoid, and urinary tract infections-as water is treated; teachers have readily water at their areas-more time is dedicated in teaching; students have more time to study-water is available in almost all areas-no wastage of time for fetching water; students' uniforms are clean now since using safe water



to wash their clothes.

Continues on page 16

Thanking UN Habitat, the headmaster of the Kigoma Grand School remarked, "first and foremost, we would like to thank UN-Tanzania under the RCO's office for the Kigoma Joint Project. We believe the KJP project is changing the lives of many people in Kigoma. Secondly, we thank the Norwegian Embassy for supporting the construction of this project. We also extend our thanks to UN Habitat,

Water Mission, and Kasulu TC for the project. They would have selected other schools, but they did opt to work with our school. Nyote, asanteni sana."

"We thank you UN KJP, UN Habitat and WMIT for this project. We pledge to make that our water project and its facilities are well maintained and operational so that others can learn from us. We welcome other projects at

our school. We are open to working with you all," said Rajabu Kusenge Kasulu Town Director during the UN CMT visit to the project.

On her part, Mr. Stanslaus Nyembea of UN Habitat pledged to work with Kasulu TC in other projects across Kasulu TC and other areas in Kigoma.



HOW WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE CONTRIBUTE TO GIRLS' EDUCATION IN TANZANIA

A safe and effective learning environment means providing access to drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in schools, especially when it comes to adolescent girls' education.

The Joint Programme supported 40 primary schools and 20 secondary schools in four districts of Tanzania – Kasulu, Mkoani, Ngorongoro and Sengerema – to build toilets, handwashing facilities, changing rooms, and water boreholes.



Poor access to WASH has been identified as a significant barrier preventing adolescent girls from completing their schooling. According to the Tanzania National School WASH Report (2018), only 25% of schools in Tanzania met the minimum government standard for learners per toilet (20 girls and

25 boys per toilet) and 16.7% of schools provided changing rooms with basic amenities, such as, water, waste bin, soap, and emergency supplies. Inadequate WASH conditions in schools may hinder girls' full participation in school and lead to their poor performance and increased dropout rates.

WASH facilities can help girls better manage their menstruation and improve their attendance and completion. "A changing room and clean water are available in my school. We don't need to miss classes during menstrual periods anymore", said a secondary school student in Kasulu district.

Schools mobilized resources for building WASH facilities with considerable contribution from community members and school committees. In Kasulu district, a local NGO titled Mboni ya Vijana supported schools by drilling water boreholes. It also helped raise awareness of the importance of WASH among school personnel and community members, which contributed to improving WASH facilities.

Nyankole Primary School is another example: it built eight flushing toilets and a special room for girls to use during their menstrual cycle. These facilities keep students from

having to walk up to three kilometers to fetch water.

In addition, with the support from the Joint Programme, four project schools harvesting model to help sustain the water supply throughout the year. "The rainwater harvesting model ensures that students have adequate water supply for daily use, especially during dry seasons", noted the principal of Nyankole Primary School.

Access to WASH is part of various interventions for supporting learners, especially girls. "The availability of water was necessary to introduce a school feeding programme and dormitories, and to build changing rooms and more toilets", explained the principal of Titye Secondary School. "We are proud of these changes in our school."



“MY HANDS-ON, MY BRIGHT FUTURE.”

“My hands-on, my bright future,” These are

Leticia Alphonce’s words, a 14-year-old girl enrolled in Integrated Programme for Out of School Adolescents (IPOSA) programme at Mabamba centre located in Mabamba village, Kibondo District. Leticia, a third born in a family of three girls and one boy, lives with her mother and father in the village. She has never attended school, however she was assisted by a neighborhood nurse to join the UNICEF supported Mabamba IPOSA centre in 2019.



“It wasn’t easy for Leticia to start tailoring class which requires some measurements, as she didn’t know how to read and write,” says Madam Habiba Mdoe, Leticia’s tailoring teacher. Madam Mdoe decided to enroll Leticia in numeracy and literacy class before joining vocational training at the center in January 2019.

UNICEF in collaboration with POLARG support the implementation of IPOSA in four local government authorities in Kigoma region i.e. Kasulu DC, Kasulu TC, Kibondo DC and Kakonko DC. Adolescents aged 14-19 years who have never been to school, or dropped out of primary school, or did not transit from primary to secondary or dropped out of secondary school, are availed the opportunity to develop self-employment skills through IPOSA. Such skills include vocational skills, entrepreneurship, life skills, and literacy for adolescents who never attended school.

Leticia is among the 131 learners (including 58 girls) who have enrolled in IPOSA classes at Mabamba centre. The centre offers vocational training skills i.e. Batiki making, soap making, tailoring, carpentry, food processing, poetry, candle making as well as numeracy and literacy skills for those who never attended school. Leticia has acquired reading and writing skills as well as tailoring skills. She is among the few smart learners with advanced skills in making sweaters using a sweater stitching machine. UNICEF IPOSA centres provides learning materials including raw materials for making various products that are sold to the community and thus, enable the centres to have a revolving

income that keeps the centres active and progressive. Additionally, the earnings are also used to rehabilitate damaged learning materials and equipment at the center.

Leticia is also making some cloths for her family and others are sold at community level. She has managed to take care of the family’s daily needs including helping her physically disabled elder sister using the income she generates from the sale of the products she makes. Leticia has not opened her own tailoring shop for sewing cloths to generating capital, however she is using learning equipment’s supported by UNICEF i.e. sewing machines from Mabamba IPOSA centre. Her message to other IPOSA learners is “My hands-on, my bright future.”



HOW HOSTING REFUGEE CHANGED MY LIFE

By Maimuna Mtengela- Nyarugusu Camp

Under Kigoma Joint Program (KJP), UNHCR through Danish Refugee Council (DRC) offers vocational skills training to refugee and host community members in Kasulu District. The courses offered are Information Community Technologies (I.C.T), tailoring, soap making, phone fixing, bicycle repair, female and male saloon and bakery. These courses are offered at Nyarugusu Multipurpose Community Centre (MPCC), a centre which is located close to Nyarugusu refugee camp thus providing a convenient location for both refugees and host community to access the centre.

Yuditha William (19) a Tanzanian girl living in Makere village, a few kilometers from Nyarugusu camp, is one among many Tanzanians who benefited from programs offered at Nyarugusu MPCC. Yuditha finished her secondary education in 2019 but had no hopes of continuing with the journey of her education because of her parents' poor financial situation. Her passion was to serve the community especially children.

"In 2021 our village leader announced that there is an opportunity for us (Tanzanians) to join vocational skills training at MPCC, this information was also posted on our village notice boards, we had to fill application forms



and wait for the selections. The competition was very tough, but I am glad I made it" said Yuditha when asked how she enrolled for the MPCC vocational skills training.

In a class of more than 40 students at the MPCC, Yuditha was among only three girls who enrolled for the ICT class. She confessed it was not easy at first but as time went by she realized she was at the right place. "I made new friends, I met new people,

I met refugees. They are people just like me and you, what differentiates us (Tanzanians) from them (refugees) is they are living at the camp while we are at home. We are free to move and can easily practice after classes".

A three month ICT training assisted Yuditha to acquire basic computer skills training which was her dream. "I used to see people typing at school, at the phone repair shops and stationary shops in our village, I liked how they

moved the computer mouse and wished that I could do the same someday, I felt so special doing it” she says while laughing.

Few months after completion of the training, World Vision, an organization which works to protect vulnerable children in the host community and supports food distribution at Nyarugusu camp, advertised posts/vacancies to work with them and support vulnerable children around Makere village, one of the key qualifications was computer knowledge and certificate. Yuditha applied and successfully passed the interview. She is now working as Child monitor. A position which she believes she could not have got it without

knowledge of computer skills. Yuditha graduated with ICT certificate offered at the MPCC, no other college in her village that offers such training.

She is now able to support her parents and 8 siblings by providing them with school materials, school fees and meals at home. Her dream is to open her own stationery shop at which she hopes to practice the knowledge she acquired and support her community.

Life can change in an unexpected way, who knew hosting refugee could change my life and benefit people like me? She asked.



DRC offers access to information and communication technology training which include provision of training in basic computer and digital literacy along with online learning services to refugees and host communities. Since 2019, a total of 1,310 (i.e., 617 female) have benefitted, of these beneficiaries, 393 (188 female) were host community members just like Yuditha. These courses are offered over 3 months at the end of which, graduates are awarded with certificate of completion. Nonetheless, challenges exist including high demand for the vocational skills courses vis-a-vis limited resources to meet all the needs and low literacy levels amongst women and youths and therefore some (potential) beneficiaries need to start by getting basic literacy and numeracy skill before enrolling for the vocational skills courses. Additionally, the encampment policy means that refugees services ought to be limited to those.

WHO PROVIDES EQUIPMENT TO MONITOR WATER QUALITY IN KIGOMA

Water safety and quality are fundamental to human development and well-being. As the international authority on public health and water quality, the World Health Organization leads global efforts to prevent transmission of waterborne diseases. It is in this context that, the WHO Country Office in Tanzania donated 100 Chlorine testers and water treatment reagents to Community Based Water Supply Organizations (CBWSOs) from six districts in Kigoma Region.

The support worth 20 million Tanzanian shillings was received by District Commissioners of Kakonko, Kibondo, Kasulu, Buhigwe, Uvinza and Kigoma District Councils. The Chlorine testers complete support provided to the CWBSOs which began last year with donation of 100 bags Chlorine reagents, 100 pairs gumboots, 100 solar torches and 100 durable umbrellas and 100 bicycles.

It is envisaged that the donation will contribute to increased access to safe water for rural communities in Kigoma Region, whose coverage currently stands at 57%. Enhancing the region's capacity to treat and test Chlorine levels in drinking water will also prevent repeated outbreaks of diarrheal diseases including Cholera in the region.



“We were in great need of these equipment. We are very grateful to WHO for the support and remain optimistic that the testers will help us progress towards our goal of providing clean and safe water for the people in Kigoma”, said Bakari Kiwitu, the Chief Engineer of the Rural Water Supply Authority (RUWASA) in Kigoma.

A representative from a CBWSO in Kakonko, Aneth Joseph, said, “Now we can confi-

dently measure and monitor chlorine levels in domestic water and ensure it is at the required level of 0.2-0.5mg/L. Prior this support, we were hesitant to treat water before distribution to community for use as we were unable to monitor chlorine levels after treatment.”

“Better water sources mean less expenditure on health, as people are less likely to fall ill and incur medical costs and are bet-

ter able to remain economically productive. With children particularly at risk from water-related diseases, access to improved sources of water can result in better health, and therefore better school attendance, with positive longer-term consequences for their lives. WHO commits to continue supporting Kigoma region to implement the national drinking-water quality guidelines, develop

capacity for auditing water safety plans and strengthening of surveillance practices”, said Dr. Jairos Hiliza, Public Health Officer in WHO Kigoma Field Office, when handing over the support on behalf of the organization.

The donation is a continuation of WHO technical assistance to Kigoma region made possible through generous support from the

Norwegian government as part of the United Nations Kigoma Joint Programme.

WHO will continue to support water utilities in Kigoma Region to plan for safe water supply while promoting meaningful participation of disadvantaged groups, along with understanding which groups are able to access water supply, and which are excluded.



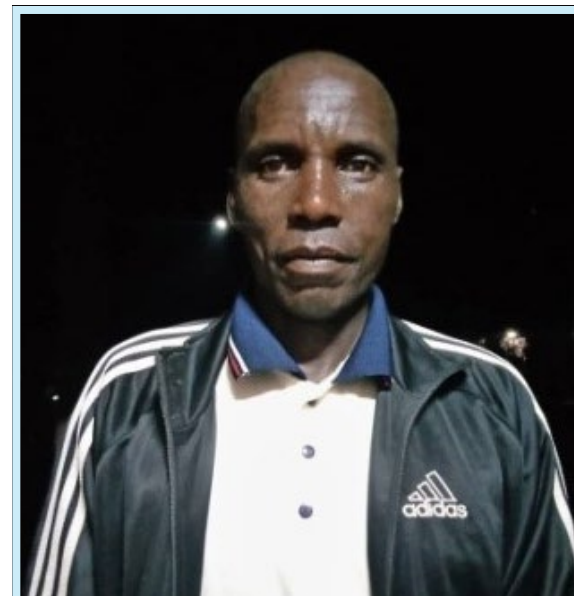
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-BASED WATER SUPPLY ORGANIZATIONS (CBWSOS) FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER SUPPLY PROJECT AT KIGOGO VILLAGE, KIBONDO DISTRICT.

Kigogo Village is located at Latitude of 3°37'43.45"S and Longitude of 30°33'41.09"E within Itaba ward in Kibondo District. The village has a population of 4,232 people (2,357 women and 1,875 men) with two primary schools and one dispensary providing services to the community members. Like many areas in Kigoma, before 2019, access to improved water service in Kigogo village was so limited as only 11.5% of the population were accessing limited water service from 3 water points. Over 88% of the population at Kigogo village experienced a prolonged water scarcity problem and were forced to rely on fetching water from unprotected seasonal water sources. Women and children had to walk long distances to fetch water for domestic use, including drinking and cooking. Lack of access to improved and reliable water service had far reaching negative impacts to the community at Kigogo as not only hindered women from spending their time on income generating activities, but also affected school attendance rate for school children especially girls. Moreover, high morbidity rate caused by waterborne/water-related diseases including diarrheal, typhoid and intestinal worms imposed economic burden to the population who were already in a bracket of low-income earners.

Emanuel Kanegene Kinganya is the chairperson of Kigogo village. He is married to three wives and is the father of 19 children. He has been the village chairperson for the past 17 years. Although Kigogo village had a water supply scheme since the mid-1990s, the major challenge in his leadership was to operate and manage the water scheme to ensure that every member of his community is sustainably supplied with affordable safe and adequate water.

"My Community's situation has been very difficult due to irregular and scot-free modalities of paying the water bills" Emanuel pointed out. He further said that "Few families were paying 1,000 shillings per year while most families were not paying water user fees at all. Due to lack of funds for replacement of assorted pipes and fittings, 17 of the 19 water collection points broke down. Queuing was the order of the day and most people resorted to collecting water from unprotected water sources"

In 2019, Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service (TCRS), with financial assistance from UNICEF, rehabilitated the water system and increased the number of functional water collection points to 26. This resulted in having 100% water coverage in the village and each



member of the community having access to clean and safe water. TCRS in collaboration with RUWASA Kibondo established a Community Based Water Supply Organisation (CBWSO) and trained members to operate and manage the water system. "The system operated successfully but it was still faced with challenges e.g., taps and pipes were leaking without being replaced; hence, water was not reaching other water points" said Emanuel

Emanuel further explained, *"In November 2020, the news reached my office and community at large that TCRS would be coming with the program to strengthen the Kigogo*

CBWSO to enable it to sustainably collect water revenues. TCRS trained members of CBWSO on proper financial management and capacitated the water system operator on the system management”.



“As the village chairperson, I was so happy because I knew change was coming to my community. When TCRS trained us, we were very happy to learn and realize that our situation was going to improve. They taught us the ways to improve our situation e.g., financial management, operation and maintenance, col-

lection of water bills, keeping records of water use and maintenance costs. They taught us that it is not necessary to have a lot of money to pay water bills”, said Emanuel Kinganya.

Mr. Emanuel Kinganya added that “when TCRS trained my community, I felt as if I had a new best paying job in the community. That is how much we wanted it and how well we now take care of the water system. We now understand that when we take care of our project, our health will be better maintained, and the water scheme will be sustainable”.

“Since our CBWSO was strengthened, safe water is reaching the whole village as all 26 water collection points are functional. Taps and fittings, when broken, get replaced timely and leakages are timely and properly fixed. We pay 10shillings per every 20liters which is affordable to everyone in the village. Water users have been registered and, the system operator and other staff are paid. There are no complaints on the availability of water at water collection points” added Emanuel Kinganya.

In 2020, Kigogo water scheme was rehabilitated by TCRS with funding from UNICEF under the umbrella of the Kigoma Joint Pro-

When TCRS team members held the first community meeting with the village leaders, influential people in the village and the CBWSO members, I learned that the news I read in the introduction letter was true; thereafter, we received dates for a capacity buildings and village meeting”

**Emanuel Kanegene,
Chairperson, Kigoma Village**

gram (KJP). A water storage tank (100,000 litres) was rehabilitated, and a new 4.496km network of distribution pipes was installed, 19 water points rehabilitated, and seven new domestic water points (DPs) constructed, making a total of 26 functional Domestic Water Points. In 2022, under the KJP, TCRS in partnership with UNICEF trained the CBWSO of Kigogo water scheme on the management of water systems including O&M and financial management.

CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION AND RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE SHOCKS

" I will change my farming practice to Conservation Agriculture from now on ", said Mr Sospeter Mkula a lead farmer from Nyumbigwa ward in Kasulu Town Council, who was trained on Conservation Agriculture (CA) practice and technology in 2020. Conservation Agriculture was introduced to farmers as an alternative approach to minimise soil disturbance, increase production and resilience to climate shocks.

"This year we faced unfavourable weather conditions mainly characterised by delayed rainfall and prolonged drought following the first rain", he explained. *"But I have successfully overcome most of the challenges faced by farmers in the Region through adopting the CA approach",* he added. Under CA, Mr Sospeter managed to reduce cost of purchasing industrial fertiliser by using farm yard manure obtained from his livestock and also restored

and retained moisture as result of the biomass left in the farm, which altogether saved the maize crops during prolonged drought after planting. He managed to harvest 29 bags of maize from his plot and is currently in the process of preparing his field ready for the upcoming season using the same approach





UNITED NATIONS
TANZANIA



VOICES FROM THE FIELD IS PREPARED BY:

UN Resident Coordinator's Office

+255 22 219 5021 | info.untz@one.un.org

Website: tanzania.un.org