



Improving Livelihood of Poor, Marginalized,  
and Vulnerable Communities

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# COSITA ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2015



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## **1.0 ABBREVIATIONS:**

TECDEN – Tanzania Early Childhood Development Network

MACSNET – Manyara Region Civil Society Network

BDC – Babati District Council

MDC – Mbulu District Council

CARE – Donor for PP

AFRICARE – Donor for MMBNP

FARM AFRICA- Donor for Sesame 3

MMBNP – Mbulu Mwanzo Bora Nutrition Project

COSITA – Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania

PP – Pastoralist Program

PANITA – Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania

BAPU – Babati Agro-Pastoralist

FBGs – Farmer Business Groups

GAP – Good Agronomic Practices

SILC – Saving and Internal Lending Communities

## 2.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community Support Initiatives-Tanzania (COSITA) is a local nonprofit making organization located in Babati Township.

The **vision** of COSITA is where community is getting better living standards by receiving high quality and sustainable development services while her **Mission is** to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for community while ensuring their participation in development projects, gender balance, and Sustainable resource management.

**General Objective:** To improve the quality of life for pastoralists, peasant and hunter-gatherers communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation in Tanzania.

During the year 2015 COSITA has continued to access grants from two donors that enabled the organization to continue implementing her two projects titled “Babati Pastoralists’ Land Right” in Babati district funded by CARE International in Tanzania via Irish Aid support and another project titled “Mbulu Mwanzo Bora Nutrition” in Mbulu district funded by Africare Tanzania via USAID support. In the year 2015, COSITA accessed new grant for a project titled “Improving small holder farmers’ livelihood through Sesame Value Chain” in Babati district funded by Farm Africa via Comic Relief support.

Additionally the organization worked in collaboration with Partners and networks for her capacity building which were TNRF, MACSNET, PANITA and TECDEN. Also has worked very closely with Babati and Mbulu district councils especially to outsource expertise.

### **Major activities implemented during the year were:**

- Training of Pastoralists’ Communities in Babati on Land Act 4&5 of 1999, land conflict resolution, importance of allocation and management of village rangeland (grazing areas) and sustainability of those grazing areas.
- Preparation of ward level demonstration plots, suck and kitchen garden for promotion of growing nutritious food like various kinds of vegetable, fruits and the like in Mbulu district.
- Sensitization of Mbulu communities on agriculture for nutrition (agric-nutrition) for the purpose of growing enough and nutritious rich food and source of income for a family.
- Siku 1000 campaign, exclusive breastfeeding for under six months kids and complementary feeding for over six months to two and above years of age children.
- Formation of Farmer Business Groups (FBGs) of 25 people each to reach 2000 farmers in total for the sesame production in Babati
- Establishment of Sesame seed multiplication farms and also sesame demonstration farms for the GAP training in Babati.
- Sensitization of women and youth in Babati for their engagement in the production of sesame crop.

**Major achievements during the year were;**

- Increased pastoralist awareness on/and applying the existing land legislative frameworks and legal rights towards allocation and managing village grazing areas.
- Each project village has successfully formed Pastoralists' Unions from villages, wards and district level (BAPU) which have now prepared good plans of action for opening up of closed livestock routes, allocation of village grazing areas and removal of intruders, for instance the case of Ayamango, Kisangaji and Ngoley villages as a result of project intervention by COSITA.
- Some families in Mbulu have changed their attitudes towards exclusive breastfeeding and preparation of dietary complementary food for children over six months of age.
- Families in Mbulu are aware on the importance of agric-nutrition using Dietary Diversity Kit.
- 22 SILC groups formed, well trained and are saving and lending within themselves.
- Men are accompanying their couples attending clinics during pregnancy or children less than 5 years.
- 43 out of 80 farmer business groups (FBGs) from 18 project villages were formed and well and well trained on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP).
- 20 seed multiplication farms established and well planted.
- 31 out of 36 demonstration farms established and well planted.

**During the year some of the challenges faced were:**

- Collision between COSITA activities and government activities as well as political campaign meetings which sometimes caused a bit delay in implementation of activity from planned schedule.
- Inadequate and unreliable transport facilities hampered timely implementations
- Lack of own office building and inadequate furniture/equipment led to staff ineffectiveness in general operation.
- Inadequate fund to cover personnel cost led to shortage of key staffs (Programs officer and Fundraising officer).
- Delays of funds from donors led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered achievement of some of the project objectives.

**Some of the ways forward:** More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities; Sensitizing more members pay subscription fee so as to raise own income for sustainability; Continue capacity building of members of the board and management especially on the resource mobilization, control and management of the organization resources.

### **3.0 ORGANISATION BACKGROUND**

Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (abbreviated as COSITA) is a local non – profit making organization located in Babati Township. It informally started its work since January 2010 and was officially registered under NGO Act, 2002 in December 2010 with the objective to improve the livelihood of poor, marginalized and vulnerable communities in Tanzania Mainland. The CSO currently focuses her operation in Babati, Mbulu and Hanang districts.

#### **COSITA's Vision**

Community is getting better living standards by receiving high quality and sustainable development services.

#### **COSITA's Mission**

To contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for community while ensuring their involvement in development projects, gender balance, social accountability, and Sustainable resource management.

***COSITA's Values:-*** Equitable work environment, teamwork, dignity of individual, integrity and ethical behavior.

#### **COSITA's Objective**

##### **General Objective:**

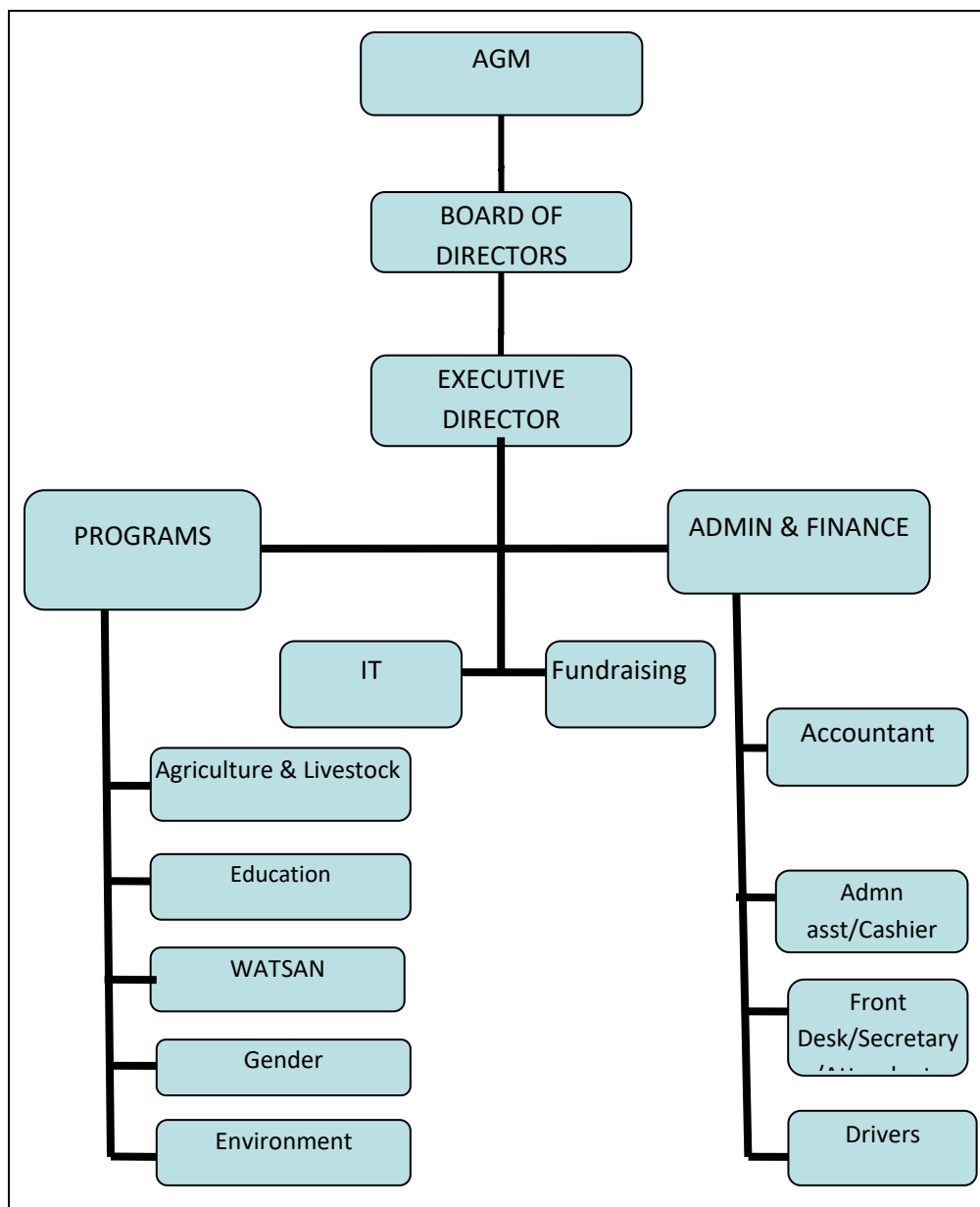
To improve the quality of life for Pastoralists, Smallholder farmers and hunter-gatherers communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation

##### **Specific Objectives:**

In order to achieve her general objective, COSITA has set priority areas as follows:

- To facilitate community access to formal education, literacy classes, children right and protection.
- To undertake community based livestock and agriculture development initiatives towards poverty alleviation.
- To support community water supply systems and good hygiene and sanitation practices.
- To support gender mainstreaming, women development and policy advocacy campaigns at district/community level that will bring social changes and encourage participating in the self IGA.
- To enhance COSITA's capacity to effectively achieve her objectives including monitoring and evaluation work.

## COSITA Organogram





#### **4.0 COSITA DONORS, OTHER PARTNERS, NETWORKS AND COLLABORATORS.**

Principally, COSITA as per its regulation, gains her financial support from member contribution, donor support, and any other support from individual or institution provided that the receipt of the same is genuine and legal.

Since the commencement of COSITA 2010 to the year 2012, the organisation managed to fundraise from her own members' and non member individual support. COSITA gained her initial funding from donor support in the month of March, 2013 from CARE International in Tanzania.

##### **Donors and other partners;**

- **CARE Tanzania**

COSITA entered into an agreement with CARE Tanzania under the support from Irish Aid fund of Tsh 35 million in March 2013 for a phase one. In January 2014 the organization entered into phase two agreement for 35million and also in the mid year 2015 it entered into another agreement for Tshs. 69 million, all for the implementation of a project titled “Babati Pastoralists’ Land Right”. The project was implemented in 9 wards of Babati district. Up to the time of this report, COSITA has successfully implemented phase one and two of the project while continuing with the implementation of phase three.

- **AFRICARE Tanzania**

In the month of December 2013, COSITA entered into agreement with AFRICARE under the support from USAID fund of Tshs 105 million for year one implementation of a project titled “Mbulu Mwanzo Bora Nutrition”. This is a three year project 2013/2014- 2015/2016 but the agreement is in annual basis. Up to the time of this report COSITA has successfully implemented the project for two years 2013/14 & 2014/15. The organization is in the final implementation year 2015/16.

- **FARM AFRICA**

COSITA entered into an agreement with FARM AFRICA under the support from Comic Relief fund of GBP 219,000 in April 2015 for a project titled “Improving livelihood of small holder farmers through Sesame Value Chain”. This is a three year project Jan 2015-Dec 2017. The project is implemented in 7 wards of Babati district.



➤ **Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF)**

TNRF is a partner with CARE International in Tanzania in the implementation of Pastoralists' Program. TNRF as a partner in the program, engaged with COSITA in the capacity building of staff in the areas of pastoralism as a livelihood, Pastoralism policy advocacy and analysis, cross cutting issues of gender and climate change.

*COSITA also collaborated with Networks in the year 2015 (both national and local) as follows:*

➤ **Manyara Regional Civil Society Network (MACSNET)**

COSITA has been a member of MACSNET since 2011 to date mainly for the case of organisation capacity building in different areas including proposal writing, financial management and strategic planning just few to mention.

➤ **Tanzania Early Childhood Development Network (TECDEN)**

This is the network of which COSITA is a member and benefited by building her capacity on matters related to child rights and protection issues, child policy etc.

➤ **Tanzania Forum for Climate Change (FORUM CC)**

COSITA being a member of FORUM CC, has benefited in the capacity strengthening in the areas of the ways to adapt and mitigate the effect of climate change.

➤ **Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania (PANITA)**

This is a national nutrition network where COSITA as a member do benefits from being participated in the nutrition meetings and information sharing.

➤ **Babati and Mbulu District Councils**

COSITA throughout the year worked in collaboration with the councils mainly to outsource expertise in the areas where the organisation lacks the required knowledge and experience. Also, working with the councils seemed to be mandatory since working with their expert indicated the presence of government in the specific area of intervention and recognition of organisation work as part and parcel of district development strategy.

## **5.0 ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED ALONG WITH SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

*5.1 COSITA Objective 1. To facilitate community access to formal education, literacy classes, children right and protection.*

- COSITA participated in the siku 1000 campaign in the sense that, required food for pregnant and lactating women, exclusive breastfeeding for under six months kids and complementary feeding for over six months to two or more years of age children.

*5.2 COSITA Objective 2. To undertake community based livestock and agriculture development initiatives towards poverty alleviation.*

- COSITA implemented the following activities:
  - Sensitization of community on the keeping of small livestock like symblis (sili), rabbits, chickens, and the like.
  - Preparation of ward level demonstration plots, suck and kitchen garden for promotion of growing nutritious food like various kinds of vegetable, fruits and the like
  - Sensitization of community on agriculture for nutrition (agri-nutrition) for the pupose of growing enough and nutritious rich food for a family.
  - Formation of farmer business groups (FBGs) and training of good agronomic practices (GAP) on Sesame production.
  - Establishment of demonstration and seed multiplication farms for sesame crops.
  - During implementation of all our activities, the component of environmental conservation as the measures to climate change was mainstreamed.

*5.3 COSITA Objective 3. To support community water supply systems and good hygiene and sanitation practices.*

- Promoted the use of tippy tap at the toilets and construction of good toilets.

*5.4 COSITA Objective 4. To support gender mainstreaming, women development and policy advocacy campaigns at district/community level that will bring social changes and encourage participating in the self IGA.*

- The issue of gender, women development and IGA were also taken into consideration and mainstreamed across all projects during implementation. More particularly the issues like formation and training of Saving and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) group were facilitated in 22 project wards in Mbulu, again the issue of gender equality was well considered during CHWs selection in Mbulu district and also FBG members across all SSM3 project villages.

*5.5 COSITA Objective 6. To enhance COSITA's capacity to effectively achieve her objectives including monitoring and evaluation work.*

- COSITA staff capacity building is a key area for the achievement of organization objectives. COSITA has been very lucky in this area since all three donors and the

other partners have provided both financial and technical support. Our staff have been capacitated in the areas of project proposal development and writing (design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting– DIMER), financial management, Pastoralism policy analysis and advocacy, agriculture for nutrition and mainstreaming cross cutting issues of gender and climate change.

#### Target vs. Achievement in the year 2015:

Project	Target	Description	Achievement	%age achieved
Sesame 3 Value Chain -SSM3	2000	farmers	1087	54%
Pastoralists' Land Right - PP	1500	Pastoralists	685	46%
Mbulu Mwanzo BoraNutrition - MMBNP	18	New demo plots	22	122%
	18	Tippy taps	22	122%
	72	Ward demo days conducted	75	104%
	10,009	HH have home gardens	3,812	38%
	10,009	HH have small livestock	6,258	63%
	10,009	have tippy taps	3,132	31%
	24	Established SILC	22	92%
	234	CHWs from 117 trained	228	97%
	32	Community (ward) meetings conducted	32	100%
	312	Ward and Village leaders trained	130	42%
	24	Theatre group art performed	22	92%
	468	PSGs formed	801	171%
	234	CHWs supported	263	112%
	270	Monthly meetings conducted	288	107%
	142	1000 Days Nutrition SBCC Kits distributed	114	80%

## **6.0 GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

**As results of COSITA interventions in the year 2015, below are some of the projects' general achievements;**

### **Achievements under “Pastoralists’ Land Right”:**

- Increased pastoralist awareness on/and applying the existing land legislative frameworks and legal rights towards allocation and managing village grazing areas.
- Each project village has successfully formed Pastoralists’ Unions from villages, wards and district level which have now prepared good plans of action for opening up of closed livestock routes, allocation of village grazing areas and removal of intruders, for instance the case of Ayamango, Kisangaji and Ngoley villages as a result of project intervention by COSITA.
- Pastoralists’ Unions became aware of the procedures of formulating by-laws, and have started formulating of their own for protecting village resources and grazing areas.
- Increased awareness of Village Land council and Ward Tribunal on/and applying procedures needed for land conflict resolution according to the Land Disputes Courts Act, 2002

### **Achievements under “Mbulu Mwanzo Bora Nutrition”:**

- Some families in Mbulu have changed their attitudes towards exclusive breastfeeding and preparation of dietary complementary food for children over six months of age.
- Families in Mbulu are aware on the importance of agric-nutrition using Dietary Diversity Kit.
- 22 SILC groups formed, well trained and are saving and lending within themselves.
- Men are accompanying their couples attending clinics during pregnancy or children less than 5 years.

### **Achievements under “Sesame 3 Value Chain”:**

- 43 out of 80 farmer business groups (FBGs) from 18 project villages were formed and well and well trained on Good Agronomic Practices (GAP).
- 20 seed multiplication farms established and well planted.
- 31 out of 36 demonstration farms established and well planted.

NB: COSITA Staff capacity building has been a continuous exercise year round, areas including project planning, implementation, monitoring the implementation and documentation of the results/best practices.

## 7.0 GENERAL CHALLENGES:

- Collision between implementation of COSITA activities and government activities as well as political campaign meetings which sometimes caused a bit delay in implementation of activity from planned schedule.
- Interaction between COSITA activity schedule and village economic activities, especially during the agricultural season namely a crop harvesting season that led to poor attendance especially women during projects' training sessions.
- Inadequate and unreliable transport facilities during activity implementations and monitoring work lead to many delays and also wastage of our limited time.
- Lack of own office building and inadequate furniture/equipment led to staff ineffectiveness in general operation.
- Inadequate fund to cover personnel cost led to shortage of key staffs (Programs officer and Fundraising officer).
- Delays of funds from donors led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered achievement of some of the project objectives.

## 8.0 WAYS FORWARD

- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities
- Sensitize more members pay subscription fee so as to raise own income for sustainability
- Continue improving management team skills on the project design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (DIMER).

## 9.0 SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (TSHS)
A. Beginning balance	61,128831.00
B. Income during the year	408,030,910.00
<b>C. Total (A+B)</b>	<b>469,159,741.00</b>
D. Expenditure	434,498,866.00
<b>E. Balance remaining (C-D)</b>	<b>34,660,875.00</b>

*The details of the financial report are seen in the excel sheet overleaf.*