



Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (COSITA)

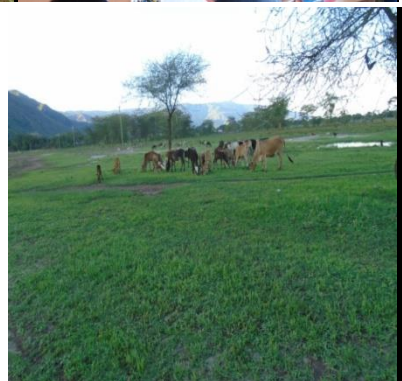
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COSITA ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016



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Table of contents:

ABBREVIATIONS:.....	- 2 -
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	- 3 -
ORGANISATION BACKGROUND.....	- 6 -
COSITA DONORS, OTHER PARTNERS, NETWORKS AND COLLABORATORS.	- 8 -
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED ALONG WITH SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	- 11 -
GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS.....	- 13 -
GENERAL CHALLENGES:	- 15 -
WAYS FORWARD.....	- 16 -
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE	- 16 -

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 Union

FBGs – Farmer Business Groups

GAP – Good Agronomic Practices

SILC – Saving and Internal Lending Communities

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 2016 COSITA has continued to access grants from three donors that enabled the organization to continue implementing her three projects titled “Babati Pastoralists’ Land Right” in Babati district funded by CARE International in Tanzania via Irish Aid support, another project titled “Mbulu Mwanzo Bora Nutrition” in Mbulu district funded by Africare Tanzania via USAID support and the third project titled “Improving small holder farmers’ livelihood through Sesame Value Chain” in Babati district funded by Farm Africa via Comic Relief support. Also during the year in October 2016 further to an extension of Mwanzo Bora Nutrition Project for two years (Oct 2016-Sept, 2018) for Mbulu district council, Africare has made an expansion of the area of operation for COSITA for the two extension period to cover two more councils (ie Mbulu Town council and Babati district council).

Additionally the organization worked in collaboration with Partners and networks for her capacity building which were TNRF, MACSNET, PANITA, TECDEN and Mollys Network. Also has worked very closely with Babati and Mbulu district and Town 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, integration of gender into development plans, Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training for 224members of Villages Pastoralist Unions and registration of the Pastoralists’ Unions.
- 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 Babt, establishment of Sesame seed multiplication farms

(QDS) and also sesame demonstration farms for the GAP training in Babati and 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, the cases examples of Mwikantsi, Ayamango, Vilima Vitatu villgages etc.
- Successfully formed Pastoralists' Unions within project's 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 Ngolely villages.
- Some families in Mbulu have changed their attitudes towards exclusive breastfeeding and preparation of dietary complementary food for children over six months of age.
- Women in Pastoralists' and Agro-Pastoral communities have taken a momentum towards access and ownership of available resources including livestock and land, a case example of Magreth Basso of mwikantsi village.
- Families in Mbulu are aware on the importance of; agric-nutrition using Dietary Diversity Kit (DD Kit), exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding through siku 1000 campaign/parent kit and hygiene and sanitation through the use of tippy tap technology as well as extensive dissemination of nutritional messages via PSGs meetings, IEC materials and school nutrition clubs.
- COSITA has sensitized community to keep small livestock and fisheries and up to the time of this report three fishponds have been constructed by three different families and two of them have put in fish fingerlings.
- 35 SILC groups formed, well trained and are saving and lending within them, this was a result of COSITA sensitization through Mwanzo Bora Nutrition and Sesame Value Chain Projects in Mbulu and Babati respectively.
- 82 farmer business groups (FBGs) (over 102%) from 18 Sesame project villages were formed, well trained and are practicing Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), increased volume of sesame produced from an average of 50 kgs to 130kgs per acre per farmer and hence increased income from sesame from tshs 107,174 to tshs 388,405 as well as greater equality between men and women and inclusion of young people in sesame value chain activities from 7% to 38% and 28% respectively.
- During the period, 1,486kgs of QDS produced by QDS multipliers from 14 acres which was an average of 106kgs per acre, that eased the access of QDS by farmers compared from previous years.

During the year some of the challenges faced were:

- 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
- Delays of funds from donors led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered achievement of some of the project objectives.
- Threat of closing COSITA operation by TRA Manyara upon their assessment on our return where they imposed a tax penalty of more than 59mil payable within three days.

Some of the ways forward: More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities; Sensitizing more members pay subscription fee and also aggressively work on own income generating activities 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 is utmost important during in the year 2017.

ORGANISATION BACKGROUND

Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (abbreviated as COSITA) is a local non – governmental 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 accessing high quality social services.

COSITA's Mission

To contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for community through 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 General Objective:

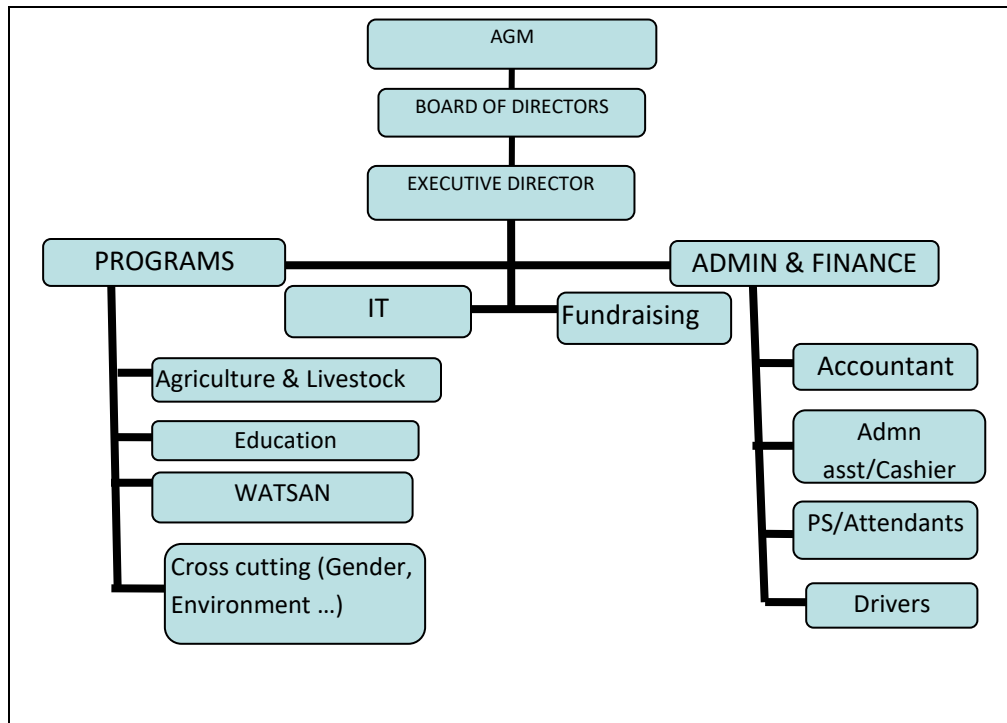
To improve the quality of life for Pastoralists, Smallholder farmers, hunter-gatherers and other low income communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation.

Specific Objectives:

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

- To promote child rights and protection (education, health & nutrition ...)
- 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 intervene crosscutting issues; Gender mainstreaming, environment conservation, income generating activities.
- To enhance COSITA's capacity to effectively achieve her objectives including monitoring and evaluation work.

COSITA Organogram



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, two and three of the project while continuing negotiation for further partnership engagement.

- **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". That was a three year project 2013/2014- 2015/2016 where the agreement was in annual basis. Up to the time of this report COSITA has successfully implemented the project for three years 2013/14 - 2015/16.

In October 2016 further to an extension of Mwanzo Bora Nutrition Project for two years (Oct 2016-Sept, 2018) for Mbulu district council, Africare has made an expansion of the area of operation for COSITA for the two year extension period to cover two more councils (ie Mbulu Town council and Babati district council). The plan and budget are still on annual basis and for the Oct 2016 – Sept 2017 financial year of Africare the amount approved were of Tshs 149.3 mil for Mbulu DC, Tshs 148mil for Mbulu TC and Tshs 180.7mil for Babati DC.

- **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. However during the mid 2016 the original plan and budget was reviewed by both Farm Africa and COSITA to accommodate the informal extension of the period of implementation to mid 2018, until the time of this report yet there was no an official approval of the same from Comic relief and the implementation continues as if there is no project extension period.

➤ **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 since 2013 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 2016 (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.

➤ **Molly’s Network**

This is a Tanzania’s NGO accreditation scheme located in Dar es Salaam. During the year, the network under the financial support from Farm Africa has made a capacity building for COSITA staff on leadership and management. The capacity building training was facilitated by the managing director for TrueMaisha trainings ltd Mr Erick Chrispin.

➤ **Babati and Mbulu District & Town 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 was mandatory since working with their expert for government indicated the presence of government in the specific area of intervention and recognition of organisation work as part and parcel of district development strategy.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED ALONG WITH SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1.1 COSITA Objective 1. To promote child rights 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.
- Campaign towards child right and protection against violence at home by their parents or guardians and reported some of the parents and guardians to police stations.

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

- COSITA implemented the following activities:
- 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, integration of gender into development plans, Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training for 224 members of Villages Pastoralist Unions and registration of the Pastoralists' Unions.
- 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 as well as keeping small livestock to be used as source of meat at household level 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 (QDS) and also sesame demonstration farms for the GAP training in Babati and Sensitization of women and youth in Babati for their engagement in the production of sesame crop.

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

- Sensitization of the community in general for the construction of simple water harvesting tanks
- Promoted the use of tippy tap at the toilets and construction of good and gender based /user friendly toilets.

⇒ *COSITA Objective 4. To intervene crosscutting issues; Gender mainstreaming, environment conservation, income generating activities etc.*

- 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 35 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.
- Sensitization of families especially pregnant women to attend clinics at very early stages of their pregnancies and also to use FeFo to avoid anemia, in addition the men to accompany their couples during clinics something that will enable men to be aware of the health problems that might be facing their couples/children and take care of them in terms of food and finances.
- Moreover, gender role player were formed in all SSM3 project areas in Babati in order to sensitize the involvement of women and youth in income generating activities including sesame cultivation.

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

- COSITA staff capacity building was a key area that was taken into consideration, COSITA has been very lucky in this area since all three donors and the other partners have provided both financial and technical support. Particularly our staff have been capacitated in the areas of leadership and management training (by Truemaisha trainings ltd), financial management (by CARE/FA during periodic expenditure verifications), Pastoralism policy analysis and advocacy & gender and climate change integration into development plans (by CARE/TNRF), agriculture for nutrition and dietary diversity at household level (by Africare).

GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS

As results of COSITA interventions in the year 2016, 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, the cases examples of Mwikantsi, Ayamango, Vilima Vitatu villgages etc.
- Successfully formed Pastoralists’ Unions within project’s 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.

Target vs. Achievement in the year 2016:

Project	Target	Description	Achievement	%ge achieved
Pastoralists’ Land Right	1500	Pastoralists	1200	80%
	25	Pastoralists’ Unions to be Registered	7	28%

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.
- Women in Pastoralists’ and Agro-Pastoral communities have taken a momentum towards access and ownership of available resources including livestock and land, a case example of Magreth Basso of mwikantsi village.
- Families in Mbulu are aware on the importance of; agric-nutrition using Dietary Diversity Kit (DD Kit), exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding through siku 1000 campaign/parent kit and hygiene and sanitation through the use of tippy tap technology as well as extensive dissemination of nutritional messages via PSGs meetings, IEC materials and school nutrition clubs.
- COSITA has sensitized community to keep small livestock and fisheries and up to the time of this report three fishponds have been constructed by three different families and two of them have put in fish fingerlings.
- 35 SILC groups formed, well trained and are saving and lending within them, this was a result of COSITA sensitization through Mwanzo Bora Nutrition and Sesame Value Chain Projects in Mbulu and Babati respectively.

Target vs. Achievement in the year 2016:

Project	Target	Description	Achievement	%ge achieved
Mbulu Mwanzo BoraNutrition - MMBNP	3	New demo plots	3	100
	6668	HH with functioning tippy tap	5870	88
	54	Ward demo days conducted	28	52
	6735	HH have home gardens	1047	16
	5879	HH have small livestock	5123	87
	35	Established SILC	33	94
	88	CHWs from 88 trained	76	86
	3	Community (ward) meetings conducted	9	300
	9	Ward and Village leaders trained	75	833
	54	Theatre group art performed	15	28
	176	PSGs formed	152	86
	88	CHWs supported	76	86
	12	Monthly meetings conducted	12	100
	88	1000 Days Nutrition SBCC Kits distributed	0	0
	164	Dietary diversity kit distributed	0	0
	57650	Number of <5 children reached	22856	40
	57650	Number of children who receive Vitamin A	9177	16

Achievements under “Sesame 3 Value Chain”:

- 82 farmer business groups (FBGs) (over 102%) from 18 Sesame project villages were formed, well trained and are practicing Good Agronomic Practices (GAP), increased volume of sesame produced from an average of 50 kgs to 130kgs per acre per farmer and hence increased income from sesame from tshs 107,174 to tshs 388,405 as well as greater equality between men and women and inclusion of young people in sesame value chain activities from 7% to 38% and 28% respectively.
- During the period, 1,486kgs of QDS produced by QDS multipliers from 14 acres which was an average of 106kgs per acre, that eased the access of QDS by farmers compared from previous years.

Target vs. Achievement in the year 2016:

Project	Target	Description	Achievement	%ge achieved
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Sesame Value Chain - SSM3	3	2000	farmers	2087	104%
		80	<i>Number of farmers business groups (FBGs) formed</i>	82	103%
		20acres	<i>Area under QDS production (2015/16) 9n acres</i>	14acres	67%
		3162kgs	<i>Volume of QDs produced in Babati district in kgs (proxy indicator)</i>	1486kgs	47%
		750kgs	<i>Average annual volume of sesame yield per smallholder farmer in the project areas (kgs)</i>	287kgs	38%
		255kgs	<i>Annual sesame yield per acre (kgs)</i>	130kgs	51%
		3500	<i>Mean annual price of sesame sold by SHF (Tzs/kg)</i>	1600	46%
		1,370,000/=	<i>Household level net income from sesame (TSh)</i>	388,405/=	28%
		80	<i>Number of Farmer Business Groups (FBGs) with turnover increased by 20%</i>	51	64%
		100%	<i>Percentage over prevailing market price (Tzs/kg above market price)</i>	84%	84%
		40%	<i>Women farming sesame for profit (%)</i>	38%	95%
		40%	<i>Youth farming sesame for profit (18-35 years old) (%)</i>	28%	70%
		20%	<i>% of women jointly responsible for managing household income</i>	54%	270%
		100%	<i>Women's perception of their ability to be sustainably involved in the management of farming resources/and household finances</i>	83%	83%
		80%	<i>Youth perspective of 'agricultural livelihoods' as a viable career opportunity (%)</i>	63%	79%

GENERAL CHALLENGES:

- 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
- Delays of funds from donors led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered achievement of some of the project objectives.
- Threat of closing COSITA operation by TRA Manyara upon their assessment on our return where they imposed a tax penalty of more than 59mil payable within three days.

WAYS FORWARD

- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities;
- Sensitizing more members pay subscription fee and also aggressively work on own income generating activities 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

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (TSHS)
A. Beginning balance	34,686,642.00
B. Income during the year	488,834,024.00
C. Total (A+B)	523,520,660.00
D. Expenditure	507,895,755.00
E. Balance remaining (C-D)	15,624,911.00

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