



*"Fighting Poverty Building Economy/  
Piga Vita Umaskini Jenga Uchumi"*

#### **Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (COSITA)**

P.O Box 558, Babati, Manyara – Tanzania

Tel/Mob: +255 27 2530747/784 649 025

Email: [cositango@gmail.com](mailto:cositango@gmail.com)

Website: [www.envaya.org/cosita](http://www.envaya.org/cosita)

# **COSITA ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019**

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**Prepared by:** COSITA Management team.

**Contact Person and position:** Patrice Gwasma – Executive Director

Address: P.O.Box 558, Babati-Manyara;

[patrick.gwasma@gmail.com](mailto:patrick.gwasma@gmail.com);

+255 767 520 640.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS:**

CHWs – Community Health Workers

WEGCC – Women Economic Groups Counselling Coordination

DKA – Donor for Promotion of Girls Education project

CARE – Donor for PP

COSITA – Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania

PP – Pastoralist Program

BAPU – Babati Agro-Pastoralist Union

FBGs – Farmer Business Groups

GAP – Good Agronomic Practices

SHF – Small Holder Farmer

SILC – Saving and Internal Lending Communities

VICOBA – Village Community Banks

VSLA – Village Savings and Lending Associations

FORUM CC – Forum for climate change

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Community Support Initiatives-Tanzania (COSITA) is a local non-governmental organization located in Babati Township – Manyara region, Tanzania.

The **vision** of COSITA Community that is getting better living standards by accessing high quality social services sustainably while the **Mission is to** contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for community by ensuring their involvement in development projects, gender balance, and Sustainable resource management.

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

During the year 2019 COSITA accessed donation and grants which enabled the organization to continue implementing community projects as well as covering running cost for the organization. The projects supported were “Women Land Rights” in Babati district funded by the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS), “Promotion of Girls Education through sensitization of dormitory building in the selected ward level secondary schools in Babati Town Council under the support of WEGS via DKA funds and covering of School/college fees and associative costs for two girls’ students supported by Angelika Hilbrig/COSITA office via own sources. Also a continued follow ups was made for the phased out projects implemented by COSITA since the commencement of the operation in 2013.

Additionally the organization worked in collaboration with LGAs to compliment the resources and also Partners and networks particularly THRDC, PELUM, FORUM CC, TECDEN, ANSAF, and TENMET for capacity building and networking.

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

#### **Under the Education Project:**

- Continued support to 2 female students from poor families in covering school/college fees and other associated costs.
- Continued sensitization of decision makers/executives and community in the building of dormitory for school girls at Sigino Secondary school.

#### **Under Women Land Rights:**

- Training of village land councils and ward tribunals on women rights to land and other properties including the laws and policy governing land in Tanzania and giving high priority to women claims to land ownership.
- Village Community meetings on raising awareness meetings on laws governing land and other properties and the rights of women to own resources at household levels.
- Formation and training of women land forums on land laws, land and other properties ownership and their roles to sensitize women to own land and other properties.

**Major achievements during the year were;**

- 3 Girls students supported by COSITA are continuing with their studies
- COSITA's proposal for district council to allocate funds in their own source for building wards level secondary school Girls' dormitories were received positively by the councils of Babati Town council.
- 10 village land councils and 3 ward tribunals are operating on land legal framework using the knowledge and skill gained during trainings conducted by COSITA eg in Kiongozi village 3 women concerns were received, 2 were resolved and women get their rights (claims were on land inheritance issues). Also in Himiti village 2 women concerns were received and 1 is resolved.
- 10 village women land right forums formed and capacitated on land legal frameworks and have started assisting their fellow women in demanding their pieces of land legally for full ownership.
- Increased number of women claiming land and other resources ownership from 1 to 2 per village to 3 to 4 per village, this is experienced in Singu, Himiti, kiongozi and Sigino
- Decreased land claims at ward levels as a result of capacitating village land councils on conflict resolution and their responsibilities as per land act No.4&5, 1999 e.g Bonga ward tribunal before intervention, receives 3 to 4 claims per 2/3 months but after intervention receives 1or 2 claims, sometimes no claims because most of cases are being resolved at village levels.
- Increased responsiveness of LGAs, before intervention there were some villages didn't have Land councils, after intervention 3 village councils were formed (Mutuka, Chemchem and Malangi village) and are well functioning.
- COSITA was accepted to get full membership to 3 networks (PELUM, THRDC, and ANSAF) due to the compatibility of the work done by COSITA to the networks.

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

- Inadequate fund to cover personnel cost led to shortage of key staffs
- Delays of funds disbursements led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered timely achievement of some of the project objectives.
- Political interferences during project implementation

**Some of the ways forward:**

- Sensitizing more members pay subscription fee and also aggressive 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.
- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities.

## **ORGANISATION BACKGROUND**

Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (COSITA) is a non – governmental organization located in Babati Township. The organization was registered under NGO Act, 2002 in December 2010 with the objective to improve the livelihood of poor, marginalized and vulnerable communities confronted by lack/shortage of clean and safe water, land degradation/natural resource destruction, child right abuse, gender inequality/inequity, and food insecurity.

COSITA is a membership based organization where the Annual General Meeting is a supreme organ in the decision making level, followed by the Board of Directors and finally the management team which undertakes the daily implementation of the organization duties.

The head office of the organization is located in Babati Township - the head quarter of Manyara region and sub-offices in the nearby districts and regions.

### **Vision**

Community that is getting better living standards by accessing high quality social services sustainably

### **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

**Values:** - Teamwork, Equity, Ethics, Dignity and Integrity (TEEDI)

### **General Objective:**

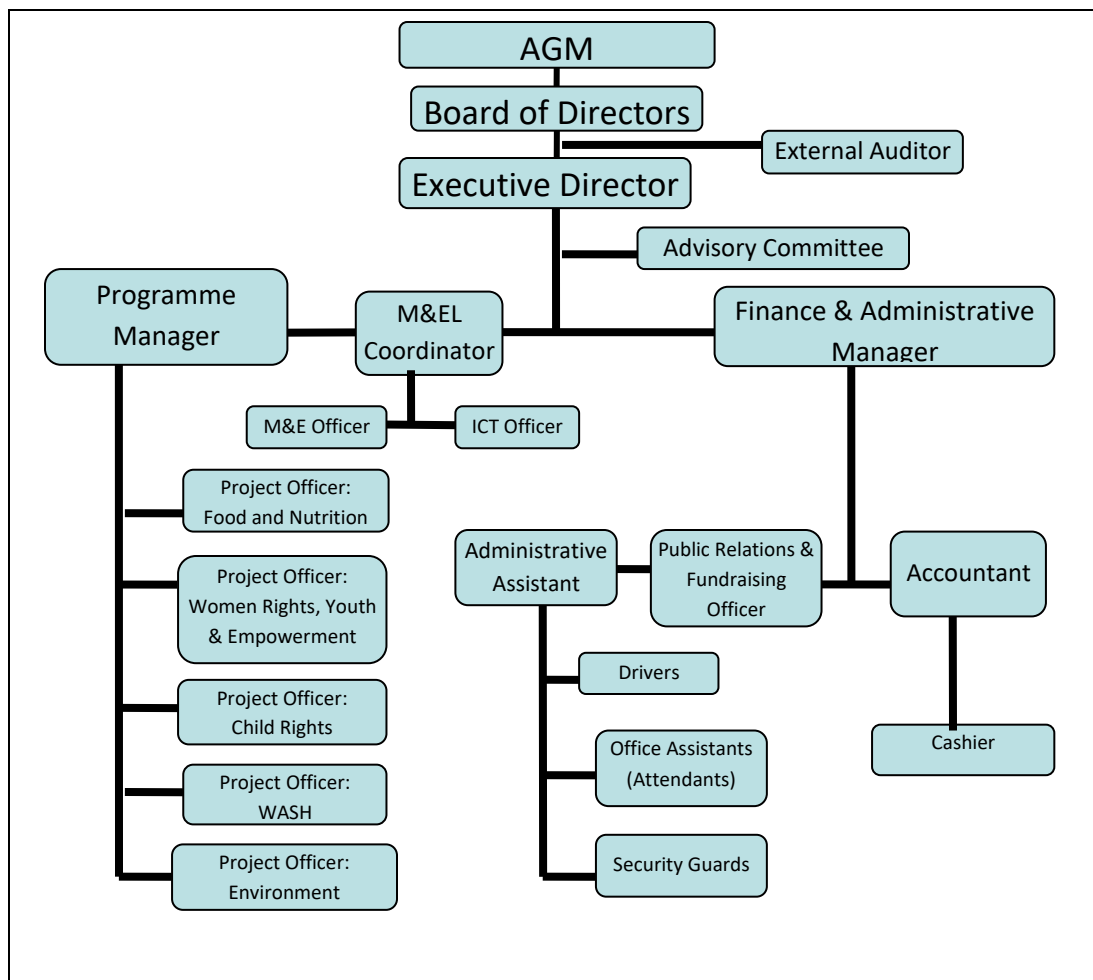
To improve the quality of life for Pastoralists, Smallholder farmers, hunter-gatherers and other low income communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation.

### **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 promote food and Nutrition security initiatives towards poverty alleviation.
- To promote community hygiene and sanitation practices.
- To promote women rights, Youth and Community Empowerment programs
- To undertake environmental conservation programs
- To enhance COSITA's capacity to effectively achieve her objectives including monitoring and evaluation work.

## COSITA ORGANOGRAM



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

COSITA as an NGO gains her financial support from member contribution, grants, and any other support from individual, institution or any initiative 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 members' support.

In the year 2013 the organization gained the initial project funding from CARE International in Tanzania. From the year 2013 onward the donors that supported COSITA in line with the project are as below:

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

- **CARE Tanzania/ Irish Aid**

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/USAID**

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). For Oct 2017 – Sept 2018 financial year of Africare the amount approved was Tshs 319mil for the implementation of project in all three councils. The project was successfully implemented and phased out in September 2018.

- **FARM AFRICA/COMIC Relief**

COSITA entered into an agreement with FARM AFRICA under the support from Comic Relief fund of GBP 219,000 equivalent to Tzs 657mil for a project titled “Improving livelihood of small holder farmers through Sesame Value Chain”. This is a three and half years project Jan 2015- Jun 2018. The project was successfully implemented in 7 wards of Babati district and phased out in June 2018.



- **Women's Economy and Gender Support (WEGS)**

COSITA entered into an agreement with **WEGS in Tanzania for the promotion of girls students learning environment in Babati district, the key agenda being sensitization of girls' dormitory building in wards' level secondary schools** under the support from DKA fund of over Tzs 90mil including community contribution. This is a three year project from Oct 2018 to Sept2021 and the implementation of the same is undergoing.

- **The Foundation for Civil Society (FCS)**

COSITA entered into an agreement in July 2019 with **FCS in Tanzania for an amount of TZS 42mil** for the implementation of a project titled **"Women Land Rights"** in Babati district. Until the time of this report the implementation of the same is undergoing.

*COSITA also collaborated with Networks and governments in the year 2019 as follows:*

- **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 climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation strategies.

- **Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) and Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM)**

These are national advocacy platforms for the development of the agricultural sector in Tanzania (advocates for food and Nutrition security in the country). COSITA benefits from the capacity strengthening in the areas of Food and Nutrition security as well as information sharing on improving livelihoods for smallholder producers (income and standard of living).

- **Tanzania Education Network (TENMET)**

COSITA benefits in the areas of better ways to advocate for developing formal education friendly policies in the country including community awareness raising on the five components of the child nurturing framework (education, nutrition, learning environments, care giving and safety)

- **Tanzania Human Right Defenders Coalition (THRDC)**

This is the coalition which defends the rights of defenders in the country and trains defenders on the better way to defend their own and other people's rights without causing violent. COSITA as a member do benefits on those services provided by the Coalition especially the capacity building on the issues related to human right and security of defenders of human rights.

- **Local Government Authorities (LGAs)**

COSITA throughout the year worked in collaboration with the district councils officials 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 indicates the presence of government in the specific area of intervention and recognition of organisation work as part and parcel of LGAs' development strategy.

## **SIGNIFICANT OFFICIAL VISITORS DURING THE YEAR 2019**

Officials from THRDC, FCS, TAHA, SIKIKA, and KICK START INTERNATIONAL visited our office for various reasons including due diligence, organization capacity assessment (OCA) and other future engagement strategies between COSITA and their institutions/networks.

## **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
- Campaign towards school girls and orphanage education support contributions
- Supported 2 girls' students in covering school/college costs.

### ***1.2 COSITA Objective 2. Food and Nutrition Security Initiatives towards poverty alleviation.***

- Supportive supervision and monitoring of previously implemented projects

### ***1.3 COSITA Objective 3. To promote good hygiene and sanitation practices.***

- Supportive supervision and monitoring of previously implemented projects

### ***1.4 COSITA Objective 4. To promote women rights, Youth and Empowerment programs***

- Training of village land councils and ward tribunals on women rights to land and other properties including the laws and policy governing land in Tanzania and giving high priority to women claims to land ownership.
- Village Community meetings on raising awareness meetings on laws governing land and other properties and the rights of women to own resources at household levels.
- Formation and training of women land forums on land laws, land and other properties ownership and their roles to sensitize women to own land and other properties.

### ***1.5 Environmental conservation***

- There was no specific project on this part. However we mainstreamed the issues of environmental conservation and climate change into other projects.

- With that regard, general awareness to climate change was made to the community including the meaning, causes, and effects.
- Also the adaptation and resilience measures were discussed to avoid the effects of climate change categorically to both small holder farmers and also pastoralists' communities.

***1.6 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 staffs have continuously been supported by her donors and the other partners both financial and technical capacity strengthening.

COSITA staffs have been capacitated in different areas as follows:

S/N	Capacity Built Areas	# of Staff Participated	Support
1.	Gender mainstreaming and the concepts of equality/equity as human right issues	2	THRDC SIKIKI
2.	Smart Advocacy procedures and tools	1	SIKIKI
3.	Policy dialogue as another methods of policy advocacy	2	WEGS
4.	Financial management	1	MS TCDC
5.	Project planning and management	1	MS TCDC
6.	Child protection and formulation of child protection policy at organization level	2	TENMET
7.	Women rights to land and other resources (land laws and policy)	3	FCS & HAKIARDHI
8.	Organization local resource mobilization	All staff	FCS

## FEW PICTURES DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IN THE YEAR 2019



COSITA's  
Executive Director  
Mr. Patrice  
Gwasma  
sensitizing Babati  
Town Councilors  
and Executives on  
the allocation of  
funds from the  
own source for  
building of Girls'  
students  
dormitories for  
Sigino Ward  
Secondary school



COSITA's  
Executive  
Director Mr.  
Patrice Gwasma  
elaborating issue  
to the  
stakeholders  
during Women  
Land Right  
project's launch  
at whiterose  
hotel in Babati





Group photo showing the women land rights forum after the training on Land act no 4&5 of 1999 at COSITA's head office



COSITA's Executive Director, Babati Division Executive Secretary representing Babati DC, Babati Town Council land officer and other stakeholders during project launch. (Women land rights project in Babati)



Division executive secretary representing the District Commissioner during project launch, he called upon every individual efforts during project implementation for the project success in the villages





The photos showing the stakeholders

Government officials, project beneficiaries and COSITA staff during launching organization's new strategic plan which operates for five years 2020-2024



## **GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

**As results of COSITA interventions in the year 2019, below are some of the projects' general achievements;**

- 3 Girls students supported by COSITA are continuing with their studies
- COSITA's proposal for district council to allocate funds in their own source for building wards level secondary school Girls' dormitories were received positively by the councils of Babati Town council.
- 10 village land councils and 3 ward tribunals are operating on land legal framework using the knowledge and skill gained during trainings conducted by COSITA eg in Kiongozi village 3 women concerns were received, 2 were resolved and women get their rights (claims were on land inheritance issues). Also in Himiti village 2 women concerns were received and 1 is resolved.
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- Increased number of women claiming land and other resources ownership from 1 to 2 per village to 3 to 4 per village, this is experienced in Singu, Himiti, kiongozi and Sigino
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- COSITA was accepted to get full membership to 3 networks (PELUM, THRDC, and ANSAF) due to the compatibility of the work done by COSITA to the networks.

## **GENERAL CHALLENGES:**

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

- Inadequate fund to cover personnel cost led to shortage of key staffs
- Delays of funds disbursements led to postponement of some activities implementation something that hampered timely achievement of some of the project objectives.
- Political interferences during project implementation



## WAYS FORWARD

### Some of the ways forward:

- Sensitizing more members pay subscription fee and also aggressive 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.
- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities.

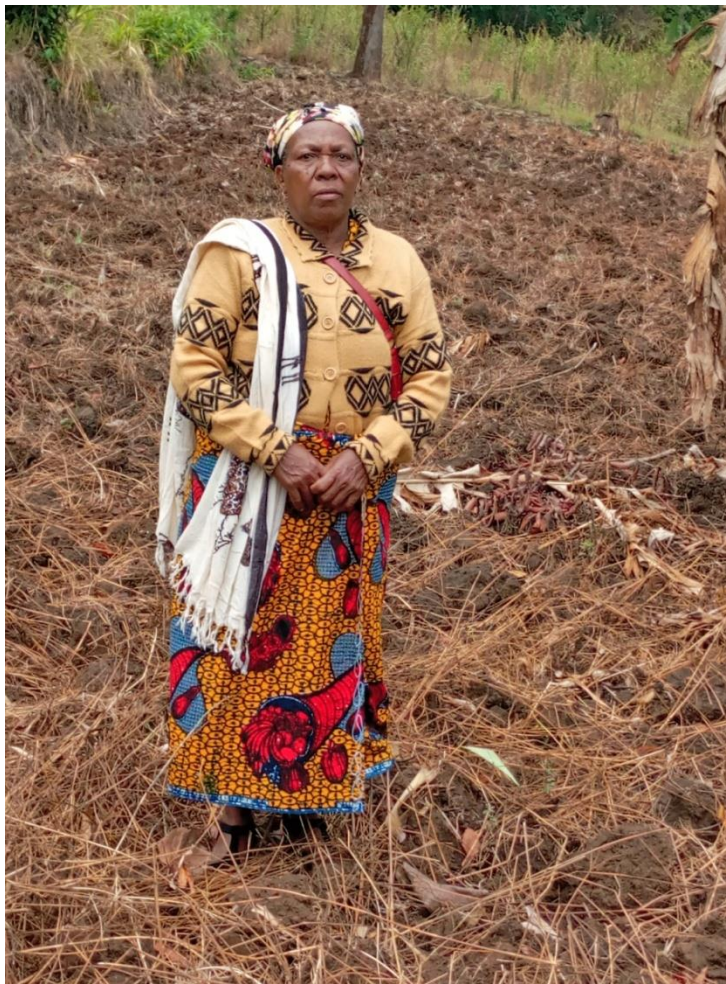
## SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (TSHS)
A. Beginning balance	2,528,073.81
B. Income during the year	42,700,611.58
<b>C. Total (A+B)</b>	<b>45,228,685.39</b>
D. Expenditure	28,365,074.43
<b>E. Balance remaining (C-D)</b>	<b>16,863,610.96</b>

## SOME FEW SUCCESS STORIES ACHIEVED BY THE PROJECT IN THE PROJECT VILLAGE

**Village land councils become a key instrument for justice for the village community.**

Due to poor knowledge in land rights, women whose counterparts died in most cases their land right are deprived. Before the launching of this intervention, families and communities at large were not aware of their rights and what to do when they are denied their rights on ownership. But as of now, there is a slight improvement as a great number of women and especially widow's started reporting cases to villages land council and demanding their land rights. Ms. Emma Ndosi of Haraa village in Babati Town council has narrated how she managed to defend her land from invasion by village hamlet chairperson who wanted to force a pathway crossing in between her piece of land. She has previously provided the pathway beside her land portion to which the hamlet chairperson wouldn't agree on it. The case was reported to Haraa village land council; the land council visited the site and settled the dispute by reallocating the pathway as was previously done.



Ms Emma Ndossi of Haraa village

*"Mwenyekiti wa Kitogoji  
alitaka kupitisha njia  
kwenye shamba langu  
njia iliyokuwa ipite  
pembazoni mwa shamba  
tangu mume wangu  
alivyokuwa hai hivyo  
basi baada ya kuona  
hivyo nilipeleka lalamiko  
langu kwa baraza la  
ardhi la kijiji kupitia  
Afisa Mtendaji na shauri  
langu kupokelewa na  
kusikilizwa na baraza.  
Mwenyekiti wa kitongoji  
aliitwa na kuhojiwa na  
baraza pamoja na mimi.*

Ms Emma Ndossi was very thankful for the assistance she got from the village land council members who were being capacitated by the Women land right project.

## WOMEN GET AWAKE OF THE RIGHT CHANEL TO TAKE TO CLAIM THEIR RIGHTS

Tatu Omari, a widow in Imbilili kati hamlet, Imbilili Village in Babati Town Council had been in conflict with a mother who wanted to encroach her piece of land. Before implementation of this project in Babati, communities and specifically women were not aware of the right channel to take in demanding their rights. Due to poor knowledge some opted to go straight to primary courts instead of starting from village land councils. That led most of the cases to fail due to costs of time and money and hence women prompt to give up their rights.

After the project take off, women started to get knowledge in the right track in demanding their rights. This is exemplified by a case of Tatu Omary (old woman) who has two acres piece of land which was nearly taken by her neighbor (a woman with her boys), only because she is a widow having daughters whom were all married and seen to have no right to own land.

Early September 2019, she got information during a hamlet meeting that there is village Land council which has a mandate of dispute resolution on matters related to land. She approached one of the village land council member who informed her on the channel to claim. Then she had an opportunity to have her claim listened, until now her case was set to hearing for two times. The decision of this matter is underway where its referred to district land and settlement tribunal for more decision.



Figure 1 Tatu Omari in her piece of Shamba

*"Nilikuwa nanyang'anywa  
eneo langu na mama wa  
jirani wakishirikiana na  
vijana wake. Mimi ni mjane  
watoto wangu watatu wote  
wa kike  
wameshaolewa. Mwanzoni  
sikujuu pakupeleka lalamiko  
langu ila hivyo baada ya  
kuhudhuria mkutano wa  
hadhara nilishauriwa  
kuonana na baraza hivyo  
baraza walipokea na kutolea  
maamuzi ya ushindi  
nakerejeshewa shamba  
langu"*

I am very thankfuly for the ward tribunal for taking my claim into consideration and all the decision they made upon me but if I will not satisfy for the decisions I will further go with other processes that concern with rights and decisions.



## WARD TRIBUNALS BECAME THE CORNERSTONE FOR WOMEN ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Currently there is intense pressure on land in the communities because of the value attached to land and other resources. As the need increases on the other hand the conflicts on land and other resources also increases. Government tried to solve its people's challenges especially on issues concerning land by enacting laws governing land (Act, 4&5 of 1999) whereby the structures has been formed from villages to district levels to solve the land conflicts. Bonga ward tribunal is one of the outcomes of the government effort to solve land and other resources conflicts.

Like many other tribunals in Babati district, Bonga ward tribunal has been found operationally weak because their inability on translating the laws and regulations used for decision making. COSITA with the support of FCS on women land right project intervened in the community by capacitating the ward tribunals with the focus of equipping them with knowledge concerning land legal framework, ways that can easily translate laws and regulations when making decisions or reaching any consensus as well as their responsibilities. This capacity built has multiple positive effects because tribunals now work confidently receiving many claims while making decisions that are legally acceptable fulfilling the rights of the individuals including the women in the community. Here we find the chairman of the Bonga ward tribunal speaking openly that, they are working confidently because were capacitated enough on land matters and other resources especially for the group of women which are left behind where individuals mostly men took advantage over that by denying women access, use, and own land and other resources. The chairman and the members of the tribunal are thankful for FCS, COSITA and project in general for the capacity built because it increased trust and more energy that will help us in day to day performance of the activities especially in translating laws and all the decisions we made. We are effective enough to receive as many claims as possible and find them with solutions.



"Naishukuru COSITA pamoja na mradi kwa ujumla kwamba kwa sasa tunayo imani na nguvu kutokana na elimu tuliyoipata imetuongezea uelewa hasa katika utendaji wetu wa kila siku kwani tafsiri na maamuni tunayofanya yameimarika siku hadi siku kitu ambacho hutuongeza weledi katika kazi zetu, Naishukuru sana shirika na mradi bila kuwasahau FCS kwa hilo na waendeleo kutujengea uwezo zaidi"