



Community Support Initiatives – Tanzania (COSITA)

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COSITA ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2020

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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 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 2020 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 Austria funds; “Participatory Conservation of Duru Haitemba Community forest” funded by UNDP/UNOPS/TNRF; and Support to School girls fees and associative costs 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, ANSAF, and TENMET for capacity building and networking.

Major activities implemented during the year were:

Under Duru Haitemba Community Forest conservation Project

- capacity strengthening trainings to ward and village leaders as well as forest management committees on participatory forest conservation and development.
- stakeholders’ trainings on participatory planning processes, transparency and accountability of duty bearers for the DHF related resources (including income and expenditure reports)
- provision of seedlings to be planted around the DHF to conserve the natural forest against the immediate community use like timber, building poles etc.
- conduct climate change trainings to village and ward leaders as well as forest management committees and put in place the adaptation and resilience strategies.

Under the Education Project:

- Supporting 2 female students from poor families in covering school/college fees and other associated costs.
- Sensitizing 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.
- Training of village governments and women land forums on acquisition of CCROs and participatory land surveys.

Under the Previously implemented projects:

- Regular monitoring and follow ups well conducted for the activities of the previously implemented projects that are already phased out.

Major Achievements during the year 2020:**On Promotion of Girls Education:**

- Continued support to 2 female students from poor families in covering school/college fees and other associated costs
- The advocacy on building of school girls' dormitory at Sigino Sec School has worked because it has been decided by WDC that every household to contribute Tsh. 20,000 for that purpose before May 2021.

On Women Land and other resources access and ownership Rights:

- 10 village land councils and 3 ward tribunal in Babati are fully operating on land legal framework using the knowledge and skill gained during trainings conducted by COSITA.
- 10 groups of Women land right forums well capacitated on business development skills including preparation of business plans.

On Duru Haitemba Forest conservation:

- Village Environmental Committees from 10 Villages of Babati district well capacitated on environmental and community forests conservation including climate change adaptation and resilience strategies put in place.
- Over 5000 seedlings well distributed to village communities to be planted around the DHF to conserve the natural forest against the immediate community use like timber, building poles etc.
- Increased forest surveillance by villagers to protect forest resources from invaders
- Increased participatory planning of forest resources and leaders accountability to the community as a result of capacity building the community to hold accountable the duty bearers.

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:

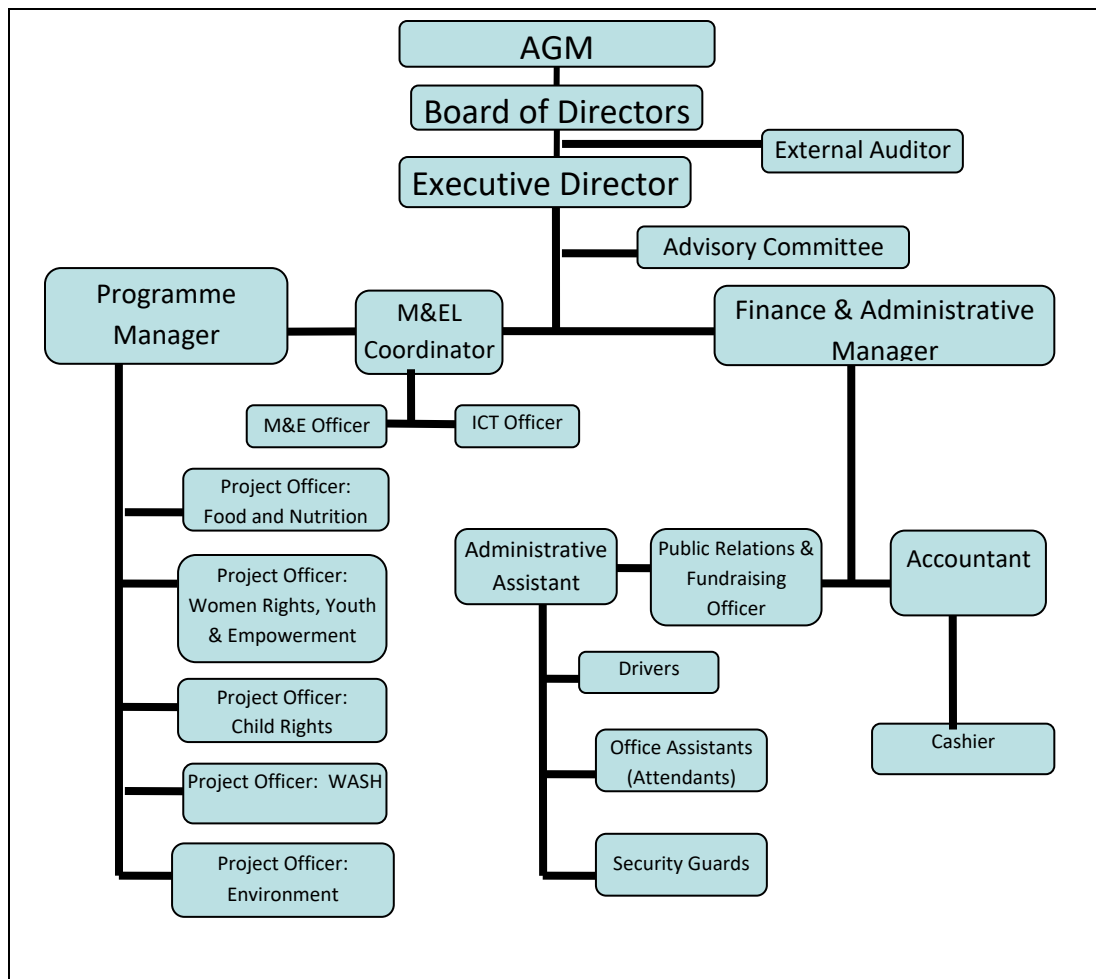
To improve the quality of life for Pastoralists, Smallholder farmers, hunter-gatherers and other low income communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation.

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 Sept 2021 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.

- **UNDP/UNOPS/TNRF**

COSITA entered into an agreement in March 2020 with UNDP/UNOPS **for an amount of TZS 48.9mil** for the implementation of a project titled **"Participatory Conservation of Duru Haitemba Forest"** 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 2020 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 2020

Officials from THRDC, FCS, 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.

- Sensitization of Grassroots level leaders in Sigino Wards for the contribution towards Sigino Sec school girls dormitory building.
- 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.

- Provision of handwashing facilities to schools as preventive measures for COVID-19
- Supportive supervision and monitoring of previously implemented projects

1.4 COSITA Objective 4. To promote women rights, Youth and Empowerment programs (gender equality)

- Training of village government members and land right forums on the process to acquire CCROs and participatory land surveys in ten villages of Babati Town Council.
- 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 COSITA Objective 5. Environmental conservation

- 2 days per ward capacity strengthening trainings to ward and village leaders as well as forest management committees on participatory forest conservation and development.
- One day per village stakeholders' trainings on participatory planning processes, transparency and accountability of duty bearers for the DHF related resources
- One day per ward climate change trainings to village and ward leaders as well as forest management committees and put in place the adaptation and resilience strategies.
- provision of seedlings to be planted around the DHF to conserve the natural forest against the immediate community use like timber, building poles etc.
- To raise community awareness on the use of improved household technologies such as the energy efficient cook stoves in Babati district together with dissemination of the over 8 cook stoves to the interested households.

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

- COSITA staffs have continuously been supported by her donors and the other partners both financial and technical capacity strengthening. The partners that built the capacity of COSITA staff were PELUM TZ, FCS, SIKIKA, HAKI MADINI, ANSAF, TENMET, and THRDC.

SOME ONLINE LINKS:

1. SIGINO SEC SCHOOL:

Sigino Grassroots Leaders Meeting

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/8CJWfKNWncE>

Habari za saa ITV: <https://youtu.be/QDKEKe0NigU>

Muongwan Blog: <https://www.muungwana.co.tz/2020/02/cosita-kuhamasisha-ujenzi-wa-mabweni.html?m=1>

2. IMPROVING CHILD NUTRITION STATUS:

<https://reliefweb.int/report/united-republic-tanzania/it-takes-village-and-civil-society-nourish-child-tanzania>

3. ELIMU YA MPIGA KURA

<https://www.muungwana.co.tz/2020/10/cosita-yawakumbuka-wenye-ulemavu.html?m=1>

4. ELIMU YA UJASIRIAMALI

<https://www.muungwana.co.tz/2020/10/cosita-yatoa-elimu-kwa-wajasiriamali.html?m=1>

5. UHIFADHI MAZINGIRA/MISITU

<https://youtu.be/OOWJC76nCqY>

ACHIEVEMENTS

On Promotion of Girls Education:

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- Increased forest surveillance by villagers to protect forest resources from invaders
- Increased participatory planning of forest resources and leaders accountability to the community as a result of capacity building the community to hold accountable the duty bearers.

SOME OF THE CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE YEAR 2020:

- 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.
- Outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and general election interfered timely implementation of some project activities

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 FOR THE YEAR 2020:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (TSHS)
A. Beginning balance	16,863,610.96
B. Income during the year	96,626,989.37
C. Total (A+B)	113,490,600.33
D. Expenditure	58,552,601.50
E. Balance remaining (C-D)	54,937,998.83