



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

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

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# COSITA ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE REPORT JANUARY – DECEMBER 2022

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

The **vision** of COSITA Community is to achieve 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 the community by ensuring their involvement in development projects, gender balance, and Sustainable resource management. **COSITA's Values** are - Teamwork, Equality, Ethics, Dignity and Integrity.

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 period under review, COSITA continued to access grants and donations, which enabled the organisation to continue implementing community projects as well as covering the organisation's running costs. The projects supported were "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; "Rural Women Cultivating Change (RWCC)" project in Babati and Mbulu districts funded by PELUM Tanzania; "Child Rights to Education (CRE)" project in Babati funded by Grassroots nest for Innovation and Change (GRiC); National Multisectoral ECD Program (PJT-MMMAM) via "Mtoto Kwanza project" in Manyara region funded by Tanzania ECD Network; "Women access and use of Agricultural products" in Babati district funded by the Legal Services Facility (LSF); "Community Behavior Change Initiatives on the demands for and consumption of wild meat in the Kwakuchinja Wildlife Corridor" in Babati funded by USAID/TRAFFIC; and "Women Rights and Social Norms Change" project in Babati funded by PWC; Also, a continued follow ups was made for the phased-out projects implemented by the organization.

Additionally, the organisation worked in collaboration with LGAs to complement the resources and also Partners and networks, particularly THRDC, PELUM, TECEDN, and TENMET for capacity building and networking.

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

- Quality of learning assessments for grade 2-4 learners to test the ability to read, write and calculate simple arithmetic in 4 primary schools of Nkaiti ward.
- Purchases of 360 reference/supplementary books and mobile libraries and disseminated to the 4 selected schools
- Training to 12 teachers (RRR teachers, Head Teachers, academic teachers), 4 Youth volunteers, 1 quality assurance and 1 Ward Education Officer for working on the improvement of literacy skills for pupils, including conducting remedial classes
- Meetings (one meeting per quarter 2,3, and 4) on raising awareness about home-based learning activities to 200 parents of Nkaiti ward and child rights to education.

- Capacity strengthening training to 36 members of school committees and 9 Ward & Village leaders, 2 FBL and 2 Traditional leaders on children's rights to education as per the policies/laws and development agendas, as well as defining their roles and responsibilities in enforcing the laws towards children's rights to education.
- Stakeholders dialogue sessions with 9 ward & village leaders, 36 school committees' members, 4 faith/traditional/influential leaders, 1 Ward EO and 12 teachers on the retention of pupils to schools /reducing dropouts and putting retention strategies in place for follow-ups by project staff
- Training on managing puberty and adolescent risk practices for Sigino and Kwaang'w secondary school girls' students.
- Launching and orientation of NM-ECDP in Manyara region
- Selection of district-level focal persons for coordinating NM-ECDP and reporting to the region, CSOs review meeting well aligned with the NM-ECD programme/Work plan at the regional level
- Facilitate the Manyara regional quarterly review meeting on NM-ECDP implementation
- Regular monitoring and follow ups well conducted for the activities of the previously implemented projects that are already phased out.

### **Major Achievements:**

- The advocacy for building of school dormitory at Sigino Sec School has worked because the girls' dormitory was completely constructed, and the boys' dormitory is under construction.
- Girls' students from Sigino and Kwaang'w are witnessing the ways they have managed puberty and adolescent risky practices after getting awareness from COSITA.
- NM-ECDP well launched with guest of honour RC- Manyara Hon. Charles Makongoro Nyerere
- District-level implementers are well-oriented on NM-ECDP for the implementation process.
- Regional work plan well developed for the implementation process.
- Selection of district-level focal persons for coordinating NM-ECDP and reporting to the region, CSOs review meeting well aligned with the NM-ECD programme/Work plan at the regional level
- The first Manyara regional review meeting was well conducted under the chairperson of RAS Ms Karolina Mthapula
- COSITA team, in collaboration with RS, made a field visit to the district level for capacitating the district-level focal person for proper reporting of NM-ECDP implementation
- 115 (58%) Number of pupils out of 198 with 3Rs challenges have been able to overcome the challenges.
- About 360 reference/supplementary books bought and distributed to 4 project schools
- About 4 mobile libraries were disseminated to the 4 project schools.
- About 200 parents are aware and make a conducive environment for pupils' based studies
- Provision of school feeding program in Kakoi Primary school as a result of improved capacity of school committees and Ward and village leaders, including ensuring pupils' early enrolment, retention and getting the right studies in all project schools in Nkaiti Ward.

**Some of the Challenges faced during the year:**

- Inadequate funds to cover personnel costs led to a shortage of key staff
- Inadequate working facilities
- Some of the available working facilities are very old, and some are outdated

**Some of the ways forward:**

- Sensitising more members to pay the subscription fee and also aggressively working on their own income-generating activities to raise their own income for sustainability.
- Continue capacity building of members of the board and management, especially on the resource mobilisation, control and management of the organisation's resources.
- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities.

## **ORGANISATION BACKGROUND**

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

COSITA is a membership-based organisation 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 organisation's duties.

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

### **Vision**

A 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 the community through ensuring their involvement in development projects, gender balance, social accountability and Sustainable resource management

**Values:** - Teamwork, Equity, Ethics, Dignity and Integrity

### **General Objective:**

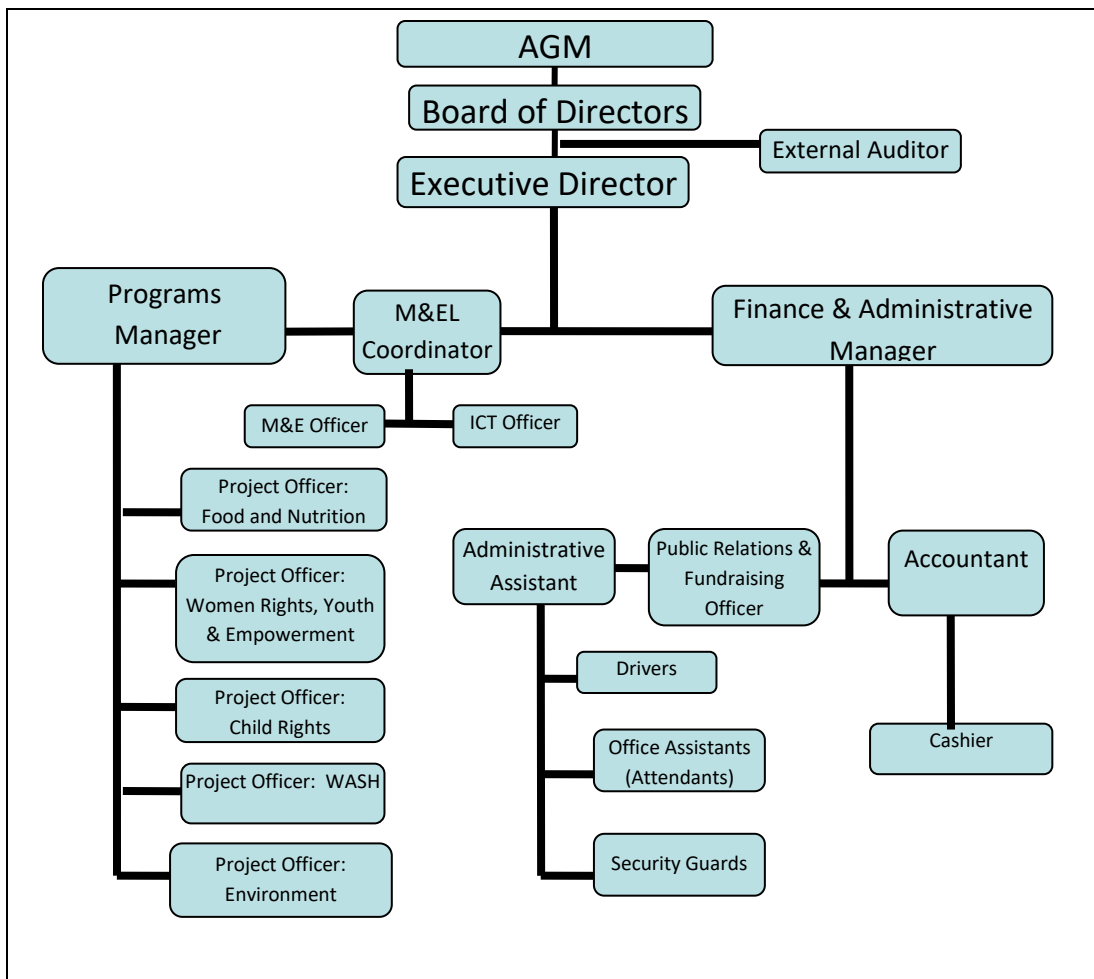
To improve the quality of life for Pastoralists, Smallholder farmers, hunter-gatherers and other low-income communities by contributing to the development opportunities towards poverty alleviation.

### **Specific Objectives:**

To achieve her general objective, COSITA has set priority areas as follows:

1. To promote child rights and protection (education, health & nutrition ...)
2. To promote food and Nutrition security initiatives towards poverty alleviation.
3. To promote community health, hygiene and sanitation services.
4. To promote women's rights, Youth and Community Empowerment programs
5. To undertake environmental conservation programs
6. To enhance COSITA's capacity to effectively achieve its objectives, including monitoring and evaluation work.

## COSITA ORGANOGRAM



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

COSITA, as an NGO, gains its financial support from members' contributions, grants, and any other support from individuals, institutions or any initiative provided that the receipt of the same is genuine and legal.

Since the commencement of COSITA in 2010 to the year 2022, the organisation managed to fundraise from its own members' and non-members' support.

In the year 2013, the organisation gained the initial project funding from CARE International in Tanzania. From the year 2013 to date, at different times, COSITA was supported by different donors on a project basis as follows:

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

#### **1. CARE Tanzania/ Irish Aid**

COSITA entered into an agreement with CARE Tanzania under the support from the Irish Aid fund of Tsh 35 million in March 2013 for a phase one. In January 2014, the organisation entered into a 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 Rights”. The project was implemented in 9 wards of the Babati district. Up to the time of this report, COSITA has successfully implemented phases one, two and three of the projects while continuing negotiations for further partnership engagement.

#### **2. Africare Tanzania/USAID**

In December 2013, COSITA agreed with AFRICARE under the support from the USAID fund of Tshs 105 million for the 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 an 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 the 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 the Oct 2017 – Sept 2018 financial year of Africare, the amount approved was Tshs 319mil for the implementation of the project in all three councils. The project was successfully implemented and phased out in September 2018.

#### **3. 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”. That was a three-and-a-half-year project,



Jan 2015-Jun 2018. The project was successfully implemented in 7 wards of Babati district and phased out in June 2018.

#### **4. 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 sensitisation of **girls' dormitory building in wards' level secondary schools** under the support from DKA fund of over Tzs 90mil, including community contribution. The first three-year phase of the project started in October 2018 and ended in Sept 2021. Due to the successful implementation of phase one, the project was renewed for another three years from October 2021 to Sept 2024 for the project titled **"Promoting potentials of adolescent girls in ward level secondary schools in Babati"** for a total funding amount of 60Mil including community contribution.

#### **5. The Foundation for Civil Society (FCS)**

COSITA entered into an agreement in July 2019 with **FCS for an amount of TZS 83mil** for the implementation of a project titled **"Women Land Rights"** in Babati district. The project was successfully implemented and phased out in March 2021.

#### **6. UNDP/UNOPS/TNRF**

COSITA entered into an agreement in March 2020 with UNDP/UNOPS **for an amount of TZS 48.9 million** for the implementation of a project titled **"Participatory Conservation of Duru Haitemba Forest"** in Babati district. The project was successfully implemented and phased out in June 2021.

#### **7. SeedChange/PELUM Tanzania**

COSITA entered into an agreement in Sept 2021 with PELUM Tanzania **for a collaborative** implementation of a project titled **"Rural Women Cultivating change (RWCC) in Babati and Mbulu District"** for a period of five years from 2021/22-2025/26. The agreement was on covering personnel cost for a tune of 60mil for the whole project period, while all other project implementation budget shall be covered directly from PELUM headquarters.

#### **8. Grassroots nest for Innovation and Change (GRiC)**

COSITA entered into an agreement in 2022 with GRiC for an amount of **TZS 24mil** for the implementation of a project titled **"Child Rights to Education (CRE) in Babati district"** for a period of one year, though renewable on an annual basis upon successful implementation of the existing project.

#### **9. Children in Crossfire/ Tanzania ECD Network (CiC/TECDEN)**

COSITA entered into an agreement in June 2022 with TECDEN for an amount of TZS 30mil **for the implementation** of a project titled **"Mtoto Kwanza in Mnyara region"** for a period of one year, though renewable upon successful implementation of each phase.

#### **10. Legal Services Facility (LSF)**

COSITA entered into an agreement in November 2022 with LSF for an amount of TZS 79.2 million for the implementation of a project titled **“Women's rights to access and use of agricultural products in Babati”** for a period of one year from November 2022 to October 2023.

#### **11. USAID/TRAFFIC International East Africa Office**

COSITA entered into an agreement in December 2022 with USAID/TRAFFIC for an amount of TZS 105mil for the implementation of a project titled **“Community Behaviour Change Initiative on the demands for and consumption of illegal wild meat at Kwakuchinja area in Babati”** for a period of 7 months from December 2022 to June 2023.

*COSITA also collaborated with Networks and governments follows:*

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

This is the network of which COSITA is a member and benefits by building its 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 from 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, caregiving and safety)

➤ **Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC)**

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

### ➤ **Local Government Authorities (LGAs)**

COSITA worked in collaboration with the district councils' officials throughout the year, mainly to outsource expertise in areas where the organisation lacked the required knowledge and experience. Additionally, working with the councils was mandatory, as collaboration with their experts indicates the presence of government in the specific area of intervention and recognition of the organisation's work as part of the LGAs' development strategy.

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

Officials from JIPHIEGO, EGPAF, THRDC, FCS, GRiC, PWC, KAKUTE Projects, USAID/RTI/TRAFFIC officers, VI Agroforestry, LSF, and many others visited our office for various reasons, including due diligence, project monitoring and evaluation, organisation 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.***

- Sensitisation of grassroots-level leaders in Sigino Wards for the contribution towards the Sigino Secondary school girls' dormitory building.
- Campaign towards child rights and protection against violence at home by their parents or guardians

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

- Introduction of the Rural Women Cultivating Change project to Mbulu/Babati LGAs and to the selected villages.
- Supportive supervision and monitoring of previously implemented projects

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

- Capacity building for students on self-awareness and self-confidence in Sigino, Kwaang'w and F. T. Sumaye Secondary schools.
- Training on managing changes during puberty and risky practices (Introduction to changes during adolescence, Adolescent pregnancies, STDs, HIV/AIDS) for students in Sigino and Kwaang'w Secondary schools
- Supportive supervision and monitoring of previously implemented projects

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

- Understanding of the environment, gender and gender-based violence
- Capacity building for women groups on entrepreneurship skills and decision-making power at the household level

**1.5 COSITA Objective 5. Environmental conservation**

- conducts climate change trainings to village and ward leaders as well as forest management committees, and puts 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.

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

- COSITA staff have continuously been supported by their donors and the other partners, both financial and technical capacity strengthening. The partners that built the capacity of COSITA staff for the year 2022 were PELUM (Resource mobilisation); GRiC (managing grants & report writing, videography/photography, M&E); TECDEN (Science of ECD); TENMET (PETS&SAM, Leadership).

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### On Promotion of Girls' Education and potentials for adolescent Girls:

- The advocacy for building of school dormitory at Sigino Sec School has worked because the girls' dormitory was completely constructed, and the boys' dormitory is under construction.
- Girls' students from Sigino and Kwaang'w are witnessing the ways they have managed puberty and adolescent risky practices after getting awareness from COSITA.

### On Mtoto Kwnza:

- NM-ECDP well launched with guest of honour RC- Manyara Hon. Charles Makongoro Nyerere
- District-level implementers are well-oriented on the NM-ECDP for the implementation process.
- Regional work plan well developed for the implementation process.
- Selection of district-level focal persons for coordinating NM-ECDP and reporting to region, CSOs review meeting well aligned with the NM-ECD programme/Work plan at the regional level
- The first Manyara regional review meeting was well conducted under the chairperson of RAS Ms Karolina Mthapula
- COSITA team, in collaboration with RS, made a field visit to the district level to capacitate the district-level focal person for proper reporting of NM-ECDP implementation

### On Child Rights to Education (CRE):

- 115 (58%) Number of pupils out of 198 with 3Rs challenges have been able to overcome the challenges.
- About 360 reference/supplementary books bought and distributed to 4 project schools
- About 4 mobile libraries were disseminated to the 4 project schools.
- About 200 parents are aware and make a conducive environment for pupils ' home-based studies
- Improved capacity of 49 grassroots leaders (36 school committees, 9 Ward and village leaders, 2Faith based leaders and 2Traditional leaders) on ensuring pupils' early enrolment, retention and getting the right studies.

## KEY SUCCESS STORIES:

(Ref: success story file)

## MAIN CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE YEAR:

- Inadequate funds to cover personnel costs led to a shortage of key staff
- Inadequate working facilities
- Some of the available working facilities are very old, and some are outdated in fashion

### WAYS FORWARD:

- Sensitising more members to pay subscription fees and also aggressively working on their own income-generating activities to raise their own income for sustainability.
- Continue capacity building of members of the board and management, especially on the resource mobilisation, control and management of the organisation's resources.
- More fundraising from different sources for projects and working facilities.

### SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (ref Audited Financial report)

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Approved on this day 30/04/2023 by;



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Christina Fisoo  
**Board Chairperson**



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Patrice Gwasma  
**Board Secretary**