



QUARTERLY REPORT - JANUARY TO MARCH 2015.

Looking back - Did you know?

Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania (EMT) was established by two children's rights experts in January 2014 and was officially registered on September 25th, 2014 to advance children's right to education and to support children in accessing their rights to protection, participation and quality education in Moshi-Tanzania. Tanzania's National Costed Plan of Action (NCPA II) 2013-2017 indicates that all children are potentially vulnerable to abuse, violence and exploitation. The Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) are at greater risk because of their circumstances and often less able to access the services they need. Most abuse and violence remain hidden and so reported cases are effectively just the "tip of the iceberg". *"We shall not rest and put down our weapons until no child is subject to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation."*

Dear Friends and collaborators,

This report is the first of our efforts to the Moshi community to prevent and respond to child violence, abuse and exploitation. Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania intends to inform and share with stakeholders that, since January this year, the energy and meager resources have been directed to learning from the communities about the challenges which children face and whether or not there are any efforts to respond to the suffering of children in schools and the ChemChem communities. We wish to register our thanks to individuals who have started to join hands with us to set offices, equipping and visiting the communities. Thank you for your encouragement and generous help to support the most vulnerable children in ChemChem Primary School. *Asante Sana-Thank you very much!*

(i) Governance, Program Management and Administration.

(a) Board of Directors

The Board of Directors continues to provide technical support and fundraising opportunities. Unfortunately, since a lot of time was dedicated to setting offices, office infrastructures and some meetings with stakeholders, no board meetings have been held. However, board members were available

for consultation depending on the need of the organization. No funded activities have been conducted because the organization has not secured funds to date.

(b) Staff

Due to a lack of funds, the organization continues to be managed by two founders, Mr. Michael Reuben Ntibikema ,the Executive Director, and Ms. Upendo Ally Ramadhani, the Director of Programs on a voluntary basis. Currently, the organization has no financial capacity to pay for their salaries and benefits.

(c) Office

There are no major developments on the office and the organization continues to run its office in a one room. However, very few office facilities were purchased for the status of the office. The founders continue to pay rent, office facilities and utilities with their own income base. The organization plans to find a more conducive room to run its activities, if funds permit.

(ii) Program highlights and situation analysis - January to March 2015.

The meeting with children, teachers and leaders highlighted the following challenges ;

(a) Insufficient School Infrastructures

In the month of January, Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania had a meeting with the school and held a discussion regarding the situation of children, schools and teachers. The interview with teachers revealed that the school has many challenges. First of all, dropout rates and truancy are very high: 50% of 250 children drop out of school. The school has poor infrastructures such classes, kitchen and teachers office. There are no floors in the classrooms, the roof has holes which allows water to pour in during rainy seasons. There are no learning materials to support children to do extra studies or to borrow books.



A kitchen facility at ChemChem Primary School



ChemChem Primary School Classroom

(b) Lack of Playing facilities and infrastructure

The UN recognizes the right to play for every child. Play is not a luxury; it is a tool for education and health. It can bring entire communities together and inspire every individual. A game of football can teach children about tolerance and peace. Play helps teach important life lessons and develop skills like cooperation, leadership and teamwork. Despite the recognition of play as one of the right of every child, it is still a major challenge in ChemChem Primary school. Children have no facilities, no equipment and other necessary sports equipments. The organization has recognized that play can educate and empower children to overcome poverty, drop outs and truants.

(c) Violence against Children

Over the last three months, Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania learned that there is violence in schools and in the communities. Teachers still use corporal punishment contrary to the Law of the Child Act which stipulates the importance of protecting children against harm. Child protection is an integral part of Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania's programming.

(d) Response to vulnerable Children

In February and March, the organization supported vulnerable children with exercise books, pens and pencils. Our generous friend, Ms. Yardley J, a Lecturer from John Abbot College in Canada, donated school materials to ChemChem Primary school. In this school some children do not attend school due to a lack of school materials and other scholastic materials. The children and teachers were very much impressed by our support.

(iii) Fundraising and Communication.

The organization has continuously spent time in identifying individuals, companies, foundations and donors to fund the work. The organization was able to send a funding proposal to Backlays Bank requesting support for most vulnerable children and to Akiba Uhaki Foundation, Nairobi to support children's right to education, awareness raising to the communities and advocacy. It is hoped that once this fund is received it will help the organization to carry out its work. With regard to communication, the organization is in the process of developing its website to strengthen communication.

(iv) Networking and collaboration.

Elimu Mwangaza Tanzania is a firm believer of networking and collaboration as one of the essential strategies to eliminate violence against children. During the past three months, the organization has been identifying the potential networking opportunities within and outside the country.

Challenges over three months - January to March 2015.

- Most of the plans were not implemented due to a lack of funds to implement some activities. The organization was interested in organizing meetings with stakeholders such as village leaders and ward level leaders to get first hand information about the challenges, which the ward face on realizing children rights. The information could inform the organization's programming.
- Inadequate office facilities such as a lack of printers and photocopiers to smoothen the work of the organizations. The organization continued to access services out of the office that are expensive and time consuming. In addition, these services out of the organization are not safe for some of the organization's confidential information.
- Lack of funds to pay for rent, utilities and regular transport to the communities. The organization does not have funding to pay for rent and utilities for the office. This has posed major challenges in running the organization's work.

The organization has no important policies in place, such as a financial policy, a child protection policy and a human resources policy.

- The lack of funds has affected the organization in employing a qualified Finance Officer to support the organization during fundraising including

funding forecasting. The same challenges have affected preparation of books of accounts in line with International Financial Standards.

Future Plans

- To fundraise for a strategic plan for 2016-2020 to identify clear outcomes, objectives and outputs.
- To identify donor and fundraise for research and programs that address child vulnerability, help families to be stable and challenge community attitudes on violence and abuse against children. Due to the challenges identified such as poverty, truancy, drop out and poor infrastructure, the organization needs to conduct community assessments focusing on economic, social and environmental barriers and how they affect families and children. The assessment will identify available resources.
- To conduct a baseline study to establish a benchmark of the rights of children. The study will also identify any formal and informal child protection mechanisms and assess their capacity (eg. available CPCs).
- To develop a Finance Policy, a HR policy and a Child Protection Policy for EPTZ.