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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Together we are stronger

During our 2018 celebration of 20 years of impact it was so encouraging to see young pastoralist women leading the advancement of their communities and of the women within them. As advocates for a pastoralist community expanded across 3 districts in the north of Tanzania, many challenges remain. Our goals for coming years include expanding our reach, ensuring our impact remains relevant and sustainable and ensuring young women are truly empowered to grow in themselves and to become advocates for the rights of their wider community. Our celebration reminded me of the importance of the most positive aspects of our Maasai culture: that together we are stronger. We welcome your hand in joining our struggle and look forward to all the great things we can achieve together in coming years. Ashe noleng, asante sana and thank you!

In Solidarity,

Maanda Ngoitiko
Executive Director and Co-Founder
Realizing our vision for the women of Tanzania

STRATEGIC GOALS

The Pastoral Women’s Council (PWC) is a women-focused, membership-based non-profit organization, with over 5,000 members and growing. Men from these communities, local leaders, and other national and international stakeholders are also actively engaged in our work.

Our programmes create significant and sustainable improvements in the lives of vulnerable and marginalized pastoralist women and girls in northern Tanzania.

Our work embraces and preserves the positive aspects of our unique pastoralist culture while incorporating modern technology and progressive thinking to overcome patriarchal practices that negatively impact women.

“We shall continue with this work and ensure the baton is passed on to younger women so that they too are at the forefront of leading this transformational change.”

Maanda Ngoitiko
Executive Director, PWC

Our Goals

1. Women control their economic status and become equal partners to men.

2. There is solidarity amongst women, they can advocate on issues of concern and can uphold their rights and those of the most vulnerable in their community.

3. Women and girls have equal access to high quality education in a safe and supportive environment that allows them to thrive.

4. Women and girls have affordable access to essential services, such as reproductive health services, and no longer struggle against food and clean water insecurity.
Where We Work

PWC is active in 90 villages across Ngorongoro, Longido and Monduli Districts in Arusha Region, northern Tanzania.

- 28,337 square kilometres
- A frequently drought-impacted region
- Over 456,360 people
- Pastoralists and agro-pastoralists.

Where we work and what we do

PROGRAMME AREAS

Women’s Rights and Leadership
Developing strong, resilient women leaders who advocate for their rights and those of the most vulnerable in their community.

Women’s Economic Empowerment
Addressing gender inequality, poverty and marginalization of women through access to microcredit, assets and natural resources.

Improved Health and Wellbeing
Child safeguarding, sexual reproductive health, water sanitation and hygiene (WaSH).

High Quality Education
Improved access and education outcomes for vulnerable and marginalized pastoralist girls, boys and women.
PWC continued to strengthen four women-managed livestock bomas called Women Solidarity Bomas (WSBs) through various management training. We also assisted the leadership of WSBs identify profitable markets to sell the bomas’ livestock thereby increasing their ability to meet basic needs such as paying school fees and buying food for their households. Most bomas substituted/ sold cows and bought more sheep and goats as the latter mature faster and are more drought and disease resistant. The WSBs currently have over 600 livestock that will economically benefit 500 pastoralist women in the near future.

Women Solidarity Bomas

Addressing gender inequality and poverty

Micro-Credit

Understanding savings, loans and gaining access to investment capital is key to increasing the prosperity and independence of pastoralist women, who may have never encountered the banking or formal business systems before. PWC works to provide groups of women opportunities to learn and practice these skills while building their business and taking care of their families.

VICOBA (Village Community Banks)

Up to 30 women gather in a formalized VICOBA group to save, loan and learn together. Longido District now has 178 active VICOBA groups, a 32% increase since 2017. The programme is well respected and women are keen to participate, creating new groups when others are at capacity. Ngorongoro District currently has 64 active VICOBA groups. Monduli District has 4 VICOBAS started in 2018. Savings for these 4 new groups totaled 3,850,000 Tshs ($1,673) by year end. Additionally, PWC facilitated establishment of 4 VICOBAS in Monduli District which had a total saving of 3,850,000 Tshs ($1,673) by the end of the year.

Engishon Fund

Started in December 2017, the Engishon Fund was established to provide seedfunding to VICOBA groups. It has to-date loaned 21 VICOBAs groups a total of Tshs 104,800,000 (around US$ 45,000) and three individuals Tshs 3,905,000 (US$ 1,713). 324 people, including 257 women received funding from new capital in 2018.
Easy access to clean water is another key component to women’s economic empowerment. Where women don’t have to walk for hours to collect water, they can dedicate more time to other activities. In 2017/2018, two new boreholes were drilled to give 2,850 pastoralist women (living in 490 households in Malambo and Mondorosi villages) access to water closer to home for domestic and livestock use.

Drilling new boreholes creates access to water

2 New boreholes drilled in 2017/2018

2,850 Pastoralist women with closer access to water
As a result of sensitisation I do on sexual and reproductive health, about 20 women in my village have started to use family planning methods and decide the number of children they have.”

Esupat Purengay
Trained CHWs

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

A struggle to stay safe and continue in school

The Importance of Health

Good health is essential if women and girls are to reach their full potential. In 2018 PWC re-trained and equipped Community Health Workers (CHWs) to bring about substantive increases in health awareness among its members and in their communities.

Impact

15 CHWs reached over 2700 community members with counselling and sexual reproductive health (SRH) information on topics such as personal hygiene, contraception, disease prevention, and how to detect and treat prevalent diseases. In addition, 199 female students were given early pregnancy prevention training and access to services, empowering them to stay safe and continue with schooling.

Areas of Impact

• Hygiene
• Sanitation
• Negative Effects of FGM
• HIV and STD Prevention
• Life Skills
Understanding rights and seeking justice

Women’s Rights

Many women of the pastoralist community remain uneducated and illiterate due to paternalistic attitudes that see women as less than men. Often, women may not even be aware of their basic human rights, and those that are aware may find themselves in difficulties if they defy societal norms and seek justice for gender-based violence or discrimination. The Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums (WRLFs) create safe spaces in which such topics and disputes can be discussed and trained paralegals support women in their attempts to secure justice.

Impact

32 male and female community paralegals were trained in 2017 and have now gone on to have significant impact for pastoralist women in 2018. As a result:

- 300 women are actively engaged with these paralegals, giving them critical knowledge about their legal rights and confidence to pursue their claims themselves or with further legal assistance.
- 412 women have been allocated land by their village.
- 37 domestic violence cases were reported to the authorities.
- 9 land cases were brought to the local council. 7 of these have been solved, 6 won and 1 lost. The remaining 2 are still pending in the ward tribunal.
“We are happy to know our constitutional rights as it gives us confidence to demand our land rights no matter the community attitude on the issue.”

Naomon Nasipaojong
LEGAL AID CASE STUDY

Christina Andrea

Seeking Justice for Her Family

Christina, a 38 year old mother of 5, was forced to get married at a very young age. This was part of the reason after years of marriage she decided to separate from her husband. After the separation, she struggled to send her children to school because of her meager earnings from selling food stuffs.

After 2 years of separation, she decided to change her situation and get her husband to contribute to their children's upkeep and get her rightful share of the family's property. With the support of the local Women Rights Leadership Forum (WRLF) and paralegals, Christina filed a case in the local magistrate court. She was successful, and her husband was ordered to contribute TZs 120,000 (approximately USD $52) each month for his family's upkeep. She also got a share of the family's land that her husband had denied her.

She hopes her story will motivate other women who are facing the same problems to stand firm and say no to women rights violation. She is also determined to ensure that all her children inherit equal share of the family property.

“I will stay strong for my daughters, plant a seed of equality in my household, and it is my wish to be the source of other women's freedom.”

WOMEN’S RIGHTS AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Increased justice through legal aid clinics

Legal Aid Clinic Success

In November 2018, after training paralegals, PWC and a team of four lawyers held legal aid clinics in 5 villages within Longido district. More than 100 cases were handled, 70% of which were solved during the legal clinics. 7 community members were assisted to file cases by the lawyers in Longido primary court and district courts while 8 matrimonial cases were reported to the district social welfare officer and were solved.

In December 2018, PWC staff, a team of lawyers, and trained community paralegals conducted legal aid clinics in 6 villages in Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA), namely: Naiyobi, Irkepusi, Malambo, Engaresero, Irmisigiyo and Endulen. A total of 134 cases were handled by the team. 75% of the cases were solved during the legal clinics. 8 cases were referred to the primary court in Ngorongoro district and 3 matrimonial cases were reported to the district social welfare officer.
Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums

Forums in Action

In 2018, PWC increased its impact around women rights by further strengthened it Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums (WRLFs) and training Village Council members in their roles and responsibilities regarding women rights. As a result: 412 women (232 from Longido and 180 Ngorongoro) were allotted land by village governments. This brings the number of women allocated land to-date to 1,109.

WRLFs members handled 48 rights cases.

- 28 were domestic violence cases. 20 were successfully resolved through mediation by WRLFs with village governments and 8 were referred to court and are still pending.
- 11 were land rights cases and were successfully resolved by WRLFs and Village governments.
- 9 were matrimonial cases. 2 were referred to court while 7 were successfully resolved by the WRLFs.

18 new women (10 from Ngorongoro and 8 from Longido) are now elected to different leadership positions in Village Councils, Village Land Committees, Ward Tribunals and in the national political party.
Energize Project
PWC continues its commitment to education with the introduction in mid-2018 of a two year project aimed at giving a second chance to out of school pastoralist girls living in Ngorongoro District through income and business opportunities within the solar and biogas energy value chains. 35 young pastoralist women were given various foundational skills on: basic literacy and numeracy skills, basic computer skills, entrepreneurship skills, financial literacy through the VICOBA model and business record keeping.

EDUCATION
Bridging the gap in education

The Importance of an Education
Education is a recognized path to prosperity and a life of self-determination for many pastoralist women. It brings skills, confidence and the ability to meet their own needs as well as those of their family and community.

After the Energize Project
Thereafter, PWC partnered with 1) The Centre for Agricultural Mechanization and Rural Technology (CAMARTEC) to train the young women on construction of domestic biogas plants and 2) Mobisol Tanzania to train the young women on installation and maintenance of domestic solar systems.
Filling the Gap

2018 saw a drop of 15% in the number of girls PWC was able to sponsor after three donors withdrew from the scholarship programme due to shifting funding focus. In 2018, 136 students - 30 in tertiary education and 106 in secondary school - required sponsorship and PWC continued to fundraise throughout the year to address the financial gap.

Improving access and quality of education

Improvement in Academic Performance

Where PWC is active, the academic performance of girls continues to improve. By achieving passing grades in primary school, the girls are able to attend government or private secondary schools and improve their future options.

Girls Exam Passrates in 2017 and 2018

*This information is girls’ passrates in the primary and secondary schools in Monduli and Ngorongoro districts where PWC is active.

*PHOTO COURTESY OF ROSHIKI LODHIA*
Addressing gender imbalance in education

Opportunities for academic success

In the three-month primary to secondary transition class of 2018, boys and girls who had passed Primary Standard 7 and were awaiting the start of secondary school had a chance to improve their academic performance.

In 2018, Emanyata Secondary School, managed by PWC, attracted 25 boys and 5 girls able to pay to attend this class. Emanyata and PWC together sponsored another 15 girls to bring a better gender balance to the class and give more girls a chance. The performance data from this project tells a clear story of gender imbalance in education amongst the traditionalist Maasai community.

Data from paying (non-sponsored) students shows a ratio of parents only willing to pay for 1 girl to every 5 boys to attend this transition period course, which also offers safe-haven full board accommodation to remove the young girls from a home environment of possible early / forced marriage and other gender based rights violations.

Improvement in Academic Performance

As can be seen from the analysis below, without this class, girls on average reach secondary school 12% behind boys academically.

Causes of this gender imbalance include preferential educational focus on boys in their early years, limited access to kiSwahili speakers for girls who remain in their home place with few educated peers or mothers, and a girls low self-esteem and wariness to try to learn a 2nd or 3rd language in front of stronger more confident students in the unfamiliar environment of a boarding school.
Women’s adult literacy opportunities

Women’s Adult Literacy
For many pastoralist women, educational opportunities only emerge in adulthood. Through PWC facilitated Adult Literacy Classes, 223 Maasai women acquired basic literacy, gaining skills to start or run their businesses better and participate more effectively in VICOBA meetings. Notably, Maasai men have begun showing great interest in attending the adult classes and during 2018, seven men consistently attended classes in one village (Malambo). The classes have also helped the women appreciate the importance of education and begin encouraging their children to study hard while advocating to the men of their community to support the education of the girls in equal measure to the boys.

223 Women aquired basic literacy
7 Men regularly attended classes
Investing in the Future

We shall continue to invest in young marginalized pastoralist women, many of whom have escaped abuse and rights violations themselves. Working with us as interns and volunteers, most have benefited from scholarship funding in the past and now return to PWC as trainees to give back to their communities and become the next generation of leaders and changemakers. To ensure a systematic leadership mentorship process for these young women, PWC will begin construction of a grassroots pastoralist leadership centre in 2019 that will be located in Arusha. We welcome PWC supporters and friends to partner with us to realize this long-term dream.

LOOKING FORWARD

Building for the future

PWC Celebrates 20 Years of Impact

In November 2018, approximately 1,500 members of PWC, plus local and traditional leaders, district and regional level government officials, and past and present sponsored PWC students came together to celebrate the achievements of 20 years since PWC was established. The former Member of Parliament for Longido, Mr Lekule, officiated the event. Over TZs 30 million (approximately US$ 13,000) was raised in the accompanying “harambee”, a Swahili word meaning community fundraising event. This was followed by the annual general meeting where an impressive array of young, talented and passionate ladies were voted into PWC board, ensuring PWC remains active and relevant for years to come.

Organizational Capacity Building

As a proudly women-led and focused organization, we lead by example, empowering our communities by empowering women. For the past year we have focused on increasing our team’s impact and ability to deliver on our mandate. Two key positions were created and filled:

- We hired a full-time Finance Manager who has been instrumental in strengthening our financial management processes and compliance
- We also hired a full-time Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) Manager who joined the PWC team in January 2019.
Many thanks for your support!