Maanda's Letter

Dear Supporters, Friends and Colleagues,

2015 has been a year of great milestones and reflection for PWC and the women and communities we support. As we near the end of our 2012 strategic plan and commemorate 10 years of partnership with Emanyata Secondary School there is much to celebrate.

Revisiting our 2012 vision for PWC by 2016 is so encouraging. Over the past four years we have fulfilled goals to expand our work over three districts and establish ourselves as a membership organisation - now with over 3,000 women investing in their own development through an annual membership fee. The positive outcomes of our work has spread to women and communities throughout our focus districts and we are recognised as an organisation that truly brings lasting change by empowering women to change their own lives. This reputation is reflected in our ever-growing number of members and the increasing voice of the women we seek to empower.

In April 2015, international understanding of the issues facing pastoralist women in northern Tanzania was greatly
increased by a UN recommendation to the Tanzanian government to revise and repeal laws, customs and practices that discriminate against women. This followed political escalation of a case where two Maasai women were prevented from inheriting their late husbands’ property and subsequently left homeless - a situation women in our communities encounter all too often.

Also in April, PWC’s work was nationally recognised as I became the recipient of the Rural Human Rights Defender Award for 2014 as part of Tanzania’s Human Rights Defender’s Day. Publicity and international acknowledgement of the gender equality issues PWC works to address has given our organisation and cause a sense of momentum as we enter our next strategic phase in 2016.

I invite you celebrate in the achievements and outcomes of 2015 in this report which highlights some of the remarkable women leading and inspiring change in their communities, and the outcomes of key education, economic and women’s rights programmes which are empowering women to find their voices and take control of their destinies.

Thank you for your ongoing support of PWC and in turn the thousands of women, children, families and communities we serve.

Sincerely yours,

Maanda Ngoitiko,
Executive Director

2015 has been a year of great milestones and reflection for PWC and the women and communities we support. As we near the end of our 2012 strategic plan and commemorate 10 years of partnership with Emanyata Secondary School there is much to celebrate.
"We Maasai women don’t want to depend on men to support our families and our children. We believe we can stand on our own. I hope the next generation of Maasai women will be not just accepted as equals in the community, but will be the greatest decision makers."

- Manyara, Women’s Action Group leader and founding member of PWC Mondorosi, Ngorongoro District

About PWC

The Pastoral Women’s Council is a community-based NGO that works throughout northern Tanzania to achieve gender equality and community development through the empowerment of Maasai women and girls.

PWC operates as a membership organisation that empowers women at the community-level to take control of their own development. In 2015 PWC engaged with approximately 3,000 members in 90 villages across northern Tanzania.

PWC’s programmes focus on three key areas to address the root causes of social and gender injustices:
Education
• Girls academic sponsorship
• Management of Emanyata Secondary School
• Construction of Nursery and Primary Schools
• Training for School management and leadership
• Girls Pre-form 1 Programme
• Girls internship Programme

Women's Economic Empowerment
• Women's Solidarity Boma (WSB) livestock programme
• Micro-credit Groups – Women's Action Groups, VICOBAS and SACCOS

Rights & Leadership
• Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums which educate women and wider communities on women's rights to
education, property, basic services, health care, representation and security against domestic violence
• Advocacy for women's human rights and local needs at the household, village, district and national level
• Advocacy and support for pastoralist peoples in achieving their rights to property

PWC’s funding is sourced from national and international donors and development funding bodies, as well as PWC
members who each pay an annual fee of 3,000 TSH (US$1.40). Although most of the women paying this
membership fee have little means of earning an income at the time of joining PWC, it is an important act of
empowerment for women to invest in and take ownership of their own development.

Over PWC’s 19 year history of engagement with these communities enormous positive change has been achieved in
the areas of land rights and property ownership, economic and entrepreneurial development, and dramatically
increased girls’ education rates. PWC continues to strive toward a pastoralist community vision that sees:

1) Women control their economic status through improved livelihoods that meet their daily needs;

2) Solidarity amongst women who collectively raise their voices to advocate on issues of concern;

3) Educated girls creating a society where women are independent, equal partners to men.
Education

PWC’s education interventions aim to break the cycle of disempowerment among Maasai women by equipping them with knowledge and leadership skills, empowering them to advocate for themselves and the rights of future generations.

In 2015 PWC’s education programme focused on four key areas:

**Scholarship support for Maasai girls**

Keeping a girl in school greatly reduces her likelihood of succumbing to early marriage or pregnancy. In 2015 the PWC scholarship programme helped keep 140 at-risk Maasai girls safe and in school by providing sponsorship for their continued education. This will benefit the girls themselves by providing wider vocational opportunities for them, and also their communities, by raising the local education level and fostering strong, confident female future leaders.
Pre-Form 1 transition project

The Tanzanian secondary school curriculum is delivered in English, so Maasai girls who received their primary education in Kiswahili find the transition to Form 1 challenging. The PWC pre-Form 1 transition project provides English language lessons and subject tutoring to help prepare students for their entry into secondary school. In 2015 PWC assisted 112 students to prepare for secondary school, resulting in 100% of them successfully entering Form 1.

Equal rights project

Educating a Maasai girl means educating her future family as well as improving her livelihood and life choices. Traditional cultural norms mean Maasai boys are frequently given priority access to primary and secondary schooling. In 2015 PWC conducted a community-level sensitization and engagement project that reached more than 7,000 people in Ngorongoro and Monduli districts with information on the importance of equal opportunity and access to quality education for both boys and girls.

Strengthening school governance and performance

A school is more than its classrooms, and educational performance can be heavily impacted by a school’s financial efficiency, quality management and good decision-making. In 2015 16 secondary schools and 11 primary schools received training on management structure and processes and school board roles and responsibilities through a PWC project across the Monduli and Ngorongoro districts. Students at the schools also received strengthening support for school clubs that focus on health and leadership, creating a platform for students to constructively air and discuss challenges and increase their participation in school governance and management.
Scholastic Success for Emanyata

For the humble Maasai communities in Ngorongoro District, financial security and family welfare are fundamental concerns.

Life is particularly difficult for these families who face numerous environmental, economic and social issues in their area of the Ngorongoro District. Lack of pasture, livestock diseases, recurrent droughts, increasing livestock death toll, encroachment on conservation areas, poverty, and increased land-use conflicts with commercial enterprise mean maintaining the wellbeing of their families is a daily struggle.

One shining beacon of hope, progress and success for these communities is Emanyata Secondary School (ESS).

Founded in 1992, ESS is community-owned and reliant primarily on community financial contributions and self-generated income. In 2005 the School found itself in a difficult financial position and PWC was asked by local leaders to step in as the managing organisation.

ESS is now an important resource and support mechanism for the District, not only as a local school and employer, but as a centre for discussion and development for the community and a platform for a girl’s empowerment movement that is creating change in this typically patriarchal society.
Economic Empowerment

PWC’s economic empowerment programmes aim to address gender inequality, poverty and marginalisation of women by enabling them to become self-reliant. Programmes focus on empowering women to take control of their own development through solidarity and collective income generating activities.

Through PWC’s economic empowerment support Maasai women are becoming financially secure and contributing to their families' wellbeing and access to education and healthcare.

In 2015 PWC progressed toward economic empowerment goals by focusing on three key areas:

**Income Generating Groups**
IGGs bring women together to collectively invest and share in the management and workload of income generating initiatives. PWC leadership in the Ngorongoro District has supported the establishment and strengthening of 120 groups in 2015, resulting in more than 1,000 Maasai women improving their households' livelihoods through collective cattle rearing and small business establishment.

**Vicobas**
Vicobas (Village Community Banks) are village microcredit and savings schemes that provide women with financial support to fund initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of their families through income generation, land and home ownership, and security for the future. In 2015 PWC enabled the establishment and strengthening of 82 Vicobas in the Longido and Loliondo Districts, providing more than 1,000 women with access to microcredit and savings assistance.
Within a Maasai culture that traditionally values boys’ education over girls’, ESS stands apart.

In 2015, 75% of ESS students were girls. Academically strong but financially struggling, without educational opportunity and encouragement these girls would be at high risk of forced marriage and early pregnancy. ESS provides them with a quality education and a safe living environment.

2015 marks 10 years of PWC’s stewardship and a year of great progress for the School. In addition to PWC’s ongoing student scholarship support, 112 ESS students were provided the PWC Pre-Form 1 programme, which provides language lessons and subject tutoring to help prepare students transition from Tanzania’s Kiswahili primary curriculum to the English secondary curriculum. Enabling girls to successfully enter Secondary School also provides them with a secure campus home and safety from forced marriage and gender-based violence.

Ongoing academic success and community demand enabled a campus expansion in 2015. PWC facilitated the construction of two classrooms, an office for the headmaster and a boys’ dormitory. Campus management was also strengthened through recruitment of a Grounds Manager.

10 years of time and resource investment by PWC and numerous community members, student parents and financial supporters has come to fruition in recent years, with ESS placing first in their District in the Form Four National exams for the second consecutive year in 2015.

"I want to urge my fellow parents to ensure their children attend school. This is the only way our community will transform and develop.

I would urge my fellow parents not to tolerate perpetrators of early marriages and pregnancies.

We need to unite as parents and address this problem within our society."

Kooya Timan - parent of PF1 student participant
"Before PWC came women were seen as valueless, just as tools. But since PWC has trained us about our rights, women are now contributing to their families and communities economically and so our value has been uplifted. We have become like royals - we are the queens of our families and communities."

Mairetwai - PWC founding member, Ngorongoro district

Community Animal Health Improvement

Some of the districts who benefit from PWC’s support have suffered frequent periods of drought which makes keeping livestock healthy and economically secure increasingly difficult.

In 2015 PWC provided training to establish 42 Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) across 12 villages in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, which are now better equipped to treat and manage their livestock. This has led enhanced livelihoods for women and their communities as livestock are more productive.
Empowering the Individual

NATAJEWOKI KASHU, 66 years old

Just three years ago Natajewoki Kashu was a beggar in the streets of her small village in Longido district. Disabled with an amputated leg and married to an elderly man unable to work, Natajewoki had few options but to depend on her neighbours.

Then, in 2013, Natajewoki joined her local PWC Income Generating Group. Through the programme she received training on how to start and manage a business, as well as access to micro-credit through the VICOBA.

Today, Natajewoki supports her family and provides for her children's education with a market stall where she on-sells crops from her village and jewellery she makes herself. She is also making improvements to her home for her family's comfort and safety.

NASHA IKOYO, 28 years old

"Before I joined the Women's Solidarity Boma my husband would not allow me to participate in women's meetings or groups. Following the facilitation of PWC, my husband and I both decided to join the groups.

My husband and I are in different groups and now I am very free to attend meetings, take money to the bank in Namanga, and do my own business though it is small.

I sell sugar, tea leaves and potatoes together with exercise books, soaps and pens. I can now buy food and clothes for my two children. I can also buy livestock medicine.

Our relationship has grown as couple because now we can discuss together which animal we should sell when there is need for big money. My husband trusts me more than before I had this business experience. We are now living more peacefully because we share concerns."

"I am so grateful to PWC for supporting us and encouraging us to become stronger. You know this boma is like our milking cow, serving us and our kids daily. I am proud to be part of it. I will make sure it continues to become even stronger so that my daughters can also be part of it one day."

Esupat - member, Engaresero village Cultural Boma
Rights and Leadership

When pastoralist women know and understand their rights they can defend themselves, protect their families and support their entire community. Many modern legal and human rights remain unrecognised in Maasai patriarchal society, particularly where they concern the individual ownership and protection rights of women. PWC is helping whole communities understand their legal and human rights and supporting women to defend them.

Land and inheritance rights

2015 saw many years of PWC’s land rights education and advocacy come to fruition, as 107 women’s individual land titles in EngareSero were formalised in a ceremony attended by the Minister of Livestock and over 600 community members. PWC’s continued advancement toward women’s land and inheritance rights rests on education. In 2015 PWC engaged with 10 Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums (WRLFs) throughout the Ngorongoro District to provide paralegal training that increased women’s understanding of their rights to property and inheritance. As a result the forums are equipped to identify rights violations and report them to authorities for resolution.

Addressing domestic violence

Gender-based violence remains an issue within patriarchal Maasai communities and in 2015 PWC increased efforts to combat it. Through WRLFs PWC provided education to women in Ngorongoro District on their legal rights of protection and security and empowerment for them to report and resolve these issues. PWC’s domestic violence messages reached over 2,000 community members in 2015 and resulted in the reporting of 18 domestic violence cases in the Ngorongoro District.
Escaping forced marriage

In 2015 PWC obtained funding to establish a Girls' Rescue Centre in Loliondo. The Centre will provide safe accommodation for girls aged 13-25 years who are vulnerable and at risk of being forced into marriage.

Women in leadership

PWC’s leadership training and advancement of women continued to focus on the Ngorongoro District in 2015. Following the establishment of the first ever Women CBO in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) in 2014, PWC has worked to strengthen the organisation through leadership training on roles and responsibilities, the formation of working committees, and development of a Strategic Plan. PWC’s ongoing progress with women’s development in Ngorongoro was further illustrated in 2015 by an increase in the number of Maasai women elected to the Ngorongoro District Council.

Rights & Leadership in Action

Since 2011, PWC has supported pastoralist women in Ngorongoro to establish Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums (WRLF) which work at the community level to educate about and defend women’s rights, strengthen women’s leadership and public participation, and enhance women’s economic empowerment.

Building on more than a decade of community engagement and development, PWC established the WRLF as a platform for communities to discuss and resolve a wider variety of issues facing women and girls, including land and property rights, domestic violence issues, instances of child marriage and the inclusion and promotion of women as civil leaders and economic contributors in their communities.

WRLFs have had particular tangible impact on women’s land ownership. To date, 284 women have applied and received plots of land, increasing food security for families and challenging cultural norms about women’s ownership of property. In 2015 PWC was also able to support child welfare in the Ngorongoro district, through nutrition support for infants and students.

"The knowledge we gained on land rights helped me to apply for and be given a plot. Now I can grow food to feed my family."

- Juliana, WRLF Member, Samunge Village, Ngorongoro District
Financial Overview
Overview of financial results for the year ending 31 December 2015

Total Income
1,445,963,607 TSHS  $660,646 USD

Total Expenditure
1,420,465,602 TSHS  $648,996 USD

**EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN**

- **60%** Programme Expenditure
- **27%** Personnel Costs
- **7%** Core and Fundraising Costs
- **3%** Governance Costs
- **3%** Monitoring and Evaluation

$18,567 USD
Income raised independently through livestock sales and interest

28% Increase in donated funds compared to 2014

9% of total 2015 expenditure
Funded construction of a PWC office in Longido

In 2015 we more than DOUBLED our funding for community legal support and training compared to 2014
PWC Supporters and Partners

PWC would like to acknowledge and thank the many individuals, families, communities and organisations that support our work which impacts thousands of women and girls across northern Tanzania.

The encouragement and support we received this year reached new heights. We are so grateful to the courageous women and men who advance our mission and goals by standing up for women and their rights in the communities. To the wives, mothers, daughters, husbands, fathers, sons, community leaders and government officials who contributed to steps toward equality and empowerment for women, thank you.

In particular, PWC would like to thank the following supporters and partners whose generosity, advocacy and collaboration had an extraordinary impact on our ability to benefit some of Tanzania’s most vulnerable communities:

2015 Supporters and Partners

African Initiatives  Pastoral Council of NCA
Comic Relief  Pastoralists Indigenous NGO's Forum
Dorobo Fund for Tanzania  PRBB Foundation
Evan Cornish Foundation  Sylvia Adams Trust
Flora Family Foundation  Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition
Global Fund for Women  Tanzania Women's Lawyers Association
Global Partners for Development  Trias
International Working Group for Indigenous Affairs  Ujamaa Community Resource Team
Legal and Human Rights Centre  UNOPS / UN Women
Maliasili initiatives  Waterloo Foundation
Minority Rights Group International
NAFASI - John Stall  A special thank you to our government partners within
Oxfam  Longido, Ngorongoro and Monduli Districts.
Solidarity is strength, division is a weakness

Swahili proverb

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