



The Pastoral Women's Council wants to see a developed society, which respects human rights and justice for all. We focus on economic development, land and environmental stewardship, education and basic human rights, taking a holistic and participatory approach to development.

ABOUT PWC

PWC helps women become self-reliant so they can take control over their own development.

PWC's mission: To promote sound cultural, political, environmental and educational development of pastoralist women and children to facilitate their access to essential social services and economic empowerment. PWC is guided in its work by principles of solidarity, equality, trust and transparency.

Pastoralists are among the poorest people in Tanzania, often excluded from political processes and lacking access to adequate social services. Pastoralist women are further marginalised, being both citizens of a country that undermines or disregards pastoralist values while also a member of a culture that is highly patriarchal. Pastoralist women are therefore highly marginalised members of society, lacking property and ownership rights, access to basic social services, and the ability to make decisions about their own lives. Since its founding in 1997, PWC has worked to address the root causes and effects of such social and gender injustices by empowering women to engage in social processes using a rights' based development

approach based on the principles of solidarity, equality, democracy and justice.

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When you educate a woman, you educate a whole community

- Swahilli Proverb

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Today we have more than 5,000 members in northern Tanzania.

OUR WORK

Our work focuses on three main areas: Education, Economic Empowerment & Rights, Land and Leadership.

EDUCATION - To promote and support women and girls' education as a tool for women's liberation and successes.

Education standards are generally low in Ngorongoro District, with inadequate facilities, poor enrolment rates, and an illiteracy rate of 75%. While these problems affect the entire district, they are particularly challenging for women. However, over the years we've started to see some positive changes take shape:

- The Ngorongoro District Council is dedicating more funds each year towards efforts that will educate girls, this includes a commitment to building two new girls schools in the District.
- The 22 community nursery schools that PWC helped to establish are running independent of donor funding and are receiving more support from both men and women in the communities. Children – both boys and girls – are attending school regularly and their parents are paying school fees on time, purchasing them uniforms and giving them time to study.
- Every year PWC is receiving more applications to receive educational sponsorship. We are not able to sponsor all applicants, but we are trying and are excited to see the growing demand for education, especially girls education.



Primary school students at Misigiyo Primary School in NCA

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT - To facilitate and support women's economic empowerment.

Pastoralist women are financially dependent on men, which is in large part due to their lack of



A member of the NCA Loongoku Cultural Boma carries one of the goats she received from the livelihoods through livestock programme.

education, property rights and lack of access to income generating opportunities. This dependency only reinforces their marginalised role in society. PWC's Economic Empowerment Programme addresses these challenges by empowering and enabling women to become self-reliant and to take control over their own development through participation in income generating activities. We're seeing this happen today:

- After 10 years of facilitating women's groups, PWC is starting to see women's income generating groups form without any outside support or involvement. These groups are raising their own start-up funds and are learning from other successful groups in the area.
- PWC works with more than 800 women who are members of Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCO) in Ngorongoro District. A survey carried out found that 70% of these women are now able to support their families from income earned through SACCO initiatives.

“

I am happy. Since beginning these businesses my family is now assured three meals a day and my children can now go to school. Supporting your family is not only vital for you alone, but for building the entire nation.

”

- Ngondii Masheran, Mondorosi village in Ngorongoro District.
Ngondii is a member of the Oleplos WAG. She received a loan from the group to begin her own business of buying and selling maize as well as rearing livestock.



Chairlady of Eyasimdito Women's Rights Committee giving feedback to the Women's Leadership Forum.



PWC is helping women in Ngorongoro Conservation Area benefit from selling their hand-made jewelry to tourists.



PWC's Economic Empowerment Programme has helped many parents provide food for their families and even send their children to school.

RIGHTS, LAND AND LEADERSHIP - To empower and facilitate women so that they can secure land and property rights for themselves and for their communities, and achieve leadership positions in society.

Maasai women have little decision-making powers in their communities and they lack formal rights over land and natural resources, which are essential to supporting their livelihoods. PWC has been working to address these issues by providing leadership skills and information to women, enabling them to fight for and protect their rights.

“

Women's Rights Committees allowed me to stop fearing the police. I can confidently report on any matter

- Ngodii Masheran, Sakal WRC

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Women gathering in Ololosokwan village

- By establishing women's rights committees in Maasai communities, PWC is educating women about their rights and creating a system to initiate dialogue between women and governance institutions at various levels. So far, these committees have seen positive results, such as women seeking land titles, engaging in business development, and reporting cases of gender based violence.
- After PWC successfully assisted more than 200 women secure individual land titles in two villages in northern Tanzania, we are seeing women apply for their own land titles without any outside support. Women are recognising the importance of land tenure and are now challenging traditional attitudes towards women's property ownership.



WHERE WE WORK

PWC PROJECTS 2013

PWC's programmes are implemented in Ngorongoro and Longido Districts, northern Tanzania, an area that covers approximately 22,638 square km. We primarily work with Maasai communities, the majority ethnic group in the area, along with the Sonjo agropastoralists, which are a minority ethnic group.

Projects

- Tourism
- Solidarity Boma
- Secondary School
- SACCOs
- Revolving Goat Fund
- Primary School
- Nutrition
- Nursery
- Microcredit
- Gender Based Groups
- Evening Classes
- Emanyata School
- CBOs
- Cattle Dip
- Women's Rights
- Women's Action Group
- ▨ Land Titling
- ▨ Land Rights

Land Use

- Bushland
- Grassland
- Natural Forest
- Permanent Swamp
- Water
- Cultivated

