

A smiling man with short dark hair, wearing a blue short-sleeved button-down shirt over a green t-shirt, stands next to a tree with green leaves and small green fruits. He is holding a branch with the fruit. The background is a dense wall of green foliage.

RE-IMAGINING GRASSROOTS TRANSFORMATION IN ZANZIBAR

A compendium



Milele Zanzibar Foundation
Kuongeza Maendeleo. Accelerating Progress



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A SYNOPSIS

This compendium foregrounds the progress made by the shehias that received capacity building on leadership and management organized by Milele Zanzibar Foundation to Shehia advisory committees in 2020. In most cases, the capacity-building training sessions organized took a 'cascade approach' where committee members were picked to receive training at the first level. At the second level, the first-level attendees trained the rest of the members of their groups and the community.

The intervention complemented our approach that seeks to take the individuals that we work with to move from being vulnerable to being resilient. Specifically, through strengthening structures, opening up access, and building capacities in health, education, and livelihoods with an emphasis on working from the grassroots. The aim is to empower individuals and groups with the capacities and abilities to effect change within their communities. The program is key to spearheading Community Driven Development (CDD) that focuses among other aspects on local empowerment and participation.

In most cases, since the training, the planned action plans were successfully implemented. However, there are some ongoing projects for which they plea for the Government and its development partners to support their finalization. Adding to the support we provided other financial support options are required to help the leadership leveling up livelihoods, and improve education and healthcare services. The capacity building provided skills to the committee members specifically on how to seek out ways of getting an additional source of funding to address existing gaps. Broadly, the support offered has so far helped them connect with their communities swiftly to deliver grassroots progress.

The insights and information highlighted in this compendium show the need for a bottom-up approach to effect change at the grassroots. The remarkable success recorded in some of the Shehias has shown that with more power and resources the local leadership can drive progress at the local levels. That can only be achieved through bridging gaps between local and national priorities. The local leadership and the people they lead cannot deliver without the support of the government and other key stakeholders such as Nongovernmental Organizations, Private Sector and the Government. The participation of the community members is also crucial in the design and delivery of developmental initiatives at the local level. This is proven by the shehias from both Unguja and Pemba where places with huge community participation have noted significant progress.

We hope the evidence of success highlighted in this report will help to change the way grassroots development projects are planned and organized. The gaps and challenges pointed out present an opportunity for the government and its development partners to closely collaborate to support positive change in livelihoods, education, healthcare, and infrastructure development.

UNGUJA ISLAND

Mtende Shehia

Of the 24 Shehias supported by MZF Mtende has been recognized as the top performer in Unguja. This is following MZF's initiated capacity-building interventions to the Shehia advisory committee. The committee has 15 members of whom nine (9) are men and the rest are female (6) female. The area has 1738 people (957 female and 781 male). The success can thus act as the best practice to imitate around when undertaking developmental projects at the grassroots levels.

The key support was in helping the Shehia Advisory Committee deliver in key sectors, specifically, livelihoods, education, and healthcare. The field officer for the Shehia Abdalla Kombo said "We received the training from Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF) in 2019. They include building our capacity to develop and implement Shehia strategic plan and its ensuing activities to improve basic service provision at Mtende. We are grateful that the work has been going well as the Shehia advisory committee's capacity strengthened". In turn, the advisory committee has also been able to build the capacity of other stakeholders in Mtende to support the development activities laid out on the agreed action plans.

The evidence of the impact of capacity building can be seen in the key sectors of livelihoods, education, and healthcare. Others have been on the infrastructure improvement such as road construction, especially the rural roads that help rural dwellers to access farmlands. The additional social economic impact brought by the support includes the construction of the market, using the income gained from the opportunities availed by the tourism sector. In this, the resource mobilized by the committee also helped in the construction of the fencing wall which is still ongoing. Moreover, they have also been able to do the same for the local primary school. Primarily, the action is aimed at improving the security of learners, teachers, and school assets. Broadly, the wall serves to maintain and improve the learning environment of the school. In addition, the training's leadership and management components have enabled them to maintain the other existing projects built in the localities that include water projects.



They will also do the same to ensure that the market center currently under construction is timely completed. The efforts to support their development efforts have received a helping hand from other organs such as the House of Representatives Fund. Another member of Shehia Ms. Semeni added that "we have already been asked to assess the amount of the fund needed to complete the construction of the market center. Our aim is to finish the projects so that they become functional". She added.

Also, prioritized was the participation of the community members in the planned local developmental efforts. There are planned meetings between the residents of Mtende and the committee to mobilize support from each member of the local community. Because of that, some members have been providing support such as labor, freely, to support the Shehia development efforts. In these community meetings, people are given chances to choose the project to be pursued to help their day-to-day lives.

Challenges

- Despite the availability of Health Services, the center has no equipment to offer a proper diagnosis for those in need of such service. People have to travel for up to four miles to access specialized healthcare services. It can cost up to 10,000 - 15,000 TSH to go to the hospital by car and up to 4,000 by motorcycle. In education, many of the teachers are not coming from Mtende they come and go from other places. Many come late and leave early because of the transport challenges. The income from forestry now goes to government coffers therefore they lack a source of income from their localities.

Ukongoroni Shehia

On one sunny day, we traveled to Ukongoroni another Shehia that was also covered by leadership and management training run by MZF. Over the years, the Shehia has been receiving little support from the government and its development partners. Part of the reason is the truth that the Shehia is one of the areas located furthest away from the district or regional administrations. The area is in central south Zanzibar some 52 kilometers from Stone Town. It has just over 1,500 people.

The dilapidated and impassable roads compound the many socio-economic challenges faced by the community members in the Shehia. Such challenges make the area remain isolated. In addition, the community members are generally low-income earners unable to access basic services. Ukongoroni is one of the Shehias whose advisory committee received capacity-building support organized and run by MZF.

The committee received capacity-building training that improved its members' leadership ability in 2020. The training duration was six (6) days. In the organized sessions, all 15 members of the advisory committees had a chance to participate. Broadly, the training covered the three key areas that MZF supports in Zanzibar. They are livelihoods, education, and healthcare. The focus was on capacity building of the committees to help the advisory committee deliver in such key sectors of development. The insistence especially was on the ability of the committee to innovatively use local resources to address developmental needs. Specifically, those that once put into proper use have the potential of turning the fortunes of the local communities in the area.

Following the intervention, the committee can now effectively use available platforms such as village meetings to promote developmental initiatives. They have used such avenues for example to organize the youth in socio-economic empowerment groups to support income generation in the Shehia. As a result, they now have eleven (11) youth groups whereby each has 12-20 members. One of the groups formed is Toa Pesa whose one of the members, Khamis Haji Vuaa had this to say, "Our group of 20 members engage in various economic activities including farming, where we cultivate tomatoes, lemons, and watermelons. We sell our products here in Zanzibar in places such Mwanakwerekwe market. We also sometimes ship them to as far as Dar es Salaam where we normally fetch a good price. For example, recently during the harvesting season, we sold a lorry of watermelons and got 4,000,000 Tsh"

The strengthened capacities have helped the committee identify opportunities availed by diverse sectors such as tourism that have started to thrive in the nearby beaches and forestry. Moreover, they have been able to mobilize youth in groups that are successfully engaging in agriculture. The capacitated youth, for example, have been able to use the gained knowledge to engage in modern agriculture which has helped to increase their yield and income. They farm tomatoes, eggplants, lemons, and okra. In addition, the Ukongoroni advisory committee has started looking for other opportunities for investment in the nearby island known as Juba which the local communities believe the area can benefit from such an investment.

So far, the MZF's organized capacity-building sessions have had numerous advantages. They include the Shehia-improved capacity, especially through their advisory committee, to mobilize local resources to support planned developmental activities. The Shehia advisory committee has 15 members (10 male and 5 female). The committee does meet once per quarter to deliberate and plan local development initiatives. In addition, apart from building the capacity of the Shehia advisory committee, MZF supported the Shehia by funding the construction of the health center.

Before this support, the community members in need of medical attention had to travel for long distances to access health services. More so, because the center that was closer to Shehia was in dire condition and crumbling. "we thank Milele for the support that they have been giving us" In the past, they had to travel for up to 3 miles to access health services.

The committee also has the built-in capacity to mobilize community members to take part in supporting the construction of schools and health centers. In education, the Shehia has also noted success. For example, during the past academic year, nine (9) school-going children in primary school passed to secondary schools.

Challenges

- **They do not have medical specialists** to offer specialized medical services at the MZF-built health center. The center also does not have enough health practitioners such as nurses to attend to those in need of health services. MZF supported the center with health volunteers but they need more for continuous services.
- **Further, the center does have enough medical supplies and equipment** to offer comprehensive health care services. The nearby hospital which is found in Bwejuu is 3 miles away, therefore the transport cost can go up to 8000Tsh for one person. That is a lot for many community members with a modest income.
- **Limited classrooms** where the available school is used for both secondary and primary school classes. So four (4) classrooms are for secondary classes and six (6) are for primary school.
- **In addition, the roads are impassable**, especially during the seasons it is thus difficult to get investors even with the opportunities touted under the blue economy.

Potential

There seem to be huge opportunities for community members to use agriculture and fishery to boost local socio-economic activities. The advisory committee has also been contemplating having the fund to support local development initiatives. In addition, there are opportunities on Juba Island, especially in conservation and tourism. The readiness of the community members to support local development is also a positive progress to note and that can be leveraged.



Kilombero Shehia

One of the Shehias that have benefitted immensely from MZF-supported capacity-building training is Kilombero Shehia. The Shehia has a population of 2026 people. The gained skills have helped improve the capacity of the Shehia advisory committee to manage development projects in sectors such as education, water, and healthcare. As such, they have been able to build classes, water projects, and a school laboratory. The success is a result of an increased ability of the Shehia Advisory Committee to mobilize other development actors beyond MZF to support locally tailored projects.

One of the members Ms. Fatuma Juma Abdalla had this to say “the skills gained from the leadership training have enabled us to get other agencies to support our development initiatives. For example, we had one donor who support us with a well construction and water tap from which we fetch water”. Getting safe and clean water is paramount given the fact in its absence or scarcity women are the ones who are mostly affected. The availability of water has saved women the time they used to look for water and they now use the saved time to engage in productive activities.

In the health sector, they have been able to raise awareness of women of productive age to make use of health services. More so, in using the available health centers to access proper maternal and child health services provided nearby. They have also been providing sexual and reproductive health services to adolescent girls and boys in a bid to discourage teenage pregnancies. The efforts have seen improved retention of school-going girls in the area.

Looking back, regarding GBV and VAC before the interventions of the Shehia advisory committee, many cases of such nature went unnoticed. Following the support, now the community members have enough knowledge to understand the GBV and VAC challenges and properly report.

The success in addressing GBV challenges has resulted from male engagement as part of the local efforts. The men have been trained on the challenges of GBV and the importance of preventing them from occurring. In addition, the programs are not implemented in isolation or without a guide. The advisory committee has been offering such training programs as instructed by the government.

The Shehia has also a children's council that is active and acts as a platform used by the children to share their grudges and thoughts for their future. The children themselves do all the activities of the council and the committee is only playing a facilitating role.

In education, they have managed to build classes for children at the preschool-age level. Before the interventions parents had to take their kids to Uzini which is far and dangerous for little learners. Now the class is closer to the community and can be accessed by the children and the parents easier. They now have two classes for children of kindergarten age.

The efforts of the capacitated committee have also improved WASH awareness among the community members. Many have now become knowledgeable in using proper latrines to address diarrheal diseases in the area. The sensitization is part of the Shehia plans consistently undertaken in the area to support the community's health and well-being.

Challenges

- The major economic activity in the Shehia is agriculture but the sector has some challenges that include; the cost of production that keeps going up. For example, to hire a tractor to cultivate an acre one needs to pay up to 60,000 Tsh.
- The community members also cited the theft of cattle as another challenge that derail the economic empowerment efforts in the Shehia. Moreover, there is also a feeling among the community members that there is a lack of comprehensive consultation between the community members, the government, and the development partners to determine the type of development projects to undertake.

Field Officer "Before the capacity building community members could not mobilize other support to help address many of the local challenges but right after MZF's supported capacity building of the Shehia advisory committee we see change for the better of our community".

Mbuyutende Shehia

The Shehia is closer to the famous tourist spots in Zanzibar. The Shehia has about 3226 people. Recalling the training the local leader, Faki Kombo Faki says "The training was an eye opener as they gave us the means to address challenges in education, health, and socio-economic activities. They supported us to think of the best way to develop our Shehia".

The knowledge has enabled the community members to create savings and credit groups to support the members with soft loan provisions. One such group is Mwanzo mgumu, the group is made up of nine (9) members. The group members contribute 5,000Tsh on a weakly basis as saving in the group. One of the members Ms. Rehema Yosuf Makame said she recently got 150,000 Tsh which she used as capital to start a small business.

Ongoing projects

Following the gained capacity enhancement, the Shehia leadership has been able to mobilize community members to construct a health center using their resources. Thus, they have started building the center as one of the ongoing local efforts to support the well-being of the community at Mbuyutende. So far through such own efforts they have managed to construct a building foundation. In this effort, the community members supported their labor, some building equipment, and the money to pay for the masons. They continue to mobilize support from other development stakeholders to complete the construction of the facility.

Other efforts in education are supporting the retention of school-going children in Mbuyutende. The efforts include learning camps organized by school administration and parents to support the students in examination classes. The program intends to support the performance of the

school-going children at the Shehia. The efforts in education are among other things geared towards addressing the challenges of truancy that in most cases lead to school dropouts. The Shehia leadership noted that some parents used to allow their children to stay at home. Now that has changed for example all 67 class four students now attend school. While in the past year for example among the 19 standard four pupils only 6 or 7 used to attend school.

Challenge

- The health center they depend on is too far to access the health services and the medical attention they need. In addition, the center does not have enough drugs and equipment.

Michikichini Shehia

Mchikichini is among the received the capacity building interventions organized by Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF). The beneficiaries of the capacity building, as with other Shehias, were the Shehia advisory committee. Its advisory committee has 11 members. Of the total number, four of them are women. Following this support, the advisory committee has been able to support local development initiatives more effectively. One of the members Omar Hamis Omar said 'We are grateful for the support we received from MZF and since then we have been able to supervise the local development initiatives better than it was before'. For example, through their efforts, they started building a health center in the area.

To complement such an initiative MZF supported finishing and equipping the center. The center is now operational. However, the undertaken initiative is not without a challenge. Specifically, because the absence of similar facilities in the nearby Shehias compel community members from those areas to go to the center to be attended to. As a result, the center's capacity to serve is overwhelmed. In addition, the limited number of available health workers and practitioners affects the quality of health provision at the center.

The capacitated Shehia advisory committee has supported improving the livelihoods of the vulnerable women, families, caregivers, and youth at the Shehia. For example, the committee organized capacity-building training sessions on handicrafts to support women in their Shehia. About 92 women received these sessions and are now undertaking productive activities such as chalk-making.

Challenge

- The area has seen progress in some key sectors but critical challenges are still lingering in sectors such as education. For example, the school in the neighborhood is incapable of accommodating all the children in need of primary school education. They have land but they need to buy more and build the primary school to support their children. Further, Shehia is facing infrastructural challenges, especially roads where of them are impassable during the rainy season.



PEMBA ISLAND

Mtambwe South Shehia

Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF) interventions also covered the other part of the Zanzibar archipelago, Pemba which is one of its major islands. One of the Shehia supported was Mtambwe Kusini. The Shehia is located in Wete district in Northern Pemba. The area has 4733 people (2323 female and 2410 male). The capacity building of the Shehia has enabled progress in livelihoods, education, and health of the targeted communities in Mtambwe. The Shehia has been able to mobilize the local communities to productively engage in agricultural production. This is following the leadership and management training organized and offered by MZF. They farm food crops such as cassava, onions, and other vegetables and cash crops that are mainly spices such as vanilla, ginger, and red India. In this, the agriculture extension officer, Maulid Bakar Mataka, added that 'we are happy with the capacity building received I request for more training specifically on agriculture and improved agricultural tools'. The built capacity has also enabled the advisory committee to identify opportunities in productive areas such as bee and cattle keeping and fish farming.

In addition, the mentioned economic activities are in most cases conducted through socio-economic groups which the advisory committee facilitated to establish. The groups that have been formed include Tupendane, Tuvumiliane, and Tumeamua cooperative societies with 15 (12 female and three male), 10 (6 female and 4 male), and 13 (six female and seven male) members respectively. To complement the capacity-building sessions conducted, MZF also supported the groups with agricultural inputs such as farm boots, slashers, and hoes to help in their farming activities. We thank Milele for the training that they provided to us that has enabled us to deliver our work their support has helped the Shehia to have maternal and child care health services closer to our communities." Says the local leader (Sheha) Mr. Othman Ali Hamis

Challenge

- The members of the cooperative society also shared some of their challenges that include limited modern farming techniques, water pumps, and incubators. They also lack modern seeds that could improve their productivity and yields. The availability of the aforementioned inputs could increase their production which would mean more household income.

Education

The progress in education has also seen the construction of six (6) classrooms. Also, there are ongoing plans to build a school at Kivumoni. Moreover, the advisory committee through the sessions organized in collaboration with the parents campaigned to encourage school attendance among school-going children. Such campaigns have resulted in a dramatic improvement in school attendance in the Shehia. In addition, the local leadership has also managed to mobilize the community to build kindergarten school centers in Kivumoni and Mtangamalea areas. They have also been able to attract other development partners that include Zanhelp Association which built a school at Mitambuni Kisukari. More important, there are also improvements in secondary schools' performance which has gone up from an average of 5%-12% to 7%-18% according to recent results.

Challenges

- The challenges in education include a lack of teachers, for example, the available kindergarten schools have only three teachers. Such a challenge has forced the children to have classes three days per week. This situation affects their overall learning.

In healthcare, there are also challenges in South Mtambwe where the available health center/hospital does not have enough health workers. They are grateful that MZF supported them with healthcare worker trainees but the challenge is they only work on a short-term basis. The community members at Kokota Island are also grateful for the MZF's donated boat. However, they request that if the engine of the boat could be upgraded to increase its speed for quick ferrying of people in need of emergency medical attention.

"We are grateful that Milele has given us education in healthcare, especially during the pandemic-COVID 19 where they offered education on prevention. The supported campaigns have also changed the perception of men in antenatal care where now men are willing to accompany their partners to attend clinics. We are also happy with the availability of the delivery room in the health center"



Mkungu Shehia

Mkungu is also one of the Shehia who benefitted from the MZF interventions. The Shehia is located in Mkoani district in the South region. According to the statistics shared by the local leadership, the area has 2850 people. The residents of the area revealed to have seen progress following MZF support that they had not observed before the MZF programs. One of the areas that the community members mentioned is their improved awareness of their roles to bring about their development in the Shehia. They added that the capacity building of the Shehia has had a profound impact as the local leader leadership has now increased skills and confidence to supervise the developmental projects undertaken in the area. In livelihoods, for example, the advisory committee has facilitated the formation of economic groups which are dealing with agriculture especially vegetable and fruit farming, fishing, and beekeeping. Others are engaging in soap making to increase their income. The groups formed do also function as the saving and credit groups where members can access soft loans from their savings.

Challenges

- Limited amounts of savings affect their capacity of giving loans to more group members in need.

Infrastructural challenges

The people in the Shehia socio-economic activities are affected by the absence of the bridge connecting Mkungu and Mwambe. Through their efforts they have started to mobilize construction materials they are now calling for support from the government and the development partners to support the construction of the bridge.

Trickle-down effect

The capacity building received by the Shehia advisory committee has been trickled down to vulnerable groups such as the youth, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), and women. These groups have been mobilized and helped to engage in economic activities such as tailoring, making decorations, and food processing. For example, there is one group which is known as Community Pemba Forest that was imparted with the skills to process vegetables such as tomatoes and spinach to increase their shelf life (they can last up to six (6) months).

In education, the mobilized communities have been able to find local resources to construct a kindergarten school that has now reached the foundation level. To that end, they need support from the development partners to support the completion of the school project. On this the field officer Mohamed Hamis Suleiman had this to say "we will be happy to be supported to have a primary school that may have kindergarten classes to support our children getting education nearby."

Challenges

- The challenges include a lack of facilities for kindergarten schools that would make learning fun. For example, there are no swings for little kids to make the time in school enjoyable. The kindergarten is small and requires more rooms to accommodate all the children in need of kindergarten education. They have a plot for expanding to three classrooms. The available teachers are mostly working as volunteers who cannot be depended on in the long run. Moreover, the available nearby secondary school in Manduthi is located far from the areas where many children are coming from. For example, to reach the school some students have to walk up to 7 kilometers. The distance discourage some of the students' daily attendance that somewhat resulted in school dropping out.

Success in education is contributed by the fact that the parents and community members are aware of the importance of education following the efforts of the capacitated Shehia advisory committee. Community members have organized themselves to follow up on children who had dropped out of school and return them to school. The efforts aim to bring back the Out of School Children (OOSC) in the areas as well as improve the retention of those in school.

The Shehia has been able to mobilize resources from other development stakeholders such as the office of the Member of Parliament donated a photocopier to the school. The committee meets three times a month and one of its jobs is to reach out to parents and community members to encourage school-going children attendance.

Healthcare

In the Shehia MZF had worked with the community members especially in a campaign to encourage COVID-19 sensitization. This is because in Zanzibar just like it was in the mainland the rate of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy rate was very high. The local leaders have also worked

Challenges

- The community members also reported the lack of enough healthcare practitioners. The ones they now depend on are stationed at Kengeja Healthcare at the nearby Shehia. The leadership has already allocated a piece of land to build the healthcare and the building plan is already prepared. They hope that the center can house maternal and child health services. They thus call for support to have a center nearby that can also have a delivery room. As for now, pregnant women in need of delivery services have to go to Mtambile which is far and thus costly with the absence of a public ambulance.

out to get other development stakeholders such as PEGAO to support local healthcare improvement projects. The organization helped children who had hearing challenges that could lead to impairment to get the health service they needed.

Makangale Shehia

The MZF interventions reached another Shehia in Pemba known as Makangale. The area is located in North Pemba. The Shehia has 6870 residents of whom 3735 are female and 3135 male. The Shehia advisory committee meets once after every month. The MZF capacity building has benefited the Shehia advisory committee enormously with the capacitated members now able to supervise local developmental initiatives. Since the capacity building, the committee's ability to identify and assess the existing challenges has improved and progress can be observed. For example, regarding socio-economic support, the advisory committee has helped organized

Challenges

- The Shehia used to get money from the nearby forest that has a park that attracts tourists. The central government now manages the forest thus denying the Shehia the income they used to get. The Shehia is also faced with the challenge of power and electricity that affect other productive activities such as food processing.
- Water supply is another challenge that affects other socio-economic activities. Therefore, they have been forced to dig wells to contain the challenge. In this women are mostly affected as they use much of their time fetching water in the time they would use to undertake other productive activities. The local leader (sheha) Said Ali Kombo said "our main challenge here is safe and clean water availability this can bring a challenge of diarrheal diseases and others that can affect our well-being"

24 economic empowerment groups of which 19 of them are formerly registered. Agriculture is the mainstay of many of the residents in the Shehia with seaweed farming one of the leading economic activities.

The area has no healthcare center currently. There is one which is now constructed by the government and located six kilometers from the residential areas. They are grateful that MZF built Mnarani primary school. However, the school is not enough to accommodate all the school-aged children at Mnarani they request more classrooms. They have allocated land for the planned school expansion. The campaigns to keep children in school have reduced absenteeism. However, other challenges are still present that include a lack of teachers and key tools such as photocopy machine for school.



Sizini Shehia

The Shehia has 7,588 people and is one of the four Shehia of Micheweni district that is found in Northern Unguja. Following the capacity building of the Shehia advisory committee offered by Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF) the committee has been able to plan for activities such as working with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) so that they build classes to address inadequate schools infrastructure. Also, to complement such efforts the committee organized a campaign to sensitize parents to support school development in the Shehia. The improved infrastructure is essentially to reduce overcrowded classes in the schools. They also communicated with the Ministry to request for schoolteachers that will address gaps in schools and improve learning.

The leadership also organized parents which among the deliberation was to have the school learning visits at the end of each term. In livelihood, they planned training for vulnerable women and youth to support the adoption of modern agricultural practices. In the same vein, they supported these groups' access to key farming inputs and soft loans to help modernize their activities. In healthcare, the committee supported the formation of the committee to monitor the provision of health services. In addition, they planned a campaign to raise the awareness of the community members on the importance of healthcare and a clean environment.

The following are some of the access that the Shehia has gained as a result of the interventions above;

The capacity building of the Shehia advisory committee has supported the Shehia to have five classes for primary schools, four for Kindergarten Schools, four toilets in the schools, and one new office. The community members are currently sensitized and contribute to the development of the Sizini primary school. They have also been able to build two classes for Kindergarten at Kijichame and built other classes at Chuini that are not yet roofed (the construction has reached 50%). They have also been able to mobilize support from other development stakeholders such

as TASAF who have supported walling off the rice farms to prevent salt-water intrusion. Parents have been sensitized to contribute to school development and some do support it. The parents' day was conducted and the best students were awarded to motivate others to improve their performance in exams.

In 2022, three exchange visit programs for learners in grades five, six, and seven. Training on organic farming practices benefitted 139 community members. About 42 of them have started putting what they learn into practice through engaging in organic farming. Also, two empowerment groups have benefitted from the soft loans to support their economic activities. Moreover, nine empowerment groups have developed action plans to support improved productivity in their socio-economic activities. The male involvement campaign has also seen considerable progress as the percentage of men who accompany their partners to the clinic has increased by 30%. In livelihood, the community members have received capacity-building training on chicken rearing, and fishing. About 40 people benefitted from the training.

In education, the Shehia advisory committee planned the following;

They planned to renovate Chwaka secondary school. They have managed to do that and now the learning environment has improved. The learners' performance has increased by 50% following the formation of monitoring committees that follow education progress. The school learning camps have also reached 85%.

In livelihood, 245 community members have benefitted from the training on entrepreneurship. Also, following that 51 people have so far managed to start their small businesses. More generally, the challenge of joblessness has decreased by 55% in the areas intervened. The efforts to protect farming land have started to bear fruits as the land has become fertile and productive again by 90%. In addition, 32 community members have benefited from home gardening training organized by the Shehia leadership. The campaign against barefoot has also recorded progress with 45% of children in madrasas wearing shoes.

In healthcare, the campaign to promote the use of latrines in the community has also gained significant progress. For example, in 2020 the 1148 households in the Shehia had just 122 latrines for their use. Following the campaign, the number of latrines has increased to 612 in 2022.

Challenges

- The Shehia has the challenge of fewer sources of resources which contributes to the inadequate ability to access start capital. The varied perceptions of the development partners regarding the development in the Shehia.
- Some school-going children from places such as Kijichame have to walk for up to three kilometers. The challenge affects about 70 children who started grade one in 2022.
- Another challenge shared by Said Hamad Juma who is the secretary of the advisory committee was the unavailability of an ultrasound machine at the health center. Especially so affecting pregnant women.



Msuka East Shehia

The Shehia has 11 advisory committee members. Among them, there are five males and six females. Of the 11 committee members, six have been on the committee for a while and the other five are new members. Following the capacity building offered by Milele Zanzibar Foundation (MZF), the Shehia has been able to plan the following activities;

In August 2022, they mobilized community members to contribute to the school construction fund. They also requested funds to support the renovation of the schools in the neighborhood. They planned for the development of projects, and parents and community members' sensitization so that they participate in school developmental initiatives. The action plans also include helping parents of school-going children to have periodic meetings to discuss the progress of their children in learning. They also planned for organized exchange learning visits for primary and secondary school children. In July 2022, they also planned a school competition to help schools' academic competitiveness. The advisory committee also developed monitoring plans for Haroun and Msuka schools.

The results of those planned activities are as follows;

The community members have been able to contribute about 1,100,000 for Msuka secondary school, 880,000 for Haroun secondary school, and 328,000 for Msuka primary school. The district administration supported the renovation of five toilets at Msuka Secondary School. They also supported improving the water supply in the school. They have been also promised to get support for the renovation of both Haroun and Msuka secondary schools in the 2023/24 budget. Following the campaigns, about 51 parents have been sensitized to form parent committees to monitor the school's progress. 15 meetings were held. Six meetings were organized in Haroun, four in Msuka Secondary, and six in Msuka primary schools. Eight exchange visits were organized in the Shehia. Three for Msuka Secondary, two for msuka primary school, and three for Haroun secondary school. The school competitions have been organized and run four times for Msuka primary schools and Haroun secondary schools. The school monitoring was organized by the Shehia advisory committee to bring back to school 97 children who dropped out in the three schools in the Shehia.

The capacity building has also enabled the Shehia advisory committee to plan activities that support the livelihoods of the community members in the Shehia. They include; facilitating training on organic farming practices in March 2022. Also, in June 2022, they followed up on the supply of farming inputs to farmers. In August 2022 they also supported the preparation of the groups and individuals development plans in the Shehia. They assessed the empowerment groups to learn whether they implemented their agreed work plans. They also wanted to learn whether the plans were implemented in time.

As a result, three empowerment groups received farming inputs through soft loans. 12 empowerment groups received training on how to prepare development action plans. Three meetings were organized and four groups and five individual entrepreneurs presented their implementation plans. About 89 entrepreneurs have received training that in turn supported their fishing. Additionally, 78 youths have been sensitized to engage in economic empowerment activities. Turns out, seven have started keeping animals, 26 are farming food products and 31 are cultivating seaweed.



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