

DOGODOGO CENTRE STREET CHILDREN TRUST



TITLE: EMPOWERMENT OF THE MOST EXCLUDED AND INVISIBLE TANZANIAN CHILDREN

**JOINT FUNDING PROGRESS REPORT
January-December 2012**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Joint Progress Report, Dogodogo Centre 2012

Dogodogo tried to maximize its vision to empower the most excluded and invisible children. Through the coordination of resources in personnel, experience and finance Dogodogo Center with its basic services to street children and Emusoi with its empowerment of pastoralist girls have built a capacity to impact the lives of more than 850 vulnerable boys and girls directly through basic services and virtually millions indirectly through its wider coverage media programs. Dogodogo collaborated with GNRC in different forums in view of strengthening the advocacy component. It is through these services that it has earned the credibility to advocate for the rights of vulnerable children Locally, Nationally and Globally reaching thousands of Tanzanian children and hundreds of children globally.

As the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) is central to development policy globally the Centre has addressed three of the Goals. It has alleviated the hunger of more than 850 children once excluded and invisible. Music, Art and Drama programmes attended by more than 40 children living with AIDS continued to take place with the help of a Corporate Sponsor and collaboration of PASADA. Emusoi prepared 50 pastoralists girls, some virtually illiterate in January 2012 to sit for entrance exams at the end of 2012 and another 60 pastoralists girls were directly enabled to attend Secondary School through this partnership. Emusoi altogether is supporting more than 650 pastoralist's girls.

Four significant events in 2012 enabled the three entities working in concert to advocate widely for the rights of children:

- On the Day of the African Child children from Dogodogo programme participated in the opening of the International Fourth Forum meeting that was officially opened by the Tanzanian President at the Hyatt Hotel in Dar es Salaam. The meeting was organized by GNRC-Africa.
- Dogodogo played a major role together with other Civil Society Organizations under the leadership of Tanzania Child Rights Forum (TCRF) in working out a position paper to be presented to the Constitution Review Commission regarding articles on children. The main focus of TCRF is to monitor the implementation of The Law of Child Act (LCA) of 2009.
- Emusoi graduated 110 girls from Form IV and Dogodogo graduated 23 boys from Vocational Training and one boy completed Form IV.
- One Dogodogo Child had a one month Camp in the USA for jump rope in July and 2 others together with the one from the States attended 2 week Camp in Mombasa in December 2012.

This was the second year since Dogodogo phased out from providing direct services to primary school going street children in a formal setting. However Dogodogo expanded its advocacy program including an alternative education program called the Mobile School inspired by Mkombozi's program in Moshi. However the mobile school might close down next year due to funding problems.

DOGODOGO CENTRE STEET CHILDREN TRUST

JOINT FUNDING PROGRESS REPORT 2012

Introduction

This report covers the period of January – December 2012 on the achievements, challenges and constraints. The report shall also highlight lessons learned that will help in shaping our work plan in the coming year. The main donors to this project are Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), an Anonymous Corporate Sponsor and Private Family Sponsor, Maryknoll Sisters and UNICEF. Dogodogo Centre provides services directly to about 100 children and over 800 children in Dar es Salaam area being provided with counseling and educational services especially in the area of HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and behavior change while at the same time being counseled for a possibility of direct reunification with their families through our direct work on the streets. These children are among those who are reached through our street work with children on the streets including sports activities, interaction at satellite stations and Mobile School Project. Some 70 children living with HIV/AIDS are part of a vibrant art therapy program run by Dogodogo. Another 75 vulnerable and talented children in Ubungu were provided exposure to the Arts.

An important internal partner the Global Network of Religions for Children – Africa (GNRC-Africa) serves partly as an advocacy arm of the centre's activities. Networking children through Peace Clubs addresses Children's Rights and Conflict Resolution through peace building in an interfaith milieu. Emusoi our strategic partner based in Arusha serves over 650 pastoralist girls ensuring that they receive secondary education to avoid early marriage and raise the feminine leadership potential in the Pastoralist's Communities. Through the Leadership of Dogodogo and the synergy of the partners most Excluded and Invisible Children in Tanzania are empowered to dream their futures.

This Annual Joint Progress Report is divided into six main areas namely:

1. Primary School Age Street Children – Satellite stations, Mobile School and Sports
2. Secondary Education, Vocational Skills Training
3. Counseling/Life Skills Education and Health
4. Advocacy and Networking
5. Art Therapy and Culture Programs – Children Living with HIV/AIDS
Vulnerable Talented Children
6. Secondary Scholarships for Pastoralists Girls – Emusoi

1. Primary School Age Street Children – Satellite stations, Mobile School and Sports

With the closure of Kigogo Home, the residence for street children enrolled in primary schools, Dogodogo continued interacting with street children on the street. This interaction revealed the imperative that street children must have some kind of school that will enable

those who are school drop outs and those who have never been to school, an opportunity to learn the 3Rs. After some research a Mobile School Program evolved. It targets children for whom the street is the main basic educational environment, children who live on the streets. Mobile School believes that growth or improvement process of the street child begins in the Streets. The Mobile School further believes that the only sustainable way to step into the growth process starts with recognizing the child and its environment as central actors in the process.

Everything begins with the constructive empowerment process without condemning or judging the child and its environment. The educator simply plays the role of a guide and has to recognize the child as the one that takes decisions and makes choices. The educator has to use positive and respectful approaches in order to make the child realize it has these choices and is capable of making them. Only when the child makes the conscious decision or choice for change itself, will there be any chance that the change may be sustainable! Three different selected points namely Ubungo, Tazara and Morroco reach about 60 street children on a weekly basis teaching the 3Rs. These points are also used as centres of counseling for behavior change.

In March 2012, under the guardianship of the Department of Social Welfare and funded by UNICEF, 4 satellite stations were established around Dar es Salaam where willing street children visit daily for different activities including recreation, counseling, 3Rs, health services and a possibility of being referred to other appropriate service destinations.

Additionally, 9 football teams have been established around town in which children are supplied with sports facilities. They have been taught to manage themselves and plan by themselves on how to safely keep the facilities. Our task in this adventure is to provide supervision, coaching and equipment only. In-door games continued to be practiced at MTC and friendly football matches were played by MTC team as well as street children who are on the streets. Bonanzas have been organized that involved both street children and children from the community.

Achievements

- New comers on the street are more accessible and over 50 children in total were reunified with their families after counseling during the reporting period.
- 48 children who could not read and write have learnt to do so through the mobile school project.
- Preparations for street children football world championship started around Dar es Salaam. The tournament will be conducted in Brazil in April 2014.
- Dar es Salaam street children "Rapid Assessment Survey Report" was written and was widely disseminated for lobbying and advocacy purposes.

Constraints

- Most of the street children preferred a shelter to stay for security purposes as sometimes they are rounded up in the night by city police that lead into interruption from reintegration plans that they have set with Dogodogo in the process.
- Rains interrupt the sessions for mobile school that are normally held under trees.
- Fluctuating attendance makes it difficult for the teacher to follow the prepared lesson plan.
- Concentration of students during sessions is difficult especially for old timers on the streets.

2. SECONDARY EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING,

A. Secondary School Education

No student was enrolled in secondary in 2012 as Kigogo home has remained closed in 2011. One student who was studying in Karatu Arusha completed form VI and qualified for a pharmacy study at the Muhimbili University College and the student at Mvumi joined form V at the same school. 2 students were in form II and IV respectively at Boko secondary school but living at MTC in 2012.

2011 Secondary School Students

	Bunju	Mvumi	Arusha	Total
Form One				
Form Two	1			1
Form Three				
Form Four	1			1
Form Five		1		1
Form Six			1	1
Total	2	1	1	4

B. Vocational skills training

The objective of vocational skills training is to provide vocational training to vulnerable children and youths between the ages of 15-17 years to enable them to be self-reliant in the future. The Centre has continued to offer its traditional courses which include Carpentry and Joinery, Tailoring and Multimedia. Life skills education, Entrepreneurship and computer programs have been effectively implemented along with aforementioned trades. For the whole year of training, every department has demonstrated a commitment to improving skills training given to vulnerable children and youths at the Centre. Skills in Fire Fighting and Rescue continued to be offered to students who willingly enroll to participate under the supervision of a volunteer from Germany.

2012 Vocational skills students' population matrix

Course	Year I	Year II
Multimedia	6	4
Tailoring	8	5
Carpentry (MTC Bunju)	22	14
Total	36	23

Fire Fighting and Rescue Club

This Club was started as a result of association between Dogodogo Centre and young Firefighters Brigade from the City of Hamburg-Germany. Joint trainings have been conducted in Dar es Salaam and Hamburg for the last 5 years, whereby five boys and one trainer visited Hamburg for one month for exchange program and youths from Hamburg also visited MTC. Through this Partnership between Dogodogo Centre and City of Hamburg, Dogodogo has been given 2 fire trucks which are being used in training the youths to become volunteer fire fighters in collaboration with Dar es Salaam fire fighting department and a volunteer from Germany.

The Dar es Salaam – Hamburg Association aims at

- Enhancing collaboration among the youths in the two cities in voluntary activities especially in rescue missions, first aid administration and fire fighting techniques.
- Promoting cultural and socio-economic activities amongst youths of different background.
- Exposing former street children and most vulnerable youths to become key agents of change in the society.
- Character building using fire fighting techniques.
- Setting ground work in making MTC eventually become a full fledged fire fighting station working in collaboration with fire fighting department of the city of Dar es Salaam.

Peace clubs

Through GNRC-Africa, some new MTC students have joined the Peace club to rebuild the Culture of Peace at the Centre. Peace Club zone has been established whereby peace club activities are conducted and issues related to environment are addressed regularly. Through these Peace Clubs students have learn to respect each other and importance of safeguarding the environment.

Achievements

- 36 vulnerable children and youths successfully completed their first year syllabus at the Multipurpose Training Centre.
- 23 vulnerable children and youths completed their two years skills training – 5 boys graduated in Tailoring, 14 boys graduated in Carpentry and Joinery and 4 others in Multimedia.
- Quality furniture and clothes were produced during skills training. Dogodogo received an award for the second consecutive time during this year's Norwegian Church Aid Partners Meeting where the students products were exhibited.
- Individual and group counseling sessions were successfully conducted.
- Two days psychosocial workshops were conducted each quarter leading partly to reduction of unbecoming behavior.
- Multimedia students participated in several national and international events adding to what they learnt in class.
- A team of 5 students accompanied by one teacher made a 1 month tour in Hamburg Germany to learn what their peers are doing in Fire Fighting and Rescue.

Constraints

- The level of reading and writing of some students was still very low despite the fact that they have all completed std VII.
- Lack of reading culture hinders students from improving their performance.
- Lack of ready market to sell items made during training.

3. COUNSELLING/LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION AND HEALTH

- Individual and group counseling have been carried out under the weekly supervision of the staff in the counseling department. "Client centered" orientation has always been the main approach.
- Counseling sessions were conducted at the Multipurpose Training Centre where counseling records are kept in children's files.
- Monthly students' counsels (Barazas) were also conducted at the Multipurpose Training Centre. Students freely discussed some of their problems and presented to the management for solutions.
- Children and youths at MTC attended in house 2 days quarterly psychosocial seminars. This was done 3 times this year.
- Medical services have been provided to street children at Msimbazi Centre and MTC boys have continued receiving treatment at MICO Health Centre in Boko Dar es Salaam.
- There has been tremendous improvement in hygienic conditions of the Centre and children themselves due to increased awareness and systems and procedures that have been instituted and well understood.

Achievements

- Children's behavior at the MTC has improved.
- Child rights awareness promoted among the children. This is seen clearly in their arguments with staff when it comes to child rights.

Constraints

- It takes long before children could gain confidence with certain staff in order to be open and speak out the truth about their life. Time needed to build open relationship differs from one child to another depending on their experiences.
- Some students fail to report immediately when they feel ill.

4. ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

- Dogodogo Centre staff participated in several advocacy meetings and workshops including Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) and Implementers Partners Group (IPG) monthly meetings. Others were on children agenda monthly meetings and constitutional review process meetings that prepared a position paper for the Tanzania Child Rights Forum.
- Dogodogo facilitated internship for 5 students in total from higher learning institutions at different times throughout the year to learn about vulnerable children with a focus on street children. During their 3 months stay they also taught indoor games, life skills and psychosocial workshops to our children.
- Dogodogo took an active role in the preparation of annual general meeting (AGM) of the Tanzania Child Rights Forum (TCRF) that will take place in early February 2013. This will be the second AGM for the Forum that Dogodogo is currently holding the Chair position of the Board.

- Dogodogo worked with UNICEF and other partners to continue the process of Children's Agenda in 2010. The energy flowing from this Program is vital for the future election to build on children's participation in the electoral process.
- Dogodogo staff participated in 3 radio programmes in Radio One and 1 in BBC focusing on vulnerable children and their rights. The positive impact of these radio broadcasts is seen through the messages sent by listeners during the specific programmes.

5. Art Therapy and Culture Programs – Children Living with HIV/AIDS Vulnerable Talented Children

With support from Corporate Sponsor Dogodogo Centre was able to continue with music, art and drama at the Chang'ombe premises. The sessions helped to enhance creativity of children living with HIV/AIDS from PASADA as well as talented vulnerable children in Buguruni and Ubungu. The arts and culture activities empower them and raise their self esteem. More than 100 children have been directly supported through the Art Therapy program.

Achievements

- One child from Dogodogo programme participated in this year Jump Rope Camp in the United States for the whole month of July. He is Hamisi Kondo (a standard six pupil). Hamisi is the world champion of jump rope currently according to the organizers. The boy had been introduced to this sport by a renowned world jump rope professional Mr. Michael Fry who volunteered to train the child.
- In December 3 children went to Mombasa for two weeks jump rope competition and camping.
- The Multimedia youths participated in various functions around Dar es Salaam including Day of the African Child and Visa2Dance.
- Children continued to create drawings, prints and clay figures under the supervision of Tanzanian artists and these have been exhibited in various events and exhibitions in the City.
- Children under the assistance of Art teachers were able to draw cards with different messages to staff and friends, etc.

Constraints

- Children from PASADA find it difficult to keep the time to begin sessions because they are studying in different schools that are also located at different distances from the station.
- They are being asked to contribute money in the family from the money they are given for transport and food.
- Some children were proved to participate on some days simply because of money given.

6. Secondary School Scholarships for Pastoralists Girls - Emusoi

Emusoi has been sponsored by NCA and Dogodogo and the following is what they have achieved, the challenges and constraints and the way forward for 2013 for Emusoi Pastoralists' girls Secondary Education support. This is part of a larger project giving

support to 650 pastoralist/hunter-gatherer girls in pre-secondary, secondary, advanced, vocational, teacher training and university level education.

This grant was requested for the support of 60 girls from Pastoralist Societies to attend secondary school. It paid for their school fees for the first and second terms for 60 Form IV students. 47 girls are in the following 10 schools: Kibosho Girls Secondary School, Pasua Secondary School, Uroki Secondary, St. Margaret Girls Secondary School, Kiraeni Girls Secondary School, Mairiva Secondary School, Ekenywa Secondary School, Masama Secondary School and MCF-Kilimanjaro Academy. These are all private schools. It has also paid the fees of 13 girls in 6 government schools (Terrat, Embarway, Soit Sambu, Manyara, Loliondo and Longido).

Achievements (for the students sponsored by NCA, who are only about 9% of the total students helped by Emusoi Centre)

- Sixty girls sponsored by NCA sat for their National Exams in October 2011. Emusoi celebrated their graduation on Nov. 2012 and now the students are waiting for their results which will be announced in February 2013.
- Of the 60 girls sponsored by NCA, 11 are orphans (with one parent or both parents deceased). Without the help of Emusoi and NCA, these girls would not have been able to study on the secondary level and they would all have been married and possibly have 2-3 children already.
- Eight of these girls are unable to stay at home to await their exam results. They would be forced to marry; they have requested to stay at Emusoi and they have a chance to do private study and to study computer at the Center.

Constraints/Challenges

- Pregnancy still is a problem among Emusoi students. Most pregnancies are obtained when the girls go home for holidays. We are faced with the dilemma whether or not to allow the students to go home for their school holidays. However, all cannot stay at Emusoi and though it is seen that it is important that the girls do not lose contact with their home and culture. Two of the girls attending Soit Sambu Secondary School were found to be pregnant in their last year of school. One, Namoo, left school while pregnant in the middle of first term and is now married. The other girl, Sayaton, did not report back to school in July 2011. Emusoi got permission for her to return to school and to take her Form IV exams. Unfortunately, she delivered at the same time as the exams were being done and therefore, she was unable to sit for the exams.
- A number of the students are unable to go home during the holidays due to danger of forced marriage. However, the need of giving extra help to students during their holidays. Emusoi cannot afford to hire extra teachers for tuition so they use their own teachers and even older students, such as the Form VI leavers.
- Obtaining the necessary funding and sponsorship for all these students is a constant challenge. We stressed the important of parents to contribute to the education of their daughters. As can be seen in the financial report, the grant from NCA does not cover the total cost of school fees. Fees continue to be raised each term. Cost of school supplies, medical care and other contributions are not even included in the fees. 180 of our students are orphans, so we cannot count on their families to contribute to their education.

Way Forward

- To ask NCA to sponsor another 60 students for next year.
- Provide tutoring for the students that must stay at Emusoi during the holiday time.
- To stress with the students and parents the need for the pastoralist community to contribute to the education of their daughters.
- To continue to plan and execute seminars which teach life skills to the students and health education.
- To plan visits to the villages to meet with parents to help them understand the rights that their children have for education and their responsibilities to educate their daughters.

General Conclusion

Dogodogo Centre has strengthened its activities aimed at empowering Most Vulnerable and Invisible Children by promoting their rights. The commitment towards improving lives of the Excluded and Invisible Children is demonstrated through quality and stature of the advocacy activities throughout the year. The task of taking care of most vulnerable children and empowering them for a better and improved future belongs to every member in the community. Dogodogo Centre will put more effort in advocacy work and in interacting with street children right on the streets with an aim of reunifying those who are willing with their families.

Dogodogo celebrated its Twentieth Anniversary in 2012. Dogodogo's many years of experience will be used to open up new avenues to advocate for most vulnerable children in a more dynamic, proactive and provocative way. Dogodogo has every reason to thank its Donors on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Staff and Children for their continued support to address the Excluded and most Invisible Children in our society.

Dogodogo is now in the process of preparing its new strategic plan for the next 5 years in which advocacy is meant to take a new strength.