Celebrating Children
Voices of Change from
Busangi, Shinyanga - North Western Tanzania
Dear Readers

Seventeen years of implementing Busangi Area Program has clearly and undoubtedly contributed tremendously to our desired child wellbeing aspirations. At the heart of establishing World Vision we understand that children are put at the centre of what we do.

In that spirit, World Vision Tanzania (WVT) collaborated with Busangi community, the government of Tanzania at different levels, community based organisations, faith leaders and the community in general to successfully implement this wonderful work for children.

We stand to commend the efforts and support of everyone for their great contribution that in one way or another led to this level of achievement. We appreciate the diligent work of all WVT staff who continuously and benevolently stood up to make the lives of children better in this community.

We are also grateful to World Vision Australia and supporters for their tireless upkeep to the accomplishment of this great program.

We are confident that through the strong and viable community structures in place, the community itself and the government on the other side, will be able to sustain the results reached and ensure that children enjoy good health, get educated for life, protected as well as experience the love of God and that of the neighbours.

Please join us as we celebrate the lives of Children!

Dr. Yosh Kasilima

Operations Director
Project Overview & Major Achievement

For 17 years, World Vision Tanzania in partnership with Busangi community and the government of Tanzania implemented Busangi Area Program (AP). Busangi Community is situated in Kahama District, Shinyanga region, North Western part of Tanzania. The program covered three Wards namely Ntobo, Chela and Busangi, with 15 villages. The overall goal of the program was to contribute towards improved standard of living of children and Busangi community as a whole by 2017. Before the intervention, the community faced many challenges including poverty, high level of illiteracy, poor education environment, poor agricultural methods, harmful social cultural practices and lack of adequate and reliable social services such as water and health care especially for children and women. To address such challenges, the program implemented interventions in Health, HIV & AIDS, Water, Education, Agriculture and Livestock, Leadership development among others.

Major Achievements

- HIV/AIDS discrimination reduced from 28.1% to 71.3%.
- 94.7% of pregnant women attend clinics
- 69.5% households have access to clean and safe water.
- 82.7% of children are fully immunized.
- 103 Saving and 38 Producers groups were formed.
- Increased literacy up to 84.6% for pupils in class 6 and 7.
- 187 water pans constructed for irrigation.
- 40% of women participate in decision making meetings.

Population of the Area Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>10,195</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>10,990</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>10,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>10,644</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nyamigege is a small Village in Busangi town. The land is dusty and the roads are rough but that did not stop us from travelling to meet a 35 year old Rehema Steven a mother to 8 children. A cow has changed her life and family’s. At the age of 18, Rehema was already married with 3 children and with no any source of income of her own. What her husband brought home was not enough to cater for the family. They used to live in a mud-thatched hut, could not afford three meals a day for the family despite engaging themselves in small scale farming and livestock keeping. Later in 2000, Rehema came into contact with World Vision Tanzania through Busangi Area Program, and through economic empowerment interventions she was given a cow. She invested on the new livestock keeping skills she acquired through the training and began experiencing changes.
“I began to sell milk as I was able to get up 35 litres a day. From the profits, I added more cows, invested on rice farming with my husband.”

As Rehema puts it, “Now, I am able to feed my family with nutritious meals, taking them to good schools and we are currently building a new and modern home for us”.

Rehema’s husband Steven adds, “I wanted to see my children enjoy their lives and have access to opportunities that I never had. Now that me and my wife have invested on the knowledge and skills we received from World Vision, to be honest life has changed to better”.

Increased milk production per one cow per day to nine (9) litres per day compared to one and a half to two litres previously

73.7% of farmers own improved livestock breeds (chicken, dairy goats, dairy cows)

Savings groups have become life savers. People in Busangi community can confirm that.

So, what is the secret behind the improved life of people in this community?

Saving Groups is one of World Vision Tanzania’s key models in livelihoods interventions where group members save and lend to one another at very minimal rates.

Members of Amani Savings Group is one of the groups that have witnessed life changing amongst its members who have been able to save and lend money and invested in health care, build modern houses, send their children to school, diversify income generating activities and contribute development activities within their communities.

Emmanuel Siga a member of the group says “joining this group was the best decision I ever made. Today, I own my own house and small business of repairing bicycles. I have also engaged myself in livestock keeping. I call this success”

“I had no capital so I got a one million (US$500) loan. Today, poverty has become history for me. I started maize milling business shortly after. Things went very well for me and as we speak, my children are in a better schools. I can also provide for my family and the business is doing well. I am so thankful to World because to many of us it is a life changing solution” Adds Mahela Kalikali another group Member.
8 vulnerable children are supported by savings groups.

Saving Groups established

2273 Members in savings groups

TZS 115,539,500 (More than US$50,000) of total savings

TZS 76,301,200 (More than US$34,000) of loans provided to members

Farming for future
Children at the centre of Irrigation

At Busangi community, before World Vision interventions “water was never a problem to us but we never knew how we could benefit from it, we did not realise it was a resource we can make use of”. Says Mukinda Isesi from Kaseba Village.

For best practices in farming, World Vision Tanzania in collaboration with the local governments organised farmers into either Producer, Commercial Villages or Saving Groups. Through the groups, farmers have been trained to use modern farming methods such as seed and crop selection, irrigation, harvesting, storage and financial literacy. The aim was to ensure increased productivity and income.

“Our producer group has 50 members and we all farm in different plots in a 300 acre land. We mostly plant vegetables, rice, maize and fruits. WVT trained us how to improve our canals to suit best our needs and also exposed us to knowledge, skills and opportunities for modern farming this resulted in better harvest,” Added Mukinda.

Mukinda narrates “I personally farm in one acre, with the new methods of farming I am able to harvest up to 30 bags of rice. I get up to Tshs. 1,800,000 (USD900) per farming season. With the income I can take care and provide for my family”.

Increased production

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop produced</th>
<th>2001 (Baseline)</th>
<th>2017 (AP Monitoring)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beans</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cassava</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

65% of farmers use modern agricultural machines such as tractors, ox driven ploughs and power tillers.

65.8% of households are able to meet sufficient food for the family’s needs compared to 22.8% in 2009.

82% of community practice balanced diets for their children and families.

187 functional water pans constructed for horticultural production during dry seasons.
Aiming high in education

Better environment matters

Through Busangi Area Program World Vision Tanzania renovated few classrooms at Gwihagu Primary school, provided additional desks and facilitated the construction of a borehole within the school compound. All these efforts have contributed to a better education environment for children in this community.

“I have been to school where we could sit under a tree to attend our classes or fight for a seat on a few desks that were in the classroom. To me I could tolerate everything but lack of water was hard to bear since its connected to my health directly. Also, as a girl, I spent so many hours walking very far to fetch water for home use”. Says Neema Thomas (15), a Villager.

Siondoki Ezekiel, a Deputy Headmaster of Gwihagu Primary School says, “Nothing makes me happier than being a leader of a school where both my students and teachers are comfortable. When I arrived in this school, teachers did not even have a latrine; we had to help ourselves at nearby houses. It was the most embarrassing thing to us. But after the intervention of World Vision here in our village, things have changed”.

“This new environment has contributed to the improvement in the quality of education and also the performance of students”. Adds Siondoki.

Enrolment rate of Boys and Girls

Baseline 2001

- 3.6% for Boys
- 15% for Girls

Baseline 2001 (Ages 7-13)

- 15% for Boys
- 18% for Girls

Evaluation 2015

- 50% for Boys
- 41.1% for Girls

- 2.2% for Boys
- 2.6% for Girls

More than 40% of teachers trained on the new teaching curriculum

18 classrooms constructed in collaboration with the community
How families are able to actively engage in income generation

World Vision Tanzania partnered with local governments and communities in Busangi in renovating, constructing and managing infrastructure for water accessibility to all households. Access to clean and safe water was a priority in minimizing the risks of infectious diseases.

“I used to walk for four kilometres to fetch water and by the time I returned home I had a lot of chores left for me to do. To make matters worse the water I would fetch in such hard situation made my children sick. I used it mostly for cooking and drinking and was not enough to cater for cleaning.” Says Lucia Thomas, a resident at Chela Ward.

“Thanks to World Vision, unsafe water is in our past. I do not have to spend almost all day fetching water. I can quickly fetch water and get home to do other activities and my children no longer get sick. I have a bicycle now, which I carry water with. This is all because I have enough time to do other things to generate income. I have been able to start a small business and I am able to contribute to our family provision”. Adds Lucia.

Bringing water closer to home

69.5% of households have access to safe and clean water within a distance of 400 metres compared to 40.9% in 2009.

55% households have pit latrines and practice hygiene.