SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES TANZANIA

NATIONAL ANNUAL REPORT

COVER PAGE

Member association:		Tanzania
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Reporting period:		2023
Date & MEDIABOX-ID of most recent child rights situation analysis:		2019
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SOS Children participating in sport and games in the commemoration of SOS Day

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania, a prominent non-governmental organization, has provided care, support, and holistic development opportunities for children who have lost or at risk of losing parental care. Strategically Operating in Iringa, Mwanza, Dar es Salaam, and Arusha to address the unique needs of each community, to create stable, loving homes for children, ensuring their quality care, and empowering families to build a sustainable future.

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania has provided a loving and nurturing environment for 412 children without parental care through Family Like Care Project and 7538 children in Family strengthening Program, ensuring children grow up in a stable and supportive atmosphere.

As children transition into adolescence, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania provided specialized support more than 661 young people through youth-focused programs. These initiatives aim to empower young adults with life skills, education, and vocational training, facilitating their integration into society as responsible and self-reliant individuals.

Recognizing the significance of preserving family bonds, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania employs family strengthening programs to support more than 2,758 vulnerable families at risk of separation. These initiatives encompass healthcare, education, and livelihood support to enable families to stay together and to provide quality care to their children.

National context and stakeholders

The national context in Tanzania has witnessed significant changes attributed to climate change, notably evidenced by increased rainfall causing floods and landslides, particularly in the Manyara region. These natural disasters have had devastating effects on over 5600 people in Manyara and Arusha region, resulting in loss of lives, displacement, and destruction of infrastructure and livelihoods. This has affected the implementation of Programme especially in Arusha and is the main setback of Ngorongoro Marathon as the fundraising event for Arusha Programme. Also, the floods have affected the program participants in Arusha Location (Karatu), some lost their businesses, relatives and loved ones in the tragedy.

The government has taken proactive measures to establish 30 children centres as safe and emergency shelters for children living in streets to provide essential services, including food, shelter, healthcare, and psychosocial support for positive reintegration to their families. SOS has established a new project "Children Working and Living in Street Situation (CWLSS) that aim to reduce the children in Dar es Salaam region. The government has provided land to support SOS implementation on the project to bring about positive impact in the lives of children and community.

Member association analysis

Strategy implementation status *[see 2.1]*
Achievements
1. 567 (80%) families have sustainable level of income, and about 5,077 children were attending schools supported by their families 2. 108 (21% of the target) families transitioning to self-reliance 3. SOS has managed supported and participated to complete the review of the national guidelines on the establishment and management of children homes (2006).
Challenges
4. The subsidy reduction in 2023, the MA did not meet its local fundraising targets. This resulted in the reducing scope of some activities and cancellation of other activities, especially in areas of capacity building. 5. low compensation package and Benefits, which is comparatively less competitive than the labour market
Lessons learned *[see 2.2]*

6. Although the program had limited resources but through partnership, it was able to provide various services to the beneficiaries. The program learnt the contribution of partnership on the course of program implementation.

7. Going forward, the MA must focus on raising the planned local fundraising income to off-set the effect of reducing subsidies. In addition, ever effort must be made to prepare proposals for funding as planned in 2024-2028 strategic plan for program expansion in existing and new locations.

Cross-cutting topics *[see 2.3]*

1. **New health insurance policy**: The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) in this reporting period developed a new health insurance policy. This will help project participants to afford the expenses of health insurance for their family members increase the effectiveness of the project interventions in the community and reduce the cost of the project in supporting project participants to access quality health services in the community.

2. **Gender inclusion, gender diversity, and sexual harassment:** Staff and programme participants of SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania have increased awareness on issues of gender inclusion, gender diversity, and sexual harassment. This was because of the launch of PSHEA.

3. **Huma right-based approach in programming:** In 2023, SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania continued to build on their everlasting cooperative advantage in childcare and protection, which is solely embedded in a human right-based approach.

Sustainability actions *[see 2.4]*

4. To ensure the sustainability of the programs key stakeholders such as the local Government Authorities (LGAs), and program participants themselves are involved in the planning and implementation of program interventions to create a sense of ownership.

5.

Overview of programme(s)

Arusha Programme location:

In this reporting period, Arusha Program Location continued to support provision of care and protection to 3,315 children and young people in both FLC and outreach programs (ARP). Similarly, the Preceding children and young people (3,315) have been benefiting by receiving quality care and protection from 1,203 care givers who have been empowered

on positive parenting, child protection, and income generating activities (IGA) through various training offered by the ARP and FLC.

Furthermore, by the end of the reporting period of 2023, the program has recorded a milestone of 404 young people transitioning into self-reliant. This was the result of linking young people with different internship opportunities, vocational training centers/ workshop champions and facilitating them to initiate IGA.

Dar es Salaam Programme location:

In Dar es Salaam program location, about 1470 (729 F & 741M) children and young people from 365 families (299F & 66M) as direct and other more than 32,0000 as indirect program participants have been reached through several interventions which were facilitated by the program in collaboration with Government (under Ministry of Health Community Development Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCGEC) and other key partners like DHL, Hyatt Regency, REPPSI, ABSA and WEEDO. Key program role was to strengthen the community structures for them to be able to provide basic services and ensuring children safety, economic empowerment among vulnerable families and community socio-economic development at large. This has accelerated the sustainability of our interventions in the community.

Mwanza Programme location:

In this reporting period, Mwanza program location worked with partners to reach many more children of our target group. For example, we worked with the Child protection committee in Semba B and managed to raise awareness on child protection to about 2500 community members and 5600 primary & secondary school children. In addition to that, the committee facilitated the response and referral of three child abuse cases. Similarly, the committee members supported one neglected pregnant woman with transport costs to return to her family of origin.

Furthermore, during monitoring visits by Para socials and program officers, the program noted 141/176 active caregivers (80%) who are involved in various income generating activities such as petty business and horticulture. Further, the program managed to recruit a total child 116, (66F 50M) from 23 families as the replacement of 316 children exited from 67 families in 2022.

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NATIONAL CONTEXT AND STAKEHOLDERs

1. General description of national context

Tanzania's legal and policy arsenal to safeguard children's rights includes the Law of the Child Act, Child Development Policy, and National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children, all grounded in the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (United Republic of Tanzania, 2016). But ensuring the well-being of its children remains a challenge. About half of the population lives below the international poverty line, and Tanzania ranks low on the Human Development Index (160th out of 191 countries), with attendant implications for health, education, and other aspects of well-being (World Bank, 2021; United Nations Development Programme, 2023).

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania has cultivated strong partnerships with government agencies to leverage resources and advocate for child rights at both national and international levels. This has made possible in conducting different awareness campaigns on child's rights such as 16 days of activism against gender-based violence campaign reaching more than 130,619 people in Arusha, Day of African Child (DAC) campaigns reaching more than 4400 people in Dar es Salaam.

The child situation in Tanzania for the year 2023 shows that one in four children (aged 5-17) are engaged in child labor. Almost one in three girls and one in seven boys experience sexual violence, while more than seven in 10 young people suffer some form of physical violence (UNICEF, 2017, 2022, 2023; United Republic of Tanzania, 2016; U.S. Department of State, 2022). SOS Children's Villages Tanzania as one of the stakeholders complementing government efforts has facilitated the establishment and functionality of Children Clubs, Junior Councils at village level and NPA-VAWC as structures that advocate for child and women rights and raise cases of children and women concerns in the community.

To strengthen protection of vulnerable children, including more than 800,000 street children, the government has established 30 children's centres in major cities and is considering updates to the 2009 Law of the Child Act (Tairo, 2022). This came about the right time as SOS Children Villages began the implementation of Children Working and Living in Street (CWLS) Project rescuing children in streets through several counselling sessions and re-unifying them to their families of origin.

2. Key partners at national level

Table 1.2 *Key partners*

Name of partner	**Description** *(purpose of partnership)*	**Progress in last year** *(key actions taken)*	**Effectiveness of partnership** *(contribution to results)*	**Formal agreement signed**
Ministry of Community Development Gender Women and Special Groups	To provide technical support in the provision of alternative care services to families and children	Initiate the care reforms process	Participate in the review of National Guidelines on the establishment and management of children's homes	On Progress
DHL	Internship program for Youth under SOS CV programs	Strengthen partnership by holding quarterly face-to-face meeting	young people acquired in job-hunting skills such as interview tips and CV writing.	YES
Hyatt Regency Hotel	Apprenticeship program for youth under SOS CV programs	Hold quarterly formal and informal meeting	Young people equipped with hospitality skills.	NO
Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA)	Provide technical and entrepreneurship training to Young People under SOS programs		Provided technical and entrepreneurship training to the 29 (11F, 18M) young people	*Yes*
Vision for Youths (V4Y)	Working together with SOS CV to improve the socioeconomic well-being of young people in the four councils		Conducted entrepreneurship training to 80 (47F, 33M) young people to empower them to engage in IGA	*NO*
Meta Sports Promotion	*To support SOS CV Fund raising initiative through Marathon.*	*Ngorongoro Marathon Conducted in 2023*	*Contribution to local fundraising and Organization Branding*	Yes

6. MEMBER ASSOCIATION ANALYSIS

1. Strategy implementation status

1. Alternative care

1. Achievements

Children benefited from quality care services.

SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania strides in providing quality care for the children in different care settings. Generally, 524 children received care and protection in this reporting period compared to 521 in 2022. Essentially, the year realized safe and nurturing environment that address children's physical, emotional, and developmental needs. This was because of remarkable achievement in placing vulnerable children in appropriate care setting. For instance, the MA Tanzania achieved to place children in family like care (469) Fit Persons (12 children), Foster Parents (59 children) and Kinship care (60 children) according to their specific need. Moreover, caregivers in all care setting continued to receive training on positive parenting using fair-start model and government training manual on positive parenting.

Tremendous reduction in Child safeguarding incidences

Recently, incidences of child abuse have been taking a descending trend in SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania. As such, the year 2023 recorded only one incidence, adult to child abuse. This is contrary to 19 incidences recorded in 2019 as well as 7 incidences in 2021 and 3 incidences in 2022. A decreasing trend of child abuse incidences that take place within the organization emanates from persistent efforts on strengthening Child Safeguarding and Child Protection mechanisms. For instance, in 2023, the organization equipped 137 (78F, 59M) staff with the necessary skills and awareness on safeguarding principles to create a secure environment for the children. Likewise, the organization achieved to raise awareness and imparting violence management skills among 82 (41F, 41M) children. Further, Our Family-Like Care and Family Strengthening Programs adopted a contextualized, child-friendly Child Protection Policy. Which stimulated reduced incidences of child abuse.

Smooth reintegration of children

The trajectory to reintegrate children remained smooth with a positive trend. As such 47 children were reintegrated compared to 60 children that were targeted for reintegration. Additional processes to for smooth reintegration were observed such that, children and caregivers were prepared psychologically. Likewise, families of origins were also engaged and prepared to have a good reception of their children.

2. Challenges

The reporting period experienced a potential change in the program team and organizational leadership which in turn cause some disruptions in the execution of some of planned activities. Specifically, activities such as virtual training 200 staff on internal and external alternative care guidelines was not postponed to next reporting period.

2. Family strengthening

1. Achievements

Improved income of the families

There is considerable improvement in the income of families. For instance, about 567 families which is equivalent to 80% of the target have achieved a sustainable level of income. This was revealed by the household monitoring visits conducted to 708 families by the end of 2023. Worth noting, approximately 5,077 children from those households are attending schools with the support and involvement of their families. In fact, the improved income is a result of the MA Tanzania's economic empowerment to 1,061 families (94% of the target) and 162 young people (58% of the target). i.e., equipping families with the necessary tools and resources to actively participate in income-generating activities, thereby enhancing their livelihoods and fostering self-reliance. These findings underscore the positive impact of the MA Tanzania in enhancing household livelihoods and promoting education access for children within the community.

Increased capacity of household to provide quality care to their children.

About 567 out of 746 families consulted during household monitoring visit have the capacity to provide quality care to children. This makes 65% of the target. This achievement is a result of various contributing factors, including the participation of families in 92 Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) under Family Strengthening (FS) programs. Moreover, a total of 1,663 caregivers have engaged in Income-Generating Activities (IGAs), leveraging the knowledge acquired from a series of economic empowerment trainings such as entrepreneurship and business management facilitated by the program and its stakeholders.

Families transitioned to self-reliance.

The MA Tanzania supported 108 families transitioning to self-reliance, marking a significant milestone of 21% in relation to the earmarked target of 491 families to be exited as self-reliant. This underscores the effectiveness of the program's efforts in empowering families to achieve sustainable livelihoods and fostering independence within the community.

Communities seem to effectively engage in handling children concern `

Community capacity to respond to child abuse have increased tremendously. For instance, during this reporting period Children and Women Protection committees (CWPCs) responded to 597 reported incidents of child abuse. This was mainly through facilitating timely referrals to relevant authorities to address 448 cases. This proactive approach underscores the commitment of the empowered committees to safeguarding the well-being of children within the community. In fact, the year saw a total of 36 Children and Women Protection committees (CWPCs), comprising 1,315 members, empowered on care and protection of children. This represents a significant increase from the 121

committees established and empowered in 2022. Generally, the empowered community structures have supported about 850 vulnerable children to have safety and well-being.

Challenges

The delay of budget approval of 2023 and budget cut has been a big challenge during implementation of the program in the past six months. The program had very limited budget to implement the program plan thus, it becomes difficulty to realize the results as expected. With limited resources, MA decided to withhold some and allocate the budget only to major actions. The financial resources available were inadequate to address all needs of families and young people due to the budget cut and not received fully agreed funds. However, the program worked with partners and like-minded organizations, para social worker and caseworkers to support young people towards independent life.

3. Youth care and employability

1. Achievements

Increased Youth employability

The MA Tanzania successfully empowered 168 youth (44 males, 124 females) to achieve self-employment in various income-generating activities. Additionally, 83 youth (50 males, 33 females) have successfully secured paid employment in the hospitality, logistics, and engineering industries. These accomplishments can be attributed to the dedicated efforts in building the capacity of youth through entrepreneurship skills and Technical Vocational and Education Training (TVET).

Increased Youth access to community services and opportunities

The MA Tanzania achieved to facilitate access to education loans among the youth under SOS Children's Programs. For instance, during this reporting period, 16 graduates of advanced level secondary education have secured education loans from HESLB. These loans were instrumental in covering various expenses associated with higher learning, including tuition fees, meals, and stationeries. This has reduced financial burden on the program, empowering graduates to pursue higher education and building a sustainable model.

2. Challenges

The recurrent issue of PDB2 inaccessibility, attributed to synchronization problems, poses a formidable challenge to the program team. This situation disrupted routine data entry exercises and hampers the team's ability to maintain timely and accurate records of youth progress.

4. Advocacy

1. Achievements

The Review of the national guidelines on the establishment and management of children homes

During this reporting period, SOS Children's villages achieved to review the national guidelines on the establishment and management of children homes (2006). The review helped to aligning it with the Revised Law of child Act of 2019. SOS Children's Villages contributed both financial and technical support in the review processes. In fact, the revised guidelines set the minimum standard for operating and managing children's homes, to ensure quality alternative care to children.

Increased child participation in their platforms

MA Tanzania has strengthened and promoted child participation platforms and supporting project participants to have access to those platforms. This was achieved by facilitating the establishment of 98 (18 in Iringa and 80 in Arusha) school children clubs and 92 women and child protection committees in Arusha and Mwanza. MA Tanzania secured seats for 2 children (F) on the 2023-2025 Junior Council of the United Republic of Tanzania, which has 70 members' seats as a platform to advocate for and participate in decisions that influence their well-being.

Increased community awareness and understanding of children's rights.
SOS has achieved significant success in promoting awareness and understanding of children's rights in to more than 176,619 people in program locations (Arusha, Iringa, Dar es Salaam and Mwanza). SOS presence in these communities has empowered residents to comprehend children's rights and establish means for reporting any form of abuse. Specifically, SOS Children Villages commemorated 16 days of activism against gender-based violence campaign and reached 130,619 people with awareness child right. Likewise, we reached about 4,400 people in the efforts to commemorate Day of African Child (DAC) in campaigns of online child abuse. Further, we raised awareness of about 2,000 on Sexual and Reproductive Health campaign in Iringa. All these efforts resulted into increased understanding of children's rights, establishment of reporting mechanisms especially at the village levels and cultivation of a child friendly environment in all areas where SOS CV's program operate.

5. Human resources

1. Achievements

Rollout of Human Resource Information System –Microsoft D365:

Management through HR department managed the rollout of Human Resource Information System (HRIS) Microsoft D365. This was done through orienting all staff (except mothers) on how to access and use the system for automating and streamline Human Resource processes resulting in increased efficiency and accuracy.

Capacity building to staff

MA Tanzania achieved to facilitate capacity-building initiatives for employees in various areas. Specifically, 198 staff members have undergone e-learning courses on Preventing Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, and Abuse (PSHEA), while 102 have completed Misconduct Incident Management Training. Additionally, the National Management Team received training on the new code of conduct. The Investigation Team underwent the new Misconduct Investigation Training, and sessions on PSS, Parenting, Child Safeguarding, along with a Pre-Retirement Program for SOS Caregivers, were conducted. Furthermore, a Competence Portfolio was developed, transitioning from learning and development to SOS caregiver roles for mothers and aunts. Other training provided and refresher provided to employees were PDB 2 and orientation to the new Microsoft D 365.

Challenges

Low compensation and benefit,

The MA Tanzania continues to struggle with the challenge of a low compensation package, which is comparatively less competitive than the labor market. This has resulted in a significant staff turnover rate, evident in exit interviews. Furthermore, attracting top candidates during interviews has become difficult due to the uncompetitive compensation, leading to declined offers. Consequently, the organization's ability to attract and retain talent has been negatively impacted.

6. Internal processes and digitalisation

1. Achievements

Improved network connectivity and infrastructure:

During this reporting period the MA Tanzania achieved to install the latest Cisco Meraki Devices to all sites which had old and outdated network devices hence improved network infrastructure and connectivity within the MA Tanzania.

Improved digital maturity.

There is considerable improve in digital maturity among the program participants in MA Tanzania. This was contributed to the implementation of ICT4D projects such as the establishment of Mwanza community iHub. The hub is accessed and used by SOS Mothers, Youth under SOS programs and staff across different department and it has really contributed so much on the improved digital maturity level among the Program Participants.

2. Challenges

Failure to obtain tax exemption while importing the new Cisco Meraki Devices hence leading to the payment of TZS. 18,000,000 (USD 7,200) as tax which has affected much our budget.

7. Fund development.

1. Achievements

Efforts to ensure MA Tanzania climb a ladder to self-sufficient bear the positive outcome such that the MA Tanzania received TZS 10,000,000 (USD 4,000) from ABSA Bank in a dedicated effort to bolster local fundraising through Corporate Social Responsibility (C.S.R). further, the MA Tanzania established in signing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with capital Plus International and Meta Sports and Promotion to conduct fundraising events as part and parcel of fund-raising initiatives. Eventually, the MA Tanzania partnered with Meta Sports and Promotion to conduct Ngorongoro Marathons.

2. Challenges

The local Fund-raising events did not meet its funding target due to failure of Ngorongoro Marathon to bear the intended fruits.

8. Finance

1. Achievements

Improvement in compliance whereby monthly accounting data and bank reconciliations were submitted to IOR on time without delays. In addition, all financial reports related to grant funded projects were submitted to donors on time.

There was a significant reduction in staff receivable balances due to enforcement of financial requirements related to retirement of advances and recoveries of overdue balances from staff salaries. This indicates improvement in efficiency in the finance department.

Improvement in the overall performance of the Finance Department as per the quarterly performance evaluation by Regional Finance and Controlling Advisor. As a result, in October 2023, MA Tanzania hosted four (4) finance colleagues from MA Lesotho for experience sharing learning.

2. Challenges

In addition to the subsidy reduction in 2023, the **MA did not meet its local fundraising targets**. This resulted to reducing scope of some activities and cancellation of other activities especially in areas of capacity building.

Unplanned and unavoidable expenses incurred in 2023. These includes the following:

Budget Line	Plan (TZS)	Actual (TZS)	Variance (TZS)
2024 - 2028 Strategy Development	30,000,000	78,146,247	-48,146,247
SOS President's Visit	0	18,337,000	-18,337,000
Legal Expenses	8,000,000	57,417,600	-49,417,600
ESBs & Terminal Settlements	12,206,157	246,361,274	-234,155,117
ESAF Audit	0	10,038,600	-10,038,600
Total	**50,206,157**	**410,300,721**	**-360,094,564**

Not getting a response from Tanzania Revenue Authority on the application to obtain Commissioners Ruling to obtain Charitable Status for MA Tanzania. This affects not getting tax exemptions.

2. Lessons learned.

Table 2.2 *Lessons learned.*

Type	Lesson learned	Action(s) to be taken	Status of action
Good practice	Close collaboration with the government increases the efficiency of the program as young people in the program linked with a government scholarship scheme that covers all tuition fees	Maintaining partnerships to reach more young people in need	On Progress
Challenge	Change on Government Staff Travel Allowance and DSA	Revision of Transport and Travel for Non-SOS Staff guideline	On progress
Challenge	Budget cuts - Limited financial resources are hindering the	Evaluate program activities and prioritize essential ones to	On progress

	organization's ability to operate effectively.	maximize the impact within the reduced budget.	
Observation	We learn that fair and competitive pay is linked to higher levels of motivation and job performance.	Conduct salary survey and engage in other retention mechanisms	On progress

3. Cross-cutting topics

New health insurance policy: The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) in this reporting period developed a new health insurance policy "The Universal Health Coverage Policy'' aims to ensure full community access to quality medical services at a friendly cost. The development of this policy came at the very right time since most of the community members could not afford to pay for the regular health insurance was about 600,000 per head per year but this is estimated to be not more than 150,000. This will help project participants to afford the expenses of health insurance for their family members increase the effectiveness of the project interventions in the community and reduce the cost of the project in supporting project participants to access quality health services in the community.

Gender inclusion, gender diversity, and sexual harassment: Staff and programme participants of SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania have increased awareness on issues of gender inclusion, gender diversity, and sexual harassment. This was because of the launch of PSHEA, which was achieved through training and awareness-raising sessions on gender inclusion and diversity as well as sexual harassment in a couple of forums and workshops that took place on different occasions during programme implementation.

Huma right-based approach in programming: In 2023, SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania continued to build on their everlasting cooperative advantage in childcare and protection, which is solely embedded in a human right-based approach. Thus, from the onset of the plans, budget, and programme execution, the elements of human rights were keenly observed. Eventually, the programme participants benefited from health, education, basic needs, and other services routed from within the intervention conducted by SOS Children's Villages, Tanzania.

4. Sustainability actions

Establishment of Care leavers network: The program has established Care leavers network as avenue to strengthen after care services to youth who left care. The network

will foster linkages of youth with government and other community structures to provide adequate care and guidance to young people for a smooth transition to independent life.

Going forward, the MA must focus on raising the planned local fundraising income to off-set the effect of reducing subsidies. In addition, every effort must be made to prepare proposals for funding as planned in 2024-2028 strategic plan for program expansion in existing and new locations.

Partnership with the government and like-minded organizations: In the quest of sustaining its programme and outcomes, SOS Children's Villages, Tanzania, leverages an increased number of partners in different thematic areas. In 2023, the organisation identified several partners and efforts to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are ongoing.

Meaningful engagement of the community in the planning, execution, and monitoring of programs: The programme sustainability approach rests on promoting the engagement of the community during the entire programme cycle to create a sense of ownership and build capacities for responding to vulnerable children and families. Likewise, economic empowerment is achieved by facilitating income-generating activities (IGAs) and engaging families in village savings and loan associations (VSLAs). These are also programme exit strategies for communities and families. For instance, IGAs provided families with a stable source of income, necessary for supporting family needs like food, livelihood, health, and the education needs of their children.

Increased relationship with the government: The sustainability of any organisation is highly influenced by political will. Therefore, to sustain SOS Children‘s Village in Tanzania, the year 2023 recorded tremendous engagement of government ministries, departments, and agencies in SOS Children's Village programming. This has accelerated a relatively high level of political willingness towards SOS initiatives in the country. A learning visit to Botswana on community reintegration of children by SOS Children's Village management and the Government of Tanzania reveals the political buy-in that SOS Children's Villages has obtained from the government.

Maintain trust with exiting donors and solicit new potential donors: The sustainability of SOS Children's Villages, like that of many other non-governmental organizations, is influenced by funds from donors and other sources. **Thus, in 2023,** SOS Children‘s Villages continued to strengthen their control mechanisms and build strong relationships with donors through the timely reporting of changes in the lives of programme participants. Further, for the sake of sustaining this organization, we worked tirelessly on proposal writing to ensure we secured substantial funds from new donors.

7. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME(S)

1. Arusha Programme location:

SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES TANZANIA

NATIONAL ANNUAL REPORT

This report summarizes the achievements of the project's implementation for the 2023 annual plans and budget covering the period from January to December 2023, comprising both the Arusha Re-Innovation project (ARP) and the Family Like Care (FLC) project. Both projects aim to provide adequate care and protection to children and young people, particularly those coming from disadvantaged groups or communities. Among other things, we achieve our project goals through sensitizing caregivers, communities, and SOS CV staff on the issues of child protection and safeguarding, positive parenting, economic empowerment, and sexual reproductive health and rights.

In this reporting period, the project continued to support provision of care and protection to 3,315 children and young people in both FLC and outreach programmes (ARP) reaching project participants including care givers in Family strengthening (FS) and other forms of Alternative Care (OAC). Similarly, the Preceding children and young people (3,315) have been benefiting by receiving quality care and protection from 1,203 care givers who have been empowered on positive parenting, child protection, and income generating activities (IGA) through various training offered by the ARP and FLC.

Furthermore, by the end of the reporting period of 2023, the program has recorded a milestone of 404 young people transitioning into self-reliant. This was the result of linking young people with different internship opportunities, vocational training centers/ workshop champions and facilitating them to initiate IGA. Fore stance 3 (2F, 1M) young people from FLC project were linked to DHL company, 16 young people from ARP were linked with college of Arusha Tourism, while 29 young people from ARP were linked with Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA). Otherwise, 404 young people from ARP were linked and attached to different workshops (Known as Project Champions) to develop their IGA skills.

Likewise, there is significant improvement in responsive and preventive child protection systems and structures that responds to incidences of Violence against children (VAC), Gender based Violence (GBV) and provision of alternative care to children through community-based care structures. This has been possible following SOSCV contribution in improving data management system and reporting of all VAC and GBV cases by providing 5 desktop computers, 5 printers, 5 rooters and installation of computer systems. In addition, 5 computers were provided to the social welfare department. Following this support, the two major departments of police gender and children desk and social welfare are easily linked to work together for timely responding, Preventing, and reporting VAC and GBV cases in Arusha Region.

Otherwise, for the year ending 2023 SOSCV in working close with government through SOW department continued to support and facilitate 83 children to be cared under Fit person placement, 2 under foster parents and 404 under Kinship placement. While 2575 (1302F, 1273M) children are still cared in Residential institution in Arusha region and the government is making close monitoring follow-up and fostering the children reintegration process to the community as per the national Guidelines on children`s Re-Integration with families.

Moreover, our existence in for regions of project implementation including Arusha DC, Meru DC, Karatu and Arusha CC has been beneficial to the surrounding communities in

terms of understanding children rights and means of reporting any related child abuse incidence. This has been possible through the comprehensive improvement/ strengthening of different child rights platforms and awareness campaigns conducted for the year ending 2023. Fore stance, SOSCV managed to facilitate the establishment of 40 children rights clubs in primary schools and 40 clubs in secondary schools. The established clubs directly benefit more than 60,000 children in primary schools while in secondary schools more than 32000 children benefit from the established clubs. These clubs play a pivotal role in child participation, reporting child abuse incidences and promoting life skills to children and young people among other things. In addition, 90 junior councils were established at village level, 27 at ward level and 1 at district level in Meru District council. These councils facilitate child participation in decision making for matters concerning their rights at government level and community at large. Otherwise, 350 police officers were capacitated in child protection and safeguarding courses and 130619 people were reached during the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence campaign in Arusha region.

2. Dar es Salaam Programme location:

SOS Children's Village Dar es Salaam operates as a pivotal component within the larger framework of SOS Children's Village Tanzania, working synergistically with four other key areas – Mwanza, Arusha, Zanzibar, and Iringa. Situated in the dynamic city of Dar es Salaam, the program scores four specialized initiatives: Family-like Care, Youth Care, Family Strengthening Programs, and Community Action for Quality Alternative Care. These initiatives collectively champion the program's overarching mission, ensuring that children receive the quality care they are entitled to, as underscored in the preamble of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Currently, 1470 (729 F & 741M) children and young people from 365 (299F & 66M) as direct and other more than 32,0000 as indirect program participants have been reached through several interventions which were facilitated by the program in collaboration with Government (under Ministry of Health Community Development Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCGEC) and other key partners like DHL, Hyatt Regency, REPPSI, ABSA and WEEDO. Key program role was to strengthen the community structures for them to be able to provide basic services and ensuring children safety, economic empowerment among vulnerable families and community socio-economic development at large. This has accelerated the sustainability of our interventions in the community.

In 2023, SOS CV Tanzania has been awarded and recognized as child protection and welfare champion in Tanzania by guest of Honor (Hon Dr. Hon. Dr. Doroth Gwajima (MP) the minister for community development, gender, women and special groups. This was conducted during National Junior Council Committee meeting which was followed by commemoration of Day of African Child. Program has facilitated 16 children as representatives from 102 Junior Councils and Gender Desk from Dar es Salaam Region whereby, 2 children from Dar es Salaam Region were selected in the National Junior Council Committee. This was advocated by the program for inclusion of Alternative Care children in National Junior Council Committee.

During this reporting period, program has managed to scale up its interventions into six communities making a total of seven communities whereby; (2 new wards (Majohe, Zingiziwa and Msongola) in Dar es Salam and 4 wards (Tambani, Mwandege, Mipeko and Vikindu) in Pwani Region identified 1636 participants. The program has cited several mechanisms including focusing on empowering community structures both Local, Municipal and Regional level in order to reach a vast community specifically vulnerable children and families. The process of assessing the community needs involved Government Authorities (Local to Regional Level), Community Partners like PASADA and the community members themselves to ensure the program is feasible for the needs of the community.

Program significant focus of providing quality care, safeguarding and protection at large has been attained whereby; there are major achievements obtained into behavior change, cognitive and social development among children. Children have learned life skills which position being forefront in public speaking, confidence and doing right towards attaining their career path. This has been facilitated through provision of basic needs to children, psychosocial trainings and sessions provided to children and young people (both individual and group), Child safeguarding trainings both to children/young people and staff as well as Care professionals trainings to 20 Staff and 20 Mothers (this includes the ECD Parenting Certificates given to 20 Mothers who graduated at Institute of Social Work-Kisangara Campus.

In relation to Child safety and protection "*Chanika GBV One stop center has been awareded as Centre of excellency on Data and information good practices"* for other GBV One stop centres in Tanzania, This year in June, 2023, The Government through Dar es Salaam Regional Health Committee, identified and recognized as a "Centre of excellency on Data and information good practices" for other GBV One stop centres to learn and improve their data documentation. This has been facilitated through the best services provided by the Social Workforce who have been empowered and facilitated with working tools by the program. Also, there has been an increase of reported cases from 224 from January-March to 828 VAC/GBV cases reported from January to June, as increase of 604 cases in 3 months differences June-2023 and decreased cases from 2501 cases as gross reported in a year 2023 compared by the gross reported GBV/VAC 2621 in year 2022

Economic empowerment to vulnerable families is facilitated through VSLA, IGAs and capacity building sessions provided by the program in collaboration with Government and other community-based partners. During this reporting period, there was an inauguration of Computer Lab that has been used to equip Mothers and Youth with ICT knowledge and skills to access digital opportunities in the community i.e. digital marketing. Currently, 20 Mothers (all mothers) have been enrolled in the program. This was done during the International Women's Day, and it complements the theme of ***''Innovation and Technology for gender equality.''***

Youth development requires maximum investment on socio-economical interventions towards youth in the program and community at large. In 2023, program has work with partners like Government under Community Development Department, Hyatt Regency Hotel, WEEDO and DHL for supporting 146 youth in various areas mainly vocational skills,

apprenticeship, mentorship, coaching, psychosocial supports and employment linkages in promoting self-reliance and community development. 12 (9F & 3M) youth has been recruited into three different companies whereby; 1(M) been able to secure a job at Engineering Company known as NORTHERN ENGINEERING WORKS LTD as Energy Analyst Officer, 10 (8M& 2M) has been employed by Hyatt Regency Hotel and 1 (F) youth was recruited under internship program in DHL while other 5 youth are expected to be employed by DHL.

Care Leavers Network is a youth platform initiated by the program with 76 young people who grew up in various forms of Alternative Care. The network acts as a catalyst to change and a bridge between young people and available opportunities. It aimed at bringing young people together, supporting one another, and pushing for changes that can help in their transition to an independent life. The network has managed to create its own constitution, conduct several sessions including peer to peer and have representatives on different network platforms.

Additionally, a total of 1,360,000/= has been accumulated through Vijana kazi youth group project in six Months earned. Totally, Vijana kazi manage to produce 6800 brocks Project from February – June 2023. Other 9 youth were supported to secure education through facilitation of academic fees into the different Colleges whereby; 3 youth supported to pursue designing course at WEEDO training college; 3 Youth for pursuing Diploma and Bachelors in different Public Universities in Tanzania and 3 Youth persuading Vocational courses. These have been initiatives to empower youth for them to attain self-reliance and been independent in the community.

3. Mwanza Programme location:

In this reporting period, the program managed to reunify 4 (both boys) children with their family of origin and one boy child secured permanent care through adoption. The respective children are enjoying family life with their biological parents at Mwanza, Bukoba and Mara as per requirement of the law of the child act and children home regulation act 137 (3) that the best place of a child to grow is at his /her biological family.

The program conducted post-reunification follow-up for 2 (1boy, 1girl) children who were reunified last year in Mara region. The reunified children were found to be well adapted to the environment, and the program, in collaboration with respective social welfare officer, provided technical support in child safeguarding and protection to their respective families.

A total of 80 children (41 boys and 39 girls) from the FLC Program are aware on preventing themselves and others against any forms of abuses but also, they know reporting structure/system of child abuse related issues. This has been realized through various child safeguarding activities including monthly trainings and weekly awareness rising sessions to children. The sessions are facilitated by location child safeguarding committee with support from village social worker and youth empowerment officer.

In this reporting period, The Entrepreneurship and Employability Skills training program focused on building upon the existing interventions. The program maintained 78 direct participants recruited in 2021, thus reaching 602 participants in the wards of Mhandu, Mahina, Sangabuye, Kayenze, Shibula and Bugogwa of Nyamagana and Ilemela districts. The cost-efficient approaches were devised to ensure smooth implementation and effectiveness towards the achievement of the program objectives. In line with this, the program sought partnership opportunities with different stakeholders, utilised SOS Children's Villages long-term-local presence, networks, and fewer resources to support its youth development interventions.

These initiatives facilitated 21(13F,8M) youth to secure self-employment in Agribusiness, Soap Making, Leather Shoe Production, Welding and Metal Fabrication trades, earning substantial incomes. On the other hand, the initiative led to the successful securing of employment opportunity for 1 youth (M) in Shoe Making industry and Internship placement for 3 youth at various private firms in Mwanza while 2 youth trained in Welding were employed by private firms in Buhongwa ward, courtesy of relatives' workshops.

To ensure sustainability of program objectives, the program invested on building capacity to children into different dimension so that they can sustain program initiatives themselves and to the entire community when they are reintegrated back in their respective communities. Moreover, the program involved and worked with Government structures such as the social welfare department on gate keeping process (admission and reunification process of the children).

Towards ensuring quality education provided to program beneficiaries, the program conducted several monitoring visits to determine the progress upon previous interventions. The program assessment informed that the support specifically in the areas of Information Computer Technology went viral. For example, Igogo Secondary school one of the schools received ICT equipment declared that the school has qualified to register with National Examination Council of Tanzania. The school currently is registered to sit and participate in ICT's examination. In addition, the school has managed to use the available computer for developing school databases, capturing all information since it was registered in 2002, generating students' academic report and Igogo Academic Management System. Moreover, Igogo Secondary School children showed great improvement in computer applications including using access to Microsoft office and Publication together with accessing offline e-learning materials.

The implementation of program activities mainly focused on the compliment of the federation priorities; Increase local relevance under priority the program priority started (community structures in Ilemela and Nyamagana district respond to the needs of vulnerable children and families). Under this priority, the program managed to recruit a total child 116, (66F 50M) from 23 families as the replacement of 316 children exited from 67 families in 2022. In addition, the program continued working together with community structures (PSW and mother clubs) to ensure children in needs are met and responded to. This includes continuing making close follow up to the families and reminding them to take care of the children and fulfilling, insisting on resource mobilization through group VSL saving, whereby 15 groups managed to save 42,121,200 TZS. The program also focused on program priority two and three which states that Children and youth actively

making decision in issues affecting their lives and realize their full potentials and Improve caretakers/caregivers' well-being and capacity to provide consistent, responsive care for children who have lost and at risk of losing parental care.

Under priority four, build partnerships to scale up impact, the program in collaboration with key implementing partners continued to respond to needs of vulnerable families and children in the community. In this reporting period for example, Child protection committee in Semba B created awareness on child protection to about 2500 community members and 5600 primary & secondary school children. In addition to that, the committee facilitated the response and referral of three child abuse cases. Similarly, the committee members supported one neglected pregnant woman with transport costs to return to her family of origin. This was possible because committee members participate in VSLA activities where they have a social basket fund for supporting victims and survivals.

Furthermore, during monitoring visits by Para socials and program officers, the program noted 141/176 active caregivers (80%) who involves in various income generating activities such as petty business and horticulture, continued to provide needs to their children and make family development. For example, during this reporting period, 13 caregivers managed to finish their houses that were under construction during the last reporting period while 10 caregivers managed to start construction and accumulated materials for construction. Other caregivers managed to install electricity in their houses and purchased home appliances like television, radio, and mattresses. To ensure food security, caregivers are involved in growing food crops like rice, maize and cassava. For example, in this reporting time 70 percent of caregivers managed to harvest not less than 3 bags of rice for family consumption.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: Hyperlinks to related materials

Topic	Person responsible	Source of information	MA file should be saved to:	Hyperlink
Actual statistics of the MA	N.a.	Compass report accessed via the following path: Compass -> Federation Steering -> Statistical Key figures -> SKF Beneficiaries / SKF staff -> filter for MA and year	No longer required	Statistical Key Figures - Power BI
List of board members	National director	MA fills in template list of board members	Federation planning & steering: **MA annual reports**	N/A - please upload list of board members as separate document onto MA annual reports workspace
MA mid-term plan	National director	MA fills in template for mid-term planning	Federation planning & steering: **Mid-term & annual plans**	*Insert hyperlink of the mid-term plan*
MA annual plan	National director	MA fills in template for annual planning	Federation planning & steering: **Mid-term & annual plans**	*Insert hyperlink of the annual plan*
MA website	National director	Member association website	Not applicable: provide link only	*Insert hyperlink of the MA website*
Online directory page for MA	National director	SOS Online Directory	Not applicable: provide link only	*Insert hyperlink of specific page for the MA*

ANNEX 2: Summary of major activities of the MEMBER Association

Major activities of the MA	Date	Corresponding national mid-term objective	Results
Implement 2022 CS audit recommendations for NO and Dar es salaam and Conduct Internal child safeguarding/protection audit for Mwanza, Arusha, and Iringa	June	Child safeguarding and Child protection	55 (30F,25M) children were capacitated/trained to build self-esteem to children and young people reached. 20 caregivers/mothers and aunts participated for 5 days training on how to manage child to child inappropriate behaviors. Lastly, 14 (09M, 05F) Care professionals received 03 days training on how to manage and support children with inappropriate behaviors.
Conduct training for 60 stakeholders (Gardener, Security guards, and vendors), 159 staff (23 NO, 41 Arusha, 43 Dar es salaam, 42 Mwanza and 10 Iringa), one National CS meeting, one learning visit on Child safeguarding to strengthen CS preventions and responses measures.	October	Child safeguarding and Child protection	During this reporting period, 11 (6 female, 5 male) stakeholders trained on child safeguarding to ensure they are aware of policies and procedures while implementing works on behalf of the SOS Children's villages.
Implement gender audit recommendations (2019) and conduct gender analysis at National office, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa and Dar es salaam Iringa)	August	Gender Mainstreaming	2019 gender audit recommendations have been reviewed and aligned with the current needs. The implementation will commence on the third quarter
Support placement of 100 children in need of care (20 in Mwanza, 70 Arusha, and 10 Dar es Salaam) into family based alternative care (foster parents and fit persons)	December	Diversifying AC	70 children placed in fit families (54), foster care (5) and kinship care (11) in Mwanza, Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Iringa
Engage 180 children in SFC (60 in Mwanza, 60 Arusha, and 60 Dar es Salaam) with peers in the communities to participate in children councils, children clubs, sports and games, and community volunteer works in public services.	September	Reintegration of children with their communities	54 children in Mwanza participated in sport and Bonanza, 102 children in Dar es Salaam participated in dialogues on child abuse and protection related matters. Moreover, about 32 Children participate in child council
Reintegrate 60 children and young people with their families of origin (20 from Arusha, 25 from Dar, 15 From Mwanza)	December	Child reunification	47 Children reintegrated to their families of origin

Translate one L&D competency portfolio for Caregivers into Swahili and train 60 SOS Mothers (22 in Arusha, 20 in Dar and 18 in Mwanza) and 33 case works (10 in Arusha, 10 in Dar, 10 in Mwanza and 3 in Iringa) on the 44 L&D core competences for 10 days (5 days Virtual and 5 days physically.	June	Child safeguarding and Child protection	Translation was done and some trainings were conducted in December
Exit and conduct graduation ceremony to 231 families leaving program as self-reliance (Dar es salaam 100, Iringa 100 and Mwanza 31) and 10 communities (1 Dar es Salaam, 8 Iringa and 1 Mwanza) on a ground of becoming empowered	August	Family empowerment	108 families transitioning to self-reliance, marking a significant milestone of 21% in relation to the earmarked target of 491 families to be exited as self-reliant
Conduct training, workshop and learning visits to strengthen 98 Child and Women Protection Committees (Arusha 49, Dar es salaam 7, Iringa 19 and Mwanza 23) , 29 Community Based Partners (Arusha 14, Dar es salaam 7, Iringa 3 and Mwanza 5) to protect, respond and leading to low child abuse cases	September	Community empowerment for Family empowerment	In this period, SOS Children Village improved community mechanisms for reporting, protecting and responding to incidences of child abuse leading to low child abuse cases. Essentially, we a trained about 12 Children and Women Protection Committees (38% of quarter one target and 12% of annual target). Likewise, we imparted about 3 community-based partners (60% of quarter one target and 11% of annual target) with knowledge on preventing and responding to child abuse cases. Eventually, the trained committees responded to 313 reported child abuse incidents whereby 279 incidences were referred to respective authorities.
Facilitate economic empowerment to 1450 families (Arusha 660, Dar es salaam 140, Iringa 400 and Mwanza 250) and 234 young people (Arusha 100, Dar es salaam 119 and Mwanza 15) from business and entrepreneurship skills development, actively engaging in income generating activities, linked to partners for livelihood improvement and increase rate of self-reliance	September	Family empowerment	SOS Children Villages Tanzania facilitated 289 (60% of Quarter one target and 19% of annual target) families and 79 (101% of quarter one target and 34% of annual target) young people to actively engage in income generating activities. This economic empowerment initiative is essentially important for the transition to self-reliant
Capacity building training/workshops to FS Staff on Case Management (36), Economic Empowerment (13),	June	Child safeguarding and Child protection	12 Program personnel (36%) imparted skills on Case Management (recruiting and exit families), as well as PDB and Economic Empowerment

Community Empowerment (20) Child Safeguarding and Protection (44) and documentation and data quality (7) for improving program quality, results, and organization visibility			through weekly Webner Sessions from online RC training
Link 280 youth (30 Mwanza, 50 Dar es Salaam, 200 Arusha) with Vocational Training Institutions to acquire soft skills in Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) and mobilize apprenticeship opportunities for youth to practice the skills gained	September	Youth empowerment	15 youth sponsored by a women led organization called Women Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Development Organization to undergo a six-month vocational training and education in tailoring. 16 youth received Government sponsorship to pursue various vocational training and education courses. 15 youth enrolled and supported with college fees to acquire vocational training and education in driving, carpentry, and tailoring. 8 youth placed for a six-month internship program at DHL to acquire work related experiences for smooth integration into the labor market
Provide 320 youth (40 Dar, 30 Mwanza and 250 Arusha) with entrepreneurship and financial management skills, support 53 youth (15 Dar, 18 Mwanza and 20 Arusha) with start-up kits and facilitate linkages of 267 youth with LGAs/financial institutions to secure soft loans to start their own business	June	Youth empowerment	The program in collaboration with a youth-led organization named Vision for Youth (V4Y) trained 78 youth (31F, 47M) on business idea formulation, business plan writes up, financial management and marketing as key components of entrepreneurship.
Develop 18 proposals (4 Arusha, 4 Dar es Salaam, 4 Mwanza and 4 Iringa and 2 consortiums for co applications with like-minded organizations) with 30% success rate		Fund development	Three (3) application completed. SOS, Save the Children and Railway Children Consortium formed for applying USAID call amounting to 18,000,000 USD. UN Trust Fund to end violence against girls on the streets in Iringa and Mbeya with grant size amounting to 1,000,000 USD. Educate a child for Zanzibar and Mwanza–PSA Gulf led with grant size amounting to 1,500,000 USD.
Build capacity to 135 co-workers in different functions to gain skills required in areas of Mental health	October	Huma resource development	-MA Tanzania achieved to facilitate capacity-building initiatives for employees in various areas.

and PSS (78), Project management & report writing (29), VIP driving training (5), Child Safeguarding Investigation (38), Gender Mainstreaming in Safeguarding & Recruitment (18), Resource Mobilization (16)			Specifically, 198 staff members have undergone e-learning courses on Preventing Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, and Abuse (PSHEA), while 102 have completed Misconduct Incident Management Training.
Facilitate 2 SOS CV staff, 18 Government officers and 30 Government and SOS Partners to participate in the workshop to review Government guidelines that support child alternative care and protection (NPAVAWC, Child Development policy, youth policy and woman and Gender development policy)	June	Advocacy	During this reporting period, SOS Children's villages achieved to review the national guidelines on the establishment and management of children homes (2006). The review helped to aligning it with the Revised Law of child Act of 2019
Coordinate the commemoration of the Day of African Child (DAC) that will bring togather about 370 participants (100 children and youth from SFC, 200 children and youth from FSP/community, 20 SOSCV staff and 50 implementing partners) to amplify children and youth rights.	December	Advocacy	SOS Children Villages commemorated 16 days of activism against gender-based violence campaign and reached 130,619 people with awareness child right. Likewise, we reached about 4,400 people in the efforts to commemorate Day of African Child (DAC) in campaigns of online child abuse.
Support the roll out of Digital village project in Mwanza program locations	December	Digital maturity	There is considerable improve in digital maturity among the program participants in MA Tanzania. This was contributed to the implementation of ICT4D projects such as the establishment of Mwanza community iHub
Support the roll out and application of ProDIGI to improve program quality and program management in general	October	Program quality	Prodig was rolled out with the support of IOR ProDIG focal personal
Conduct data quality assessment and work collaboratively with our stakeholders and partners to update core assessment data among other data quality issues	March	Data Quality	DQA conducted and 34 staff were engaged in the process. This eventually helped to improve the quality of data in PDB and other IT systems