



**Fondation Eagle : Report on Tanzanian Agriculture grants project**  
**Dec 2021**

**Donor Name:** Fondation Eagle

**Name of Charity and Project:** Mondo Foundation, Supporting HIV+ women to support themselves and their families by generating income through small scale farming and animal husbandry

**Reference number:** FF 0565-50

**Date grant accepted:** 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Amount:** £ 11,407

**Number of beneficiaries :** 42 families (approximately 200 beneficiaries)

**Location of project:** Arusha suburbs of Ngaramtoni and Kwa Iddi, Moshi suburbs of Masaranga and Pasua, Tanzania

**Period of Project :** Jan- June 2021, with six months continued support and follow up to December 2021

**Final report**

**Activities:**

The project's aim is to provide training and small grants of around £140 to women living with HIV, most of them widows, who have children and other dependents in their care. Groups of women are trained together and given the skills and ongoing mentoring to ensure they can set up a successful business. Due to the Covid situation and uncertainty of other small business ventures, this project focused on animal husbandry and small scale farming, aiming to help women attain the necessary knowledge and start-up capital to set up thriving businesses and improve their own food security.

In the first six months of the project four groups of women were selected and trained as detailed in our previous report. The following six months were dedicated to providing continued technical support to all the women. Extension workers from the local government department specialising in agriculture and animal husbandry visited the women on a monthly basis accompanied by Mondo staff. They inspected crops and animals, discussed any problems encountered by the beneficiaries and provided detailed reports to Mondo of the progress the women were making and any recommendations they had discussed with the beneficiaries with regard to their farming

practices. The most frequent recommendations included the cleaning of irrigation channels for rice farming, the rotation of crops for vegetable farming and advice on pruning, weeding and the use of pesticides. For animals, the extension workers provided vaccinations where needed and helped treat diseases they identified. They provided support on the feeding and shelter of animals, the use of manure, and the breeding and selling of offspring. Visits from the extension workers proved to be very popular with many other villagers gathering to hear their ideas and ask questions!

In the final stage of the project all the women supported were interviewed to understand how the project had helped them in terms of their knowledge and their income/food security. The beneficiaries were also invited to make suggestions as to how future projects could be planned. Interviews were also carried out with the extension workers.

## Outcomes

In our six monthly report we focused on the two groups of women who received grants and training in January. Here, we will provide an update of those who received grants in April, namely 10 women who grew rice in Pasua and 12 women who farmed vegetables in Ngaramtoni.

### Pasua



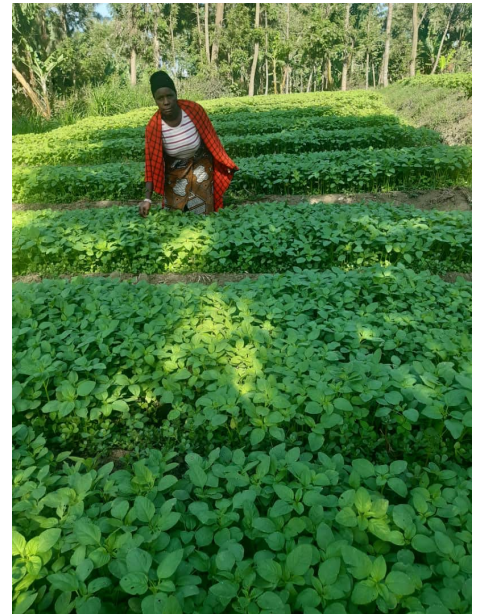
The women supported by Mondo had all grown rice previously, but were unable to make a good profit from their fields as they had no capital to invest in better seed, fertilisers and pesticides and a lack of knowledge on the most effective farming methods. The women received their grants and training in April and all harvested successfully in November. In the follow up interviews the women all reported a significant increase in their harvest: they had harvested 5-8 bags of rice in previous years, while this year they harvested 12-14 bags. The women sold each bag for 100,000 TZ/shs (£32). Most kept 2-3 bags to feed their families, realising an income of up to 1,000,000 Tz shs (£320). As well as using the income to improve conditions for their families, the women had various plans to expand their businesses in future for example by renting more land, acquiring animals or buying stock for a small shop.

The support given by the extension workers was greatly appreciated. The most useful advice, according to the beneficiaries, was using cold water to irrigate at night, and killing pests at the larval stage. The women all requested that the extension workers continue to visit if possible. Several also talked about sharing their new knowledge with their neighbours. The extension workers involved in the project were pleased with the ability of the women to take on their advice and the results of the programme. They urged Mondo to continue to provide this support to other small farmers.

## Ngaramtoni

12 women were supported in Ngaramtoni, a busy suburb of Arusha, to increase production on small vegetable plots. Grants were given to buy improved seed, fertilisers and to improve irrigation. The initial training and follow up visits by extension workers were again greatly appreciated by the women : the most useful advice was felt to be the selection of seeds, the spacing of crops and the control of pests. Three women also mentioned the general business training as being very useful – helping them calculate the profit they were making after adding up the inputs needed, and gaining a better understanding of which crops were more profitable.

All the women reported a significant increase in their income. For example those growing green leafy vegetables reported an increased monthly profit from around 100,000 Tz shs to 300,000 Tz shs. (£32 to £96). The use of quicker growing varieties had allowed the women to harvest more often (the 'saru' pictured here takes 3-4 weeks to grow) helping them to have a more regular income. Other vegetables were also profitable. Miriam grew cabbages, spent her 400,000 grant on inputs and sold her harvest for 1,200,000 Shs after 3 months. (£390). She reported that the crops she had sold before had not covered the cost of the inputs hence wasting her time and effort. Two women grew potatoes, one increasing her harvest from 10 sacks to 20, and the other from 5 sacks to 15.



All the women reported improvements in their ability to provide for their children, frequently mentioning nutritious food and school materials. Several mentioned that they had now begun to save or had succeeded in paying off debts. Some challenges remain: the most frequently mentioned were climate change, especially irregular rainfall and the fluctuation of prices for the crops.

## Next steps

Two groups of women from the agriculture project expressed an interest in forming village banking groups (Vicoba) which will allow them to pool savings and receive low interest loans in the future. Mondo has provided start up training to these groups and will monitor their success over the next year to assess if this approach can be expanded to other beneficiaries. We also hope to extend the agricultural project to other areas around Moshi and Arusha.

## Expenditure

Item	Budget	Expenditure June 21	Expenditure Dec 21	difference
Agricultural grants	£5,600	£5,460	£0	£140
Initial training	£1,400	£1,580	£0	-£180
Follow up visits extension workers	£1,920	£816	£1,120	-£16
Ongoing supervision Mondo staff	£1,050	£438	£612	£0
Health insurance for beneficiaries	£400	£402	£0	-£2
10% management	£1,037	£432	£605	£0
total	£11,407	£9,128	£2,337	-£58

## Conclusion

This project has been very popular with beneficiaries and with the local government departments which provided the technical advice. It has been a lifeline to the women providing both the capital and the knowledge to increase their production and improve their livelihoods during the Covid pandemic. As one beneficiary, Afia, explained:

*Through Mondo organization I learnt to select better seeds and how to use fertilizers and pesticides. After the training I used this knowledge and it helped me to increase the production of vegetables from 1 tonne to 4 tonnes per acre. This is a big change in my life. The organization removes me from poverty to middle income. I am expecting to increase more through the ongoing training that we are still getting each month from the agriculture extension expert. My advice is that the organization, through their team, should continue to provide farmers with training.*

We are very grateful to the support of Eagle Fondation in funding the project and hope to collaborate again in future.

Anna Brian  
CEO Mondo Foundation  
1/12/2021