

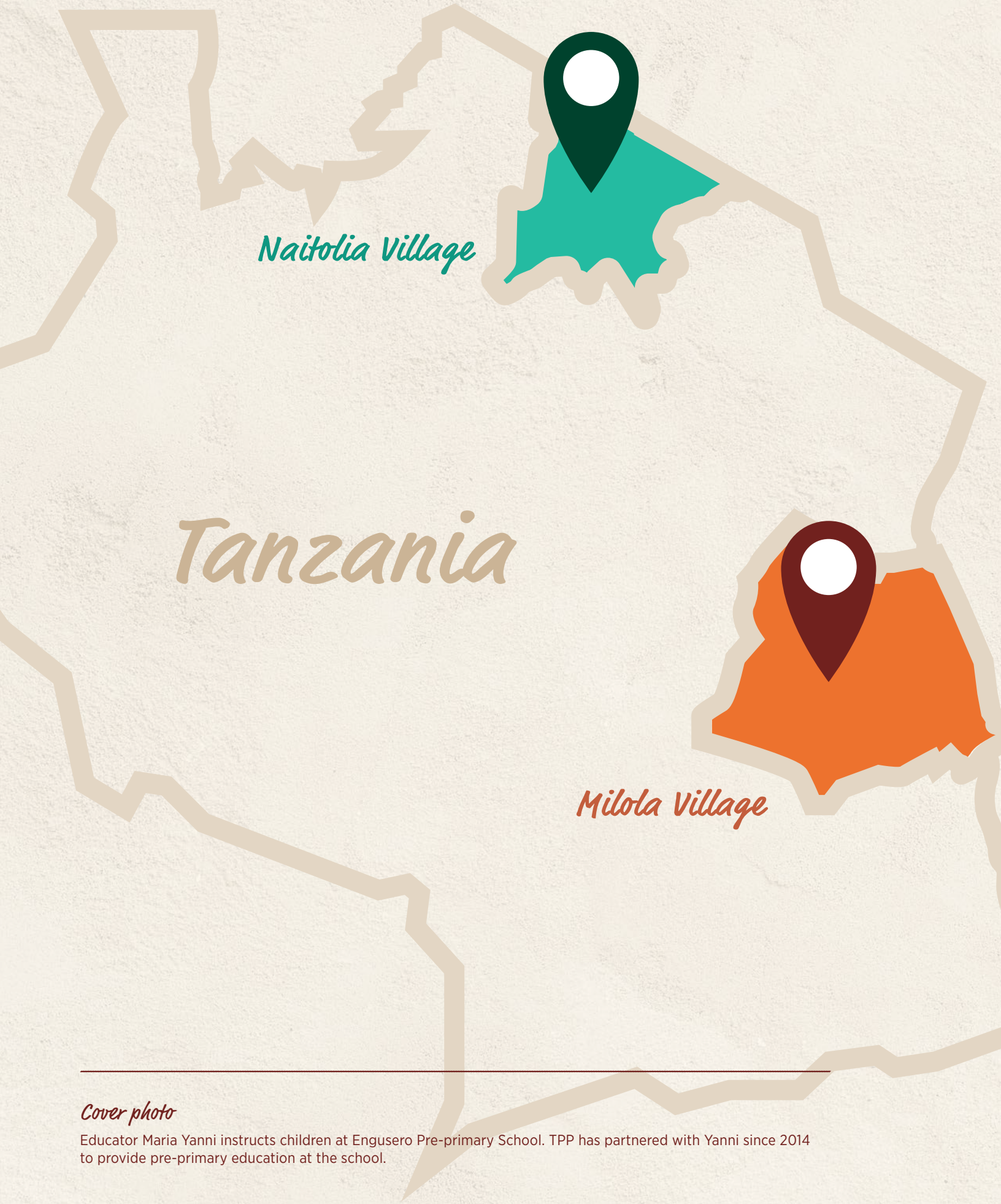
ANNUAL REPORT

2023

# Tanzania

## PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY




*Cover photo*

Educator Maria Yanni instructs children at Engusero Pre-primary School. TPP has partnered with Yanni since 2014 to provide pre-primary education at the school.

# Table of Contents

**LETTER FROM THE DIRECTORS**
6

**NAITOLIA VILLAGE**
8

**MILOLA VILLAGE**
18

**FEATURE**
Inauguration of the Girls Dormitory at Milola Elementary School
27

**STUDENT LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT**
32

**RESEARCH AND OUTREACH**
36

**PROGRAM UPDATES**
40

**FINANCIALS**
42

## About TPP

The **Tanzania Partnership Program (TPP)** is the first initiative of the **Partnerships for Sustainable Community Development (PSCD)**, a long-term collaborative alliance of local and international organizations dedicated to improving local livelihoods. Tanzania was selected as the first location for PSCD based on need, potential for success, university experience in the region, and an array of interested partners.

**pscd.isp.msu.edu**




*Maregesi Machumu (DUCE) explains to the TPP team how playground tire circles can be used to promote student interaction and imagination.*

## Tanzania Partnership Program Partners

Michigan State University (MSU)

University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Institute of Resource Assessment

Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE)

Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)

Milola Village, Lindi Municipality, Tanzania

Naitolia Village, Monduli District, Tanzania

## Our Mission

To find long-term solutions, build capacity and create collaborations that promote resilient and sustainable communities. To unite development, education and research that boldly pushes the frontiers of knowledge and the role universities play in transforming local communities and the lives of individuals.

## Our Goal

Promote resilient communities in Milola and Naitolia, Tanzania, and create a model for sustainable prosperity.

## Our Strategy

Acknowledge interdependency and create long-term partnerships among local communities, governments, non-governmental organizations, private corporations, universities and invested individuals to address local challenges and respond to emerging opportunities in economic development, food security, public health, education and community empowerment.

## Core Principles

### Ensure Sustainability

Increase community strengths, enhance community resiliency, and promote community empowerment while maintaining economic well-being, environmental health, and social equity.

### Commit to an Integrative Approach

Remove the barriers that separate research, education and development to create a dynamic and synergistic relationship.

### Engage in Interdisciplinary Research

Draw on a range of disciplines and perspectives to address the interrelated and complex nature of challenges faced by communities in the developing world.

### Promote Participation

Unite the knowledge, skills and experiences of villagers, local government officials, researchers, and development professionals to expand understanding, enhance responsiveness, and improve practice.

### Adaptive Learning

Focus on a process that continually improves research, education and development activities and involves villagers, scholars, development professionals, and local government.

### Establish Long-Term Commitments

Create relationships based on mutual trust that welcome research and innovation and are responsive to new challenges.

# Letter from the Directors

We are pleased to report that this past year for TPP was characterized by reconnections with partners, reflections on progress, celebrations of successes, and visioning for the future.

The easing of COVID-related travel restrictions enabled us to resume critical in-person activities, including team planning meetings to set priorities, community visits to assess progress, and our education abroad program. Noteworthy celebrations included the recognition of Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky as MSU Alumni's Philanthropists of Year; the completion of a TAG Philanthropic Foundation–sponsored dining hall and kitchen to support the school feeding program at Engusero pre-primary school; and the graduation of the first Daryl and Glenda Minor Fellow. We also initiated capacity-building training to create a pipeline of faculty to support our work and began planning for a model playscape to encourage learning through play.

Perhaps the biggest highlight of the year was the inauguration of the girls dormitory in Milola. This 100-bed facility combines housing with entrepreneurial training designed to equip students with life skills including poultry management, vegetable gardening, catering, and sewing education. The completion of the dormitory project truly exemplifies the remarkable results that arise from like-minded development stakeholders working toward a shared vision. The dormitory will undoubtedly be life-changing for the community, yet knowing that it can only accommodate a small share of girls in need illustrates the enormity of the challenges we still face.



In a world facing continued and varied threats such as COVID, climate change, and political instability, the need for a concerted effort to help rural communities generate sustainable livelihoods is clear. As the first initiative of the Partnerships for Sustainable Community Development, TPP will continue to foster collaborative initiatives that integrate research, education, and development to improve rural livelihoods, build capacity and expand the knowledge on development practice. We invite you to join us in this necessary and exciting journey as we tackle poverty and hunger challenges facing communities around the world.


*Kwame Yeboah*

DIRECTOR, PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TANZANIA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

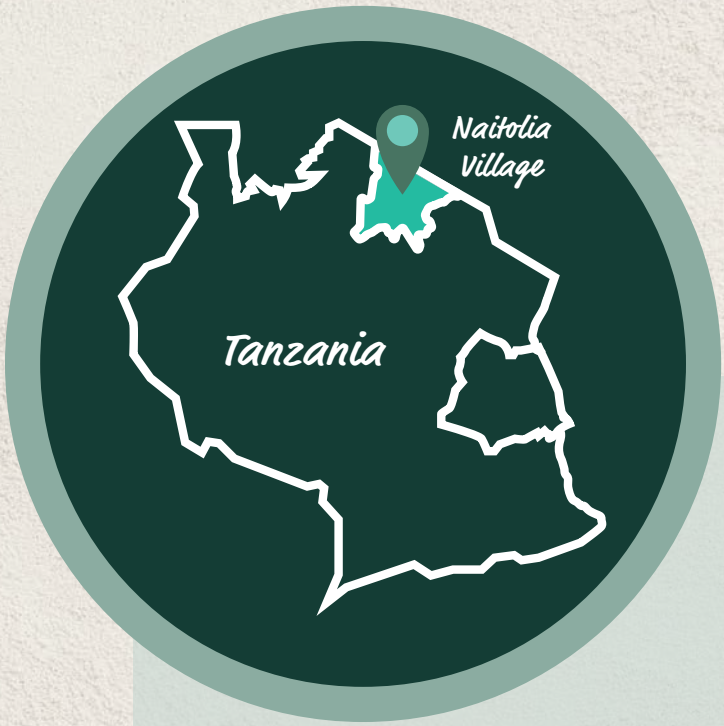
*Joel Nobert*

DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR RESOURCE ASSESSMENT
UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM




Kwame Yeboah (L) & Joel Norbert (R)

# Naitolia Village






Naitolia village pond.

Naitolia village is in Monduli District and lies in a Wildlife Management Area. Home to an agro-pastoralist community of approximately 3,800 people, Naitolia comprises two sub-villages, Ormang'wai and Engusero, and the main ethnic groups are Maasai Wa-Arusha, Iraqw and Barabaig. Households are spread across 178 square kilometers and 79% earn a living by keeping cattle and goats, with some households also raising chickens. A community pond assists in increasing access to quality water during the dry season, and a health clinic in Ormang'wai provides basic health services. Across Naitolia and the two neighboring villages of Mswakini Chini and Mswakini Juu, there are four preschools and three primary schools. To help ensure students regularly receive a nutritious school lunch, TPP supports school-based feeding programs and gardens.



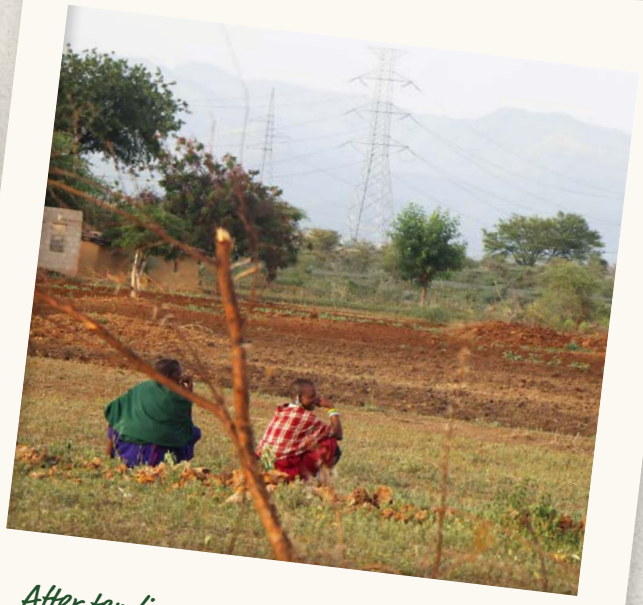
Members of a community-based women's economic cooperative.



TPP partner S.I. Kimera (SUA) engages with students at Engusero Pre-Primary School.



Villagers' goats and cattle at the pond-fed water trough.



After tending to their new household garden, villagers take a moment to relax.

# *Veterinary Students* Conduct Animal Health Interventions



Richard Samson leads the team in collecting important animal care and health data from community pet owners.

As part of a concerted effort to improve community and animal health in Naitolia, TPP piloted a student-led livestock initiative that simultaneously provides field-based experiences for veterinary students while addressing animal health challenges in the community. The initiative emphasizes a multifaceted approach to animal health that integrates clinical procedures with community education.

In June 2023, SUA faculty leaders supported a team of five veterinary students to conduct various domestic animal health interventions in Naitolia, Mswakini Juu, and Mswakini Chini. In collaboration with the Monduli District veterinary officer and Naitola village officers, the students dewormed, vaccinated and sterilized dogs and cats. They also educated the community on best practices for caring for their pets and sensitized them to the interconnectedness of domestic and livestock animal health, human health, and community wellbeing. The team also actively engaged community leaders and members throughout the five-day program to foster a sense of ownership and enhance long-term sustainability of the initiative. The students collected important animal care and health data from community pet owners, and provided local pet owners with vaccinations cards that provided an important timeline for future vaccination.

Involving local residents in the intervention design and care of their domesticated animals helps nurture a deeper sense of ownership and stewardship for TPP animal health initiatives. Extending veterinary students' involvement beyond clinical procedures to encompass community engagement and education will help transform them into agents of change who recognize the multidimensional nature of animal health challenges. This multifaceted approach not only improves animal health but helps TPP meet its mission to develop sustainable and resilient communities in Tanzania. ■



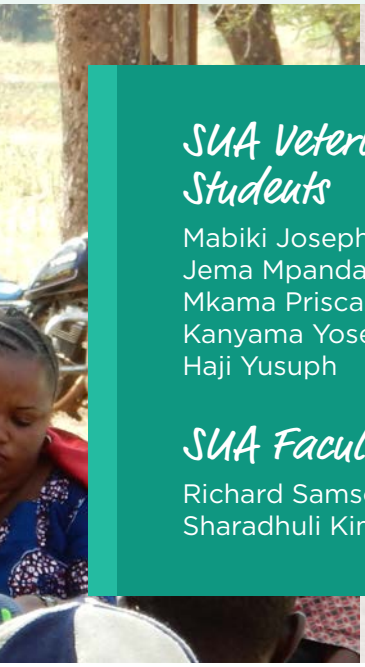
At a village assembly, Sharadhuli Kimera introduces the initiative and takes questions from community members.

# Enhancements to the Cattle Dip

The Naitolia cattle dip has been a TPP signature project since 2013, playing an important role in reducing disease among livestock. In order for the cattle dip to be effective, ample water is needed to ensure the proper immersion of cattle in the dip solution, which is a specialized liquid mixture formulated to combat and control external parasites such as ticks, lice, and flies. It is equally important for cattle to be properly hydrated before and after they are dipped. As part of continuous improvement efforts, the pipes that bring water to the cattle dip were replaced with larger pipes that allow for quicker water delivery, decreasing the time needed to replenish the water in the dip and refill the adjoining on-site water troughs. ■



*Cattle exit the dip after immersion in the treatment solution.*



## SUA Veterinary Students

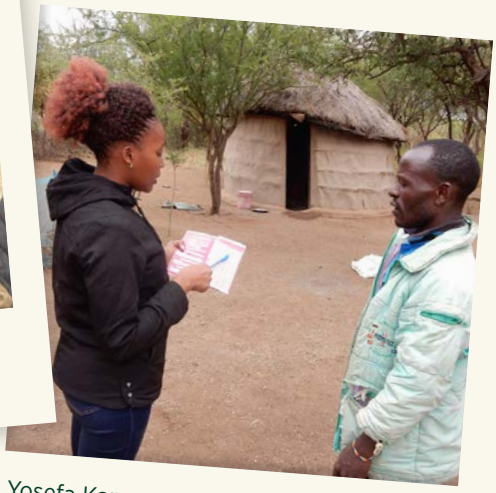
Mabiki Joseph
Jema Mpanda
Mkama Prisca
Kanyama Yosefa
Haji Yusuph

## SUA Faculty Leaders

Richard Samson
Sharadhuli Kimera



Jema Mpanda assists Richard Samson in the surgical sterilization of a dog.



Yosefa Kanyama gives a vaccination card to the owner of a newly vaccinated dog.



The new Engusero dining hall and water tank.

# BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM *at Engusero*

In 2020, a comprehensive nutritional assessment by TPP unveiled a troubling reality: at the Engusero pre-primary school, students often went without a school lunch and malnutrition was widespread. With support from the TAG Philanthropic Foundation—which played a crucial role in the construction of the Engusero pre-primary school in 2016—TPP began developing a strategy to provide free meals to students.



*Students line up for a hot lunch prepared in the new school kitchen.*

Developing the school feeding program at Engusero required meticulous planning, collaboration with district government officials and community members, and attention to local customs and eating habits. Parents actively engaged in the project planning process, contributing building materials and assisting in preparing meals. The community also created a new pre-primary school committee to coordinate the program, supported by TPP training on how to manage and sustain it.

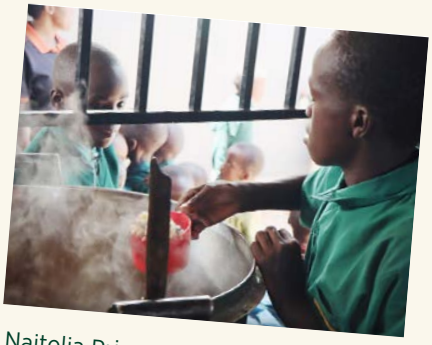
An enclosed dining hall was constructed next to the school, including a well-equipped kitchen that meets the highest safety standards and a food storage room designed to minimize food waste. To ensure access to clean water for cooking and handwashing, a water tank was installed just outside the dining hall.

Daily meals for all students is now a reality, and the improved facilities and nutrition of students at Engusero pre-primary school have positively impacted students' academic progress, school enrollment rates, and parental engagement. The success of the project is a testament to TPP's long-standing partnerships with donors, district officials, and community members eager to transform education and improve food security in the region. ■

## School Feeding Programs



In January, TPP supported the preparation and planting of the school garden and farm at Naitolia Primary School. Harvests are used to increase the nutritional value of school meals.



Naitolia Primary students line up for a hot lunch prepared in the new school kitchen.



TPP continues to support all school feeding programs in Naitolia and Engusero, supplying additional food and supplies as needed.



Natiolia wildlife guards learn how to make and maintain a beehive fence.

# *Mitigating* Human-Wildlife Conflicts

TPP recently extended its support to Elikana Kalumanga from the University of Dar es Salaam and a dedicated team of UDSM students to address the urgent issue of human-wildlife conflicts within the Naitolia region. This endeavor builds upon Kalumanga's previous assessment, which highlighted the escalating nature of human-wildlife conflicts in the area and noted that local villagers possess only rudimentary knowledge of non-confrontational approaches to mitigate these conflicts.



*Elikana Kalamanga (UDSM) demonstrates some of the methods with a herd of wildebeest in Naitolia.*

Non-confrontational approaches include using tools like flashlights, air horns, and constructing enclosures that can withstand predator intrusions, but the effectiveness of these methods relies on proper training and a comprehensive understanding of animal behavior. To address this lack of knowledge, Kalumanga and his team conducted comprehensive training in human-wildlife conflict management techniques in Naitolia, including introducing villagers to innovative passive methods such as the implementation of beehive fences and chili pepper ropes. This holistic approach led to the development of a set of recommendations in collaboration with community members and Monduli District officials to create a cohesive strategy to address human-wildlife conflicts effectively.

A cornerstone of this initiative is a collaborative approach that brings together TPP and local community members. By working together, they are at the forefront of driving community-based solutions that effectively address human-wildlife conflicts with practices that prioritize ecological consciousness and ongoing restoration endeavors. ■



The chair of the Maasai Wildlife Guard Team trains villagers how to use air horns to deter wildlife.



Community members place sand-filled bags to stop water loss from the pond.

# *Pond* Rehabilitation

The Naitolia Pond—a crucial water source for the community—underwent an extensive rehabilitation to fortify the pond's ability to meet the community's water needs. In March 2023, heavy rainfall exposed vulnerabilities in the pond's embankment. Members of the community swiftly intervened, using sand-filled bags to halt the flow of water but despite these efforts, the embankment ultimately gave way leading to significant water loss. To address this, TPP collaborated with Joseph Mtamba from UDSM to reinforce the spillway structure and successfully maintain the pond's water level. ■



*Joseph Mtamba discusses pond improvements with TPP team.*



Ramadhani Sebu from RUWASA provides guidance to members of the new Water Committee.

# *Formation of a* New Water Committee

TPP's dedicated engagement with Naitolia's elected Water Committee has spanned over a decade in a sustained effort to help the committee expand its reach and generate sustainable profits. A comprehensive analysis of the committee's finances identified critical areas for improvement, such as a significant expenditure on diesel fuel and unauthorized discounts that contributed to revenue loss. To ensure continuous advancement, the Naitolia community made the decision to establish a new Water Committee.

With guidance from TPP and the Monduli District water engineer, the restructured committee embarked on a mission to overcome past obstacles and streamline operations. The new committee initiated efforts to improve fee collection methods to ensure a steady revenue stream. Infrastructure concerns were also addressed, resulting in the renovation of water tanks and the replacement of aging water pipes. Water delivery mechanisms at the cattle dip and distribution areas for households were also enhanced.

The formation of the new Water Committee stands as a testament to Naitolia's commitment to progress. Through collaborative efforts, TPP and the community have improved the functionality of water infrastructure and contributed to the overall water management ecosystem. ■



Rehabilitated water tank and infrastructure in Naitolia.



Restoration of the water pump at the Naitolia borehole

# *Restoration of* Water Pump and Generator

The pump situated at the Naitolia borehole, which is a crucial source of water for the community's livestock, encountered a major setback due to issues with its generator. The community, in tandem with RUWASA and TPP, initiated a mechanical overhaul to restore the generator's functionality and a malfunctioning pump was repaired with funds from the new Water Committee. These efforts resulted in a seamless restoration of the pump system's operations, demonstrating the Naitolia community's resilience and unity in safeguarding a crucial resource that sustains their livestock and well-being. ■

# *Household Gardens Flourish*



Household gardens are an important part of TPP's initiative to reduce hunger and improve food insecurity in the region. Some of the household gardens that were started with support from TPP have begun to yield enough vegetables to nourish families and be a source of supplementary income.



Households with substantial harvests have started to use hygienic solar dehydrators, enabling them to curb food waste and preserve vegetables for later use during times of food insecurity.

# Milola Village






Students in Milola enjoy a mid-day break from school.

Located in Lindi Municipal about 60 kilometers inland, Milola comprises two villages—Milola A and Milola B. Approximately 6,000 people live in Milola A and B, and the main ethnic groups are Mwera, Ngindo, Makonde and Yao. Ninety-two percent of households earn a living by growing sesame, rice and maize on small farming plots. Due to limited inputs and market access, agricultural production is low but chicken raising has been introduced as a way to generate income and improve food security. A small clinic in the sub-village of Ngwenya is helping ensure the community has access to basic health care. The regular presence of DUCE student teachers in Milola schools has improved the quality of education. Reading, writing and arithmetic lessons for adults are facilitated by a UDSM student teacher who specializes in adult education.



The TPP team visits the temporary health clinic in Ngwenya.



Juma Muwele (L), executive director of Lindi Municipality, welcomes TPP-UDSM partners Victoria Moshy and Joel Nobert to Lindi.



Odilia Mkai (R), TPP Village-Based Officer, gives Neema Mori (C), Director of Public Services at UDSM, an overview of the dormitory poultry project.



TPP education intern Enock Mwendo engages with students at Milola Secondary School.



Students showcase their new skills in make-up application

# Entrepreneurship Training *for Secondary School Students*

As they prepare to enter the workforce, students at Milola Secondary School have asked to explore entrepreneurship as a career option, while teachers have also expressed interest in deepening their knowledge on the subject. To help both students and teachers learn more about entrepreneurship in rural Tanzania, TPP partnered with local business owners and Lindi Municipal to conduct a series of training sessions for students and teachers at Milola Secondary School. The sessions focused on equipping participants with practical business skills while linking them with successful practicing entrepreneurs from the region and the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO), the responsible governmental agency for business support services.

Winnie Nguni (UDSM) and Emiliana Mwita (DUCE) facilitated the first session in October 2022, which focused on preparing business plans, budgeting, financial management, networking, and product marketing. A second session in December 2022 included hands-on demonstrations by successful women and men entrepreneurs on batik making, cookery, event planning, poultry keeping, jewelry and soap making, make-up and hairdressing, and henna. Students had the opportunity to showcase their product ideas and practice selling their products at a local market.

Shaibu Ndemanga, the district commissioner of Lindi Municipality, endorsed the sessions and encouraged the students to register their business

*"Since beginning its operations in 2008 in Milola, TPP has worked hard to improve school infrastructure, build the capacity of teachers, and supply learning and teaching materials to improve quality education in the district."* – **EMILIANA MWITA**



A student receives instruction on how to sew.

with the municipal government in order to access additional financial support. A representative from Lindi Municipal and SIDO also spoketo students about the types of government support available to aspiring entrepreneurs.

While the full potential of the training is yet to be seen, the sessions have already made an impact for several of the participants. Salum Mohamed, a successful local event decorator, hired eight of the student trainees to assist with three of his events, and promised to continue engaging students as long as they showed interest.

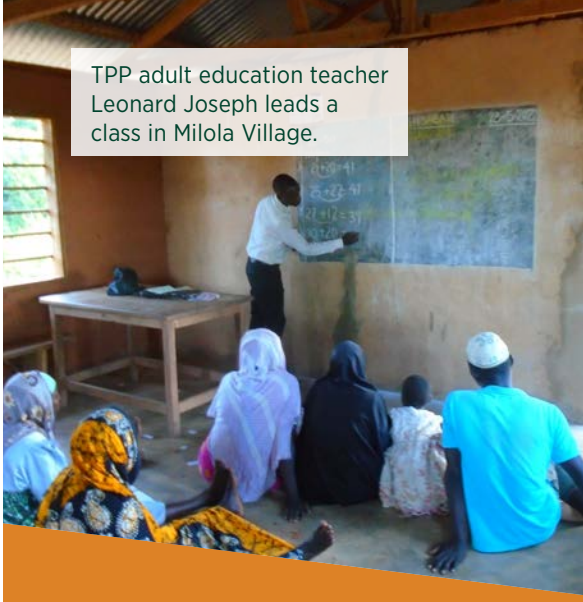
TPP plans to provide ongoing mentorship to these student entrepreneurs and is exploring ways to expand this initiative, including partnering with others dedicated to supporting student entrepreneurs. This approach has the support of Ndemanga, who urged TPP to document its training model and collaborate with the municipality to replicate entrepreneurial training at other secondary schools in Tanzania. ■



Municipal education officer Tatu Sefu speaks to students about how to develop a business plan.



Students work in teams to develop a business plan.



TPP adult education teacher Leonard Joseph leads a class in Milola Village.

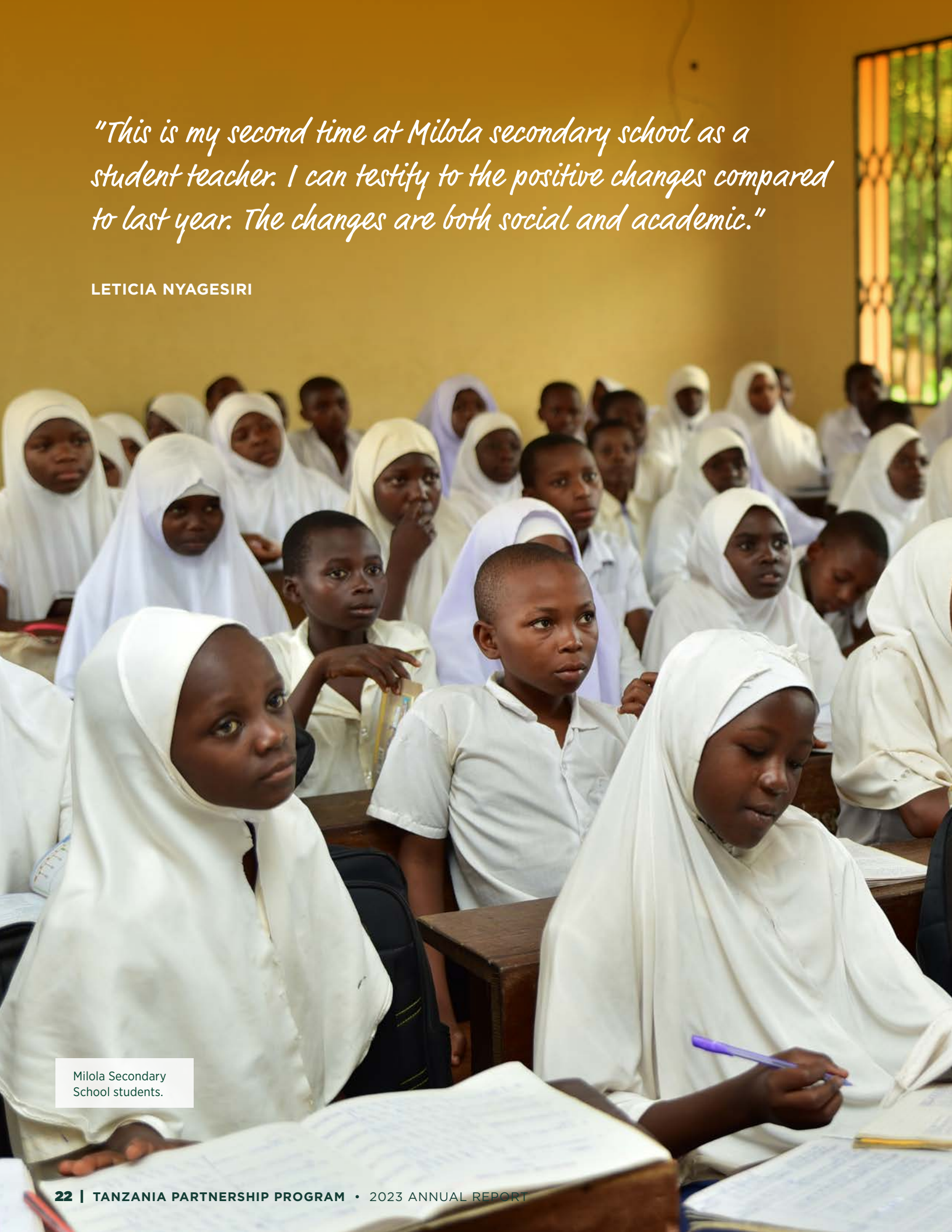
# *From Basic Literacy* to Business Training

In Milola and nearby villages, TPP is making strides with its adult education program, which equips adults without formal education with essential literacy and numeracy skills. In collaboration with Lindi Municipal, TPP's dedicated adult education teacher, Leonard Joseph, is working to integrate training in entrepreneurial skills into the curriculum to amplify the program's reach and impact.

More than 200 adults in the area have already benefited from the program, taking their first steps towards mastering reading, writing, and basic math. The evolution of the program is a testament to learners' unwavering determination and TPP's adaptability. By merging literacy and entrepreneurship, TPP's adult education program is paving a more defined path for village residents towards personal transformation.

*"This is my second time at Milola secondary school as a student teacher. I can testify to the positive changes compared to last year. The changes are both social and academic."*

**LETICIA NYAGESIRI**



Milola Secondary School students.

# DUCE Student Teachers
# IGNITE CHANGE

**A big challenge for education in Milola is a scarcity of qualified teachers for fundamental subjects. To address this problem, TPP continues to support students from DUCE to complete their required teaching practice at Milola Secondary Schools. Offering student teacher placements in under-resourced areas such as Milola enhances the quality of education for local students while exposing future educators to a wide range of challenges and teaching methods. This year, DUCE faculty Emiliana Mwita and Perpetua Urio led six students through a unique teaching practice at Milola Secondary School.**

Over the course of eight weeks, the DUCE student teachers dedicated themselves to improving the academic performance and personal well-being of local students. The student teachers revived instructional practices designed to increase students' English proficiency and developed new interactive language learning games. In their quest for academic improvements, they introduced innovative teaching methods to aid complex scientific and mathematical understanding.

The student teachers quickly recognized the power of unity and cooperation in driving positive change within the classrooms. They encouraged sports, talent exploration and camaraderie while addressing issues of hygiene and gender equity. Their efforts promoted cooperation and curbed truancy among the students, which helped resident teachers foster a more vibrant school atmosphere.

Hosting a teacher practice program in rural and under-resourced areas is a mutually beneficial initiative. DUCE student teacher's broaden their skills in areas crucial for sustainable community development including, innovation in instructional approaches, accommodating various learning levels, and how to collaborate with communities to support student learning. By leveraging the expertise and enthusiasm of student teachers, TPP supports Milola Village in its efforts to create a brighter future. ■

*"Students at Milola have lots of talents and a willingness to learn. What some students lack is someone who can motivate and guide them to be better."*

**KIHEDU JOSEPH**

## DUCE Faculty Leaders

**EMILIANA MWITA**

**PERPETUA URIO**

## DUCE Student Teachers

**GIFT DAVID**
*Literature and Linguistics*

**ANSELEMI JOSEPHAT**
*Mathematics and Computer Science*

**KIHEDU JOSEPH**
*Physics and Mathematics*

**ELIZABETH LUSWETULA**
*Chemistry and Biology*

**LETICIA NYAGESIRI**
*Literature and Linguistics*

***Photo***
Faculty lead Emiliana Mwita with the 2023 student teachers outside Milola Secondary School.





Community members make repairs to the temporary health clinic.

# *Transforming* Healthcare Access in Ngwenya

In Ngwenya, a sub-village of Milola, TPP has continuously supported a temporary health clinic that has been pivotal for the community's well-being, offering essential services like well-child checkups, vaccinations and counseling. Plans are now underway to establish a permanent dispensary to improve healthcare accessibility and expand services to meet evolving community needs. In collaboration with the Lindi Municipal Council and community members, TPP is actively developing the design for the permanent clinic on a 10-acre lot generously donated by community members. ■



Residents demarcate the new location for the permanent clinic.

# *Addressing* Water Scarcity

Through various initiatives, TPP has worked towards enhancing water access and infrastructure in Milola. One of the first steps taken by TPP was the comprehensive repair of the water pipes that supply water to Milola Secondary School. This year, as part of its commitment to improving sanitation and education, TPP constructed a high-rise tank platform at the school to facilitate gravitational water flow to newly constructed latrines and ensured a consistent and reliable water supply to teachers' houses.

Moreover, through collaborative efforts with community partners and Lindi Municipality, water access was extended to Milola B village. A notable development was the establishment of multiple community water access points equipped with new 10,000-liter tanks that provide water access to a large number of people who had faced prolonged water scarcity.

TPP's diverse water projects, ranging from repairing water pipes to constructing tank risers and new water distribution points, demonstrate a holistic approach to improving water access, sanitation and overall well-being in the community. ■



New water tank riser at Milola Secondary School.



UDSM students test water samples from sources near Ngwenya.

# *Expanding* Water Access to Ngwenya

TPP has intensified efforts to enhance water access and infrastructure in the communities adjacent to Milola. This year, TPP undertook a geological survey to identify water-rich areas within the neighboring community of Ngwenya. The survey aimed to assess water availability and help Ngwenya community members gain access to water resources. The survey team, led by Joseph Mtamba (UDSM), included UDSM engineering students collaborating with members of the MSU Engineers Without Borders student organization. The in-country team assessed water sources in Ngwenya, thoroughly examining water quality and formulating blueprints for future improvements to the water supply system. ■

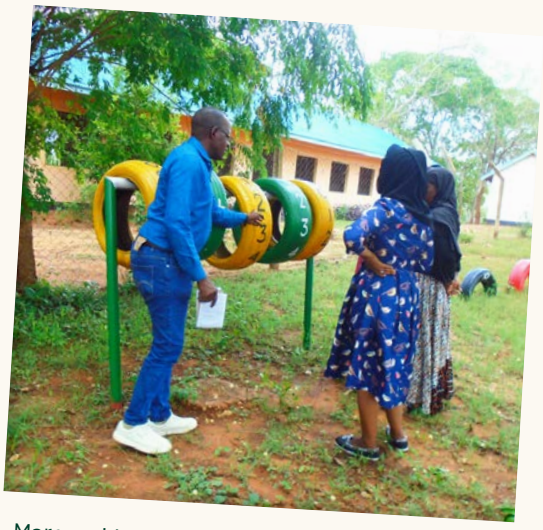
# New Educational Pathways for Village Students

For more than a decade, TPP has been dedicated to enhancing education in the villages of Milola and Naitolia, with an emphasis on improving access to and the quality of education. Recent outcomes are promising, with measurable improvements in student academic achievements and heightened community and student awareness regarding the importance of education. However, financial constraints persist as accomplished students often find themselves unable to afford the costs of advancing their education.

In 2023, TPP piloted a scholarship program to enable Naitolia and Milola students to pursue a range of education opportunities including vocational training and secondary school. Two students from TPP partner communities have already benefited from the financial support which has enabled them to advance to secondary school. The remaining funds have significant potential to transform more lives and advance rural communities through education.



*A scholarship recipient (R) from Naitolia prepares to advance to secondary school.*



Maregesi Machumu demonstrates to local teachers how the playground equipment can be used to teach basic math.

# Play-based Learning and Teacher Professional Development

School playgrounds in both Naitolia and Milola received comprehensive makeovers as swing sets, tires, marimbas, and fences underwent thorough repainting and repairs. The collaborative efforts of community members and teachers breathed new life into these spaces, with TPP actively participating in the playground revitalization.

Since their inception in 2016, these playgrounds have held a special place as havens for both unstructured play as well as engaging play-based learning experiences. To help teachers make use of the playgrounds as dynamic teaching tools, Maregesi Machumu from DUCE led a four-day professional development workshop for community teachers on how to merge outdoor play with curriculum delivery. ■

# INAUGURATION OF THE GIRLS DORMITORY *at Milola Secondary*



In February 2023 with much fanfare, TPP officially inaugurated the girls dormitory at Milola Secondary School, the culmination of a collaboration between a diverse group of stakeholders.

The TPP team celebrates the official opening of the dorm with Timothy Kolschowsky and local partners.



TPP staff and community members enjoy the festivities at the inauguration of the girls dormitory.



Each room in the dormitory is furnished with new beds, linens, and lockers.

Like many rural communities in Tanzania, most secondary school–age children in Milola live a long distance from their school. A lack of safe housing near Milola Secondary School presented a significant barrier to girls' transition to and completion of secondary school, so TPP worked to secure the resources needed to build and operate a dormitory with the capacity to house 100 girls.

Technical experts from TPP partner universities collaborated with Lindi municipal government and the local community to design a complex that would combine housing with educational programming focused on empowering students with useful life skills. The project was made possible through funding from stakeholders committed to advancing girls education, including the Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky Foundation and the TAG Philanthropic Foundation.

In addition to sleeping quarters, the new facility includes a dining hall, showers, a large vegetable garden, and a chicken house that produces approximately 300 eggs each day. The dorm is staffed with an on-site, full-time matron and supportive staff who offer various life skills training. Programming supports girls' academics and personal development and was designed collaboratively with Lindi Municipality to ensure alignment with Tanzania's national education and development priorities.

## A Dream Realized

The inauguration ceremony showcased the dedication from international and local stakeholders to uplift girls in Tanzania through education, and featured remarks from TPP personnel, school staff, government representatives, and community leaders. Timothy Kolschowsky, president of the Kolschowsky Foundation, was also in attendance to tour the facility and give remarks, noting that the completion of the dormitory complex represents a long-cherished dream of his mother. That dream is not just realized in the present with benefits that girls immediately see, but will continue in the future through engagements that will further enhance girls education in Tanzania.

"The potential of the future—that's something we really want to celebrate," said Kolschowsky.

In his remarks, Juma Ally Mnwele, executive director of Lindi Municipality, commended TPP for its development efforts and encouraged the students and community to take good care of the facility to ensure that several generations benefit from it. In turn, community members and students emphasized their commitment to optimize the impact of the dormitory.

Lindi Municipality's endorsement and community commitments were accompanied by a special song and dance by logic musicians and students. The performances acknowledged the many individuals and organizations that made opening a girls dormitory in Milola a reality.

The girls dormitory project at Milola Secondary School underscores TPP's strategic partnership, aimed at equipping rural students in Tanzania with formal education and practical life skills. Through dedicated partnership and a shared vision, this initiative represents the remarkable potential for positive change through collective action.

"We need to celebrate and honor those in the past that made this day possible...the first professors, the first members of the village who wanted to do these projects," said Kolschowsky. "My parents would love to have been here to see this." ■



TPP director Kwame Yeboah addresses the crowd.



Juma Mnwele (L), executive director of Lindi Municipality, and Raphael Chibunda (C), vice chancellor of Sokoine University of Agriculture, engage with TPP and the community.



Dorm resident and the first girl student at Milola Secondary to earn a division 1 placement thanks TPP partners for their support and urges her fellow students to pursue their dreams.

Students employ song and dance as an expression of gratitude towards the numerous stakeholders who helped make the dormitory a reality.

# Sustainable School Gardens and Farms

TPP continues to support school gardens and farms as a sustainable response to food insecurity. Schools maintain their own gardens, cultivating vital crops like cassava and potatoes as well as legumes, which are crucial for battling scarcity. These gardens provide reliable, nutritious food, benefiting students and the school community.

The Milola Secondary School vegetable garden now supplies food for its feeding program, offering a variety of vegetables for the girls dormitory and boosting meal nutrition. Students grow diverse vegetables like amaranth, kale, and Swiss chard while fruit trees like pawpaw and passion fruit diversify nutrition. Students receive practical training on irrigation, weeding, pest control, and harvesting, even enhancing soil fertility with wood and animal manure.



*Milola Secondary School students harvest vegetables from the girls dormitory garden.*

## Poultry Raising Classes at the Dormitory

TPP's poultry project at the girls dormitory empowers students and the community, focusing on egg production for consumption and sale. The project has evolved into a model class this year, engaging students in feeding, disease control, vaccination and brooding. A new outdoor space has been fenced off to enhance the well-being of the chickens and promote healthy egg production. Local egg vendors benefit from direct sourcing, while student-led poultry entrepreneurship clubs are thriving.



*TPP village-based officer Odilia Mkai teaches a poultry management class at the girls dormitory.*

*"Standing still gets you nowhere. We are going to walk and run into the future—with the universities, with the communities, with the village—to make as many improvements as we can and we're not going to stop until every child's full potential has been reached."*

**TIMOTHY KOLSCHOWSKY**

*Timothy Kolschowsky, president of the Kolschowsky Foundation, speaks to the community at the inauguration of the new girls dormitory at Milola Secondary School.*

# *Education Abroad* in Naitolia

## *Monduli District*



Student researchers collaborate with community members on research priorities.

After suspending the program in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, TPP resumed the Sustainable Community Development in Tanzania education abroad program. Its return was met with great excitement from both students and TPP partners, and the warm welcome extended to the students by the Naitolia community reflects the genuine appreciation for mutual learning that TPP has nurtured through education abroad and exchange.

Started in 2013, the six-week program gives students from TPP partner universities the opportunity to learn how sustainable community development is practiced, built on a foundation of collaboration, shared learning, and respect for the community's ownership of development interventions. Through immersive, community-engaged research, MSU and Tanzanian students work with each other and village residents to design and implement research projects that align with TPP's ongoing development initiatives. Aligning student research with TPP's ongoing initiatives enhances the overall effectiveness and longer-term impact of the education abroad program. ■

*"Every challenge I faced over these six weeks fades away when I imagine the smile on the faces of the recipients of our [chicken] coops. I hope I can facilitate that empowerment in different venues for the rest of my professional career and personal life."*

**HELAYNE CLARK, 2022 PARTICIPANT (MSU)**

*2022 Education Abroad faculty and students.*





*The youth empowerment research team with a chicken coop they constructed.*

In 2022, student research projects included youth empowerment through poultry raising, human-wildlife conflict management for farmers, adolescent health education workshops, and training teachers how to integrate play-based learning into classroom instruction. The collaborative projects helped students gain a deeper appreciation for the complexities of sustainable development within a specific cultural and environmental context as they witnessed the challenges and triumphs of community engaged development initiatives. This kind of immersive experience enhances not only students' academic growth but cultivates a sense of responsibility and ethical engagement with the complex global challenges they study. ■

*Education abroad participants enjoy lunch in the field.*



# 2022 Education Abroad Faculty and Students

## FACULTY

Jonathan Choti (MSU, co-lead)
Vicky Moshy (UDSM, co-lead)
Emiliana Mwita (DUCE)
Sharadhuli Kimera (SUA)

## GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Angie Kuczewski (MSU)
Abdul Mutashobya (MSU)
Miriam Panja (UDSM)
Ibrahim Sungi (UDSM)

## MSU STUDENTS

Aaliyah Brooks
Samuel Brown
Helayne Clark
Grace Dellinger-Pate
Chloe Miller
Javohn Smith-Dyer

## SUA VETERINARY STUDENTS

Alesi Venant
Rehema Karavuze
Jeremiah Castory
Edwine Tegamaisho

## UDSM/DUCE STUDENTS

Emmanuel Clemens
Isaya Josephat
Juleus Simon
Dorine Lyuvale
Clezensia Cosmas

## Program Participants

**JOVIN BINAMUNGU**
*Public Health and Food Safety, SUA*

"Maasai mother's knowledge of complementary feeding practices and nutritional status of children aged 6-24 months in Monduli District, Arusha, Tanzania."

**LAMECK METHOD**
*Public Administration, DUCE*

"Access and use of internet service by secondary school students: The case of secondary school students in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam."

**MELANIA AUGUSTINO MDESA**
*Natural Resource Assessment and Management, UDSM*

"Impact of land use conflicts on sustainability of land use management practices in Rungwe District, Tanzania."

**ALLY MWANUKE**
*Geography and Economics, DUCE*

"Assessment of the contribution of Mpondi wetland to food security and livelihood improvement in Milola B Village, Lindi, Tanzania."

**ALMAS S. NYAMGENDA**
*Geography and Economics, DUCE*

"Implications of land use change in agro-pastoral communities: A case of Mswakini Ward, Monduli-Tanzania."

**JOHNSON SOLAR**
*Climate Change and Sustainable Development, UDSM*

"Impacts of youth engagement in climate change agenda on sustainable development in Naitolia Village, Monduli District, Tanzania."

**MARTHA S. WILSON**
*Food Quality and Safety Assurance, SUA*

"Development of complementary food for feeding children aged 6-24 months from selected local food ingredients."



Ally Mwanuke (DUCE) and TPP Program Manager Jennifer Brewer (MSU)

# Celebrating Tanzanian Student Scholars

As an evidence-based development initiative, TPP is committed to actionable research that informs interventions and documents the knowledge base of development practice. To nurture the environment for knowledge generation, TPP initiated a master's degree completion scholarship program in 2020 to support master's students from Tanzanian institutions to gain hands-on experience and facilitate the completion of their thesis research related to sustainable community development. To date, TPP has supported 20 students as they conduct research to inform TPP's programming on diverse topics including food insecurity and nutrition, environmental conservation, internet access, and gender equity.

During the May 2023 planning meeting, TPP hosted a reception and poster session to celebrate the scholarship recipients and provide them an opportunity to showcase their work and receive feedback from technical experts. Seven participants of the program presented their research findings related to pressing challenges in TPP target communities and Tanzania at large, highlighting unique approaches and creative solutions for a more sustainable and equitable future. Funding students from diverse disciplines is a strategic investment by TPP that fosters a more inclusive and integrated approach to sustainable development. ■

# First Daryl and Glenda Minor Tanzania Fellow Graduates

Abdul Mutashobya (Muta), the first recipient of the Daryl and Glenda Minor Tanzania Fellowship, graduated from Michigan State University in May 2023 with a Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Muta describes his overall MSU experience as challenging yet fulfilling, giving him the opportunity to dive into his research interest of building speaking skills for Tanzanian secondary school students.

"The fellowship introduced me to remarkable individuals within [MSU] International Studies and Programs," said Muta. "The connections I forged with these professionals not only broadened my network but also played a pivotal role in reshaping my career trajectory."

Muta currently works as a digital literacy and learning program coordinator and English as a second language instructor at the Refugee Development Center in Lansing, Michigan near MSU's campus. He aspires to continue working in the education field with an international organization focused on refugees. Additionally, he hopes to return to Tanzania to build programs that allow students to enhance both literacy and writing skills in Swahili and English. ■



*Abdul Mutashobya with TPP Director Kwame Yeboah and Daryl Minor, a primary donor of the fellowship.*

## About the Fellowship

Administered through TPP, the Daryl and Glenda Minor Tanzania Fellowship provides two years of support towards the completion of a MSU master's degree program for an entering Tanzanian student with an interest in international development.

Applications are open for Fall 2024 admissions. For more information and to apply, visit **pscd.isp.msu.edu/minorfellowship**.

## Master's Degree Completion Scholarships

### Tanzanian Student Awardees for 2022-2023

Emelia Mguluka (SUA)
Irene S. Urassa (SUA)
Felix Lenga Baraka (UDSM)
Ester Y. Idabu (UDSM)
Felister Alberto (DUCE)
Dorothea Clement (DUCE)



*Scholar Irene Urassa interviews village residents as part of her research on human-wildlife conflict.*

# *Transforming* Pre-Primary Education and Play



Participants are introduced to new ways to use the natural environment to teach children shapes.

TPP partners from MSU and DUCE have co-developed an innovative workshop for Tanzanian pre-primary school teachers focused on play-based learning. This workshop is part of a larger initiative in TPP to advance teacher professional development in Tanzania by incorporating pedagogical approaches that emphasize experiential learning, physical activity, and creative exploration. TPP's play-based initiative is generously supported by Ray Ginther.

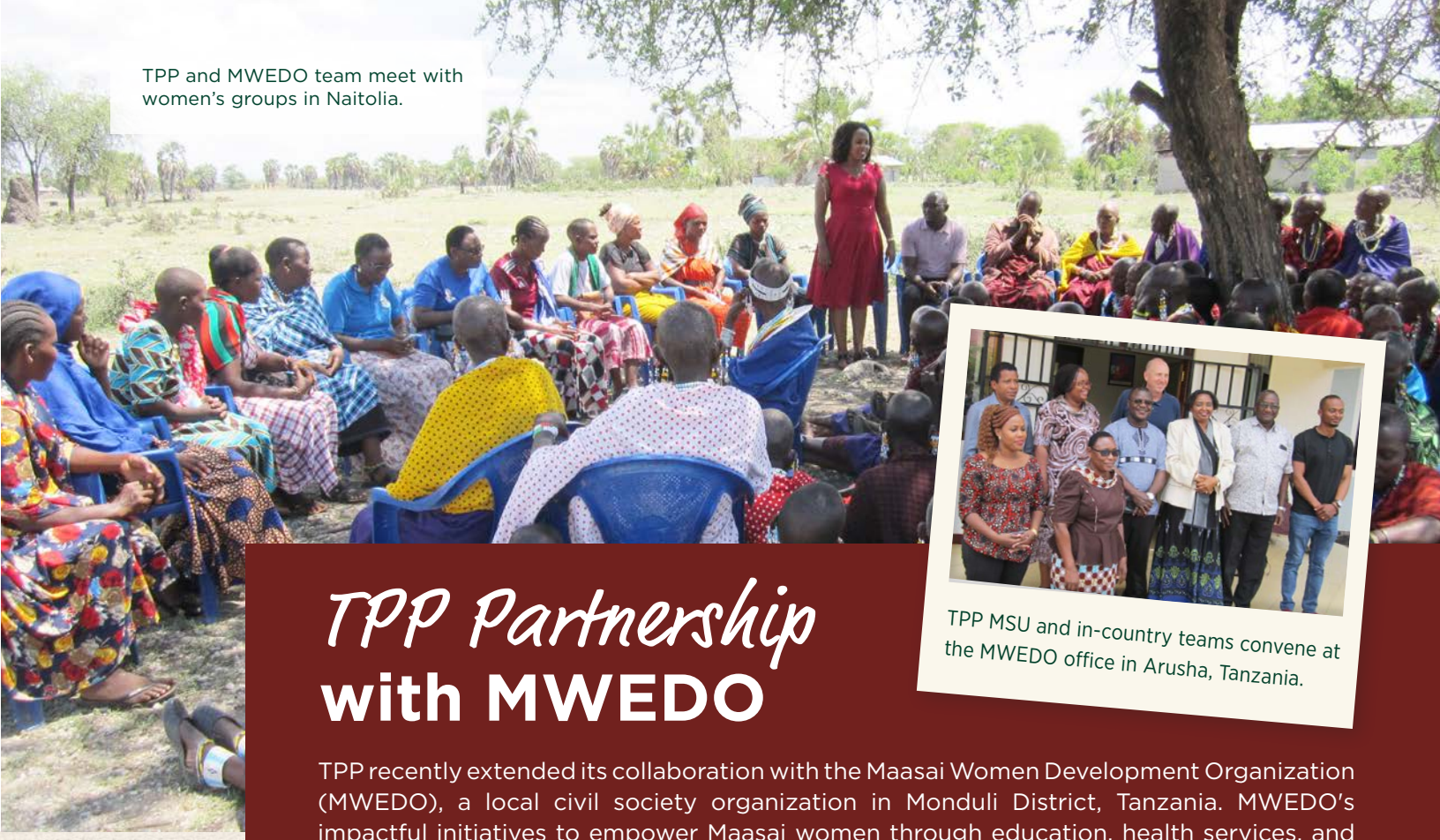
Thirteen teachers participated in the four-day workshop, which was held at the Chang'ombe Demonstration School on the DUCE campus where TPP will soon be constructing a natural playscape. To ensure sessions were culturally and contextually relevant, sessions were co-developed by Amit Sharma from MSU and Maragesi Machumu, Subilaga Kejo, and Janeth Kalinga from DUCE. Teachers participated in learning sessions on the key dimensions of play-based learning, elements of an effective outdoor playscape, and strategies for incorporating curriculum-based learning into outdoor play.

Feedback from workshop participants revealed that attendees gained valuable insights that would shape their approach to teaching. "Now I know it is possible to teach children by using games, and that games help pupils to understand the lesson easily and enjoy it," said one participant. Another noted, "I used to think play was a waste of time. Now I will use these [play-based] methods for teaching."

Additional professional development trainings are being planned for pre-primary teachers in Tanzania on the benefits of unstructured, imaginative play and how to use the natural elements of the new TPP playscape. ■



Participants explore new ways to use the outdoors to teach children simple addition.



TPP and MWEDO team meet with women's groups in Naitolia.



TPP MSU and in-country teams convene at the MWEDO office in Arusha, Tanzania.

# TPP Partnership with MWEDO

TPP recently extended its collaboration with the Maasai Women Development Organization (MWEDO), a local civil society organization in Monduli District, Tanzania. MWEDO's impactful initiatives to empower Maasai women through education, health services, and entrepreneurship align with TPP's commitment to foster community-driven development in the area. The TPP–MWEDO partnership was formalized in November 2022 through a collaborative Memorandum of Understanding, marking the beginning of a shared journey toward growth and progress. The partnership is underpinned by mutual respect and a shared dedication to uplifting the women of Monduli District. ■



In-country coordinator Victoria Moshy introduces event attendees to TPP's ongoing research initiatives in Tanzania.

# TPP Showcased at UDSM's Research and Innovation Week

In April 2023, TPP joined UDSM's Research and Innovation Week, which connects researchers to advance scholarly endeavors and spotlight innovations. TPP team members were selected for both unit and university-wide presentations, excelling in the multidisciplinary impact research category. This achievement enabled the TPP team to feature ongoing projects in education, economic development, youth empowerment and water resource management at Naitolia and Milola. The event highlighted TPP's unwavering commitment to lasting community development, fostering inspiration and collaboration within Tanzania's research communities. ■



TPP workshop leads, guest presenters, and participants at the SUA Morogoro campus.



TPP Director Kwame Yeboah speaks to workshop participants at SUA.




Workshop leaders at UDSM/DUCE.



Co-lead Emiliana Mwita speaks to workshop participants at DUCE.

# Capacity Building for Tanzanian Researchers

In May 2023, TPP partner universities organized a series of workshops to enhance the competencies of early career researchers in Tanzania to develop fundable research and grant proposals. These two-day workshops are part of a larger collaborative effort funded by MSU's Alliance for African Partnership, and are aimed at training and mentoring early career academic staff and researchers on various aspects of the research proposal development process as well as post-award preparations and management. The capacity building effort is being conducted by an interdisciplinary team spearheaded by Kwame Yeboah (MSU) and Emiliana Mwita (DUCE) and includes Jennifer Brewer (MSU), S.I Kimera (SUA), Perpetua Urio (DUCE), Maregesi Manyonyi (DUCE) and Victoria Moshy (UDSM).

The workshops assembled a panel of accomplished researchers from participating universities and private sector research firms who shared their experiences on research collaboration and the key ingredients of a quality proposal. Participating early career researchers were exposed to a range of topics including practical approaches for navigating power dynamics in research teams, collegiality and ethics in research, elements of the research proposal, and useful tips for developing fundable grant proposals.

## Campus Workshops

The first of the two-day workshops was held on the SUA's Morogoro campus. Speaking on behalf of the principal of the College of Veterinary Medicine at SUA, Robinson Mdegela, thanked the organizers for the timely intervention. Mdegela referenced the decline in research output at the university and encouraged participants to fully take advantage of the training opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in grant writing, build productive transdisciplinary research networks, and retool themselves to meet the growing demand for research that brings meaningful impact to society.

The second session of the workshop was hosted at the DUCE campus in Dar es Salaam and was officiated by Hezron Onditi, the acting deputy principal for academic affairs at DUCE. He expressed appreciation for the productive collaborative partnership DUCE has enjoyed with MSU through TPP as the first initiative of PSCD and the largest project DUCE has housed to date. Onditi also noted that the training aligns with the college's efforts to boost research productivity and urged the participating early career researchers to use the training to develop winning proposals for the upcoming calls from the university.

*"I came in with very little knowledge and now I have learned a lot about grant proposals."*

**PROGRAM PARTICIPANT**

## Fostering Research Excellence

Despite a proliferation of universities, Tanzania is home to only an estimated 19 researchers per million inhabitants compared to an average of 95 researchers per million across Africa. In his remarks, TPP Director Kwame Yeboah noted that research in Tanzania faces strong headwinds characterized by lack of funding, limited opportunities for skills development and mentoring, and declines in the number of professionals choosing research as a career path.

"If this trend is not reversed, Tanzania will be unable to develop the critical knowledge base to support its development efforts," said Yeboah. "However, participation in these workshops and continued engagement in this effort is a critical step toward stabilizing and increasing the country's research capacity."

The workshops, along with follow-up activities including bimonthly webinars and mentoring programs, will result in several communities of practice around relevant topics that are critical to sustainable development of Tanzania and beyond.

Workshop participants expressed gratitude for the opportunity and knowledge gained from the session. "I was so impressed with today's session… it was insightful and empowering," said one early career researcher. Another noted, "I came in with very little knowledge and now I have learned a lot about grant proposals." ■



Workshop participants meet in small teams to offer each other feedback on their research questions.

# *Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky* Receive MSU Philanthropist of the Year Award

The Philanthropist of the Year award is given every fall in recognition of those who have demonstrated outstanding philanthropic responsibility toward MSU and whose generosity inspires others. The 2022 award was presented to Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky—the co-founding benefactors for TPP—for their steadfast commitment to reduce poverty and improve lives in Tanzania. The Kolschowskys have been very hands-on in the development of TPP, and have traveled to Tanzania multiple times to witness the impact of their philanthropy and partnership in action. Their top priority is to ensure that TPP creates a demonstrable impact in rural communities and cultivates generations of change agents, and their living legacy continues to inspire faculty and students at MSU and in Tanzania. ■



*Gerald and Karen Kolschowsky*




*TPP team members and Timothy Kolschowsky at the 2022 MSU Alumni Awards Gala.*

## *In Memoriam* PAUL BISHOP

*January 2, 1942–September 12, 2022*

TPP wishes to pay tribute to the contributions of the late Paul Bishop, Spartan alumnus ('67, Social Science; '72, Law), and long-time donor to Michigan State University. Influenced by visits to Africa as a member of the Lions Club, Bishop was inspired to take action regarding the lack of clean drinking water in the region. His contributions, made via the Paul Bishop and Barbara Pendras Family Endowment for Developing Countries, enabled TPP to work with in-country partners to build infrastructure and capacity for clean water access to many residents within both Milola and Naitolia villages. Bishop passed away in September 2022, but his legacy lives on through the lasting impact of his generosity.



*The late Paul Bishop with his wife, Barbara Pendras*



*Ngwenya students celebrate the official opening of the primary school with a special dance.*

# Reconnecting with Local Partners

In February 2023, a trip to Tanzania took on special significance with the inclusion of Tim Kolschowsky, president of the Kolschowsky Foundation; this marked his first visit to Naitolia and Milola since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the span of two weeks, the TPP delegation witnessed the tremendous progress of TPP-supported development projects in both communities, including the new school feeding facilities at Engusero Pre-Primary School, the new kitchen at Naitolia Primary School, the rehabilitation of the Naitolia Village pond, the official opening of the Ngwenya Primary School, land donated for a new health clinic in Ngwenya, water infrastructure projects and school gardens. The trip was punctuated by joyful reunions with partners at both the district and community levels, providing community members opportunities to express their appreciation for TPP's work and request support to address other challenges in the community. Amidst the complexities of the COVID-19 pandemic, the trip reaffirmed TPP's unyielding dedication to community development and offered a testament to the enduring spirit of the partnership. ■



*A new covered eating area at Engusero Pre-Primary School keeps lunches safe from contaminating dust and debris.*



*The updated kitchen at Naitolia Primary with new safe and efficient stoves.*



Titus Awokuse (MSU) presents on the role of research in international partnerships.



TPP planning meeting participants in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

# Planning the Future Together

The May 2023 TPP planning meeting marked a significant milestone as university and district partners reconvened in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting charted a promising future for continued collaboration as activities and dialogue centered around strategic planning and visioning, and a robust commitment to shared objectives.

Titus Awokuse, associate dean for research and strategic partnerships at MSU International Studies and Programs, spoke to meeting participants on the important role of research in international partnerships; he also had a chance to visit a number of TPP initiatives in Naitolia. ■

# Fiscal Activity 2022-2023

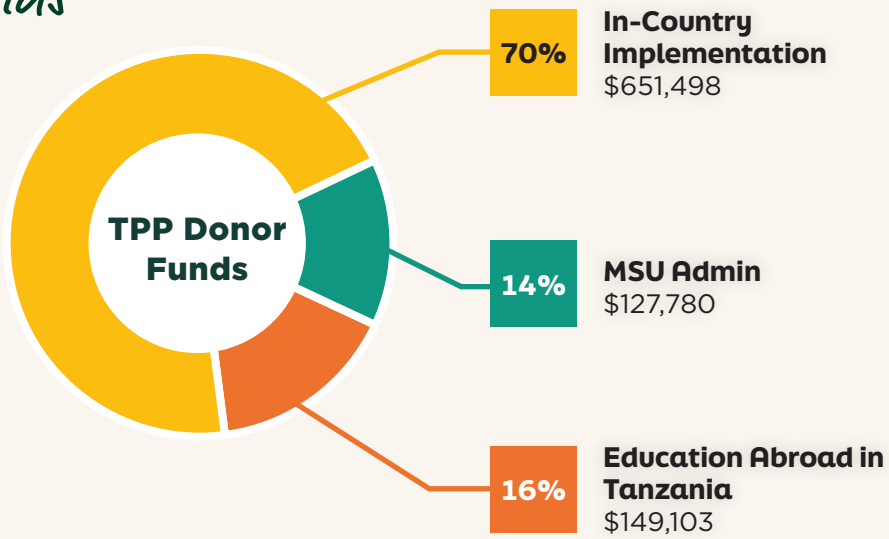
The Tanzania Partnership Program is a private-public partnership supported generously by individuals, academic institutions, and a coalition of diverse partners that collaborate to advance the mission of TPP. Executive leadership is provided by Michigan State University. TPP is committed to good stewardship of the resources and assets entrusted to the program and dedicated to the highest level of accountability.

| INCOME | |
|---|---|
| Donor Funds | $733,235 |
| MSU Funds | $298,688 |
| **TOTAL INCOME** | **$1,031,923** |

| EXPENDITURE | |
|---|---|
| Donor Funds | $928,381 |
| MSU Funds | $298,618 |
| **TOTAL EXPENDITURE** | **$1,226,999** |

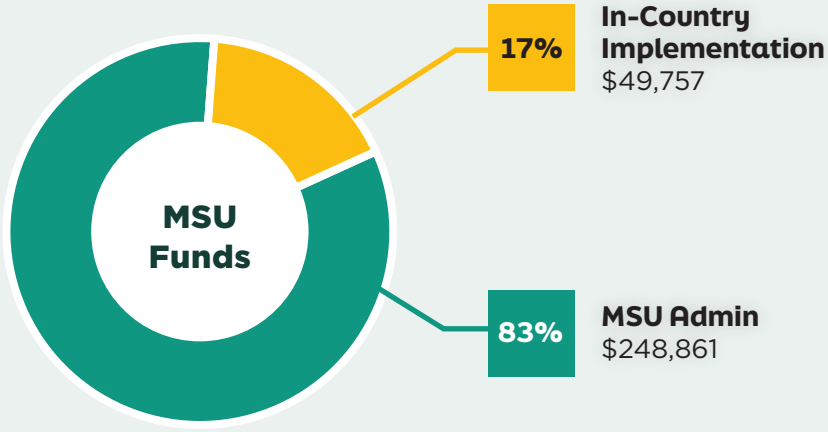
Expenditures of the program have increased due to the expansion of programming and associated growth in personnel; implementation of effective structures to disburse funds for in-country activities; and overall growth in inflation. Indeed, in-country implementation expenses have nearly doubled compared to prior four-year averages. TPP invites donors with interest in hunger and poverty alleviation to provide additional financial support to sustain current levels of programming and accommodate future growth.

## TPP Donor Funds




TPP continues to expend a greater share of its funds on in-country activities. In fact, 70% of the total donor funds expended in fiscal year 2023 was spent on in-country implementation, with 14% on MSU administration, and 16% on the education abroad program. MSU also disbursed an additional $298,618 to support in-country implementation efforts (17%) and MSU's project administration (83%).

## MSU Funds



# Tanzania
## PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Tanzania Partnership Program is made possible through the generous support of our donors—thank you!

**To make a gift in support of the program, please contact:**

**Sarah Blom,** *Executive Director of Individual Giving*
**+1-517-884-1091 | blom@msu.edu**

Office of the Dean
International Studies and Programs
Michigan State University
427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 207
East Lansing, MI 48824 USA
1+517-353-8570
pscd.isp.msu.edu

International Studies and Programs
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

@msuintl @msuisp Tanzania Partnership Program