

CHAGUA MAISHA

Progress for Africa



Mission

Our main goal is to promote and participate in the development of communities, based on the support, reinforcement and back up of equal opportunities, empowerment and social transformation from the inside. We want to contribute to the consecution of a fairer and egalitarian society where all people have the chance to become whomever they want to be, without any limit to their decisions related to matters of race, gender, age, abilities and/or resources.

Vission

We consider Human Rights and Dignity to be inherent to all human beings. Understanding that the current global situation hampers the free exercise of these rights, we advocate for a progressive but constant social transformation which may achieve sustainable human development. We believe that a positive social change may be achieved through an integrated process convened by States, International Organisms, NGOs, and social initiatives, joining efforts and strategies; always from a wide and multispectral perspective.

We understand that the greatest changes are achieved within the community itself. Thus, we work to make our projects as independent as possible. Once they prove to be self-sustainable, we look forward to decreasing the influence of our organization, works, and volunteers to a minimum.

Management team statement

While our Project is being consolidated, the team is facing different challenges which teach and strengthen us. During this last year, we had to adapt to unexpected events, as well as we work to achieve a long-lasting impact, at the same time we

maintain our principal activities, we keep on developing others which lead us to a greater influence.

We are very pleased with the obtained results, including the classes and the family's implication. We believe that solid relations between the beneficiaries and the organization as a key to the success of our first project.

We feel very thankful to all of those who have supported us, but overall, we need to thank and mention the neighborhood population. Our target nowadays is to promote and obtain a plain participation of the community, meaning an absolute ownership by the neighbors. Including, economic and human sustainability.



Being aware of the importance of Cooperation values, this year we developed internal workshops with the staff, in order to acquire enough knowledge regarding projects design, logical framework approach, international cooperation basic knowledge, and the worldwide functioning of Development International Cooperation. Understanding the international context will help us to continue with our work and starting new future projects.





NGO Background

Progress for Africa started in 2014, as an initiative of some young Tanzanians who had previously been working on other cooperation and volunteering projects. This NGO was created to facilitate and support the educational process of minors living in a situation of social exclusion, living in the surroundings of Arusha.

We understand that education gives people the possibility to improve their social conditions, as there is a direct link between poverty reduction and development. People's education can have a great impact on achieving a long-lasting change in both their life and the whole community's life. We believe education to be a tool which leads to empowerment, in and outside the classrooms and which cannot only be achieved by memorization or repetition on methods but by exercising responsibility, mutual care, peaceful conflict resolution methods, perseverance, and creativity. We would like to transmit those values to children as much as to adults. This is the reason why our principal space is a pre-primary school while our job is, at the same time, being led to adult's quality education in technical skills through workshops. In this sense, we are also trying to promote the inclusion of local population on in the projects and activities draft and execution.

Our organization is apolitical and non-confessional. All beliefs and confessions, are respected, while they do not contradict with the values reflected in the Declaration on of Fundamental Rights, as well as our core values.

In order to accomplish our goals, we rely on the help of local and international volunteers, as well as on that provided by abroad internship students. A wide spectrum of disciplines, experiences and knowledge and a multidisciplinary team can be achieved due to their support, helping us to broaden our understanding while keeping updated. This allows us to adapt to new situations and unexpected events. At the same time, this reinforces our belief in the importance of joining efforts, sharing knowledge and combining performances. Therefore, we are open to dialogue to achieve human values such as equality, justice, and social peace.

Introduction

Cooperation is a tool and a means to achieve social justice, equality and respect for Human Rights. In the last twenty years, new cooperation paradigms were formulated regarding issues of management, good governance, responsibility, and accountability. We understand that standardization is the most effective way to assure a real impact of cooperation projects and to avoid small and disconnected acts that lead to a minimum change. We believe in social transformation linked to sustainable and fair development.

A great step to achieve the 2030 Agenda is to stand for

accountability, transparency, monitoring, and evaluation of projects. In order to create a frame in which all the social and political actors could act to achieve development, this Agenda sets up 17 objectives which must be followed to achieve a just development. To be accomplished, these objectives need a coordination of efforts and the fulfillment of them as a whole. Our objective with this Annual Report is to show, organize and analyze the work we have done so far while, at the same time, being able to plan our work better in the future, share our labor and be open to the public. We put this report to the disposal of national authorities and of any person willing to read it, as an exercise of collective return.

Area of intervention

Our organization intercedes for education as a way of life, as a long process that never ends and which shall lead to a progressive but constant social transformation, within a micro and macro scale.

According to the UNESCO Education Strategy 2014-2021, we consider education to be a life lasting process, that shall be inclusive in order to foment individual and collective development, and that shall cause the creation of just and responsible citizens fully exercising their rights. Equalitarian access to education is one of the most important steps to transform reality, so it is very important to make it available and reachable to the groups which have traditionally seen their rights vulnerated. By these means, we are referring to women, children, people in social, economic and habitational exclusion, and people having functional diversity or any other type of stigma.

At the same time, we have a commitment to promote and provide quality education, one which adapts to the specific context and which also offers the feasibility to acquire knowledge and the useful tools to a particular or complex public and context. We shall always consider that we must avoid cultural reductionism and offer growth and creative alternatives. We are engaged in an education system based on values linked to sustainable development, peace, and justice. We shall promote critical consciousness, empowerment, and innovative ways of citizenship. To do so, we also believe in the training of trainers, since that is the way to transform education from the inside, fulfilling the global and institutional tendency leading to the eradication of inequalities.

Tanzanian authorities have been implementing strategies to improve the quality of and access to education for quite a long time, with national plans such as Educational Programs of Results, Global Partnerships for Education, etc. At the beginning of the 2000s, the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP) was approved. This plan seeks to ameliorate national primary education by eliminating school fees, training teachers' skills regarding gender, using new and adapted language and pedagogic strategies, and facilitating access to textbooks. It was also expected to make an improvement in



the management of schools. Furthermore, in the last decades, the National Government has been working to assure that all children at school age are able to exercise their right to education.

However, the efforts have not been enough yet to achieve the expected goals. Willing to continue and complement the State's and international agenda, we have decided to focus our attention on education, understanding it as a process, a tool and, indeed, a key to the eradication of poverty and inequality.

Geographic location

Our organization was born in the city of Arusha. The surroundings of Arusha have grown at a very fast rate, and this speed has not been followed up by the construction and habituation of basic services such as domestic supply (water and light), health services and education. Even though, during this last two years, authorities have been making an effort in infrastructure investment.

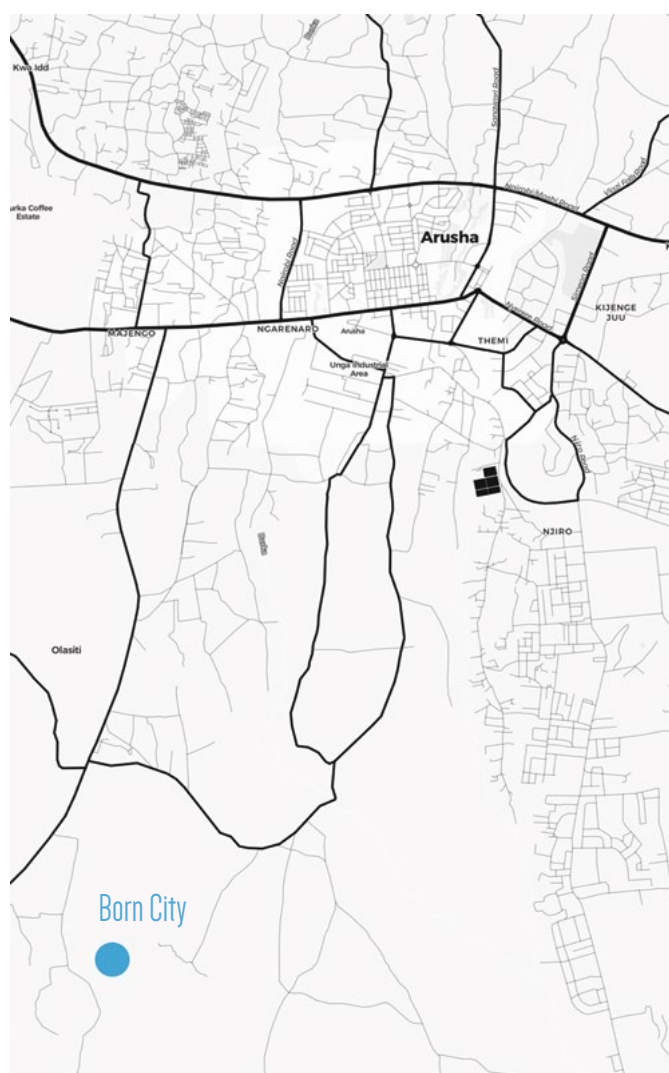
Born City has been experiencing a growth of population density at an exponential rate. It is inhabited mostly by familiar domestic units, who had low incomes. However, because of the building of some infrastructures, the price of the lands is increasing, and this is creating a wide gap among the population, between low income and high/normal income families. The economic engine of this area is of a small-scale, with a lot of small businesses such as Dukas and other informal businesses, which are 61% of the businesses available. Domestic agriculture prevails, with maize and bean plantations being the more relevant plantations in this area, accompanied by small chicken farms. The high rate of the population growth is not being reciprocated with an equal increase in the number of jobs created. In fact, this neighborhood is becoming a dormitory suburb which does not offer the needed commodities for the families and, especially, the children and other vulnerable groups.

This neighborhood is growing in a high exponential way, which is making predictions to be hard to achieve, we ought to be aware of the rapid changes and be able to adapt to the new reality. The opening of a new hospital, the increase in the population living there, the opening of business, and other organizations, it is both a challenge and opportunity, to start and maintain alliances in order to achieve a fair development.

On the academic level, data has shown that there is a 50% rate of dropouts in secondary school. This percentage affects mainly the female gender since they hold the economic weight of the households. The inexistence of formal education is directly linked to a high rate of fertility, is 6.4 children per women for those who have not finished primary studies, and 6 children per women for those who do not finish secondary school.

To facilitate a growth in the neighborhood, we consider appropriate the opening of a school, which at the same time, works as a social invigorating initiative, allowing and promoting

a long-lasting change by including not only minors but all the families and the whole community.





Chagua Maisha

After two years implementing and supporting projects of different local NGOs, we decided to start our own project. For that purpose, we implemented the cooperation tool known as Logic Framework Approach, which helped us to plan and set up the calendar of activities and the resources needed.

The first step was the localization of an area in need of education facilities. This step brought us to Born City, as it is a new area growing very fast and lacking education and infrastructures. In order to acquire a good communication with the neighbourhood, we contacted and met with local authorities, that is, the chairman and the counsellor. After we got their approval and acceptance, we started meeting with the families in the area and developing questionnaires in order to know their necessities, wills and desires.

The name Chagua Maisha was chosen to stress the importance of the decisions we take in life



After analysing all the information gathered, we set up as a priority and main objective the need to contribute to the reducing of drops-out in school so that children in this area have an opportunity to grow as educated persons with aspirations and a dignified future. The first step to achieve this goal was to build a pre-primary school. The main reason that took us there was introducing children into early schooling so they can acquire the basic knowledge they need to enter in primary school, as well as showing them and their parents the benefits of education. We also defined the need of giving adults the chances to improve their skills and abilities; therefore, some workshops were planned and developed.

In order to speed up and ease our work, we created different commissions focused on the different tasks that we have to accomplish to fulfil our target.

The division in different commissions and the help of our multidisciplinary volunteers and teams has helped us to split efforts and tasks so that we can be more efficient and practical.

Architecture commission

The first priority of this commission was to prepare and set up, a space that would be suitable for children as well as adults, including a playground and resting area of communitarian usage.



The construction of these areas started in July and was carried out during the following 3 months. The upcoming result was, an open infrastructure designed as a meeting and gathering place where all of the neighbors are welcomed. Our goal is this place to become a cause of change among the people, so they can feel free to propose any activity, as well as to involve collectives and associations. We want people to develop and transform their reality within their own wills and necessities. Every day from Monday to Saturday there are a group of women who cook meals, at reasonable prizes, becoming themselves agents of the space dynamization, due to the bonds with the neighborhood and the project.



At the same time, the playground was built, including recycled materials, building swingers, and other games. Mainly used by our pupils, but also it is opened to any kid willing to play. We promoted the participation of the kids in the construction and decoration of it, thus we consider this a way to reinforce ownership.

Before the Rain Season, we accomplished the installation of a water collection system, which allows us to collect and re-use 10.000 L of rainwater. Being able to leverage natural resources



Legality commission

During 2017-2018 this commission has been working to settle our organization's bases, working in the knowledge and fulfillment of the national laws. In addition, we found out, that skills development was a must, we should accomplish. We worked hand to hand with international volunteers to acquire the sufficient knowledge, experience, and know-how.

We developed the formalization of the partnership with a Spanish NGO. This agreement was draft between both organizations, establishing a strengthen of a long-lasting relationship. Furthermore, it lays down commitments and obligations which allow the planning of tasks, and the development of further projects and activities.

As internal work, we were developing running documents, in which responsibilities and tasks, decision-making process and communication protocols were established.

We understand that these kind of activities are not as visible as direct intervention, nevertheless, we consider this kind of work to be essential, in pursuance of a hard-core basis. Making the NGO's continuity independent from the people who work in it.

Finance commission

Maintenance and monitoring of accountant rules are the main tasks of this team. This commission is in charge of budgets design for contest applications, also we develop expenses priorities and future expenditures, at the same time we work in economic and financial justification to donors.

Since last year periodical workshops are taking place with the local workers in order to keep on with the training of trainers, widening knowledge and assuring projects for human sustainability. These activities are being carried away with the help of international volunteers with special expertise in accountancy, management, and economy. Development and enrichment of the local staff are basic to social transformation, as it allows the knowledge acquired to be transmitted to other members of the community.

in an efficient way, is one of our main goals. We work to have a responsible and environmental responsible consume.

We build a washing machine-bike because of an international project funded by the Madrid Architecture school. This machine allows washing clothes without the need of current water and electrical supply. Understanding this task as time-consuming, we want to facilitate domestic work to any domestic unit in the neighbor.



Last but not least, some reparations in the fences were made. We believe that is essential for our labor to have a safe and delimited space, as we mainly work with minors. Having a safe place, with a fixed entrance, will allow us to control and take care of the children.





Economic sustainability of the project it is also a need and a will. A small shop, in the land of the center, was opened. Our will is to obtain profit enough to cover the project's fixed expenses. After the first investment and following up, workers and volunteers are working on marketing strategies so we can improve sales and rentability.

Education commission

This is the core commission in our organization as our direct intervention it is directly linked to this matter.

In September we developed clothes distribution to direct and indirect beneficiaries of the project. We conducted a selection of the families interested, ensuring that the most needed ones were receiving the help.



At the end of the year, we proudly hold the first graduation of our kids, as they were ready to start class 1. All of the seven children in age to start primary, completely succeed the entrance test in primary schools. The first months we conducted, lead by the teacher and commission coordinator, some tracking to our ex-students results and adaptation to the school, and we are highly satisfied.



Considering our first pilot class to be a success, we decided to open a second class, in which 17 new children will be educated. We keep on growing and widening the direct impact in the neighborhood. As we understand pre-primary education, consists not only of the transmission of knowledge but also raising awareness of the importance of education in all steps of life. Every kid we work with means another family is working to value education, every pupil guarantees the broaden and stabilization of our influence net, and our work.



The second class opening process was completed with the hiring of a second teacher, who was decided to be a woman. As we understand the importance of gender perspective and women inclusion in our project.

Wanting to promote an integral and transformative education, that allows kids to explore and ask themselves questions, we started to grow an orchard and implemented new daily routines using the Montessori methodology. In Chagua Maisha, we boost experiential learning, while respecting every kid's speed at the same time we develop group work and learning.



Being aware of the importance of having strong relations with other educational institutions, we are working in the development of agreements and close relationships with other centers and organizations. In this sense, we have formalized our first agreement with a Spanish School called Arcadia. Together we will develop activities that promote education for development both in Spain and Tanzania. This will be carried out through workshops, memorial days, raising awareness and sports activities. Alliances among many organizations help us



to improve our practices and strengthen civil society net.

We are actively searching for more partners, both locals and internationals, which allow us to ensure our labor. Educating in community, educating is the way to achieve SDGs, especially the ones related to education.

This year we kept developing the sporting and recreational activities, as last year, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Our main public is children and early teenagers, either way, any person willing to come is most welcome. Some of the activities, we undertake are such as games, sporting activities, a review of basic cultural knowledge, English and body health. The main aim of these activities is not only to promote a safe and healthy place to learn by playing but also to facilitate a space where kids and their families establish profound bonds between them. We understand that facilitating good relations in the community will contribute to achieving a profound change, towards development.



Since December, every Friday kid's movies are shown, both in English and Swahili.

At the beginning of 2018, a football team was started with some teenagers from the neighborhood. This initiative was born almost spontaneously, having the support of a retired coach, who helped us to develop the first steps in the organization. Every day of the week, excluding weekends, from 10 to 20 boys come to train and play football. Besides promoting a physical health through sport, this football club is a leisure option which educates in values, as responsibility, persistence, respect for others and teamwork. We believe education is to be found, also outside the classes, and educating in positive values is essential to social change.





How to help?

Economic colaboration

>> Teaming

Micro donations of 1€ per month

<https://www.teaming.net/maisharoots>

>> Private donations

Throught bank transfer:

Bank: La CAIXA

Owner: Progress Spain

IBAN: ES55 2100 0955 8002 1028 3299

BIC/SWIFT: CAIXESBBXXX

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