

TANA RIVER LIFE FOUNDATION



ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS 2019

*THIS REPORT FORMS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR OTHER REPORT TITLED:
'TANA RIVER LIFE FOUNDATION - 2019 ANNUAL REPORT'*



FEE BURSARIES & STUDY ALLOWANCES

(I) SSP - SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME

THIS PROGRAMME EXPANDS AND IMPROVES ON THE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN FROM MARGINALIZED HOUSEHOLDS BY PROVIDING SCHOOL FEE BURSARIES BASED ON NEED AND MERIT.

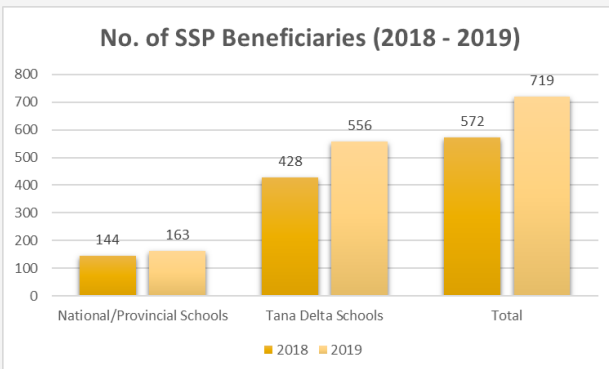
- In 2019, 62 out of the 719 students were on the enhanced sponsorship programme whereby they become part of the TRLF volunteer community and receive assistance of between 90% to 100% of their educational needs.
- Some of them live in the TRLF community home in Idsowe, while others are in boarding schools.
- They are required to spend part of their school holidays assisting in TRLF projects.
- This component helps form students not only academically but also spiritually and emotionally by building character and value systems.
- This programme is funded by private individual donors, together with funding from **TCP Endowment Fund, Holywell Foundation, the Binjai Tree Foundation, WSCS, and Wesley Methodist churches of Johor Bahru and Melaka.**



Students on the enhanced programme are nurtured holistically, to help them mature and progress not only academically, but also in their outlooks and depth of living.



TRLF gives equal educational opportunity to the girl child, who, in poorer rural communities, are often disadvantaged.



Students on TRLF sponsorship come from all over the Tana Delta, from all tribes and religious beliefs. They are chosen based on need and desire for integral development.

FEE BURSARIES & STUDY ALLOWANCES

(II) TVP - TERTIARY & VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

SIMILAR TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME, THIS PROGRAMME ASSISTS YOUTH AT TERTIARY LEVEL.



Evans Abaganda is currently completing his final year of studies in a Degree in Petrochemical Engineering at UTAR, Kampar, Malaysia.

- All 44 students are beneficiaries of the TRLF Youth Formation Programme. They were required to serve as TRLF volunteers for two years before starting tertiary studies under sponsorship.
- The emphasis here is in line with other TRLF educational sponsorship programmes, i.e. character formation and social responsibility combined with academic progression.
- 15 of the students in Kenyan institutions completed their studies in 2019, while Komora Benedicto graduated with a Degree in Financial Economics from Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Malaysia in September 2019 and returned to Kenya in October 2019.

Of the 16 students who completed their tertiary studies in 2019, 5 returned to volunteer at TRLF. These individuals were:

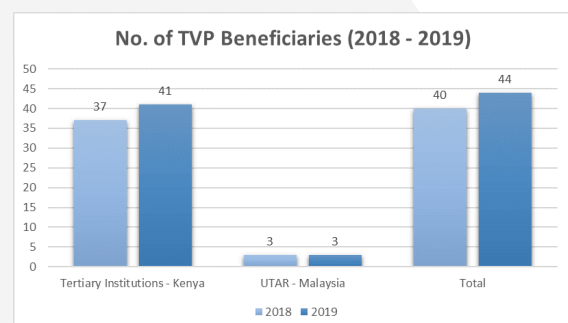
- **Mrisa Katana** and **Justin Komora** who both studied Social Work and Community Development in Nairobi. They were instrumental in formalizing the DEMSA Bursary programme in November 2019.
- **Komora Benedicto** is of great help in both the internal audit and company secretary roles he has been assigned to.
- **John Franco**, a graduate in electronics, was assigned to handle audio visual issues related to TRLF activities, e.g. the online registration of all DEMSA students on the government portal. He also set up a database of digital learning material for primary school level.
- **Hapiness Furaha**, who did tailoring, was assigned to help in the DEMSA kitchen and was also the Matron for the DEMSA bursary children.

This programme has been substantially funded by **The Double Honour Foundation** since 2016. Funding was also provided by the **Madrinha Trust** and the **Chan family**.

The three students studying in Malaysia were on full tuition scholarships by UTAR.



Komora Benedicto with intern **Buya Marere** and YFP volunteer **Juliet Malika**, carrying out an internal audit of 2019 TRLF financial records.



EDUCATIONAL AIDS & INFRASTRUCTURE

(I) DEE - DELTA EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT

DEE IS A PROGRAMME THAT SERVES TO IMPROVE BOTH THE LEARNING AND TEACHING ENVIRONMENTS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SECTOR IN TANA DELTA AT BOTH PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

YEAR	EMPHASIS
2018	TRLF started working with local communities (parents and teachers) to repair, renovate and build public school facilities in Tana Delta through the following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">joint funding at a ratio of 80% by TRLF donors with 20% by the local communityproject monitoring by a joint committee comprising TRLF, parents & school staffemphasis is on basic facilities, e.g. toilets, as well as classrooms
2019	TRLF started emphasizing the teaching of Sciences by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">embarking on science laboratory constructionfurnishing public secondary schools with laboratory equipment and consumables
2020	TRLF will emphasize digital learning to compensate for gaps in teaching manpower and material in rural schools by equipping rural public secondary schools with digital learning studios. This will entail: <ul style="list-style-type: none">construction or renovation of a secure classroominstallation of solar power sourceprovision of desktop and projector



A four classroom block at Marifano Secondary School was completed with funding from the Pavillion Foundation, Singapore.

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INFRASTRUCTURAL WORKS IN 2019

SCHOOL	ITEM	DONOR	AMT (\$\$)	STATUS @ MAR-2020
Marifano Secondary School	Completion of Partially Constructed Classroom Block	Pavilion Foundation	10,485	Completed
Sera Primary School	Repair of Classroom Block	Pavilion Foundation	3,107	Completed
Dalu Secondary School	Completion of Roof works for New Classroom Block	Yinspiration Yin Yoga (Ksh23,300 b/f from 2018 @ 73.93)	315	Completed
Kitere Secondary School	Construction of 2-Classroom Block	Yinspiration Yin Yoga (US\$15,435*1.3651)	21,071	Completed
Minhaj Sec. Sch.	Construction of Standard Science Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yinspiration Yin Yoga (Ksh273,591 b/f from 2018 @ 73.93 & US\$571*1.3651 & US\$2,308*1.3651) Dolly & Patrick & Friends Other donors 	7,631 6,046 526 14,203	Completed up to walling. Work stopped in Sep 2019 due to flooding and inaccessibility but resumed in March 2020
Dalu Secondary School	Fabrication of Steel Doors & Windows for New Classroom Block	Dolly & Patrick & Friends	2,257	Completed
Dalu Secondary School	Twin chambered permanent toilet	Dolly & Patrick & Friends	3,382	Completed
Semikaro Primary School	Repair of Classroom Block	Dolly & Patrick & Friends	4,734	Roof works are outstanding as roads have been cut off. Work was to resume in March 2020
Shirikisho Primary School	Twin chambered permanent toilet	Dolly & Patrick & Friends	3,382	Completed
Sera Primary School	Twin chambered permanent toilet (funds received and work commenced in 2018 and completed in 2019)	Dolly & Patrick & Friends	2,029	Completed

These activities were substantially funded by **The Pavilion Foundation, Yinspiration Yin Yoga and Dolly, Patrick & friends.**

INFRASTRUCTURAL WORKS IN EARLY 2020

SCHOOL	ITEM	DONOR	AMT (\$\$)	STATUS @ MAR-2020
Nduru Primary School	Repair of Classroom Block	Kim Sen & friends	8,600	Roof works pending
Miticharaka Primary School	Construction of 2-Classroom Block	CHARIS Singapore	23,611	Walling works in progress



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KITERE SECONDARY SCHOOL - NEW CLASSROOM BLOCK

2020 INFRASTRUCTURAL ASSISTANCE BY TRLF FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN TANA DELTA



Rehabilitation of a Classroom Block at Nduru Primary School, Chara Location, Tana Delta



Construction of a Two-Classroom Block at Miticharaka Primary School, Odha Wachu Location, Tana Delta

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FURNITURE CONTRIBUTION

- Besides the above, we also received a large quantity of furniture in 2019 from institutions in Singapore, including **Methodist Girls' School, IJHCC** and **Canossaville Children and Community Services**. These were shipped to the TRLF Community Centre in Tana Delta pro bono by **PIL Singapore** and **Logwin Air + Ocean Pte Ltd**.
- Holding space was provided by **CHIJ St. Theresa's Convent**, while labour was provided pro bono by **Sunray Woodcraft Construction Pte Ltd**.
- This recycled furniture programme greatly enhances the learning environment for rural students. There is a great need for more furniture at both primary and secondary school levels.

FURNITURE DISTRIBUTION

The furniture was distributed as indicated below:

ITEM	TRLF-DEMSEA	Public Schools Tana Delta	TOTAL
Classroom Chairs	300	463	763
Classroom Desks	50	761	711
Canteen Tables	15	85	100
Canteen Benches	46	155	201



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(II) SAS - STUDY AID SCHEME

- Solar lanterns were given to upper primary students at Miticharaka, Kibokoni, Shirikisho, Assa and Sera primary schools.
- Textbooks and lab equipment and consumables were provided to six public secondary schools in Tana Delta.
- Subsidized scientific calculators and geometrical sets were provided to Tana Delta students.
- Daily bus shuttle service for students to Garsen High School.
- All these activities were made possible by the generous support of **private individual donors**, together with staff of **CHIJ St. Theresa's Convent** and the management of **Pro-teach Schoolcare Group & Treyoga Sdn Bhd**.
- Funds were also raised for the solar lantern project via **Global Giving UK** and **Global Giving Foundation Inc.** platforms.
- **The Patatas** kindly sponsored two mobile projector kits named *Case Study* for use in rural schools off the national power grid.



Yokson Walakisa, a TRLF youth intern assisting youth volunteers, **Juliet Malika** and **Bernard Jillo** to sort compulsory literature set books purchased for the TRLF Delta Education Enhancement (DEE) programme.

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(III) ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS

COMPETITIONS ORGANIZED BY TRLF WITH THE AIM TO BOOST SELF-ESTEEM AND SELF-RESOLVE, THEREBY IMPROVING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

In 2019, TRLF organized 5 symposiums or academic competitions for Form 4 (A level) exam candidates.

- The aim was to boost their self-esteem and self-resolve, and thereby improve their academic performance.
- Each symposium involved between 450 to 600 students from all the 16 public secondary schools in Tana Delta.
- The programme had a real impact, resulting in a noticeable improvement in subjects for which competitions were held, namely English, Kiswahili, Biology, Chemistry and History.
- There was also an encouraging increase in the number of students qualifying for university entrance.
- These activities were largely funded by **Holywell Foundation** and **private individual donors**.

EXAM YEAR	Students qualifying for direct entry to University from Tana Delta Schools
2018	4
2019	16



TRLF organized five academic competitions in 2019 bringing together between 400 to 500 examination candidates from all 16 public secondary schools across the Tana Delta.

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(IV) DEMSA - DELTA MUSTARD SEED ACADEMY

- DEMSA completed its third year of operations at the Emmaus Centre (Construction was completed with 50% funding from **Jonaron Foundation** in 2016).
- Salaries of DEMSA staff are funded equally by **Jonaron Foundation**, **private individual donors**, and **parents' contributions**.
- Food and transport costs are fully funded by **parents' contributions**.
- DEMSA stationaries and study material were funded by **private individual donors**.

The DEMSA enrolment record from 2017 to 2020 is as follows:

GENDER	2017	2018	2019	2020
Boys	151	156	161	207
Girls	108	108	118	152
TOTAL	259	264	279	359



DEMSA students all ready to leave for the 2019 Inter-Schools Regional Drama Festival held in Mombasa. For many of the children it was their first time to travel outside Tana River county, and thus the first time for them to see the Indian Ocean.

EDUCATIONAL AIDS & INFRASTRUCTURE

(IV) DEMSA - DELTA MUSTARD SEED ACADEMY

Highlights of DEMSA achievements in 2019

- Development of the school as a place for fostering inter-ethnic harmony and good values, nurturing the habits of mutual respect and kindness, looking after public and shared property, as well as appreciation and conservation of the natural environment.
- Continuation of remedial classes for slower learners under the charge of Tracy Jilo, a teacher at DEMSA and beneficiary of the TRLF YFP and TVP programmes.
- Employment of Hosea Komora - another beneficiary of the YFP and TVP programmes - as a full time teacher.
- Access for teachers to the library books, the computer lab and the digital learning room.
- Direct engagement between visitors from Asia with our students in both academic as well as extra-curricular activities, providing a rich and mutual learning field.
- Participation in the inter-school Drama Festival where DEMSA became the first school from Tana River County to present a play in English at the regional level in Mombasa.
- Introduction of sports and clubs, namely the 4K (agricultural) Club, the Peace Club, the Environment & Wildlife Club and Scouts & Guides Movement.
- Provision of continuing education for three teachers, two of whom completed the current level (Certificate & Proficiency) of their CPE. They will be proceeding to the Diploma and Certificate levels respectively.
- Formation of a team under the leadership of TRLF interns Mrisa Katana and Justin Komora, to visit the surrounding communities to select beneficiaries for the 2020 DEMSA bursary assistance for children enrolling at Pre-Primary 1 level in January 2020. The selection was done with the direct participation of local communities.

- a) 12 children were identified
- b) All 12 are from different villages from various tribes
- c) These children are actually the neediest from their villages
- d) Besides school fees, the children are also assisted with highly subsidized uniforms and shoes.

The DEMSA bursary programme is funded by the **Shepherds' Cove** and **other individual donors**.

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(V) ECP - EMMAUS COMMUNITY CENTRE

- The Emmaus Community Centre was very well utilized in 2019, with DEMSA students using the ICT Lab and Digital Learning Programme (DLP) Room regularly
- Over 60 examination candidates from Marifano secondary school utilized these facilities from August until November 2019
- Many community meetings were also held at the Emmaus Community Centre in 2019, especially in relation to the SSP and MTB programmes

COMPLETED EXTERNAL WORKS IN 2019 FOR ECP

Description	Value (S\$)
(a) ICT & Digital Learning equipment & peripherals	2,130
(b) Construction of rental house for Idsowe Village Council of Elders in return for the 20-acre plot of land for the Emmaus Community Centre. This was part of the agreement made when land was given by the community. The house is 80% complete and will be completed in 2020 at an estimated additional cost of S\$1,936.	7,753
(c) Construction of a science lab at the Emmaus Complex to facilitate remedial teaching of sciences	13,261
(d) Workshop tools and equipment for onsite fabrication of fixtures for schools (e.g. metal windows and doors) and school furniture, e.g. beds for school dormitories	4,166
(e) Completion of security grills and metal shelves for the Community Library	3,580
(f) Solar Security Lighting	3,948
(g) Fence works, guard house wall and external toilets	2,862



Digitization of library stock records are ongoing. TRLF will open the **first community library** in Tana Delta in 2020. It will also restart the **mobile library programme**, but with a tweak whereby teachers from all public primary schools across Tana Delta may visit the library to borrow books in bulk for their students for one month periods. This will increase the reach of the programme to all across the Tana Delta without incurring high administrative costs such as fuel.

The Emmaus Community Centre was opened in January 2017 after much local community involvement and ownership. It was constructed with the support from donors, including the **Ubuntu Fund raisers in Singapore** and **Jonaron Foundation**.



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(VI) VEHICLES (CPX & RUNNING COSTS)

- The vehicles were serviced 6 times during the year at Associated Motors in Mombasa to keep the vehicles road ready given the condition of the local roads off the single tarmac road.
- TRLF is purchasing a new 50 seater bus, with an initial down payment of US\$5,000 made in December 2019. The bus is expected to be ready by May 2020.

TRLF owned the following vehicles in 2019:

TYPE	MAKE	REG. NO.
26-seater school bus	Isuzu NKR 66L	KAY 208L
33-seater school bus	Isuzu NQR 33L	KBS 271T
50-seater school bus	Isuzu FRR 33L	KCG 803K
12-seater van	Nissan Caravan	KBT 364U



TRLF shuttle services enable us to assist children from all tribes from the surrounding villages within a radius of 20 kms from Idsowe village.

YOUTH FORMATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

(I) TRLF COMMUNITY HOME IN IDSOWE VILLAGE (MVH-IDS)

(II) STUDENT HOMES IN MOMBASA & NAIROBI (MVH-MSA & NBI)

- The TRLF Community Home in Idsowe houses both secondary school students as well as youth under the Youth Formation Programme.
- In 2019, the community home housed 12 youth and 16 students from needy families from the interior villages who were enrolled in Marifano and Garsen secondary schools.
- They are provided with remedial tuition and learning facilities at the Emmaus Centre every evening after school, and are able to benefit from the reference library, the computer lab for digital learning as well as the audio visual room.
- All residents, from the youngest student to the eldest youth, are responsible for house duties through a roster system. This is done to inculcate in the youth a sense of servant leadership.
- TRLF continues to rent premises in Mombasa and Nairobi for our TVP (college) beneficiaries and to host TRLF staff who travel to Nairobi and Mombasa on official duties.



Youth volunteers undergo a formation that is intended to help them become **compassionate adults** with **judgement and conscience**.

YOUTH FORMATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

(III) YFP - YOUTH FORMATION PROGRAMME

- In 2014, TRLF enhanced the college sponsorship programme by tying it to a 2-year volunteer period prior to full sponsorship at tertiary level.
- The objective was to educate youth not only to reach their full potential academically, but also to develop them holistically so that they may grow up to be able, compassionate and conscientious community leaders.
- The programme attends to multiple aspects of the young person's development, including their physical, psychological, mental, intellectual and moral development.
- It also trains them in valuable soft skills, such as financial management, organization skills, event planning and public relations. It nurtures a sense of service and empathy.
- This programme has been jointly sponsored by **The Silent Foundation** and the **Chew family** since 2014.
- We are now with our third batch of youth volunteers. The two previous batches consisted of between 20 to 22 youth, while this current batch had 9 members in 2019, with another 11 recruited in 2020 for a total of 20 youth from March 2020.
- One noticeable trait is the increasingly humble yet keen learning attitude shown by each subsequent batch.
- As a result, youth of the current batch have been able to take on greater managerial responsibility than those from the previous batches at a similar stage of their formation, thereby greatly increasing the benefit each subsequent batch derives.



The youth under the **Youth Formation Programme** learn a wide range of skills. This gives them the **competitive edge** to compensate for their unlevel playing field.

The programme also maximizes their **survival skills** under all circumstances, e.g. by providing them with agricultural know-how combined with business knowledge.

YOUTH FORMATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

(IV) STAFF TRAINING

- External training for staff and youth was sponsored by **Jonaron Foundation**, while internal training was sponsored by **individual donors**.

The following training was provided in 2019:

- (a) Three teachers from DEMSA were assisted to continue with their CPE doing courses in ECDE during all three school breaks, in April, August and Nov/Dec 2019
- (b) Two of the YFP youth volunteers were sent to Associated Motors Ltd workshop in Mombasa to intern and be trained in basic vehicle maintenance. Justin Wario and Emmanuel Ruhusa are now in charge of the daily routine maintenance of our four vehicles.
- (c) Continuous regular in-house training in computer proficiency for all youth volunteers and secondary school students.

(V) STAFF & YOUTH CANTEEN

- Since TRLF moved its operations to the Emmaus Centre in 2017, we have been providing communal lunch for all staff and youth. This was expanded to include a simple breakfast for staff who have to report early, e.g. bus drivers and youth conductors (5am), watchmen (6am), and the admin manager and assisting youth on duty for the week (7am).
- This programme has benefited all staff and youth, and has given much depth to the operations of TRLF. It fosters greater bonding and ownership of the entire operations of the foundation.
- It also provides for the regular exchange of ideas and informal reporting, and builds good interpersonal relationships.
- The meals are unlike a normal staff canteen as it entails communal dining, where all eat simple common meals prepared by the youth on duty for the day.
- This same philosophy is replicated at DEMSA, where all teachers, watchmen, bus drivers and children eat common meals.

INCOME GENERATION & SELF-HELP PROJECTS

(I) MTB - MITUMBA PROJECT

- Due to the low number of youth volunteers between August to December 2019, distribution of items to the beneficiaries of this programme was delayed to the end of 2019.
- Between July to October 2019, youth manpower hours were channeled towards the refurbishment and distribution of a large quantity of used furniture from Singapore schools in 2019.
- The women applicants for the Mitumba Project were finally interviewed in November 2019 with the first distribution of Mitumba taking place in December 2019.
- **Halima Guyato**, who is from the indigenous hunter gatherer tribe, has been a beneficiary for the last three years. She shared her inspiring story of how she used her sales profits to buy a goat and some onion seeds in 2017. She now has a small herd of goats for sale. Combined with the sale of vegetables, e.g. onions, she has been able to educate her children and also start building a proper home for her family.
- We are grateful to the **Parish of the Holy Cross in Singapore**, as well as to so many **individual donors**, and employees from the two corporate donors, i.e. **GE Singapore** and **ARA Asset Management Limited Singapore** for their generous donations of used clothes, shoes and bags for the Mitumba Project.



INCOME GENERATION & SELF-HELP PROJECTS

(II) SHB - YOUTH AGRICULTURAL PROJECT

- Due to the floods which hit villages in Tana Delta in May 2019, our youth were forced to relocate the livestock and poultry from the TRLF farm to the Emmaus Community Centre. The two projects have since thrived.
- Unfortunately, the vegetable and banana projects were completely destroyed during the floods.
- The farm facilities damaged by the flooding were repaired in early 2020.
- The newly recruited youth volunteers cleared the farm in March 2020 to restart vegetable farming and the poultry project.

(III) MEF - MEDICAL & EMERGENCY FUND

- This fund continued to provide assistance to members of the local community for serious emergency cases requiring immediate medical attention.
- It also provided small support for communities, e.g. occasional food relief for the elderly and marginalized families in Idsowe village especially during festive seasons.

TRLF Youth volunteers are encouraged to **farm to generate income**. The current batch in 2020 were required to rehabilitate the overgrown farm after the floods before embarking on their vegetable project. These circumstances help the youth to internalize valuable lessons in **teamwork, target setting** and **perseverance**.



CONCLUSION

On behalf of the many families in Tana Delta that have benefited from your generous support in 2019, we are grateful.

May God bless you and your families,
especially in this challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting all our lives.

We hope you will continue to journey with us in 2020.



**"BUILDING INDIVIDUAL
LIVES,
AND THEREBY
ENTIRE COMMUNITIES."**

Gabriel Teo Kian Chong
12th April 2020