

*Building
individual lives,
and thereby,
entire
communities...*



Tana River Life Foundation

(NGO registered in Kenya)

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Foreword...

It seems like such a long time ago that I was writing our 2019 annual report. Then, the whole world seemed to be at a standstill. Looking back, we can only be humbled by the providence of God. Somehow, we were able to respond to prevailing and new situations of need throughout 2020. Your continued support – even as we were unable to meet face-to-face – has enabled us to do this. In the midst of the many challenges that everyone was facing, your continued support is most deeply appreciated.

I will travel to Malaysia in June 2021 to accompany a new student who will be commencing his studies at Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Kampar, Perak on scholarship. Pending any restrictions, I will meet up with donor friends in Malaysia during that time. At the moment, it is unfortunately unlikely that I will be allowed to travel to Singapore in June 2021. For our friends in Singapore, I hope you will find this report informative, and take it as our appreciation of your generous support last year, as we look forward to the time when we can meet again.

Funding & Donations-in-kind

We are very grateful to individual donors from Malaysia and Singapore as well as all Charitable, Religious, Educational and Corporate entities that helped fund TRLF's activities last year.

Special mention to **Jonaron Foundation**, who have sponsored our entire annual administrative budget since 2006, enabling us to utilize all other donations for direct project objectives.

Last but not least, we are grateful for all your prayers and expressions of support throughout 2020, making it a year that was deeply enriching in spite of the myriad challenges it brought.

What we did in 2020 : Activities & Achievements

Please refer to reports titled :

- [“TRLF - 2020 Activities & Achievements”](#)
- [“TRLF - 2020 Photo Gallery”](#)

Our Vision

To build a just and honest society for a more complete humanity

Our Mission

“To nurture the inherent potential of peoples so that they have the freedom to choose lives of dignity and integrity...”

Activities

The activities in line with TRLF's Vision and Mission Statement can be broadly categorized into the following four programmes :

1. Fee Bursaries & Study Allowances
2. Educational Aids & Infrastructure
3. Youth Formation & Human Development
4. Income Generation & Emergency Aid Projects

All the above activities are managed from the **Emmaus Centre for the Development of Peoples**, a multi-purpose community centre which also houses our school, the Delta Mustard Seed Academy or DEMSA.



Many children in Tana Delta spent the months out of school in 2020 helping their parents at their farms

Challenges

The biggest challenge we faced in 2020 was learning challenges for Tana Delta students during the extended closure of schools which affected children from lower income households disproportionately and widened further the rural-urban gap.

For rural areas like Tana Delta, school closures can often mean an end to formal education altogether. This is because the majority of families there lack access to online data or are unable to afford the data bundles to enable their children to access online learning opportunities.

Your support enabled us to mitigate the impact on Tana Delta students through:

- (i) the **Community Learning Programme for DEMSA** students from May to October 2020,
- (ii) the **Community Learning Programme (CLP)** benefiting over 700 Form 4 students across Tana Delta from July to October 2020 under the umbrella of the Tana Delta Deputy County Commissioner's Office, and
- (iii) the **DSTV Project** benefiting over 23,000 students from the 72 Tana Delta Public Primary Schools.

To compound the situation, devastating floods in March-April 2020 inundated entire villages in the Tana Delta, destroying crops that were just days away from harvest. With support from many of you and an ad-hoc funding from Jonaron Foundation, we were able to provide not only **food relief** for the affected families, but also supply farmers with **quality seed for planting**. This enabled replanting immediately after flood waters subsided and resulted in a bumper harvest by September, ensuring **food security** and **farm income** for the affected families into the new year.



Bandi village was completely inundated during the **massive floods** that caused much destruction across the Tana Delta in March 2020

Our Partners

We are very grateful for the support from these organizations in 2020:

- Double Honour Foundation
- Global Giving Foundation Inc.
 - Holywell Foundation
 - Jonaron Foundation
 - Madrinha Trust
- Pavilion Foundation Limited
 - Soyee Singapore Pte Ltd
 - TCP Endowment Fund
 - The Silent Foundation
 - TRLF Pte Ltd
- Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR)
- Wesley Methodist Church, Johor Bahru
 - Wesley Methodist Church, Melaka
 - Yinspiration Yin Yoga
 - CHARIS Ltd

2021/2022 Areas of Emphasis & Plans

NO.	AREAS OF EMPHASIS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES
1	Character building and values formation for all TRLF beneficiaries from pre-school to tertiary level (TVP)	Guidance and Counselling Department at DEMSA, Mentorship programmes involving all levels of youth and students
2	Strengthen the motivational and aspirational aspect of the Secondary School Sponsorship Programme (SSP)	Guidance & Counselling Camps, Motivational Talks, Benchmarking Trips for secondary school beneficiaries under the Enhanced Sponsorship Programme (ESP) and Tana Delta Merit Scholars (TDMS) programme
3	Provide greater assistance to challenged learners and needy students from DEMSA	Develop the efficacy of the remedial and bursary programs at DEMSA
4	Develop DEMSA as a model school for cohesion and nation building	Formation of a Parents Committee to help DEMSA Management engage the community as it develops into a model Primary Education Institution, promoting cohesion and mutual respect among different cultures, faiths and socio-economic backgrounds, and promote motivational talks by model community members
5	Improve the quality of teaching in the Tana Delta public school sector	Develop the DSTV and Solar lantern projects for primary schools, promote the learning of science and technology subjects in secondary schools, construct science and ICT labs for rural schools, provide Motivational Incentives and Awards (MIA) for Tana Delta secondary school teachers
6	Develop rural schools into child friendly zones	Construct toilets for rural primary schools, especially for girls, construction of incinerator for the smokeless disposal of sanitary napkins at DEMSA (this may be delayed to 2022 depending on availability of funds)
7	Develop Farmer Assistance Programmes to enable farmers to produce more and earn a fair return through honest and dignified labour	Refine the seed programme, as well as transportation service to markets to ensure fair market pricing, explore community irrigation projects and the set-up of a community sustaining fund
8	Empower and capacity build TRLF human resources	Develop and enhance the internship programme to tie up with future sponsorship of further studies under bond, enhance training of upper and middle management at TRLF and DEMSA to work independently and effectively
9	Develop the role played by the Board of Directors	Engage the help of TRLF Pte Ltd Trustees with legal backgrounds to help develop guidelines for BOD members



TRLF youth June Chimea's mother, was a victim of the floods, and also a beneficiary of the *Quality Seed Programme*.

Structure, Governance & Management

TRLF formed a substantive non-executive Board of Directors on 23rd February 2020, that was duly ratified by the NGO Board of Kenya on 18th January 2021. The current Board members are:

- (a) Oscar Raha Mbaru - Chairperson
- (b) Mohamed Hamara Awadh - Secretary
- (c) Benedicto Manase Gwiyo - Treasurer
- (d) Rita Naemi Sibo - Board Member
- (e) Komora Yezziel Benedicto - Board Member
- (f) Gabriel Teo Kian Chong - Executive Director/ Ex-Officio

Madina (L) and Husna (R), daughters of TRLF watchman, Ibrahim Ureri, study at **DEMSA** on subsidized fees



	2017	2018	2019	2020
ANNUAL GROSS SALARY	S\$	S\$	S\$	S\$
DIRECTOR	3,126	3,213	3,254	3,093
ADMIN/PROJECT MANAGERS	13,443	15,298	15,850	15,198
MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	0	0	0	1,250
DEMSA HEADTEACHER	3,260	3,415	3,498	4,346
DEMSA TEACHING STAFF	20,752	23,843	27,166	23,883
DEMSA SUPPORT STAFF	2,705	3,278	3,465	3,296
SCHOOL WATCHMEN	3,468	6,692	6,996	7,935
FARM WATCHMAN	1,810	1,962	2,045	1,937
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS	12,652	11,637	13,425	10,236
WELDER/MECHANIC	2,816	5,715	5,770	5,514
TOTAL GROSS SALARIES	64,031	75,052	81,470	76,688

HEADCOUNT	2017	2018	2019	2020
DIRECTOR	1	1	1	1
ADMIN/PROJECT MANAGERS	5	5	5	5
MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	0	0	0	1
DEMSA HEADTEACHER	1	1	1	1
DEMSA TEACHING STAFF	10	10	11	12
DEMSA SUPPORT STAFF	2	2	2	2
SCHOOL WATCHMEN	3	3	3	4
FARM WATCHMAN	1	1	1	1
SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS	3	3	3	3
WELDER/MECHANIC	1	1	1	1
TOTAL HEADCOUNT	27	27	28	31



Children from **DEMSA**, happy to be back in school, 9 months after the March 2020 sudden closure

Financial Reports :

Audited Financial Statements from FY 2006 to 2019 can be obtained from

www.tanariverlifefoundation.org

The audited financial statements for the year ended 31-Dec-2020 are expected to be released by PKF Kenya in June 2021 and will be uploaded to the above website.

Great thanks and appreciation...

As always, we thank God for this opportunity to serve faithfully. We also thank each one of you for journeying with us. Your presence and support has enabled us to do what is needed for the many people we encounter as we continue

“building individual lives, and thereby entire communities...”

Thank you and God bless.

Prepared by :
Gabriel Teo Kian Chong
22 May 2021



Cover Pic :
Sammy Mapapa, a Form 4 student, preparing for his national exams while helping in his family farm during the extended closure of school

Tana River Life Foundation

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