

# SATF SOCIAL ACTION TRUST FUND

# NEWSLINE

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## ADVOCATING FOR JOINT EFFORT IN SUPPORTING MVC

*It is an unquestionable fact that, SATF program is a great tool in abridging MVC from vulnerability. However, this tool cannot function in isolation without strong collaborative social protection mechanism.*

One of the ‘take-away’ lessons that SATF has bagged in on its journey of implementing its Programs is the need to have joint responsibility with other stakeholders from various departments.

This dire need pinpointed the gist to bring together stakeholders in a forum so that, through participatory solutions and strategies towards can be aired.

Putting that thought into action, 10 coordination meetings have been conducted between May and June 2014. The events drew up participants from different categories including Local leaders at the grassroots level, MVC, Head of schools; Guardians, Teachers and MVC care givers. The main objectives of the meetings were to share with stakeholders on achievements, lessons learnt and challenges encountered during the implementation of education program hence collectively find solutions to address them.

Also to partly sensitize stakeholders on their roles and responsibility towards child care and protection in ensuring that beneficiaries stay at school and perform well in their studies.

The major challenges discussed included truancy, dropouts, pregnancy and poor performance among MVC.



*Participants during stakeholders meeting conducted by SATF through USHIVIMWA at Kisemvule Primary school in Mkuranga District*

At the end of the meetings, the participants came up with action points that would address the observed challenges in regards to their role. Among other issues, action plan included following up critical truant MVC and to invite their care givers and their ward leaders in school meetings in order to discuss the problems and find solution. Assessment of the implementation of the agreed action plan will be done in the next phase.

SATF looks forward to conducting 17 coordination meetings by end of July 2014.

## *Improving Lives of Vulnerable Families through Community Economic Empowerment projects*

Since 2009 KARADEA has been implementing income generating activities in Karagwe, Kagera under SATF program. The project started with supporting 30 MVC caregivers in a revolving modality. Currently it has reached 45 beneficiaries following the repayment of the initial phase beneficiaries in November 2011. The project aims at empowering economically the elderly MVC caregivers through which they will continue supporting their children. The project covers 5 wards in Karagwe district namely Kihanga, Kituntu, Ihanda, Kayanga and Nyakahanga.

Mr. Augustine Ruchoka is one of the project beneficiaries. He lives at Kihanga village with two children; both in form four at Kihanga secondary school. Mr. Augustine Ruchoka was supported with 2 goats and 4 chickens through KARADEA in November 2011 with an agreement that he would pass on to next beneficiary one goat and 2 chickens after increasing his own stock.

Currently Mr. Augustine has 4 goats and 8 chickens and he is ready for repayment. Speaking of achievements he got since the project inception. Mr. Augustine has managed to buy a backup battery in November 2013 which he connects to bulbs to bring light that help his children during their evening studies; the income generated from selling eggs and chickens has helped him to pay part of school contributions which are not covered by SATF.

*‘The project has benefited my family because I’m able to buy household amenities such as salt and soaps through the earned money’ said Mr. Augustine*

Although project beneficiaries were trained on the modern ways to keep animals Mr. Augustine speaks on challenges of the project such as diseases which attack chickens and shortage of money for vaccination as well as lack of proper knowledge on

animal husbandry. He lastly expressed his appreciation to SATF.



*Mr. Augustine displaying his rechargeable lamp battery that he bought using earnings from IGA project*



*Mr. Augustine feeding his goats as captured during SATF monitoring visit*

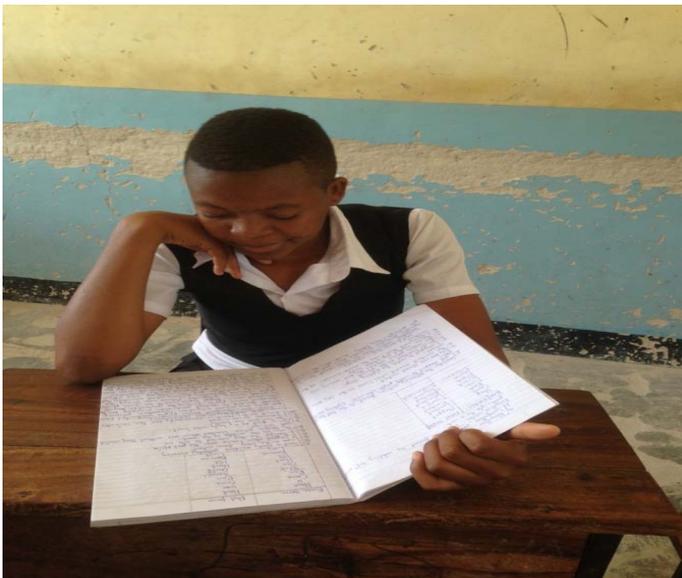
## **HOW I OVERCAME MARRIAGE ORDEAL**

Kusolwa Mabula is a form III student at Bukamba secondary school in Kahama, Shinyanga. She was born on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1995 being the 6<sup>th</sup> born in a family of of 7 children (5 females and 2 males). Kusolwa is the only child who got a chance to go to school both her parents being peasants. After completing standard seven, Kusolwa was selected to

join form one at Bukamba secondary school. Every one would expect a father to be happy for success of her daughter but it was not in her case. Her father refused to support her education claiming that he had no money to send her to school.

Kusolwa says *“I tried to convince my father that the annual fee is only 20,000/= which I was so sure that he could afford but he insisted that he couldn’t send me to school even if the cost would have been 2000/=... said Kusolwa and continued... “I was so disappointed later realizing that my father had already taken dowry for my marriage. I put it clear that I was not interested in getting married at that very young age and expressed to him my desire to continue with studies. It was at this point that he asked me to leave his house and warned that he would not support me for anything”*

Kusolwa further pointed out that, her Mother could not be of rescue to her because of the feras she had over their Father. Therefore she had to side with him despite the fact that she also wanted her to go to school. Sowa left Kusolwa lonely, confused and helpless not knowing what to do any more.



*Kusolwa Mabula in a study pose during SATF M+E visit at Bukamba secondary school*

Kusolwa shared with peers her situation because she wanted help; though she had no idea of who could rescue her from the trap she was in. Later, a ‘Eureka’ moment happened when she got whirlwind information that MUVUMA are supporting

vulnerable children to access their education. This was a huge relief and she bravely approached MUVUMA and expressed her dilemma.

*“I am grateful that MUVUMA enrolled me in their education program supported by SATF. From there on, they started paying for my school fees and other contributions”* says Kusolwa. She is also thankful to Bukamba Secondary headmaster for accommodating her in his family and provided shelter for her and for the encouragement he has been providing.

She is still maintain contacts with her mother and some relatives who are glad and proud that she managed to continue with her studies.

*“My goal is to continue with school to high level and university. I am determined to study hard so as to be able to support myself and the entire family. I thank MUVUMA through SATF for their valuable support.”* narrated young Kusolwa with a giggle.

### **SATF ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

- Out of the budgeted grant amount of TZS 452million for year 2014, TZS 253 million have been disbursed to 18 implementing partners in 12 regions as 1<sup>st</sup> installment for implementing the SATF Education Program.
- A total number of 1,235 (94%) MVC out of 1,308 MVC have been reached during the period under review.
- SATF conducted M&E meetings with its stakeholders in 7 Regions (Dodoma, Morogoro, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Kagera, Coast and Njombe) The meetings aimed at sharing successes, challenges and lessons learnt during implementation of SATF education program as well as finding collective solution to address the challenges. Participants were mainly representatives from Education Regional office and local government authorities; others included Secondary Schools committee, Secondary & Primary school teachers, MVC caregivers and MVC’s.

- SATF has commenced the construction of SATF Investment Building in Dar es Salaam, Block A-Mikocheni area. The building is expected to be completed before end of this year.

### SATF ENHANCING STAFF PERFORMANCE THROUGH CAPACITY

SATF recognizes that capacity building is an ongoing process and that staff will continue to learn both at work place and from other outside workplace capacity building programs.

Thus, in an effort to reap the benefits accruing from learning, SATF has continued to enroll her staff in various programs.

During the period under review; SATF have provided training to 7 out of 11 staff it has. The trained staffs were from all departments which are Program Department, Finance & Administration Department and Information & Communication Technology Department. The staff attended different trainings within the Country and Outside the Country as per their individual need assessment which was conducted at the beginning of the year. The trainings were in areas of Management & Supervision Skills, Communication Skills and Monitoring & Evaluation skills.

One of the Fund's staff, one Mr. Athumani Hassan (the Office Driver) attended training on ethics and communication skills. The training was organized by the National Institute for Productivity (NIP) and was conducted at Tushikamane centre in Morogoro from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

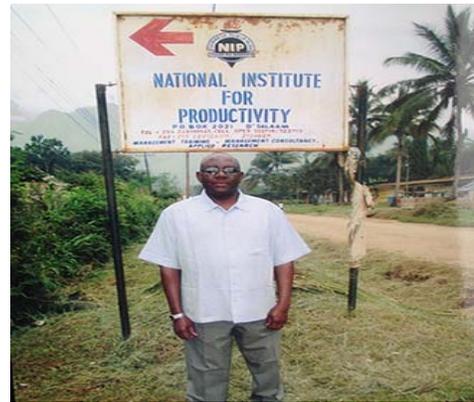
The key objective of the course was to equip participants with driver's ethics and effective communication skills which will enable them to improve their communication skills as well as to behave in accordance with the public service code of ethics.

During this training Mr. Athuman benefited from acquiring driver's ethics and communication skills by learning ethics and principles, public code of ethics, Boss/Drivers relationship, effective customer care, effective communication skills, principles of effective driving and driver's responsibilities. Other things covered were and aspects of accident prevention,

handling classified information and effective report writing.

*"To be honest, I have grasped a lot from what was emphasized during the training. This course has helped me to keep my records in check and also served as a reminder to behave in accordance with professional code of ethics"* Said Mr. Athuman.

Mr. Athuman looks forward to improved performance, relationships and communication in his career.



*Athuman Hassan in a pose during NIP course in Morogoro*



*Sumbuko Zakaria (sitted) listening to the instructor during the M+E training at Kenya Institute of Project Management in Nairobi-Kenya*

The training aimed at equipping participants with skills to monitor and evaluate social intervention as well as related activities.

*"I have enhanced my capacity in terms of data collection and analysis to inform management for decision making"*. Said Sumbuko