

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

WOMEN'S AGRI-ENVIRO VISION (WAEV)





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LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Everything we did in 2022 would not have been possible without you being behind us. Although it was a very challenging year, we still accomplished so much because of your tireless support and generosity. 2022 was full of adversity, especially due to the drought that led to severe hunger, death of animals and increased stress for all families. Our programs were highly challenged by this situation as families struggled to survive.

Nevertheless, our beneficiaries remained motivated as we worked to alleviate the situation. Provision of food packages, water tanks and access to groups' microloans have truly saved most of the families, and further motivated them to maintain trees. An increasing number of women applying to join WAEV is a true reflection of the attracting impact we have achieved together.

As we begin 2023, we remain hopeful that you remain by our side. Your generous support and commitment will help us achieve our yearly goals and significantly expand our efforts. We therefore ask for your continued and heartfelt support.

On behalf of the community we serve, I extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation. Thank you for investing in WAEV and our future.

With warm regards,

Saing'orie Sangau

SAING'ORIE SANGAU

Founder & Executive Director, WAEV





ABOUT US

Women's Agri-Enviro Vision (WAEV) is a non-profit organization established in 2019 with operations currently focused in the Monduli district of Tanzania. We work side-by-side with women in rural Maasai communities, providing opportunities for individual and communal growth. Together, we envision a community where each woman has the opportunity to attain her full potential through economic independence, environmental justice, long-lasting health, and a right to equality.

MISSION

To improve the economic, social, and environmental health of marginalized communities in Tanzania by facilitating programs that engage women in implementing productive and enduring agricultural and entrepreneurial practices.

VISION

A poverty-free community where every woman can thrive and environmental resources are protected.

320 women and their families directly impacted by WAEV

22,500+

trees planted across two villages in Monduli, Tanzania



2022 KEY MILESTONES

422

families provided with emergency food supplies

57

newly established gardens



13,721

new trees planted with a 75% survival rate



35

water tanks distributed with 2,000L capacity

44

new entrepreneurs started businesses



130

new women joined WAEV



424

microloans given to women



69

women attended literacy and numeracy classes

180

students graduated from both numeracy and literacy classes

1

30,000L water tank repaired for Lendikinya primary school



YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2022, our programming focused on five main areas:

- Tree Planting
- Microfinance & Entrepreneurship
- Sustainable Gardening
- Water & Sanitation
- Children’s Education (The Enkisoma Project)

This year we were able to significantly grow our programs and extend our outreach to new beneficiaries. We expanded operations to two new villages and almost doubled our staffing. Compared to 2021, we more than doubled the number of trees planted and almost tripled the number of gardens cultivated. We significantly expanded our Water and Sanitation Program, distributing 35 new water tanks and repairing a 30,000L water tank at Lendikinya Primary School. Our Microfinance & Entrepreneurship Program was also extremely successful, with 104 women now running their own businesses thanks to our support. Additionally, we also introduced a new program called the Enkisoma Project to increase literacy rates of local primary school children.

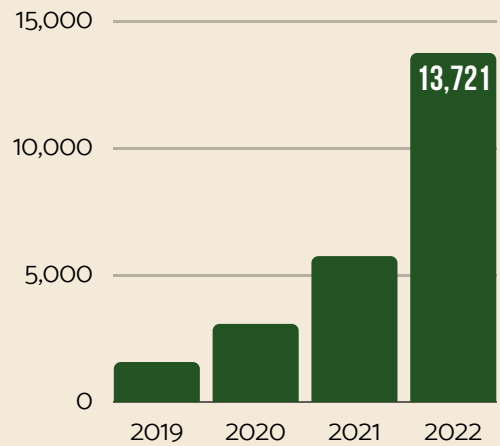
Thanks to our programming, we were able to increase our visibility and strengthen local government engagement this year. This success was especially in part due to by the Enkisoma Project as we conducted more than six community and local government meetings (with 350 attendees in total) across the four villages of Sepeko Ward.

Despite many successes, we were also significantly affected by extreme drought conditions in the Arusha region. This drought affected our programming, lives of our beneficiaries and the community at large. Through support from Partners For Equity in Australia we were able to distribute food supplies to 422 households in December. In accordance to available funds, it was possible to procure and supply 17,000kgs of corn, 500kgs of rice, 300L of cooking oil and 300 packages of table salt, which was an extreme help to our beneficiaries in these conditions.

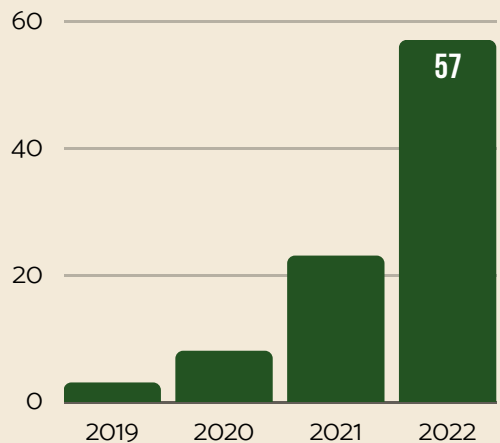
Due to this increased food crises related to the effects of climate change, WAEV is looking forward to incorporating food security into our existing Tree Planting Program to encourage communities to adapt to agroforestry farming practices and more climate resilience techniques. To aid with food security, WAEV plans on spending more time providing extension services in crop cultivation and partnering with other organizations that are interested in food security programs.

We look forward to expanding our programming and continuing to help our communities in 2023.

TREES PLANTED



SUCCESSFUL GARDENS



TREE PLANTING

OVERVIEW

In the Monduli district and Arusha region, the environment is quickly degrading and natural resources are rapidly being exhausted. Trees are harvested for firewood and building materials, grasslands are overgrazed by large animal herds, and water resources are overused and polluted. These circumstances result in excessive soil erosion, soil compaction, and water runoff, and has led to the disappearance of springs and plant and animal species, while simultaneously increasing the distances (usually 3 to 4 hours a day) women must travel for firewood and water.

Climate change has intensified the unpredictability of the dry and wet seasons, leading to more frequent extreme climatic events such as droughts and intense rains. Ultimately, this decreases the success of the Maasai's current agricultural practices, which have been found to have little resilience. Currently, the community has few mechanisms to adapt to and endure such drastic climatic changes, leading to increased community instability.

Many individuals in Maasai communities are unaware of how their actions affect the land and the importance of environmental protection. WAEV has worked to implement our tree planting program with the aim of bringing awareness to these issues, making positive environmental changes and increasing this community's resilience.



SUMMARY OF SUCCESS

The Tree Planting Program has been one of the most successful activities of WAEV. This year, we were able to plant 13,721 trees with the help of our beneficiaries. Of these, 11,021 were planted by our women's groups around their homesteads, 2,500 were planted around local primary schools and 200 at the village's health clinic.

We found that the trees planted earlier in the year had an average survival rate of 75 per cent, which is impressive given the long drought. These saplings were able to survive thanks to the hard work of the women, in addition to the trees we have previously planted, which have improved environmental and soil conditions. To date, we have planted 22,150 trees with a 75 percent survival rate. We have found that over 65 percent of older trees we have planted over the last 3 years are providing shade, minimizing rates of surface run off and acting as wind breakers. Additionally, 15 percent of trees are providing families with kindling for cooking fires.

At the start of 2022, we had our first communal tree planting pilot project, during which our women groups united to plant 200 woody tree species at the Lendikinya village's health clinic compound. Prior to this planting, there was only a single tree on site. We have found this activity to be successful not only in terms of tree survival, but also in uniting the women in the community and promoting positive team work. During the drought this year, our women's groups took turns to water and take care of the trees.

This communal tree planting project is anticipated to be a learning site for the whole community while providing shade as patients and lactating women wait for service at the clinic. Additionally, this project has also incentivized local government representatives to enforce by-laws to help keep the trees safe from grazing animals.





“

WAEV brought light to many of us in this community. It enabled us to value tree planting more than ever, as we become aware of the need for planting trees. I'll personally remain grateful forever as my family benefited in many ways that we couldn't imagine before. Towards the end of this year, we look forward to have our first fruits we planted in 2019.

”

-Emmanuel Langoi, husband of Merry, Group 1 member

TREE PLANTING

We have also observed that 60 women are utilizing agroforestry practices when planting their trees and vegetable gardens. Agroforestry is a sustainable agricultural method that has been shown to be resilient to climate change, while also improving environmental issues, such as improving soil health. We have been encouraging our beneficiaries to adopt this method when planting their trees and gardens, and are excited to see it be successful in practice, as our women have noticed positive changes to their environments!

As a result of these tree plantings, we have already noticed improvements in environmental conditions, such as improved soil health and resiliency to extreme weather events. The introduction of these trees has also lead to decreases in time spent on firewood collection, which has enabled women more time to focus on their entrepreneurial activities and other important tasks. Additionally, the access to these trees means that women do not have to destroy forests to obtain firewood, and so natural ecosystems are better protected.

We have also seen social impacts, as women's self esteem and confidence has improved. Additionally, they have gained heightened respect from their husbands and the community, greater ability to envision other improvements and changes needed, and gain the willingness to commit and work towards their goals.



“When I first joined WAEV, I honestly didn't have any future expectations. As we speak, my neighbors have been learning lessons as they look on my trees, especially since they all know how degraded this land was before. Reflecting to my trees and the water tank, I remain very motivated to keep working hard.”

-Nemayan Meng'oriki, Group 2 treasurer

MICROFINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

OVERVIEW

Our Microfinance & Entrepreneurship Program is an all-woman program that successfully supports women in achieving financial independence. Through this program, women are given the knowledge and means to operate sustainable businesses, which helps them to become empowered as community leaders. As they become economically independent, domestic violence is reduced, their self esteem is increased, and they gain respect in both their households and the community. When a woman's financial circumstances improve, she is not only better able to feed, clothe, and educate her family, but she is also able to save for emergencies. Families are healthier and happier, and children attend school. Through this program, we can see the cycle of poverty slowly break .

WOMEN'S LITERACY INITIATIVE

Upon joining our groups, many of our beneficiaries are illiterate, making it difficult during business training. In order to ease financial literacy and record keeping training, we have been holding basic literacy sessions in between weekly meetings. These sessions are designed to teach simple accounting and the Swahili language, as most of the women only speak Maa. These skills help the businesswomen partake in entrepreneurial ventures, while also aiding them in their daily lives. Over the course of the year, 57 women participated in these sessions, and as a result, they have stated that they now recognize currencies and are able to properly count. Additionally, they have testified that they are gaining the ability to help their children with primary school and can read signs and text messages.





MICROFINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SUMMARY OF SUCCESS

This year, a total of 424 loans were signed out from our women’s groups. According to testimonies, the main purposes for these loans were to expand businesses, access medical treatments, obtain food and support education. Additionally, 44 new entrepreneurs started various businesses both at home and in local markets. This sums to WAEV supporting a total of 104 women’s businesses this year. As a result of our efforts, we have also noticed an increase in financial literacy of our beneficiaries, including improvements in their accounting and bookkeeping skills. In addition, there has been an increase in households’ yearly savings, as women tend to save money during the loan repayment process. As a result of their savings and their access to loans, women now have a better ability to cope with emergencies at home. Many women have testified that they are now able to buy food during difficult times, support family members when they get sick, and enroll their children in school.

Part of WAEV’s goal is to unlock new economic opportunities for the women we work with. This year, 16 of our beneficiaries started a 3 month long sewing training, which aims to provide them with the skills necessary to utilize sewing and tailoring as an lucrative pursuit. Additionally, 86 women attended a soap making business training, and now 4 women are currently running a soap making and selling business in the village.

Overall, women in our groups have testified that they have achieved higher status in their communities thanks to our Microfinance and Entrepreneurship Program.

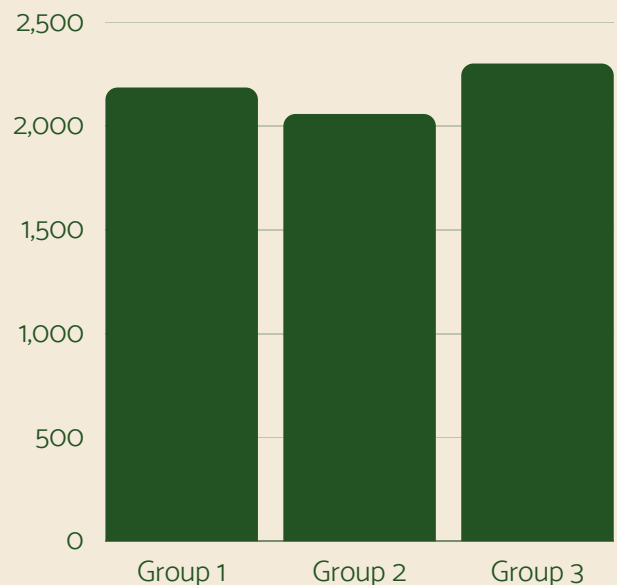


I have an orphaned grandchild who was handed to me when she was very young and who I was instructed to care for and educate. Thanks to WAEV, I was able to purchase all of her school supplies, and she will soon graduate from standard seven.



-Naihorwa Lazaro,
Group 3 member

MONEY SAVED BY 3 GROUPS FROM 2021-2022 (IN USD)



The savings from three women’s groups between 2021 - 2022 has totalled US\$6,543.

“

Before I joined WAEV, I never thought of doing any business, and I even didn't know how to do it. As of now, I'm running an all time business at home. I bought five goats last year, and I just began to loan small amount of money to my neighbours as a profit from my business.

”

- Namuru Lalaito, Group 1 member





SUSTAINABLE GARDENING

OVERVIEW

Our Sustainable Gardening Program works as a voluntary program for our beneficiaries and its goal is to improve nutritional intake and food security. Prior to WAEV, the community was unaware of the importance of vegetables. Vegetables and fruits consumption was nearly nonexistent. WAEV has been educating these communities on the nutritional and economical benefits of vegetables and inspiring them to eat healthy diets. We provide our beneficiaries with seeds and gardening training, and regularly monitor their gardens. In addition, we link them with marketing opportunities outside of their villages so that they can also sell surplus for profit. As a result of these efforts, we have noticed an increase in vegetable intake and an increased awareness of the importance of vegetables compared to previous years.

SUMMARY OF SUCCESS

This year, 160 women participated in vegetable gardening training and 57 of them successfully established gardens. These gardens have proven to be an important tool in improving nutritional intake, and income generation, especially when food is scarce.

Additionally, we supplied 36 families with micro drip irrigation kits to help them maintain their gardens during times of drought, which were found to be a helpful tool to many families.

We have observed that during the dry season the price of vegetables is higher, as the demand is high while the supply decreases. With the irrigation kits, families have been able to sell surplus during the dry season for the first time.

As a result of the program, women's status has begun to increase. As they provide for their families with food, income, and buying animals, women gain greater respect from their husbands. In Maasai culture, men tend to value animals for prestige. As these women work hard and occasionally buy animals, men respect and value them more.

PERMACULTURE

This year, WAEV established a permaculture demonstration farm at Lendikinya primary school. Two of WAEV's staff were fortunate enough to attend a 10 day permaculture training course with an organization called Main Springs in Mwanza, and as a result, we were able to design an acre of permaculture demonstration farm at Lendikinya Primary School.

In addition to fighting climate change and soil degradation, this project also intends to increase food availability within local primary schools in the Monduli District. Permaculture is a sustainable form of farming that combines planting trees and vegetables, while utilizing unique regenerative practices. By doing so, this farming technique simultaneously ensures food security and minimizes the effects of climate change. Through this demonstration plot, we plan to train the surrounding communities on permaculture, while alleviating food stress in local primary schools. Our hope for the upcoming year is to replicate this project in more local primary schools.



With the fact that I have a very supportive garden and now a water tank, I feel like both my husband and mother in-law now respect me and show more cooperation now than ever.



- Necipuyo Korduni, Group 6 member



“

Learning about vegetable gardening has completely changed my life as I now tend to sell vegetables in the village almost every single day. Growing vegetables has just become a passion and I don't really know what will stop me from growing them. I'm grateful that I'm now an ambassador to every WAEV program and I just feel favored and fortunate to have had all these benefits.

”

-Dina Sailepu, Group 2 member



WATER & SANITATION

OVERVIEW

Our Water and Sanitation Program was initially established to motivate our Tree Planting Program and alleviate water challenges for local families. Currently, WAEV has worked to provide water tanks with a 2,000L capacity to families that demonstrate commitment to tree planting, and to those facing extreme water shortages. These tanks have been serving as a way to collect and hold clean water that can be used for drinking as well as for activities such as cooking, washing dishes, and doing laundry. The grey water that remains after completing these activities can then be utilized to water trees during the dry season. The usage of grey water is an example of a drought resilient technique we have taught women to increase the likelihood of tree survival.



SUMMARY OF SUCCESS

In 2022, we provided 35 more tanks with a capacity of 2,000L to 35 new families. The impact of these tanks has been significant, especially during the severe droughts this year. During the rainy seasons, these families have successfully collected rainwater to fill these tanks, and during the dry season they have hired water supply trucks to supplement this rainwater. Practically, 1 tank can serve more than 30 people, improving the lives of men, women and children during challenging times.

We also worked to repair a 30,000 L water tank at Lendikinya Primary School to help the school harvest rainwater. This tank was built many years ago, but had not been used for an extended period of time due to foundational damages. Now that we have repaired it, this tank has increased water availability to 12 teachers and over 720 students. This tank is large enough to support the school for 2-3 months during times of drought.

These tanks have not only supplied families with water, but also increased the women's status as they gain more respect from their male counterparts. For many families, owning a 2000L tank has been a life dream. Now, thanks to the efforts of these women, their families now possess such a tank, resulting in increased respect and self esteem.



THE ENSIKOMA PROJECT

OVERVIEW

In 2022 we started a new pilot program called the Enkisoma Project to aid with increasingly low literacy levels in local primary schools. According to research compiled by the Moduli District Education Department, 32 percent of students that graduate from primary school (grade 7) have inadequate literacy rates. Knowing that children are the future of our communities, we set out to help tackle this disparity.

The main objective of this project is to build pathways for effective communication between teachers, parents and students, and to enhance the literacy and numeracy instruction in local primary schools. By enhancing professional development, increasing access to resources, and utilizing small study groups both in class and at home, we aim to increase students' ability to accurately read, write and count. Through this program, we hope to provide the future leaders of our communities with the necessary tools to escape poverty and increase resiliency in their lives. We are especially adamant about our focus on girl's education, and we aim to increase their ability to meet educational levels on par with their male peers.



SUMMARY OF SUCCESS

Since project started in March 2022, we have been able to meet many of our goals. We worked with 224 students and held a total of 528 learning sessions. At the end of the year, we completed an assessment that determined that 205 out of the 224 pupils can now adequately read and write for their school levels (a rate of 92%). Through this project, we have also talked with 540 parents from four villages to emphasize girls' education and parental engagement in children's education.

Throughout the year, we worked to increase parent engagement by holding five parent meetings with a total of 200 parents. We also worked with our women's groups to reach an additional 420 women to further this effort and better understand the challenges that students face while at home. Through these meetings, we found parental engagement to increase by 5%, as testified by teachers.

In addition, we also developed literacy learning corners in two schools, provided 250 books, 53 studying d-lights, and 300 pens, pencils and exercise books to aid the program.



FINANCIAL REPORT

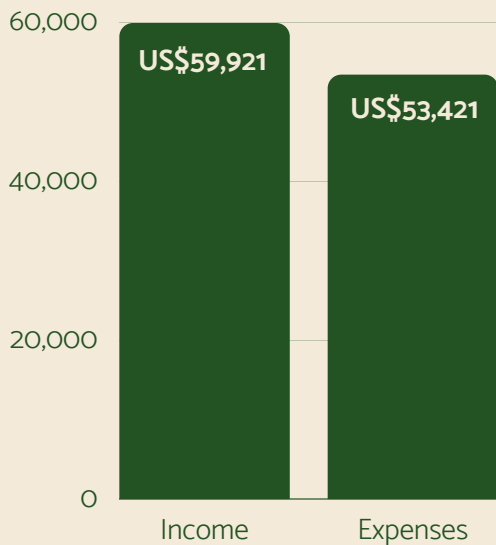
OVERVIEW

In 2022, our fundraising efforts proved to be very successful, with a monumental increase in funding compared to the previous year. We acquired \$59,921 in funds, thanks to generous contributions from our donors and partners. Our marketing and fundraising strategies focused on expanding our network to reach new supporters, while increasing our visibility on the ground. A large percentage of the funds were collected via our sponsor and partner, Greenward Inc., a U.S. based non-profit organization to whom we would like to express our deepest gratitude. We would also like to sincerely thank the following organizations for their immense support during 2022:

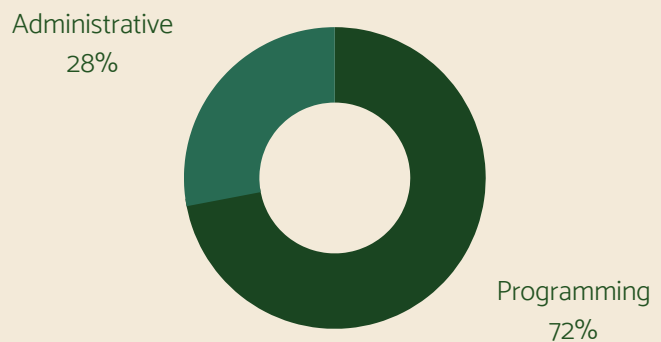
- Blue Planet United
- East Africa Regenerative Network
- Grassroots Nest for Innovation and Change
- Partners For Equity
- Pastoral Women’s Council
- ZeroCO2

We value and appreciate those who made our fundraising work possible and feel confident in our ability to grow these initiatives in the upcoming year.

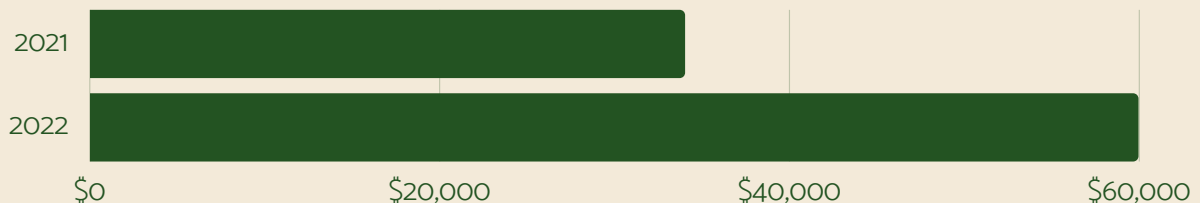
Income vs Expenses



Expenses Breakdown



2021 vs 2022 Income





PLANS FOR 2023

1

Expand our Tree Planting Program to more local schools and communities. In 2023, we expect to plant 100,000 trees.



Intensify capacity building training with our female entrepreneurs. In 2023, we hope to help 100 women start and grow businesses.

2

3

Increase organizational capacity, improving staff capacity building, and further developing our partnerships and network.

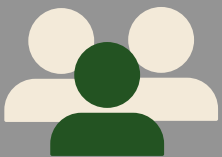


Heighten our focus on food scarcity issues and incorporate food relief into our programming.

4

5

Purchase a 2 acre piece of land for an office building, tree nursery, demonstration plots and training ground.



Registering 3 new women's groups with 30 members each.

6

7

Provide 50 2,000L water storage tanks to 50 new families.



Expand the Enkisoma Project to ensure adoptability of the proposed literacy and numeracy methodology.

8



WOMEN'S AGRI-ENVIRO VISION

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