so they can

Jan - Aug 2024 Program Highlights



A Champion Mother at Orng'adida Primary School in Tanzania meets with girls to tell them about their new NIA Dignity Packs, with reusable sanitary products, from So They Can.

We're working towards... THE GLOBAL GOALS

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Girls at Morongi Primary School in Tanzania pictured in front of their school's girls' changing room.

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Jan - Aug 2024 Program Highlights

The power of partnerships

As a valued partner, we are proud to share with you some of the highlights of our work so far this year, from January to August 2024. The impact shared in the following pages, is a testament to the efforts of everyone across our global So They Can family - staff, volunteers, advocates, and partners - including you. We continue to Educate to Empower, and expand our reach, so that every child can realise their right to education.

We actively support 51 government primary and secondary schools, and reach 30,600 children through our Education Program in Kenya and Tanzania. Our priority continues to be advancing schools to reach sustainability through our School Sustainable Development Model.

East Africa continues to be at risk of the climate crisis, with extreme drought and flood events impacting our partner communities again this year. Water and food security remain a critical need. Inflation has exacerbated poverty levels, and communities are under stress, with our partner communities in Baringo the hardest hit. Our cross cutting Community Development work priorities health, child development and economic empowerment.

Our Community Development Program is on track to reach 15,700 vulnerable children and their families through community education, health, economic empowerment and child development support this year.









Updates From Our Global Community

In-country visits

Our CEO and our Programs Manager spent time at our projects this year. Their visits were an opportunity to reconnect with our teams and communities in Kenya and Tanzania. Both Cass and Rita returned impressed by the growth in both our projects and partnerships.

Sydney Dinner

Our Sydney Dinner took place at Parliament House in May. Welcoming over 200 of our supporters, we celebrated the life-changing impact that we've achieved together over the past 15 years. So They Can Ambassador, Peter Overton was our MC. DJ, Steve Ferris, and Elsa, from The Voice 2023, provided great entertainment. Over $150,000 was raised on the night for clean water solutions.

BIG Charity Auction

The So They Can BIG Charity Auction in August was a tremendous success. With so many unique auction items on offer, we were wowed with bids from across the globe. NZD $55,000 was raised for our work. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all donors, and bidders, for their generous contributions. We couldn't have done it without all of you!

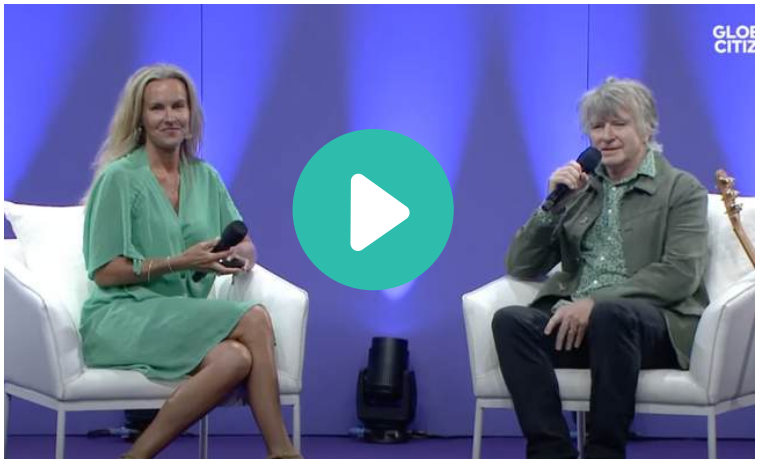
1HumanRace

In March we joined forces with renowned leadership trainer, Joel Bouzaid, to deliver 5 school leadership workshops across New Zealand and Australia. The aim of the workshops was that the leaders would return to their schools, empowered and motivated to lead successful 1HumanRace fundraising campaigns. Across the 5 days, we worked with 147 senior students from 10 schools. This year our campaign raised over $100,000 with 80% of those funds coming from the School Leadership hubs.

Neil Finn with Crowded House global tour

Our long serving and much loved ambassador, Neil Finn, has been spreading our message far and wide. His tribute song for So They Can, 'Oh Hi', was officially released as part of Crowded House's latest album. Now, they are performing the song at concerts on their global Gravity Stairs World Tour, encouraging fans to become 1inaMilllion.
In March, Neil and Cass came together for an engaging conversation at #GlobalCitizenNOW Melbourne, to discuss how education can break the poverty cycle. It was a special moment when Neil closed their chat with an acoustic rendition of our"Oh Hi," song, watch below.





Education Program
New Partner School in Tanzania

Kifaru Juu Primary School

No Access to Education

In the remote hamlet of Kifaru, approximately 500 school-aged children faced a minimum 5km walk one-way to the nearest school. It meant that many parents didn't send their young children to school.

'Some students have to cross a gorge filled with water to get to a school – it poses a great risk to these young children.'

- Mr Gobre, Ward Education Officer, Endakiso Ward

Community Unite for a Solution

Through effective lobbying by traditional community leaders and parents, the Ministry of Education granted permission for the community to construct a new government primary school in their community, and a 7-acre plot of land was allocated. Parents raised funds, and partially built 2 classrooms and 1 teachers' office.

Providing Adequate Infrastructure

When So They Can was alerted to the community's efforts last year, we knew that our support could enable this determined community to get their school registered and running.

'We are very grateful for the great efforts to build us a school, it has really helped us and the challenge of the school is no more, Thank you very much.'

— Logolye – student,
Kifaru Juu Primary School

So They Can's Impact

Due to the urgent needs we started supporting the community last year, and this year Kifaru Juu became a Government primary school and So They Can's only new partner school this year. Our support has brought immediate impact:

- 2 classrooms, 1 teachers' office construction completed;
- 3 new classrooms constructed;
- 80 student desks donated;
- 5 teachers' tables and chairs donated;
- 4 classrooms painted with educational murals on their exterior.

We have also mobilised support from a local partner, the Karimu Foundation, who will construct new toilet facilities at the school this year.

Now 201 children (58% girls) from pre-primary to Grade 2 are enrolled. The new schools has brought great joy and enthusiasm to the whole community.



Impact Story
A community invested in education

Bringing quality education to Kifaru Juu Hamlet

Asha, a local resident and mother of 4 cares deeply about the education of the children in her community. A small-scale farmer, who grew up in the nearby Endaksio Village, she is proud to have completed her primary school education. She has the same hope for her children.

'We, the people of Kifaru have a big dream - to have a primary school for our children. They have been greatly affected by a lack of schooling. It has always been our heartfelt wish to provide our children with a nurturing environment for their education, where they can pursue their dreams. Despite financial challenges, we refuse to give up.'

To bring the plans for a school to fruition, Asha and other parents embarked on a fundraising campaign. It was wholeheartedly supported by the entire hamlet, with every household contributing TZS 100,000 (equivalent to AUD $57). Once the money was collected, the community started by commencing the build of 2 classrooms and a teachers' office.

Building on the community's promising start, So They Can's partnership has increased the school's infrastructure to meet the Government requirements for formal registration of the school. The children are now receiving a formal primary education.

'From the bottom of my heart, I extend my deepest gratitude to So They Can and their supporters. Thank you for recognising the importance of our cause. I sincerely hope that future generations will reap the rewards of a primary education for many years to come.'









Education Program
School Improvement

More safe and inclusive learning envrionments

2024 is set to be another big year for School Improvement. For optimal timing with the academic calendar most works are planned for the second half of the year. Nonetheless, we have already made good progress.

Tanzania
7 classrooms renovated to benefit 420 children in 4 primary schools - Endakiso, Maleshi, Orng'adida and Qash.

Kenya
2 classrooms, plus 1 renovated pre-primary classroom, have been completed to benefit 180 children at Ngambo Primary School in Baringo.

Rainwater harvesting system installed at Chemolingot School for the Hearing Impaired in Baringo. Works included:

- Installation of gutters for collecting rainwater for 2 classrooms and the school's dormitory;
- Donation of 2 10,000L water tanks;
- Construction of 2 water tank bases, with a shade roof, for 4 10,000L tanks and 1 5,000L tank;
- Installation of a UV filtration system, to treat the 45,000L water storage capacity.

So They Can's School Improvement Project is delivered in partnership with the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).


Before at Orng'adida Primary School


After at Orng'adida Primary School


Ngambo Primary School


Chemolingot School for the Hearing Impaired

Education Program
Teacher Development

New primary education curriculum

Changes to the primary education curriculum in Kenya and Tanzania came into affect this year. With limited capacity for in-service teachers to participate in Government training on how to deliver the revised curriculum, we provided support through our Teacher Development project.

Kenya — Revised focus:
The curriculum has been revised to a Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) that achieves holistic child development through competencies, character and creativity.

Kenya — Revised structure:
Now students will progress through their education years as follows: 2 years of pre-primary (PP1 and PP2), 6 years of primary (years 1 – 6), 3 years of Junior Secondary School (years 7 – 9, domiciled at primary schools so no scholarship required), 3 years of Senior Secondary School (years 10 – 12).

So They Can trained 20 in-service teachers from our 4 partner primary schools in April.

Teachers were taken through the new CBC framework, assessment and student leaning pathways. Teachers were advised to carry text books they use to teach in their respective schools, especially for English and Kiswahili.

So They Can's Teacher Development Project is delivered in partnership with the Australian Government through the ANCP.

Tanzania — Revised structure:
Stage 1: Standard 1 and 2 will focus on competences in Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic (3Rs). Children aged 4-5;
Stage 2: Standard 3-6 to enhance 3Rs skills along with other life skills. Children aged 6-11.

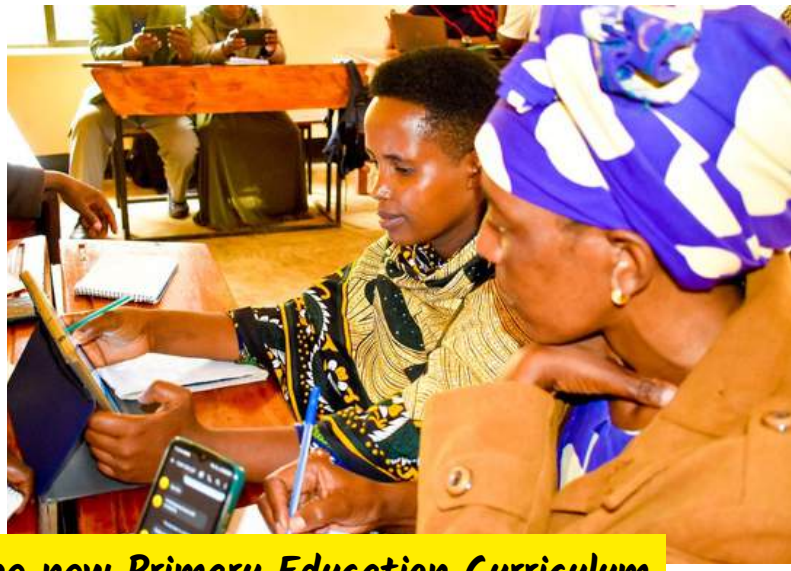
New subject content:
English will now be taught from Standard 1; children will learn both English and Kiswahili phonetics from Standard 1; as part of Science, students will learn coding and programming from Standard 3.

So They Can trained 114 in-service pre-primary, Standard 1 and Standard 3 teachers from our 29 primary schools over a week-long intensive training in June.

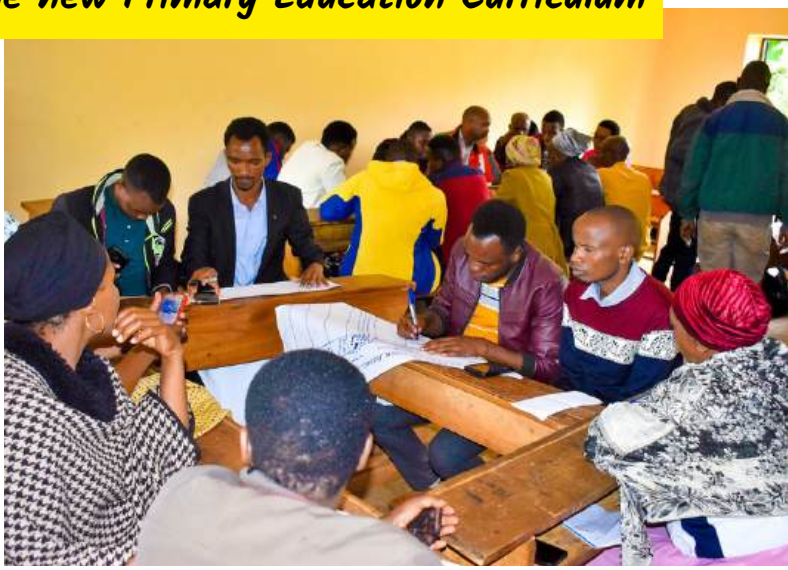
'We saw that the training really helped teachers to become more open minded about the new curriculum and gain new ideas for effective teaching.'
— Hamisi, Mamire Teachers' College Training Facilitator

'The training provided me with the ability to create lesson plans, exams, and other teaching resources that are suitable for the needs of students. It also helped me to comprehend the objectives and goals of the new curriculum. What we learnt this week will raise the standard of teaching and learning in our schools and inspire new passion and motivation in our work.'
— Austin, pre-primary teacher, Gallapo Primary School
Read more here



114 Tanzanian teachers trained on the new Primary Education Curriculum



Impact Story
Keeping Girls in School
14 year-old girl rescued from child marriage

When Mercy realised that her father had accepted a dowry of 2 cows for her marriage, she desperately ran to Jeska's house for help. Mercy met Jeska, the Champion Mother in her village when she came to her school to train students on child rights. She also knew that she lived nearby in their village. For Jeska, becoming a Champion Mother in 2020 was a way for her to protect children in her rural village, who remain at high risk of child rights violations—especially girls like Mercy

When they were young, Mercy and her 2 younger sisters, were subjected to female genital cutting. It remains common in traditional communities, for girls as young as 5, despite the practice being illegal in Tanzania. Mercy's family, like most in her Maasai community, are pastoralists. In tough times, like the recent drought, a dowry of money or livestock is deemed more valuable than a daughter's education.

'When Mercy came to me and explained her situation, I knew I had to act, and fast. Together with the Village Leaders, we went to Mercy's house, to stop her father's plans. We made it very clear that marrying off Mercy is illegal, and that he would be held accountable.'
— Jeska, Champion Mother in Endakiso, is one of two active So They Can Champions in the school community

Since So They Can partnered with Endakiso Primary School in 2016, and started working with the school community, a key focus of our work has been raising awareness about girls right through our Keeping Girls in School project. This year the school has over 800 children enrolled, and 47% are girls.



'Sauti ya binti nguvu ya binti'
— The Voice of a Girl is Her Power

'I can't express how grateful I am for being able to continue with my studies. I feel grateful for Mother Jeska for fighting for my dreams, and for So They Can for raising awareness about the rights of us girls in our community. I am studying hard, and this year I was elected as the Head Girl of our school's Student Council. My dream is to become a teacher.'
— Mercy, a Grade 6 girl at Endakiso Primary School

Jessica is a mother of 7 children, four are still school-age and attend Endakiso Primary and Secondary schools. She works in agriculture to support herself, and her family.

'So They Can's training has helped me, and my neighbours, stand up and become defenders of children's rights. So it brings me great joy to succeed in cases like this, and for Mercy to continue her primary studies. I am looking forward to being witness to her fulfilling all of her dreams. I believe that her sisters will now be able to fulfil theirs too.'
— Jeska, Champion Mother

Education Program
Shamba Letu

Innovative climate-smart school farms

Nakuru Kenya

All 4 of our partner primary schools in Nakuru established school farms when we introduced the project last year. Each school has their own Shamba Letu club with 40 children, 2 teachers and 1 Champion Parent. They are responsible for the ongoing farm management. All have enjoyed a promising first harvest this year.

Peter, a Grade 7 student from Kibomen Kowen's Shamba Letu Club has applied what he learnt to come up with an innovative way to grow food for his family.

'We don't have land at our home, so I got an idea to use buckets and sacks instead. I have planted kale and spinach, which my family eat, especially when there's no money to buy food from the market. The neighbours saw what I did, and now they are doing the same.' Read more here.

Baringo Kenya

For the first time this year we are piloting large-scale school farms in Baringo. It takes an innovative approach due to the semi-arid climate, but we have established farms at 2 partner primary schools, with a third expected before the end of the year. Chemolingot Primary School has planted beans, green grams and cowpeas on their 2-acre farm. While Perkerra Primary School has already harvested 235 sacks of maize from their 6-acre farm. It is expected that once the maize is shredded and sold it will generate AUD $6,000. It will be enough to feed the school for a whole year, and there will be a balance for farming next season.

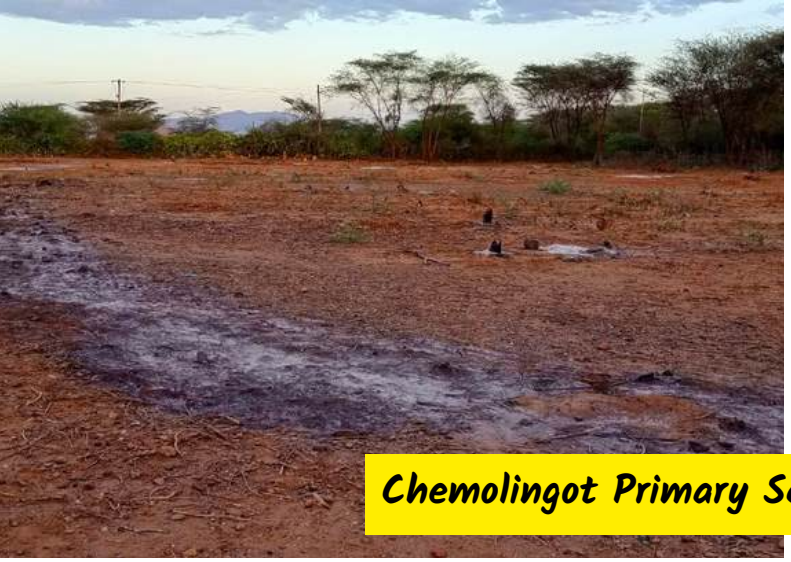
Tanzania

Our Shamba Letu project first began in Tanzania in 2019. In 2024, 19 schools have farms that provide a critical and reliable food source for school feeding programs. With various sized plots of land at each school, a combination of vegetable gardens, fruit orchards and field crops depending on land and water availability, are managed by student-led Shamba Letu clubs. Collectively across the schools 164 acres of land is farmed.

In an exciting development this year, 3 schools in Tanzania – Gedamar, Kwaraa and Mamire Primary Schools – have installed 1-acre drip irrigation systems on their crop farms. So They Can's Community Development Manager, Zadock, who is a qualified agronomist, has led the initiative, and shared his view on the numerous benefits:

'As well as being water and time efficient, drip irrigation also conserves land, prevents soil erosion, and assures harvest in the summer season. With DIS we expect the annual yield to double to 12,000kgs of onions, and 13,000kgs of tomatoes per acre, because now we can harvest each crop twice. This initiative provides pupils and the surrounding communities critical life skills about advanced farming techniques that are responsive to global climate change, and the need for food security with our increasing global population.'
Read more here.

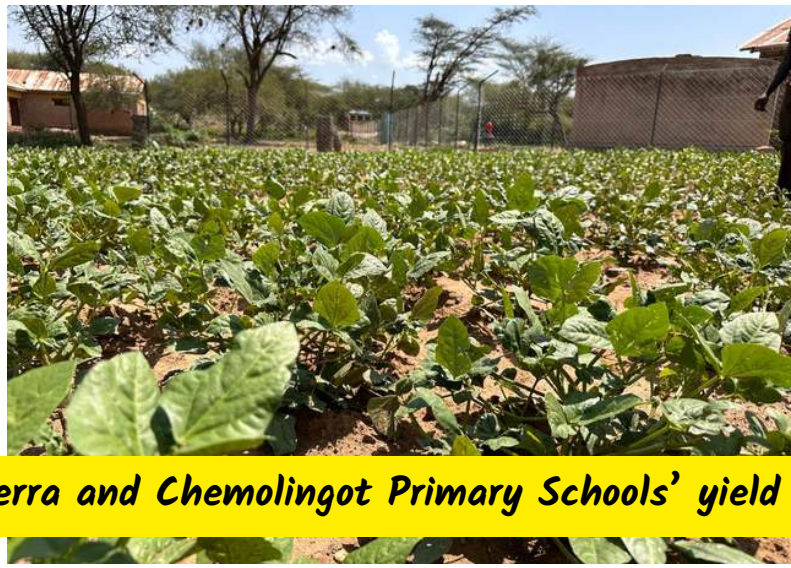
So They Can's Shamba Letu Project is delivered in partnership with the Australian Government through the ANCP.





Chemolingot Primary School 2-acre plot cleared and fence erected





Perkerra and Chemolingot Primary Schools' yield





Kwaraa Primary School's new 1-acre drip irrigation system





Gedamar Primary School's new 1-acre drip irrigation system

Education Program
My Voice

Early financial literacy: savings groups for children

To encourage financial education from an early age, So They Can is supporting schools to establish student-led savings groups in Tanzania. These groups, Youth Savings and Loans Associations (YSLA), provide a practical learning environment for children to develop financial literacy, savings habits, and a sense of responsibility towards managing their finances. In July 2024, 30 participants including teachers (6), parents (12) and Champions (12) from 6 of our primary schools participated in Train-the-Trainer sessions over 5 days.

YSLA is an adaptation of the widely adopted Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA). The YSLA model focuses on self-managed youth groups, with no access to formal banking institutions. The YSLA provides its members a safe place to save their money and access group loans. The ideal number for a YSLA is 10-30 children.

'In my community, most men, including myself, have shown little interest in joining savings groups due to their lack of understanding about the management, structure, and function. However, this training showed me the numerous advantages of these groups, especially for parents of school-aged children. I now realise that I can access loans from a group to ensure timely school fee payments'.
— Jackson, father of 4, Gallapo Primary School YSLA Trainee

All of the trainees will be setting up savings groups in their school communities for students to gain important hands-on experience.

Trainees had the opportunity to apply their new knowledge and skills. As part of the training they supported 38 Gallapo Primary School students from grades 5-7 to form their own YSLA and agree on how it would operate. Students named their group, Muungano (which means unity in Kiswahili). The group will meet at 3.30pm every Friday at school. They agreed to set the share price at TZS 200, and allow up to 5 shares to be bought every week by each member.

'I have learned that honesty and openness are crucial in group management. It's important for members, not just leaders, to create the group's rules. This training has shown me that groups can elect leaders and establish fair guidelines, empowering members to access loans and benefit from their collective efforts.'
— Zulfa, Champion Mother, Orng'adida Primary School YSLA Trainee

'Following the training, I will share what I have learnt with my Head Teacher. Then, I will engage parents to inform them about the advantages of savings groups for their children. And then I will guide students in establishing and efficiently managing their own groups. I think that this knowledge will foster independence, enabling them to purchase essential items like exercise books, pens, and clothes without solely relying on their parents.'
— Lightness, Teacher, Endakiso Primary School YSLA Trainee





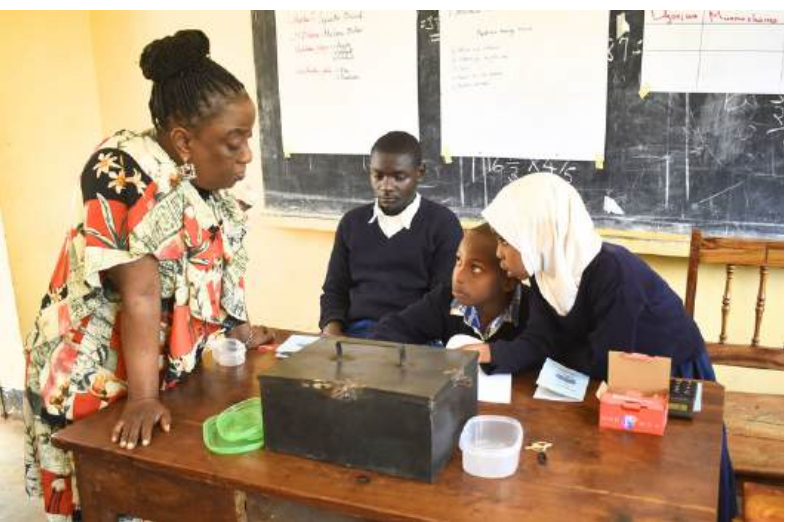




YSLA Training in Tanzania involved practical exercises with a student savings group









Education Program
Msomi Scholars

Support for children who can't afford education

Our 2024 scholarships, through our Msomi Scholars project, are what enable the educational journey of hundreds of children's from our partner schools in Kenya, and Tanzania, to continue.

In Baringo, So They Can supports the educational costs of 41 secondary students (29 boys: 12 girls) and 10 tertiary students (6 boys: 4 girls), who otherwise would not be in school.

The scholarships were awarded at the start of the academic year. For new scholars, an assessment panel reviewed applications, and interviewed shortlisted candidates, and parents. All scholarships are subject to ongoing good academic performance, monitored through submission of quarterly academic performance reports.

For the first time this year we have introduced a community service component to the scholarship. All Kenyan supported scholars in University, Colleges, Teacher Trainees, Technical and Vocation Education Training (TVETs) must complete 3 months community service either at a So They Can partner school or a government facility.



For many children living in poverty, they are the first in their family to go to secondary school. Without a role model at home to ask for advice, navigating the challenges of further studies can be daunting. That's why, when So They Can supports children with scholarships, we don't just provide a financial contribution — we provide ongoing guidance and mentorship, to ensure every scholar reaches their full potential. Through mentorship we see children's confidence blossom, setting their sights high for a promising future.

In March a group of 87 Baringo scholars joined our 3-day Mentorship Camp.

Our annual mentorship camps offer:

- Guidance and support – invaluable in navigating challenges and making informed decisions, as many children lack positive role models or support networks.
- Build confidence and self-esteem – in a safe and supportive environment where students can receive encouragement and validation from mentors and peers, helping them build confidence in their abilities and potential.
- Performance improvement and career strategies – to assist students in setting realistic academic and personal goals. Mentors can help them identify their aspirations and develop a plan to achieve them, fostering a sense of purpose and direction in their lives.

Impact Story
Msomi Scholars

Baringo girls protected from child marriage

Meet Judy



'I am a young lady who aims high, ready to score good grades and change the lives of my family and community. I want to become a surgeon and fight for the rights of girls in our community. I want to be a role model that they can look up to. For me, the growth in my self-esteem and confidence is my biggest achievement so far as a Msomi Scholar. I'm also proud that I have improved in mathematics.'

After graduating from Lemuyek Primary School, 17-year-old Judy now boards at Nginyang Girls High School with the support of the Msomi Scholarship. Her 13-year cousin was married off, with no further education. Judy is determined for a better life for herself and other girls.



Meet Damaris

'I am a girl on a mission to join university and study medicine. I have friends who left school to be married off. Some of them suffer abuse, and are forced to take care of families, even though they themselves are so young.

As the eldest of five siblings, I will be the first to go to high school. Without the Msomi scholarship, I would have been sent out to try and collect money for my own school costs.'

17-year-old Damaris is in From 4 at Kolowa High School. Coming from a polygamous family, Damaris' mother struggles to earn enough income to support herself and her 5 children.

Education Program
MTC Enhancement Project

230 teaching graduates and 37 interns

Mamire Teachers' College (MTC) Graduates
April was marked with celebration at Mamire Teachers' College. 230 newly qualified teachers formally received their teaching qualifications, during the College's annual graduation ceremony, presided over by the College's Dean.

193 Certificates in Primary Education (98% pass rate); 37 Diplomas in Secondary Education (100% pass rate, which only 11 out of 38 Colleges achieved).

Tamimu was one of this year's graduates. He successfully completed his Certificate in Primary Education over 2 years. His dream to become a teacher started when he was a primary school student at his local school in the nearby Kagera Region. Observing his own teachers, he realised that it is a profession that positively impacts people's lives, for the better. With support and encouragement from his family, his dream has now come true.

'During my 2-year Certificate in Primary Education, the most important thing that I learnt is that to become a great teacher, I must invest in my own attitudes and behaviours. We also learnt about the foundations of teaching: evidence-based teaching methodologies; accommodating students' different learning styles, and the psychology of teaching. I know that I have become a better teacher as a result of my theoretical, and practical training here.'

Mamire Teachers College Graduate Interns
37 graduates from the MTC are participating in So They Can's 2-year internship program. We facilitate quarterly reflection meetings for our interns — a chance for shared learning, reflection and mentorship.

In the August meeting, our interns shared some of their projects. It is an impressive range of initiatives that shows that they are valuable and trusted members of their school communities. Theresa and Franscia both started as interns at Maleshi Primary School this year, and are already making a big difference.

They have led student groups to clear part of their school grounds for a soccer pitch. It has been so popular with students that now they are setting up a netball court. They have also provided guidance and counselling, bringing 14 out of 15 truant children back to school.

'Since I have had an opportunity in the internship program, I am immensely grateful for the chance to develop the professional skills that I learned theoretically at Mamire Teachers' College and put them into practice. During this internship, I had the opportunity to lead classes, collaborate with other teachers, and improve in various aspects of school life, including classroom management, effective teaching methods, and engaging parents to ensure their children attend school.'
— Theresa, Maleshi Primary School Intern





2024 Graduation Ceremony of 230 primary school teachers from Mamire Teachers' College









37 MTC Interns participate in quarterly reflection meetings for shared learning.





Community Development Program
Community Health

New maternity unit opens at Chesirimion Clinic

Infrastructure Completed

With support from the Khan Foundation, So They Can has completed major infrastructure work at the remote clinic for access to quality health care, especially maternal and newborn services. The work begun in November 2023, and following completion, was handed over to the clinic's management (supported by So They Can) in mid-April 2024. Work included:

- 10-bed maternity unit, with an examination room, delivery room, nurses' station, laundry, kitchen and bathrooms and toilets;
- Toilet block with a septic tank and soak pit to serve outpatients;
- Borehole with a solar-powered pump to provide a reliable source of water for the clinic — water points have also been installed outside of the secured fenced off borehole area to serve the surrounding community;
- Perimeter fence for security;
- Fittings and equipment for the new maternity clinic, as well as for the laboratory and pharmacy.

These additions will improve the maternity care (pre and postnatal care for mother and baby) and enhance access to health care for the children from nearby public primary schools supported by So They Can, and the surrounding community.

In addition to the new infrastructure, medical equipment, medicines and consumables, and the recruitment of medical and support staff (2 nurses, 1 nutritionist, 2 cooks/cleaners, 2 security guards, 1 pharmacist) have been fufilled for operations.

First Safe Delivery

There was great excitment when the first baby was born at the new maternity unit on 12 June. He was named Boni, in honour of So They Can Kenya's Country Manager.

For Boni's mother, 21 year-old Cheptoo, she was relieved to have access to the new facility. Mum and baby were both in good health, there were no complications during the delivery. Chesirimion is her closest medical facility, approximately 17kms from her house and she was accessing antenatal services there. When she gave birth to her first child in 2022, she had to walk all the way to Chemolingot Hospital, covering a distance of almost 30kms. As is the standard in Kenya, the facility registered the birth via a birth notification, which will enable Cheptoo to apply for Boni's birth certificate, and accordingly support his government-funded education.

Boni was the first of eight babies to be delivered safely in June. We are confident the awareness of the new maternity unit is due to our enhancement of Community Health Promoters (CHPs), who are tasked with sensitisation of the community, especially women, on the importance of giving birth in the safe and supportive environment of a medical facility, rather than giving birth at home which exposes the mother and child to many preventable health risks.

On the 11-13th June, So They Can conducted a 3-day training session for 21 CHPs attached to So They Can's partner Chesirimion and Nakoko clinics. Read more here.









The new maternity unit became operational in June.







Community Development Program Women's Empowerment

Business skills training for women's groups

Our team in Kenya continues to support the economic empowerment of women through our Wezesha Business Skills Project (WBSP). We provide business skills training and loans for capital through self-organised women's groups. The groups allow female small business owners, operating in the informal economy, to access funding for business and family income growth.

This year we have conducted 3 business skills training sessions, across different locations:

- 45 women from Marigat participated in a 3-day training in Baringo in March;
- 45 women from Chemolingot participated in a 3-day training in Baringo in March;
- 83 women, from 8 groups, in Akuisi, Nakuru participated in a 3-day training in July.

In addition to business skills, women were also informed about child rights, child protection and reporting instances of child abuse. This was a great opportunity for the participants to learn more about child care and protection and take right procedures in case a child is abused. The training was eye opening for the participants and an opportunity to learn more concerning child rights.

This year our Program Officers have been conducting follow up visits on loans and the following sample provides insight on loan use. Of 5 Baringo women that took out group loans between AUD $290 to $580 in Q1, 3 members used the loan to add stock to their businesses, and 2 members used their loan to prepare a paddock for their land for animal graze.

It is always a happy moment when the women graduate from training and are acknowledged with a certificate. So They Can also distributes tree seedlings to every graduate as a symbol of nurturing new beginnings and forming a brighter future for all — complimenting our cross-cutting approach.

Mathilda, our Program Officer who oversees WBSP, shared this message with women during the training:

'By empowering women we create role models that inspire the future generation and break gender stereotypes. Empowering women economically and socially is essential for economic growth, social stability and women's development. When women have the ability to successfully initiate and run a business, they build their wealth, they grow and move forward. The family the village and the nation moves forward too.'















83 Nakuru women participated in business skills training





Impact story: AIDN Insight Tour

Promoting international giving by Australians

So They Can was delighted to host a visit organised by the Australian International Development Network (AIDN) in May. With AIDN's mission of more and better international giving and investing from Australians, a group of 15 dedicated individuals travelled to Kenya and Tanzania, to visit and learn about impactful Australian NGOs, just like So They Can.









The AIDN group visited So They Can's team in Tanzania. Their morning at Mamire Primary School, one of our 34 government partner schools in Tanzania, provided firsthand insight into our sustainable Education Program. Since partnering with the school in 2018, So They Can has significantly improved infrastructure – providing a borehole, a 10,000L water tank and the renovation of 6 classrooms to ensure a safe learning environment for the 664 children enrolled. As part of combating climate change and ensuring a better environment for the future, So They Can installed efficient cooking stoves at the school, which has reduced the need for firewood by more than 85%. Our work in community sensitisation over that time, has resulted in girls' enrolment increasing by 55%.

A number of years had passed since Mark Cubit's, (co-leader of the AIDN tour) last visit to our projects in Africa, and he was impressed at how the organisation's programming had progressed over that time. He said it was obvious to the whole group that So They Can's programs have had a significant impact on Mamire Primary School. Read about AIDN's 2024 Insight to Tanzania and Kenya.

so they can

By 2030, our goal is to provide quality education to 33,000 children annually who are living in poverty in East Africa.

Together we can be the difference.



Learn more and get in touch...

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