



PASTORAL
WOMEN'S
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020





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WORD FROM OUR PWC BOARD **AND TEAM**

Dear Friends,

PWC team is excited to share our consolidated achievements for 2020. It was a year that challenged us to think outside the box and adapt our activities to continue supporting the women and communities that we have had the privilege of working with for two decades now. The year 2020 presented unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19, which caused uncertainty, fear and significant lifestyle change across the world.

We have been working to raise awareness and mitigate the effects of COVID-19 in the communities we serve. Our community paralegals, women's rights and leadership forums, women micro-credit groups and the local government have all played significant roles in raising awareness and taking action to prevent the spread of the pandemic and respond to gender-based violence.

Our flagship micro-credit social enterprise, Engishon Microfinance Ltd has proved to be a viable and sound business offering products that are tailor made to suit the pastoralist context and support the operations of 29 women's groups across the three districts.

We continue to do remarkable work around pastoralist communities and stand against harmful social norms and beliefs. Norms are changing in our target communities. Just recently, 250 women have been allotted land and title deeds by village governments. Changing harmful norms can be complex, requires consistent dedication and is quite time-consuming but we remain committed to the process.

Looking back, we are amazed at all that we accomplished. To a large extent, we continued to implement our strategic plan. We would not have been able to achieve any of the successes you will go on to read about without the support from our members and communities in which we work, the PWC Board, our dedicated team, the local authorities, and our international development partners, for which we are forever grateful. We have been fortunate to have a dedicated program team that went above and beyond to reach the pastoralist women and girls we work with. Our development partners' support has allowed us to pivot to respond to the unfolding situation in real time.

At the time of the preparation of this Annual Report, the world was rocked by news of the untimely passing of Tanzania's President, H.E. John Pombe Magufuli. PWC joined with the nation in mourning the loss of a great leader. He shall forever be remembered by the pastoralist community as a champion for minority rights and on the front line of the fight against corruption.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate H.E. Samia Hassan Suluhu on becoming the first woman in East Africa to hold the office of President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

We are excited to share some of the great strides we made in 2020. Happy reading!

In solidarity, PWC team

WHAT WE DO + LEARNING + IMPACT

Learn more about our work in pastoralist communities in northern Tanzania through [this virtual site](#) visit.



600,000 community members reached through **COVID-19** and GBV prevention awareness and education radio programs

5000+ students in **15** schools received guidance and preventative items to curb the spread of **COVID-19** and become advocates for improved hygiene across their community

COVID-19 prevention and response

Unique challenges in 2020:

There was a significant rise in cases of gender based violence (GBV) in our target communities, which may be linked to economic pressures and increased isolation of women and girls during the COVID-19 lockdown period. Girls in pastoralist communities are at a high risk of violence especially around female genital cutting, forced and early marriage, domestic violence, and teenage pregnancy. Community members who engage in cross border trade faced many challenges due to the closure of border markets which is a vital market for many livestock sellers.



Supporting rural pastoralists curb the spread of COVID-19:

Despite the uncertainty of the past year, PWC was able to support our target communities thanks in no small part to our development partners and our capable and committed staff. We undertook widespread education and sensitisation campaigns on COVID-19 prevention; provided support to fifteen villages and over 5,000 students in secondary schools to implement preventive measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 and improve hygiene. We adapted our regular programme of prevention and response to violence against women and children, by reaching over 600,000 community members through radio programming.



"COVID-19 prevention is important in schools as it will not only protect students but also the entire community around the school. This infrared thermometer will be used to determine the temperature of visitors and students and this will help with prevention. I thank PWC for this support."

A student at Irikisale secondary schools

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Our education strategy:

Education and learning are intersectional to all of PWC's work. Academic, vocational and 21st century life-skills are necessary preconditions for sustainable human development. It is through multi-stakeholder engagements and blended learning (technology, mass media and traditional media) that learning and education models offer value to pastoralists. PWC undertook a process of stakeholder engagement to define our education strategy and identify key barriers to education in pastoralist communities. While our education team works to conclude our strategy, and prioritize future interventions, we continue to target the biggest and most immediate educational needs of our community, namely gender equitable and inclusive access to learning pathways.

Learning continues throughout the pandemic:

One of the COVID-19 containment measures taken by the government was the closure of schools between March and June 2020. While these measures were necessary to curb the spread of the virus, they also impacted learning and education outcomes for students living in rural and pastoralist communities.

With home-stay in place, income and livelihoods were severely reduced, and occurrences of GBV and early pregnancies rose dramatically. In Ngorongoro district for example, 584 GBV cases were reported between March and September 2020. Also 99 primary and secondary school students fell pregnant between March and July of the same year and were therefore not permitted to return to school.

As part of our strategy to support equitable learning, and to maintain communications with students and parents during their home-stay, PWC facilitated the distribution of home learning packages to 520 learners across 3 secondary schools (Emanyata, Soitsambu and Arash) in the Ngorongoro District during this period.

Back to school:

On students' return to school, an assessment of COVID-19 impact on learning, including the effectiveness of home packages, revealed that outreach efforts helped learners to remain engaged and keep up with their studies but overall student literacy and numeracy rates had dropped. Additionally, when schools reopened, PWC supported those in target schools by providing scholarship opportunities, learning and teaching materials, and being COVID-19 safe.

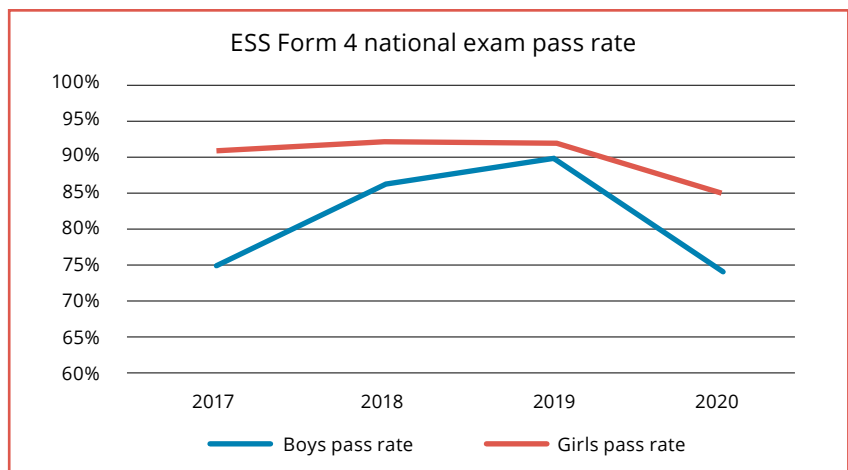


Performance initiatives at Emanyata Secondary School (ESS):

PWC collaborated with the community school and its governing body, AIGWANAK Trust, to re-open in a COVID-safe way and welcome back its 244 students. With examinations only 4 months away, intense preparations took place in scheduled lessons and remedial classes.

Work needed in 2021 as COVID-19 pressure widens gender education gap:

In November 2020, 39 girls and 56 boys sat their Form-4 O-Level national exams. The performance of boys and girls dropped significantly compared with previous years due to the school closures which brought about challenges in keeping up with studies. (see graph below).

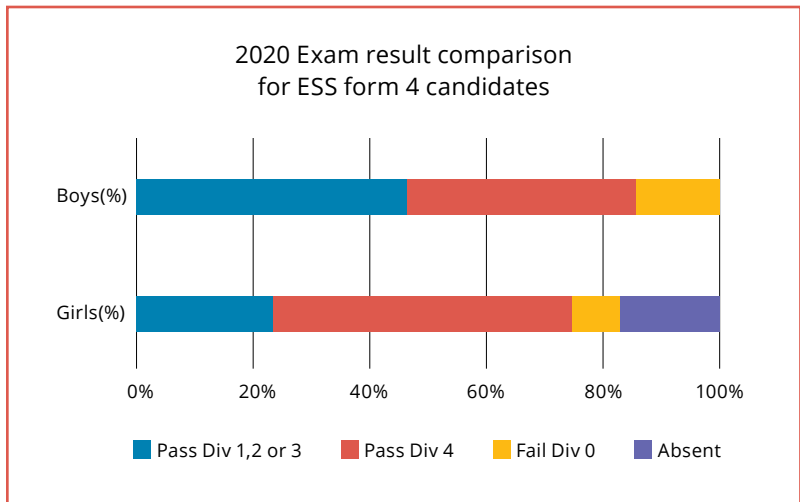




"I enjoy teaching my fellow students and encourage them to love science subjects. We have different books and teaching aids materials for us to practice and learn on our own. I know I will be a good doctor one day,"

Moipa,
ESS form 4 class, 2020

The gender gap in exam performance also widened. Of those registered for final exams at the beginning of 2020, twice the percentage of boys achieved Division 1, 2 or 3 compared to girls, and 85% of boys achieved a "pass" grade compared to 74% of girls. See graph below:



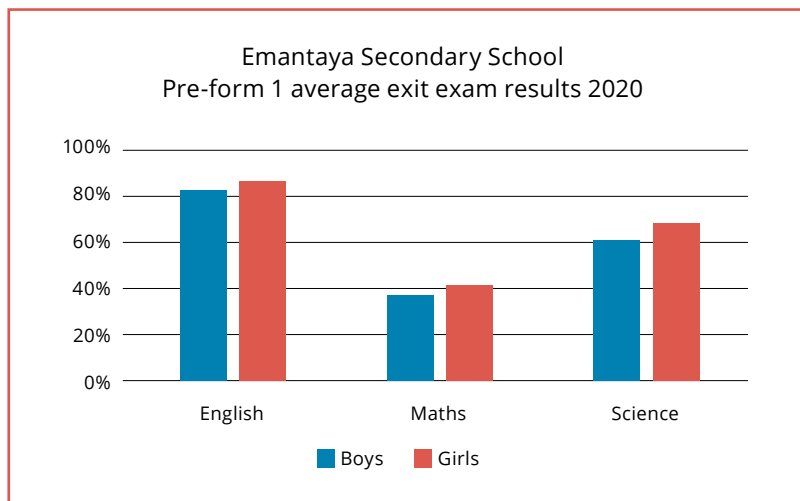
In October Emanyata commenced an optional 3-month Pre-Form 1 (PF1) class for students transitioning from primary to secondary school. 23 at-risk girls (sponsored by PWC) and 13 boys (full-fee paying) enrolled. By graduation, 75% of girls and 100% of boys had at least doubled their average performance across the 3 subjects (English, Mathematics and Science), demonstrating the value of this transitional approach. However, mathematics remained a major struggle for all PF1 students at ESS, as it does for most primary and secondary school students in the district. It also showed that in just 3 months, boys benefited between 4% and 7% more than girls from the same academic classes attended, providing further evidence for the need to tailor our teaching methodology to better serve girls.



Students
SPONSORED



520 Students
receive home
learning package





In 2021, we will continue to enhance teaching practices to inspire and support girls learning. While it is disappointing that the impact of COVID-19 has widened the education gender gap, it remains crucial that we focus on how holistic initiatives such as PF1 and student-centered pedagogies such Teaching at the Right Level (TaRL) can make up for lost ground.

ESS also expanded its investment in income generation activities by scaling up permaculture and horticulture (that also supports student nutrition), cattle rearing (fattening and selling of sheep) and beekeeping (honey processing and packaging) with students and staff getting chance to participate and learn from these activities.

School clubs offer an opportunity for students to explore interest areas:

In an effort to enhance the interests of girls in science, technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) subjects, we established science clubs with over 100 girls participating, and provided materials for conducting science practical lessons. Rights clubs continue to flourish and support girls and boys to discuss their rights and responsibilities as well as prevention and response to rights violations and GBV.

Best foot forward:

In a tough year, when national examinations proceeded without delay, schools across Tanzania were forced to play catch up and try to complete the syllabus. Despite this, and the general challenge of low performance by girls and boys in mathematics and science subjects, many pastoralist students shared with PWC their renewed enthusiasm for education and inspired us all by re-committing themselves to fulfilling their educational objectives.

Sponsorship program:

With the ongoing support of our partners, we have continued providing sponsorship support to deserving girls in 2020. Our sponsorship program in 2020 supported 48 girls in secondary school and 74 young women in tertiary institutions. Fundraising for this program is one that needs special focus as it is often a struggle to have sufficient funds due to shifts in donor priorities.

Peer mentoring:

Peer mentors were identified and vetted by local leaders from their villages as well as traditional "age set" institutions. This them the confidence and authority to represent themselves publicly. An initial training and ongoing networking between the members helped them to work with each other to build confidence by sharing their experiences. The peer mentoring process has encouraged young people to articulate their views in public and is building a recognition that the participation of women and young people is essential to the health of community overall is key to effective local climate planning.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND LEADERSHIP

A safe avenue for pastoralist women to seek advice:

In the last 6 months, PWC and a long-term partner have established 34 Women Rights and Leadership Forums (WRLFs) in 4 pastoralist districts of Kiteto, Simanjiro, Longido and Ngorongoro. 1,020 members of the forums have undertaken training in women rights, including rights to land and property ownership, GBV, monitoring and reporting and addressing women rights violations at the local level. One of the main benefits of the WRLFs is that women are no aware of their rights but also have a platform that can advocate for them when their rights

are violated. The WRLFs are providing a safe place for women to support each other and seek advice or assistance.

250 women allocated land and title deeds:

As part of efforts to economically empower pastoralist women through enhanced access and control to productive resources, PWC partnered with the department of lands of the Longido District Council in 2020 to facilitate 250 pastoralist women to acquire individual land title certificates. This move ensures that women are able to make decisions concerning the use of land and are not left out of development decisions.





"Before the forum, I was violated, I didn't have a place to live as I was chased away by my husband's relatives. After one year of being away, the WRLF was formed. I was trained and then went back to the village council about my case. I now own my land and have built a house on it with three rooms. I have also since become a trained paralegal and have solved three cases in my community where women were then given their rights."

WRLF member,
Gilai Lumbwa village, Longido district.



Changing land ownership and management norms and practices:

Norms are starting to shift through the Secure Your Family's Future training programs working with 112 men champions and 112 women champions and who have subsequently sensitized over 200 men and 200 women with knowledge from the curricula on women property and land rights as well as gender equality. As women gain shared ownership of land and property it has become more common for husbands and wives to make decisions together about livestock and household livelihoods. This is a significant shift in a society where men usually make all decisions related to livestock and economic activities.



Women in leadership:

Pastoralist women are coming to understand the value of participating in decision-making. 177 WRLF and PWC members across the Arusha Region in which we work secured leadership positions in village governments (153 women) and district governments (24 women) during the 2019 and 2020 general elections. Women are now speaking up in public and claiming their rights in unprecedented ways. They are claiming their rights to land, property, education, elected office, and more. They are finding their voices and gaining the courage to stand up for themselves and the other women and girls in their communities. While this is a landmark achievement for PWC collective and WRLFs, we recognize that there is more work ahead of us towards ensuring these women leaders effectively represent the agenda of pastoralist women's and girls in these decision-making platforms.



"Men now recognize the part we play in the family. Now women are being appreciated by men. Men give us the chance to contest for leadership positions and to talk in meetings. We are now included in land plot distributions. Men ask women for advice before selling cows. Because of the education we got through the women rights leadership forums (WRLFs), and because we now have money to contribute to our family, men are now listening and consulting us."

WRLF member,
Terrat village, Simanjiro district

Challenging negative norms and practices of GBV:

Our Gender-Based Violence prevention program (called TAPALA a Maa word meaning Stop) has in this past year developed key tools through which we are reaching a broad range of stakeholders with culturally appropriate messaging aimed at curbing GBV. One such intervention is this recording of an awareness-raising community theatre production through which our trained community engagement drama troupe uses comedy, traditional song and dance to depict some of the everyday occurrences of violence against women and children in the community. Another great tool is this animation video that tells the story of Nalemuta, a young Maasai girl whose dreams are shattered due to cultural practices that are common in her community.



"I am a 55-year-old man and I have two wives and 16 children. I am an anti-violence champion and I am ready to stand against those who violate women rights in my community. I urge my fellow men and community that change is here with us and we should accept it. Let's stop FGM, beating women and forcing our young girls into marriage. Let's not shorten their dreams. I have sent my 14 children to school and I am proud."

Alaigwanani Simango

Using technology in the prevention and response to GBV:

We have developed the TAPALA mobile app to provide an avenue through which students in rights clubs learn about the prevention of GBV and can report rights violations to get timely intervention. The TAPALA mobile app is available for download on the play store.

Community champions:

We have grown the number of community volunteers and facilitators who act as resource persons in the community for VAWG/C survivors and provide referrals to service providers. In this year, our paralegals have handled a total of 118 cases in which they have provided advice and support.

Improving life prospects for out of schoolgirls:

Energize project is a unique, culturally sensitive, proven approach that empowered 101 out-of-school pastoralist women in Ngorongoro District with life skills, mentorship, literacy skills, basic computer skills and technical training in 2020. On constructing domestic bio gas plants and installing solar panels to allow them to be self-reliant and improve their future prospects. You can meet some of the amazing young women impacted by this project [here](#).



80 tablets distributed to **8** project schools, **16** matrons and patrons along with **100** rights clubs trained on using the **TAPALA APP**



112 men and **112 women** trained in social norms curriculum

7,086 community members in eight villages in Ngorongoro and Monduli Districts reached through drama performances: **1,460** men, **1,391** women in performances on market days or village council meetings and **4,442 STUDENTS** (1808 male and 2634 female) and **176** teachers (124 male and 52 female) in performances at target schools

87 Energize project beneficiaries have opened bank accounts and been given business grants by **PWC**, are members of VICOBA and engaged in small businesses, **17** provided with sewing machines and **75** provided with smartphones



101 Energize project beneficiaries **GRADUATED** in 2020

19 WRLFS established in Longido and Ngorongoro districts

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

VICOBA continues to prosper:

The VICOBA (Village Community Banks) groups play a significant role in remote areas where financial services are yet to penetrate. This model is highly replicable and can easily be adopted by the committed groups provided that they have the guidance. The loan fund is obtained from shares while the social fund is contributed separately with the aim of helping members of the group who face some personal tragedy. We now have over 435 functional VICOBA groups providing 7,752 pastoralist women and 769 men opportunities to learn skills on basic literacy, build a culture of saving and investment as well as access micro-loans to achieve their dreams of prosperity and financial independence.

A second chance at education:

A large proportion of pastoralists missed the opportunity to access education in the past. PWC provides a second chance to gain basic literacy skills through the provision of adult literacy classes. Although the containment measures disrupted regularly scheduled literacy classes, we continue to offer the classes in our target districts.

Engishon Microfinance LTD:

In this past year, the fund continued to provide accessible loans facilities as well as business training to pastoralist women and youth living in Longido district. It has however been a tough year for our clients which led to low rates of loan repayments.

Women's Solidarity Bomas:

PWC formed two additional Women Solidarity Bomas, one in Longido-Tingatinga WSB and the other in Njoroi Loliondo. Currently the livestock in these two bomas have increased in number from 268 to 348 for the duration of one year. This increment is almost 30% of the initial startup of the project.

The success of the WSBs promotes property ownership, income generation opportunities, and it helps gain community respect by demonstrating women's abilities.

Establishment of pro-poor groups:

Through a collaborative effort, we identified and recruited vulnerable women who are low-income earners with the potential to join a work-for-cash programming our target districts. Select facilitators went through an 8-module training on the street business package equip them with practical business operation techniques tailored to their environment so as to increase the success rates of the ventures the women choose to undertake to set them free off the vicious cycle of poverty.



"Before the project I just sat around at home after completing my daily homestead chores without the assurance of the next meal for my family. I was completely dependent on my relatives, and friends for my kids' and my own necessities and though it bothered me, it was the norm and we were all used to it. Through the PWC womens' group, I came to realize that I have the option of leaving a much more independent and comfortable life while providing for my family. I am a business owner now, something I thought only Irmeek (Non-Maasai) women could do."

Quote from a Makuyuni group member

Participants in the pro-poor groups start with the Work-for-Cash model to instill values of accountability and financial discipline. At the same time, they are gradually introduced to business and entrepreneurship skills before they graduate and are given capital to begin operating in the VICOBA model. We identified 90 women who were selected based on capability and vulnerability from the villages of Mairowa, Makuyuni and Sakala to participate in this intervention. The project has paved a way towards financial independence for the women by diversifying their source of livelihood through encouraging and supporting them to recognize and seize business opportunities as individuals in their localities.





435 operational and functioning VICOBA groups

- ◆ VICOBA Savings amounting to approximately **\$ 550,000**
- ◆ **8,521** members where women are **7,752** and men are **769**
- ◆ **1,844** businesses up and running

Englishon serves **26** groups which have **341** women members and **87** men members

- ◆ **50%** Loan Repayment by Groups and Individuals
- ◆ **25** functional adult literacy classes in Ngorongoro and Longido districts, **760** women benefiting

90 WOMEN enrolled in pro poor groups

2 NEW WSB established

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Pamoja Voices Tool Box:

The Pamoja Voices Climate Resilience Tool Box presents a simple and affordable methodologies to identify the climate change adaptation priorities of men, women and young people using participatory learning and action methods. The tool box includes; tools on developing seasonal calendars, gendered resource analysis, documentation of lived experiences of climate change and stakeholder mapping. Participation in the Pamoja Voices Tool activity has given the peer mentors a clear sense of the risks to the community from climate change as well as local priorities towards climate change resilience.

Eco-friendly livelihood sources during the pandemic:

The primary source of income in the Lake Natron basin is tourism. In collaboration with local government representatives, we facilitated a week-long workshop with the community to explore and develop more viable livelihood options, foster environmental protection to ensure that COVID 19 did not cause more irreparable and long-term effects to the Lake Natron community.

Access to clean water:

PWC also supported two local communities in Tingatinga and Sinonik villages to dig boreholes. PWC facilitated the drilling and management of three deep water boreholes in Ngorongoro and Longido districts. 8,215 community members, 5,550 being pastoralist women, are currently benefiting from the three deep-water boreholes drilled will benefit from access to reliable drinking water.

With support of the PWC, an irrigation plan was designed to benefit the Women's Solidarity Boma in Lake Natron. This has had a considerable impact as it has relieved the women of having to carry heavy loads of water from the river for their daily use.



2 Boreholes drilled



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Online learning and events:

Travel restrictions this past year meant that in-person seminars and learning events were put on hold. However, this presented opportunities for greater numbers of PWC staff and volunteers to participate in virtual learning events and webinars including participating at Segal Family Foundation's Futures Summit.

PWC staff and volunteers also attended a 5-day virtual learning event on integration of social norms and behavior change interventions.

National and Regional collaboration:

We managed to participate in Tanzania Education Network (TENMET) and Regional Learning Initiative (RELI) meetings and learning events both virtual and physically in Dodoma and had an opportunity to share our learning. We also participated in various research initiatives under RELI thematic groups including research in inclusive education and impact of COVID-19 to education in Tanzania.

RELI introduced weekly newsletters through which PWC shared updates and learning from our education interventions.

In 2020, per application to join the global land alliance and network called the International Land Coalition (ILC) was approved. ILC is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations working together to put people at the center of land governance. The shared goal of ILC's members is to realise land governance for and with people at the country level, responding to the needs and protecting the rights of women, men and communities who live on and from the land.

Further, we continue to be active members of the Feminist Land Platform that brings together indigenous and rural women for the global south to influence policy reforms on women land rights at global and national levels.



LOOKING FORWARD

We will continue to implement our strategic plan (2020-2024) towards ensuring that pastoralist women rights and voices are upheld and respected; that they have access to quality education, clean water, and reproductive health services; are equal decision makers in their society and knowledgeable and effectively participating in, and benefiting from, climate resilient development and economic empowerment processes.

Strengthening their futures:

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted key vulnerabilities of our societies and economic system. PWC will continue to support resilient pastoralist communities to thrive in a post COVID-19 reality.

Our community-led grassroots model, with the support of our donors, allows us to remain nimble so as to respond to the expressed needs of our community in response to the pandemic and other threats (such as locusts, cholera etc).

An organizational culture of learning:

In the year ahead, PWC will benefit from taking time to learn and reflect from our work, to analyze our data (and research from the wider sector), and adapt our approaches based on lessons learned.

Sustainability:

PWC continues to seek out strategic partners to support us in achieving financial sustainability and working towards our vision of a developed, inclusive and equitable society, which respects women's and girl's rights and voices.

A vision for prosperity of pastoralist women and girls:

In order to better serve its community and create more sustainable opportunities for young pastoralist women, PWC envisions creating a vocational, business and leadership training center called The Empuan (Prosperity) Centre [for which we are seeking strategic funding partners] Please contact us to learn about how you can partner with us to achieve this vision.

THE PWC TEAM



PWC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

- 01 | African Initiatives
- 02 | African Women's Development Fund
- 03 | Comic Relief
- 04 | Foundation Open Society Institute
- 05 | Global Green Grants
- 06 | Global Fund for Women
- 07 | International Work Group for Indigenous Affair
- 08 | International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
- 09 | IWIGIA - Affairs
- 10 | Maliasili
- 11 | Mundo Cooperante
- 12 | Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
- 13 | Pact Tanzania
- 14 | PRBB Foundation
- 15 | Segal Family Foundation
- 16 | Trias NGO
- 17 | Ujamaa Community Resource Team
- 18 | UN Women Tanzania Country Office
- 19 | Wellspring Philanthropic Fund
- 20 | Womadix Fund

FINANCIALS

\$

INCOME

1,467,442.79

\$

EXPENDITURE

1,447,235.16



PASTORAL
WOMEN'S
COUNCIL



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