



PASTORAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL

IMPACT REPORT

2021



INTRODUCTION

PASTORAL WOMEN ADAPT TO LOCAL AND GLOBAL CRISES

Throughout 2021, pastoralist communities faced huge uncertainty from the ongoing global pandemic that dramatically reduced income earned from tourism and forced many urban workers back to their villages, putting even more pressure on already fragile socio-economic structures. At the same time, another severe drought struck the Region, killing many cattle and causing crops to fail, resulting in further food insecurity for many in the community who rely on pastoralism and small scale farming to feed their families.

At Pastoral Women's Council, we recognise that these local and global uncertainties are here to stay. As proximate leaders, trusted by our members to support them in their journey to self-reliance, 2021 saw us focus even more on resilience and

adaptation: we facilitated greater networking within communities and with local, national and international allies; we gathered valuable insight from our members and shared our learning more effectively using it to innovate and scale our interventions; critically, despite the challenges faced by our members and our donor support network, we stuck to our vision of equity and justice for all.

As you will read in our impact report below, we responded to the greatest needs and equipped more women and girls with the skills and know-how to support themselves and their families. We advocated alongside the community to ensure their voices were heard, their needs were prioritised, and that real actions were taken to address those needs. We are grateful for everyone who has been on this journey with us, and we are excited to share the highlights of our 2021 impact and our plans for 2022.

The pathway to a sustainable future for our pastoralist community is long. Unfortunately, there is much still to be done and no telling what the next global or local crisis will be. Still, by remaining agile, seeking solidarity of purpose and working closely with our members and allies, we are very well placed to bring about even more sustainable and systemic advancements for pastoralist women, girls and their communities.

**Ashe Oleng, Sion Kereine,
Board Chairperson,
Pastoral Women's Council**

[PWC Impact Video 2021](#)



EDUCATION PROGRAM

Impact:

- Seventy students graduated Emanyata Secondary Schools Pre Form 1 class of 2021 with increased academic, social and life skills and are now better equipped to and stay in school.
- PWC was invited to participate in the Auschwitz Institute Conference on Education and presented a paper highlighting the importance of community engagement.
- Construction of a modern science laboratory at Emanyata Secondary School continued with its opening scheduled for 2022.
- A greater understanding of rights and safeguarding mechanisms has contributed to a significant reduction in corporal punishment in schools with teachers now using alternative disciplinary methods.

Key Learning:

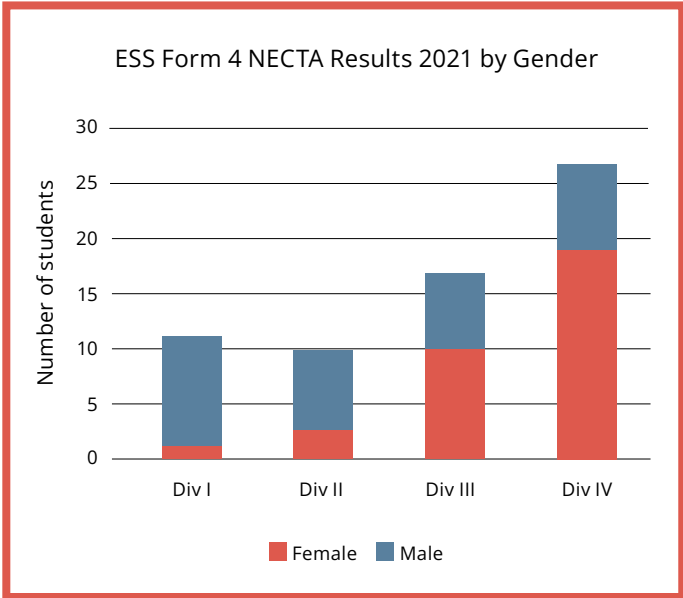
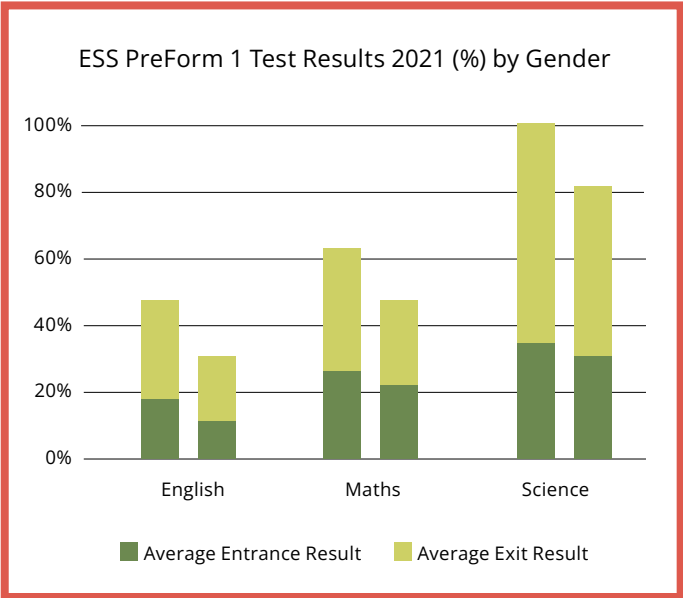
- Student-centred teaching can significantly improve learning outcomes, as demonstrated by pre-form 1 entrance and exit data. However, despite significant improvements in overall performance, the gender gap remains across all learning subjects.
- School attendance was negatively impacted by the after-shocks of the pandemic and the long dry season in the Arusha Arusha Region. A significant number of girls dropped out of school between Form 2 and Form 4 (11% at Emanyata, 17% at Soitsambu and 20% at Lekule). To a lesser extent, boys also dropped out before Form 4 exams (3% at Emanyata and 16% at Soitsambu). Additional actions are urgently needed to reduce dropout rates and bring students, particularly girls, back to the classroom.
- While, for the first time, 100% of Emanyata students passed their Form 4 national exams (NECTA), vulnerable girls recruited from pastoralist families require additional support to perform at the highest levels and narrow the 33% attainment gap between them and their male peers.



Nandito and Ngorisa were introduced to Pastoral Women's Council by Nomad Trust and have been sponsored by PWC to attend Emanyata Secondary School on a full scholarship. They come from very poor families. PWC has provided them with books, shoes, and school uniforms, and even though they face many challenges, their dreams are now becoming a reality.

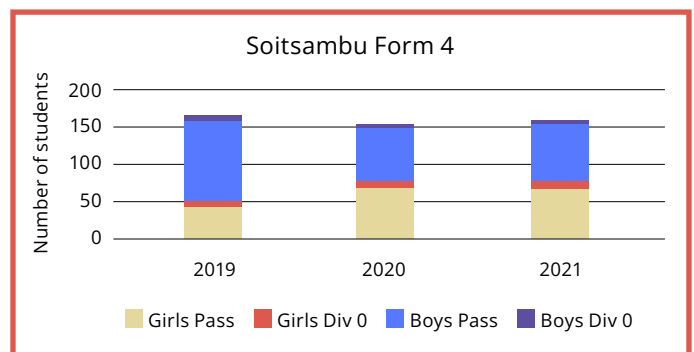
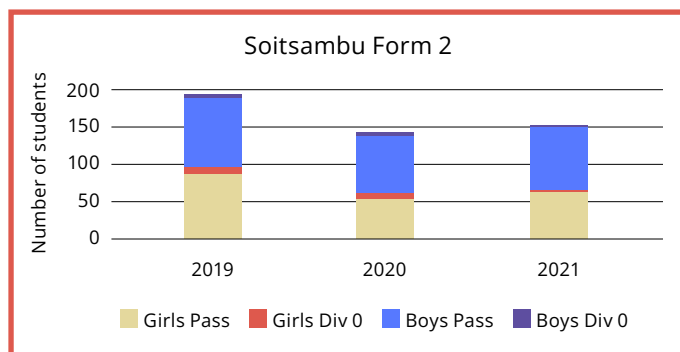
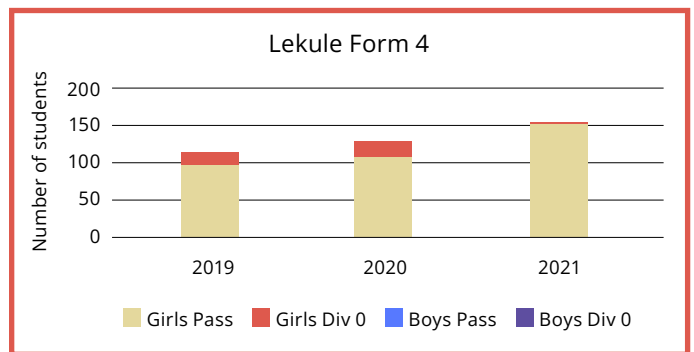
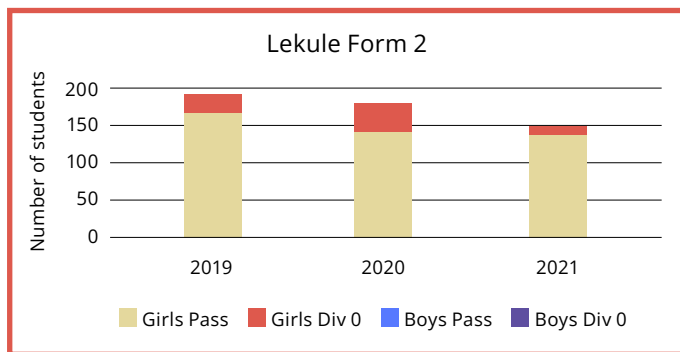
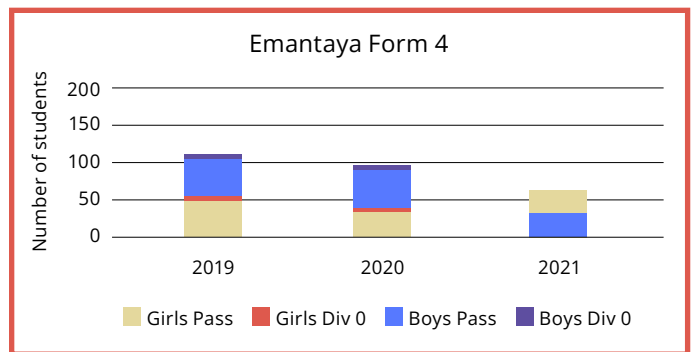
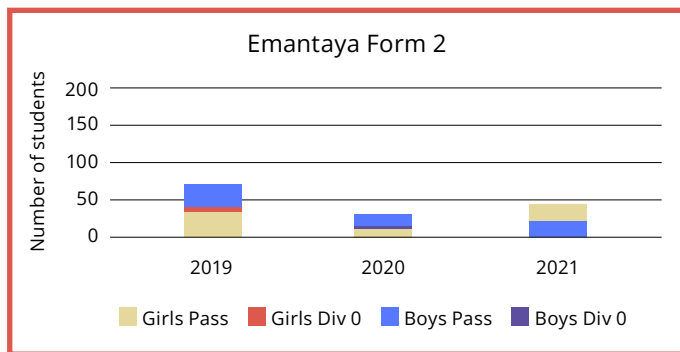
Initially, Nandito's father did not want her to go to school and instead wanted her to get married, but her mother fought every day to ensure that her daughter could go to school and fulfil her ambitions. Ngorisa had been considering going to the city to look for work as a security guard, but now he is overjoyed to have been given this exciting opportunity.

Education Attainment Gap for Vulnerable Pastoralist Girls





Engisoma Schools performance at Form 2 and 4 National Exams



EMANYATA SECONDARY SCHOOL, A COMMUNITY OWNED BOARDING SCHOOL, MANAGED BY PWC ACHIEVED EXCELLENT PASS RATES WITH EVERY GIRL AND BOY RECEIVING A PASS GRADE IN FORM 2 AND FORM 4.

In July 2021, community members, leaders and dignitaries came together at a “Harambee” to raise funds to support completion of a 21st-century science laboratory.

Generous contributions were received from thousands of local community members, most of them women. The message was clear: the community, and women in particular, value high quality education that allows their children to develop into knowledgeable and skilled adults able to positively impact their pastoralist society.

Check out testimony from students and community leaders at the Harambee [here](#).



High quality, context-specific and gender-equitable education gives everyone a chance to progress and experience success. Education is the right of all children and is their passport to a better future.

However, education often competes with household essential needs in rural pastoralist communities. As a result, boys and girls find themselves under pressure to drop out to become farm labourers, herd cattle or fetch firewood and water.

Additionally, girls must contend with gender-based violence, unsolicited sexual advances /pregnancy or family members who would rather see them married

young in exchange for a bride price. Finally, school attendance was affected in 2021 by the after-shocks of the pandemic and a longer than usual dry season in the Arusha Region, highlighting the urgent need for further actions to protect children’s rights to education.

Our activities provide pastoralist girls an opportunity to reach their potential by

promoting the benefits of education; promoting equity in education; providing scholarships to as many vulnerable girls as possible; safeguarding students by developing systems for child protection and mechanisms that allow the students a voice; enhancing the learning experiences by providing learning resources including textbooks, lab equipment, sports equipment; improving food security at ESS through permaculture in the school farm and gardens; running the Pre-Form 1 course at ESS which keeps young learners safe while transitioning from Primary to Secondary school; supporting remedial classes for students whose academic performance is lagging; [training teachers](#) in learner-centred engagement, such as Rapid Learning Approach (RLA) and teaching at the Right Level (TaRL); and establishing school clubs that empower girls and boys to know their rights, respect one another and make empowering decisions regarding their futures, including [Science club](#) and [Rights club](#).

WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND LEADERSHIP

Key Learning:

- Traditional settings for pastoralist women to come together bring together hundreds of women who intimately understand the challenges women and girls face in a patriarchal society. They provide women with a chance to resolve societal challenges and are a powerful force for change.
- Participative leadership and engaging key stakeholders can yield fundamental and potentially more sustainable solutions to context-specific issues, as evidenced by the Declaration of Rights of Pastoralist Women and Girls and the resolutions of the Olturur loo ndomonok Womens Gathering.
- Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) is not widely considered a basic right for pastoralist women and girls so SRH information and services need to be made more accessible for everyone.

Impact:

- Over 200 cases of women's rights violations were resolved by paralegals within the communities.
- Influential male champions publicly voice their support for gender equity and take actions to promote equity, including encouraging their daughters to pursue education, allocating land to wives and daughters and prioritising women's land use needs.
- Four women elected to join the Maasai Council of Elders.

62 women Rights and leadership Forums (WRLFs) active in Longido and Ngorongoro districts

106 community paralegals trained across the districts

427 pastoralist and agro-pastoralist women supported to acquire and secure ownership of land across Longido and Ngorongoro districts

"IT IS TIME TO ACCEPT CHANGES WHEN THEY COME, BECAUSE IF WE DO NOT THEY WILL BE FORCED UPON US. WE AS LEADERS HAVE A HUGE RESPONSIBILITY TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY TO ABANDON PATRIARCHAL PRACTICES. IT IS TIME TO RECOGNIZE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GIVE THEM SPACE TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES."

Lakanet-Tingatinga Ward Councillor and Male Champion for Gender Equity

“THE VALUE OF ENGAGING WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING IS ALREADY BEARING FRUIT”

Oltimbau Nuiya

For several years, PWC and our partners have engaged with traditional leaders and community members in Longido District to develop a formal and legally binding Declaration on the Rights of pastoralist women and girls, reflecting their universally recognised and accepted rights. Developed through extensive consultation, it promotes positive, equitable norms and practices cognisant of pastoralist traditions and culture. See some of the highlights from the participative engagement with cultural leaders [here](#).

The engagement efforts of our Women’s Rights and Leadership Forums continue to bear fruit with over 3,000 pastoralists, the vast majority of them women, participating in and benefiting from our interventions.

Designed for and by East Africans, our transformative gender norms course, popularly known as Secure Your Family’s Future (SYFF), aims to change behaviors and mediate social norms related to women’s land and property rights. A recent evaluation highlighted changes in knowledge, attitudes, self-efficacy, future intentions, and perceptions of peer norms

pertaining to women’s land and property rights among participants in the SYFF courses. Check out our complete findings and links to the SYFF curriculum [here](#).

A [“Declaration on the Rights of Pastoralist Women and Girls”](#) was adopted by the Longido District Council. It promotes the rights of pastoralist girls and women and sets an example for other district councils wishing to operate equitably and justly. In a historic move, four women were selected in 2021 to join the Maasai Council of Elders, with further commitments to increase the number of traditional women leaders to 12.

Pastoralist women champions and leaders met in a traditional-style “Olturur loo ndomonok”. Critical resolutions included commitments to continue advocating for girls’ rights, particularly in education and reject forced and early marriage; demand for ownership of land and productive resource; contest for leadership positions and get actively involved in grass roots actions; make use of economic advancement opportunities; and to educate other women on their rights equity and justice.



WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



Impact:

- **3280** pastoralist men and women reached with financial literacy training
- **90** women begin their journey to financial independence through pro-poor groups
- **7,961** members (7,459 women and 502 Men) of 475 active VICOBA groups with a combined savings of USD 613,234
- Englishon currently serves **38** individuals and **30** groups and has loaned out a total of USD 160,145 (Groups USD 111,022 and Individual USD 49,123)

Key Learning:

An assessment of the pro-poor groups indicates that some women face additional challenges when they are widowed and have only a single source of income because any income they receive must go towards meeting the basic needs of their dependents.

In April 2021, PWC conducted financial literacy and Sexual Reproductive Health training for VICOBA groups in 13 villages of the Longido District.



The exercise aimed to raise members' awareness of the new registration process under the new Microfinance regulation and connect members with different service providers. The team met with and trained members from 164 groups in Longido and Ngorongoro, with a total of 3,280 people attending, including 3,160 women and 120 men. In addition, many members took the opportunity to open individual bank accounts with NMB Bank.

Engishon Microfinance has now developed a five-year strategic business plan which outlines the strengths and opportunities that will be pursued and identifies the challenges and risk factors to be mitigated. The strategy will guide internal systems development, bringing about improved operational efficiency and effectiveness, more robust partnerships, and help control costs.

PWC introduced pro-poor groups to support the most vulnerable pastoralist women, including widows. PWC identified and recruited vulnerable women who are low-income earners with the potential to join work-for-cash programming in the target districts. Select participants start with the Work-for-Cash model, where they are paid to undertake tasks in their community, and encouraged to save part of those funds in their VICOBA group. They are gradually introduced to business and entrepreneurship skills before they graduate and are given capital to operate in the VICOBA model. PWC identified 90 women based on vulnerability from Mairowa, Makuyuni and Sakala villages to participate in this intervention. The project has paved a way towards financial independence for the women by diversifying their sources of livelihood through encouraging and supporting them to recognise and seize business opportunities as individuals in their localities.

“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 NECESSITIES, AND THOUGH IT BOTHERED ME, IT WAS THE NORM, AND WE WERE ALL USED TO IT. THROUGH THE PWC WOMEN'S GROUP, I CAME TO REALIZE THAT I HAVE THE OPTION OF LIVING 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.”

Makuyuni group member

HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

WASH, SRH AND COVID-19 PREVENTION

Impact:

- Improved water management brings greater opportunities for disease prevention and improved health and wellbeing of families.
- Increased understanding of prenatal, postnatal and childbirth services improves child-birth outcomes for pastoralist women and their children.
- Improved access to water from boreholes allows more women to participate in income generating and community development activities.

Limited access to health services is a result of health facilities being overstretched, inadequate resources and health service providers not speaking the language of their patients.

SRH sensitisation forums reach **230** men and **230** women from **5** remote pastoralist villages

150 secondary school girls and their school matrons/mentors received education on their sexual and reproductive rights.

Over **8,000** community members in Kipambi, Tingatinga and Empongogi benefit from improved management of deep water boreholes.

"AS A PASTORALIST LADY WHO UNDERSTANDS THESE COMMUNITIES WELL, I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE GIRLS".

Dr. Angela Maipuke, during group discussions about SRH and GBV.





Through collaboration with various stakeholders, including government officials and development partners, PWC shared vital information to curb the spread of Covid-19, including details about adequate hygiene and sanitation practices. Much needed cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment were also distributed to those without the means to buy them.

Anecdotally, improved hand washing and sanitation practices have helped reduce transmission of other viruses and on-infectious diseases. Although the community members were eager for information on COVID-19, the bigger challenge in the pastoralist communities of northern Tanzania, where water is carried long distances, is access to sufficient water for regular hand-washing and basic personal hygiene. Water management committees in 3 villages were trained to better manage their deep water boreholes that PWC previously facilitated drilling, benefitting over 8,000 pastoralists, allowing women the opportunity to participate in income generation and development processes in their community.

Community members from 5 remote villages in Sale and Ngorongoro attended Community attended health forums. The discussions encouraged couples' attendance of Prenatal and Antenatal Clinics, and

stressed the need for moderate physical activity and healthy eating. Participants were encouraged to attend health facilities during childbirth and learned about postpartum care, including breast-feeding and using contraception to enable proper birth-spacing. Limited access to health services was noted in most villages because health facilities are overstretched, have inadequate resources and the few health personnel cannot speak Maa, hindering diagnosis and adequate medical intervention.

Adolescent sexuality is still a taboo topic in these communities; parents do not discuss menstruation, sexual relations, pregnancy, or STDs with their children. During the community health forums, emphasis was placed on how parents can protect their children from GBV, by being close to their children and providing relevant information.

Additionally, 150 secondary school girls and their school matrons/mentors received education on their sexual and reproductive rights. Medical professionals and the PWC team facilitated these sessions inspired the students to set personal goals and work hard towards them. Check out this video about a mentoring and SRH session with students at ESS <https://youtu.be/fDVDtxkIOPA>

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE

Impact:

- 920 community members self identify as climate action change agents
- 27 villages develop climate action plans
- PWC advocates for integration and implementation of Climate Action Plans into district plans

We reached **465** women, **353** men, and **102** youth through our climate change adaptation workshops in **2021**

Our two-year climate change resilience project being implemented in 3 districts

aims to enhance pastoralist communities' ability to adapt to climate change through increased land tenure security, diversified income, and meaningful engagement. Twenty seven villages developed action plans and submitted them to the District government to increase responsiveness towards citizens' priorities.

The climate action plans implementation supports communities to take mitigation measures. For example, with increasing uncertainty regarding rainfall patterns in the Arusha Region, communities have taken great strides to ensure water availability for people, livestock and domestic use.

Key Learning:

- Funding resources are inadequate to address all prioritized needs of the community. A multi-stakeholder approach to funding involving collaboration across public agencies and private organizations, including NGOs and industry/commercial leaders will be needed
- To further improve food security, communities collectively manage grazing areas, respect the land use plan available in their villages, and control charcoal burning. Check out some participants reflections on climate change adaptation here https://youtu.be/IITQGuD_3jE

"I AM ABLE TO FEED MY FAMILY AND SELL THE REMAINING MILK TO THE COMMUNITY, SELLING MILK HAS INCREASED MY FINANCIAL ABILITY, MY FAMILY IS SAFE FROM HUNGER DURING THIS DRAUGHT SEASON, AND MY COMMUNITY IS HAPPY TO GET THE MILK AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME."

Melau, Laigwanani ketumbeine ward

This has been accomplished through sensitisation to protect the water source areas and introducing fines for non-compliance.

PWCs also supports the water committees to manage three deep water boreholes better. Additionally, community members report that they purchased foodstuff during the rainy season when the food prices were low, thus supporting their family's nutrition during another longer than usual dry season.

Our permaculture project at Emanyata Secondary school engages young pastoralists to ensure food security at the school. As a result, the school farm is thriving and producing enough fresh healthy fruits and vegetables to meet the needs of learners and even being sold to members of the neighboring community.

CAPACITY BUILDING

PWC facilitates shared learning across community-based organizations (CBOs) who serve indigenous communities

Our understanding of the complexities of intersectionality and marginalisation of pastoralist women can help other stakeholders see their work through the eyes of pastoralist women and girls and therefore increase our collective impact on gender equity and justice.

Pastoralists can contribute to and learn from best practise on land management from around the world to address complex social, cultural, economic and environmental needs.

Our team has participated in various learning opportunities that have helped upskill us and ensure that we are effective advocates for indigenous communities. We made significant contributions to the learning lab on education initiatives worldwide hosted by The Auswitch Institute. We instituted regular in-person learning sessions and participated in online learning programs to help build the capacity of our implementing team. We learnt about protecting human rights defenders, fundraising, pastoralism, among others.

PWC became members of the [International Land Coalition \(ILC\)](#) alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations putting people at the centre of land governance to realise their rights and prioritise their needs.

Pastoral Women's Council is a long-standing and trusted member of the pastoralist community. Its work reaches many hard to reach community members who are more vulnerable to violations and neglect. However, we recognise that we cannot reach everyone in a large rural region like northern Tanzania. Community-based organisations (CBOs) fill that need in places where services are difficult to access. By building the capabilities of these CBOs, support for pastoralist communities can be strengthened while PWC increases its strategic collaboration with change-makers across the Arusha Region.



LOOKING FORWARD



In the last quarter of 2021, we celebrated our founders, the amazing women whose vision born out of a hope for a better tomorrow has been the inspiration behind PWC's passion for equity in our community, with indigenous women at the centre of our communities' transformative development.

Today, we are proud to keep doing the work started by our mothers and sisters before us and see our contribution towards women's empowerment and gender justice realised locally and across the globe. In the coming year, we intend to share their inspiring stories.

FINANCIALS

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2021

REVENUE	USD	% AGE
Grants received during the year	1,611,542	
Total revenue	1,611,542	
EXPENDITURES		
Direct program costs	957,428	59%
Salaries, administration and overhead costs	654,114	41%
Total expenditure	1611,542	100%



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Pictures: Roshni Lodhia | Design: Anya Gafter



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