

TEARFUND - HTH PARTNERSHIP IN MOZAMBIQUE - JANUARY 2022



This is the second year of our partnership with Tearfund to support a project in Mozambique. The aim of the project is to envision, equip and strengthen local churches in 92 communities so they can effectively address the needs of the people around them. Over the course of the three year project, leaders and facilitators from 98 local churches will be trained in Tearfund's Church and Community Transformation process (known locally as UMOJA). As a result:

- the church will spearhead development initiatives
- there will be a reduction in the prevalence of HIV, malnutrition and TB
- new robust livelihoods will be established and families will have an increased quality of life
- there will be a better understanding of climate change and increased capacity to foresee and mitigate future disaster risk

The Project

Cecilia Mwiniwa is one of the people to benefit from the work of one of Tearfund's local partners at her church. At a community group they were discussing how to make money using readily available resources. Cecilia has always enjoyed making things with clay. Now she realised she could use her passion for pottery to bring in a much-needed income for her family. She started by making pots and stoves to sell to her neighbours and soon sold out. Now, Cecilia and her daughter regularly make a range of products to sell in their local community. Cecilia says, **"I spent a lot of time going to church empty-handed, not knowing that I could make money through my work."**

Poverty is multi-faceted and the challenges in Mozambique are profound but now Cecilia and her family have at least one reason to smile.



Livelihoods are also supported by self-help groups in which people can save together and receive training in topics such as conservation agriculture, which preserves the fertility of the soil and conserves water.

Another intervention involves counsellors being selected in each community to represent ten neighbouring households. Each group of 20 counsellors will receive training on health, nutrition, water and sanitation so that they are able to advise the households they are responsible for.

Community disaster committees will help develop church and community infra structure and early warning systems, promote climate-friendly communal activities and advocate with local government for the provision of services.

Numbers and fundraising

This year Tearfund needs to raise £46,512 for this project. HTH has committed to give £5,000 a year for each year of the project. £3,000 came from our mission giving. We, as a congregation, needed to raise the remaining £2,000.

We fundraised by having two online quizzes, which were great fun. And we sold skirts and crafts made from African fabrics, brought back from our visits.

We are now within £100 of our target for April 21 – March 22. Thank you to all who have donated.

Some of the craft items are still available and there's fabric remaining to make three more skirts. Contact Karen for more details.



It's expected that over the course of this three-year project, nearly 74,000 people will benefit directly like Cecilia, and a further 89,000 will benefit indirectly.

It will involve 2,494 volunteers being enlisted and trained and 204 trainers being equipped.

Covid-19 is still having an impact on activities in Mozambique. Government guidelines allow for meetings of up to 50 people but participants will be provided with facemasks and sanitiser, and each meeting will include awareness-raising on Covid-19 prevention measures.

Climate Change



In October Edgar Jone, Tearfund's country director in Mozambique, posted a 3 minute video **"Frontlines of Climate Change: Mozambique"** <https://vimeo.com/617739568>

In it he speaks about the effects of the cyclones on the people of Mozambique, on their homes and on their crops. In Mozambique, a lot of investment from Tearfund and other NGOs goes into agriculture, education, water and sanitation, and health. But when Cyclone Idai and subsequent cyclones struck, they destroyed everything.

Edgar says, "If the church takes responsibility to take action, to manage well, to do good stewardship of creation, everything will be okay and we will save a lot of lives, protect our environment and our forests. As a church we will influence government policy. We request prayer for our people when there's any situation of cyclone or flood, for God's protection for lives and livelihoods because sometimes they lose everything. Climate change is creating a lot of poverty. When the cyclones come we have to start from zero. That's why it's something we need to address globally, as Tearfund, as church and as community in Jesus."

Prayer points

- pray for the government and local churches as they try to respond to multiple crises and serve their communities. Covid-19 has hit Mozambique's economy badly, livelihoods are struggling and some families are living on only one meal a day. No more than 5% of the population had received 2 doses of a vaccine (as of Oct 2021).
- pray for the communities that were struck by Cyclone Idai in 2019 and again by Cyclone Eloise in January 2021. Seeds are being provided to restart farming, and shelters for 300 vulnerable families
- pray for peace and reconciliation in Cabo Delgado and for neighbouring Nampula and Niassa, where hundreds of thousands of people have fled to overcrowded camps. Pray for their protection and for Tearfund's country team and partners as they provide food and trauma healing.