

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Team holding an anniversary cake at Buigiri Rehabilitation Center for Adult elders in Dodoma.

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2023

Table of Contents

1. Background information.....	3
2. Activities.....	3
2.1 Data collection on storika the 50 legends	3
2.2 Book launching and distribution – Dar es salaam.....	4
2.3 CSC Canada 2023 leaders tour – Canada	4
2.4 Garden walk with elders – Arusha.....	5
2.5 Forest walks with elders – Moshi/Kilimanjaro	6
2.7.1 Main agenda.....	7
2.7.2 Issue rises.....	7
2.7.3 In conclusion:.....	8
2.8 Commemorating SaveElders day 2023 -Dodoma.....	9
2.9 Commemorate IDOP speech presentation at Tumaini university Dar es Salaam	9
2.10 Share addresses for elderly home/center support	10
2.11 Attend Arusha region older people forum meeting.....	10
3. Award and certificate won.....	11
3.1 Certificate for recognition in supporting elders in Arusha.....	11
3.2 Certificate for attending leadership tour in Canada	12
3.3 Certificate to our yearly best volunteers	12
4. CHALLENGES.....	12
4.1 Members are inactive to support and attend events/ less moral	12
4.2 Scoping less on number of beneficiaries	12
5. WAY FORWARD	13
5.1 Recruiting additional new members to bring back the energy/morale	13
5.2 Restructure how we run activities to better approach	13
5.3 Share yearly plans for member to get prepared and start preparation	13
5.4 Write more proposal to secure fund for our scope widen.....	13
5.6 Prepare a guideline on how to care for elders	13
5.7 Storika will bridge the gap (Young and elders' connection)	14
5.8 Online platform for center and contact elders' leaders in every region	14
6. IN CONCLUSION	14

1. Background information

Human rights follow human beings throughout their lifespan, researchers tell us that these rights do not wither away as our bodies and mental capacities do. This is to say that older persons in our communities that have been left behind in various life aspects because they are old, are dependant and incapable of working for themselves is an unfair and unwarranted notion that has been persistent largely in our African communities. Such notions threaten the dignity and livelihood as well as mental serenity of this group which accounts for a big percentage in the national population.

Using the intergenerational approached of age supporting ageing, Smart Youth Effort for Advanced Community through its program namely Save Elders Tanzania seek to involve all ages from a young age to old age to be able to identify challenges hinder and opportunities for supporting the life of older people in Tanzania while prohibiting the neglect, abuse, and violation of older people rights.

Save Elders Tanzania is a program implemented with the non-governmental organisation called Smart Youth Effort for Advanced Community shortly SYEAC. The program aims to support and improve the lives of older people in the communities in the aspects of economy, social, politics, and cultures. In the partnership with friends and older people forum in different parts of Tanzania, SYEAC- Save Elders together have managed to implement different projects and events as follows:

2. Activities

2.1 Data collection on Storika the 50 legends

Early august 2022, the team saveelders under the role of volunteer and donation support from Ireland conducted a long-term data collection on the most prominent elders who dare to try in income generating activities regardless of their age and disabilities. The data gathered result in the collective stories that were published and documented in a book that is known as Storika the 50 legends. This activity involved volunteers who work with community leaders including elders' leaders in identifying and documenting stories. In late March of the data collection process ended and preparation for book launch took place. A total of 50 elders' stories were collected in all mentioned regions with volunteers include Ruvuma, Dodoma, Rukwa, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Coastal, Dar es salaam, Arusha, Manyara, Kigoma, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Mtwara, Lindi, Tabora and Kagera. Volunteers had refresher training in the middle of data

collection, and were capacitated in terms of transport to reach out elders in their locality.

2.2 Book launching and distribution – Dar es salaam

Early April, 2023 SaveElders Tanzania in collaboration with older people forum, media and HelpAge Tanzania launched a book known as Storika the 50 legends in Dar es salaam. The book contained the 50 prominent elders who dared to try, to work and to generate income as a means of running out of poverty disregarding their age limit and disabilities. More than 40 people from the organisation were invited and media such as TBC and ITV while radio and magazine aired the launching events. Participants included representatives from the organisation, older people forum leaders in Dar es salaam, leaders from HelpAge Tanzania and others from the institute. The agenda was to find elderly opportunity and intervention through the story tell, success and prominent work done by elders across regions.



Photo with Guest of Honor Mr Smart Daniel ED from HelpAge Tanzania and invited guest during Storika Book launch.

2.3 CSC Canada 2023 leaders tour – Canada

In late 2022, the Executive Director, Ms. Sarah Lamba applied for her participation in the leader's forum as a learning platform for her role and duties but part of exploring and learning from other leaders across countries. She was among the leaders who got shortlisted, interviewed and won to be part of the conference delegates. On June 1st she started her journey to CANADA for her attendance at the CSC2023 leaders

conference. She spent more than two weeks exploring, learning across Canada and her journey started in Banff Calgary to Montreal via Vancouver and Victoria. She shared her feedback and lesson learnt and action plan as explained below:

- She will be motivating elder's tourism in her country as part of elders' refreshment and learning (In partnership with partners)
- She will share her experience with both Save Elders volunteers, partners and friends on what she has learned because it is multidimensional
- She will share some of the good features and moments through her social media and tag CommonAge. With the exposure the organization expects to get more followers on its platforms.
- She will contact the funding organisation and inform them of the older lady she has been linked with and see if there are opportunities for more funds.
- She will keep on sharing some of the great activities and events through social media pages, CSC Africa page, CSC British Columbia and CSC Tanzania as the best channels of communication and networking.



Team British Colombia CSC 2023 with Victoria Province Governor during team study tour.

2.4 Garden walk with elders – Arusha

As a result of ED's trip to CANADA elders and tourism has been amongst the agendas on her head to be implemented. She then employed that agenda as a platform to share feedback and experience with Themi garden located near Arusha town centre. A total of 10 elders and 10

volunteers were invited. The walk included lunch with elders, storytelling, experience shared by the ED, bottle challenge as a game of the day and walking in nature. The Elders were so happy and surprised to find the garden that they were not familiar with, while it was allocated to their destination. Elders had an opportunity to share thoughts while enjoying the refreshingly fresh air from the garden. Elders requested more activities in nature and were willing to take their fellow elders sometime in exploring the beautiful nature in their locality.



Elders leaders from Arusha Municipality during there are visit at Themí Garden-Arusha on Walk to the garden event.

2.5 Forest walks with elders – Moshi/Kilimanjaro

As the continuation of the agenda as a result of ED's trip to Canada, elder leaders in Moshi-Kilimanjaro, were invited to join forest challenges in Rau Forest that was organised by TFS and elders supported by Save Elders Tanzania. 8 elders' leaders had an opportunity to attend the event and join in walking, marathon in the nature, dancing and enjoying the meal prepared by the organization. Elders were so happy to be part of this incredible event and others found joy into seeing some of the nature wonders, such as a big tree in Rau of which they had only seen on Tanzania safari channel and they were so glad to see the tree live while they are walking in the nature. Some of the volunteers won medals during the marathon and that increased visibility to media and participants on our role as saveelders in supporting elders in Tanzania and encouraging their engagement.

2.6 Commemorating elderly people day – Arusha

On every 1st October globally, we commemorate older people day. As Save Elders Tanzania for 2023 we join hands and support Arusha town municipal council to commemorate the day that was held at Mshono – Club D. More than 60 elders showed up and leaders were there to celebrate the day and the organization received a token of acknowledgement and appreciation on its role with elders. We had a chance to send out greetings and join in on dancing with lunch together as part of commemoration. The ED and finance officer joined the commemoration and represented Save Elders Tanzania.



Saveelders ED Ms Sarah Lamba, Dancing with elders during IDOP commemorated at the Ward level-Mushono Arusha.

2.7 Attend annual NGOs meeting 2023- Dodoma

SYEAC as an organization received an invitation from the ministry to participate in the annual NGO meeting/conference. It was a pleasure to receive such invitation and acknowledgement. The meeting was on 4th October 2023, and the organization was represented by the finance officer, Mr. Ally Nyamhoza from which he shared feedback as follows:

2.7.1 Main agenda

- To provide a dynamic and inclusive platform for dialogue, experience sharing and learning for and from NGOs and the Government.

2.7.2 Issue rises

- There is problem in accessing the internal funding opportunities for NGOs in Tanzania

Miss Lilian from EAC address this by saying that “Many NGOs miss the source of information concerning funding opportunities and so fail to know where they can fit according to national strategic plan”

- Also issue of getting project approval or Permit; a number of questions were discussed:
-Why is difficulty? (This causes delay in delivery of service on time to beneficiaries).
WHY during registration or TAMISEMI system can't coordinate with NGO Registrar to use project approval on time?
- Tax challenges raised by NGO's Forums, many NGOs are faced with challenges on Tax Issues; where more than 70% have TRA Debit, where this cause TRA and NGOs to act like enemies. In the forum it was suggested for there to be a room for NGOs and TRA to discuss on the possibilities for them to have charitable certificate as it is applied abroad.



2.7.3 In conclusion:

- On the issue of early Project approval, it was concluded that the two organizations, TAMISEMI and NGOs Registrar will sit together to see how they can solve that long-time problem to ensure that project permits are issued on time.
- For the issue of NGOs sustainability, NGOs were encouraged to have financial projection and plan, like instruction of annual fees, Fund rise activities also/even initiation of charitable business like the work done by CCBRT.
- NGOs may have exchange programs to share experience and way of doing things to make sure NGOs grow and have financial sustainability

2.8 Commemorating SaveElders day 2023 -Dodoma

Every November, SYEAC commemorates Saveelders day, and in 2023 we are celebrating our 7th year of working with elders and volunteering through our events and activities. As part of commemoration, the team in collaboration with adult rehabilitation centre (who request for support), had an event with the following activities:

- Providing elders with food support including rice, beans, sugar
- Training they are children on how to make soap for washing and cleaning using locally available resources
- Cut and share cake of the commemoration with everyone
- We had a speech from the beneficiary from the centre that emphasised for more support in school needs, hardware and pesticides.

As SaveElders Tanzania lead by the central zone, we are planning for more support in 2024 including; empowering youths to be more independent and learn how to make pads, to engage blind adults in some income generating activities for the families to be more independent.



Photo event during Saveelders commemoration day held at Dodoma

2.9 Commemorate IDOP speech presentation at Tumaini university Dar es Salaam

As part of commemorating older people's day, we had the invitation to present our role and responsibilities at Tumaini University Dar es Salaam Collage (TUDARCo) a campus of Tumaini University Makumira. This was well organised and led by our organisation's general secretary Ms. Ema Boki and supported by our zonal leader Ms Anny.

From the presentation, there are some of the questions being asked; the majority was interested on how the program operates and how they can join and be part of the community. In the presentation participants had the opportunity to discussed about our book, **Storika the 50 Legends** and they were very impressed with the stories from different older people. But the majority of the audience found that the program had a great

impact in supporting elders and congratulated the team of volunteers and leaders for such an amazing role in supporting elders. In the presentation session, more than 50 people joined the session and this widened their minds on the area of working with elders as scholars and professionals.



In Commemorating IDOP our Secretary General Ms Emma presented our works at Tumaini University in Dar es salaam.

2.10 Share addresses for elderly home/center support

Our role as SaveElders Tanzania is to allocate and to share addresses for older people, while recommend to friends and family on where they can go for support. We share contact for elders', location where the center is and even recommend what to support with. In 9th of April, we shared the address for Njoro older people centre in Moshi, in 11st march we recommended a visit to Tumaini la Wazee Mbeya by a certain saving group who wanted to donate for charity, and in 25th of November church donation we recommend to visit Sakina elderly center and some of our members joined and supported events that took place in both of the addresses. And this is one of our roles to advocate, address and to recommend on elders needs and support because we are experienced in working with elders.

2.11 Attend Arusha region older people forum meeting

This was held on 4th of April and our organization was highly formally invited by the regional social welfare officer and it was well presented by the ED Ms Sarah Lamba, and finance officer, Mr Ally Nyamhoza. More than 30 older people, leaders, representative from all districts were invited and the main agenda was discussion around annual activities done by the forum and challenges that needed to be discussed. The guest of honour was representative of Regional Officer and being represented by Regional Human Resource Officer. At the end the RSWO appreciated the role done by partners, CSO and organisations in supporting elders in Arusha region include SaveElders Tanzania.

2.12 Support and attend event with Luciana -Moshi

Through “Jioe na Lucian” platform on 09th of December, 2023 team SaveElder was invited to join hands of support to elders at Langoni elderly home in Njoro-Moshi. The event was full of participatory activities including cleaning the surroundings, cooking meal, seat and lunch together with elders, providing on what the team brought to the event as holiday gifts. More than 10 youth volunteers joined the event while more than 18 elders supported and enjoyed the day. We as SaveElders Tanzania are so proud to see communities, especially youths become more engaged in supporting elders no matter their busy routines.

Photo during jioe na Lucian event at Njoro elderly home in Moshi-Kilimanjaro.



3. Award and certificate won

3.1 Certificate for recognition in supporting elders in Arusha

In commemorating older people day on 3rd of October, the regional cee ration awarded SaveElders Tanzania with a certificate of appreciation on the role done by the program in supporting elder at the regional level. This was highly received by Ally Nyamhoza our finance on behalf of SaveElders Tanzania and was being given by Regional social welfare officer of Arusha. We appreciate and thanks to everyone who have seen our work and this will encourage us to move forward and to make more impact.

3.2 Certificate for attending leadership tour in Canada

On June, 2023 as a result of our ED Ms Sarah Lamba attending the commonwealth conference tour under CSC2023 in Canada she was awarded a certificate of successful completion of the 11th Duke of Endeburgs Commonwealth study conference. This had motivated her morale in her leadership and has encouraged more efforts in support the organisation mission and vision as a leader.

3.3 Certificate to our yearly best volunteers

In April, during book launch we have awarded our best volunteer with certificate of appreciation as a way of motivating hardworking volunteers and encourage more volunteers to join our team. In northern zone Mr Stanley was the best of the volunteer, in central zone Ms Munira was a leading volunteer while in Dar es Salaam Ms Jackline was the one and last in Southern part Ms Janeth. This was submitted by the honourable guest of honour Mr Smart Daniel Director of HelpAge Tanzania during book launching in Dar es salaam.

4. CHALLENGES

4.1 Members are inactive to support and attend events/ less moral

As we know, the program depends much on volunteers who are devoting time and resources in looking after elders. But to less morale that can be only boosted by incentive, hence some of the volunteer end up being passive in their participation and this discourage leadership and result to low performance on some of program activities and projects. In other cases, we have experienced a lot of postponed activities due to absence of volunteer in their attendance, others don't even communicate if they are facing difficulties or they are busy hence more effort has been applied by leaders with some failure result.

4.2 Scoping less on number of beneficiaries

As a result of inactive members, even the rate/amount of donation have decrease and this result to narrowing of scope of services due to limited budgets. Hence the program is using a lot of energy in securing donations to reach out on supporting the beneficiaries.

5. WAY FORWARD

5.1 Recruiting additional new members to bring back the energy/morale

We are expecting to invited new members through our media platform as a way of boosting moral of inactive members and having new idea on how to support elders and how to secure funds. A poster will be shared with detailed information on why should one join SaveElders and encourage more youths and adults to be part of this incredible family. This will be done during the holiday, December 2023.

5.2 Restructure how we run activities to better approach

We will change out WhatsApp group to community group and encourage everyone in a zonal to join the main group and try to communicate with inactive member to see how best we can support on they are engagement. Leaders will be pointed based on zonal and activities will be implemented based on zonal. This can activate groups and help in meeting program objectives.

5.3 Share yearly plans for member to get prepared and start preparation

Leaders, will meet and discuss idea on what should be implemented per zonal in the next year 2024. This will be included in our annual calendar and share to every member for input support. This will help the team to have direction on what to accomplish per annual and help in accessing the progress of the program.

5.4 Write more proposal to secure fund for our scope widen

As a way to widen in our program scope we are looking forward to secure funds through proposal writing and partnership with another organisation that have a similar objective with SaveElders Tanzania. We will work with institutions and CSO across reginal and older people forum in meeting program objective.

5.6 Prepare a guideline on how to care for elders

In 2024, we are looking forward to prepare guideline on working in care for elders and this will be launched and shared with elderly centre, older people organisation and older people forum. This will be enabling in supporting the livelihood and solve the question on how should one support elders but will guide on do and do not when working with elders. This will be prepared under partnership with global and across regional.

5.7 Storika will bridge the gap (Young and elders' connection)

This will be a story telling platform for 2024, and this will be Storika II with elders, where it will focus much on young generation network with elders through story telling. This will be a joint platform between elder's forum leaders and orphanage centres, where the routine will be established for elders to go for story telling session once a month.

5.8 Online platform for center and contact elders' leaders in every region

In community there are others who are willing and ready to donate for elder but the challenge is they do not know where to go and what to go with. Hence for 2024 as SaveElders will address the community properly on where to donate, to commemorate and to celebrate based on the individual's locality through an online platform where contacts and addresses will be shared with detailed information on centres allocated. But also, we help in organizing charity events for a great impact.

6. IN CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we are inviting more members to join the family and to make an impact on elders. We have so much for 2024 but without you nothing is possible.