



**PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT  
ON ENDING VIOLENCE IN MAASAI  
COMMUNITIES**

**Conducted February 3<sup>rd</sup> to  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 in Arusha**

**Project On**

**Strengthening Violence Free in Maasai**

**Homes, Schools and Communities**

**In Lemanyata ward, Arusha.**

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

BFA	Builders of Future Africa
GBV	Gender Based Violence
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DC	District Commissioner
DED	District Executive Director
LGA	Local Government Authority
MDAs	Ministerial departments and Agencies
NGO	Non-Government Organization
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendants
VEO	Village Executive officer
WEO	Ward Executive officer

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

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This report presents the outcomes of activities carried out in Lemanyata ward, involving three villages with participants from diverse backgrounds and age groups. The project aimed to engage participants from both in-school and out-of-school settings. In-school participants included students from primary and secondary schools, while out-of-school participants comprised young mothers, adolescent girls, parents of young mothers, traditional and religious leaders, other service providers such as community riders, key influential individuals, and birth attendants.

This project was implemented by the organization Builders of Future Africa, sponsored by Camusat.

Builders of Future Africa, non-governmental organization registered by the government of Tanzania under non-governmental organization act, 2002 under Registration No 00NGO/0009237 to operate in Tanzania mainland and accredited by International Youth Federation (IYF) with accreditation number AO/001213 for regional and international recognition which was established by passionate youths in 2012 with the sole mission to build strong African communities free from illiteracy, poverty and diseases while rekindling the lost hope of African children and help them become better individuals who will contribute towards building a promising Africa through its programs and works of charity to the community.

In collaboration with Camusat, Builders of Future Africa implemented the Ending Gender based violence in Maasai community in its initiatives of I Volunteer with Camusat. A selected project was designed to empower women and girls at local level. By engaging with existing community structures, the project sought to dismantle gender-based norms, discriminatory practices, and behaviors that hinder women's advancement. The ultimate goal was to foster an environment where women's voices were heard, their participation was valued, and their position was recognized, while simultaneously promoting economic opportunities for women and girls.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

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The project's overarching objective was to prevent Violence Against Children and Adolescent Girls in Maasai communities, fostering a violence-free environment devoid of all forms of gender-based violence.

The specific outcomes of this project were:

- a. Strengthened parenting skills and practices as well as improved spousal relationships in families/ homes that enable children growth and development.
- b. Enabling violence free environment in school and out of school that enables children to enroll, stay, transit and complete their primary education cycle

### 3 COMMUNITY ENTRY MEETINGS

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#### 3.1 ENTRY MEETING AT WARD LEVEL

##### 3.1.1 *Entry meeting at Lemanyata Ward*

This meeting aimed to inform the community about the project so that they can participate fully. Involvement of local leadership is crucial as the success of any project largely depends on the participation of all groups.

We successfully held a project introduction meeting attended by various ward leaders. This meeting was also a part of the project implementation success. All ward leaders gained sufficient understanding of the project and were able to participate from the beginning of the project implementation. Additionally, during this meeting, we were able to inform them about the project's donors, Camusat. Through this meeting, many things were achieved including the leaders' understanding of the project, their participation in the project, and their understanding of the project stakeholders such as Camusat and BFA.

The War Councilor expressed his gratitude to the BFA organization for recognizing the importance of selecting Lemanyata ward as the beneficiary of this valuable project. ***“Nina ahidi kuwapa ushirikiano katika utekerezaji wa mradi huu maana itatusaidia kupunguza matatizo katika kata yetu na pia kukubali Lemanyata kuwa sehemu ya mradi”.***

The Councilor expressed high hopes that the project would be highly beneficial to all residents of Lemanyata ward. As leaders of Lemanyata ward, they pledged full cooperation from the ward level to the villages and even down to the hamlets. They assured that their doors are always open to collaboration and to seek advice whenever challenges arise during the project implementation period. In conclusion, the Councilor requested the BFA leaders to convey their gratitude to the management of Camusat Company for recognizing the significant importance of investing in the community, particularly the Maasai community.

## Combating Gender-Based Violence in Maasai Communities

Photo link:

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### **3.1.2 Entry meeting at Village level: Olkokola village**

This meeting was a continuation of the project introduction sessions at the village level, following the initial introductions at the ward level. The purpose of introducing the project at the community level was to create an enabling environment for the project's success by involving all key stakeholders. The project was expected to be implemented at the grassroots level, specifically at the village level, so it was important for all stakeholders, especially village government leaders, traditional leaders (Laigwanani), religious leaders, and birth attendants, to understand the project, know its objectives, and understand how they could participate in and support its implementation.

The Village Executive Officer (VEO) welcomed everyone, especially the project team from BFA, to their visit and informed them that they had received advance notice of their arrival, expressing their happiness at successfully reaching Olkokola village. Additionally, the VEO took the opportunity to invite the Village Chairman to deliver a brief welcoming speech and introduce all the leaders of the hamlets who were in attendance. After the introduction of various village and hamlet leaders, the chairman invited the BFA project team to address the gathering.

**Photo link:**

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*Participants following up the project introduction session at Lemanyata ward office.*



### **3.1.3 Entry meeting at village level: Lenjani village**

The session began with a warm welcome extended by the Village Chairperson, acknowledging the diverse roles and responsibilities held by each participant. Following this, the floor was graciously granted to the Project coordinator, who introduced the dedicated team from BFA, setting the stage for a collaborative and constructive engagement

The director delivered a comprehensive overview of the project, delineating an eight-stage structured work plan. The initial stages involve presenting the project to local government leaders and securing necessary permissions through engagements with clan leaders, midwives, and prominent figures. Crucial meetings with the parents or guardians of participating girls precede a session with the girls themselves, emphasizing the need for explicit permissions. Subsequently, the project focuses on logistical preparations, including venue renovations and the establishment of a collaborative board featuring representatives from the three villages. Additionally, school program will be introduced to facilitate in school students to understand the GBV in-depth and reporting procedures. This strategic approach aims to ensure the seamless execution of the project within the specified timeframe.

**Photo link:**

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**The BFA director presenting the project work plan at Lenjani village.**

### **3.1.4 Entry meeting at village level: Lemanyata village**

In Lemanyata village, a crucial meeting is commenced at 9:30 am, gathering a total of 30 participants. Among them, 23 represent the local community, holding various roles such as heads of clans and their assistants, the Village Executive Officer (VEO), Agriculture Officer, pastor, traditional midwives, and esteemed community figures. Complementing this assembly, 7 individuals from BFA were present, constituting the team for the “Ending Violence on Maasai Community” project.

The project envisions a transformative Intervention prepared to catalyze tangible outcomes, fostering an enabling environment for girls to pursue their aspirations securely. Despite the noble objectives, budgetary constraints necessitate a condensed implementation timeframe, spanning a duration of three months. Notably, the project’s realization owes its genesis to the generous support of Camusat, a globally recognized engineering and telecom construction entity recognized for its commitment to corporate social responsibility, with a notable presence in Dar es salaam, Tanzania.



**Lemanyata village chairperson commencing the meeting**

### **3.1.5 Dialogue with key influential people**

Violence can manifest in various forms within Maasai communities in Arusha, Tanzania, and can be influenced by cultural, social, economic, and political factors. violence is a problem in a Maasai community in Arusha Addressing violence in Maasai communities in Arusha requires a holistic approach

that involves engaging community members, local leaders, government authorities, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders. Efforts to promote gender equality, protect children's rights, resolve conflicts peacefully, provide access to justice and support services, and address structural inequalities are essential to prevent and address violence effectively in Maasai communities. Education, awareness-raising campaigns, capacity-building programs, and advocacy initiatives can also play a crucial role in promoting non-violent conflict resolution and building a culture of respect for human rights within the community.

We held three meetings with key influential people discussing issues on gender-based violence. During these meetings, we had the opportunity to conduct debates, educate, and mobilize the community to oppose all forms of gender-based violence. One of the successes so far is that we have been able to establish at least twenty local champions in each village who are promoting and advancing all efforts to prevent gender-based violence against children and women.

### **3.1.6 In school activities.**

We conducted an advocacy session by installing a manifesto in communities involving students from three primary schools.





We conducted a training session on awareness in both primary and secondary schools.





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We organized a dialogue session and established clubs in both primary schools within Lemanyata ward



Photo links:

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### 3.1.7 Out of school Activity

We identified and trained peer mentors to become community facilitators.



We conducted dialogue with key influential people to become local champions



Additionally, we organized monthly parent learning meetings on parenting skills, practices, and spousal relationships.



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We organized and addressed the community during International Women's day in our effort to reach many people.







**Photo Link:**

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A link for photo and videos of the project:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aR4ajxRnSpRV9jE411QMp2DkUXMe2c1x?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aR4ajxRnSpRV9jE411QMp2DkUXMe2c1x?usp=drive_link)