



FTK

Newsletter July 2026

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A practical trial of vertical vegetable gardening was introduced at Mawala Primary School as an innovative way of growing vegetables in areas affected by high soil salinity. Two vertical gardens were installed by Kilimo Halisi experts from Boma Ng'ombe in Hai District, with active participation from pupils and teachers. A variety of vegetables, including Chinese cabbage, kale, swish chard, sarodada, spinach, and mnavu, were planted to demonstrate how vegetables can be produced despite of high salinity challenges. The pupils were directly involved in preparing, planting, and caring for the gardens, making the activity both educational and practical. The initiative has provided pupils with useful knowledge and hands-on skills in vegetable production, while also showing the school and surrounding community that vertical gardening can be a simple and sustainable strategy for improving access to fresh vegetables in saline-prone areas.



Six community health workers were provided with fully equipped First Aid kits and received practical training on how to use them appropriately while providing health services within their communities. The training focused on the correct use of the available supplies, basic first aid procedures, safe handling of equipment, and appropriate referral of cases that require further medical attention. The activity gave the health workers greater confidence and practical skills to respond to common minor injuries and emergencies encountered during community visits. By combining the provision of essential equipment with hands-on training, the initiative is expected to strengthen the quality and timeliness of community health services, particularly for people living in areas where access to health facilities may be limited.



FTK was pleased to host a FEMI staff member during a visit to FTK-supported projects in Miwaleni, Mawala, and Kiruani villages. The visit provided an opportunity to observe the progress of ongoing activities, interact with community members, and gain a better understanding of the changes taking place at the grassroots level. The progress witnessed demonstrated the value of continued collaboration between communities, government authorities, FTK, and development partners in addressing local needs and creating sustainable solutions. FTK particularly appreciated Fred's flexibility, active participation, and constructive engagement throughout the visit. His observations and recommendations provided valuable insights for strengthening future project implementation and improving the impact of ongoing activities. The visit was therefore a meaningful learning and knowledge-sharing opportunity, and FTK greatly valued FEMI's continued interest, partnership, and willingness to exchange ideas.



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A one-day consultation meeting was held with 100 farmers from Mijongweni Village to create an open space for them to share their experiences, challenges, and ideas for improving their livelihoods. Farmers discussed the key issues affecting their agricultural activities and proposed practical solutions based on their local knowledge and experiences. The discussions provided valuable insights into the community's most pressing needs and priorities. The feedback gathered will be used to help align FTK's five-year work plan with the priorities identified by the community, ensuring that future interventions are relevant, practical, and responsive to local needs. The meeting also strengthened the relationship between FTK and the farmers by encouraging meaningful participation and giving community members a voice in shaping activities that directly affect their lives.

FTK conducted participatory farmers' training in Mijongweni Village aimed at strengthening farmers' knowledge and skills in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and sustainable farming. The training created an open and friendly learning environment where 80 farmers actively participated by sharing their farming experiences, asking questions, and raising concerns related to their daily agricultural practices. The trainer responded to these concerns with practical and locally relevant guidance, helping farmers understand how improved practices can contribute to better productivity, soil health, and sustainable use of natural resources. As part of the learning process, participants also agreed to establish a school garden as a practical demonstration and learning space for students and teachers. The garden will support hands-on learning on sustainable agriculture, food production, and environmental conservation. It was agreed that land preparation and soil testing would be completed before establishing the garden to ensure appropriate planning and crop selection.



FTK had the opportunity to welcome friends from Germany who are partners of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) Northern Diocese for a visit aimed at strengthening mutual understanding and collaboration. During their visit, FTK presented its work in the education sector, highlighting the progress, achievements, and positive changes resulting from interventions implemented through the EQIP project. The presentation provided an opportunity to share practical experiences and demonstrate how the project is contributing to improved learning and educational opportunities within the communities served. The visitors showed great interest in the education programmes and appreciated the progress being made at the community level. The visit also created a valuable opportunity for learning, sharing ideas, and strengthening the relationship between FTK and its partners in support of sustainable improvements in education.



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An EQIP (Education Quality Improvement Program) meeting was held with teachers and education coordinators from four wards in Lower Moshi to discuss practical ways of strengthening the quality of education and improving pupils' academic performance. The meeting focused on two key initiatives: EQIP Mock Examinations for Standard Seven and the Lower Performing Students (LPS) Initiative. Participants discussed best practices for setting, printing, invigilating, marking, and managing mock examinations to ensure a fair and effective assessment process. The LPS session provided an opportunity for teachers to share experiences and explore practical strategies for supporting pupils who are experiencing difficulties in their studies, with particular attention to understanding the underlying causes of low academic performance. The discussions were open and constructive, allowing participants to learn from one another and agree on practical approaches. By the end of the meeting, all participants reached a common understanding and agreed to begin implementing both initiatives in early August, with the aim of providing pupils with stronger academic support and improving overall learning outcomes.



FTK supported six primary schools in Lower Moshi through a school lunch programme by providing a total of 8,300 kg of maize and 4,672 kg of beans. The beneficiary schools were Mawala, Mkalama, Kilimamswaki, Kiruani, Miwaleni, and Kisangesangeni. The initiative is part of FTK's broader education strategy to improve the quality of learning by addressing one of the basic needs that directly affects pupils' ability to concentrate and participate effectively in class. By supporting the provision of nutritious school meals, the programme helps reduce hunger during school hours, encourages regular attendance, and creates a more supportive learning environment for pupils. The intervention also provides valuable support to schools and families, particularly in communities where providing daily meals can be challenging. Overall, the school lunch programme is contributing to improved pupil wellbeing while creating better conditions for effective teaching and learning across the six schools.



FTK harvested a total of 48 kg of mixed vegetables from its office vegetable garden, including spinach, kale, amaranth, and eggplants. The harvested vegetables were provided directly for consumption by hospital patients, as part of an initiative aimed at improving their nutrition and supporting a faster recovery. The activity demonstrates how simple, locally grown vegetables can contribute to meeting patients' nutritional needs while promoting the use of fresh and healthy food. Beyond providing immediate benefits to patients, the garden also serves as a practical example of sustainable food production and the importance of integrating locally available nutritious foods



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into health-support programmes. Overall, the initiative is helping to complement hospital services by supporting patients' wellbeing through access to fresh vegetables during their recovery.

During the month of July, the Mama Bus mobile clinic continued to provide essential health services to women and children across ten remote villages, helping to bridge the gap for communities facing financial challenges and long distances to health facilities such as TPC and hospitals in Moshi town. During the reporting period, 85 pregnant women received antenatal care, including ultrasound examinations, routine check-ups, iron and folic acid supplementation, and health education on pregnancy and safe delivery. The clinic also provided health services to 554 children under five, including immunization, treatment of minor illnesses, and nutrition assessments. In addition,

57 women received family planning education and services using different available methods. The clinic further supported community health awareness through HIV testing and counselling, reaching 29 individuals, while 14 individuals received hepatitis B testing and counselling, with all tested individuals receiving negative results. Overall, the Mama Bus continues to play an important role in bringing essential healthcare closer to underserved communities, enabling women and children to access timely services while reducing the challenges associated with distance and cost of accessing health facilities.



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