



# HOPE ON THE HORIZON

## Cash Transfers Fueling the Fight against Hunger and Poverty

Collection of Impact Stories from the Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net II (PSSN-II) project  
March 2023





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**Published by:**  
WFP Tanzania

**Compiled by:**  
Justice Rutenge

**March 2023**

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## Background

In August 2012 the Government of Tanzania (GoT) established a productive social safety net (PSSN) system through the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) to assist poor and vulnerable households to improve access to income, health, and education. TASAF has had success since its inception, including a significant scale-up in 2014-15 to reach 15 percent of the population, specifically comprised of households that are extreme poor and vulnerable to falling into extreme poverty.

In early 2020, GoT launched the second phase of PSSN. Among the objectives of PSSN II is to increase coverage by 30 percent, including in urban areas, as PSSN I prioritized rural areas. One component of PSSN II, the conditional cash transfer, aims to provide a regular predictable cash transfer to help interrupt the intergenerational transmission of poverty. These transfers directly contribute to enhancing food and nutrition security. With this scale-up, PSSN II will reach 1.4 million households in both rural and urban areas. This serves to both provide assistance to vulnerable households, as well as act as a buffer against emerging shocks and help to avoid households from falling further into crisis.

In line with its Country Strategic Plan, WFP supports the scale-up of PSSN II in urban areas in the form of cash transfers to

extreme poor households residing in urban areas. WFP also provides technical assistance to enhance the future provision of cash-based transfers.

This publication features success stories highlighting the impact of activities supported by the World Food Programme (WFP) under the Second Productive Social Safety Net Programme implemented by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF).

This publication is an outcome of a comprehensive methodology for success story collection, which aimed to document personalized, human-interest stories that illustrate some of the most significant changes that have resulted from the PSSN II Programme. The data was collected through a series of interviews with beneficiaries of the programme, with a focus on capturing rich, detailed accounts of their experiences.

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The interviews were conducted by a consultant commissioned by WFP, who met with a minimum of 30 beneficiaries from four urban locations. These locations, which are the primary focus of WFP's support, include Temeke in Dar es Salaam, Unguja in Zanzibar, Kasulu in Kigoma, and Mtwara District Council in Mtwara.

The stories selected for this publication are representative of the impact experienced by diverse groups and in different domains of change. They showcase the positive impact of the PSSN II Programme in improving consumption and food security, encouraging education, increasing health-seeking behaviors, improving coping strategies and economic security, improving housing conditions and assets, promoting labor and productive activities, and changing intra-household bargaining and decision-making.

The title of this publication, "Hope on the Horizon," is a reflection of the promising outcomes observed in the lives of beneficiaries of the PSSN II Programme. It offers a glimpse of hope for a brighter future, where the poorest individuals and households can overcome adversity and create a better life for themselves and their families.

It is our hope that this publication will not only celebrate the successes of the PSSN II Programme but also serve as a call to action for individuals, communities, and organizations to continue working towards a brighter future for all.



Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a vibrant, multi-colored patterned dress, stands outdoors. She is smiling and looking slightly to her right. She holds a large, dark, shallow bowl in her left hand. The background shows a light-colored wall and a tree trunk. The overall scene is bright and natural.

# FROM STRUGGLING FACTORY WORKER TO SMALL BUSINESS OWNER

▶  
**Darini Rashidi Mindu**  
Dar es Salaam

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Darini Rashidi Mindu: From struggling factory worker to small business owner

In the bustling streets of Yombo in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Darini Rashidi Mindu stands tall as a beacon of strength and resilience. At 39 years old, she has borne the burden of not only her own two children but also four more left orphaned by her deceased siblings. Despite promises of financial support from her extended family, Darini found herself struggling to provide for her growing household, working long hours at a factory just to make ends meet. But when the social safety net program TASAF stepped in, offering cash transfers to support her, Darini's world began to change.

"I remember the nights when I would lay awake, staring at the ceiling and wondering how I was going to feed my children the next day. I felt like I was stuck in a never-ending cycle of poverty and despair, and I didn't know if things would ever get better," says Darini.

Darini found herself stretched thin, working long hours at a factory just to make ends meet. Despite her best efforts, the income she earned was not enough to provide her family with three meals a day, let alone meals of a high quality. They often had to make do with ugali, and sometimes went hungry. This poor nutrition not only took a toll on the physical health of Darini and her children, but also on their mental and emotional well-being.

Darini Rashidi's story is not an isolated one, but rather a reflection of the larger issue of food poverty in Tanzania.

Darini Rashidi's decision to open a business selling cassava when she received assistance from TASAF's social safety net program is commendable and shows her entrepreneurial spirit. Instead of using the cash transfers solely to buy food for her family, Darini recognized an opportunity to create a sustainable source of income for herself and her family. By opening a small business selling cassava at nearby schools, she was able to earn additional income, which not only helped provide her family with better meals but also gave her the opportunity to improve her living conditions.

Darini's business acumen has been a game-changer for her and her family. From making just TZS 30,000 a month at the factory, she now earns up to TZS 2,500 as daily profit from her cassava business. This has allowed her to provide her family with not only better meals, but also other essentials like clothes and school supplies. Darini's story is an inspiration to many, showcasing the power of community support and the impact that even small investments can have on the lives of vulnerable households.



With the TASAF money, I have opened a cassava business that is guaranteed to earn me a daily profit of up to TZS 2,500, especially when schools are open in my neighborhood. Since then, **my family has greater assurance of having at least two meals, if not three everyday.**



▶ **DARINI RASHIDI MINDU**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Dar es Salaam





Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# A BROKEN LEG, AN UNBROKEN SPIRIT

▶▶  
Hassan Nasri Ali  
Mtwara

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Hassan Nasri Ali: A broken leg, an unbroken spirit

On the outskirts of Mtwara District Council, Hassan Nasri Ali's weary eyes tell a story of both long-suffering and perseverance. The 70-year-old father and grandfather lives with his wife, two children, and two grandkids. Like many families in rural Tanzania, Hassan and his wife have faced numerous challenges, including food insecurity and poverty.

Hassan's struggles began in 1991, when an accident broke his left leg, leaving him with limited job opportunities. As the years passed, his aging body and that of his wife made it difficult for them to work on their farm. They often endured days of hunger, unsure of where their next meal would come from. "It was tough," Hassan says. "We didn't know what to do or where to turn for help."

Fortunately, Hassan and his family were identified as eligible for support from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), with funding from WFP. With the cash transfers from TASAF, Hassan and his family's situation is beginning to get better. "When we got the money from TASAF, the first priority was to buy maize flour in bulk," Hassan says. "Even on a bad day, we could collect cassava leaves or any other edible leaves around and have them with our ugali. We are thankful that we have a source of energy to keep us going."

Since they started receiving the money, the family has been able to enroll in the Community Health Fund, which has been a game-changer for their health. "Before, we would avoid going to the hospital because we couldn't afford the costs," Hassan says. "But now, we can go to the hospital when we fall sick and not worry about the bills. We are grateful for this support."

With the additional income, the family decided to buy four chickens. Hassan's wife took care of them, and in no time, the chickens had multiplied to 15. "We are planning to sell some of the chickens to get some money," Hassan says. "We want to invest in our farm and plant more crops so that we can have enough food for ourselves and maybe sell the surplus to the market."

Hassan is optimistic about the future. With the support from TASAF, he has been able to keep his family fed and healthy. He is hopeful that with more investments in their farm and business, they can become more self-reliant and improve their living conditions. "We still have a long way to go," Hassan says. "But with the support we have received, we are confident that we can achieve our dreams."

“ When we got money from TASAF, the first priority was to buy maize flour in bulk. Even on a bad day, we could collect cassava leaves or any other edible leaves around and have them with our ugali. **We are thankful that we have a source of energy to keep us going.**



▶ **HASSAN NASRI ALI**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Mtwara



Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



**A DUCK PROJECT**

**PROMISES LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SECURITY**

▶  
**Anna Ulaya**  
Dar es Salaam

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Anna Ulaya: A duck project promises long-term financial security

Anna Ulaya's life has been a constant battle to provide for her family. As a small business owner, Anna runs a snack business that provides a modest income for her and her husband. But when she took in seven of her grandchildren, her life changed dramatically.

"Some of them lost their parents, and others just lacked parental support," Anna explains. "It was a difficult decision to make, but I knew I had to take them in. I couldn't let them go hungry or live in poverty."

Despite her hard work and dedication to her business, the unpredictable nature of her snack business led to constant struggles to provide for her extended family. Anna found herself in a vulnerable position, facing the constant threat of hunger and poverty. "Every day was a battle," she reflects, the weariness evident in her voice. "I had to put on a brave face for the children, but deep down, I was afraid that I wouldn't be able to provide for them."

Anna was fortunate to be identified as eligible for support from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) which provides her with a monthly cash transfer of TZS 44,000. With this steady source of income, Anna made a wise decision to invest in a long-term solution to improve her family's livelihood. She purchased two ducks, with the hope that this project would increase her income and ultimately improve her living conditions. "I knew that I needed to invest in something that

would provide a sustainable source of income for my family," Anna says. "I did some research and decided that ducks would be a good investment. I had high hopes that this duck project would make a real difference in our lives."

The ducks have already multiplied to 24, and she expects to fetch between TZS 20,000 and 30,000 from selling each. With the anticipated income, Anna has big plans for the future. She wants to fix the leaky roof in her house, which has been a constant source of frustration for her and her family during the rainy season. "It's been tough living with a leaky roof," Anna says. "We've had to put up with being rained on frequently. But with the money from the duck project, we'll finally be able to fix the roof and live without the constant worry of rainwater coming into our house."

Anna also plans to rent out two rooms in her house to generate even more income for her family. She's excited about the prospect of having tenants and hopes that it will provide a stable source of income for years to come. "Renting out our rooms will help us make even more money," Anna says. "It's something we've been wanting to do for a while, and now we finally have the means to make it happen."

For Anna and her family, TASAF's intervention has been life-changing. The success of her duck project and her plans for the future are a testament to her resilience and determination in the face of adversity.

“ I made a decision to invest in a long-term solution with the funds I received from TASAF. I purchased ducks and I have high hopes that this **duck project will increase our income and ultimately** improve our living conditions.



▶ **ANNA ULAYA**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Dar es Salaam







Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# NO MORE SCHOOLING ON AN EMPTY STOMACH

▶  
Aibuni Kassim Ali  
Mtwara

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Aibuni Kassim Ali: No more schooling on an empty stomach

Aibuni Kassim Ali was no stranger to the difficulties of living in rural Tanzania. She and her husband lived with their three children and one additional child, her brother's son, on a small plot of land in Sogea Ward, Mtwara District Council. Their main source of income was from farming cassava, peanuts, and maize, but the family often struggled to make ends meet. When they couldn't rely on their crops to provide enough income, Aibuni and her husband would work as laborers, earning around TZS 3,000 per day.

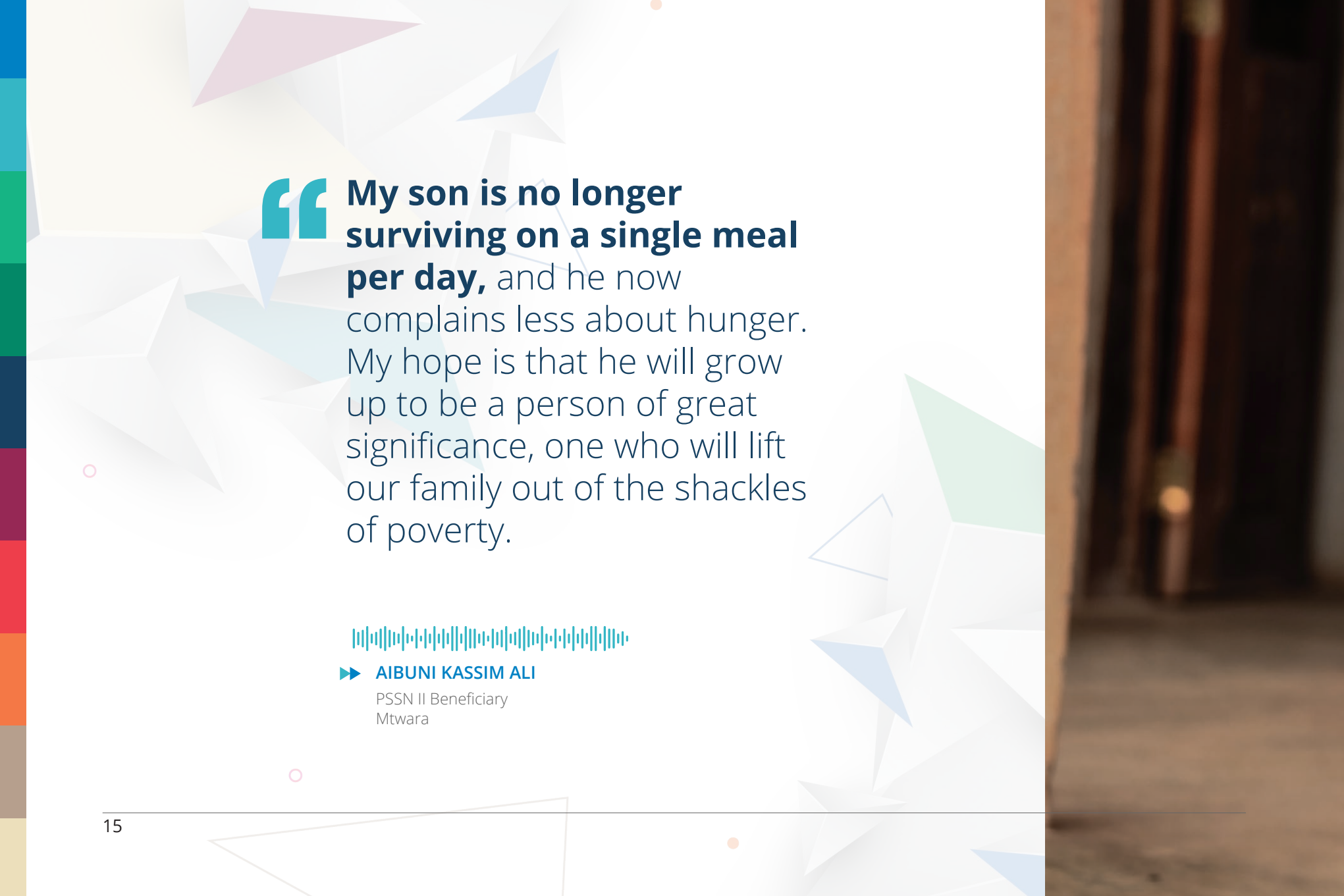
For Aibuni, the most significant challenge was ensuring that her young child, Abdul Swamadi, had enough to eat. With inconsistent income, providing enough food for the family was often a struggle. Aibuni says, "during times of hardship, the thought that causes me the most anguish is the knowledge that my young child is also suffering. While I hold education in high esteem and want nothing but the best for him, the harsh reality is that it is impossible for him to excel when he has to attend school on an empty stomach."

Ever since enrolling as a beneficiary of TASAF, Aibuni's family has received a total of TZS 136,000 in cash transfers from the program. The financial support has had a significant impact on

their livelihood. With the funds, Aibuni purchased enough maize flour for a rainy day, ensuring that her family will not go hungry during tough times.

She is also able to prepare porridge for Abdul Swamadi, who now goes to school with a full stomach. She says, "my son is no longer surviving on a single meal per day, and he now complains less about hunger. My hope is that he will grow up to be a person of great significance, one who will lift our family out of the shackles of poverty."

The funds have not only alleviated the financial burden on Aibuni and her family but have also provided a new avenue for investment. The couple has decided to invest in their farm, which has been their primary source of income for years. With the support from TASAF, they were able to purchase much-needed fertilizer and high-quality seeds to increase their yields and ensure a successful harvest. Aibuni and her husband have spent countless hours tending to their crops, making sure that everything is in order for the upcoming harvest season. They have high hopes for their farm, as a good harvest would mean a significant increase in their income, which would have a significant impact on their family's livelihood.



**“ My son is no longer surviving on a single meal per day,** and he now complains less about hunger. My hope is that he will grow up to be a person of great significance, one who will lift our family out of the shackles of poverty.



▶ **AIBUNI KASSIM ALI**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Mtwara



Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# OVERCOMING RETRENCHMENT TO PROVIDE FOR A STRUGGLING FAMILY

▶  
Seif Hassan Ngondo  
Dar es Salaam

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Seif Hassan Ngondo: Overcoming retrenchment to provide for a struggling family

Seif Hassan Ngondo's life took a turn for the worse when he was fired from his job as a guard during the height of the COVID pandemic. With a family to provide for, Seif was left in a precarious situation, unsure of how to make ends meet.

His wife, who used to support the family by selling cassava, was recently diagnosed with stomach ulcers, high blood pressure, and kidney stones. Her health deteriorated quickly, and she was unable to continue with her business. The family was in dire need of support, and Seif was determined to find a solution.

Seif has proven to be a model husband and father by shouldering the responsibilities of the household while his wife battles health challenges. Despite the emotional and physical toll it has taken on him, Seif has remained committed to his family, working tirelessly to ensure that they have everything they need to thrive.

"Taking care of my wife and kids is my top priority," Seif says. "It is not easy, but I love my family, and I will do whatever it takes to provide for them. It is hard to see my wife in so much pain, but I know that I have to be strong for her and the kids." Seif was lucky to find out that he could get help from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). With the money he received from TASAF, Seif started a shoe-mending business that earns him between TZS 2,000 and 3,000 a day.

"I used to mend shoes when I was younger," Seif says. "I never thought that it would be a viable business, but with the support from TASAF, I was able to turn it into a successful venture. I am proud of what I have achieved, and I am even more proud that I can provide for my family through my hard work."

With his shoe-mending business, Seif is able to provide for his family and ensure that they have enough to eat. The family has more food security, and Seif is able to save money for the future. He has joined a savings and loan group where he saves TZS 3,000 per week. His savings now total TZS 45,000 and are growing.

This situation brought a lot of shame to him and his family, and they often had to lock themselves inside the house to avoid what they perceived as harassment from local government leaders. However, since receiving support from TASAF, Seif is now able to afford the monthly fee for garbage collection, and he no longer has to worry about getting in trouble with the local authorities.

The support provided by TASAF has given Seif and his family a newfound sense of hope and stability, empowering them to pursue their dreams and aspirations. Seif has already enrolled his family in the Community Health Fund (CHF), and hopes that his wife will soon receive the medical attention she needs.



I used to mend shoes when I was younger. I never thought that it would be a viable business, but with the support from TASAF, I was able to turn it into a successful venture. **I am proud of what I have achieved**, and I am even more proud that I can provide for my family through my hard work.



▶▶ **SEIF HASSAN NGONDO**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Dar es Salaam







Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# MORE DIVERSE DIET TO FIGHT MALNUTRITION

▶ Dunia Salum Msuo  
Mtwara

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Dunia Salum Msuo: More diverse diet to fight malnutrition

At 80 years, old, Dunia Salum Msuo has endured a lifetime of hardships that have left her with few comforts in her old age. She lives with her daughter and two young grandchildren, and together, they fight tirelessly to make ends meet.

Dunia's daughter got pregnant as a teenager and dropped out of school, leaving her in a difficult situation. Dunia herself rarely works on the farm, as she no longer has the strength to do so. The family survives on at most two meals a day, porridge in the morning and ugali and vegetables in the evening. Many times, they had to beg their neighbors for food just to survive.

"It was a hard life," Dunia recalls. "We often didn't know where our next meal was coming from, and we had to rely on the kindness of others just to get by."

With a monthly payment of TZS 34,000 ever since she was enrolled as a TASAF beneficiary, Dunia's life is taking a turn for the better. The steady source of income from TASAF has allowed her to purchase four layer chickens, which have since started producing eggs. "It's been a few months since I bought the chickens, and I'm happy to say that they've started laying eggs,"

Dunia explains. "We used to have a monotonous diet that mainly consisted of cassava and maize, but now we have eggs to supplement our meals. It's a nice change."

Dunia and her family had not only experienced food insecurity but also poor nutrition, leading to health complications. One of the granddaughters, then only 2 years old, developed symptoms of kwashiorkor and was frequently ill. Dunia hopes that the dietary changes, including the addition of sardines and eggs into their diet, will help her recover and become healthier.

With the help of TASAF, Dunia and her family have been able to take steps to improve their nutrition and ensure a better future for themselves and their loved ones.

“It’s been a few months since I bought chickens with money received from TASAF, and I’m happy to say that they’ve started laying eggs. **We used to have a monotonous diet** that mainly consisted of cassava and maize, but now we have eggs to supplement our meals. It’s a nice change.



► **DUNIA SALUM MSUO**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Mtwara

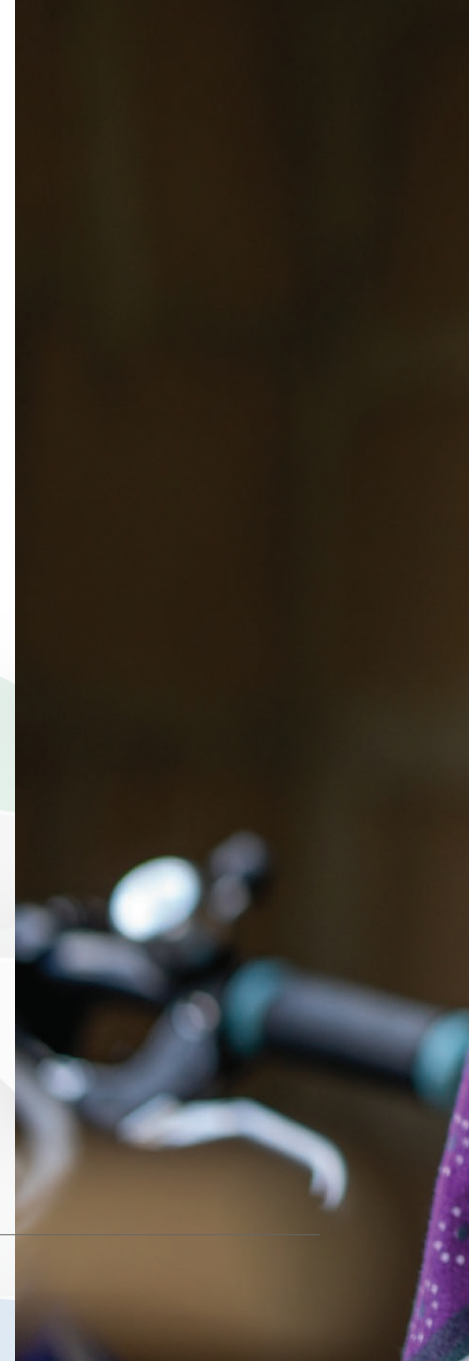




Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# A BETTER DIET AND GREATER OPTIMISM ABOUT THE FUTURE

▶▶  
Asha Ahmad Njaha  
Mtwara

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Asha Ahmad Njaha: A better diet and greater optimism about the future

Asha Ahmad Njaha has lived in Mtwara for over 60 years. She lives with her aging husband, three children, a grandchild, and an orphaned child they have taken in. They own a 6.5-acre farm away from their home, but Asha and her husband can no longer manage it due to their age. On top of that, one of their children has chronic epilepsy and requires medical attention that the family cannot afford.

Asha's family often goes hungry, surviving on at most one meal a day of ugali made from cassava flour and cassava leaves. There are many days when they have only plain ugali with water or go without food altogether, especially in the dry seasons. Asha claims is used to living without many of the basic necessities of life, but it is a daily struggle for her and her family.

Fortunately, through the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), Asha receives monthly cash transfers of TZS 44,000. This support has been a lifeline for Asha and her family, allowing them to access food and other basic necessities. With her newfound financial security, Asha has joined an insurance scheme and a saving and lending group, enabling her to save for the future.

"I am grateful for the support we have received from TASAF," Asha says. "We have been struggling for years to make ends meet, but now we have a little more stability. It's not just the money, but the peace of mind that comes with it."

Asha is now able to hire laborers to work on her farm, cultivating maize and paddy. With a successful harvest, she hopes to provide for her family and break the cycle of poverty that has held them back for so long. She is even planning to send her son with epilepsy to a referral hospital for medical attention.

One of the biggest changes that Asha has noticed since receiving support from TASAF is the improvement in her family's dietary diversity. They now have more options and can include a wider range of foods in their meals, which has positively impacted their health. "We used to eat the same thing every day, but now we can afford to buy different kinds of vegetables and fruits," Asha says. "We also try to include some protein like eggs or beans in our meals whenever we can. It feels good to know that we are eating better and taking care of our health." Asha hopes that this new dietary diversity will help her family become healthier and more resilient in the face of any future challenges.

“I am grateful for the support we have received from TASAF. We have been struggling for years to make ends meet, but now we have a little more stability. **It’s not just the money, but the peace of mind that comes with it.**”



▶ **ASHA AHMAD NJAHA**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Mtwara







Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# WIDOWED BREADWINNER TAKING ON THE CHALLENGE OF FEEDING A FAMILY OF SEVEN

▶▶  
Timejuma Mjaka  
Zanzibar

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## **Timejuma Mjaka: Widowed breadwinner taking on the challenge of feeding a family of seven**

Timejuma Mjaka, aged 55 and a mother of three, resides in Daraja Bovu, Zanzibar, with a household of seven people. In addition to her own children, she has taken in two orphaned children and is responsible for her grandchild's well-being. With no source of income among household members, Timejuma heavily relies on her elder children, who were born from her first marriage, to provide for the family. Her first husband abandoned her, and although she later remarried, her second husband passed away in 2017, leaving Timejuma as the sole breadwinner for her family.

The family's poor income status made it impossible for Timejuma to start or sustain any business. They often had to survive on one meal a day, leaving them vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition. Since they have farmland, they have to buy bread in the morning to have with their tea. Timejuma recalls the many times when they did not have any money, so they had to skip breakfast and only have their main meal for the day in the afternoon.

When TASAF came to their aid, Timejuma knew exactly what to do with the funds. She stocked rice, which now allows the family

to have at least two meals a day. Their main meal is rice with sardines from the Indian Ocean, which are available in plenty in the Isles.

"Thanks to TASAF, we now have rice stocked, and we can eat twice a day. It has made a significant difference for us, as before TASAF, we were struggling to find food for even one meal," Timejuma shared. "Not only that, but my grandchildren are able to go to school without me worrying about what they will eat when they come back home. TASAF's support has been a lifeline for my family, providing us with the basic necessities of life and a sense of security for the future."

Timejuma is grateful for the help she has received from TASAF. She is slowly paying off her debts with every disbursement she gets. She receives TZS 60,000 every month, and this has given her the opportunity to provide for her family.

"I am working hard to ensure that my family is well-fed and can access basic needs," she said. "With TASAF's support, I can provide for them and ensure they have a brighter future."

“ My grandchildren are able to go to school without me worrying about what they will eat when they come back home. TASAF's support has been a lifeline for my family, providing us with the **basic necessities of life and a sense of security for the future.**



▶ **TIMEJUMA MJAKA**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Zanzibar



Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# OVERCOMING ECONOMIC GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

▶ **Namboto Hassan Makame**  
Zanzibar

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Namboto Hassan Makame: Overcoming economic gender-based violence

Namboto Hassan Makame is a strong, resilient woman who has faced some of life's toughest challenges. When her husband sold their family home, leaving her and their three children homeless, she knew she had to take action. Despite her limited resources, Namboto fought back and took her husband to court. Though he was eventually sentenced to jail time, Namboto was left to pick up the pieces of her shattered life.

For months, Namboto struggled to make ends meet. With no income and no home, she and her children were forced to rely on the kindness of friends and relatives for their survival. As the sole provider for her family, Namboto felt the weight of her responsibilities pressing down on her every day. "It was a very difficult time," she recalls. "I didn't know how I was going to keep my children fed and clothed, let alone get them back in school."

Namboto's family was enrolled as TASAF beneficiaries. Through the program, she began receiving cash transfers of TZS 34,000 each month, which helped her meet the basic needs of her

family. With the money she received, Namboto was able to put her children back in school and buy them the supplies they needed. She also started a small business making and selling snacks, which brought in additional income for her family.

For Namboto, the impact of TASAF has been life-changing. "Before, I was really struggling to provide for my children," she says. "Now, they have uniforms for school, they have books and supplies, and they have food to eat every day. It makes me very happy to see them doing well."

With the support of TASAF, Namboto is now looking towards a brighter future. She hopes to expand her snack business and start saving money for her children's future. "I am very grateful for what TASAF has done for me and my family," she says. "It has given us hope and a chance to build a better life."

“ My life was turned upside down when my husband sold our family home, leaving me and our three children homeless. It was a difficult time, but TASAF helped us meet our basic needs through monthly cash transfers. With the money we received, **my children are back in school and I was able to start a small business.**”



▶ **NAMBOTO HASSAN MAKAME**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Zanzibar







Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# ELDERLY AND DISABLED BREADWINNER BEATING THE ODDS

▶▶  
Pili Ramadhani Kaderi  
Kigoma

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## **Pili Ramadhani Kaderi: Elderly and disabled breadwinner beating the odds.**

Pili Ramadhani Kaderi's life took a turn for the worse in 2019 when she was hit by a motorcycle while coming from her farm in Kasulu, Kigoma. She was left with injuries that made it impossible for her to work on her 2.75-acre farm. With no income, her household was exposed to food shortages. Things got even worse when she took in her two orphaned grandchildren, whose parents passed away last year. They were forced to go to school on empty stomachs.

"My life was difficult. I couldn't farm anymore, and I had to take care of my two grandchildren. We were surviving on just two meals a day, boiled cassava in the afternoon and ugali with beans or green vegetables in the evening," said Pili.

Pili's situation started to change when she received a monthly cash transfer of TZS 44,000 from TASAF. With this money, she was able to enroll her grandchildren in a school feeding program that gives them porridge every morning. "My grandchildren used to go to school hungry. But now they get porridge every morning. I can see that they are healthier and happier," she said.

Pili also invested in a small poultry business. She bought three chickens with her TASAF money, and they have already produced three chicks. While a mature chicken can fetch up to TZS 10,000 in the market, Pili plans to keep most of her chickens for her household's consumption. "I love chicken, and I want to include it more in our meals. With enough chickens, we will have chicken even twice a week," she said.

Pili's dream is to build a bigger house to accommodate the three kids and three grandchildren she lives with. Her current mud house is too small for all of them. Having purchased fertilizers for her farm and hired additional labor, she hopes that her farm will produce enough to help her achieve this goal. "I am slowly building a modern toilet, and my savings are at TZS 80,000 so far. My dream is to have a bigger house that can accommodate us all comfortably," she said.

**“ I couldn’t work on my farm or hire laborers after my accident,** so life became very difficult. But with the monthly cash transfer from TASAF, I was able to enroll my grandchildren in a school feeding program. They used to go to school hungry, but now they get porridge every morning. I can see that they are healthier and happier



▶ **PILI RAMADHANI KADERI**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Kigoma



Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

A woman with a determined expression carries a large, heavy bundle of sticks and branches balanced on her head. She is wearing a dark grey polo shirt with white stripes on the sleeves and a colorful patterned wrap around her waist. The background shows a rural landscape with green foliage and other people in the distance.

## DESERTED BY HER SPOUSE, BUT DETERMINED TO THRIVE

▶▶  
**Jacklina Samson**  
Kigoma

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Jacklina Samson: Deserted by her spouse, but determined to thrive

At the age of 22, Jacklina Samson is already a mother of two. Her journey to motherhood started when she got pregnant at the age of 17, and she had to cut short her dream of joining a vocational training institute. Jacklina's dream of a better future was put on hold as she had to become a mother at an early age.

When Jacklina got pregnant with her second child, her husband deserted her to go to the city for a better life. Unfortunately, he has not been responsible for her family since then, leaving Jacklina in a desperate situation. With no source of income, Jacklina had to become a farmer to provide for her family.

Jacklina currently farms beans and maize on a 1-acre piece of land, which is her main source of food security. However, the food she produces is barely enough for her family. She sometimes works as a farm laborer to be able to put food on the table for her two kids.

Fortunately, Jacklina's life took a positive turn when she started receiving cash transfers from Tanzania's Social Action Fund

(TASAF). With the TASAF money (she gets TZS 44,000 every month), she bought two baby pigs. Her hope is that they will fetch TZS 300,000 to TZS 400,00 when they are fully grown. She will also keep them for the purpose of multiplying them.

"The TASAF money has been a lifesaver for me and my family. With the money, I bought two pigs that I hope will help me out of poverty. I now feed my kids 3 times a day, but I eat only once or twice. I am budgeting in a way that will allow me to take good care of the pigs so that they can fetch a good income when I sell them," Jacklina says with a sense of determination in her voice.

Jacklina believes that the pig farm will be her way out of poverty. She plans to use the income from the sale of the pigs to expand her farm and start a small business.

In addition to buying the pigs, Jacklina has also joined a savings and lending group, where she saves TZS 1,000 every week. She hopes to use the savings to expand her business and provide for her family.

**“ With the support from TASAF, I was able to purchase two baby pigs,** and I hope they will grow to fetch me TZS 300,000 to TZS 400,000. My plan is to keep them and multiply them so that I can earn more money in the long term. I believe that this investment will help me lift my family out of poverty.



▶ **JACKLINA SAMSON**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
Kigoma







Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



# PLACING HOPE IN GOAT FARMING FOR THE FAMILY'S BETTER HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

▶▶  
Abel Thadeo Matwi  
Kigoma

Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge

## Abel Thadeo Matwi: Placing hope in goat farming for the family's better health and well-being

Abel Thadeo Matwi has spent most of his life in the village of Kigondo, a small community located in the Kasulu District of Tanzania. Together with his wife, Stelia, the couple has raised eight children. With six of their children grown and independent, Abel and Stelia focus their attention on their two youngest children, one of whom is in Class 4 and the other having dropped out of school in Class 7. To provide for his family, Abel works the land on their one-acre farm while Stelia tends to the home.


Unfortunately, Stelia has been suffering from a chronic leg injury that has prevented her from helping her husband on the farm. Despite their best efforts, they have been unable to find a solution, leaving Stelia in pain and unable to work. With no other options left, the couple has been saving up to take her to a referral hospital in Mwanza or Dar es Salaam.

In the meantime, the family relies on their farm for sustenance, but their income is not always consistent. When they were

enrolled in TASAF, they started receiving TZS 38,000 per month. With this money, they decided to invest in goats, hoping that they would eventually have enough to sell and raise funds for Stelia's medical expenses.

For Abel, goat farming is a medium-term solution that will allow his family to improve their financial situation and work towards a better future. He shared, "We hope to sell the goats and use the money to take my wife to Mwanza for medical attention. It is hard work, but we are grateful for TASAF support which has given us hope and a reason to believe in a better future."

Despite their struggles, Abel and Stelia remain determined to provide for their family and give their children the best opportunities in life. Their meals consist mainly of cassava and ugali, accompanied by beans, or pumpkin leaves. Since they started goat farming, the family has been able to consume goat milk, which is a rich source of protein, vitamins, and minerals.



“ I hope to eventually sell the goats we bought using TASAF money and use the proceeds to take my wife to Mwanza for medical attention. It is hard work, but we are grateful for TASAF support which has given us hope and a reason to believe in a better future.



▶ **ABEL THADEO MATWI**

PSSN II Beneficiary  
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Photo: WFP/Justice Rutenge



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