



EVALUATION

OF THE MAASAI WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROJECT- TANZANIA

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ABSTRACT

This evaluation report examines the effectiveness of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) funded by Action on Poverty (AOP) and implemented by Community Research and Development Services (CORDS) in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts. The project aims to empower Maasai women by increasing their access to income and economic opportunities. The evaluation, which was conducted over a period of one month, utilized qualitative methods to assess the project's impact on the participants and the broader community. The findings indicate that the project has made significant strides in improving the lives of Maasai women, particularly in terms of increasing their income and helping them to provide for their families. However, the evaluation also identifies areas for improvement, including the need for greater community engagement and increased access to education and healthcare services. Overall, this report provides valuable insights into the effectiveness of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project and offers recommendations for future project implementation and improvement.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AOP - Action on Poverty

CORDS - Community Research and Development Services

MWEP - Maasai Women Empowerment Project

M&E - Monitoring and Evaluation

ToR - Terms of Reference

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background:
The Maasai Women Empowerment Project in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli Districts aims to empower Maasai women by providing them with education and training on various topics, such as land rights, health, entrepreneurship, and leadership. The project also sought to address the gender inequality and marginalization that Maasai women face by involving men and community leaders in the process.

Purpose/Objective:
The purpose of this evaluation was to assess the progress and impact of MWEP in achieving its objectives. The evaluation was aimed at identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the project and providing recommendations for improvement.

Methodology:
The evaluation of the project was conducted between April and May 2023. The evaluation team utilized a qualitative method approach, which included both focus group discussions and one-on-one interviews. These methods allowed for a comprehensive assessment of the project's progress and the experiences of the beneficiaries, which is the Maasai women.

Key Findings and Conclusions:
The evaluation found that MWEP has made significant progress towards its objective of empowering Maasai women. The women who participated in the project reported improved knowledge and skills in various areas, particularly in income generation and microfinance management. The involvement of men and community leaders in the project was instrumental in addressing gender inequalities and fostering support for the empowerment of Maasai women.

However, the evaluation identified several challenges that need to be addressed. These challenges include limited access to healthcare, low literacy levels, and cultural barriers that hinder the full participation of women in decision-making processes. Despite these challenges, the project has shown promise to improve the lives of Maasai women.

Lessons Learned:
Based on the evaluation findings, several recommendations can be generalized to apply to projects globally:

- Adopt a holistic approach: Projects aiming to empower women should address multiple dimensions of empowerment, including education, health, entrepreneurship, and leadership, to ensure comprehensive development.
- Engage men and community leaders: Involving men and community leaders in the project can help challenge gender norms and create a supportive environment for women's empowerment.
- Address barriers to participation: Efforts should be made to overcome cultural barriers and improve access to healthcare and education, particularly in marginalized communities.

Recommendations:
Based on the evaluation findings, the following recommendations are proposed to improve MWEP:

- Focus on addressing challenges: Prioritize efforts to address the challenges identified, such as improving access to healthcare, enhancing literacy levels, and dismantling cultural barriers that restrict women's participation in decision-making processes.
- Expand project reach: Extend the project's reach to more women in the community by actively identifying and engaging marginalized groups and remote areas.
- Foster sustainability: Develop a long-term plan for the project to ensure its sustainability beyond the project's end. This includes building the capacity of local organizations and empowering them to continue the work independently.

1.1 Project Information Table

Table 1: Project Information Details

Project Information	Details
Project Name	Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP)
Name of Implementing Partner	Community Research and Development Services (CORDS)
Name of Resource Partner	Action on Poverty (AOP)
Project Locations	Orpurkel in Longido District, and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli District
Project Duration	3 years (July 2021 - June 2024)
Target Beneficiaries	Maasai women in Orpurkel in Longido, and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli
Total Project Budget	$150,000
Project Objective	To empower Maasai women in the areas of Orpurkel in Longido, and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli through skills training and income generation activities
Key Activities	Conduct needs assessment, provide skills training, establish income generation activities, provide business development services, and establish a village bank and loan provision scheme
Expected Outputs	Increased income and economic opportunities for Maasai women, increased social and economic empowerment of women, and increased financial independence of women
Monitoring and Evaluation	Regular monitoring and evaluation of project activities and outputs, and impact evaluation at the end of the project

1.2 Project Description

The Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) is a comprehensive initiative focused on uplifting Maasai women in the Orpurkel village of Longido, as well as the Indonyo-Naado village and Emurua ward in Monduli districts. The primary objective of the project is to empower Maasai women by equipping them with education, training, and resources to foster their personal and professional growth.

One of the key aspects of the MWEP is the provision of education and training on various critical topics. These women are offered comprehensive education on subjects such as health, enabling them to gain essential knowledge about healthcare practices, disease prevention, hygiene, and maternal as well as child care. The education not only benefits the women themselves but also extends to their families and communities, hence promoting overall well-being.

In addition to health education, the project emphasizes entrepreneurial skills development. Maasai women are provided with entrepreneurship training, equipping them with the necessary tools to establish and manage their own small businesses. This training covers areas such as market research, financial management, marketing strategies, and product development. By fostering entrepreneurial abilities, the MWEP empowers women to generate income, contribute to their households' financial stability, and become self-reliant.

Moreover, the MWEP recognizes that addressing gender inequality and marginalization requires the involvement and support of the entire community. As such, the project actively engages men and community leaders in its initiatives. By raising awareness among men about the challenges faced by Maasai women and the benefits of gender equality, the MWEP aims to foster a more inclusive and supportive environment. Community leaders play a crucial role in promoting the project's goals, advocating for gender equality and encouraging participation from all members of the community.

Through these multifaceted efforts, the MWEP aims to create a significant and lasting impact on the lives of Maasai women. By providing education, training, and resources, the project seeks to empower women, enhance their socio-economic status, and facilitate their active participation in decision-making processes at both household and community levels. The ultimate goal is to foster a more equitable society where Maasai women are recognized and valued for their contributions, enabling them to lead fulfilling and empowered lives.

1.3 Project Progress Summary

The project has made significant progress towards achieving its objective of empowering Maasai women. The women who participated in the project reported improved knowledge and skills in various areas, such as microfinance and business management. The project also succeeded in involving men and community leaders in the process, which helped to address gender inequalities.

The village that benefited from the project in Longido district was Orpurkel where a posho milling machine was installed for the Maasai women. Please note that women primarily make a profit by charging money while grinding the maize and selling flour was raised during the discussion when they reported maize scarcity caused by prolonged droughts in the area. According to the Chairman of

the community, Mr. Luka Mushao, they faced significant challenges related to transportation of commodities and people, as well as access to key services such as flour milling. However, through the support of CORDS, the village has established a flour milling plant that has addressed this crucial need and saved the community from having to travel long distances. Additionally, the project has brought about unity among women in the community, who have formed groups and started small businesses, contributing to greater economic empowerment and resilience.

In Monduli, there are two villages that have benefited from the project and they include Indonyo-Naado and Emurua. In Indonyo-Naado, the posho milling machine is operated by the women and has changed the lives of the local community for the better. It has created a source of income for women who can now provide for their families. In Emurua, the women have benefited from microfinance through forming VIKOBA Groups for village banking and provision of loans that have helped to set up local markets to buy and sell vegetables such as tomatoes and onions, salt, rice, sugar, bananas, and other different products. The livestock (goats and sheep) bought through microfinance village bank capital provided by CORDS worth Tsh. 3,000,000, also played a major role in these districts and they were purchased from the profits of the marketplace and flour milling project.

1.4 Evaluation Ratings & Achievement Summary Table

Overall, the Maasai women empowerment projects in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua have made significant progress in empowering Maasai women through education, training, and involvement of the community. While there are challenges and areas for improvement, the project has achieved satisfactory results in terms of efficiency, value for money, impact, and lessons learned.

Table 2: Evaluation Ratings & Achievements

Objectives	Location	Evaluation Rating	Achievement
Objective 1: Determine efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, risks and sustainability, including progress towards project outcomes.	Orpurkel, Longido District	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	- Significant progress in empowering Maasai women - Improved knowledge and skills in flour mill operation - Training on HIV and AIDS, land rights, machine operations and financial management - Involvement of men as support systems and indirect beneficiaries in the projects to address inequalities
	Indonyo-Naado, Monduli District	Satisfactory (S)	- Significant progress in empowering Maasai women - Improved knowledge and skills in flour milling operations and maintenance. - Management of profit-making business through fattening and selling of goats and sheep. - Trained on HIV and AIDS, land rights, machine operations and financial

			management - Involvement of men as support systems and indirect beneficiaries in the projects to address inequalities
	Emurua, Monduli District	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	- Women are highly skilled in microfinance with skills in budgeting and planning. - Trained on HIV and AIDS, land rights, machine operations and financial management - Successful rearing of livestock such as goats and sheep -Involvement of men as support systems and indirect beneficiaries in the projects to address inequalities
Objective 2: Assess Value for Money of the project.	Orpurkel, Longido District	Satisfactory (S)	- Establishment of a flour milling plant to generate income - The women are able to care for their families and school going children. -Establishment of a shop built by the community with income earned from the posho mill. The shop acts as a selling point for other products, aside from flour. -Women empowered on financial management and project sustainability.
	Indonyo-Naado, Monduli District	Satisfactory (S)	- Creation of income-generating opportunities through buying goats and sheep, fattening and selling them for profit. - Establishment of a flour milling plant to generate income.
	Emurua, Monduli District	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	- Establishment of running microfinance/table banking for livelihood improvement - Creation of income-generating opportunities through buying goats and sheep, fattening and selling for profit.

Objective	**Location**	**Evaluation Rating**	**Achievement**

Objective 3: Assess the impact that the project has made.	Orpurkel, Longido District	Satisfactory (S)	- Increased economic empowerment and resilience - Women involved in the running and maintaining of the milling plant. - Formation of women's groups and initiation of small businesses
	Indonyo-Naado, Monduli District	Satisfactory (S)	- Improved livelihoods through income generation and trade - Acquisition of livestock for economic purposes
	Emurua, Monduli District		- Improved livelihoods for the locals through income generation and trade within the community. - Acquisition of livestock for economic purposes.
Objective 4: Identify lessons learnt and best practices from the project which could be applied to improve the project as well as other similar projects in the region.	Orpurkel, Longido District	Satisfactory (S)	- Addressing gender inequalities through involving men and leaders in women-led projects. - Project ownership through problem identification, project support by the community, identification of challenges for improvement and expansion
	Indonyo-Naado, Monduli District	Satisfactory (S)	- Promoting sustainable practices for long-term impact through incorporation of other profit-making initiatives/ businesses. - Incorporating indirect beneficiaries (men) to support and strengthen businesses by women.
	Emurua, Monduli District	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	- Empowering women to engage in various businesses and trades - Promoting sustainable practices for long-term impact through incorporation of other profit-making initiatives/ businesses.

1.5 Concise Summary of Conclusions

In conclusion, the MWEP in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts implemented by CORDS has been successful in achieving its goal of empowering Maasai women through education and training. The project has also addressed gender inequalities by involving men and community leaders in the process. The installation of posho milling machines in Orpurkel and Indonyo-Naado has had a significant impact on the communities, providing a source of income for women and contributing to greater economic empowerment and resilience. In Emurua, the

introduction of loan provision and village banks through microfinance has helped the women to form VIKOBA Groups that have helped them start small businesses that have helped them purchase goats that they can sell at a later date and make profits. The project has brought about unity among women, who have formed groups and started small businesses. Overall, the project has been a success and has the potential to serve as a model for future women's empowerment initiatives.

1.6 Recommendation Summary Table

Table 3: Recommendations

Location	Recommendations
Orpurkel	- Provide financial support for a second milling plant to serve villagers who have to walk long distances to get to the milling shop. - Provide go-down for maize and commodities. - Enhance capacity building and financial training programs for women in business management.
	- Support starting up other small businesses like beadwork, cereals, and tailoring so as to increase more money for their table banking and also finances they can use for their personal use. - Promote networking opportunities for small business expansion among villages by setting up training and funding to support inter-village learning.
	- Allocate additional funding to support expansion of the ongoing women-led projects. -Allocate funding for health centers and professional personnel.
Indonyo-Naado	- Provide financial resources for training skilled personnel. - Support diversification of small business ventures for higher profits. - Funding of mentorship programs to encourage knowledge-sharing and business know-how among neighboring villages.
	- Promote savings culture, encourage community growth through table banking and trade amongst villages - Establish a second milling plant. - Facilitate access to markets for increased business prospects for the community. -Facilitate building and supply of cereals to the villages through building of go-downs. - Establishment of a dispensary/health center to cater for the community.
	- Encourage investment in livestock farming for economic empowerment.
Emurua	- Expand microfinance opportunities for more women entrepreneurs. - Enhance financial literacy training and support for village banking. - Establishment of a dispensary/health center to cater for the community.
	- Provide technical assistance for setting up the local market infrastructure. - Foster partnerships for market access and product diversification.
	- Support formation and management of women's business groups. - Encourage investment in livestock farming for sustainable income.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Statement of the Problem

The Maasai women in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua face various challenges that limit their participation in decision-making, education, and economic activities. Gender inequality is a major problem that has continued to marginalize women in the region, leading to limited opportunities for empowerment and development. Historically, the Maasai have been a patriarchal society that has marginalized women, denying them opportunities for education, leadership positions, and economic independence. This patriarchal culture is further entrenched by other factors, such as poverty, illiteracy, and lack of access to basic services.

The lack of representation of Maasai women in key decision-making positions is another challenge that affects their empowerment. Women's voices are often not heard in important meetings, and they are excluded from key leadership positions in the community, government, and other institutions. This limits their ability to participate in decision-making processes that affect their livelihoods, families, and communities.

Furthermore, the lack of education and support from Maasai men is a significant barrier to the empowerment of Maasai women. Women are often not encouraged to attend school, and when they do, they may face discrimination and harassment, which may lead to dropping out. The lack of education and skills limits their opportunities for economic empowerment, and they may not be able to participate in income-generating activities to support themselves and their families.

Another challenge faced by Maasai women is the lack of access to resources such as land, credit, and markets, which are essential for their economic empowerment. They may not own land, and even if they do, they may not have the right to make decisions about its use. This limits their ability to engage in agriculture, which is the primary source of livelihood for the Maasai, and other income-generating activities. Without access to credit and markets, they may not be able to start or sustain small businesses.

Also, Maasai women face significant challenges in accessing quality healthcare services. Due to the remoteness of the areas and the limited number of healthcare facilities, women often have to travel long distances to access healthcare services. As a result, many women in these regions do not receive regular check-ups, leading to undiagnosed and untreated health conditions. This not only affects their own health and well-being but also that of their families, as they are often the primary caregivers. The lack of access to healthcare services also contributes to higher maternal and infant mortality rates, which further perpetuates the cycle of poverty and limited opportunities for Maasai women in these regions.

In summary, the problem of Maasai women's marginalization is multifaceted, and it requires a comprehensive approach to address it. Action on Poverty (AOP) and its implementing partner, Community Research and Development Services (CORDS), recognized this problem and implemented the Maasai Women Empowerment Project to address it. The project aimed to empower Maasai women economically, socially, and politically, and to create an enabling environment for their full participation in decision-making and development processes. The evaluation of this project seeks to assess its impact on the lives of Maasai women and their families.

2.2 Purpose and Objective of the Evaluation

The purpose of the MWEP evaluation in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua was to assess the effectiveness of the project in reducing vulnerability for Maasai women in the two districts. The evaluation focused on two key approaches: challenging gender inequity and increasing women's access to income-generating opportunities. The first approach involved advocating for women's equal rights to own, access, and use productive resources available to them. This means challenging cultural practices and attitudes that limit women's access to land, education, and other resources. The evaluation assessed the extent to which the project has been successful in raising awareness about gender inequality and promoting women's rights.

The second approach was to increase women's access to income-generating opportunities. This included providing education and training programs, creating employment opportunities, and promoting entrepreneurship. The evaluation assessed the impact of these activities on the economic empowerment of Maasai women. Specifically, the evaluation looked at whether women have increased their income, whether they have been able to start their own small businesses, and whether they have gained new skills and knowledge.

The objectives of the evaluation were to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of the project. The expected outcomes were to identify key strengths and weaknesses of the project, to provide recommendations for improvement, and to inform future programming in the area of women's empowerment. Ultimately, the purpose of the evaluation is to provide AOP and CORDS with valuable insights into the effectiveness of their project and to help them make informed decisions about the future and resource allocation to support the empowerment of Maasai women in these regions.

2.3 Scope & Methodology

2.3.1 Scope

The evaluation aimed at assessing the progress made towards achieving the project's objectives, identifying challenges and successes, and make recommendations for future projects. The evaluation

covered the MWEP in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts, with a focus on the activities that have been implemented since the start of the project in 2021.

2.3.2 Principles of Design and Execution

The evaluation was designed to adhere to the principles of objectivity, independence, transparency, and accountability. Independent consultants were engaged to conduct the evaluation to ensure objectivity and impartiality. The evaluation process was transparent, and all stakeholders were informed of the evaluation's objectives, approach, and methods. The evaluation team ensured accountability by sharing the results of the evaluation with relevant stakeholders and providing recommendations for future projects.

2.3.3 Approach

The evaluation team adopted a participatory approach to engage stakeholders in the evaluation process. The team consulted with relevant stakeholders, including Maasai women and men who participated in the project, community leaders, implementing partner (CORDS), and other relevant stakeholders in the area. The evaluation team used qualitative data collection techniques, such as focus group discussions and one-on-one interviews to gather information on the project's progress.

2.3.4 Data Collection Methods

The evaluation team used a combination of data collection methods to gather information on the project's progress. Focus group discussions were conducted with 15 Maasai women and 15 Maasai men from each of the three villages who participated in the project to gain insights into their experiences and perceptions of the project. Interviews were also conducted with community leaders and CORDS staff to gather information on the project's impact on the community. The evaluation team also reviewed project documents, including narrative reports, work plans, and financial reports.

2.3.5 Limitations to the Evaluation

The evaluation has certain limitations that should be taken into consideration when interpreting the results. One of the limitations was the road leading to Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts posed a significant challenge due to its poor condition and the presence of hilly and rocky terrain. The rugged nature of the road made it difficult to traverse and posed obstacles for transportation and access to the project area. The rough terrain added further complexity to the transportation process, making it time-consuming and arduous to reach the target communities. Another challenge is that the evaluation was conducted at a specific point in time and the results may not be representative of the project's impact over the long term. But apart from these few limitations, CORDS assisted the evaluation team in every way possible to make the evaluation successful.

Table 4: Scope, Design, and Approach

Scope	Principles of Design and Execution	Approach
Assess progress towards project objectives	Objectivity, independence, transparency, and accountability	Adopted a participatory approach to engage stakeholders in the evaluation process
Identify challenges and successes	Engaged independent consultants for objectivity and impartiality	Consulted with Maasai women, men, community leaders, and implementing partner (CORDS)
Make recommendations for future projects	Transparent process, informed stakeholders	Used qualitative data collection techniques (focus group discussions, interviews)
Covered projects in Orpurkel, Longido, and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua, Monduli	Shared evaluation results and provided recommendations	-Gathered insights from Maasai women and men who participated in the project -Conducted interviews with community leaders and CORDS staff -Reviewed project documents (narrative reports, work plans, financial reports)

2.4 Structure of the Evaluation report

The MWEP evaluation report is structured to provide a comprehensive analysis of the project's progress and impact. The report begins by outlining the project's background and objectives, which were to empower Maasai women through education and training on topics such as health (HIV and AIDS), entrepreneurship, and leadership. The report also highlights how the project sought to address gender inequality and marginalization by involving men and community leaders in the process. The report then details the methodology used to evaluate the project's progress, which included qualitative data collection techniques such as focus group discussions and one-on-one interviews. The evaluation team assessed the project's progress towards achieving its objectives and identified both successes and challenges.

The report provides a summary of the key findings of the evaluation, including the significant progress made towards empowering Maasai women, such as improvements in knowledge and skills related to income and microfinance management. The report also highlights the success of involving men and community leaders in the process, which helped to address gender inequalities. However, the evaluation identified challenges such as limited access to healthcare, low literacy levels, and cultural barriers that limit the participation of women in decision-making processes.

Based on the findings, the report provides recommendations for the project to address the identified challenges and expand its reach to more women in the community. The report emphasizes the importance of sustainability, suggesting the development of a long-term plan for the project and building the sustainability for local communities to continue the work beyond the project's end. Overall, the Maasai Women Empowerment Project evaluation report provides a comprehensive analysis of the project's progress and impact. The report's structure allows for a clear understanding of the project's objectives, methodology, findings, and recommendations. The report's conclusions will be valuable to all stakeholders involved in the project, including the Maasai women and men who participated, community leaders, implementing partners, and other relevant stakeholders.

3.0 Project Description and Background Context

3.1 Background of the Evaluation

Enhancing the status of women, improving community welfare, and achieving wide-ranging societal gains have been associated with women's empowerment. Yunis, Hashim, and Anderson (2018) suggest that for the world to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, women's empowerment must be at the forefront of global efforts. Women empowerment has become increasingly important as a policy intervention and policy area in both public and private organizations worldwide, owing to the acknowledged benefits of involving and empowering women. Women empowerment is crucial in realizing gender equality and women's rights, boosting productivity, achieving economic equality and diversification, and accomplishing other beneficial developmental goals. It has also been proven that women's empowerment contributes to more inclusive economic growth.

The MWEP implemented by CORDS and its implementing partner, AOP, in 2021 aims to improve the socio-economic status of women in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua. The Maasai community, which is predominantly pastoralist, faces challenges such as poverty, marginalization, and gender inequality. Women in the community are particularly vulnerable to these challenges, as they often lack access to education, resources, and decision-making power.

The project focuses on empowering Maasai women through education, training, and support in income-generating activities such as posho milling and microfinance. By empowering women, the project aims to improve their economic status, increase their decision-making power, and enhance their overall well-being for them and their families. The project is also expected to have broader societal benefits, such as promoting gender equality and contributing to sustainable development in the region.

This evaluation of the project seeks to assess the effectiveness of the project in achieving its objectives and identify areas for improvement such as health care services and veterinary services. The evaluation will consider various factors, such as the project's design, implementation, and outcomes, as well as the challenges and opportunities encountered during its implementation. The findings of this evaluation

will be used to guide future projects and inform policy and practice related to women's empowerment in the region.

3.2 Development Context

The MWEP is situated within a complex development context characterized by environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors that shape the lives of the Maasai community in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua. The Maasai community is predominantly pastoralist, and their way of life is heavily dependent on natural resources such as land, water, and grazing areas. However, the availability and accessibility of these resources have been threatened by environmental factors such as climate change, land degradation, and deforestation. These environmental factors have also affected the socio-economic status of the Maasai community by reducing their access to income-generating activities such as livestock rearing and agriculture.

Moreover, the Maasai community faces institutional and policy challenges that limit their participation in decision-making processes and access to public services such as healthcare and education. Women, in particular, are disproportionately affected by these challenges due to gender inequality and marginalization. Women in the Maasai community often lack access to education, resources, and decision-making power, which limits their economic and social opportunities.

In this context, the project seeks to address the challenges faced by Maasai women by providing them with education, training, and support in income-generating activities. The project aims to empower women by increasing their decision-making power, enhancing their economic status, and improving their overall well-being. By promoting gender equality and contributing to sustainable development, the project is expected to have broader societal benefits for the Maasai community.

The evaluation of the project considered the environmental, socio-economic, institutional, and policy factors that shape the context in which the project operates. It assessed how these factors influenced the design, implementation, and outcomes of the project and identified areas for improvement. For example, the evaluation examined the accessibility and quality of healthcare services and veterinary services, which are critical to the well-being of the Maasai community. The findings of the evaluation will be used to guide future programming and inform policy and practice related to women's empowerment in the region.

3.3. Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted

The project aimed to address several problems faced by the Maasai community in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua. The Maasai community is predominantly pastoralist and faces a number of threats and barriers that limit the socio-economic development of the community as a whole, and women in particular. Some of the main problems that the project sought to address include poverty, marginalization, and gender inequality.

Poverty is a significant problem in the Maasai community, and women are often disproportionately affected. Many women lack access to resources, education, and decision-making power, which limits their ability to improve their economic status and support their families. Marginalization is also a major issue in the community, as the Maasai women are often excluded from decision-making processes and have limited access to basic services such as healthcare and education.

Gender inequality is a pervasive problem in the Maasai community, and women are often relegated to traditional gender roles and lack access to education, resources, and decision-making power. This limits their ability to contribute to the economic development of their families and the broader community. By empowering women through education, training, and support in income-generating activities such as posho milling and microfinance, the project sought to break down these barriers and promote gender equality.

Other threats and barriers that the project sought to address include limited access to healthcare services, low literacy levels, and cultural barriers that limit the participation of women in decision-making processes. By addressing these problems, the project aimed to improve the well-being of women and their families and promote sustainable development in the region. The evaluation of the project seeked to assess the effectiveness of the project in addressing these issues and identify areas for improvement to inform future development and policy.

3.4 Project Description and Strategy

3.4.1 Objective

The project aims to empower Maasai women in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts by providing them with education, training, and support in income-generating activities such as posho milling, table banking, and microfinance. The project aims to improve the socio-economic status of women, increase their decision-making power, and enhance their overall well-being for them and their families. By empowering women, the project also seeks to promote gender equality and contribute to sustainable development in the region.

3.4.2 Outcomes and Expected Results

The project's expected outcomes and results are as follows:

Table 5: Outcomes & Results

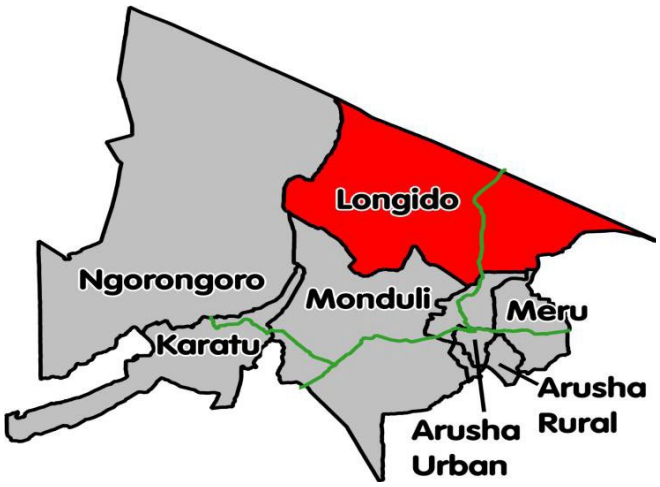
Outcomes	**Expected Results**
Improved knowledge and skills on flour millin operation and management.	The women who participated in the project have improved knowledge and skills in various areas such as flour milling, entrepreneurship, and leadership and have in turn become employers.

Increased income-generating opportunities	The women have access to income-generating activities such as posho milling, goat rearing for profit, and microfinance, which has improved their economic status and enhanced their overall well-being.
Enhanced decision-making power	The project has increased the decision-making power of women and involved men and community leaders in the process, which has helped to address gender inequalities and marginalization and further improving their livelihoods.
Promoted gender equality	The project has promoted gender equality and contributed to sustainable development in the region through the engagement and involvement of men in the projects.

3.4.3 Description of Field Sites

MWEP was implemented in Orpurkel in Longido and in Indonyo-Naado and Emurua in Monduli districts in Tanzania, where the Maasai community is predominantly pastoralist.

Map of Longido and Monduli Districts.



Orpurkel village is a small village located in the Longido district of Tanzania, East Africa. It is situated in the northern part of the district and is home to a predominantly Maasai community. The village is located in a rural area, with most people engaged in pastoralist activities such as livestock keeping, particularly goats, sheep, and cattle. The Maasai people have a unique culture and way of life. It is located in a semi-arid region characterized by a hot and dry climate with low rainfall. The terrain is hilly, with rocky outcrops and valleys, and the vegetation is mainly comprised of acacia trees and grasslands. Due to the harsh environmental conditions, water and food insecurity are major challenges for the local community. As a result, most households face poverty, and women are particularly vulnerable to social and economic marginalization. Despite these challenges, the people of Orpurkel are resilient and have a strong sense of community.

Indonyo-Naado is a village located in the Monduli district of Tanzania, East Africa. It is a remote rural area situated at the foothills of the Monduli Mountains, surrounded by rolling hills, open savannah grasslands, and scattered acacia trees. The community in Indonyo-Naado consists mainly of Maasai pastoralists who rely on livestock keeping as their primary source of livelihood. The area is characterized by semi-arid climatic conditions with erratic rainfall patterns, which pose a significant challenge to the local community's ability to sustain their livelihoods. The field site in Indonyo-Naado is a vibrant community with a rich cultural heritage. The project operates from a central location in the village, where project staff and participants meet for training and other project activities. The field site presents opportunities for cultural exchange and learning, as well as challenges related to accessing resources and services.

Emurua is a rural ward in Monduli district, located in the Arusha Region of Tanzania. The ward is situated in a hilly area and is surrounded by natural forests and wildlife reserves. The Maasai community is the predominant ethnic group in Emurua, and they practice pastoralism as their primary livelihood. The Emurua field site for the MWEP is located in the heart of the ward, and it serves as a hub for project activities. The site consists of a training center, a demonstration farm, and a marketplace. The training center is a building with classrooms and offices where women receive education and training on topics such as health, entrepreneurship, and leadership. The demonstration farm is a model farm where women learn about modern farming techniques and practices. The marketplace is a space where women can sell their products and interact with other communities.

The Emurua field site was chosen for its strategic location and the availability of resources such as land and water. The site is easily accessible by road, which facilitates the transportation of goods and people. The surrounding area has fertile soils and abundant water sources, making it an ideal location for agriculture and livestock rearing. Additionally, the site is close to other Maasai communities, which allows for collaboration and sharing of resources and knowledge. Overall, the Emurua field site is a vital component of the MWEP, as it provides a platform for women to learn, engage in economic activities, and improve their livelihoods.

3.5 Project Implementation Arrangements

The MWEP in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua is implemented by CORDS in partnership with AOP. The project implementation is overseen by CORDS staff, which includes the Director, Program Manager, Finance Manager and Gender Field Officer. They are responsible for providing strategic guidance and oversight to ensure that the project achieves its objectives. They meet regularly to review the progress of the project, identify challenges, and make recommendations for adjustments to the implementation strategy.

CORDS is the key implementing partner in the project, responsible for the day-to-day implementation of activities in the field. They work closely with community members, including women's groups and

community leaders to, ensure that the project activities are relevant to the needs of the community and are implemented effectively. In addition, CORDS collaborates with local government officials and other stakeholders to ensure that the project is aligned with local development priorities and policies. AOP provides financial support to CORDS to ensure the project's success. Overall, the project implementation arrangements are designed to ensure effective coordination, collaboration, and partnership among key stakeholders to achieve the project's objectives and ensure its sustainability.

3.6 Main Stakeholders

The main stakeholders involved in the MWEP by CORDS in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua are:

1. **Maasai women**: The project's primary stakeholders who benefit directly from the project's activities, including education, training, and support in income-generating activities.
2. **Maasai men and community leaders**: The project seeks to involve men and community leaders in the process of empowering women and addressing gender inequality and marginalization.
3. **Action on Poverty (AOP)**: The lead supporting organization that funded the project's activities, manages project funds, and oversees project M&E.
4. **Community Research and Development Services (CORDS)**: The implementing partner responsible for implementing project activities, providing technical expertise and support, and coordinating with local partners.
5. **Monduli and Longido District Councils** - They played a critical role in terms of technical support to the project's success, and they included the Departments of Community Development, the District Executive Directors, and District Land Officers.

4.0 FINDINGS

The MWEP aimed to empower women in Orpurkel in Longido and Indonyo-Naado in Monduli districts by establishing flour milling plants that would make it easier and cheaper for them to grind maize. The projects were funded by CORDS and the women were trained in microfinance and they formed VIKOBA Groups that helped them to manage village banks and get loans for starting a market to sell the flour and other products in order to purchase livestock such as goats and sheep.

4.1 Project Strategy

The strategy of the project was to establish flour milling plants in the villages, train the women in how to run the plants, and help them to form groups to start small businesses. The project aimed to empower women economically, and the flour milling plants and microfinance were seen as a way to help them generate income and become self-sufficient.

4.1.1 Project Design

The project design involved establishing the flour milling plants in the villages of Orpurkel and Indonyo-Naado and providing training to the women in how to run them. The women were also encouraged to form groups, VIKOBA Groups, to start small businesses using the flour milling plants as a source of income. The men were also involved in the project, and some were employed as security guards at the plants. The project was designed to be sustainable, with plans to diversify the businesses to make more profits and establish more flour milling plants.

4.1.2 Results Framework/Logframe

Table 6: Framework/Logframe

Objective	Indicators	Recommendations
Objective 1: Ease the burden of traveling long distances to grind maize	- Women can grind maize close to their homes, saving time and transport costs - Men employed as security guards at the plant, saving on transport costs	- Provide support for the women to build the milling plant structure, minimizing the distance to acquire materials - Explore alternative transportation options or subsidies to reduce transportation costs
Objective 2: Create asset value for money	- Women charge for grinding maize and make a profit - Women are empowered to start small businesses and generate income	- Provide additional funding to women for starting other projects like beadwork or expanding the microfinance business - Encourage men to support women's businesses by providing them with goats to invest in their businesses
Objective 3: Train women in flour milling and start ups of small businesses through microfinance	- Women can effectively run the flour milling plants - Women form groups and start businesses using the flour milling plants and marketplaces as sources of income	- Offer training programs on business management and financial literacy to enhance women's entrepreneurial skills - Promote collaboration and knowledge sharing among women's groups to enhance business development and sustainability - Promote collaboration and knowledge sharing among women's groups to enhance business development and sustainability

4.2 Progress Towards Results

The project in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado and Emurua aims to empower Maasai women through the establishment of a flour milling plant. The following is an analysis of progress towards results, progress towards outcomes, remaining barriers, and recommendations based on the information from focus groups and interviews.

In Orpurkel, the milling plant has saved women from traveling long distances to grind their maize. The men have also been empowered through employment opportunities at the plant and reduced transportation costs. The challenges faced in Orpurkel were building the house for the milling plant and scarcity of money and manpower during implementation. The project has provided income-generating activities for the women, who have formed groups and started businesses. The women ask their neighbors to bring maize to the milling plant and also sell maize and maize bran. The women have put strategies in place to increase business and recommend more funding from CORDS to undertake other projects.

In Indonyo-Naado, the milling plant has provided employment opportunities, income, and has empowered women to start small businesses such as selling goats, sugar, maize, and other items. Challenges faced in Indonyo-Naado include paying the person running the plant and the sustainability of the machine. The women intend to diversify their businesses, save money to establish a second flour milling plant, and market everywhere to get more business and make more profits. The men intend to fundraise and give more goats to women to invest in their businesses.

In Emurua, the project has introduced microfinance and provided training to the women on how to manage village banks and obtain loans to start businesses. The women have benefited from microfinance, and they have set up local markets to sell various products, including vegetables and livestock. The project has led to the formation of VIKOBA groups among women, which has fostered unity and collaboration. The groups have helped the women to start businesses and purchase goats that they can sell for profit. This has led to economic empowerment and improved livelihoods for the women and their families. Despite the progress made by the project, one barrier is access to capital. While the project has provided microfinance, there may still be limitations to the amount of funding available which could limit the scale and growth of the women's businesses.

Overall, the project has progressed towards outcomes in that the women have been empowered to start businesses, and the project has provided employment opportunities, income, and reduced transportation costs. The remaining barriers include the sustainability of the machine and the need for more funding to undertake other projects. The recommendations include giving more funding to women to undertake other projects and providing training in livestock farming to empower them economically.

4.3 Project Implementation and Adaptive Management

4.3.1 Management Arrangements

The MWEP was implemented by CORDS in partnership with AOP. The project has a cluster of initiatives built around raising awareness, identifying community leaders, promoting initiatives designed to enhance women's ownership of, control over and access to productive assets, and facilitating access to capital in order to build economic empowerment to reduce vulnerability. The women were trained on how to run the flour milling plant and start small businesses. Men were also involved in the implementation process, one of them was employed as a security guard at the plant, and others chipped in to help build the house for the milling plant.

4.3.2 Work Planning

Effective work planning is essential to ensure that the project is implemented efficiently and effectively. In this effect, the project had a detailed work plan that outlined the activities to be carried out, timelines, and responsibilities of the different stakeholders involved in the project. The project involved establishing a flour milling plant to provide easier access to flour milling services and create a source of income for women in the community. The women were trained on how to run the plant and start small businesses through microfinance services.

4.3.3 Finance and Co-finance

The MWEP in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua is financed through various sources, primarily AOP through CORDS. The project aims to empower Maasai women by providing them with income-generating opportunities and supporting their small businesses. Additionally, the Maasai men also contribute by fundraising and giving goats to the women, enabling them to invest in their businesses and reduce dependence on donor funding. The village governments on the other hand provided women with pieces of land on which the milling machines were built in both Orpurkel and Indonyo-Naado villages, and this was as a response to requests made by women.

In Orpurkel, the project has made a significant impact. The establishment of a flour milling plant has addressed the challenge of long-distance travel for flour milling services. Previously, women had to walk long distances to grind maize, but now the milling plant has made the process much easier and more accessible. Men also benefit from reduced transportation costs and employment opportunities, such as working as security guards at the plant. The project has brought unity among women, who have formed groups and started their own businesses.

In Indonyo-Naado, the flour milling plant has also positively impacted the lives of the Maasai women. They have been able to purchase goats and create employment opportunities for themselves. The women have been empowered to engage in various small businesses, such as selling sugar, maize, and other products. The project faces challenges related to funding the person running the plant, but the

women are determined to diversify their businesses, increase profits, and establish a second milling plant.

Similarly, in Emurua, the microfinance support provided by CORDS has greatly empowered the Maasai women. Previously, they had limited income-generating activities and relied on their husbands for basic needs. However, with the project's assistance, the women have started their own businesses and can now provide for their families' needs. Some of the challenges faced include limited financial resources, illiteracy among some women, and difficulty opening bank accounts due to illiteracy. Despite these challenges, the women have learned budgeting, strategic marketing, and have been successful in improving their businesses.

Overall, the project has had a significant positive impact on the lives of Maasai women in these communities. They have gained economic independence, improved their living conditions, and become leaders in their homes and communities. The women have demonstrated resourcefulness, resilience, and a willingness to diversify their businesses for long-term sustainability. The recommendations put forth by the women include requesting additional funding, expanding the project to other groups, and addressing the need for a local hospital.

4.3.4 Project-level Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

The project has a robust M&E system in place to track progress and measure the project's effectiveness. The M&E system includes regular reporting, data collection, and analysis to ensure that the project is on track and achieving its objectives. The data collected is used to make informed decisions about project adjustments and improvements.

4.3.5 Stakeholder Engagement

The success of the project depends on the engagement and participation of all stakeholders involved in the project. Community members, both men and women, were involved in the implementation process, and women were trained on how to run the flour milling plant and to do microfinance. The men provided support in building the house for the milling plant and gave support to the activities of the women. The community put strategies in place to bring maize to the plant for milling and to diversify the business to make more profits.

4.3.6 Reporting

Clear reporting mechanisms need to be in place to ensure that project progress and challenges are reported in a timely manner. The reporting system for CORDS is very effective since they provide regular updates to stakeholders, including AOP, implementing partners, and the target communities. The reports also include progress towards project objectives, challenges encountered, and recommendations for improvements.

4.3.7 Communications

Effective communication is critical to ensure that stakeholders are well-informed about project activities, progress, and challenges. The communication between CORDS and the local communities was very effective and efficient. Through training and education by CORDS, the Maasai women advertised the flour milling plant to the community, and strategies were put in place to bring maize to the plant for milling. The community members planned to market the plant to other communities to get more business and make more profits.

4.4 Sustainability

The MWEP, implemented by CORDS and funded by AOP, focuses on empowering Maasai women in the villages of Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua. The project aims to improve the livelihoods of the Maasai women and their families, and also ensure sustainability in various aspects.

In Orpurkel, the MWEP established a flour milling plant which has had several positive impacts. The plant has reduced the burden of traveling long distances to mill maize for the beneficiaries. This has improved the livelihoods of the women by saving time and effort. The project has also created employment opportunities, as one of the men has been employed as a security guard at the plant. Additionally, the women have formed VIKOBA Groups and started their own businesses.

However, there are financial risks to sustainability. If there is inadequate funding or insufficient resources to maintain the flour milling plant, its operations may be compromised. The project's sustainability is also affected by socio-economic impacts, which have been positive so far. The project has provided a source of income and improved the livelihoods of the beneficiaries. However, institutional framework and governance risks may arise if there are issues related to the project's leadership, management, and governance structure. Environmental risks to sustainability may also emerge if the project's impact on the natural environment is not managed properly.

In Indonyo-Naado, the MWEP has empowered women to start small businesses and invest in livestock farming. This has had significant positive impacts on their livelihoods. The project has provided a source of income, created employment opportunities, and enabled the women to invest in other businesses. However, there are financial risks to sustainability if there is insufficient funding or resources to sustain the project. Payment for the person running the flour milling plant is also a challenge that needs to be addressed.

To enhance sustainability, the project can diversify its businesses, implement effective marketing strategies to increase profits, and engage in fundraising activities to provide more goats for women to invest in their businesses. The socio-economic impacts of the project have been positive, economically empowering the women and improving their livelihoods. However, there is a need to address institutional framework and governance risks to ensure the project's long-term sustainability. Proper

management and leadership are crucial in maintaining the project's effectiveness. Environmental risks must also be managed to prevent any negative impacts on the natural environment.

In Emurua, the MWEP has had a significant impact on the lives of women. The microfinance assistance provided by CORDS has empowered the women to start small businesses and generate income. Previously, the women relied solely on their husbands for basic needs, but now they can provide for their families and even contribute financially to their households. The project has improved their self-sufficiency and allowed them to purchase clothes, provide for their children's needs, and give their husbands a stipend for miscellaneous expenses.

Challenges faced in Emurua include the initial lack of finances and the illiteracy of some women, which hindered their ability to handle money and open bank accounts. Additionally, the prolonged drought affected the purchasing power of the community, as they relied on livestock for sustenance. Despite these challenges, the women have learned budgeting and allocation of funds, advertised their businesses strategically, and initiated market days to promote their commodities.

The project's positive impacts have led to an improvement in the overall well-being of the women and their families. They have become more self-reliant, and their businesses have generated profits, which are used for basic needs and improving their businesses further. The project has also empowered the women to fight for their rights and take on leadership roles within

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Recommendations

By implementing the following recommendations, the MWEP can further strengthen its impact and contribute to the economic empowerment and improved livelihoods of women in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua. The recommendations in the different villages include:

Orpurkel, Longido:

- Increase Funding: CORDS should provide additional funding to support the expansion of businesses in Orpurkel, including projects such as beadwork, to diversify income streams and generate more profits for women.
- Support Livestock Farming: Provide training and support in livestock farming to further empower women economically, focusing on animal care, breeding, and marketing.
- Strengthen Microfinance Services: Address the challenge of limited access to capital by exploring opportunities to increase the availability of funds for microfinance, such as partnerships with financial institutions or seeking additional funding sources.

- Capacity Building: Provide continuous capacity building and training programs to enhance women's skills in running the flour milling plants and managing their businesses, including financial management, marketing strategies, and business development.
- Strengthen Community Support: Engage and involve men in supporting women's businesses, such as providing additional goats for investment or other forms of support, to foster a sense of community and collaboration.
- Improve Sustainability Measures: Address challenges related to the sustainability of the flour milling plants by providing regular maintenance and repair services, and explore options for local ownership and management.
- Monitoring and Evaluation: Maintain a robust monitoring and evaluation system to track progress, measure effectiveness, and incorporate feedback from women and the community for project adjustments and improvements.

Indonyo-Naado, Monduli:
- Increase Funding: Provide additional funding to support women's businesses, enabling them to expand and start new ventures, such as selling sugar, maize, and other small businesses.
- Diversify Business and Marketing: Encourage women to diversify their business activities to increase profits and explore market opportunities. Support strategic marketing efforts to promote their products and attract more customers.
- Strengthen Support for Livestock Farming: Provide further support and training in livestock farming to enhance women's economic empowerment and help them generate additional income.
- Financial Independence: Encourage women to become less dependent on donor funding by raising funds locally, such as through fundraising efforts or contributions from men in the community.
- Men's Involvement and Support: Continue engaging men and seek their support in empowering women economically, encouraging them to contribute goats or provide advice on business ventures.
- Funding for Small Groups: Extend microfinance opportunities beyond Namunyak to empower other women's groups, considering the establishment of new groups and increasing funding for microfinance projects.

Emurua, Monduli:
- Increase Funding for Microfinance: Request an increase in funding for microfinance to empower more women's groups (VIKOBA Groups) and enable them to establish and expand their businesses.
- Healthcare Access: Advocate for the establishment of a hospital or medical facility closer to the community to improve access to healthcare services for women and their families.
- Business Diversification: Encourage women to diversify their businesses and explore new opportunities beyond flour milling, enabling them to expand their sources of income and enhance economic empowerment.
- Capacity Building and Marketing: Continue providing training on budgeting, fund allocation, and marketing strategies to enhance women's skills in managing their households and businesses, enabling them to thrive economically.

- Community Promotion: Encourage women to actively promote their businesses within the community, and support their efforts through strategic positioning and collaborative marketing initiatives.

5.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, the Maasai Women Empowerment Project implemented by CORDS in partnership with AOP in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua has demonstrated remarkable achievements in empowering Maasai women economically, improving their livelihoods, and promoting community engagement. The project's strategic approach, including the establishment of flour milling plants, provision of training, and encouragement of women to form small businesses, has yielded positive outcomes and progress towards the desired goals.

In Orpurkel, the introduction of the milling plant has alleviated the burden of long-distance travel for maize grinding, benefiting both women and men in the community. The formation of women's groups and the implementation of profit-increasing strategies have allowed the women to initiate their own businesses and achieve economic empowerment. However, challenges related to constructing the milling plant and limited availability of funds and manpower during the implementation phase were encountered. To enhance the project's success, it is recommended to secure additional funding from organizations like CORDS for supporting additional projects, as well as seek support from men in the community to provide goats for women to invest in their businesses.

Similarly, in Indonyo-Naado, the establishment of a flour milling plant has not only created employment opportunities and income for women but also empowered them to start their own small businesses. The women have diversified their economic activities and invested in goat rearing, expanding their sources of income. Challenges such as ensuring payment for the person responsible for operating the plant and addressing concerns about its long-term sustainability were identified. To ensure the project's sustainability, the women are determined to establish a second milling plant, further diversify their businesses, and engage in fundraising efforts. Moreover, additional funding and training in livestock farming are recommended to further enhance the economic empowerment of the women in the community.

In Emurua, the project's focus on microfinance and training in managing village banks has resulted in significant economic empowerment for women. The establishment of local markets and the formation of VIKOBA groups have fostered collaboration, unity, and entrepreneurial skills among the women. As a result, they have successfully started businesses, purchased goats, and improved their overall livelihoods. However, limited access to capital remains a significant barrier, restricting the scale and growth of the women's businesses. Further support in terms of funding and training is necessary to enhance the sustainability of the project and enable the women to continue to thrive economically.

The project's implementation has been well-structured, incorporating various crucial elements such as community engagement, effective work planning, finance and co-finance mechanisms, robust monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, and clear reporting and communication channels. These aspects have played a pivotal role in the overall success of the project, ensuring informed decision-making and effective utilization of resources.

Despite the significant achievements, the project also faces challenges related to its long-term sustainability. Financial risks, including inadequate funding and limited resources, pose potential threats to the continuation of the flour milling plants. To address these risks and ensure long-term sustainability, it is crucial to diversify the women's businesses beyond milling, engage in fundraising efforts, and establish proper governance and management structures. Additionally, careful management of environmental risks is necessary to minimize the project's impact on the natural environment.

In conclusion, the Maasai Women Empowerment Project in Orpurkel, Indonyo-Naado, and Emurua has demonstrated substantial strengths in empowering women economically, improving their livelihoods, and promoting community engagement. The challenges encountered throughout the project have provided valuable insights and recommendations for further improvement. By addressing the identified weaknesses and leveraging the project's strengths, the empowerment of Maasai women can be further enhanced, leading to sustainable economic growth and improved well-being for the communities involved. The project's impact goes beyond economic empowerment, as it has also raised awareness about women's rights.

6.0 ANNEXES

6.1 The Interim Evaluation ToR

ANNEX 1. Evaluation terms of reference for the Maasai Women Economic Empowerment Project

Background

Action on Poverty (AOP), with its implementing partner Community Research And Development Services (CORDS) initiated the in 2021.

This project is aimed at reducing vulnerability for Maasai women, taking a twofold approach, challenging gender inequity and increasing women's access to income generating opportunities. The overarching goal of the project is to promote a Maasai society where women have equal rights to own, access and use the productive resources available to them. Given Maasai women are isolated, excluded from decision-making, do most of the unpaid domestic work, are not able to own productive assets and have little education, there is a lot that needs to be done.

This project is a cluster of initiatives built around raising awareness, identifying community leaders, promoting initiatives designed to enhance women's ownership of, control over and access to productive assets, and facilitating access to capital in order to build economic empowerment to reduce vulnerability.

The livelihood activities include training, access to village savings and loans, self-help support groups, awareness campaigns for land rights, and support for alternative income generation. The gender aspect of the project includes raising awareness, facilitation of community dialogues, provision of training and leadership opportunities for women. In order to address both practical and strategic gender needs, the project adopts a four-legged approach, clustered around assets, capabilities, choices and rights. The asset cluster, designed to enhance ownership and control over and access to productive assets. The Capabilities cluster, is aimed at improving access to participatory mechanisms for women to learn and be supported such as through the formation of groups and networking forums. Choices, aimed at promoting changes in the framework of household, community, state and market choices to make a better life. The rights component aims at enhancing a person's political, cultural and personal rights leading to greater empowerment.

The Project has 2 main outcomes as follows:

1. Reduced poverty among women in pastoral (Maasai) communities:
2. Increased understanding of gender issues demonstrated in target community

Evaluation Purpose

The Maasai Women Economic Empowerment Project is funded through the Australian Government's flagship program - Australia NGO Corporation Agreement (ANCP), with the requirement to demonstrate that the project is implemented well and that the project objectives are being achieved. This evaluation is scheduled to take place from **November 2022** and provides an opportunity for AOP and its partners to reflect on aspects of the project that are working well, and those which may require adjustments. The evaluation findings will inform AOP and its partners' strategies and policies on how best to engage and support smallholder farmers to reduce poverty and increase understanding of gender issues and to assess the optimal mechanisms and approaches for supporting the project's objectives.

Evaluation Objectives

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess if the project is achieving what it sets out to achieve as well as provide recommendations to improve on areas that are not working well. The objectives are to:

- ✓ Determine efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, sustainability, including progress towards project outcomes
- ✓ Assess Value for Money of the project
- ✓ Assess the impact that the project has made
- ✓ Determine AOP's added value to the project
- ✓ Identify lessons learnt and best practices from the project which could be applied to improve the project as well as other similar projects in the region
- ✓ Provide information to further plan and improve the project
- ✓ Determine the risks to the project

To address the evaluation objectives, the consultant will be expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with government counterparts, the project team and/ farmers that the project is partnering with to achieve its objectives.

The consultant is expected to capture lessons learnt and best practice from implementing the project. The lessons from the evaluation are hoped to guide technical recommendations and improvements to the current and future projects. The evaluation should cover at minimum, the five evaluation criteria considered by AOP's design, monitoring, evaluation and learning framework as follows:

1. **Relevance:** whether the objectives of the project are in accordance to locally defined needs and priorities as well as to partner government priorities
2. **Effectiveness**: the extent to which project objectives are being achieved or can be achieved
3. **Ownership and sustainability**: the likely ability of project activities to continue to deliver benefits for an extended period after completion. Potential for the project to be owned by smallholder farmers themselves. The resilience to risk of the net benefit flows over time.
4. **Equity**: how the project involves and benefits different genders, people with disability and other often marginalised people throughout the project cycle, including the appropriateness of design and monitoring systems against project and program objectives to date.
5. **Value for Money**: to determine the extent to which the project has managed resources to balance economy, efficiency and effectiveness in ways that are both equitable and ethical.

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The conclusion should be comprehensive and balanced, and highlight the strengths, weaknesses and outcomes of the project, with a special focus on improved food security; improved nutrition; increased income and improved livelihoods

The report should also recommend the project's next steps including possibility of expanded scope, exit strategy, learning & dissemination etc.

Methodology

The evaluation will combine a desk review of project documentation and primary research to be conducted in Malawi where the project is being implemented. The specific sites to be covered will be agreed upon with the project team and the partner before commencing the evaluation.

The precise methodology will be agreed upon between the consultant and AOP and its partner before evaluation activities commence. The tools must be able to gather both quantitative and qualitative data and must be friendly and participatory and be appropriate to be administered at the community level. The proposed methodology should be clear and relevant to the context of the project location as well as the specific indicators in the project design.

Deliverables

1. An evaluation framework clearly indicating how the consultant plans to reach the objectives of the evaluation and, how the overall exercise will be conducted
2. A detailed work program clearly identifying the activities to be undertaken during the evaluation
3. A draft report that meets the standards and requirements as agreed upon between AOP, its partner and the consultant. The reports will undergo a comprehensive quality appraisal and approval progress by AOP and its partner before it is accepted as meeting the agreed standards. The consultant should be willing to make a presentation of preliminary findings of the evaluation to AOP and its partner.
4. A final evaluation report reflecting comments received from selected AOP and partner staff and other stakeholders
5. All materials used for data collection and management e.g. questionnaires, data entry tools, etc., and
6. All full clean dataset used for data analysis as well as the output tables and syntaxes created during the process.
7. A power point presentation on key findings and recommendations
8. A 2–4-page summary appropriate as a communications tool

Qualifications of Consultant

- ✓ A degree with relevant post-graduate studies in Economics, Agriculture Economics, Rural Economics, Monitoring and Evaluation, Development Studies, Food Security or related field

- ✓ Prior experience in undertaking Food Security and Livelihoods baseline studies, project monitoring, evaluations and documentation of lessons learnt in East and South Africa, particularly Malawi
- ✓ Demonstrated experience in communicating stories, production of case studies and best practices
- ✓ Good quantitative and qualitative data analysis skills
- ✓ Excellent analytical and reporting writing and presentation skills
- ✓ Demonstrated experience coordinating and working with partners

Timeline

Activity	Responsible staff	Deadline
Close of EOI (See EOI requirements below)	AOP and Consultant	October 15, 2022
Selected consultant (s) notified	AOP and partners	30 October 2022
Inception report, including the clear design, methodology, tools and timeline for the data collection, analysis and report writing	Consultant	15 November 2022
Desk research and review of project documents	Consultant	22 November 2022
Field activity and data collection	Consultant/project teams	27th November 2022
Analysis and report writing	Consultant/project teams	5th December 2022
Draft report & presentation of preliminary findings	Consultant	8st December 2022
Feedback on Draft	AOP/Partner	15th December 2022
Final Evaluation Report	Consultant	22nd December, 2022

Management and Reporting Arrangements

The consultant (s) will report to AOP's Africa Program Manager. An internal consultative group will be established within AOP and the partnership to provide oversight to the evaluation and to review the findings.

All reports must be:

- written in English
- provided in an electronic format (Microsoft Word; Times New Roman 12) and one hard copy to AOP's Africa Program Manager.

Accountabilities and Responsibilities

AOP's Africa Program Manager will coordinate the evaluation with support from project team including the overall responsibility, accountability of the evaluation and approval of all deliverables. The partner in Malawi will coordinate the in-country review process and logistical support in consultation with AOP Africa Program Manager.

6.2 Interim Evaluation Evaluative Matrix

Below are some of the possible questions to be asked during the evaluation. However, some of the questions may be modified based on feedback from stage one and part of stage two of the evaluation process.

Table 7: Evaluation Matrix

Evaluation Criteria/Questions	Indicators	Sources	Methodology
Project Strategy: To what extent is the project strategy relevant to community priorities, community ownership, and the best route towards expected results?			
Relevance: How is the project related to the main objective of the AOP focal area, community priorities and to the environment and development priorities at the local level?	• 90 Percent of 808 community project beneficiaries perceive the project strategy as aligned with their priorities. • Increased level of community participation and engagement in project planning and decision-making. • Degree of alignment between project activities and the project's expected results and objectives.	• Key informant interviews (CORDS staff) • Focus group discussions (Maasai men and women) • Project documentation (Project proposal)	• Focus group discussions - Focus group discussions with women and men indirect beneficiaries) to capture their perceptions of the project strategy, ownership, and alignment with community priorities • Document review • Evaluation report
Progress Towards Results: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved thus far?			
Achievements: Are there indications that the project has completed its Mid-term targets that contributed to, or enabled progress towards Maasai women empowerment?	• Increased access to maize grinding/ posho milling services for Maasai women • Establishment of the milling plant • Recommended actions for improvement from Maasai women and men	• Focus group discussions with project beneficiaries • One-on-one interviews • Recommendations provided by Maasai women and men	• Review project reports and documentation to assess the planned outcomes and targets. • Interviews with CORDS staff and beneficiaries • Conduct interviews with Maasai women and men to identify and understand the challenges faced in each project location.
Project Implementation and Adaptive Management: Has the project been implemented efficiently, cost-effectively, and been able to adapt to any changing conditions thus far? To what extent are project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, reporting and project communications supporting the project's implementation?			

Efficiency: Was the project implemented efficiently in-line with international and national norms and standards?	• Incorporation of best practices and lessons learned from similar projects • Generation of income by women through the flour milling plant and microfinance activities	• Project documentation and guidelines • Financial records and reports	• Review project documentation and guidelines to assess their compliance with established norms and standards. • Review financial records and reports to assess the allocation and utilization of project funds.
Effectiveness: To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved?	• Economic empowerment of Maasai women through income generation and small businesses • Participation of the Maasai women and men in project activities like flour milling and microfinance	• Interviews with CORDS staff and Maasai men and women • Project reports on stakeholder engagement activities	• Conduct interviews with CORDS staff and Maasai men and women to gather their perspectives on the impact of the project and the extent to which the desired outcomes have been realized.

Impacts: Are there indications that the project has contributed to, or enabled progress towards the empowerment of the Maasai women in Longido and Monduli districts?	Increase in the number of women-owned businesses in Longido and Monduli districts • Increase in income generated by women-owned businesses in Longido and Monduli districts.	• Project reports and data from CORDS and AOP • Focus group discussions and interviews	• Focus group discussions and interviews with women involved in the running and maintaining of the milling plant to assess their level of economic empowerment and resilience. • Comparison of local community statistics on the number of women-owned businesses and income generated before and after the project to assess its impact on the empowerment of Maasai women

Sustainability: To what extent are there financial, institutional, socio- economic, and/or environmental risks to sustaining long-term project results?	• Availability of sustainable funding and resources for maintaining the flour milling plant. • Improvement in the livelihoods of the Maasai women, measured through income generation, employment opportunities, and investment in businesses and livestock farming.	• Project financial reports and budget allocations. • Focus group discussions and interviews to assess changes in income generation and running of small businesses	• Conduct a financial analysis of the project's funding sources, budget allocations, and projected costs for maintaining the flour milling plant. • Conduct focus groups and interviews with Maasai women and men to gather data on income levels and small business activities before and after the project.

6.3 Example Questionnaire or Interview Guide used for data collection

Objective 1: Determine efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, risks and sustainability, including progress towards project outcomes.

1. How has the Maasai Women Empowerment Project impacted your daily life and the lives of your community in general?
2. What challenges have you faced in your participation in this project, and what suggestions do you have for improving community participation and engagement in future project initiatives?
3. Have you experienced any risks during the project implementation? Do you foresee any risks in the future and how would you handle them if they happened?
4. How has the project impacted gender dynamics within your community, and what opportunities and challenges have emerged as a result?

Objective 2: Assess Value for Money of the project.

1. Has/is the project helping you in any way?
2. Can you note the difference between before the project was implemented and after the project was implemented?
3. Has your livelihood changed?

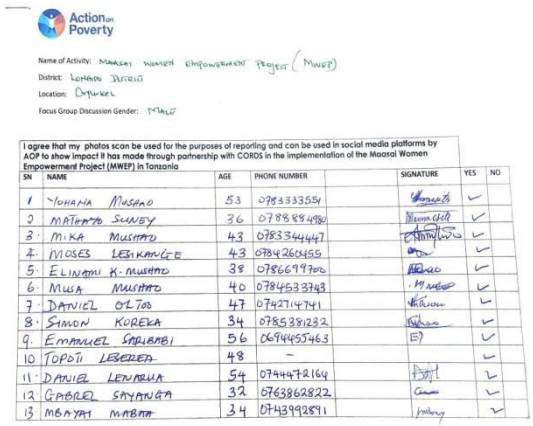
Objective 3: Assess the impact made by the project.

1. In what ways have you been involved in the planning and implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project, and how has this impacted your level of engagement and ownership of the project?
2. In what ways have you been able to apply the skills and knowledge gained through the Maasai Women Empowerment Project in your daily life and within your community?
3. What strategies have been effective in raising awareness about the project in your community, and how can we build on these strategies to further engage and empower Maasai women?

Objective 4: Identify lessons learnt and best practices from the project which could be applied to improve the project as well as other similar projects in the region. Provide information to further plan and improve the project.

1. What challenges have you faced in your participation in the project, and what suggestions do you have for improving community participation and engagement in future project initiatives?
2. What advice or recommendations would you offer to organizations looking to engage and empower community initiatives, based on your experiences with the Maasai Women Empowerment Project?

6.4 List of Persons Interviewed

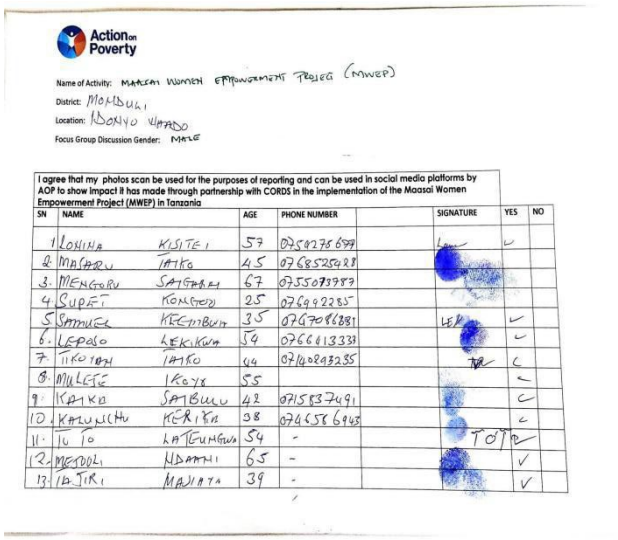


Action on Poverty

Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: LONGIDO DISTRICT
Location: OLTUKAI
Focus Group Discussion Gender: MALE

I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show impact It has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME	AGE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	YOHANA MUSAO	53	0783333554		✓	
2	MATHAYO SUNEY	36	0788884980		✓	
3	MIKA MUSHAO	43	0783344447		✓	
4	MOSES LEIKANGE	43	0784264455		✓	
5	ELINAMI K. MUSHAO	38	0786699706		✓	
6	MUSA MUSHAO	40	0784533743		✓	
7	DANIEL OLTOI	47	0742714741		✓	
8	SIMON KOREKA	34	0785381232		✓	
9	EMANUEL SABABI	56	0694455463		✓	
10	TOPOTI LEGERE	48	-		✓	
11	DANIEL LENANA	54	0744472164		✓	
12	GABRIEL SAYANGA	32	0763862822		✓	
13	MBAYAI MABIA	34	0743992891		✓	

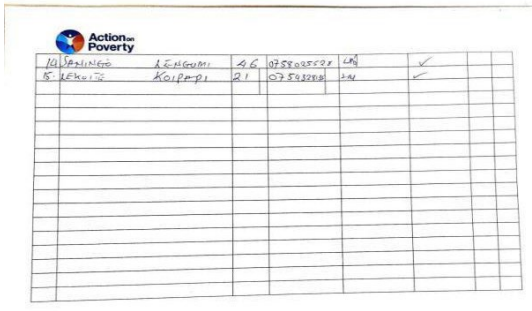


Action on Poverty

Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI
Location: NDONYO WAMBO
Focus Group Discussion Gender: MALE

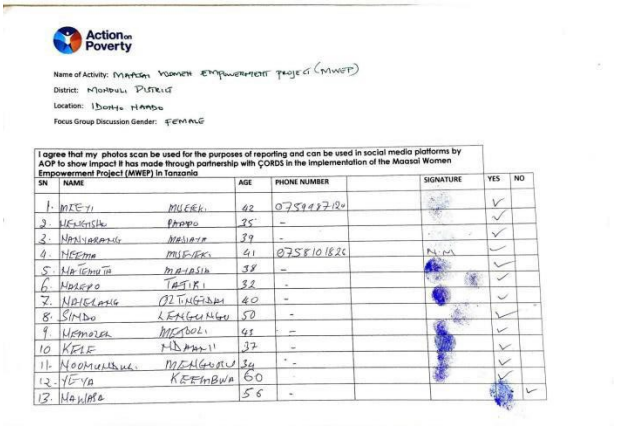
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SN	NAME		AGE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	LONINA	KISITEI	57	0758278699		✓	
2	MAHARU	TAIKO	45	0768525928		✓	
3	MENGORU	SAITABAU	67	0755079987		✓	
4	SUPERI	KONGOI	25	0769922285		✓	
5	SAMUEL	KEEMBUYA	35	0697986881		✓	
6	LEPOLO	LEKIKWA	54	0766113331		✓	
7	TIKOTAH	TAIKO	44	0740282355		✓	
8	MILLEGE	IRONK	55			✓	
9	KAIKAI	SAMBULU	42	0715837491		✓	
10	KALUNGU	KERIRA	38	0746586943		✓	
11	TOTO	LATEUMGWA	54	-		✓	
12	MENDOLI	NDAMTI	65	-		✓	
13	D.TIRI	MANIATA	39	-		✓	



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14	SAMUNGO	LENGUMI	46	0758025508	LM	✓	
15	LEKUIS	KOIPAPI	21	0758228188	LM	✓	



Action on Poverty

Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI DISTRICT
Location: IDONYO WAMBO
Focus Group Discussion Gender: FEMALE

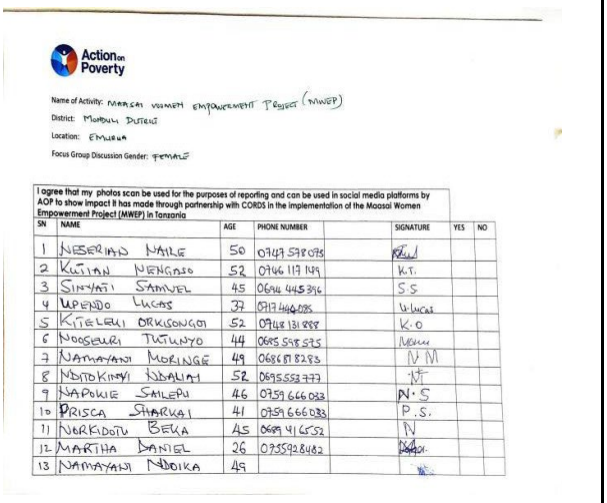
I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show Impact It has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME		AGE	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1.	NITETI	MUSEKI	62	0759937190		✓	
2.	NENGISH	PAPPO	25	-		✓	
3.	NANYARAKIA	MAIATA	39	-		✓	
4.	NEEMA	MUSEKI	41	0758101826	NM	✓	
5.	NATEMUTA	MAIOSIK	38	-		✓	
6.	NDEPO	TASIRI	32	-		✓	
7.	NAIELANG	OLTINGIRA	40	-		✓	
8.	SIMBO	LENGUMGWA	50	-		✓	
9.	NEMOREK	MENDOLI	41	-		✓	
10	KELE	NDAMTI	37	-		✓	
11.	NOOMUNGWA	MEAIGOSUA	34	-		✓	
12.	YEYO	KEEMBUYA	60	-		✓	
13.	NAIMPA		56	-		✓	



Action for Poverty

14	NOOSHIKOTU	LOMBUTWA	41		
15	NAPAYIANGIK	MENTEGA	48		



Action for Poverty

Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI DISTRICT
Location: EMUSUA
Focus Group Discussion Gender: FEMALE

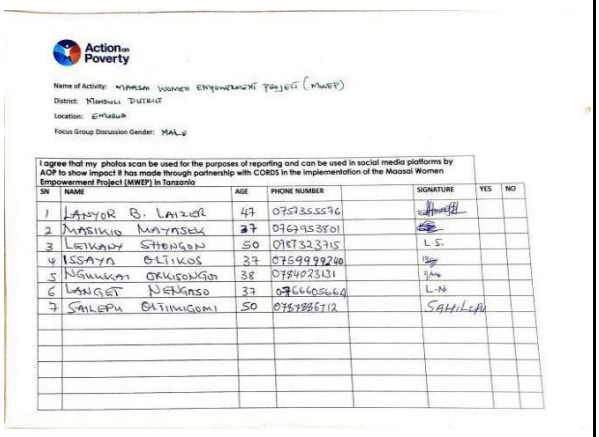
I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show impact it has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME	AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	NESERIAN NAILE	50	0747 598 095				
2	KUITAN NENGASO	52	0746 119 149		K.T.		
3	SINYATI SAMUEL	45	0644 445 396		S.S		
4	UPENDO LUCAS	37	0717 446 085		U.Lucas		
5	KITELEKI ORKISONGOI	52	0748 131 888		K.O		
6	NOOSEURI TUTUNYO	44	0685 598 595				
7	NAMAYANJI MORINGE	49	0686 818 283		N M		
8	NDITOKINYI KIDALIAN	52	0695 553 777				
9	NAPOLIE SAILEPU	46	0759 666 033		N.S		
10	PRISCA SHARKAI	41	0759 666 033		P.S.		
11	NORKIDOTU BEKA	45	0699 416 552		N		
12	MARTHA DANIEL	26	0755928482				
13	NAMAYANJI NDOIKA	49					



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14	KIDAYA NDALIAI	45	0686 854 781		A.D
15	NORKIPONGOR LEPASO	49	0714 444 752		N.L



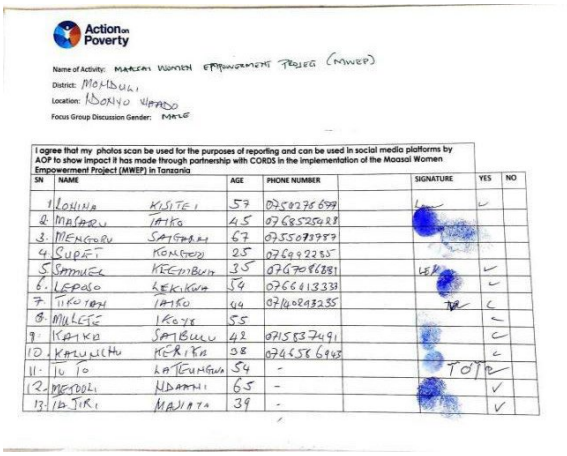
Action for Poverty

Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI DISTRICT
Location: EMUSUA
Focus Group Discussion Gender: MALE

I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show impact it has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME	AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	LANYOR B. LAIZER	47	0757355596				
2	MASIKIO MAYNSEK	37	0769953801				
3	LEIKANY SIONGON	50	0787323715		L.S.		
4	ISSAYA OLTIKOS	37	0759999240				
5	NGWUKAT ORKISONGOI	38	0784023131				
6	LANGET NENGASO	37	0766605660		L.N		
7	SAILEPU OLTIMIGOMI	50	0757986712		SAILEPU		

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Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI
Location: DONYO WAYEGO
Focus Group Discussion Gender: MALE

I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show impact it has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME		AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	YOHANA	KISITEI	57	0758078599			✓	
2	MATAYO	TAIKO	45	0768525028			✓	
3	MENGORU	SAITOBAU	67	0755079987			✓	
4	SUPET	KOMUTOI	25	0769922355			✓	
5	SAMUEL	KEEMBUYA	35	0767986881		LEK	✓	
6	LEPOLO	LEKIKWA	54	0766913337			✓	
7	TIKOTOH	IAIKO	44	0740283355		TOT	✓	
8	MILLEGE	IKOYK	55				✓	
9	KAIKO	SAIBULU	42	0715537491			✓	
10	KAMUNGHU	KERIKA	38	0764586943			✓	
11	JU JO	LATEUMGWA	54	-		TOT	✓	
12	MEIDOL	NDAMAI	65	-			✓	
13	LOJIKI	MAJIATA	39	-			✓	



14	SAMUEL LENGAMI	46	0758025598	LM	✓
15	LEKAITE KOIPAPI	21	0758032010	LM	✓



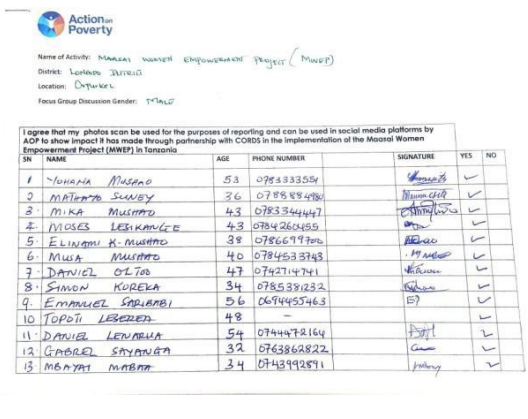
16	NAIRIBOTU LOOKIKUTU	41			✓
17	NAPAYIANTOI MEMUTA	41		NM	✓



Name of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT (MWEP)
District: MONDULI DISTRICT
Location: DONYO NAMANGA
Focus Group Discussion Gender: FEMALE

I agree that my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by AOP to show impact it has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

SN	NAME		AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	NTEI	MUSEI	62	0758937720			✓	
2	NEMASHA	KAIRO	25	-			✓	
3	NAIKORONG	MOLIATA	39	-			✓	
4	NEEMA	MUSEI	61	0758101826		N.M.	✓	
5	NAISIWA	MAIBILA	38	-			✓	
6	NAIYO	TAITI	32	-			✓	
7	NAIKAMA	NJINGISH	40	-			✓	
8	SIMBO	LENGUMU	50	-			✓	
9	NEMASIA	MEIDOL	65	-			✓	
10	KELE	NDAMAI	37	-			✓	
11	NAOMUSHA	MENGORU	34	-			✓	
12	YEYA	KEEMBUYA	60				✓	
13	NAIYO		56	-			✓	



Name of Activity: Maasai Women Empowerment Project (MWEP)
District: Longido District
Location: Engarenet
Focus Group Discussion Gender: Female

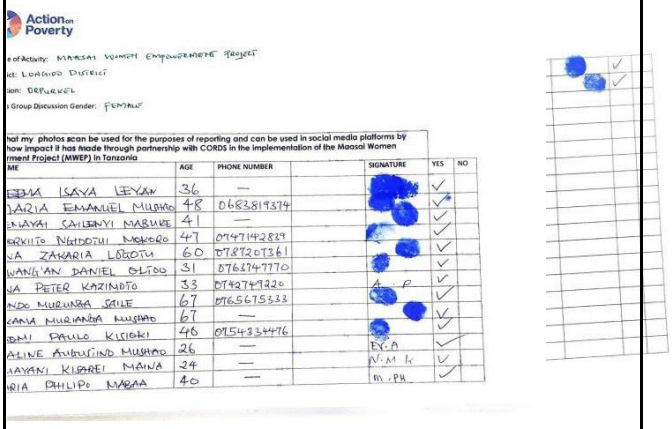
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SN	NAME		AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
1	YOHANA	MUSANO	53	0783333554			✓	
2	MATAYO	SUNEY	36	0788884980			✓	
3	MIKA	MUSHAD	43	0783344447			✓	
4	MOSES	LESIKAULEE	43	0784264455			✓	
5	ELINAMI	K-MUSHAD	38	0786619706			✓	
6	MUSA	MUSHAD	40	0784533743			✓	
7	DANIEL	OLTOO	47	0742714741			✓	
8	SIMON	KORELA	34	0785338232			✓	
9	EMANUEL	SARIAMBI	56	0694455463			✓	
10	TOPOTI	LEBERER	48	-			✓	
11	DANIEL	LENABELA	54	0744472164			✓	
12	GABRIEL	SAYANGA	32	0763862822			✓	
13	MBAYAI	MABAA	34	0743992891			✓	



Action on Poverty

14	PAULO LENJAS!	32	0763977738		✓
15	JOHANA LEKIMETI	30	0755211034		✓



Action on Poverty

e of Activity: MAASAI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROJECT
ict: LONGIDO DISTRICT
ion: ORPUKEL
Group Discussion Gender: FEMALE

hat my photos scan be used for the purposes of reporting and can be used in social media platforms by how impact it has made through partnership with CORDS in the implementation of the Maasai Women rment Project (MWEP) in Tanzania

ME	AGE	PHONE NUMBER		SIGNATURE	YES	NO
EDNA ISAYA LEYAN	36	—			✓	
MARIA EMANUEL MUSHAO	48	0683819374			✓	
SHAYA SAILENYI MABUKE	41	—			✓	
ORKIITO NGIDOTUI MOKORO	47	0747142829			✓	
VA ZAKARIA LOBOTH	60	0787207361			✓	
WANG'AN DANIEL OLTOO	31	0763747770			✓	
JA PETER KAZINDO	33	0749749220		A P	✓	
NDO MURUNGA SAILE	67	0765675333			✓	
CANA MURIANGA MUSHAO	67	—			✓	
ONI PAULO KISIGKI	46	0754334476			✓	
ALINE AUGUSTINO MUSHAO	26	—		EV.A	✓	
AYANI KIBAREI MANA	24	—		N.M.K	✓	
RIA PHILIPO MABAA	40	—		M.PH	✓	

6.5 List of Documents Reviewed

1. Narrative reports (Quarterly reports shared with AOP)
2. Financial Report (Report and supporting documents)

Table 8: Documents Reviewed

Document	Evaluation Summary	Recommendations
Narrative Reports	The narrative report meticulously captures the MWEP chronology of events, offers detailed descriptions and analysis of key activities and outcomes, incorporates personal experiences and reflections, and effectively communicates the overall significance and impact of the MWEP project. There was also inclusion of supporting documents provided that support some activities, these documents clearly show the involvement of the women. Some of the documents provided include; land request document and Land award letters.	-AOP to give more capacity building to CORDS on report writing.
Financial Report	The report analyzed presents a comprehensive breakdown of financial transactions and expenses for MWEP. The report highlights the total debit and credit amounts for each account and provides the final balance. It concludes by summarizing the overall total balance for all accounts. The report offers a comprehensive and detailed overview of MWEP's financial activities, giving an insight on analysis, and decision-making skills within the organization.	- AOP should also give capacity building to CORDS on financial reporting and narrations. - AOP should consider granting more funding to CORDS for the impact to reach to more Maasai women or even consider scaling up the same projects. The MWEP project financial projected a success in the implementation.