

Magesa's Story

Thirteen year old Magesa Mirobo is a student at Wariku Primary School located in a remote part of Bunda District. Wariku School has a population of over 400 students. Most families in this community struggle to meet their everyday needs to survive.

Since the **Building the Future** project was introduced at Wariku Primary School, teachers and students have learned how to use home gardens to better their standard of living. Magesa started his own home garden using extra vegetable seeds that CPAR had provided. Magesa's first crop was so successful he was able to earn 7,000 Tsh (CDN\$4.70), from the sale of his extra vegetables. With this Magesa was able to buy exercise books, pens and school clothes.

Magesa said, "I thank CPAR for the training that they gave us. It has uplifted me a lot. Before, I didn't know how to grow vegetables but now I know what they need, how to prepare the nursery for planting, how to transplant seedlings, and how to use local materials like ash to control pests and diseases." Magesa's motivation and success demonstrates the immediate benefits of investing in practical training and skill- building for students.



Magesa Mirobo



Thank you for your monthly support!

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Communities are getting healthier through better hygiene.

Communities in Malawi are becoming Open Defecation Free

Today, 2.4 billion people lack access to basic sanitation. In Malawi, one of Africa’s most densely populated and least developed countries, half of the population is living without an adequate toilet. This means that excreta freely leaches into the ground water or is discharged directly into surrounding rivers and lakes, causing major negative health impacts in communities. CPAR is helping communities and villages become Open Defecation Free by employing Community-Led Total Sanitation. This is an integrated approach that mobilizes communities to undertake their own appraisal and analysis of their sanitation profile, their practices of defecation, and to take their own actions to become open defecation free. It stresses community empowerment and collective behavioural change, including safe sanitation and hygiene through handwashing.

Students and teachers in Tanzania are role models in their communities

CPAR’s Community Development approach stresses community ownership and sustainability beyond project completion. Thanks to your support we have been able to maintain this commitment and have trained both students and teachers on topics such as nutritional and environmentally sustainable agricultural techniques. They are now considered resource persons within their schools and communities. In addition, teachers have been prepared as Trainers of Trainers (TOT). As a result, when current student facilitators graduate, teacher facilitators are able to train new students to take their place. This ensures the passing on of the knowledge gathered throughout the project in accordance with CPAR’s pay-it forward approach.



Better income and nutrition for farmers.

Increased profits for marketing cooperatives in Ethiopia

The establishment of cooperatives opened doors to new markets and information on product pricing for its members. Through cooperatives, members can sell seeds, crops, and processed foods at fair prices. CPAR works to ensure to success of these cooperatives by providing farmers with improved seeds and storage facilities.

Before CPAR’s interventions, seeds that are naturally sensitive to pests and diseases could not last for more than two months without spoilage. With the help of improved storage facilities, however, farmers can keep their seeds clean and healthy for over a year. This gives farmers the flexibility to wait for the best possible market price before selling.

Mitigating the effects of climate change for Tanzanian farmers

The majority of the population living in the Rubana River area of Tanzania is highly dependent on rain fed agriculture. This means that any change in rainfall patterns has a severe impact on crop growth and harvest – and in turn how much and how often a person is able to eat. To help farmers deal with increasingly prolonged dry periods or floodings CPAR has introduced rain water harvesting dams and irrigation systems. Thanks to donations like yours, we have also be able to provide framers with training on sustainable farming practices and vegetable gardening. Participants in these trainings were provided with seeds as well as information on the nutritional benefits of a more diversified diet. As a result, participants saw the higher crops yields and better nutrition for themselves and their families.