Overcoming economic and social challenges in Tanzania in partnership with local communities and Thomson Safaris.
Dear Friends,

Thanks to your generous support, FoTZC had an incredible year! Together, we replaced the boys’ dormitory at Soit Sambu Secondary School that had been lost in a fire. More than 100 boys have moved into their new “home” which includes beds, mattresses, foot lockers, desks, and a latrine block. Sukenya Village is growing – we built teachers’ housing at the primary school, which will enable the school to attract more teachers to keep up with the growing demand, and we provided clean water to the school which will help feed the children and support lessons in greywater gardening. The medical dispensary in Sukenya attracts patients from long distances; most of the illnesses treated are due to lack of access to clean water. Last, but certainly not least, we launched the COCOBA (community conservation banking) initiative which is bringing financial stability to hundreds of women and families in northern Tanzania.

More than half of the FoTZC Board of Directors traveled to Tanzania this year (at their own expense) to assess our completed projects, monitor ongoing projects, and evaluate future projects. While there, we had discussions with community leaders and government officials about our impact and how to increase it. This resulted in a new long-range plan designed to maximize our impact in Tanzania. This plan is underpinned by access to clean water. Like many of our donors, you likely traveled to Tanzania with Thomson Safaris and fell in love with the Tanzanian people. Many guests choose to give back to the people of Tanzania by donating to FoTZC. The symbiotic relationship among FoTZC, Thomson, our partner communities, and you, is what makes our work successful and helps Tanzanians realize some of their dreams. Thank you! Please join us by making a gift that will support the life-changing projects described in the following pages. You can donate online at www.fotzc.org or use the enclosed envelope to send your gift. We also accept gifts of securities. As always, we appreciate your support.

Asante sana!

Danny Nestor
Judi Wineland
Director, Focus on Tanzanian Communities
Director, Thomson Safaris

DIRECTORS’ TRIP IMPRESSIONS

“Visiting the projects in which FoTZC is investing was energizing. We have a long way to go to achieve a state where all people have access to fundamental necessities like clean water, basic health care, and elementary education. The silver lining is that even the smallest investment goes a long way. Supporting women and children who have nothing doesn’t take much, and we can all afford to do more.” Katherine Record

“This year’s trip was an opportunity to see firsthand the work of FoTZC in many different communities. Meeting the students who are benefiting from the school facilities FoTZC has built, and is building, was heartwarming and encouraging. Seeing the new dispensary bringing quality health care to a community was inspiring. Attending a COCOBA group meeting where thirty women were learning new skills, engaging in microenterprise and making some money to improve their lives was simply amazing! The impact FoTZC has on its partner communities is tremendous. The generational impact of better education for children, clean water and improved health care, and women’s empowerment programs will undoubtedly change these villages, likely in ways we cannot even see now. May it be so.” Stephen Hendrickson

“Our FoTZC Board worked cohesively together—we were well prepared to ask probing questions of the education and health officials and engaged in lively, transparent conversations with all of the Tanzanian officials and community leaders. After each meeting we returned to the drawing board and continued honing our goals and asking ourselves: What is the most important thing we can do to help the Tanzanians have a more successful life? The project visits are invaluable to FoTZC’s success and to the board. I wish donors could come along with us and see FoTZC at work first hand.” Karen Dial

“Our May Directors’ trip was highly successful. We had meetings with the Ngorongoro District Commissioner, District Medical Officer, local Village Elders (both men and women), hospital staff, school administrators, and students. We looked at potential new projects as well as existing ones to help understand community needs and where we could help. We discovered so much, especially in the areas of health and water. FoTZC’s work in Tanzania is greatly appreciated, and FoTZC donors should feel good about their support.” Karen Pauliny
The Future of Women’s Empowerment

One of the most moving visits for the Directors who visited Tanzania this year was the afternoon we spent at a COCOBA meeting. FoTZC launched four COCOBA (community conservation banking) groups this year, which are helping Maasai women start environmentally-friendly businesses. The women are being trained and are now running businesses, including raising chickens, greywater gardening, beekeeping, and beading. Each group of 30 women meets weekly where each woman uses her profits to make contributions to various community funds, as well as buy shares from the loan fund to expand her business or start a new endeavor. Loans are made with group approval and cosigners.

The 120 women currently participating in the COCOBA program are increasing their family income and improving their lives. The women are able to pay for school fees, uniforms, books, and food. One woman is raising chickens and selling the eggs; others expect to sell their first honey harvest soon. A few women have started greywater garden- ing, allowing them to sell vegetables at the market, but also enabling them to incorporate vegetables into their children’s diets. The loans are paid back with interest and a small insurance premium is taken to protect the group investment in case of unexpected circumstances, like fire, serious illness, or death. Profits are eventually shared as a dividend in proportion to each member’s stock ownership.

The women also contribute weekly to education, social, health, and environmental funds. They can take interest-free loans for school fees or medical care, but the loans must be repaid within two months. The social fund can be used for interest-free loans to women in need, at the group’s discretion.

Witnessing the weekly meeting was astounding. These women run a tight ship! The group has a large metal lock box, which one woman keeps. The box has three padlocks, to which three other women hold the keys, so four women must be present to open the box. At each meeting, two women count the money and, along with the secretary and treasurer, they accept purchases of new shares in the fund. Each member has a small book showing her shares and there is a general ledger in which all activity is recorded; one woman records the entries while another checks it. This is incredible to witness as many of the women are uneducated, but they are learning math! During the meeting, women who speak out of turn must pay a small fine. The meeting was SILENT – anyone who has ever spent time with groups of Maasai women knows that this just doesn’t happen!

In 2017, we will be launching COCOBA groups in three more communities, training 150 more Maasai women to run COCOBA programs, start environmentally-friendly businesses, and ultimately increase their incomes. Track our progress at fotzc.org.
Water

Our Three-Year Plan

The demand for access to clean water is great! Every project and community we visited during our trip in May—whether a school, the dispensary, COCOBA groups, or community leaders—listed access to clean water as one of their top three priorities. FoTZC installs gutters and water catchment tanks on each building structure we complete, but the water from the reserve tanks isn't enough to support people during the dry season. When we built the Sukunya Medical Dispensary, Thomson Safaris contributed a borehole and FoTZC paid for the pumping and piping system. This borehole provides clean water for the dispensary and local residents. While meeting with the District Medical Officer, we discussed the merits of building additional staff housing at the dispensary in comparison with drilling multiple boreholes in the region. While he agreed that staff housing is necessary, he concluded that providing more families with clean water would be the most effective way to improve health within the community.

Four of the top ten illnesses treated at the dispensary are water-related: diarrhea, dysentery, eye infections, and typhoid fever. Providing clean water should significantly decrease the incidence of these diseases. Additionally, providing pumped water would ease the burden on women who collect water for the family, which, in turn, will enable the women to spend more time on their COCOBA businesses. When there is clean water accessible, more girls continue their education in secondary school, as they are no longer needed to help their mothers collect water for the family.

Providing students with access to clean water at school will help them stay healthier, and help the school provide students with lunch so they do not have to learn on an empty stomach.

By providing clean water, FoTZC will have a tremendous impact on education, healthcare, and women’s empowerment in Tanzania.”

— Eliza Hatch, FoTZC Director of Operations

We decided that FoTZC needs to lead with water projects before completing further building projects. In addition to providing health benefits to the people served by the boreholes, access to water will reduce our building costs as our contractor will not have to truck water to the building sites. We plan to drill five boreholes in the Oloipiri Ward (surrounding the Sukunya Medical Dispensary) over the next three years, reaching more than 5,000 people. Each borehole costs on average $42,000, and the water will support multiple villages. Please join us in making this critical need a reality.

FUNDING NEEDED: $210,000

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Robanda Secondary School

The Robanda community on the western edge of the Serengeti needs a secondary school for girls and started construction on one six years ago. The girls from Robanda currently attend school 45km away in Mugumu. The school in Mugumu does not have dormitories, so many of the girls stay in hostels and end up dropping out or getting pregnant. Girls with a secondary school education are ten times less likely to become pregnant as adolescents than girls with a primary school education or less. As of 2012, 98% of girls are enrolled in primary school, but only 24% are enrolled in secondary school. This has been slowly increasing, but the lack of convenient, high-quality secondary schools close to communities in which they live means that girls have few educational options.

The community has built two dormitories, an administration block, toilets, classrooms, a headmaster’s house, a laboratory, and the foundation for an assistant headmaster’s house. The only thing they still need in order to open is teachers’ housing. We were astounded by the scale of work that the Robanda community has completed on their own! In order to help them get across the finish line and be able to accept girls this coming school year, we have started construction on two 2-in-1 teachers’ houses. The teachers’ housing is one of the last remaining projects that needs to be completed before the government gives Robanda permission to open the school. The community leaders are working with other funders to complete laboratories, acquire science laboratory equipment, and to outfit the dormitories with furniture, which they expect to complete by the end of 2016. The school will open in January 2017 with 80 young girls and six teachers, and they plan to expand to roughly 200 students very quickly. The school also hopes to offer A-Levels in the future – Forms 5 and 6 – which are not offered at every secondary school. In such a motivated community, we expect they will succeed and be approved to teach A-Levels soon.

We are pleased and relieved that these young girls will be able to attend secondary school closer to their families and safely board there while completing their studies, rather than dropping out. We will keep you posted on our progress and the school’s opening!

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Itabe Mwita Nkiri, Robanda Village Executive Officer
Haymu Primary School

Haymu Primary School in Karatu is an amazing place! It was built only a few years ago and is already flourishing. The school has 441 students and 16 teachers, but there are only six classrooms, which were all funded by the local community. The community has paid to pour the foundation for the remaining two classrooms they require, but they don’t have the funds needed to finish the construction of the buildings. Due to the shortage of classrooms, two teachers and two grades share one classroom – the right side of the room listens to one teacher and the left side listens to another. On top of that, the teachers lack the books they need and the students do not have textbooks and workbooks. Imagine how difficult it is to teach and learn in that environment!

In Tanzania, 98% of children enroll in primary school, but many of these students are taught in classrooms under suboptimal conditions, like having more than one grade learning in one classroom, or having one teacher responsible for teaching more than one class at the same time. Despite facing some of these challenges, of the 101 schools in the Karatu District, Haymu is rated 9th, and all Haymu students passed their exams to enter secondary school in 2015. It is impressive that all of the Standard 7 students at Haymu were qualified to continue their studies. This is an extraordinary achievement for a school that opened in 2012 and still lacks many of the basic resources that we would expect to see in a classroom. Only 25% of Tanzanian children continue onto secondary school education due to qualification or financial circumstances. The school motto is “If you think education is expensive, try ignorance!” The teachers are motivated and engaging, and the students are impressive and well-spoken. The teaching staff is so committed that they welcomed us with breakfast on a Saturday morning – they spent their free time on a Saturday morning cooking for the FoTZC Board of Directors, rather than spending time with their families or doing chores. How humbling is that?

The school’s number one priority is to finish the construction of the two remaining classrooms so that each Standard (primary school is Standards 1-7 in Tanzania) gets its own classroom instead of having to share. We plan to complete construction on these classrooms in 2017. Haymu is a remarkable school, and we can’t wait to see what the students accomplish in the coming years.

FUNDING NEEDED: $25,000

We have a shortage of classrooms. Standards 5 and 6 share one classroom, and our kindergarten classroom has 89 students.”
— Rose Kilawe, Headmistress

Students at Haymu Primary School

Incomplete classroom at Haymu Primary

Students at Haymu Primary School

Students at Haymu Primary School
We are pleased to announce that we completed these three projects in 2016. We hope that you will help us and our Tanzanian partners complete similarly important projects in 2017. For additional information on how you can participate, please contact us at info@fotzc.org.

**Sukenya Dispensary**

**2-in-1 Teachers’ House & Water**
We built a 2-in-1 teachers’ house at Sukenya Primary in 2010, and are thrilled to be supporting such a successful school. We recently completed a second 2-in-1 teachers’ house (a 2-in-1 is a duplex to accommodate two families) and are now providing clean water to the school. The students of Sukenya are motivated, engaging, and goal-oriented: students have told us that they want to become doctors, teachers, pilots, and even President! The school currently has 530 students and five teachers; this new house will allow the school to request additional teachers from the government for the 2017 school year. Access to clean water will provide nutritional and health benefits to the children and the community.

**Sukenya Primary School**

**Boys’ Dormitory**
Shortly after opening a new dining hall in 2015, the boys dormitory at Soti Sambu Secondary School burned down in an accidental fire, more than 100 boys had to move into the new dining hall. Since the dining hall was being used for shelter, the other students ate lunch outside or in the classrooms, which was tough during the rainy season. Thanks to your support and a challenge match from a generous donor, together we completed and furnished the dormitory and the boys have moved in! The dormitory space means the headmaster does not have to turn away qualified boys from enrolling in school.

**Soit Sambu Secondary School**

**Oloipiri Primary School**

**Belon Entrepreneurial Leadership Academy**

**Beading Seminars**

**Project Support**

**Administration & Development**

**State Registrations and Tax Preparation**

**Marketing**

**Website Maintenance**

**Bank Fees**

**Insurance**

**Database Maintenance**

**Revenue and Expenditures for January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015**

**2015 Expenditures**

**Total Expenditures** $219,666

**2015 Revenue** $326,394

**Cash Donations** $322,163

**In-Kind Donations (Thomson Safaris)** $4,231
Focus on Tanzanian Communities and our Tanzanian partners are deeply grateful to the generous people who make our work possible.

Following is a list of donors from January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.
Board of Directors
Constance Cork, President – Committees: Finance, Fundraising, Nominating
Stephen Hendrickson, Treasurer – Committees: Finance, Fundraising
Karen Dial – Committees: Fundraising
Michelle Doherty – Committees: Fundraising
Lucy Karl – Committees: Governance, Fundraising
Deborah Hornberger – Committees: Governance, Fundraising
Mary Loeken – Committees: Fundraising, Nominating
Ken Pauley – Committees: Nominating
Katherine Record – Committees: Projects
Bob Treitman – Committees: Projects
Judi Wineland – Committees: Fundraising, Nominating, Projects

Staff
Eliza Hatch, Director of Operations
Elizabeth Mwakajila, Project Administrator, Tanzania

Volunteer
Joshua Warren

In-kind Support
McCord-Hendrickson Family Office
Wineland-Thomson Adventures
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