

# DAVID ANDERSON AFRICA TRUST

## *News*

Summer 1999

### • *NEW projects* • *NEW projects* •

## Commercial skills for modern farming

Rose Mkumbwa is 28 and lives in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. Her family has a farm, but owing to lack of the necessary skills and equipment, the farm cannot support the needs of the family.

### *Modern farming methods*

Rose is determined to bring modern farming methods to the farm and to establish poultry farming and growing of cash crops. To do this, however, she needs to gain regular employment to build up sufficient funds.

### *Gaining vital skills*

With a view to gaining a good job, and recognising the need for commercial skills in her farming venture, Rose embarked on a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the Catholic University of East Africa in Nairobi. She made good progress in the first two years but

was obliged to defer her final year of study owing to lack of funds. DAAT has agreed to provide funds to allow Rose to complete her degree.

### *Job opportunities*

Rose is eagerly awaiting the start of her final year of study. She is confident that her plans for the family farm will improve the standard of living for her whole family as well as creating job opportunities for local people.



*Rose Mkumbwa*

### ***SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN AFRICA***

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## **KENYA:** support for women's education

The Lamu Faza Development Society (LFDS) is a non-profit NGO working to advance the position of women in Lamu, a largely Muslim area of Kenya.

### *Aims and objectives*

The objectives of LFDS are to:

- eradicate illiteracy and ignorance amongst girls in Lamu
- offer financial support for girls to complete their secondary education
- provide professional training for women
- raise awareness of gender equality and democracy in Lamu.

### *Professional skills*

DAAT has sponsored a number of women, including the following.

- **Khadija Loo Abdi**, who did a secretarial course with computing, is now the Co-ordinator of LFDS.
- **Nahida Twalib Said El-Busaidy** took a course in computer studies. She is now Chief Senior Cashier at a bank in Lamu.
- **Fatuma Mohamed Ahmed Bwanamkuu**, who studied nursing, is now a chief nursing staff officer at Lamu Hospital.
- **Fatuma Salim El-Busaidy** attended the Top Women Leadership school in Lamu and is head of Lamu Women Professional Development Community.
- **Hababa Nour Salim Omar** studied Management. She is now assistant District Education Officer.

# TANZANIA: OPENING UP LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Tanzania covers a vast area of East Africa. It is one of the least urbanized countries in Africa and has limited resources. Tanzanians have demonstrated a keen desire for education, yet opportunities for higher education are restricted. By providing a flexible, economic alternative to traditional education, the Open University of Tanzania (OUT), is helping to expand educational opportunities, especially for working adults who have missed out on schooling. In particular, it can provide a life-line for women, disabled people, and those living in remote rural areas, for whom access to tertiary education is severely restricted.

## *... for women*

DAAT is sponsoring ten women students taking degrees at the OUT. With careers and families to look after, studying at a distance needs a lot of dedication. However, they share a determination to complete their studies, to improve their own standard of living and to advance the position of women in Tanzanian society.

### ***A tight programme of study***

Secondary school teacher **Janeth Faith Chilewa** is in the third year of a law degree. Having a tight study programme helps Janeth to cope with the multiple demands of work, studying and family life. "During free time at school, I go to libraries for studying. Between 4 and 6pm I have group discussions with colleagues at study centres taking the same course. Between 10pm and midnight I do more studies. Occasionally I continue much longer."

### ***Defending the rights of women and children***

Janeth is strongly motivated by a desire to improve the position of women in Tanzanian society. "I would like to encourage many women to study law. I find it enjoyable to know more of the laws, regulations and constitution governing my welfare. I would like to know more so that when I become a legal practitioner I can defend the rights of children and women, as they are the most oppressed in this part of the world. By sponsoring women students you are contributing a lot towards solving this problem."

### ***Improving education***

**Thecla Alice Msemwa** is also a secondary school teacher and is in the fifth year of her BA with Education. Her studies will not only improve her career prospects but will also improve her teaching skills and contribute to a higher standard of education for the children in her school. "Learning at the Open University has helped me a lot, as what I learn helps me in my teaching activities. I thank DAAT

for the sponsorship as it would be much more difficult for me to study without your support."

### ***Gaining new skills***

Janeth's and Thecla's real determination to succeed is shared by fellow student **Mgeni**

**Shamte Shomari**, who works in a Ministry Training Institute and is in the fourth year of a BSc degree course. The satisfaction of acquiring new practical skills, which will help her in her job, gives her the motivation to carry on with her studies. "It is very difficult to study at home due to unpredictable domestic responsibilities. But despite all the problems, I enjoy my studies, particularly practical sessions. I believe my efforts will be fruitful in the near future.

***"I would like to know more so that when I become a legal practitioner I can defend the rights of children and women, as they are the most oppressed in this part of the world."***

***"We are committed to making education in general, and higher education in particular, accessible to as many people as is practically possible"***

Frederick Sumaye,  
Tanzanian Prime  
Minister

## *... for students with disabilities*

In a joint project with OUT, DAAT is helping to establish audiotape facilities to make the University's courses accessible to visually impaired and other disabled students. DAAT has been awarded a substantial grant from the UK National Lottery Charities Board to help with the project.

### ***First students enrolled***

Twelve students with disabilities are enrolled on the new programme and have embarked on their studies. Eleven are visually impaired and one student is unable to use her hands due to an arm injury.

### ***Prime Minister visits recording studios***

In January 1999, the Tanzanian Prime Minister, Mr Frederick Sumaye, launched the new study year at OUT. The Prime Minister visited the DAAT recording studio and saw some of the equipment donated by DAAT.

Mr Sumaye was met by Mrs Eurelia Muyinga (the Project Co-ordinator), Mrs Prudence Eliapenda (DAAT's representative in Tanzania) and one of the visually impaired students. The Prime Minister congratulated the 12 students and thanked DAAT for their contribution to the project.

*"I wish to congratulate all the twelve students for the decision they took to apply for admission. I wish to thank the David Anderson Africa Trust for donating £36,000 to make this project possible"*

### ***Courses well underway***

Together with two other staff members, Mrs Muyinga has conducted introductory tutorials for new students in Tabora, Mbeya and Zanzibar. Four students are taking the one-year Foundation Course and eight are studying for the BA with Education.

All the students have been issued with a cassette player and have received their first specially recorded study cassettes. Recording of study materials is continuing, along with training the students how to study using the cassettes.

### ***Unique opportunity***

DAAT would like to wish all the students every success in their studies.

We look forward to seeing more students enrol on the programme and take advantage of the unique opportunity offered by this initiative at the Open University of Tanzania.

## **UGANDA: training primary teachers**

The Northern Integrated Teacher Education Project (NITEP) was set up in 1993 to increase the number of trained primary school teachers in Uganda, using distance learning methods. DAAT has provided funds for four NITEP members of staff to undergo training in essential distance learning skills and methodology.

### ***Four staff gain Diploma***

The four staff members have successfully completed their Diploma in Distance Education, studied at a distance through the University of London External Degrees Programme. Two staff have gone on to study for their MA in Distance Education.

### ***Phase two***

The project officially ended in April 1997. A second phase of the project aimed at continuing the education of those students who did not complete their training before the end of the project took place from August 1997 to June

1998. John Tukei, one of the staff members sponsored by DAAT, was the coordinator of this second phase. He then went on to co-ordinate a government programme called Teacher Development Management System (TDMS), similar to NITEP but with wider functions.

### ***Against the odds***

Despite difficult times, coping with problems of insurgency and with the huge task of being the only professional coordinating a project over ten districts, with no regional offices, John Tukei is continuing with his studies and hopes to complete his MA in the next couple of years.

### ***Research skills***

John's studies also taught him vital research skills which resulted in him writing a book of comparative analysis between the NITEP mode of delivery and the conventional method of teacher training.



*OUT visually impaired student Mr Joseph Mwandalima (right) receives study materials from Mbeya Regional Centre Director Mr L Swai*

## WHY EDUCATION?

DAAT is committed to helping provide educational opportunities and promoting human resource development in Africa.

Investing in education and training helps to open up employment and income generation opportunities and to improve standards of living. Skills gained are passed on to families and communities and have an impact far beyond individual benefit.

### ***We need your support***

To continue our work we need your help. Donations, whatever size, help us to fund our sponsorship programme and provide educational opportunities for a wide range of people in Africa.

Please fill in the donation form below and send, with your donation, to our Cambridge address.

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### David Anderson Africa Trust – donation form

I wish to support DAAT and I enclose a donation of:

£100\* ☐    £50 ☐    £25 ☐    £10 ☐    Other £ .....

*Please make cheques payable to David Anderson Africa Trust*

☐ \* I am a UK taxpayer and would like to make a donation of £100 or more. *We will send you details of **Millennium Gift Aid**. This scheme entitles us to reclaim tax paid on your donation - increasing the amount we receive by almost one third at no extra cost to you. **Donations may be made in instalments** up until the end of 2000, as long as the total is at least £100.*

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**Please see current newsletter or our website ([www.daat.org.uk](http://www.daat.org.uk)) for donation forms.**

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