

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE 2022



Save the  
Children

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**A Meal a Day**

**Makes a Difference**

Photo: World Vision Tanzania

## Emergency Geographical Areas

### Tanga



Areas of implementation

- Mkinga
- Handeni

### Save the Children and World Vision School Feeding Program in Tanga

In 2022, Mkinga and Handeni districts in Tanga region experienced severe droughts and below-normal rainfall, leading to crop and livestock failures. This resulted in 20-30% of the population in these districts experiencing high levels of acute food insecurity, including school children. The National Food Security Division - Ministry of Agriculture and Disaster Management Department-Prime Minister Office conducted a multi-sectoral assessment report that revealed low food production and projected price surges, which negatively affected food access. This led to major food insecurity in the communities, resulting in school dropouts, poor performance, and increased violence.

As 15 years old Hassan say- "We used to eat one meal a day, if you eat at six in the evening it is until tomorrow at six again in the evening- Hassan (15)- Tanga.

To address this crisis, Save the Children partnered with World Vision to introduce a school feeding program that benefited 26,056 children (Boys 12,793, Girls 13,263) in 53 schools, providing at least one meal per day. This program greatly improved attendance and performance in schools.

**Hussein Abdul**, is a head teacher at Mkonga Primary School. He says that children attendance in his school has increased to 84% by Jan 2022, from 52% in 2022. *“Our school had a high rate of absenteeism, only 52% of registered students attended school. With the school feeding program. Attendance has increased to 84%. Kindergarten pupils come to us saying they are not going home until they eat because of food scarcity in their homes”.*

The school feeding program also helped reduce the burden on parents, especially since the majority of the population in the district depended on agriculture as their primary source of income. The school feeding program ensured that children were fed while in school, which helped parents who struggled to provide adequate food for their families.

As Amina Mwinjuma - a parent of the school child says- *“These two years have been hard. The hunger hit us badly. We only ate one meal per day. There is a time, when you cannot afford even a hundred shillings to give to a child to buy a snack while at school. The situation was bad. We are grateful for the school feeding program, our children get to eat at school and concentrate with their studies”.* **Amina Mwinjuma- Parent**

To ensure the long term climate change resilient communities, Save the Children supported in strengthening capacity of 890 farmers to improve drought resilience behaviors and practices, and dissemination of national crop and livestock guidelines to farmers and extension officers. This was provided together with improved chicks, chicken feeds, vaccines and treatments, and drought-tolerant crop variety seeds to the vulnerable families. This aimed to support a long-term solution to access to food in the face of the climate change crisis. This will coincide with the schools plan to work with parents to provide meals for students while in school.



Photo: World Vision Tanzania



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While Save the Children implemented the school feeding program under the emergency response through the Humanitarian Funding, it was acknowledged that further support is still required. Save the Children plans to work with the regional and local governments to monitor food security trends and ensure that schools are providing meals for children while in school. The aim is to strengthen the local government's climate change resilience and adaptation plans, build capacity of extension officers, and provide climate change-resilient seeds.



Photo: World Vision Tanzania

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