

## Monthly update

### 1. Librarian training:

The library teachers underwent a credible training on how to manage and run the library. The training took one month and the teachers will be provided with laptops enable efficient running of the library. They are now about to start taking records of the books to enable easy loaning and handling. There are also plans for official launch of this library and we were hoping it will be on November.



**Figure 1:** Usevya secondary school library teacher, Mr. Mbilinyi (LEFT) ,Kakuni primary school library teacher, Mr. Chawe, during the training. (RIGHT).

### The use of Library resources

Since the inception of this project, students have been utilizing the library resources efficiently. Although the library cannot accommodate all the students but at least all students are able to access the reading materials. We have encouraged teachers to keep accurate data every time students use the library facility for we will also use this information during our evaluation on the performance of library. Students' information is recorded on Microsoft access database and students' visitation logbook.

Also during the environmental classes and films, we always encourage students to make good use of the library facility.

### 2. Expansion of VIMA project

VIMA successfully expanded its outreach to Mbede village where there is Mbede Secondary School. We have already started VIMA activities at Mbede Secondary school and plans are underway to extend to Mbede primary school and the village at large.



**Figure 2:** Bahati (Left) and Emmanuel (Right) giving a talk at Mbede.

### 3. Environmental classes

We have done several class sessions in school this month. Although we have not managed to cover all schools but the few we have reached has been successful. We have also prepared several information topics to be covered during this classes and working on more materials. We will share the full information pack once it is complete. We have also made our classes more interactive to give students enough time to share what they know about the environment.



*Figure 3: Emmanuel (RIGHT) and Bahati (LEFT) leading an environmental class at Usevya Secondary.*

### 4. Environmental films

We have not shown many films as planned on our schedule because of limited time and trainings that were ongoing in this month of October. But the little we did were very successful. We usually review a film for that day first and prepare a small information pack for the animal/theme to be covered during the film day to help students understand better what the film is all about.



*Figure 4: Film day at Usevya Secondary.*



## 5. Park trip

We took 45 students from Mbede and Usevya Secondary to Katavi National Park on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018. The trip was very fruitful as students got an opportunity to learn different species in their natural environment and their ecological role. They received a presentation from Mr. Francis Kone who is the head of Community Conservation Service. After the park trip, we requested every student to write a short trip report of what they learnt during the trip. We have collected the reports and we will review and file them.



*Figure 5: Pictures of students during the park trip.*

Also, Mr. Pele, the ranger who accompanied the student highlighted illegal fishing around L. Katavi as the challenge facing it and student were taken to the lake to witness this. They also assisted in dismantling fishing nets and hooks.



*Figure 6: Students with nets and hooks they have removed from the Lake.*

## 6. Tree planting

In this coming wet season, we have provided seeds of five different trees sps namely; *Acrocarpus fraxinifolius*, *Tectona grandis*, *Grevillea robusta*, *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, *Gmelina arborea* for the two environmental groups; Mbede and Kibaoni. The VIMA team will be doing a weekly monitoring of the two nurseries to ensure maximum production of seedlings.



**Figure 7: The VIMA team handing over seeds to Kibaoni (Left) and Mbede (Right) environmental club.**

## 7. Trainings

VIMA took part in two trainings supported by Nomad Trust Tanzania. The trainings were on beekeeping and compost manure. The knowledge gained will be shared during our outreach activities. We were provided with sufficient educational materials on compost manure and we will translate and use them during our trainings and outreach.



**Figure 8: Villagers assisting to make a compost pile (LEFT) and a group photo of people who attended the beekeeping training (RIGHT).**