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**PAMOJA**  
**NGUVU**  
Samen Sterk

### **Newsletter December 2023**

This year is almost over. It was an intensive year for Pamoja Nguvu, with many new activities. Our team took the training in which they learned to set up a better financial system and improve their reporting. This also led, to their great satisfaction, to more cooperation between the three ladies.

It was a tough year for the women from the project who have a small agricultural business. Climate change is clearly having an effect in Tanzania: After a very dry 2022, fortunately it started raining in March this year, but it didn't stop. The rainfall was often so heavy that roads to the more distant villages were washed away and the women could not go to the market with their products. The heavy rain in October and November, also more than normal, fell exactly at the time of sowing. The result was that many young seedlings were washed away. Through the training of the agricultural expert, we hope that the women will also learn how they can respond to climate change, for example by growing other crops.

Many women are wise enough to temporarily start another business, such as keeping chickens or a small shop. We cannot do much about nature, but we can guide women who adapt their businesses to the circumstances.

What was also new this year was the training in women's rights, given by a lawyer who specializes in this. Many women do not know that domestic violence is not normal. So it's high time to change this.



### **Many thanks to our sponsors**

Once again this year we were so fortunate to be supported by many of you. We have very loyal sponsors who have provided their financial support since the start of Pamoja Nguvu, but we have also welcomed new sponsors this year. Some were even generous enough to ask for a donation to Pamoja Nguvu as a birthday gift, which led to fantastic contributions. We are very grateful to everyone who supports our project. The responses to the newsletters are also heart-warming. It is special to us to see that many have embraced our idea to help a group of vulnerable women in Tanzania. And every euro helps, again and again, women in their pursuit of a better life.

### **Visit to the women of Pamoja Nguvu**

There is good news for people who are interested in visiting the project: this is possible! Fahtma has shown several people around in the past year and she enjoys doing so. When Matti and Monique were in Tanzania in January, there were guests who saw the project. In 2024, Matti and Monique will work at Pamoja Nguvu again for the entire month of January and interested parties will again come and join them for a few days. It's fun for us because we proudly show our project. It is fun for visitors because you can experience how people live and what the project means to them. If you would be interested in visiting, please contact us.

We received a very enthusiastic response from one of our sponsors, who visited Pamoja Nguvu in November, which we would like to share with you below.





#### **A heart-warming reaction to Fahtma**

"I want to thank you so much for your effort to guide me through the Pamoja Nguvu activities. It was a magnificent experience to see, hear, feel and taste the progress you are making with the agronomics groups on which we focussed these days. I couldn't understand a single Swahili word, though this gave me the opportunity to fully focus on the non verbal communication between you and the entrepreneurial ladies. I saw enthusiasm, interaction, open communication, happiness and sometimes also worries on faces. All issues and images issues which make life what it is. Through the interaction and open communication tells me that you are managing this Pamoja Nguvu initiative in a very professional and open way. I have seen that your work makes the financial support my wife and I are contributing together with many other to Pamoja Nguvu is implemented very efficient and bringing the entrepreneurial ladies to next steps. And these individuals bring their families and the local community towards the next little though important steps forward. That's the aim. Super !!!"



### **Please meet Gladness**

Gladness has a drugstore, where she sells cough syrup, for example, but also prescription medicine. Before receiving a loan, Gladness was only able to purchase limited inventory. As a result, she had to regularly go to Arusha city to replenish her supplies, which of course took a lot of time. The loan allows her to purchase a larger stock at once. In addition, she was able to purchase a permit for Mpesa payments (payments by mobile phone). Gladness is very happy with this progress. She is an intelligent woman who spoke to us in English. She knows what she wants and thanks to the loan she can now grow her business. Gladness paid off the loan quickly and she is eligible for a second loan

### **Visit Matti and Monique 2024**

In January, Matti and Monique will again participate fully in the daily activities of Pamoja Nguvu. A training course for the agricultural expert and the lawyer for women's rights is also planned, very interesting to experience this. Furthermore, new intakes will take place and of course many women will be visited and their stories will be heard. A report of this visit will be published in next spring's newsletter. Of course, travel and accommodation are entirely at our own expense, made possible by dear friends who offer us a stay at their house in Tanzania.

### **At last**

We cannot emphasize enough how grateful we are for all the support from sponsors. Any amount, large or small, is very welcome and will be spent exclusively on the women in the project. Because it is a loan and the repayment percentage is high, your donation is always used for a new loan. This way we can help more and more women.

We finish by wishing everyone happy holidays and all the best for a beautiful and healthy 2024!





## Doneren

### **Gifts deductible due to ANBI status**

Pamoja Nguvu/Strong Together has been officially recognized as an organization committed to the public general interest. As a result, you can also benefit from this ANBI status, because a donation can be [deductible](#) from your tax.



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