

ATD Fourth World

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INTRODUCTION

2015 has not long passed. This review is an invitation to go back to the strong moments, sharing, events, meeting every member of ATD Fourth World as they lived the past year.

It is an opportunity to reveal our successes. For example the last October 17th, on the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty where we were hundreds and hundreds to show our common commitment against extreme poverty. Adults could progress in their reading and writing, parents could get birth certificates for their children to ensure the chance to send them at school, a group of ATD Fourth World members took part to a huge research about education.

However we stay aware of the challenges families living in extreme poverty have to face but all the successes we lived give hope for a world where each person could live in peace and dignity.





What is All Together in Dignity (ATD) in a few words

"All Together" refers to the unity of the Movement, as well as the necessity to join everyone's efforts to reach common goals.

"Dignity" represents the core of the ATD Movement. ATD members who live in extreme poverty and friends explain that dignity refers to the value of every human being, as well as the respect everyone deserves. Dignity represents the essence of humanity; everyone has dignity. However, in many cases, human beings are not respected as such.

ATD Fourth World is an international movement founded in France in 1957. It is now present in more than 30 countries worldwide. ATD Fourth World has been present in Tanzania since 1999 in Dar es Salaam: Tandale, Tegeta (Kunduchi, Boko), Chasimba and the Magogoni Fishmarket.

People living in extreme poverty are at the centre of our Movement, actively participating in the solutions to overcome extreme poverty, together we stand for the rights of all, creating public awareness and influencing public policies.



ATD Tanzania in 2015

What will you find in this review?

ATD Fourth World is a movement that gathers people from all backgrounds in order to think, act, and live together differently. Where everyone has their place to contribute to the fight to end extreme poverty. ATD Fourth Fourth World is a movement of people, each members is the Movement.

This review offers you a large view of actions, events and successes achieved in 2015. This is the first part. Then you may find and learn about ATD through a second part, the voice and the words of the members, friends, activists, youth, families and full-time volunteers.

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Access to Rights

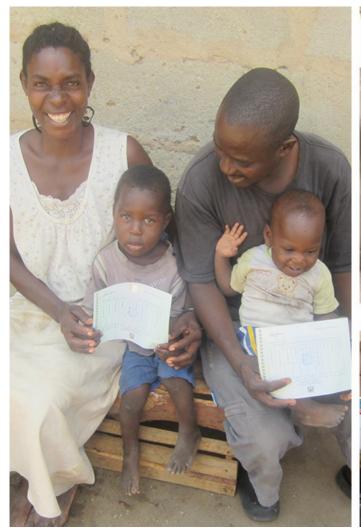
Education For All

Primary school education is one of the building blocks of life. A child's right to primary school education is non negotiable, regardless of the child's wider family economic, cultural or social background. However, for children living in deepest poverty, the likelihood of accessing and completing their primary school education is substantially reduced. When a parent sees their child denied the basic right of primary school education, they know it is as though you lock them out of a world of opportunities, empowerment, and future personal development.

In 2015 ATD Fourth World started a participatory research project to understand the efforts made and challenges faced by education stakeholders to ensure children living in extreme poverty start and finish their primary school cycle.

A research team consisting of members of ATD from diverse backgrounds was formed to lead this project. The team, which included teachers, people living in poverty and ATD permanent volunteers, received training to bring their unique life experiences to the forefront of this research.

The team interviewed teachers, children, parents and local leaders looking at the home, school and wider community impact on children's primary school education. This research is ongoing and the findings will be available in 2016.





Access to Rights

Birth Certificate

Seventy four children from sixty seven families from Tandale, Tegeta and Chasimba were registered to get their Birth Certificate, one essential right for any person. The child becomes a legally recognized citizen.

This could not be possible without the commitment of people from communities as Venance, Shabani and Baba Meresiana spending time and energy to organise the process, supporting families going to RITA, the national public authority managing the birth certificate process.

Baba Mericiana says: "What I understand is that this project concentrates for the poorest families. This is something I can do for people in the same situation as me"

Access to Rights

Adult Literacy Class

The Adult Literacy Project ran in Tegeta in 2015. During this time seventeen people started the class and attended regularly the first three months. Mr. Kasian and Bi Agnes, his wife, supported the project the first weeks to encourage people to not be afraid and trust in themselves

Mr. Kasian, gave an informal support to people from his community wanting to learn to read and write before the class started. He implemented the project with ATD Fourth World, in response to the demand of his community.

Because of the difficulties of life some people had to leave the class but those who achieved were proud: "Before I was very shy to ask for directions in a city. I was not able to read the road signs. Now I feel free to move and even communicate with my phone to my family. I loose my shame"





Access to Rights

Access to School

In 2015, ATD supported extremely poor children to access primary and secondary education.

Access was guaranteed by obtaining birth certificates, support to register at school, accompaniment of families to meet head teachers in case of difficulties, etc.

Access to education is a fundamental human right and is one of the best ways to overcome poverty. Beyond knowledge, skills and competences, it is a way to understand different aspects of life, to socialise with different kinds of people, to get self confidence, and for a child to find his or her own place in the community and the society.

Children

Street Library

Every Wednesday afternoon ATD Fourth World members bring books, papers and pencils at the Street Library in Tandale. An average of 50 children, aged from 3 to 10, participate in these activities: reading, singing, dancing, drawing.

The team sits in an outside location and welcomes children to read books, listen to stories, write or draw. It gives the children an opportunity to learn, open their minds and share ideas. Through the Street Library, ATD members also build relationships with the families and become aware about the issues the community is facing.





Special Events

Meeting in Kenya

A delegation of 3 people went to meet friends in Kenya. Venance, representing the Tanzanian families with Salehe and Reachel, from the ATD Fourth World Tanzania team. Venance told us:

"We met academics, students, activists and families in Nairobi. It was an opportunity to present ATD Fourth World and what we do here in Dar es Salaam. We particularly discovered Kibera, a huge area considered poor where we saw the struggle of people, parents, associations to access school and health services.

Such a trip is an opportunity to learn from each other, as we saw how strong solidarity is necessary to overcome poverty, nothing can be done without strong link between people."

Families

Presence and support

ATD Fourth World members take the time to sit and listen individually to people living in extreme poverty. This is particularly important as most of the time their voices are unheard, even if they are the ones who know better about their difficult situation. This is also part of dignity; all people have something to say and deserve to be listened to.

This is possible by creating strong links with others, visiting people and understanding deeply about their lives, sharing moments of joy, achievements and challenges in their daily struggle. Regular visits create a deep trust, families can share personal difficulties, break the loneliness caused by exclusion and build a strong solidarity with ATD Fourth World members.



Youth

The Young Friends of ATD

The aim of the Young Friends of ATD group is to reach out to other young people of different backgrounds, to join with them, share ideas and learn from each other. Coming from different backgrounds they are opened minded, their first thought always to leave no one behind. They spread the message of ATD Fourth World and show that young people have the desire, commitment and willing to build stronger communities. They aim to breakdown the prejudices towards young people demonstrating that their actions are of value and meaningful.

In 2015 the Young Friends of ATD facilitated a Street Library in Tandale on the last Saturday of every month. In an area where youth are blamed for much of the social decline and crime, this is a positive encounter for the children and parents to see young people committed to an action of building peace and friendship.

The Young Friends continued to support each other and meet regularly at the ATD office, discussing important topics such as health, education and training. They prepared and presented a drama about the challenges of going to school on the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty.







Events

World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty

October 17th 2015 in Tanzania, World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty was celebrated all over the country, Dar es Salaam, Njombe, Dodoma. This year the mobilisation focused on:

"Building a sustainable future: Coming together to end poverty and discrimination"

This day is an opportunity to bring together all those who are dedicated to overcoming extreme poverty all year round and those who live with it on a daily basis. The heart of the celebration are the voices of people living in extreme poverty to speak out and testify on behalf of those who are invisible and quiet in their resistance.

This year the October 17th committee, composed of friends of ATD Fourth World, activists living in the communities and full-time volunteers revealed the importance to share these events with friends all over the country. They insisted as well on taking opportunities to spread widely the message of ATD Fourth World.

A round table in Njombe with friends of the Kisangani Smith Group association, a meeting in the village of Bihawana, close to Dodoma, and a huge gathering at the Dar es Salaam Village Museum mobilized hundreds of people.

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Mama Mkude (Tandale)

I am very happy about what has been done with ATD this year, especially very happy to demonstrate with the research project that even without a high level of education or training I was able to contribute to an academic work. People are complementary as a whole. We had to address some challenges with the research project, for instance some people we met were expecting money for their contribution. But they have realised that, even it they are living in poverty, they have also something to give, share and that doing so, they can help themselves and others.

In our local community, I could understand that the way some public services are organized are not appropriate for people living extreme poverty: for instance there is still no effective access to birth certificates for them, lack of information, costs of transportation, corruption, etc, are some of the barriers still remaining and making difficulties for them to access their rights. It would be important to help the authorities to have a better understanding of the needs, ATD could help and share its expertise and hand over what has been done to the authorities.

I went to Dodoma to meet ATD friends for the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty in 2015. It was more than a journey: this helped me to set up my awarness and give the strengh to go further in my commitment. I discoverded that others people tackle the same challenges as me, that we are not alone.



Bi Agnes (Tegeta)



I am always happy to attend October 17th. This day is expected to deliver messages on the Movement and to better understand what is happening in the different sectors of ATD Fourth World. Last year I realised it could be useful to invite more people from outside the Movement. The public will be more diverse, we could have more exchanges and learn more from each others. It will help the Movement to grow.

As part of Adult Literacy classes a few years ago, I got more than I expected: I got pride from the others and myself, people saw me reading a newspaper, I was someone! Today the project knows a great success. People of my neighborhood ask questions. I become a local referent. But sometimes I don't know what to answer because I miss information. It is also difficult to explain what is ATD Fourth World. So in my view, it would be useful to ensure for ATD activists information about the actions and to create tools to help us to tell about ATD and convince more people to join us. Training for every members would reinforce our commitment.

We should keep identifying the people living the strongest exlusion. It is essential that the Movement gives priority to them. It is important they feel they are not alone.





When I joined the Adult Literacy Class a few years ago at first people were curious about what I was doing. My friends supported me, so I could manage to spare time to learn how to read. Today people who want to be learners come to me. Once I was a learner, now I am a supporter and give information to others. Now I have access to information, I know what's going on in the country. I feel confident. Reading is to have access to knowledge.

October 17th: it is a day of pride. Last year I could testify that all is possible by sharing my experience. It was in Njombe. It was an important step forward for me. My experience inspires me, especially to make more efforts so that my children experience a better life. Thanks to my experience with ATD I met new friends, opened my mind: I can now achieve things that seemed impossible to me before.



Mr. Kasian (Tegeta)



The actions undertaken by the Movement help the citizen to open their eyes and help them to access effectively to their rights, to be proud and no more ashamed. Their rights from the police force in particular, in order to protect themselves.

For me, to know how to read and how to write restore the right to be part of the country and make proposals, to be a citizen. The Adult Literacy Class is a big challenge for the teachers, they have to be very comitted and diligent. Sometimes teachers are too fast for adults, it can be sometimes difficult for adults. As an activist I need to get the most up to date informations on the projects, I am facing requests and questions of people, but do not always know what or how to answer.

ATD Fourth World could go further and could raise awareness of the people working at state level. ATD Fourth World could work more closely with the government, because ATD knows how much people living extreme poverty are suffering and could bring fresh ideas to the government. We can give direction and guide the authorities.





Yusufu (Fish Market)

I entered ATD Fourth World around 3 years ago through a friend Hassan who could neither read nor write. From the beginning I was excited with the Movement, I knew it was important for me, I wanted to be the first to participate to the literacy course! My motivation is very high. I organize my work time, because it is a priority for me to learn. The teachers are very dedicated. I have only one challenge: access to electricity to do my homework. I found a place to do it: under the lights of the swimming center. Learning how to read helps me to feel good, before I was not able to read the messages on my mobile phone, today I can even read the newspapers. One next step could be English classes. The literacy class experience convinced me: I will always be involved in the Movement.

October 17th means a lot for me, I never thought I would one day participate to this kind of meeting and share my experience. Now I have my place, I can take the floor without hesitation. I know that when energy and involvement are there anything is possible. It would be better if we could inform as many people as possible, including politicians. But I wonder how we can do it. It is not easy to explain what ATD Fourth World is. We can have a large range of actions. The dissemination of the research work completed this year will help to show what can be our contribution.

In October I was part of the trip to Dodoma. I could realise that I am not the only one in my situation, and that to share my experience could inspire other people.



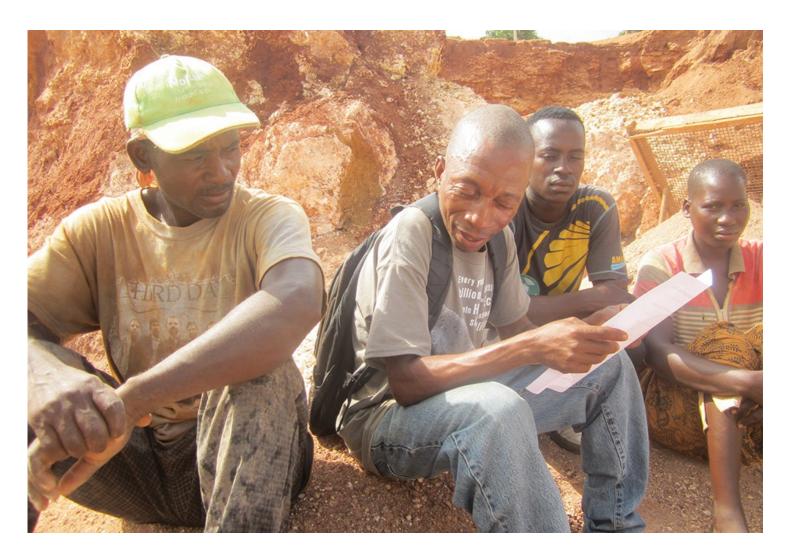


I am 20 years old, I got involved in ATD in 2015 thanks to one school friend of mine. I am part of the Street Library project, this experience makes me feel useful because it is very concrete and working with the children is very inspiring and joyful. There is no difference between the children. Through ATD I can get a unique experience and enjoy a brotherhood relationship. In the neighborhood parents trust us, ask us if they can send their children. We bring positive things.

For October 17th we mobilised ourselves to welcome and take care of children with workshops, playing, singing, etc. We took care that all participants had a seat. It was a chance to welcome new young people to join us.

We created a theater based on real stories of our life and life of other young people. Its was a way to spread a strong message and live together a strong experience.

It could be useful to lead some communication actions to convince more youths to join ATD, I am convinced that many young people would be happy to join ATD Fourth World if they could know about it. The youth of ATD Fourth World should be more visible.





Beatrice Alperte (ATD Fourth World friend)

I am in Tanzania since May 2015, I am working at the French embassy in Dar es Salam. In 2000, I met Mrs. Geneviève Anthonioz-De Gaulle, then President of ATD Fourth World in Paris. She was invited by friends of mine to tell about the Movement. She was very proud to relay the voice of people living in extreme poverty. She told us about ATD actions in the field and the dignity of human beings. When I came to Tanzania, I decided to contribute and help, I thought naturally of ATD Fourth World and contacted the team. I am considered now as a "friend", which is the first step of relationship. I am very happy to contribute to put together the informations included in this annual review. I have been most wellcomed by the team. The commitment of the members is very strong.

Embeded in ATD, I can see from a new perspective. I can better understand the human impact of poverty and urgency that things change. Action is crucial: illiteracy means to be out of the country development and to suffer, lack of birth certificate means non access to basic rights... in my work at the embassy and in my relationships with people in Tanzania I can take better account of those crucial aspects. At ATD Fourth World I met people standing for efficient actions to improve the life of people in extreme poverty. Sharing is not a money issue, each one can share something, as one's experience. I met people living as a real "family", as Mrs. Anthonioz-De Gaulle used to say.

Salma (ATD Tanzania full-time volunteer)



For me, 2015 was a special year concerning the Street Library. We wanted every Wednesday afternoon would be a peaceful, joyful and friendly time. Sometimes its not easy, children can be nervous, not ready to listen carefully, not willing to share as we would like... When I'm going to the Street Library I carry the hope for a good change for the children and the community. And we saw the changes. 2015 revealed the power of the Street Library to support children in their preparation for school and life.

Week after week, children youngest and oldest came regularly, freely they came back. They were happy to learn, discover new things, practicing activities in a spirit of friendship, mutual respect. They trust in us and they know how it is important and fruitful to learn and participating in a collective activity.

The Street Library enabled families as well to participate. Sometimes some parents helped to mobilise children, sometimes for activities. Sometimes some parents help as well to share with other families the importance and value of the Street Library. Because despite years of presence in Tandale, there are families who still don't know what we are doing and need to be reassured.

The Street Library is more than a simple activity, it is something that creates links in the community and give strength to children to prepare them to learn and live with others, without exclusion.

THE NEW ATD LOGO

New Look, Same Message

As the result of a wide consultation with a diversity of members around the world, we are pleased to present our new logo.

The initial 1987 form engraved on the Commemorative Stone in Honor of Victims of Extreme Poverty situated on the Plaza of Human Rights and Liberties in Trocadero, Paris and elsewhere around the world. That logo it will remain emblematic of the conviction that links human rights defenders around the world.

ATD Fourth World's logo for 2015 onward also stays faithful to founder Joseph Wresinski's vision for a design that conveys the energy behind our movement:

"You see people reaching from the darkness towards the light, to catch, to hold onto the bird which symbolizes hope, love, brotherhood, as well as joy and freedom. The circle shows that everything takes place within a community, a sense of solidarity. The whole of humanity lunges forward, constantly reaching toward the horizon."

Created by graphic designer Marie Giard, the new logo takes the powerful symbols of the past emblem — solidarity, hope, freedom — and works them into a bolder design to evoke the same spirit of striving All Together in Dignity to end poverty and exclusion.

In designing priorities for 2013 – 2017 (see following pages), ATD Fourth World members set a goal together to better organise for human rights and peace.

"Where will I be tomorrow"

Constantly moving with no permanent settlement; worrying each day where to find food; ignored, or worse, considered without value; seeing their children not going to school; again and again struck down by sickness; thinking that in everything they try to do they fail; this is the life of the poorest people, unknowing and continually asking themselves in spite of all their efforts, "Where will I be tomorrow?"

And yet, as the grip of extreme poverty all but suffocates all hope from the lives of people living in extreme poverty, their resilience, aspirations, knowledge and efforts to build a world of peace can be an inspiration for humankind.

AmbitionsValuing all Humans as Equal - Priority to the Poorest

ATD Fourth World's priority is to go step by step, word by word, with the poorest people in all we do. In order to create meaningful and trusting relationships we will open our hearts, minds and souls to know one another sincerely and continue our search for those who are missing. We must be respectful in our search for understanding the suffering they endure each day, and encourage society to learn of the efforts and gestures they make to build stronger communities.

Learning for Life

The thirst for knowledge of people living in poverty of all ages is never diminished regardless of the hardships they face. We will deepen our understanding of all aspects of education and learning for life, starting at home, in the wider community, in schools and centers of further education. A priority will be to identify the efforts people living in poverty make and the barriers they face to succeed in their quest for knowledge. We must emphasis the joy of learning and encourage mutual participation and reject competition.

Young People - Carrying our Hopes

At the very moment in life when young people crave the freedom to express themselves, individually and collectively, they face the challenge of responsibilities being thrust upon their young shoulders. We will encourage young people from all backgrounds to express themselves and follow their dreams. It is essential their actions are recognised within their communities as building peace and carry forward the hopes of their nation.

Creating an Inclusive World

Our Movement, our vision, is for the world, for poor and rich, for all humans to live in unity and peace, with dignity and in a sustainable way. We will enable people to understand and access their fundamental rights. To spread our message we will share our vision, starting with our neighbours, our communities and beyond. We will develop new partnerships and create new friendships with individuals and groups and through cooperation share the knowledge, ideas and skills we have for the benefit of all.



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