



ATD Fourth World Tanzania Review of Year 2013

ATD Fourth World

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Introduction

This review of the year is a look back at the work and successes of ATD Fourth World Tanzania in 2013.

Our various commitments meant parents accessed their rights to have birth certificates for their children and send them to school. We spread the message of our movement, our vision, and about extreme poverty in Tanzania and other countries. Together adults learnt how to read and write and we brought books and creative activities to children. Young people encouraged each other to succeed in their studies and commit themselves in their communities.

We cannot deny that the poorest people in our society still face the greatest hardships day after day, to find a safe place to raise their children, to know they will have food today, to feel pride in their achievements. As the grip of extreme poverty almost suffocates all hope from the lives of the poorest people, now more than ever we cannot fail in the greatest challenges facing us all today, to ensure all people live in peace and with dignity.



ATD in a few words

ATD Fourth World is an international movement founded in France in 1957. It is now present in more than 30 countries worldwide. We started working in Tanzania in 1999 in three areas of Dar es Salaam: Tandale, Tegeta (Kunduchi and Boko) and the Magogoni Fishmarket.

ATD means “All Together in Dignity”. Our vision is to overcome extreme poverty ensuring human rights and the dignity of all people are respected.



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.

Our work in 2013

Together the members of ATD continued the activities initiated in the previous years.

Working together, extremely poor families gained the strength and capacity to access their rights to education, literacy and birth registration.

We continued to build the ATD movement in Tanzania. The Advisory Group and the Young Friend Group had met throughout the year. We also kept informed the ATD members by sending them regular newsletters.



Children access school

In 2013, ATD supported extremely poor children to access primary and secondary education.

Access to education is a fundamental human right. We believe it is one of the best ways to overcome poverty. It is key in giving the knowledge, skills and competence to understand different aspects of life, to socialise with different kinds of people, to get self confidence, to open the possibility of finding work and for children to understand and feel part of their community.



A father from Tegeta told us his experience:

“When we left Morogoro to come to Dar es Salaam, I sent my daughter to school but the headmaster asked me to go back to Morogoro to find the transfer papers form. It was just impossible for me because of my hard life. When I met with people from ATD, I explained to them the situation. They accompanied me to the school to speak with the headmaster. We finally found an agreement so that my daughter could be registered. What I learned from this experience is that people don't know their rights and don't have access to them.”



Children get birth certificates

We continued the Birth Registration project. In the area around Tegeta, Venance, Shabani and Baba Meresiana were very active to support extremely poor families to obtain birth certificates. In Tandale parents are encouraging each other to overcome challenges and find the necessary paperwork as the team visit different houses. Together we managed to register 176 children.

Birth registration is very important because it means that a person "legally exists" and is recognised as a citizen by the State. Moreover it gives access and entitles people to rights such as education or formal employment. Parents have told us of the importance for their children to have this document and they see it as a step to overcoming extreme poverty.



Baba Meresiana told us:

“The project is important for the community because we empower people living in extreme poverty. The poorest people really want to have birth certificates for their children but their life conditions don't allow it. For me, it is very important to empower people to access their rights, this is a way of liberating the people”.



The Birth Registration project is sponsored by Better Lives, Hilfe für Afrika and the Diplomatic Spouses Group.



World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty

Each year people all around the world commemorate the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty. In Tanzania, following the theme of 'Working together towards a world without discrimination', members of ATD were interviewed and gave their ideas on how to overcome discrimination, which were published in the October newsletter.

Delegates from Tandale and the team met with a hospital administrator to raise concerns of a mother who had faced discrimination. The outcome of this meeting was presented to the members of ATD, along with readings of testimonies, at a commemoration of the day at the ATD office.



Adults learn to read and write

We organised two Adult Literacy classes, at the Fishmarket and in Kunduchi.

At the Fishmarket, Selemani and Hassan were the leaders of the class in which 15 adults participated in learning to read and write.

Hassan explained:

“I try to motivate my friends to go to the literacy classes. I say to them that some time ago I was also unable to read and write. Then, they understand it has really happened that I can read and write, and that it could also be possible for them”.



In Kunduchi, 17 adults participated in the class. Bi Agnes and Mr. Kasian did a great job in supporting the learners.

Mr. Kasian told us: *“I was sad to see people in my community not able to read and write, not even their own name. It was my case before. That was why I committed myself to this project, to help others in the community to know how to read and write”*.

Not being able to read and write is a huge disadvantage for people in all aspects of life.

It creates a feeling of inferiority and makes the people vulnerable to all kinds of violations of their rights. Literacy helps people in many different aspects of life, such as being able to sign papers, read the direction of buses or read newspapers.

The Adult Literacy project is sponsored by the Diplomatic Spouses Group and Twiga Cement.





News from the team

In June, Ana, Bruno and their children, Clement and Mathilde, returned to France. They have been living and working in Tanzania for 6 years. The ATD members gathered together to say farewell and wish them good luck for the future

Shabani said: *“I want to thank them for their work. We lived together as a family and we cared for each other as a family. I wish them all the best. It is important that we keep in contact in the future”.*

The team now includes Hamisi, Reachel, Hemed and Rob.



Street Libraries

Every Wednesday afternoon we organised Street Libraries in Tandale. An average of 50 children, aged from 3 to 10, participate in these activities.

As most of the children don't have books at home, the Street Library becomes a special moment for them to listen to stories and participate by encouraging them to think and talk about the issues raised in the story. The children also enjoy singing and dancing, drawing activities and games.



The Street Library is also an important way for ATD to be known and trusted in the community of Tandale. It allows us to meet the parents of the children, to understand more about their lives, the efforts they are making and the challenges they are facing.



Looking forward...

The year of 2013 was a year for looking back as we completed the evaluation process of our work from the last four years. Also 2013 was a year of looking forward, which began in August as we started the planning process.

Many of our members participated in this process through meetings and interviews when they shared their views on what should be our ambitions for the next four years for ATD Fourth World Tanzania.



The coming year will be our opportunity to strengthen and create new partnerships, to deepen our understanding on every aspect of education and learning for life, and to encourage the various commitments of our members and meet new friends. We will continue to reach out to those people facing the greatest hardships, those who are forced to stay silent. We will recognise their efforts and aspirations, and embrace their ideas, their expressions and action in all we do.



ATD Fourth World Tanzania - Ambitions for 2014 - 2017

Introduction “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.

Ambitions

Valuing 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 centres 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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