



The year flew by and left Sports Development Aid (SDA) with more professionalism and competence, and communities with education and enjoyable sporting experiences. Our focus has been and will be in the future in organisational development, while continuing supporting youth, especially teenage girls in their basic education through sports, health and life skills education.

This report is a summary of SDA's main activities and achievements in 2019. It begins by informing our friends and partners of the organisational development steps made and what will be done in the future. We believe in the power of partnerships and networking, thus, next the report gives an overview of SDA's cooperation with other development actors and how it has been seen by the public. From there the report continues to SDA's achievements and what it has learned while working in the field.

The following part briefs the reader about our ongoing projects' progress and results, and finally we have collected all the major events from 2019 which SDA had organised or had been part of.

The goal of this report is to give the reader a comprehensive understanding of SDA's work in 2019 in a nutshell, however, if the reader is interested to learn more about Sports Development Aid, she/he is warmly welcomed to contact our SDA team for further communication. The contact details can be found in the last page of this report.

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Finally, we want to thank all Sports Development Aid's supporters and partners of the year 2019. We wish you all the best for the year 2020, and hope to continue our joint journey for development!

Organisational Capacity Building

SDA strategic plan

SDA is more ambitious than ever to grow and strengthen its status as an independent and important player in the field of development and sports in Tanzania. In May 2019, SDA revised its strategy and prepared a new strategic plan 2019 – 2023. While SDA continues working with youth, it is turning its focus more towards helping people living with disabilities. Moreover, SDA started a process of renewing its board to improve its operations. In 2020, SDA will recruit new board members to replace old, inactive members when their agreements come to an end. New board members’ professional background will be taken into consideration in the recruitment process to obtain a strong multi-professional board to benefit SDA’s work and efficiency. SDA welcomed one new board member Mr Kulwa Mang’ana, a lecturer in The Open University of Tanzania.

	<p style="text-align: center;">VISION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All Youth in Tanzania have Equal Opportunities to Education</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MISSION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Promoting Education, Equality, Human Rights and Sports</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">GOALS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Education, Well-Being & Active Individuals</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MEANS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sports, Health & Life Skills Education</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">VALUES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lifelong Learning, Equality, Integrity and Sustainability</p>

Bookkeeping training

Mr. Tor Lindborg, an accounting Manager in LiiKe, Finland held a few-day training for SDA personnel on bookkeeping and best accounting practices. SDA’s new employees learned basic account keeping and old

employees were able to revise and hone their financial management practices. Since the training, the quality and efficiency of SDA’s financial management have improved.

Risk assessment training

In June, SDA's marketing manager from Lindi, Mr. Ramson Lucas and SDA Executive Director from Mtwara, Ms. Thea Swai participated in a risk assessment training in Dar es Salaam, organised by My Right International, an organisation supporting

organisations of people living with disabilities. The training was inspiring and useful, according to Ms. Swai, she got an insight into more effective and less risky arrangement of organisational operations and structure.

Entrepreneurship and business management training

In September, SDA staff was trained in an 8-day seminar on entrepreneurship and business management by Anza organisation. The seminar covered topics of Business planning; Business operations; Sales and Marketing; Accounting and finance; Business management and Leadership skills. SDA put its new knowledge and skills into practice by organising an entrepreneurship skills seminar for its project schools' Girls' Action Club peer leaders and members of its partner kungwi organisation Stadi za Ang'avu za Msichana, with the Open University of Tanzania.



Fundraising

In 2019, SDA activated its fundraising. SDA's newly appointed marketing manager Mr. Ramson Lucas travelled multiple times to Tanzania's commercial capital Dar es Salaam for fundraising – and networking purposes. He sent proposals and had meetings with multiple companies and organisations.

Moreover, in Mtwara, fundraising was active in the last quarter of the year when SDA sought partners and donations for its fundraising sports event "Mtwara Marathon". With the help of local companies, SDA was able to organise the event and raise start-up capital for its future sports and education centre providing people with disabilities with vocational education.



New avenues of fundraising

In March SDA joined an international online crowdfunding community Global Giving (www.globalgiving.org) through their "Accelerator" program. The accelerator program required SDA to raise 5 000 USD from a minimum of 40 individual donors to qualify to become a permanent member of the crowdfunding platform. To take up the challenge, SDA initiated its first online crowdfunding fundraising campaign and with the help of SDA's volunteers and supporters we managed to reach the threshold. Since March, individuals and companies have been able to make monetary donations to support SDA's work on Global Giving.

Mtwara Marathon

On Saturday 30th November 2019, Sports Development Aid (SDA) organised a charity fundraising running event called “Mtwara Marathon” in Mtwara Town, aiming to raise funds for SDA’s forthcoming Sports and Education Centre in Mtwara Town, promoting Sports and Healthy Lifestyle and providing youth with disabilities, as well as otherwise disadvantaged youth with vocational and life skills education, thus, improving their employability, independence and wellbeing. Additionally, the marathon pre-celebrated The International Day of People with Disabilities (3rd December). The slogan “*Right to Be Me*” carried an important message about the rights of people with disabilities to live a normal life, access to education and be included in the society as equal members.



In total, close to 150 runners run for 5, 10 or 20 km to support sports and equal opportunities for education for all, including the Guest of Honour, the Regional Commissioner of Mtwara. In total, SDA raised 4,1 million TSH, which is a good start for the Education Centre, and the fundraising continues. SDA wants to thank all of the runners and sponsors. In total, 38 companies and organisations gave their helping hand and made the event possible.



Donors of Mtwara Marathon 2019

Sports and Education Centre in Shangani, Mtwara

Sports Development Aid together with its long-term partner LiKe – Sports & Development wants to renovate an old sports centre in Shangani, Mtwara town and start an Education & Sports Centre promoting sports, healthy lifestyle and inclusion. The centre will support people with disabilities and their families by providing education on health and life-skills together with different professional skills (cooking, gardening and customer care) to prepare them for healthy, independent life and employment. The centre will offer internship and employment opportunities for the students in its courses. Through employment and internships, the centre creates interaction between people living with disabilities and community, thus promoting inclusion and equality. We call it **Live, Learn and Support -centre!**

Girls’ Dormitory to Mayanga Secondary School

Mayanga Secondary School is among Sports Development Aid’s partner schools. That school, in particular, has problems with girls’ high drop-out rates. Many of the girls walk over 8km to school from the neighbouring villages,

which causes them to be late for lessons, experience sexual harassment, or miss school altogether. At exam time girls sleep on the classroom floor, which is uncomfortable and overcrowded and they don't have any facilities. While teachers take some girls into their own houses, this is not a sustainable solution and most miss out. Despite its challenges, the school stay for the examination period improve girls' graduation rates: in 2017 26 girls and 2018 10 girls graduated (in 2015 none of the girls graduated). This proves that accommodating girls at the school will not only protect them from harassment and abuse but will also improve their academic performance.

Since August 2019, SDA has been collaborating with a team of design professionals - Freiraum Kollektive (a non-profit group of architects based in Denmark, who offer construction consultancy and design services pro-bono to communities in need) and the teachers and girls at Mayanga to design an innovative and affordable dormitory building, which costs the same as a standard government dormitory while also providing communal spaces, passive design features and a matron room. By the end of 2019, the drawings of the dormitory were ready and accepted by relevant education and building authorities. In 2020, SDA and Freiraum Kollektive will start fundraising for the dormitory.



External view of the two-storey dormitory building with balcony

SDA in Media

SDA got media coverage in Tanzania and abroad in 2019. Firstly, two journalists from Finland Ms. Sanna Kuitunen and Ms. Anne Luis-Liimatainen visited Sports Development Aid in May and wrote an article of SDA's "Empowered Girls Speak Out" project which was published in Keski-Suomalainen newspaper in Finland and on the website of Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Secondly, FC Vito team got publicity in Tanzanian media before the day of travelling to Finland in July, and in Finnish media during their two weeks stay.

Moreover, SDA was in local radio, blogs and online news throughout the year. For instance, an article of



SDA's and The Open University of Tanzania's Entrepreneurship seminar for adolescent girls and kungwis was published on local news: www.mtwaraleo.com/2019/10/wanafunzi-63-wapatiwa-mafunzo-ya.html

Donations by Sports Development Aid

BALLS (footballs, netballs, volleyball and basketball) 70	HEALTH INSURANCE for 3 disabled at vocational training	MEDALS 12	HEALTH EDUCATION BOOKS 62	SPORT SHOES 30 PAIRS
JERSEYS (football & netball) 12	SPORT CLOTHING (items) 130	BALL PUMP 1		
GOAL POSTS (netball, volleyball & handball) 12	Maintenance of a BASKETBALL PITCH at Bonanza fields Mtwara	SCOREBOARDS 20		
IRON SHEETS for toilets in schools 15	TOOTHPASTE & LOTION 3	SANITARY PADS 6 packages	SCHOOL BOOKS 3	WHISTLE 1

Partners

In 2019, Sports Development Aid maintained and developed good connections with local authorities, local and international Civil Society Organisations and companies. Local authorities and other partners have been pleased with SDA's work and officially recognised SDA with letters of appreciation. Additionally, SDA reactivated its participation in Mtwara Regional Sport Secretariat Group which organises all sports tournaments in Mtwara region. Moreover, SDA hosted international visitors: Ms. Tekla Seppala, Ms. Roosa Sallinen and Ms. Ida Vaisanen who study sports in Finland.

Anza, Mtwara

Athletics Association, Mtwara

ITV, Mtwara

Kungwi society – Stadi Ang'avu za Msichana, Mtwara

Ligula Regional Hospital, Mtwara

LiiKe – Sports & Development, Finland

Mashujaa Radio, Mtwara

Mtwara Community Development, Sports and Culture, Education and Social Welfare Departments

Mtwara Police and Police Gender Desk, Mtwara

Damu Salama, Mtwara

EduKaid, Mtwara

MyRight, Dar es Salaam

Paralegal, Mtwara

Pride FM, Mtwara

Radio Jamii, Mtwara

Red Cross Tanzania

Red Cross Tanzania, Mtwara

Safari Radio, Mtwara

Saint Michael Primary school, Mtwara

SHIVYAWATA, Mtwara

TABUFO, Mtwara

Freiraum Kollektive, Denmark

HTV, Mtwara

Teachers' Training College – TTC Kawaida, Mtwara

The Open University of Tanzania, Mtwara

Unazero, Tanga

University of Dar es Salaam

VETA – Vocational Education Training Authority, Mtwara

WEETU

Health Education, Life-Skills and Sports Book for Secondary Schools

The first draft of SDA's Health Education and Sportsbook for secondary schools was finished and 63 copies distributed to secondary schools included in an "Empowered Girls Speak Out" project for test use. The book was received with excitement and it is expected to improve health education in the schools, consequently reducing teenage pregnancies and menstruation related absenteeism. It contains topics, such as decision making, self-awareness, setting personal goals, environmental conservation, gender and human rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, effects of teenage pregnancies and drug abuse hygiene, puberty and sports.



Education Support

15 abled-bodied students continued their Advanced level studies and three students with hearing disabilities continued their vocational studies in SDA's "Education Support" project supported by Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation. All the students proceed with their studies well and have hope for the future. The students and their parents visited SDA's office in Mtwara to submit examination reports and to greet and meet. While the youth gathered, SDA's manager – Ms. Thea Swai also spoke about and shared best practices of setting goals for the future and reach them. Moreover, 10 new abled-bodied secondary school leavers and one person living with a disability were identified to be supported by the project.



"I stayed home after my higher secondary education with no hope to continue to college because my mother doesn't have money to pay the school fees, but one day, my mother came home with a big smile. She hugged me and told me to get prepared because on Monday I would go to college. I was surprised, she told me she had met a friend who told her about Sports development Aid and their Education Support project so she applied for me to be supported by the project and after a long conversation and assessment they decided to help me with my college fees.

I'm so grateful for Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation and Sports Development Aid for making my dream come true. I promise to study hard because I want to be a clinical officer and help my mother."

– Atwiri, a beneficiary of the Education Support project

Lessons Learned from The Field

Underlying reasons for girls' low school performance in secondary schools in Mtwara

SDA visited its project schools who had failed to improve their results in terms of girls' graduation rates in 2018. We wanted to find out why these schools' girls had done worse in their final national examinations compared to 2017. A focus group discussion with headteachers and teachers from Mayanga and Libobe secondary schools revealed some of the major issues hindering girls' graduation from secondary education.

- School dropouts
- Uncooperative parents and their lack of monitoring of their children's education
- Traditional Unyago initiation ritual promoting traditional gender roles where women stay at home and take care of the family, rather than acquiring education and work
- Long-distance from home to school
- Hunger, leading to poor concentration in lessons
- Early marriages and intimate relationships
- The indifference of students towards education
- Lack of dormitories - especially girls'

Reasons for girls' low graduation rates in secondary schools (SOV: SDA's field research in Mayanga and Libobe secondary schools).

After identified reasons for girls' truancy, the teachers thought of solutions, such as:

- Build girls' dormitories to the schools
- Provide food for the students
- Educate parents on the importance of education, so they could encourage and follow up on their children's education
- English language should be taught from primary school - some students drop out of school because due to insufficient English
- NGOs and the government should encourage parents and students to focus on education.

Teachers' solutions to improve girls' school attendance (SOV: SDA's field research in Mayanga and Libobe secondary schools).

Girls need more education of menstruation periods – the younger the better

Girls in Sino secondary school took part in a focus group discussion about menstruation on the Menstrual Hygiene Day. We wanted to hear from the girls about their thoughts and experiences about menstruation.

“My science teachers taught me about menstruation when I was a standard four and even though I knew about menstruation, I was surprised and scared when mine started - I cried. I was 13 and I was at home with my mom and my aunt. I use sanitary pads while I'm on my period, but when my mother doesn't have money to buy them, I use a piece of fabric which my mom made for me. I wish to get to know my menstrual cycle so that I could easily prepare myself for my periods. This would help me especially in school.” – a girl in Sino secondary school.

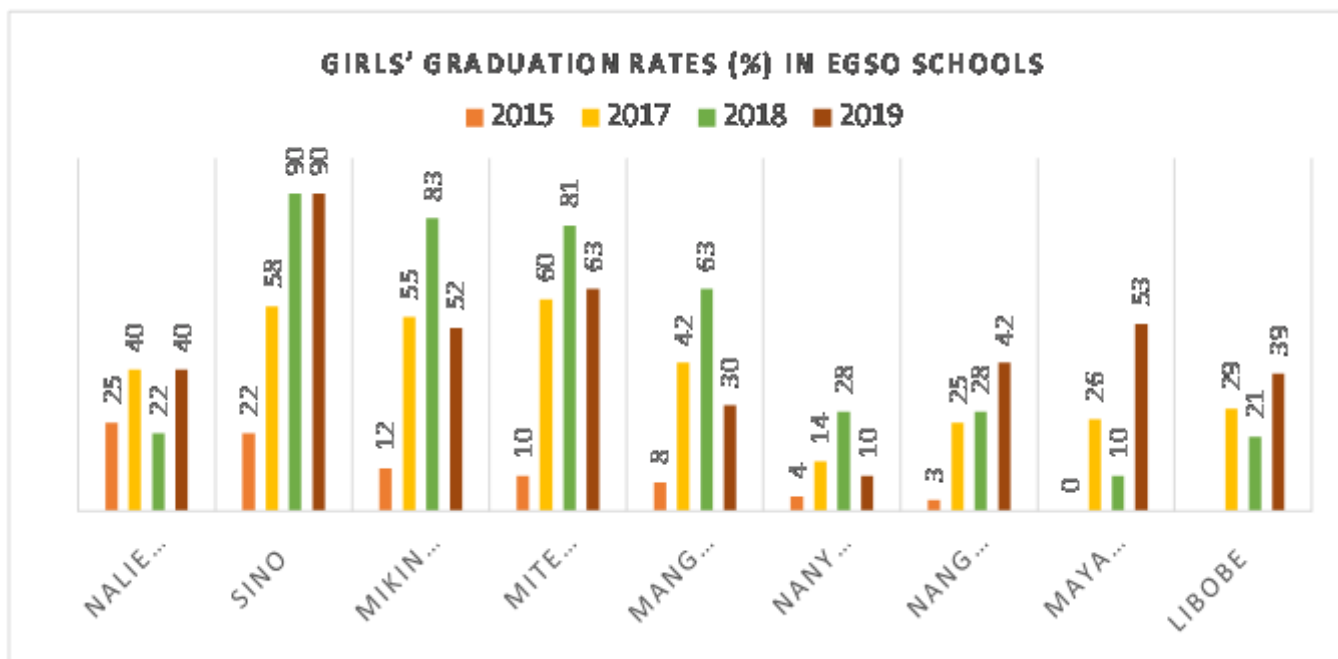
The girl above was lucky, some of her classmates hadn't even heard about menstruation before they experienced it themselves. There is a need for health education in schools. The girls also ask the community to support them by giving them sanitary pads so that they could be comfortable and menstruation period wouldn't disturb their studies. The girls also feel that they should be protected and supported at school when they have their



periods. Unfortunately, there is still girls who need to stay home from school during their menstruation – and that needs to change!

Empowered Girls Speak Out project in 9 wards, in Mtwara

“Empowered Girls Speak Out” (EGSO) project continue improving girls’ situation in schools and the communities. Girls in the nine project schools have improved their grades and graduation rates by 38% in three years. In most of the schools over 50% of girls graduate - compared to 2015 when max. 25% of the girls graduated in the project schools. Girls' increased attendance rates (from 77% to 95%) in every school implies the more girl-friendly school environment and that community understands better the importance of girls’ education.



Community Facilitation Groups and kungwis (girls’ initiation ritual “Unyago” leaders) have promoted and monitored girls' rights in their communities and reported gender-based violence and child marriage cases actively. Girls are respected more and parents and other adults increasingly listen to what they have to say. Parents show more interest in their daughters' education and their improved attitudes regarding girls together with sports fields and sports equipment have increased girls' participation in sports.

Shy and quiet girls express themselves more confidently and have improved self-awareness. Girls are increasingly elected to take up leadership roles at school. They come to school to learn rather than just to show up out of obligation - like in previous times. They also understand better gender rights, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and sexual and reproductive health; believe that they can make a difference in the community, and feel that they are facing fewer obstacles to attend school.



For example, a girl in Sino secondary school reported a boy who was seducing her by love letters to her teacher who then solved the problem accordingly. Girls also teach each other how they can overcome different challenges. Teenage pregnancies have reduced to 8 from 10 (2018) cases in the target schools.

Girls involved in EGSO project feel that they have benefited from EGSO project in numerous ways, for example:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' self-awareness has increased • Girls' self-confidence has increased • They know the importance of setting future goals • The project helps girls to increase self-awareness and believe in themselves | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School dropouts have reduced • Improved school grades • Girls stand out for themselves and make their own decisions • No early pregnancies • Better discipline at school and cooperation with teachers |
|---|--|

Safe and effective life skills training at Unyago



Members of Stadi Ang'avu za Msichana (SAM), a kungwi organisation established with the support of Sports Development Aid, were trained in seminars about health and life skills, for instance, sexually transmitted diseases, as well as organisational management. SAM gained the capacity to prepare quarterly and annual reports; to collect annual fees; to apply the new curricula in unyago training; to network and promote girls' education and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and recruit new kungwis as members of SAM. Kungwis are proud of their organisation and it has helped them to clear their reputation and revitalise their status as educators of the community.

Kungwis feel relieved that they don't need to try to hide the unyago tradition anymore.

The community and parents trust them and feel safe to send their daughters to the updated unyago. Parents have been happy with their daughter's improved behaviour, such as respect and appreciation of education. SAM reported that 120 girls (6 to 12 years old) went through the updated version of unyago in 2019. The girls were taught to respect themselves, their parents and other people; to study hard; to help parents; to prevent early pregnancies; to take care of their hygiene and appearance; not to engage in relationships and abstain themselves from sex to avoid pregnancies and early marriages.

Changed values - A success story

A kungwi, Ms. Bibi Mwanashuru, reportedly has been cooperative with the government and with the whole community. She shared an incident where she had been requested by a teacher to talk to a schoolgirl who was suspected to be pregnant. It turned out that a motorcycle-taxi driver (bodaboda) had got the girl pregnant - which is a crime leading to 30 years jail sentence. Ms. Mwanashuru reported the young man to police, however, unfortunately, the man ran away. The girl was expelled from school and left with the pregnancy.

Although the story doesn't have a happy ending, it demonstrates how the kungwis have changed their attitudes towards gender roles and girls' education. Previously in a situation like this, the kungwi would have told the girl to marry the man who got her pregnant, but now the kungwi took the girls' side, seeking justice for her. The kungwis

has taken a role as protectors of girls' rights. They also reportedly intervene if they notice that girls in their neighbourhood don't attend a school or if they are being sent to marriage. So far kungwis have saved X girls from child marriage since 2017.

FC Vito

2019 FCVito (boys') football team- *the 18th FC Vito team since the beginning of the program in 2000* - travelled from Singida to Finland to participate in a football camp in Eura with a Finnish youth football team *EuranPallo* and to play in an international youth football tournament Helsinki Cup in Helsinki, the capital of Finland. FCVito had a lovely time in Eura, getting a lot of new experiences and friends. They played few practice matches with Finnish football teams: EuPa, P-lirot and RaumanPallo, from which they won the EuPa and P-lirot but lost to RaumanPallo. During the camp, Singida boys did a lot of Finnish favourite sports, such as ice-skating, swimming and sauna, and tried traditional food and played with EuPa. Moreover, FC Vito visited Zoo, Power Park, flea market, Redi shopping mall and many matches of Helsinki Cup.

In Helsinki Cup, FC Vito played 5 matches in preliminary and lost all, as well as the first and the last cup stage match. A charity match was played with celebrities in Helsinki, bringing joy and publicity for the team and the whole FC Vito program. Although FC Vito didn't bring the trophy home to Singida his year, the young footballers learned a lot through exposure, experience and cultural exchange, and that is the utmost objective of the program.



2019 Timeline

Again in 2019, SDA organised events and was invited to and involved in several events organised by governmental departments and other Civil Society Organisations. The following is an event calendar of Sports Development Aid's in 2019.

MARCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Women's Day on 08th of March Community Development Department celebrated International Women's Day in Mtwara Rural and Mtwara Municipal districts for three days in early March. The celebrations consisted of speeches by various officials and organisations, exhibitions of local women groups and sports and games. SDA was largely in charge of the latter and also provided music and first-aid services to the celebration. What comes to sports, SDA organised football and netball matches, aerobics and a 100-meter swimming competition and donated 4 balls and 5 pair of shoes for the winners.
APRIL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Day of Sports, Development and Peace on 06th April SDA, Mikindani secondary school and Mikindani community facilitation group organised a public event in Mikindani, Mtwara. Mikindani Secondary school team played football against Bazo FC team from the community. Besides the football game, also poems, songs, dance and music shows were presented in the event. About 400 community members together with hundreds of children came to see the event. The community was advised and reminded to invest more on education, especially for girls, and to allow girls to participate in sports too. The importance and benefits of education, sports, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights education, sustainable development and women's rights were promoted. Teachers, parents and students were also encouraged to work hard and in cooperation to improve students' academic performance. Like usual, the event was closed by sports equipment donations by SDA.
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Football and advocacy event in Mitengo 17th May Mitengo ward's Community Facilitation Group prepared a public event supported by SDA. Mitengo primary and secondary schools' students conveyed a message of the importance of education – especially for girls, for their parents and other community members. ● Menstrual Hygiene Day on 28th May SDA visited Sino secondary school to hear from girls and their thoughts and experiences about menstruation. The girls felt that they should be protected and supported at school when they are on their periods. ● Sports development meeting for sports organisations on 31st May SDA and its Finnish partner LiiKe – Sports and Development organised an NGO meeting at the University of Dar es Salaam to discuss and plan how to revitalise sports in Tanzania. Representatives from: Sport for Change Tanzania, Mandozi Sports Academy, Right to Play, Msimamo Youth, Ivo Mapunda Sports Centre, NVYRN, ARYADO and OCODE participated. The meeting concluded that there has to be more cooperation between NGOs and a conference should be organised to draw up a clear recommendation paper on sports and health education to be submitted to stakeholders in the government and associations. The meeting enforced communication between the organisations.
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● African Child Day on 16th June Mtwara District Council in partnership with Sports Development Aid celebrated the African Child Day in Madimba ward, Mtwara. Football match, drama and poems educated and entertained more than 600 community members. The main message of the event was that girls and children and youth with disabilities have the same rights to education as boys. SDA donated balls, t-shirts, netball jerseys, running shoes, football shoes and 28 health education and life skills booklets in the event.

- JULY**
- **National UMISSETA and UMITASHUMTA tournaments in June - July**
SDA supported the national four-weeks interschool sports tournaments between primary and secondary schools in Tanzania by donating balls (2 footballs, 3 handballs, 1 netball), 6 goal posts, jerseys (3 sets) and 10 score boards, and by renovating sports grounds for the tournaments in Mtwara.
- AUGUST**
- **Nanyamba sports event on 23rd of August**
Together with Blood Donation Institution, SDA organised a sports and advocacy event in Nanyamba ward on the importance of education for children, especially for girls and the negative side effects (teenage pregnancies) of Unyago – an old traditional initiation ritual which disregards education and prepares young girls to marriage. Parents were told and reminded about their responsibility to follow up their children’s education and stop sending their girls to marriage. SDA took the opportunity to promote its success of creating a new and modern-day needs meeting Unyago with trained teachers. The event was big, more than 1500 people participated. About 500 women, 450 men and 550 children enjoyed speeches and forum theater, dramas, poems, football, sack running race, rope pulling competition and aerobics.
- SEPTEMBER**
- **School sports -seminar on 26th September 2019**
SDA in collaboration with Regional Education Office (REO), organised a seminar discussing how to improve sports in schools. Representatives from schools raised up issues concerning sports, according to them, sports is not given prominence by the school administration causing challenges to organise sports, e.g. there is not enough time in the school timetable for students to practice sports. Teachers also demand for training to update their knowledge so it would be easier to practice with the students.
- OCTOBER**
- **Sport event advocating on disabilities in October 2019 by EdukAid**
SDA facilitated various sports for people with disabilities in a sport event organised for people with disabilities in Mitengo ward by a local Civil Society Organisation EdukAid.
- NOVEMBER**
- **Mtwara Marathon on 30th November**
SDA organised a charity fundraising running event called “Mtwara Marathon” in Mtwara Town, aiming to raise funds for SDA’s forthcoming Sports and Education Centre in Mtwara town promoting Sports and Healthy Lifestyle and providing youth with disabilities, as well as otherwise disadvantaged youth with vocational and life skills education, thus, improving their employability, independence and wellbeing. Additionally, the marathon pre-celebrated The International Day of People with Disabilities (3rd December). The event’s slogan “Right to Be Me” carried an important message about the rights of people with disabilities to live a normal life, access to education and be included into the society as equal members. After 121 sold tickets and donations from individuals and local companies, SDA managed to gather 4,2 million TSH.
- DECEMBER**
- **Empowered Girls Speak Out (EGSO) Project Civil Society Organisation seminar on 17th December**
Sports Development Aid organised a networking seminar for local Civil Society Organisations (CSO) in Mtwara where they heard about EGSO results gained so far and discussed about the situation of girls and Health Education in Tanzanian basic education. The seminar included a workshop where representatives from 14 CSOs grouped and thought of reasons and solutions for the problem of girls’ high school drop-out rates in the region. Everyone acknowledged the problem and whilst most of the identified reasons for school drop-outs are applicable for both, girls and boys, it is much more likely for girls’ to be affected by them. A commonly shared opinion was that parents play a significant role in children’s lives, thus, parental indifference was seen as one of the major factors contributing to teenage pregnancies and school drop outs. Although parents are in a central position, it was concluded that it’s better to focus interventions to adolescents because they are more receptive for new ideologies and behaviours. Moreover, they will be the next parents to be. Participants also agreed that Health Education and sports should be taught as an independent subject in all the school grades to support health and eradicate early pregnancies among future generations. It was agreed that SDA will prepare an official statement explaining the need and importance of Health Education in schools. The paper will be presented in Regional Education Office and sent to TAMISEMI so they could consider making health education as an independent subject in basic education.

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