

CBE & TCRS MOROGORO COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

CBE collaborates with TCRS to implement the Morogoro Community Empowerment Project (CEP). The project focuses on Local leadership empowerment, community empowerment and support for local initiatives. This includes conducting research on and facilitate class sessions to the marginalized groups such as street vendors, literates and illiterates on writing, reading and counting skills and Income generating activities. The project subsequently supports local initiatives by supplying building materials like cement, iron bars and iron sheets. Another activity is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion, where the project concentrates on awareness creation campaigns on how to avoid water borne and hygiene related diseases. On the of the principal beneficiaries and the targeted groups of this project is the urban street vendors given that they fall under the marginalised groups.



Based on this the College of Business Education (CBE) collaborates with the Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services (TCRS) have planned to conduct research on situations of street vending operations in the selected regions notably Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, and Dodoma urban areas.

The overall aim of this research is to get a better understanding of the challenges and untapped opportunities for street vendors in various urban areas and recommend effective ways of empowering the vendors in carrying out the vending activities. The expected outcome for the street

vending project is livelihood improvement. Therefore, the project aims at supporting the street vendors by creating a conducive environment that will favour both the vendors and their customers and ensure compliance to the government authorities' requirements. Generally; the project is looking for the best ways on how to conduct street vending activities around the urban areas using Morogoro Municipality as a case study.

The specific objectives of the research include the following

- To investigate problems and challenges encountered by street vendors in urban areas
- To take stock of and appraise efforts of public and private institutions towards supporting street vendor's business operations
- To identify and recommend better and viable income earning activities and available options for street vendors
- To recommend effective strategies and hints for alleviating challenges/obstacles
- To suggest ways of empowering the vendors in matters related to their business operations

• **Key project participants from CBE and TCRS**

Mr. Emmanuel Shangweli	TCRS Managing Director
Ms. Rehema Samwel	TCRS Morogoro Manager
Dr. Emmanuel J. Munishi	CBE Lecturer and Researcher
Dr. Respickius O. Casmir	CBE Lecturer and Researcher
Mr. Nguno Chuga	TCRS M&E programme officer

Consequently, findings from the study serve as a basis for creating:

- Database of street vendors which will include but not limited to registration of all street vendors, their gender, type of business, location of their business, kind of challenges they face as well as kind of support (capacity building) they would need to move forward.
- A data base of partners working for and with street vendors in one way or the other. What kind of intervention is being done by the responsible organization, how organization can join the efforts together in order to avoid duplication of activities and the specific kind of support offered and their location.
- A data base for all producers and suppliers of various products traded by the street vendors
- Suggest better ways of Linking producers and suppliers with the street vendors using the available data base: This will include identifying ways in which various commodities traded on by the vendors can be codified in such a manner that both the goods and the street vendors will easily be traced whenever there is a need to do so.
- Modalities of enabling street vendors to have access to and manage loans/credits facilities to support their business operations.
- Database of the previous financial support on the youth's empowerment programmes in the country which have been ever issued. How effective were they and how can the forthcoming project be handled more effectively?
- Benchmark for reference points for TCRS – Community Empowerment Program (CEP), specifically for youth's planning and development initiatives.



CBE, TCRS staff and various stakeholderes pose for photos in some previous project activities and events