



Quarter One 2025

Newsletter

January - March 2025.



Dear Valued Community,

INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Sowing Resilience:
Cultivating Hope in Q1 2025

Empowering Dreams:
Girls Return to School in Q1
2025

Rising Together:
Women's Empowerment in Q1
2025

Board Election:
KINNAPA successfully
conducted the election of a
new Board of Directors, in Q1
2025

As we step into the first quarter of 2025, we are filled with pride and hope as we share the inspiring journey of growth and empowerment unfolding across the KINNAPA Development Programme.

This newsletter celebrates the resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment of our Horticulture and Vegetable, Education, and Gender, Women, and Children units as they transform challenges into opportunities for lasting change in Tanzania.

Imagine a young girl in Siha, Kilimanjaro, stepping back into a classroom after years of absence, her dreams rekindled through the Education Unit's tireless efforts to bring 120 girls back to school.

Picture a group of women in rural communities, empowered through capacity-building workshops, boldly claiming their land rights and launching their own projects to secure a brighter future.

Envision farmers in the Horticulture Unit nurturing Sukumawiki and tomatoes under the scorching sun, defying drought to cultivate not just crops but hope for food security and economic growth.

Clean Water, Brighter Futures in Kilindi

In Kilindi, Tanga, our partnership with Water to Thrive is transforming lives by providing access to clean water.





Program Coordinator's Foreword:

Dear Partners, Community Members, and Stakeholders,

As the Executive Director of KINNAPA Development Programme, I, Abraham Akilimali, am deeply honored to share our newsletter for January to March 2025, a period marked by extraordinary resilience and transformative progress in Kiteto District and beyond.

For over 32 years, KINNAPA has been a steadfast force for change, empowering pastoralists, small-scale farmers, and hunter-gatherers by addressing critical challenges such as water scarcity, illiteracy, environmental degradation, women's marginalization, poor nutrition, low agricultural productivity, land conflicts, HIV/AIDS, and the escalating impacts of climate change.

During the first quarter of 2025, KINNAPA's commitment to sustainable development yielded inspiring results despite significant obstacles. Our Horticulture and Vegetable Unit achieved 70% of its planting target, cultivating high-demand crops like tomatoes (Econ F1) and Sukumawiki despite severe drought. By utilizing drought-resistant seeds, early nursery preparation, and organic fertilizers, we improved community nutrition and generated income, although water scarcity and unpredictable rainfall led to lower yields compared to 2024.

Our Education Unit made significant strides in promoting gender equity by enabling 120 girls in Siha and Hai, Kilimanjaro, to return to school. Additionally, our advocacy campaigns in Kiteto, Simanjiro, and Babati raised awareness about the importance of girls' education. KINNAPA's participation in the CSW69 conference in New York, alongside partners such as TENMENT and HAKI ELIMU, amplified these efforts on a global stage, reinforcing our commitment to educational equity.

The Gender, Women, and Children Unit advanced equality through capacity-building workshops, empowering women to secure land rights and initiate community-driven projects. We also addressed gender-based violence and child labor through engagements like the MTAKUWWA meeting, fostering safer and more inclusive communities. These efforts have laid a strong foundation for sustainable empowerment and social change.

In Kilindi, Tanga, our partnership with Water to Thrive delivered clean water through shallow wells, significantly reducing waterborne diseases and promoting community-led water management.

A key milestone this quarter was the election of a new Board of Directors, which has strengthened KINNAPA's governance and strategic vision, ensuring we remain well-positioned to drive sustainable development.

Additionally,

Despite these achievements, challenges such as erratic rainfall, water shortages, widespread illiteracy, land conflicts, inadequate school infrastructure, and climate change continue to test our resolve. Through proactive measures like pest control and community sensitization, we mitigated some losses, but strategic investments in water pumps, reliable water sources, and girl-friendly school facilities are essential for sustained progress.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our partners, community members, government departments, and development actors whose unwavering support fuels our mission. Together, we are transforming challenges into opportunities, fostering resilience, and building a brighter, more equitable future for Kiteto and beyond.




Abraham Akilimali
Programme Coordinator



GOAL 1 : KINNAPA SUCCESSFULLY ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP ON FEBRUARY 25, 2025



On February 25, 2025, KINNAPA held a successful election to appoint its new board, including the chairman, treasurer, and representatives for key groups: Kundi la Wote (General Group), Kundi la Vijana (Youth Group), Kundi la Wanawake (Women's Group), Kundi la Wakulima (Farmers' Group), and Kundi la Wafugaji (Livestock Keepers' Group). The transparent and inclusive process saw strong member participation, reflecting KINNAPA's commitment to democratic governance.



The election, conducted per KINNAPA's bylaws, featured a secure voting platform and informed voters about candidates' visions. High turnout underscored the community's trust in the process. The newly elected board, led by the chairman, Secretary and treasurer, brings diverse expertise to advance KINNAPA's mission.

The new leaders, including representatives from each group, are poised to drive innovation and address community needs. The chairman will guide strategic efforts, while the treasurer ensures financial oversight. Group representatives will advocate for their constituencies, fostering inclusivity.



"This election is a testament to KINNAPA's strength as a united community. I am honored to lead and will work tirelessly to ensure every member's voice shapes our future." – [LENDEKUSHI K OLEMOISARY], Newly Elected Chairman



This election marks a milestone for KINNAPA, with the new board set to enhance member services and partnerships.

The leadership transition promises a future of growth and impact, driven by a unified commitment to the organization's goals.



GOAL 2 : HORTICULTURE AND VEGETABLE UNIT: BOOSTING PRODUCTION AMID CHALLENGES

The Horticulture and Vegetable Unit of KINNAPA Development Programme focused on increasing crop production, particularly tomatoes (Econ F1) and Sukumawiki, during Q1 2025 (January–March), despite severe climate-related challenges. The unit achieved 70% of its targeted planting area and generated some income through crop sales, though yields were lower than the previous year due to drought and water scarcity.

The Horticulture and Vegetable Unit's efforts to sustain agricultural productivity in the face of adverse weather conditions highlight both resilience and the urgent need for adaptive strategies in Tanzania's farming sector. The unit's success in planting over 70% of the intended garden area, despite a prolonged drought from January to March 2025, demonstrates effective planning, including the use of drought-resistant seeds and early nursery preparation. The cultivation of high-demand crops like tomatoes and Sukumawiki aligns with market needs, contributing to community nutrition and institutional income.

However, the report underscores critical challenges: unpredictable rainfall, a dried-up water source, and high costs of water procurement hampered irrigation efforts, reducing yields compared to 2024. Pests and diseases, exacerbated by excessive heat, further impacted crop health.

"KINNAPA's Horticulture Unit Battles Drought to Achieve 70% Planting Target in Q1 2025"

The unit's proactive measures, such as timely application of organic and industrial fertilizers and pest control, mitigated some losses, but the report calls for strategic investments to secure future success.

Proposed solutions include relocating gardens closer to reliable water sources and acquiring water pumps for consistent irrigation. These recommendations reflect a broader need for climate-resilient agriculture in Tanzania, where smallholder farmers face similar constraints.

By adopting modern, sustainable farming practices and addressing water access, the unit could set a model for other local institutions, potentially boosting regional food security and economic stability.



GOAL 3

Education Unit: Empowering Girls' Education.

The Education Unit facilitated the return of 120 girls to school in Siha and Hai districts, Kilimanjaro, and conducted campaigns to promote girls' education in Kiteto, Simanjiro, and Babati, addressing dropout causes like distance, lack of dormitories, and truancy. The unit also participated in the CSW69 conference in New York to advocate for gender equality in education.

 **Manyara, Tanzania**

The Education Unit's work in Q1 2025 marks a significant step toward gender equity in education, a critical issue in Tanzania where cultural and logistical barriers often prevent girls from completing their studies. By enabling 120 girls to resume their education in Siha and Hai, the unit directly addressed dropout challenges through stakeholder meetings and verification processes.

The campaign across Kiteto, Simanjiro, and Babati to reintegrate girls into schools highlights a community-driven approach, raising awareness about the importance of girls' education and the role of local authorities in enforcing supportive policies.

Ms Pauline Ngurumwa from KINNAPA participated in the CSW69 conference in New York, in collaboration with organizations like TENMENT and HAKI ELIMU, elevates its impact to a global stage, aligning local efforts with international goals for gender equality.

Additionally, the success of Sunya center students in producing school uniforms showcases an innovative approach to combining education with income-generating skills, fostering self-reliance.

However, challenges like early marriages and inadequate school infrastructure, such as dormitories, persist. The unit's call for continued community sensitization and government investment in girl-friendly facilities is a pragmatic step toward sustainable change, reinforcing the need for collective action to ensure girls' right to education.



***"KINNAPA's Education Unit
Reintegrates 39 Girls into School
and Advocates for Gender Equity
in Q1 2025."***



GOAL 4 : Gender, Women, and Children Unit: Advancing Gender Equality

 **Manyara, Tanzania**

The Gender, Women, and Children Unit participated in the MTAKUWWA district meeting to address violence against women and children, collaborated with village authorities to tackle child labor in agriculture, and supported women's empowerment through capacity-building workshops, enabling some to claim land rights and initiate community projects.

The Gender, Women, and Children Unit's activities in Q1 2025 reflect a multifaceted approach to promoting gender equality and reducing violence in Tanzanian communities.

The unit's engagement in the MTAKUWWA meeting facilitated critical discussions with diverse stakeholders, including gender desks, courts, prisons, and NGOs, to address violence and child labor.

Capacity-building workshops have empowered women to advocate for their basic rights, with some successfully claiming land ownership—a significant milestone in a context where patriarchal norms often restrict women's access to resources.



GOAL 5 :KILINDI WASH IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

 **Kilindi, Tanga**

water to thrive
BUILD WELLS CHANGE LIVES

Empowering Communities through Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Solutions

In May 2025, KINNAPA's Board conducted an inspection of Water to Thrive shallow wells in Kilindi, Tanga, to assess progress and community benefits from this vital clean water project.



ACHIEVEMENTS :

- **Access to Clean Water:** Wells provide safe water for daily use.
- **Reduced Diseases:** Waterborne illnesses like diarrhea have significantly decreased.
- **Community Engagement:** Residents actively manage wells through water committees.



CHALLENGE

Many peoples still prefer natural water sources over the new wells.

RECOMMENDATIONS

-Awareness Campaigns: Educate communities on well ownership, management, and proper use.



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