

# KARIBU TANZANIA ORGANIZATION (KTO)



# MPARA FURSA

## Tanzania Women Football Program



## PROGRAM PROFILE

March 2021

## **I. Introduction**

Women's football is not a new phenomenon in Tanzania. Girls and women have been participating in football since the late 1990s. Since then, various strategies and programs have been put in place to promote and develop women football. In 2016, the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) in collaboration with Karibu Tanzania Organization (KTO) decided to work together with renewed focus to develop a program to provide a greater opportunity for girls and women to participate in football, and develop other skills and potential.

This is the first program of its kind, not only in Tanzania, but in all of East and Central Africa. It focuses on developing a robust and sustainable infrastructure to support, promote and develop football for girls and women in Tanzania. The initiative has been further developed in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) and the National Sport Council of Tanzania under the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports (MoICAS). To support these efforts, the MoEST listed Mpira Fursa as one of the additional programs for FDCs from January 2020.

## **II. About Karibu Tanzania Organization**

Karibu Tanzania Organization (KTO) is a national level Non-Governmental Organization working as an umbrella organization for the Folk Development Colleges (FDCs) in Tanzania since 1990s. It was established as a result of cooperation between Tanzania and Sweden through Folk Development Colleges in Tanzania and Swedish Folk High Schools. The organization's focus is to create well-informed social-economically empowered, active citizens in a just and sustainable society including initiatives that enable the response against sexual and gender-based violence, support and promoting women's rights, empowering women's decision making, and enhance the FDC institutional capacity and the public sector to address gender equality.

KTO has gained a long experience of non-formal education offering through Folk Development Colleges, adult learning, pedagogical work, rural development, and training for young adults. Through FDCs, KTO provides training for young adults who have dropped out of the formal school system, including young mothers. The training offers an integrated vocational and secondary education program providing participants with life skills that prepares them for employment or pursuant of further education levels. KTO's function as an umbrella organization is to connect all 55 FDCs in the country and strengthen the FDCs as institutions to be able to fulfill their task in promoting adult education, folk education and community development.

Along with its other two principal programs; the Expanded Access to Early Childhood Development (ECD) program in partnership with 10 FDCs, and Mpira Fursa-Tanzania Women Football program in partnership with TFF, the ministries concerned and 43 FDCs, KTO is currently implementing the Elimu Haina Mwisho - Skills Development Program for Young Women providing vocational training, secondary education, life skills and entrepreneurship at 41 FDCs.

## **III. Partners Involved**

### **Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)**

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) is a football organization registered in the United Republic of Tanzania under the National Sports Council act of 1968 as amended in 1971. Its mission is to develop, promote, control and regulate the sport of football in all its forms throughout the territory of Tanzania Mainland, to manage the international sporting relations connected with association football in all its form, organize competitions and protect the joint interest of its members. In the Mpira Fursa program, TFF provides the expertise in developing training materials and TOT sessions to FDC teachers who are involved in developing female coaches and referees

### **Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST)**

MoEST is the Ministry responsible for providing among other things, education guidance on implementation of educational policies, priorities or programs of the government in terms of education, teacher training,

and school text books. All Folk Development Colleges are operating under the Technical Vocational and Education Training department (TVET).

### Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports

The National Sports Council of Tanzania

National Council of Tanzania does the following functions:

- To develop, promote and control all forms of sports on a national basis in collaboration with sports organizations
- To encourage and facilitate cooperation among the various national sports associations/federations
- To arrange with local authorities for provision of sporting facilities at all levels and,
- To plan and advise the Ministry responsible for sports on the general policy of sports promotion in the country

### Folk Development Colleges (FDCs)

FDCs were established in 1975 as part of functional literacy programs which was the third phase of the Adult Education Programs. Majority of the FDCs operate in rural areas and their primary mission is to provide access to training in areas relevant to their local communities. These training consist of vocational training and general knowledge such as entrepreneurship, life skills, civic education, and communication skills. Training involves personal development, strengthening capacity for the participants to acquire new knowledge, developing skills to acquire formal employment or self-employment, and continuing their studies after completing the courses.

For Mpira Fursa program, FDCs provide for training and coordination expertise as they conduct training to their participants as well as coordinate the football program which involves football activities in primary and secondary schools including coordination of teachers' coach training, coordination of girl teams as well as the football tournaments.

## IV. Context

Tanzanian society suffers from gender disparities that restrict the accessibility of basic services for girls and women. Tanzania has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world and has one of the highest adolescent pregnancy rates in the world (MoEVT, 2008; BEST, 2010). Dropout rates due to pregnancy in Tanzania are at an alarming rate, with 8,000 girls dropping out of school every year. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA), one in every six girls gets pregnant between the age of 16 and 19 years.

There are many talented Tanzania girls and young women with potential to become great football players, coaches, referees, administrators, and sports medicine practitioners. Tanzania established a national women's team, the Twiga Stars, and the first women football league was established in 2016. The challenge for Tanzanian women's football is a lack of organization, structure and infrastructure to encourage more women to play football. Few women get a chance to be trained as coaches and referees. Cultural barriers and taboos are other challenges that restrict girls and women from playing football.

## V. Program Rationale

Football has huge potential to empower girls and young women, create opportunities for them to play football and get involved as coaches, referees, leaders and administrators. In many countries, it has been recognized that football can be a force to amplify women's voices and tear down gender barriers and discrimination. Every time they clear a hurdle or kick a ball, they demonstrate not only physical strength, but also leadership and strategic thinking; they take a step towards gender equality.



This program supports, promotes and develops women and girls' football as a way to achieve gender equality and socio-economic empowerment, increase girls' self-esteem and self-confidence, and create quality, skilled female footballers from the grassroots. Mpira Fursa contributes to our goal that all girls entering schools complete their studies without dropping out, defying the misperception that they are weak or incapable. Through Women Football, KTO leverages partnerships and engagement with different audiences to teach everyone that gender-based violence and sextortion have no place in it, on or off the field, anywhere in our lives; and that we can achieve a future where all playing fields are truly level for all women and girls.

The program will develop an infrastructure to support, promote and develop women and girls' football for gender equality and socio-economic empowerment. It will specifically develop a structure for promoting women and girls' football which can be applicable in the whole country to educate female coaches, female referees, female sports administrators and female sports medicine practitioners.

#### **Football Courses at FDCs and football activities at Primary and secondary schools**

Football courses have been introduced at 43 Folk Development Colleges (FDCs) implementing the program, in 22 regions. The courses contain

technical development, coaches training, referee training, sports management, life skills and sports medicine. The program and training courses have been introduced as an extracurricular providing the young women the opportunity to continue with their studies and at the same time join the football program.

The development of football for girls at primary schools and secondary schools is coordinated through the employed and trained personnel at the FDCs in collaboration with the responsible teachers for physical education (PE). This includes the coordination of matches and tournaments, coaches training, and referee training. The selected schools and teams are used as a field experience for the participants where they will use and practice the training they have received. Young women are organized and playing football around each FDC. The program will increase the proportion of women and girls playing football at different levels— village, district, zonal and national. Through the Mpira Fursa program, FDCs' registered teams will secure participation in TFF coordinated tournaments and leagues at the District and Regional levels. The educated coaches, referees and sport administrators will have the opportunity to continue their engagement in the TFF structure.

Depending on the funding availability, KTO will upgrade the program from working with 43 to 54 FDCs, where more FDC participants will be trained (30 participants per FDC) and more primary and secondary schools involved.

## **Football Academies**

KTO in collaboration with Ministries concerned and TFF will develop one or more of the FDCs into Football academy/ academies for the most talented female players from the FDCs and/ or from the communities to join. The players will be provided with excellent training from football experts, and at the same time continue with their education. There are countries with vast experience of girls and women football development, one of them is Sweden. A contact with the Swedish Football Federation (SvFF) has been established and discussions about partner collaboration are underway.

## **Football Material Production**

KTO in collaboration with MoEST has planned for a pilot program on football material production. The program will be introduced to six FDCs, which will be capacitated in the production of footballs, football nets, football vests etc.

## **VI. Mpira Fursa**

Football is an opportunity. The Tanzania Women Football Program - Mpira Fursa started as a result of the fact that football is or can lead to opportunities for girls, women and the society as a whole. Football has huge potential to empower women and girls and the program will create opportunities for many girls and young women to play football. In many countries, it has been recognized that football can be a force to amplify women's voices and tear down gender barriers and discrimination.

The Mpira Fursa program will contribute to the goal that all girls entering schools also complete their studies without dropping out. Women in football defy the misperception that they are weak or incapable. There is good evidence that participation in football can help break-down gender stereotypes, improve girls' and women's self-esteem and contribute to the development of leadership skills.

Tanzanian society suffers from large gender disparities that restrict the accessibility of basic services for girls and women. Girls and young women are facing challenges, and it can differ depending where in Tanzania they live, which ethnic group they belong to, and which national policies are in place regarding girls and young women. By creating a safe space for girls and young women in the field of football, information and dialogue about Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights, Gender Based Violence (GBV), sextortion, and other concerning issues can take place.



Mpira Fursa program will address these different issues through football and community dialogue activities. Football events can be used to spread messages that support the 2030 Agenda, including its messages of gender equality, a world free of poverty and free of violence. This brings us back full circle to the fact that gender equality and girls and women's empowerment are essential to the achievement of the SDGs.



## VII. Program goal

To support, promote and develops women and girls' football as a way to achieve gender equality and socio-economic empowerment.

## VIII. Program Objectives

- To develop a model structure for promoting girls' and women's football in Tanzania.
- To train young female coaches, referees, sports administrators and female medical assistants to enter into the field of sports
- To increase opportunity for girls to play football
- To increase the number of skilled, confident female footballers
- To develop a football program model applicable to all FDCs throughout the country
- To develop FDCs as football academies to develop elite players
- To reduce dropouts from primary and secondary schools
- To produce football materials

## IX. Activities

- Stakeholder meetings
- Conduct Coach training and program coordination training for FDC teachers, coordinators of the program
- Contextualization of Curriculum and Training Materials to fit with

the different target participants from FDC participants

- Football course implementation in collaboration with TFF at FDCs
- Conduct TOT training on Gender based violence, sextortion and sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR)
- Sharing and learning training workshop for FDC
- Coordinate football activities at primary and secondary school teams
- Organize matches and football tournaments for the FDCs in the program, primary schools and secondary schools
- Training to FDC teachers on manufacturing of sports equipment
- Conduct stakeholder engagement meeting
- Collaboration meetings with international experts
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning visits to all FDCs

## X. Results

- A developed model/structure for promoting girls' and women's football which can be applicable in the whole country.
- Mpira Fursa – Tanzania Women Football Program implemented at 54 FDCs
- Football courses implemented at 54 FDCs.
- 2160 young women trained as football coaches, referees and as Football administrators per year and active in different levels of girls' and women's football.

- 12,420 girls and young women play football in organized teams.
- Reduced number of girls dropouts from primary and secondary schools
- One Football academy is developed in collaboration with TFF
- Increased numbers and proportion of women and girls playing football at different levels—local, district, zonal and national.
- Higher quality and standard of women’s football.
- Skilled, talented and educated football players with good self-esteem and self-confidence.
- Increased number of women employed in the field of football and sports.
- Football materials produced and are available in FDCs
- A Tanzanian society with an increased number of empowered girls and women with self-esteem and self-confidence and with increased ability to take risks and to make informed and confident decisions concerning their own lives.

#### **XI. Contact Persons and Information:**

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