

TUMAINI

NEWS LETTER

Steps of Hope - One Story at a Time

2nd Edition August, 2025



"The desert will rejoice and blossom like a rose." Is 35:1

The Provincial Development Office of the Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco (Daughters of Mary Help of Christians) shares with you the Second edition of TUMAINI; A monthly newsletter full of stories of HOPE.

Be inspired and informed.

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Livestock Production Training

A number of livestock keeping and production trainings have been conducted in our missions. The trainings were designed to enhance farmers' knowledge and skills in animal husbandry, particularly in feeding, housing, breeding, and general care. Farmers were enlightened on how to improve livestock productivity through proper disease control methods, treatment, and veterinary care. They also learned how to integrate livestock with crop production as a way of promoting sustainable farming systems. The facilitators emphasized that manure from livestock is a natural input readily available in households that keep animals, thus reducing reliance on purchased fertilizers. In addition, crop residues can be used to feed the animals, minimizing the cost of organic feeds. This integrated approach contributes significantly to food security. The sessions further highlighted how proper management of livestock and poultry can not only increase food availability but also generate income for households.



MMV training session



**Laura Vicuna
Training session
ongoing**

Gender Awareness and Peace Building

FMA-AFE Kenya missions carried out training sessions for its beneficiaries on Gender and Peacebuilding. The sessions were enriching and closely related to the daily realities in our society.

The adult sessions focused on gender equality, emphasizing the importance of equal participation of both men and women in decision-making and leadership. Facilitators also addressed harmful cultural practices and stereotypes that fuel gender-based violence, which often serve as barriers to peace. Participants gained knowledge and skills on how to prevent, identify, and respond to such cases within their homes. The facilitators further highlighted that gender sensitivity reduces recurring misunderstandings, enhances social cohesion among community members, and fosters an environment conducive to economic growth, education, and social progress.

The children's and students' sessions were equally successful. They were guided through topics such as gender awareness, gender roles, gender stereotyping, child rights, self-respect, and gender and peacebuilding. The facilitators emphasized the importance of treating everyone equally and with respect regardless of their gender. The children also learned that gender roles have evolved, with industrialization and education opening opportunities for both men/boys and women/girls to pursue careers and hobbies that were once restricted due to societal perceptions.

All participants were introduced to best practices for promoting gender equality and reminded of their role in fostering peaceful and harmonious communities.



Training for adult and children in Siakago Mission



Training for adult and Students in Dagoretti Mission



Training for adult and Students in MMV Mission



Care for Mother Earth

In the month of August, several FMA–AFE missions in Kenya conducted environmental conservation awareness sessions with adults, children, and youth. Participants were taught about the causes of environmental pollution, particularly through improper waste management. They learned how to segregate waste and use biodegradable materials as manure to improve farm productivity. They were also encouraged to recycle, re-use, and reduce waste as a way of promoting sustainable practices for a healthier environment.

After the training, all participants engaged in cleanup activities in their respective areas and planted trees. The students also re-used waste materials collected during the cleanup exercises for learning and creativity, in line with the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) in Kenya.



Students reusing waste materials for learning in MEC



Tree planting and clean-up with students in MEC



Training, Tree planting and clean-up by Laura Vicuna Mission, students and adult beneficiaries



SMART Project Management in the Digital Era



The BUILD II SMART Project Management Course, hosted by the Jesuits Development Office, was a three-day capacity-building program designed to strengthen the abilities of project managers, development officers, and finance officers. Held from August 4 to 6, 2025, at the tranquil Roussel House, Donum Dei, the training brought together participants from a variety of organizations including the Salesian Sisters, who were represented by Tom O. Obiero from the Provincial Development Office, to explore three essential areas of modern project management: proposal development, technology integration, and sustainable revenue generation.

The program opened with an in-depth exploration of the art of crafting winning proposals. Participants examined donor psychology, learned how to write compelling and evidence-based problem statements, and applied the SMART framework—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound, to set clear, actionable objectives. The sessions emphasized that a proposal is far more than a funding request; it is a strategic planning tool that communicates vision, builds credibility, and aligns organizational goals with donor priorities. Building on this foundation, the training transitioned into the integration of digital tools and artificial intelligence into project workflows. Through practical demonstrations, participants discovered how technology can streamline processes, enhance reporting, and improve communication with stakeholders. The final segment addressed financial sustainability and ethical fundraising. Discussions explored strategies for diversifying income sources, building community-based fundraising initiatives, and cultivating long-term donor relationships. The “Three Ps” framework—People, Planet, Profit—was introduced as a guide to balancing social impact, environmental responsibility, and financial viability. A case study on transforming Roussel House into a self-sustaining social enterprise brought these principles to life.



Workshop Sessions ongoing

By the end of the program, participants had gained a wealth of knowledge and practical skills. They left with proficiency in SMART- based proposal development, from concept notes and needs assessments to crafting persuasive problem statements, objectives, and executive summaries. They developed a deeper understanding of donor psychology and engagement strategies, as well as persuasive techniques for successful fundraising. The training equipped them with mastery of AI and digital tools such as iLovePDF, Tiny Wow, Gamma AI, Alayna, and Presentation Intelligence, enabling them to streamline workflows and produce professional presentations.

Participants also acquired strategic approaches to funding diversification and community engagement for sustainable revenue generation, along with enhanced skills in donor relationship management, follow-up, and retention, all grounded in ethical practices. They gained a clear understanding of the holistic sustainability framework—People, Planet, Profit—ensuring long-term organizational health



A pose for a Photo after Training



Mr. Tom receiving his certificate

The course concluded with the awarding of certificates and tokens of appreciation. More importantly, participants departed with renewed confidence, practical tools, and actionable strategies to enhance their organizations' competitiveness, efficiency, and sustainability. The BUILD II SMART Project Management Training proved to be more than just a workshop—it was a transformative experience, blending proven proposal-writing techniques, cutting-edge digital tools, and sustainable funding models to empower leaders to create lasting change in their communities.

Community Mobilizers Training

On 21st–22nd August 2025, the Provincial Development Office (PDO) convened a workshop for Agriculture Project Community Mobilizers from Makuyu and the Nairobi Zone at Auxilium House, Hurlingham. The aim was to strengthen the mobilizers' capacity to effectively engage communities in implementing the Agriculture Project. The sessions began with a 100% turnout, and all participants were eager to learn. Day one opened with an introduction to the Salesian Sisters, their charism, and the projects they run. Mr. Collins, PDO Project Officer, presented an overview of the Agriculture Project, outlining its objectives and the mobilizers' roles. Mr. Tom, PDO Finance Officer, followed with a session on Community Mobilization, emphasizing their contribution to community development. Day two started later than planned due to traffic diversions from a Kenya–Madagascar football match at Kasarani Stadium. Sr. Patricia, PDO Executive Director, led training on Team Building, using Tuckman's Model and the Johari Window to demonstrate how self-awareness and understanding group dynamics foster teamwork. She highlighted the importance of openness, feedback, and self-discovery in building trust and collaboration. Next, Madam Jedidah, PDO Social Worker, facilitated a session on Conflict Management and Resolution. She noted that conflict is natural but can either build cohesion if well-managed or cause harm if mishandled. She introduced alternative dispute resolution approaches such as dialogue, negotiation, mediation, and arbitration, urging mobilizers to remain neutral in community conflicts. The final session, led by Madam Rosemary, PDO Safeguarding Officer, focused on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. She outlined key dos and don'ts for handling safeguarding matters and highlighted principles of data protection, including confidentiality, consent, and respect for the rights of data subjects.



The workshop concluded successfully. Mobilizers appreciated the opportunity, noting that their skills and knowledge had been enhanced. They requested more sessions in the future. The event was also enriched by fellowship, shared meals, energizers, laughter, and prayer, fostering a spirit of family and solidarity that will strengthen teamwork as mobilizers return to their communities. At the end of the training the participants were awarded with Certificates of participation.



Madam Hellen awarding participants with certificate of participation.



Increasing Food Security in our Missions



Laura Vicuna
Mission



North Horr Mission



MMV Mission



Embu Mission



Siakago Mission



Mutuini Mission



Karare Mission

Thank you Note

Much appreciation to the PDO team, Province Leadership, Salesian Sisters' local communities, our mission partners and collaborators for their tireless efforts in making this great impact possible.

To our dear partners and donors — Misesan Cara, GHR Foundation, Hilton Fund for Sisters, Begeca, the Italian Government, and Vides Internazionale — we are truly grateful for your unwavering support towards sowing seeds of hope in East Africa. May God richly reward you.

**Thank you to all
May God Bless
you**



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