

TUMAINI

NEWS LETTER

Steps of Hope - One Story at a Time

6th Edition MARCH 2026



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

Be inspired and informed.

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CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



International Women's Day is celebrated annually on 8th March. It is a global occasion dedicated to recognizing the achievements of women in all aspects of life, that is social, economic, cultural, and political. It also calls for accelerated action toward achieving gender equality. On this day, nations reflect on the progress made, raise awareness of existing and emerging challenges affecting women, and call upon governments, communities, and other key stakeholders to join hands in supporting the rights and empowerment of girls and women. Across the globe, many people mark this day by organizing community events and activities such as campaigns and discussions that highlight women's contributions to society.

In 2026, the Provincial Development Office (PDO) joined the world in commemorating this important day by organizing its first-ever International Women's Day celebration. On 26th February 2026, the PDO staff attended an International Women's Day celebration organized by Dagoretti Mission

**HAPPY
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY**

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Pictorial



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in Dagoretti Ndunyu. The event gave women an opportunity to showcase their talents through dancing, singing, and displaying their products, which signified empowerment, growth, and the great impact achieved through the intervention of the FMA Sisters. Speeches on women's empowerment and gender equality were delivered, focusing on creating awareness and acknowledging the progress made so far.

On 8th March 2026, the PDO office organized a similar event that brought together women from Dagoretti and Mutuini Missions, particularly those actively engaged in Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) groups and the Agriculture Project. The gathering created a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the vital role women play in their families and communities. The day was marked by inspiring speeches and powerful testimonies from participants, highlighting the impact of women's empowerment initiatives,

such as participating in savings programs that improve livelihoods and foster self-reliance. The event was further enriched by the presence of the Provincial, who acknowledged and appreciated the efforts of all women while delivering a message of encouragement and solidarity. Local authorities, including the Chief and a representative of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative, also graced the occasion and shared motivational remarks, reinforcing the importance of community support and unity.

Beyond the formal program, the activity provided a vibrant platform for interaction, learning, and celebration. Women engaged in various activities, including competitive games and dancing, which fostered joy, bonding, and a sense of belonging. Indeed, the celebrations were impactful and memorable, strengthening relationships among participants and affirming the commitment to continue empowering women within the community.

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE



Partnership is a key component in learning, connecting, and creating new synergies. Temeke's mission through the Member Managed Grant (MMG) Project was invited by PETpro organization to their **TAKA PESA** project launch, an initiative focusing on turning waste into opportunity. The initiative reinforces its mission in promoting clean, safe, and inclusive environments where every member of the community can live with dignity and enjoy improved health.



This collaboration reflected the growing momentum of the Inclusive WASH Initiative, where environmental sustainability, waste management, and community well-being would go hand in hand. The launch was also provided an opportunity to unite with other like-minded organizations, share our mission and vision, purpose, and connect with potential partners. This was a moment of listening, sharing, and drawing lessons from other partners, which could be adopted as best practices in our own missions.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

LEARNING TRIP



Through the MMG Project, Sandali School organized an educational trip on environmental conservation. Smiles captured a moment of connection and shared learning as Sandali students stood alongside volunteers from the Czech Republic during the learning trip. This exchange reflected the spirit of the Inclusive WASH Initiative, bringing people together across cultures to promote awareness, responsibility, and action toward cleaner environments. Through such interactions, students were empowered to become champions of hygiene, environmental protection, and inclusive practices within their schools and communities.

Curiosity and quiet determination also defined another powerful moment where students with disabilities from Sandali proudly stood alongside their teacher during Day 1 of the learning visit. As part of the Inclusive WASH Initiative, this experience ensured that no child was left behind in accessing knowledge and opportunities. Through hands-on learning about recycling and environmental care, the students not only deepened their understanding of good hygiene practices and sustainability but also experienced inclusion in action, building confidence, dignity, and a strong sense of belonging.

FARM PROGRESS



**AGRICULTURE IS OUR WISEST
PURSUIT, BECAUSE IT WILL IN THE END CONTRIBUTE
MOST TO REAL WEALTH, GOOD MORALS, AND
HAPPINESS."**

~ T H O M A S J E F F E R S O N ~



SAFEGUARDING KNOWLEDGE STRENGTHENING

In a recent safeguarding webinar hosted by the Jesuit Centre for Safeguarding in Africa (JCSA), Dr. Norbert Litoing, SJ, delivered a compelling address on the necessity of “Shared Responsibility” in protecting the vulnerable. The session was attended by representatives from the Provincial Development Office (PDO), including Rosemary (Safeguarding Officer) and Sr. Patricia, joining a diverse group of stakeholders committed to institutional integrity.

Dr. Litoing emphasized that in the African context, religious institutions are among the most trusted pillars of society. However, this high level of trust carries a profound moral obligation. Safeguarding, he argued, must move beyond mere administrative compliance and become a lived institutional culture.

Key Takeaways from the Webinar:

Interfaith & Ecumenical Collaboration: Abuse is not confined to any single denomination or religion. Dr. Litoing called for a united front, pooling the moral authority of all faith leaders to create a wider safety net for children and vulnerable adults.

Accountability over Authority: The speaker warned against the dangers of “clericalism” and unchecked power that can silence victims. True safeguarding requires transparent systems where accountability is prioritized over status.

Values-Driven Protection: By leveraging African values like ‘Ubuntu’ alongside religious tenets of human

dignity, safeguarding becomes a natural part of community life rather than an external imposition.

The attendance of our PDO team underscores our commitment to integrating these safeguarding principles into every project and

community initiative we undertake. As Dr. Litoing reminded us, safeguarding is not a solo effort, it is a collective duty.

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

INTERFAITH APPROACHES TO SAFEGUARDING AND THE PROTECTION OF THE VULNERABLE

PANELISTS

Monday, 30 March 2026
3:00PM – 5:00PM (EAT)

Rev. Dr. Norbert Litoing, SJ
Founding Director of the Centre for Interfaith Studies in Africa (CISA)
Lecturer at Hekima University College

Sr. Dr. Mary Nzilani, SMMG
Pastoral Theologian,
Lecturer at Hekima University College

Rev. Dr. Daka Lawrence, SJ
Chair/Moderator

SCAN TO REGISTER

Language Interpretation:

- Sign Language
- French Language
- Portuguese

www.jcsa.africa
+254 718 081 001
+254 750 113 177
secretary.jcsa@hekima.ac.ke

JCSA
 @ChildJesuit
 @jcsa.africa

jcsa.africa

cop.jcsa.africa

Promoting a Consistent Culture of Protection

AFRICA DIRECTO FOUNDATION, SPAIN VISITS EMBU MISSION.

On 28th March 2026, Embu Mission was privileged to receive visitors from Africa Directo Foundation, Spain. Jose Maria Marovet and Lee Maryoe were warmly welcomed at Embu Mission by Sr. Lucy Wegoki, the Mission Animator, and the rest of the community members.

Their visit aimed to conduct a needs assessment of the mission and identify possible areas of intervention. Sr. Lucy took them around the various departments of the mission, which was an exciting opportunity for the visitors to learn more about the mission and identify gaps that hinder service delivery to the people served by the sisters in that particular mission.

The mission community and the PDO team, led by Sr. Patricia, were delighted to receive these potential donors and look forward to receiving positive feedback regarding the visit.



STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR IMPACT: AOSK RESOURCE MOBILIZATION & MEAL TRAINING



From March 16–20, 2026, Sr. Patricia participated in a five-day Resource Mobilization (RM) and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) training held at the Savelberg Retreat Centre. The training brought together religious sisters from various congregations under AOSK, alongside three priests and one brother, fostering a rich environment of shared learning and collaboration.

The training aimed to strengthen organizational capacity in fundraising, programme performance tracking, and accountability systems. Key areas covered included fundraising strategies, donor engagement, proposal writing, and resource diversification. Participants also gained practical skills in developing MEAL frameworks, data collection and analysis, and enhancing accountability and learning systems. Emphasis was placed on financial accountability, compliance, and audit preparedness.

Through a participatory approach involving presentations, group discussions, and practical exercises, the training enabled participants to exchange experiences and best practices.

As a result, participants enhanced their capacity to mobilize resources effectively, use data for informed decision-making, and strengthen transparency in programme implementation. This initiative marks an important step toward improving programme quality, deepening donor engagement, and ensuring long-term sustainability.

Thank You Note

Our sincere appreciation goes to the PDO team, the Provincial Leadership, the Salesian Sisters' local communities, as well as our mission partners and collaborators for their tireless dedication and commitment in making this significant impact possible.

To our dear partners and donors — Misesan Cara, GHR Foundation, Hilton Fund for Sisters, Begeca, the Italian Government, Erzdiocese Freiburg, Mission Possibile (UK) 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
May God Bless
You**



Provincial Development Office,
Daughters of Mary Help of Christians
(Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco)
Our Lady of Hope Province, Africa East (AFE)
+254707592944 | +254706046917
www.dmhcafe.org | pdo@dmhcafe.org
Hurlingham / Woodlands Road/
P.O. Box 57712 - 00200, Nairobi, Kenya