

TUMAINI

NEWS LETTER

Steps of Hope - One Story at a Time

4th Edition October- November, 2025



A Training Session on Gender and Peace at Daughters of Mary Help of Christians College, Dagoretti

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

Be inspired and informed.

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Data Collection

Mobilizers conducted a data collection exercise to gather baseline information from beneficiaries across different missions. The activity aimed to understand household socioeconomic conditions, participation in project activities, and readiness to join Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC). Using a structured questionnaire, the survey captured demographic details, livelihood activities, and levels of engagement in training, awareness forums, and demonstration farm practices. It also explored beneficiaries' prior experiences with savings or self-help groups, their willingness to join collective savings initiatives, and motivations behind participation.



Sr. Jane, mobilizers and beneficiaries posing for a photo after data collection

The questionnaire further assessed trust and reliability within community settings, economic challenges faced by households, and coping mechanisms when resources are limited. It examined beneficiaries' ability to contribute small weekly savings, their financial management practices, and their willingness to share knowledge or support others in farming and savings. Finally, respondents were asked about their commitment to joining SILC groups and any expectations they had. Overall, the exercise provided valuable insights into beneficiaries' capacities, attitudes, and needs, forming a strong foundation for designing tailored interventions that promote sustainable savings and lending practices.

“From Knowledge to Practice: Transformative Field Training Across Five Villages in Embu”.



For the past two months, a series of fieldwork training sessions has been conducted in five villages in Embu to strengthen the capacity of beneficiary farmers. The focus of the sessions was to enhance farmers' knowledge of improved crop production practices, particularly in cereal and legume farming.

Throughout the month, several key activities were undertaken. Farmers received training on best planting techniques for cereals, especially maize, and were educated on effective legume production practices. These sessions were supported by practical field demonstrations that showcased proper crop establishment, giving farmers hands-on experience to reinforce the concepts learned. In addition to the trainings, farm visits and follow-ups were conducted to assess crop progress, identify emerging challenges, and offer timely guidance.

Farmer mobilization was also an important component of the month's activities. Beneficiary groups in each village were organized, and training schedules were coordinated to ensure smooth participation. The mobilization efforts helped encourage group learning, knowledge sharing, and increased adoption of the recommended agricultural practices.



Social Worker; Mr Josiah demonstrating best practices to the farmers.

Several observations emerged from the field engagements. There was a high turnout of farmers, and participation during the sessions was commendable. However, some fields were noted to require enhanced pest control and soil improvement measures. Farmers also expressed increased interest in improved seed varieties and climate-smart agricultural practices, demonstrating growing awareness and willingness to adopt better techniques.

In conclusion, the training was successful and played a significant role in enhancing farmers' skills in cereal and legume production. Continued follow-ups in the coming months will support greater adoption of the practices introduced and contribute to improved productivity across the targeted villages.

Don Bosco Kenya Integral Ecology Plan 2026–2030 Launch: Partnership and Learning Opportunity.



PDO staff were privileged to attend the launch of Don Bosco Kenya's Integral Ecology Plan 2026–2030. The event served as a valuable learning opportunity, offering deep insights into ecological stewardship and sustainable practices. Through this engagement, PDO staff learned how other organizations are addressing critical environmental issues, including carbon management, e-waste management, the implementation of *Laudato Si'* actions, and other key aspects of environmental management.

Represented by Mr. Tom and Mrs. Mukui, the PDO team gained significant knowledge and best practices in integral ecology that will be instrumental in strengthening ecological engagement across various projects. One of the highlights of the event was a detailed presentation on the six thematic pillars of the Integral Ecology Plan: Energy Management, Carbon Management, Water Management, Waste Management, Sustainable Agriculture, and Ecological Conversion. Each of these pillars provided valuable insights that will guide the integration of environmental responsibility within project activities.



To symbolize the beginning of this ecological journey, all partners present participated in a tree-planting exercise after the launch. This gesture represented life, unity, and a collective commitment to environmental protection and sustainability.

With profound gratitude, PDO extends sincere appreciation to Fr. Selvam for the opportunity to attend this important event. We wish Don Bosco Kenya great success while executing the Integral Ecology Plan 2026–2030 and look forward to continued collaboration in promoting environmental conservation.

“Tech Empowerment Takes Root at Don Bosco Girls’ Secondary School”



For many years, the girls at Don Bosco Girls’ Secondary School in Embu have struggled to access digital literacy skills due to the lack of fully functioning computers. However, this year ends on a hopeful note as the school begins equipping its computer lab with new devices that will create valuable opportunities for both students and teachers to strengthen their digital knowledge.

The mission is privileged to implement the project titled “Empowering Girls at Don Bosco Girls’ Secondary School Through Digital Literacy: Bridging the Technology Gap for a Brighter Future,” which seeks to bridge the digital divide and empower girls through technology. As an encouraging start, the school has already received five desktop computers, which the computer students even used during their national examinations. We deeply appreciate the coordinated efforts of the mission, teachers, development office, and our dedicated donors for their unwavering support in making this progress possible.

Computer students familiarizing themselves with the desktops and enjoying the clarity of the webcam.



Farm Progress



Seedlings are ready for transplanting.



Capsicum



Spinach



Beans



Onions



Poultry farming at it best.

Great progress from Laura Vicuna Mission Farm

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, Erzdiözese Freiburg 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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