



PROFILE FOR

Elimu Community Light

(ECOLI)

Last Updated: 31st Dec 2018

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1. Organization Information

I. Organization Name, Year of established, and legal entity:

- A. **Organization Name:** Elimu Community Light.
- B. **Acronym:** ECOLI
- C. **Year established:** Sep 2006
- D. **Legal registration Number:** OONGO/1699 by NGOs registrar under Tanzania Non Governmental Organizations registration Act No 24 made under section 12(2) of 2002.

II. Contact Details:

- A. **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 14767, Arusha - Tanzania
- B. **Phone Number:** +255 755 379 574
- C. **Email Address:** info@elimu.or.tz
- D. **Website:** www.elimu.or.tz
- E. **Physical Address:** ECOLI's Head office is located in Sinon Ward close to Sinon secondary and Sinon primary schools in Arusha city council.
- F. **Contact Person:** Juhudi N Mbwambo
- G. **Designation:** Organization Executive Director.

2. Organization Background

Elimu Community Light (ECOLI) is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) which was registered in 2006. At the beginning Elimu Community Light was established as an Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) center formally known as Elimu Children Center which was established in January of 1999 in the Daraja II ward to provide care and education services to children from poor families. ECOLI was established to respond to increased child abuse and crimes in the Unga Limited and Daraja II wards of Ausha Municipality. Majority of children in the area were ill cared and inadequately supported to pursue their brain stimulation and education needs. The two wards are composed of slum kind of settlements. During its inception, the organization started with Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs and later expanded to other education programs. Currently ECOLI runs four programs which are; Early Childhood Development (ECD) activities for best child care, nurturing and education in both home and school environment; Provision of quality and equitable basic education; Community Engagement; and support Most Vulnerable Children to access education.

3. Organization's vision, mission and objectives

VISION: Elimu Community Light envisions a Tanzania with educated and developed citizens.

MISSION: Elimu Community Light's mission is to enable, empower and enhance the capacity of marginalized groups by linking them with development opportunities and the social components necessary to alleviate the pernicious effects of poverty. Through this mission ECOLI promotes ECD programs for children from birth to age eight, imparting knowledge and skills on positive care-giving, early childhood education, promotes quality and equitable basic education, support the MVC, and community engagement for quality ECD and basic education to all children.

OBJECTIVES:

The overall ECOLI's objective is to build capacity and enable the marginalized groups to enhancing opportunities of development in the society so that they can liberate themselves from the obstacles hindering their developments individually and national in general.

Through its programs ECOLI is determined to fulfill a number of specific objectives in Arusha Region as following:

1. To identify problems facing marginalized groups in the society and find ways to solve them out.
2. To promote and build capacity for quality child care, education services and social economic development in the society.
3. To enhance quality livelihood among children, youths, women and other society members.
4. Linking with other organizations and development partners to ensure improvement of the society.
5. Doing fund raising for projects which will be able to implement the organization objectives.
6. To affiliate, confer, consult and cooperate with government and private institutions, societies and organizations having same objectives in whole or partially to those of ORGANIZATION.
7. To become leading NGO with good example to others as a catalyst of change and development to marginalized groups internally and externally.

4. ECOLI PROGRAMMES & INTERVENTIONS

Programme I. Promoting Early Childhood Development

Intervention I: Teachers and Caregivers Training

- ❖ Training ECD teachers and caregivers on playing and early brain stimulation skills
- ❖ Child Care and Protection
- ❖ Inclusive ECD services
- ❖ Parents Engagement on issues of Child early learning and stimulation
- ❖ ECD centre Management
- ❖ Mainstreaming child protection issues into education program.

Intervention II: Improving Playing, Teaching & Learning Environment

- ❖ Ensure availability of adequate Teaching & Learning aids at the centres
- ❖ Promote child-friendly playing and learning environment.

Intervention III: Improving Child Health

- ❖ Encourage school feeding programs
- ❖ Promote Child Health Monitoring
- ❖ Provide nutrition Education

Intervention IV: Parenting

- ❖ Develop and Disseminate parenting guidelines (parenting kit)
- ❖ Educate parents and community on child nurturing, care and protection skills
- ❖ Integrate parenting kit/guidelines into government health system
- ❖ Provide parenting education using parenting manual
- ❖ MVC education support

Intervention V: Child Assessment Need

- ❖ Conduct assessment on children progress using the proposed tools

Programme II: Promoting Quality and Equity Basic Education

Intervention I: Teachers' Capacity Building

- ❖ Training teachers on Curriculum issues
- ❖ Establish and strengthening teachers' clusters and pedagogical clubs
- ❖ Engage parents on improving teaching and learning environment
- ❖ Promote early learning for Pre-primary through grade II pupils
- ❖ Promote child-friendly teaching and learning environment.
- ❖ Promote child safe guiding
- ❖ Undertake assessment on children progress
- ❖ Facilitate strategies development for improving students' learning outcomes in primary and secondary schools
- ❖ Networking

Intervention II: Education Support

- ❖ Provide teaching and learning materials and equipments to schools
- ❖ Support desks and learning corners.
- ❖ Support literacy learning outcomes to lower grades.
- ❖ Support MVC's with scholastic materials, uniforms, health insurance at secondary, vocational institutes and university levels.
- ❖ Mainstreaming child protection issues into education program.

Programme III: Community Engagement

Interventions:

- ❖ Engage with LGA on community ECD programs sustainably
- ❖ Sensitize parents and community to invest on community-based ECD programs
- ❖ Conduct dialogues with parents and the communities around primary schools to sensitize them on their roles to promote their children's 3Rs learning.
- ❖ Work closely with the community and parents of MVC to strategize and ensure that MVC have supported to achieve their dreams.
- ❖ Promote children rights and protection
- ❖ Create SAM awareness among community members
- ❖ Participation in community meetings

- ❖ Conduct child protection seminars to parents

Programme IV: Organization Capacity Development

Interventions:

- ❖ Carry out Fundraising initiatives/activities
- ❖ Hiring new competent staff
- ❖ Construction of the organization's offices
- ❖ Staff Capacity Development
- ❖ Innovation (designing income generating project)
- ❖ Strengthening Organization management and financial systems.

5 Current Projects:

- I. **Innovation for Early Learning Project:** The project aims to improve early grades primary students' literacy and numeracy skills in government-provided early primary schooling). This project is funded by Firelight Foundation for Year 2017/2018-2019/2020 and it covers five primary schools in two wards in Arusha city council.
- II. **First Five Years Parenting Project:** (The project aims to promote early brain stimulation, nurturing and improve nutrition status for mothers and young children hence enabling children's thrive from antenatal period through first five years. The project is not funded yet, the organization implements this project by reaching individual parents. We are looking for funding partner who will enable ECOLI to integrate this project with government Maternal and Child Health (MCH) system which will reduce the current gap of limited parent-child interaction, inappropriate nurturing and inadequate nutrition skills for child's earliest years development that have long-term impact on physical health, social and emotional well-being, and cognitive capacities.
- III. **Improve Learning Outcomes Project:** (The project aims to improve teaching and learning environment that are friendly to pre-primary children at Ukombozi primary school in Arusha city council. This project is funded by Cotswold foundation for Year 2017-2019. The Project provides training to pre-primary teachers on play based teaching skills; set learning corners and desks appropriate for children age and learning needs.
- IV. **MVC Educational Supporting Project:** The project provides support to MVC with scholastic materials, uniforms, health insurance, tuition fees, sanitary pads for girls, bicycles for distant students and other institution contributions for secondary and Vocational training studies. The project is funded by Social Action Trust Fund (SATF) form 2015 to date covering two districts Arusha city council and Arusha DC. Currently 186 students are supported by the program whereby 95 are boys and 91 are girls.
- V. **OTOLA-HELA Innovation:** One Teacher One Lesson for All via Hotspot for Education & Learning for All (OTOLA-HELA) is an innovation idea that provides opportunities for learners to access education contents while they are offline. Its aim is to proved educational contents to learners tailored to meet locally-relevant demand (for Tanzania) through OTOLA-HELA

routers. This innovation is in idea phase. This innovation is not yet funded and ECOLI looking for partner interested to invest in this project.

6. Target Beneficiaries

- Young and school age children
- Most Vulnerable children
- ECD teachers and caregivers for Pre- primary, nursery and day care centres
- Primary schools teachers especially those who work with lower grades.
- Parents and guardians
- Women and girls.
- ECD service institutions and professionals
- Community members and local government leaders
- Statutory agencies at Local Government levels

7. Development Partners

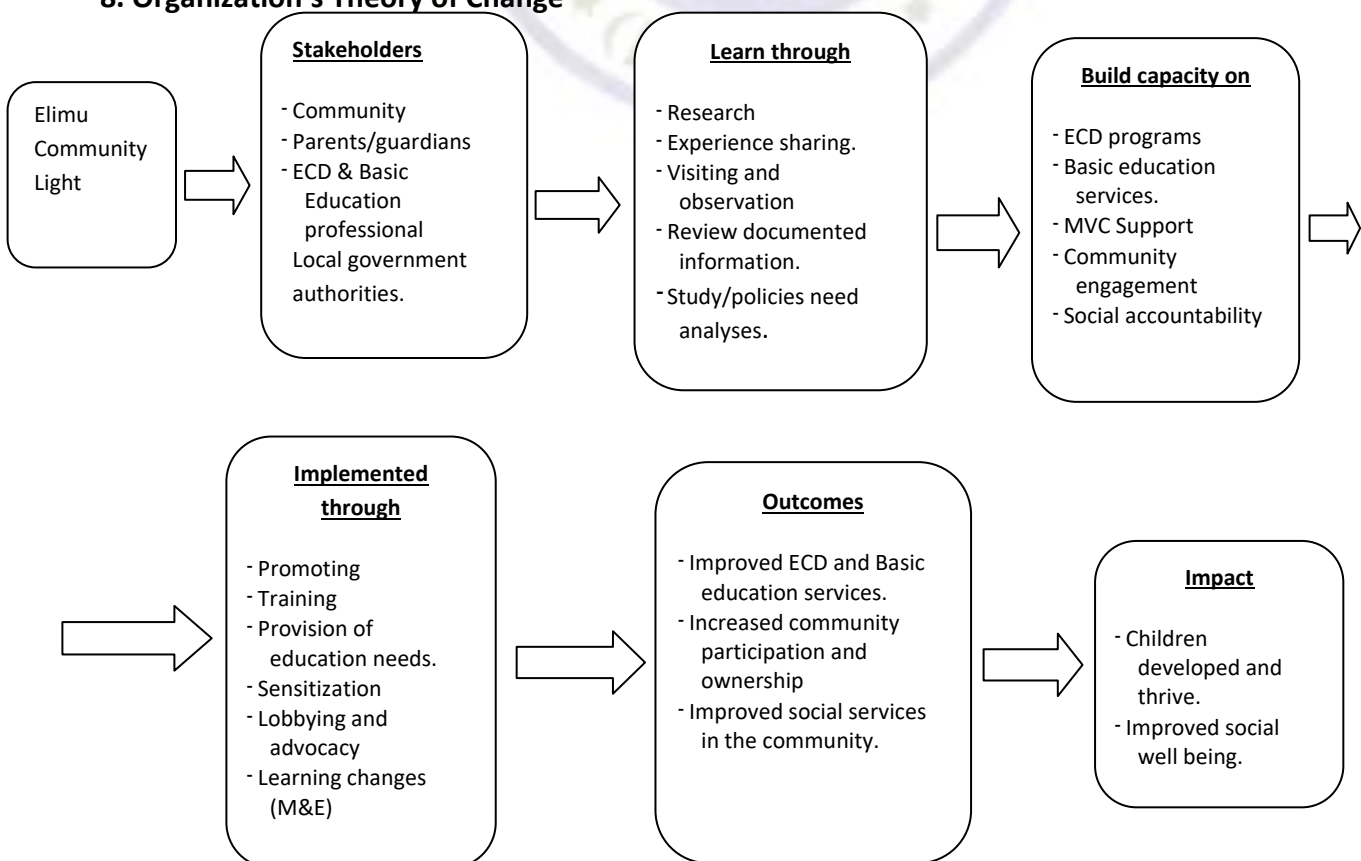
Previous Partners

- ❖ Kitchen Table Charities Trust (2006/2007)
- ❖ Touchstone Trust (2012/2013)
- ❖ Caucus for Children Rights (2012/2013)
- ❖ Flora Family Foundation (2016/2017)

Current Partners

- ❖ Firelight Foundation (2012-2018)
- ❖ Social Action Trust Fund (2015-2018)
- ❖ Cotswold Foundation (2017-2019)

8. Organization's Theory of Change



9. Organizational Structure

The organization is owned by its members. Its structure consists of Annual general Assembly; the Board of directors, the staff i.e. Executive director, the department officers, their subordinates and at the lower level we have volunteers.

10. Governing Board:

The organization has governing board of 5 members and Executive Director who is secretary. The board members have different background and experiences in Research, program/project operations, finance, and administrations. Current Board members are: Dr. Rashid Abdillah Dachi (PhD), Dr. Benjamin Sirimba (PhD), Dr. Regina Malima (PhD), Mr. Boniface Lyimo (Masters) and Adeline Gara (BA equivalent)

11. Organization Current Staff

S. No.	Staff Name	Position/ Status	Work Experience
1	Juhudi N. Mbwambo	Executive Director	20 years
2	Ansila B. Marandu	MEL Officer	15 Years
3	Francis B. Nathaniel	Program Officer	17 Years
4.	Robert D. Shirima	Accountant	14 Years

12. Organization Development and Operation Milestones.

In late 1998 seed of an idea formed as many criminal offenders were arrested in Daraja Mbili. We conducted a survey to try and understand the causes for the increase in crimes. It was revealed that the source of the problem was illiteracy and low priority to education. We started to invest in education so as reduce the number of youth who were frequently involved in crimes.

In year 1999 an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre was established and given the name Elimu Children Center with the aim of providing ECD services to vulnerable children and parenting education to community members. For consecutive four years the center involved community members on ECD program and enabled over children 548 to attend at the centre, improved their behavior, health and each year graduates were transitioned to primary schools for primary education. This raised awareness of community members on the importance of investing on ECD programs. In year **2003** Elimu established another ECD center at Thembi ward. By **2005** the organization expanded its operation to two wards and started to realize the demand and number of children who would benefit from ECD programmes hence seen the importance of being registered as an NGO and expanding its operation to a wide community.

In September, **2006** Elimu Community Light was registered as an NGO with registration No. OONGO/1699 and started to set the operation through developing strategic plan and fundraising initiatives. In the same year ECOLI received small funding support for Kitchen Table Charities Trust

that enabled to strengthen the implementation of ECD programs in two ECD centers including teachers capacity building, children feeding program and parents engagement from the whole period of year **2007**. The demand increased whereby enrollment rose to 274 children annually that led the organization to expand its ECD program from wards to district level.

In year **2008** ECOLI implemented a pilot project for training more ECD and caregivers teacher in Daraja Mbili ward for 4 months. The pilot phase worked well whereby 22 ECD teachers and caregivers trained. The positive project's outcomes led to expansion of the program to a district level. From **2009-2011** ECOLI collaborated with government to train 195 ECD professionals who went back to pursue their career in ECCD interventions in the community allover Arusha municipality. During this period ECOLI became the member of various networks in the region and the country level include as Arusha NGO Network (ANGONET), Tanzania Early Childhood Development Network (TECDEN) and Tanzania Education Network (TEN/MET) and PANITA to expand its advocacy through collective voice. Also in this period ECOLI consulted by Maarifa ni Ufunguo organization to train over 400 ECD teachers from other 6 different districts of Tanzania through workshops and seminars.

From years **2012-2013** ECOLI implemented various project including, **Promote Child Protection and Development Awareness to the Community members, Child-caregivers, parents and professionals** funded by Caucus for Children Rights (CCR) in year 2012/13; Through this project parents, teachers and community leaders became aware on Children protection practices and how to deal with Children rights issues at home, in the schools and in the community. **Improve Early Childhood Development Initiatives in Maasai Communities** funded by Touchstone Trust in year 2012/13 whereby 10 communities based ECD centers established and 2 preprimary schools were strengthened and 25 ECD teachers and caregivers trained.

Also through Firelight Foundation support from year **2012-2016** ECOLI implemented the project to improve children learning outcome in five wards by strengthened ECD model practices at the community levels through teachers training, developing play endearing materials, engage parents and community at large to improve provision ECD services at ECD centers and nurturing children at homes environment. Through this program five ECD centers developed and became resource centers in five wards and empowered 54 other ECD teachers on playing, teaching and learning methodologies, parents' involvement, parenting education, dealing with children psychosocial needs and nutrition support. This program benefited over 10,000 children who transitioned form home to school, also empowered 6584 parents on parenting education, child protection, support ECD services in the community, and provide children's basic needs.

Also in Year **2015** ECOLI continued to expand its operation by supporting Most Vulnerable Children (MVC) to access education and health through Social Action Trust Fund. To date ECOLI has supported total of 186 MVC with scholastic materials, uniforms, health insurance, tuition fees and other institution contributions at primary, secondary, colleges and universities education levels.

From **2017** to date ECOLI has expanded in areas of institution capacity and project operations whereby ECOLI managed to build its own offices. Furthermore, ECOLI has expanded its project operations in improving literacy and numeracy capabilities to lower grades children from preprimary to grade II at five public primary schools in Arusha city council. Through its operation

total of 45 teachers have been empowered on pedagogical skills; 1027 parents involved in supporting their children in learning processes, over 1924 children were empowered with literacy and numeracy skills.

13. Achievements

Since year 1998 when the idea of organization development and operation merged, ECOLI has served over 15,773 children, empowered 651 ECD teachers and caregivers, 45 primary teachers, engaged 8,302 parents in child nurturing, care, protection and development needs; and supported 186 MVC in various education levels of Primary to university levels. Current ECOLI is celebrating its development and operations trend that has enabled to be among of organizations trusted to development partners and with reputation at the grassroots, district, region and national levels.

14. Organization Values

The actual operation of the organization is guided by seven values. They are as follows:

- A. *Transparency*: ECOLI shall promote the culture of transparency among its staff, members and in the way it relates with other stakeholders to promote institutional learning and account-ability.
- B. *Trust*: The organization shall cultivate the culture of trust. This is very important as transparency cannot be realized without this.
- C. *Accountability*: ECOLI will not be accountable to donors alone but rather the spirit of account-ability will be cultivated among the staff, members and other stakeholders.
- D. *Respect*: Constructive ideas and contribution of all staff, members and other stakeholders will be honored and respected.
- E. *Diversity*: The organization shall value diversity of ideas and a number of attributes of participating individuals, members and other stakeholders.
- F. *Creativity*: The spirit of creativity will be encouraged so as to enable ECOLI to cope with the changing socio-economic environment and technologies.
- G. *Cost effectiveness*: Time and wise use of scarce resources is crucial to maximize the organization's efficiency and effectiveness. The ability to do much with little shall be promoted within the organization.