Impact Report

youth · energy · change

A summary of our achievements in 2015
Why we do our work

We work in rural communities where families face enormous hardships. Together, we find ways to break down barriers and achieve social justice. Solutions to change must balance economic, environmental and social needs to be sustainable. In many cases this requires new ways of thinking and doing.

We believe that when local communities and young people work side by side to create positive change, it empowers them. And it’s the energy and motivation of empowered people that creates lasting change.

Why young people?

There are 1.8 billion young people in the world today. We believe they are the most important resource the world has, yet they are often undervalued, underestimated and expected to underachieve. We’re working to change that.

We know that young people have the energy, optimism and creativity to make change happen.

“The Raleigh group inspired and mobilised our whole village. At first the children and youths became more motivated, but then all of the adults and the wider community also participated and got involved. The project brought the whole village together for a common goal.”

Phidelis Gwivaha
Village Executive Officer
Nyombo, Njombe
Raleigh Tanzania in 2015

In 2015 we continued to work alongside some of Tanzania’s poorest, most remote and vulnerable communities. We worked with partners on projects that contribute to local and national government development plans. And all of our activities continued to be delivered through youth, including young people from the countries where we work. That’s what makes us different. By giving young people the opportunity to create lasting change in rural communities they bring new ways of thinking and doing to sustainable development. We hear from communities about the passion and creativity of youth, and how it inspires them to take action themselves. Our work continues to contribute towards the Global Goals, which were launched in 2015 to reduce poverty and improve living standards.
Access to safe water and sanitation

We continued to pursue a holistic approach to improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene. We worked to inspire behaviour change in rural communities in Manyara, Dodoma, Njombe and Mbeya, tailoring projects to local needs and ensuring sustainability from the outset. Through working with volunteers, hygiene practices were improved both by individuals and communities as a whole. Our Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programmes focused on improving wellbeing, health and hygiene in communities, whilst contributing to positive change around gender equality, local governance, school attendance and environmental awareness.

Our WASH work is aligned with the Tanzanian Government’s School WASH initiative which aims to contribute to the National Sanitation Campaign and Water Sector Development Programme. Raleigh Tanzania worked with a number of WASH partners in 2015 including DMDD (Diocese of Mbulu Development Department), SAWA (Sanitation and Water Action), SEMA (Sustainable Environment Management Action) and MAMADO (Maji na Maendeleo Dodoma). All projects were preceded by a comprehensive needs assessment in conjunction with the district and local government. The Raleigh groups undertook household level surveys and facilitated focus group discussions with the local community and key stakeholders.

- 5,950 people directly benefited from our Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activities & initiatives
- 2,550 school children trained in positive hygiene and sanitation practices
- 21 safe sanitation units constructed
- 17 School WASH groups formed
In action: Barbina Buriu

In many rural communities in Tanzania, menstruation is a taboo. As Barbina Buriu, a teacher at Barazani Primary School, said, “It’s all about the shame - because of the way girls are raised, it is like some kind of secret.” A clean, safe and comfortable environment which girls can use whilst menstruating is crucial, and without it there can be major consequences. A lack of female only facilities can result in reduced participation, self-exclusion and absenteeism from school. In the long term, they may drop out of education completely.

Volunteers worked alongside the community in the villages of Maghang and Barazani in the Manyara region to provide safe sanitation facilities at the primary school. They worked to construct new latrines, which will provide a more hygienic environment for the school, and raised awareness of safe hygiene practices. Whilst this work will affect the entire school, it is the girls who will benefit the most. School-based Water Sanitation and Hygiene initiatives (SWASH) like these are a step towards creating an environment in which girls can attend school and focus on their education. The impact of the facilities, along with awareness-raising, extends far beyond the immediate environment in which the work was carried out. Education allows girls to take control of their lives, build self-esteem, and gives them greater access to economic opportunities as a result.

“SWASH lessons are a great way to bring about positive behaviour change in a community, as children will go home and tell their families what they have learnt. When I visit schools that Raleigh groups have worked with, the children all know the importance of good sanitation and tell me that the volunteers taught them this.”

Wilhelmina Malima - WASH Advisor, SAWA
Community resilience

We worked to increase the resilience of communities through our programmes. We supported young entrepreneurs in rural communities to improve their livelihoods, and improving access to education and learning.

As part of our Livelihoods programme in Njombe and Mbeya, young entrepreneurs from some of the poorest communities received support from volunteers to develop their business plans, access finance, link up with mentors and start running their own businesses. These young people were given intensive training over a three-month period, culminating in the presentation of their business plans to an assessment panel, prior to officially graduating.

In Shinyanga region, volunteers worked to provide Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres for rural communities which previously had no pre-primary education facilities. ECD centres provide a safe learning environment and a social haven for young children between the ages of 3 and 6 regardless of their religion, gender or social status. An ECD provides children an opportunity to learn and develop socially with their peers, a conducive environment for cognitive, psychological and physical development, as well as access to other services including health, nutrition and child protection.

4 Early Childhood Development centres constructed

285 young entrepreneurs graduated from the Raleigh Livelihoods programme

240 three to six-year-olds with increased access to pre-primary education

105 youth businesses launched with direct support from Raleigh start-up funds
“The new Early Childhood Development (ECD) centre is a wonderful addition to our village. It means that many more children will have a safe and inspiring place to come to learn each day. They get a nutritious meal and the opportunity to be better prepared for primary school. We know that ECD centres dramatically increase children’s success in terms of attendance and attainment, so we hope that this will make an impact on hundreds of local families in the future.”

Felister Melli
Community Development Officer
Building pathways to youth entrepreneurship

The Overseas Development Institute conducted an independent evaluation of the pilot Raleigh Entrepreneurship programme in Tanzania, confirming the positive impact of a youth peer-to-peer approach in building sustainable rural youth enterprises.

The evaluation highlighted the importance of:

• Mentors, who provide practical support and experience to entrepreneurs.
• Family and community support to provide guidance, assistance, and support to help young entrepreneurs access funding.
• Understanding the local context, adjusting as situations arise and evolve.
• Access to finance. Raleigh’s provision of seed capital through in-kind grants or preferred rate Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCO) loans has enabled a number of businesses to start up, and most entrepreneurs felt they would not have succeeded without this access to finance.
• Developing business and life skills. Many of the entrepreneurs and young volunteers who took part in this project identified important gains in skills such as confidence and leadership, business planning and marketing.

“The development of ‘business and life skills’ is crucial to the young entrepreneurs’ success. Gains in confidence, self-esteem and around communicating in public were all extensively reported by entrepreneurs as a result of working with volunteers.”

- ODI, ‘Building pathways to youth entrepreneurship’
In action: Emmanuel Kibona

“I live in a village named Kyimo - the area is full of dairy farmers. However, within the village it is not part of the culture to include milk in the typical diet, despite its nutritional benefits. As part of my entrepreneur training I saw an opportunity to start a milk-selling business. By incorporating bananas and mixing it with other flavours (e.g. chocolate or avocado) I’ve developed a product that is new to the village. My range of flavours will entice community members of all ages to start liking milk and include it in their daily diets. Part of my business plan is doing awareness-raising to educate people on the benefits of a balanced and healthy diet, which in turn increases my sales!

“The training I received from the Raleigh volunteers helped enormously. Before I started the programme I lacked confidence. I was shy and felt embarrassed to speak in public. The volunteers gave me the self-confidence and motivation necessary to grow and expand a successful business. Now I have the confidence to speak in public places, as I had to do at the assessment panel where my start-up capital was approved. I regularly promote my products at community events.

“We are all human, we have basic daily needs. We also need to fulfil our dreams. In order for this to happen we need money. I therefore think it’s very important to take initiative to start our own small businesses, close to home, in order to solve problems in our local communities and to support one another in the community economically.”

“Emmanuel Kibona entrepreneur graduate, Kyimo Village
In detail:

country blogs
www.raleighinternational.org/blog/

In action: Kasimily Mlowe

“I was engaging in agriculture to earn money, but I could only make enough for subsistence – I wasn’t saving any money for the future. After joining the Raleigh Entrepreneur training programme for about two months, I learned how to create my own business and make a profit.

“I used TZS 400,000 start-up money to buy fertiliser and for covering the costs of preparing the land. This helped to increase my produce from the 20 sacks of potatoes I used to get, to 45. I sell 40 sacks at TZS 40,000 each and get TZS 1,600,000 in return, keeping 5 sacks for seeds. I have been saving my money and from the profits I used TZS 1m to buy a one-acre tree farm and another TZS 800,000 to invest in my potato business. I also buy potatoes from other producers and take them to the nearest big town where I can sell them for an additional TZS 20,000 per sack.

“I hope to expand my business in the future. I always save half of my profit and with this I will continue to buy more land and plant more trees. Soon I will be able to employ more people. I believe that by three years’ time I will own five or more acres of productive land. My dream is to buy a tractor, but this costs TZS 35 to 45 million. With the skills I have learned in my training I feel confident that I will be able to approach a bank to lend me the money, as they will see that I have good experience of growing a business.”

Kasimily Mlowe, entrepreneur graduate, Nundu Village
In action: Asha Mwapinga

“I quickly used the skills I gained from the Raleigh training course by creating my own business plan for selling milk. I was successfully selected by the assessment panel to receive start-up capital and in addition to this I raised extra funds with the help of my parents and husband. With the money I bought a cow - six weeks’ later the cow gave birth and I started to earn money.

“I am very happy as the cow is giving me not less than six litres of milk per day, which I sell for TZS 1,000 per litre. Half of this TZS 6000 per day is spent on the household while the other half is saved. Using my business planning skills, I was able to set up a second business after a month in order to make more money and pay back my family quicker. I now sell chips and soft drinks which gives me additional income of around TZS 5,000 per day. I hope to expand my business and look for new products that are not available or difficult to source in my village. To do this I will conduct more market surveys and research.

“The most interesting and important part of the training I received from Raleigh was related to finance and budgeting skills. It has greatly improved my financial planning, which is everything in business and in life.”

Asha Mwapinga, entrepreneur graduate, Lusitu Village
Inspiring young leaders

Our programmes bring together young volunteers from a diverse range of backgrounds and nationalities, including the countries where we work, to inspire and develop volunteers to become active citizens. We believe that an active citizen is an individual who: is aware of their own values and perceptions and respects the diversity of others; recognises that we live in an interdependent world; cares about social justice, sustainable development and the environment; and, through using their leadership and team skills, takes personal responsibility and action to make the world a better place.

90% of volunteers felt that our programme had a positive impact on their leadership and team working skills

88% of volunteers felt that Raleigh made a positive impact on their intercultural awareness

633 active members of the Raleigh Tanzania Society

136 ‘Action at Home’ projects undertaken by 2015 Raleigh Tanzania alumni

In detail: stay involved
www.raleighinternational.org/stay-involved/take-action/
More than 650 young Tanzanian volunteers completed a Raleigh placement between 2013 and 2015. Almost all of these young people have joined our active alumni group, the Raleigh Tanzania Society. This is part of Raleigh’s global network of youth societies including Hong Kong, China, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bermuda, Nicaragua, India, Tanzania, Sabah, Costa Rica, New Zealand and Uganda. Our societies form a strong Raleigh family that advocates and showcases the value of youth action and engagement.

The youth of Tanzania are the educators, innovators, professionals and leaders of tomorrow. They are a vital development resource that is responsible for creating economic growth and securing livelihoods both now and in the future. The Society provides a forum to engage Raleigh alumni and other youth in national development issues, through practical delivery of community projects and involvement in national debate.

Grace Cholobi, Raleigh Team Leader 2015 and current society member, said: “My Raleigh experience has helped me to determine my effectiveness, leadership potential and most importantly to open my mind to be ready to learn. To be effective we must seek to understand others and be understood by them. It also gave me experience of solving problems, where I learned that the better way of approaching any challenging situation is to find a win-win solution built from tolerance and compromise.”
In focus: Pius improves disability rights in Tanzania

“After volunteering with Raleigh as a Team Leader in 2014 I decided to act on my passion for improving disability rights for those with albinism, so I founded Tengeneza (Creating / Forming) Generation (TEG). I am passionate about fighting for the rights of people with disabilities. I believe each person has a right to live in peace regardless of their gender, religion, or abilities. We launched a campaign called Tupendane (Love One Another) to raise awareness about unjust acts of violence towards people with albinism. We have worked hard to fundraise and raise awareness of the cause.

“The treatment of People With Albinism (PWA) is a major issue in Tanzania. Albinism is a rare genetic condition that limits the body’s ability to process melanin which means their bodies lack the natural defences against UVA. This has led to 98% of PWA in Tanzania dying of skin cancer before the age of 40. Not only that, societal violence is not uncommon - in 2014 there were 212 attacks against, and 135 killings of, people with albinism.

“TEG has been working closely with the Buhangija Disability Centre in the Shinyanga region of Tanzania. There are 450 children with disabilities in the centre, 270 of which have albinism. The centre wasn’t originally for PWA children, however after a sharp rise in the number of killings in 2009, the protection of people with albinism became a much more pressing issue. All funds raised by TEG are donated to Buhangija, and in the future TEG plans to help the centre by raising funds to provide protective clothing such as long sleeve shirts.”

Pius Matunge, Raleigh Team Leader 2014 and current society member
In focus: RTS Project
Human-Elephant Conflict

Raleigh Tanzania Society (RTS) volunteers worked alongside NGO Wildlife Connection in a number of villages surrounding Tungamalenga, Iringa. Wildlife Connection deliver initiatives aimed at reducing Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC).

Continually diminishing wildlife corridors and habitat, which at one time allowed elephants to move freely, are being increasingly encroached upon by a growing human population, expanding human settlements and the conversion of elephant habitat into agricultural land. This results in increased instances of HEC. HEC can have a devastating impact upon the livelihoods of farmers, whereby elephant crop-raiding results in significant economic losses for a population largely dependent upon agricultural yields for subsistence and livelihoods. Tanzania’s elephant population, itself under threat and facing a dramatic decline, is also impacted through retaliation attacks and an increased tolerance of illegal poaching.

RTS volunteers worked hard to raise awareness of HEC reduction strategies and to promote human-elephant co-existence in a number of rural villages. Working alongside Wildlife Connection and local communities, honey beehive fences were constructed along the boundaries of two villages in close proximity to Ruaha National Park. Honey bees are proven to act as a natural deterrent to elephants, whilst in addition there is also the simultaneous and potential benefit of increased livelihood and income creation for local farmers through the production and selling of honey and other associated beekeeping business opportunities, such as hive construction and maintenance. This will be the focus of the next phase of the project.