

**CHILD IN THE SUN**

***Educational & Vocational Center for Former Street Children***

**Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam**

**Missionaries of Mary Immaculate – MMI**

**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

**HALF YEARLY REPORT**

**January – June, 2021**



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Child in the Sun is a charitable organization under the registered trustee of the Arch Diocese of Dar es Salaam. *Child in the Sun* is run by Members of the Missionaries of Mary Immaculate, under the patronage of the Archdiocese. His Grace Most Rev. Jude Thaddaeus Ruwa'ichi OFM Cap., the Archbishop of Dar es Salaam is the Patron. The Overseer would represent the Archdiocese of Dar es Salaam, as the owner of the Project to hold everything in trust for the purpose for which Child in the Sun was established and one member from the Missionaries of Mary Immaculate as its management team. It is a nonprofit organization and the organization is based on guiding and caring for the street children by providing them spiritual and moral support with good education in different careers.



The Street Children are valuable members of the society. Some street children run thriving businesses, supporting themselves, their families, and other children. We need to recognize that children and youth are full of imagination, desires, and hopes.

These children are not just victims, they are survivors. They often show incredible resilience in overcoming or living in the midst of adversity. They have developed coping mechanisms for caring for themselves, and for friends or family members. These children are active participants in their families, workplaces, and communities. But, without improved protection and promotion of their rights together with increased opportunities, many of these children are likely to remain marginalized throughout their childhood and into adulthood. Therefore, CIS plans out various programs and educational and vocational trainings to develop the inborn qualities of these children to make them active and alive in their lives. This Report covers the period of January to June, 2021. In this report we have described the activities done during the year 2021 in Child in the Sun.

## 2. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT OF CHILD IN THE SUN

*Child in the Sun* is a Charitable Non-profit making Organization under the Registered Trustee of the Archdiocese of Dar-es-Salaam. It is run by the members of the Missionaries of Mary Immaculate, under the patronage of the Archdiocese.

*Child in the Sun* was initiated by Fr. Philippe Docq, a missionary belonging to the Congregation of the Missionaries of Africa in 1992, after a number of years of work in one of the very populated areas of Dar-es-Salaam, a Parish set-up. The children were suffering of lack of food, shelter, clothing, and medical care and were earning their living

through odd jobs like scavenging. Scavenging children make their living by picking up and selling used paper, plastic, bottles, metal pieces, tins, rags, clothes and other objects from street garbage or dumpsites. The habit is so compelling that the dumps, especially those in Dar es Salaam, sometimes swarm with scavengers. It is a pity that some people make scavenging a life-long undertaking.

The initial group were about ten children (both boys and girls), who were all enrolled into the Primary School system at Manzese. As days went on lots of children came seeking help; this necessitated the move to open another Centre at Mbezi-Makabe (about 25 kilometres outside Dar-es-Salaam) and to provide services directly. Up to date, it is the only one of its kind in DSM that provides direct primary education to Street Children. Due to its particular characteristics it could be referred to as Special Education for Street Children.

The mission of Child in the Sun is great and CIS rehabilitates the street children living under difficult situation. It has been determined that some homeless children share the mean streets with adult underworld criminals -- thieves, drug peddlers, and others. These adults get into contact with street children easily. They, indeed, exploit them for criminal ends. Sometimes the children wind up in prisons. Thieves often send street children on errands. The children are instructed to steal mobile phones, handbags and gold chains from pedestrians. The young thieves are paid small sums of money in return but in the process they risk being caught and battered to death by rowdy mobs.

### 3. TARGET GROUP

Our target group is boys who are in the streets and victims of trafficking especially those who live away from their respective families, depending upon their labour to earn a living in streets. Normally they would have dropped-out of school or never been to school at all.



At present we have two centres one at Manzese, which is a Drop in Center and another, is at Mbezi-Makabe, which is the main center. We are able to give assistance directly to 80 children through Manzese and Mbezi centres. We also teach vocational skill training for 90 street youth who are our part-time beneficiaries under the Day Care Program. The Children come from all the Regions and tribes of Tanzania.

### 4. PROJECT GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

#### 4.1. Main Goal:

The main goal and objective of Child in the Sun is **“Reunification and Reintegration”** of street children with their families and communities. Having

reunification as our main goal we have the intermediate goals such as providing educational and vocational trainings during their stay in the center. When they are reunified with their families and communities, they are already persons who can stand on their own legs for their living. Therefore, we aim at reunification with educational and vocational training to start their self-reliant life in the society where they are going to live.

#### **4.2. The other intermediate Objects are:**

- To help the children to recover from their emotional wounds by carrying out needs assessments, seminars medical screening and counselling.
- To help them to reconstruct the broken relationship with their families and relatives, encouraging them through progressive contact during holidays.
- Support for leavers to start a self-reliant live by themselves.
- To enrol these children in formal school from where they dropped out due to their poor family background or domestic violence in their family.
- To give them basic education: teaching them to read and write, and the basics of general knowledge that would help them stand on their own.
- To provide them with extracurricular activities like sports, drawing, dance, singing etc.
- To encourage measures to prevent children vulnerability all around Tanzania, by participating when possible in public awareness campaigns, symposia, lectures conference, research and such like in promotion and furtherance of the interest of children. Child in the Sun is committed to co-operate with national and international organizations in issues pertaining to the children rights protection without compromising our spirit, aims and objectives.

#### **5. PROGRAMMES OFFERED:**

Apart from the providing the basic needs such as food, cloth and shelter, the following other programs have been offered to children at our center during the reporting period of January to June, 2021.

- ***Social Behavioural Change Programs***
- ***Basic Education***
- ***Vocational Training Programs***
- ***Seminars and Workshops***
- ***Health Awareness Programs***
- ***Physical Education (Sports and Games)***

## **5.1. SOCIAL BEHAVIORAL CHANGE PROGRAMS:**

Tanzania, a country with deep cultural and linguistic roots in the Bantu tradition, is a symbol of post-colonial society that is now under the pressures of globalization, with policies of everybody will carry his or her own burden. Having undergone massive economic reform from the time of independence with a deep faith in the old traditions of “African Socialism,” but now joining everybody in the competition of global economy, these changes leave vulnerable groups like street children helpless.

Living on the streets, with no supervision, protection or guidance often makes street children vulnerable to a wide range of problems or hazards. These children commonly sleep in hazardous environments such in abandoned broken-down vehicles, at bus stops and in bars. They are also linked to the deviant behaviour, such as drug abuse, stealing, commercial sex work, violence and sexual abuse. Street children experience great difficulties in their daily life including hunger, lack of shelter, sickness and drugs, get involved in criminal activities and engaged themselves in prostitution. Street children may be marginalised but many are also ambitious, tough and resilient. They manage to survive in the toughest of environments and they dream of getting out of the situation they find themselves in.

For better behavioural change, Child in the Sun has provided the following services to the children with the help of our donors:

- **Providing Basic Needs**
- **Psychosocial Counselling**
- **Seminars and Workshops**

### **5.1.1. Providing Basic Needs**

The children are provided with the basic needs such food, clothing and shelter by Child in the Sun. We have two centers in Dar es Salaam; one is in Manzese which is called the Drop in Center, where the boys stay initially and receive food, clothing, and shelter. After three months' time, the children are brought to the main center at Mbezi-Makabe, which is the main center. Since many children who are in the street live under hazardous situation, they are usually with ill health; therefore, the initial medical checkup is done for each boy and treated accordingly. Thus the primary needs are met by Child in the Sun which makes the children to feel secure in the center.



### 5.1.2. Psychosocial Counselling

Our social workers conduct psychological counselling and personal meetings with the boys. Both group and individual counselling were conducted during the reporting period for the better service. The objective of Counselling is to:



- a) Reduce the feeling of isolation, insecurity etc.
- b) Enlightening them about their rights
- c) How to come out the trauma such as physical, verbal and sexual abuse from peers and adults
- d) Instilling new hope in the

- children's mind to go back home
- e) Emotional guidance

The children whom we serve are not without parents. They end up in the streets because of various reasons. Therefore they need to be counselled to be known about their needs. This counselling sessions helps us to find out the individual and collective needs of the children in order that we will be able to guide accordingly.



### 5.1.3. Seminars and Workshops

Various seminars and workshops were conducted for the boys in the center as well as who are living in boarding. Seminars were conducted on the following topics:



- Health (COVID – 19, HIV/AIDS/STDs),
- Life Skills
- Food Habits
- Environment and agriculture

- Handicraft and self-skill
- Practical moral behaviours

The children were engaged in:

- Role play/drama/ dance
- Brainstorming
- Field visit
- Group discussion
- Demonstrations

## 5.2. BASIC EDUCATION

The children who are at the center are either run away or drop outs from school, because of the financial conditions of the parents. Some of them run away from school due to fear of examination. Child in the Sun provides space for all these children to revive their basic education within the center.



### 5.2.1. Subjects Taught in Basic Education

Sl. No.	Subjects Taught in Basic Education	Syllabus Covered in Six months January to June, 2021
1	Basic English	Alphabets, counting numbers, communicating simple ideas through speech and writing, learning vocabularies, reading short and simple texts aloud to recognize common names, words and basic phrases.
2	Mathematics	Counting numbers, reading numbers, writing numbers, writing numbers in words, identifying place values of numbers, reading and writing fractions, identifying missing numbers in sequence, arranging numbers in ascending and descending orders; addition: subtraction; multiplication.

3	Science and Technology	Identifying various systems of human body: digestive system, drawing digestive system; Environment: identifying actions which destroy the safety of the environment, showing the habit of maintaining cleanliness and air safety, importance for living things such as water, heat, air, light and soil; Identifying various types of energy; identifying means of communication, activities on how to use a radio and television set; principles of hygiene for good health and environment: maintaining cleanliness at home and the school environment, teaching to give first aid to a person.
4	Swahili	Alphabets, counting numbers, communicating simple ideas through speech and writing, learning vocabularies, reading short and simple texts aloud to recognize common names, words and basic phrases; to read newspapers; letter writing practices; essay writing practices.
5	Social Studies	To build good relationship with the surrounding community: family, relationship; to honor the heroes in the society: naming the leaders of the country, describing the contribution of the leaders to the country; leaning the atlas: drawing the maps, identifying the names of the important cities of the country and the world; learning the Solar system: describing things that constitute the solar system.
6	Lives Skill and Moral Education	Taking care of oneself and others; caring for the environment; building good relationship with others; managing his own household tasks;

		obeying laws and regulations in doing his daily activities; being self-disciplined; cooperating with others in doing ones duties; handling challenges in daily life; fulfilling responsibilities with honesty; respect for elders, parents, and teachers.
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### 5.3. VOCATIONAL SKILL TRAINING PROGRAMS

The following vocational skill training programs were conducted during the reporting period of January to June, 2021:

- ***Carpentry and Joinery***
- ***Basic Welding Training***
- ***Driving Course***

These skill training programs aim at making boys of Child in the Sun self-reliant in their lives.

#### 5.3.1. CARPENTRY AND JOINERY

Boys who are in the age of 16 and 17 are taught carpentry and joinery in the CIS-



Carpentry workshop. A well trained instructor trains them in practical and theoretical skill for the boys. One cannot always be able to get Government jobs, or can enter into industries to work. The opportunity for such employment is very less in Tanzania. Each one has to find his or her own job to

earn his or her living. Carpentry is one of the vocational skills, which provided opportunities for self-employment in Tanzania. Very many students who have learned carpentry in CIS are engaged in self-employment.

There are 10 boys who are being given training in carpentry both theoretically and practically. The boys in the center have made 36 tables and 20 chairs with warmish and painting. Those benches and chairs are sold and money is used for buying new wood. Boys are trained to make doors, windows and chairs that this training be self-sufficient for certain extend. Four of our boys who are enrolled in carpentry skill training program will appear for VETA Exam very soon. Boys who appear for VETA examination will be able to acquire VETA certificates. Child in the Sun carpentry training center makes the boys to be self-reliant in their lives. We are still looking for fund to support the graduating boys to be provided with tools for their future endeavours.



**5.3.1.1. Subjects Taught in Carpentry**

<b>MONTHS</b>	<b>SUBJECTS TAUGHT</b>
January	Introduction to tools and equipments; Methods of Sharpening, grinding, and maintenance.
February	Construction of simple furniture.
March	Construction of frames; Rebating, metering, and molding. Making long and short shoulder mortise and joints.
April	Construction of windows
May	Assessment in oral written, and practical.
June	Holiday

**5.3.1.2. Works Done as Part of Training by the Students**

- 1 Windows repair (Boys Houses)
- 2 Toilet ventilators maintenance
- 3 Repairing window frames (Poultry shed)

- 4 Repairing Boys cupboards
- 5 Repairing 27 chairs, 10 stools, 26 tables, 6 doors.
- 6 Roofing maintenance (Boys Houses)
- 7 Boys' house doors repair
- 8 Fence maintenance
- 9 Windows, doors, cupboards, and roofing maintenance in Manzese Drop in Center.

### **5.3.2. BASIC WELDING TRAINING**



The students are taught basic welding works. This is one of the fast growing job in Dar es Salaam. In many construction sites trained and experienced welders are in need. Therefore, we teach students who are interested in this field. We have around 10 students who are above the age of 18 and who are days

scholars are taught welding. These boys have enrolled under the Day Care Program. The students are those who have no body to help either they are orphans or semi-orphans, left alone. We try to get in touch with them through local village government leaders, local church and mosque leaders, and others.

#### **5.3.2.1. Subjects Taught**

<b>Months</b>	<b>Subjects Taught</b>
January	Safety measures regulations to handle flame usage safely and responsibly.
February	How to maintain the proper temperature of the flame and metals.
March	How to clean and store welding equipment.
April	Teaching to determine the length and dimensions of the product.
May	Assessment oral, written and practical.
June	Holiday

### 5.3.3. DRIVING COURSE

Child in the Sun with the support of Manos Unidas provided driving course training for 10 students who are above the age of 18 in the month of June, 2021. The purpose of this driving course is to empower and enable wandering and poor youth to stand on their own



*Learning Road Signs at the class*

legs. These youth who are given such training find their own job as drivers to earn their living. This helps them to be respected in the society. It makes a tremendous change their world view. We are very grateful on behalf of our students to Manos Unidas.

#### 5.3.3.1. Syllabus Covered

The driving program was taught for a month. Both theoretical and practical classes were



*Driving boys learning parts of vehicle*

conducted by a driving school registered in Tanzania. The students were taught to acquire road traffic competence, and to create a culture of safe and socially responsible driving. Decision making, reflection on one's own driving, cooperation with other road users, anticipation of hazards, etc. were described during the theory class. Road safety measures, road signs, traffic rules, the parts of the vehicle, and the minimum knowledge of maintenance of the vehicle were taught to the students. Twenty full days of practical session was conducted to learn driving.

Moreover, in the beginning learners license was given to each student and after completion of the course, each one who appeared before the RTO were given driving license class C.

### 5.3.4. Masonry Training



*Masonry boys participate in mechanic shed*

Masonry is the art of shaping and uniting stones for the purpose of building. It, therefore, includes the cutting or hewing of stones into the particular forms required, and the union of them by level and perpendicular joints. The operations of masonry require much practical skill, therefore we focus mainly on practical training. There is a trainer

appointed as part time employee of our center to teach and train the students in masonry. The course was started in the month of March, 2021. This training program is supported by Manos Unidas, who pay for the trainer as well as for the kits. Since, we are building a mechanic shed in the center, our students learn the skill and take training. It also helped us in reducing some labor cost.

#### 5.3.4.1. Subjects Taught

The following subjects were taught practically to the students:



*Masonry boys at foundation work*

- Excavation and backfilling works for foundations
- Construction of foundation
- Perform brick masonry for construction of foundation

### 5.4. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The children are provided with certain extracurricular activities such sports and games, dance and drama training and picnics and tours.

### 5.4.1. Sports and Games

We remember the words of Hon. Nelson Mandela: “Sports has the power to change the world; it has the power to inspire; it has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than government in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all kinds of discrimination.”



Our children in the center participate in sports and games every day. A coach is appointed to coach in football and throw ball.

### 5.4.2. Traditional Dance and Drama

The children are taught traditional dance and drama in the center. They learn the traditional way of dance, drama, whereby they are able to transmit the traditional culture of each tribes through tribal dances and music. Both dance and music go together hand in hand.



### 5.4.3. Benefits of sports, Traditional Dance and Drama

- By taking part in sport and leaning traditional dance and drama, children are saved from their involvement in anti-social behaviour.
- Physical activities improve health, wellbeing and mood.
- A wide range of personal attributes that can be developed through sport.
- The social and community relationship increases.

#### 5.4.4. Picnics and Tours

Children during this reporting period were taken to Ndege Beach for refreshment. Picnics or tour are arranged once in three months.

### 6. LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURAL TRAININGS



Rearing chicken, cows, goats, sheep and pigs help our children to learn the trade. The agriculture farming is taught for the boys who are interested in agriculture. All that we produce is used for our consumption. We are planning to develop our livestock farming and

agriculture to make some profit out of it.

We also face challenges in making this trade in a large scale due to lack of water. We tried to make some bore holes but in vain. Therefore, at present we produce vegetables for our own consumption.



### 7. TOTAL NUMBER OF BOYS BENEFITED FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2021.

MONTH	Number In January	Reunified in the families	Drop outs	Number at the end of June
Number of Students at the center	34			
Number of New Arrivals in April & June	12			
Total Number of Students at the Center	46	11	7	28

Number of Students in Boarding Schools	9	-	-	-
Number of Boys working as apprenticeships	11	-	-	-
<b>Total Number Of Students Benefited from January – June, 2021</b>	<b>66</b>			

## 8. MAINTAINANCE AND CONSTRUCTION WORKS

The following maintenance works have been done during the reporting period:



*Masonry boys contributing their work*

### 8.1. Construction of Mechanic Shed

Rev. Pastor Lars foundation supports us to construct a mechanic shed at our center for training the youth, who have no one to support in and around the center. The construction is going on. A mechanic shed as well as an office for

the same are being built in Child in the Sun premise. The construction is almost getting over. The works yet to be done are plumbing, electrical, plastering, flooring, fixing windows, doors fixing false ceiling and painting. We are grateful to Rev. Pastor Lars for his help and support to our center.



*Mechanic Shed building on the process*

#### 8.1.1. Objective of the Mechanic Shed

We have two objectives and aims in constructing this mechanic shed. They are:

- Training the students both boarders and day scholars in mechanic skill

- Through this training getting income for the center.

To achieve these objectives we have planned to appoint a mechanic trainer to train the students. While training the inmates who are eligible, we would recruit students from the neighborhood without discrimination of cast, color or religion. Those who are able to pay will be charged a minimum fee for the training. This will bring a certain amount of Income to the center.

## 8.2. Renovation of Manzese Drop in Center



Figure 1MDC Before Renovation

The renovation work in the Manzese Drop in Center was sponsored and funded by Our Child, Germany. With the help of Our Child we were able to do renovation of the whole building. The works done at Manzese Drop in Center are:

- Painting the walls in and out, doors, windows, toilets and kitchen.
- Repairing the false ceiling and gutters
- Repairing the windows, doors
- Fixing mosquito nets for the windows
- Plumbing works
- Repairing the roofs
- Plastering

Our students contributed their manual labor in completing the renovation work at Manzese. We also thank Our Child - Germany for their support and help. During the renovation period, the children were taken to our main center at Mbezi-Makabe.



Figure 2 MDC After Renovation

## **9. CONCLUSION**

The street children problem is increasing day by day. Alarming news that we receive from various NGOs similar to Child in the Sun is that the parents themselves send their children for street begging. There is no official statistics on the magnitude of the problem, although number of studies that covered selected areas and for different purposes were conducted by various government, non-government organizations and religious institutions. The government of Tanzania is trying to find out the magnitude of the problem with the help of various countries so that they will be able to address the problem effectively. The case study proves that these children can be moulded and changed if there is a positive guiding force at the proper time. In this field of guidance and positive motivation of the children, Child in the Sun has been playing a leading role. May all our effort, both of the donor organizations and the NGOs be blessed by God, that more and more vulnerable children be helped.