

*Sunflowers for Life'*





# The 'Sunflowers for Life' Project

To support villages in Tanzania through local pastors  
in association with vicar general for Dodoma –  
Rev Dr Dickson Chilongani





## The Situation

- Dodoma area has 210 Pastors
- Villagers have to pay for schooling and medical costs
- Main income through farming BUT lack of rain has meant little or no harvest
- Often choice between feeding family, medical treatment or paying for schooling





## Sunflowers for Life - Objectives

- Support 210 pastors to co-ordinate activity to generate *sustainable* income to support families and villages
- Provide sunflower seeds and ploughing assistance to the villagers.
- Support local economy as seeds are purchased from local Tanzanian farmers





- Dodoma is semi-desert and Sunflowers grow well in areas of little rainfall
- Sunflowers grow well in this area as initial trial proved in 2008
- It is a commercial crop which is in high demand either as seeds or as oil.
- Harvested crop can be sold locally boosting economy

## Why Sunflowers?





# Sunflowers for Life

## Self-funding programme

- Payment supports the first year
- Harvest generates enough and more for the following seasons.
- Total 'holistic' approach bringing expertise from companies in crop and machinery management and training to maximise opportunity



## The villagers have farming experience

- Grow maize and millet but these rely on regular rainfall
- Sunflower crop is reliable as it tolerates drought or rain shortage.
- Initial trial of Sunflowers was a success





## Financial Support needed

Provide 210 pastors/villages with 15 kilos of sunflower seeds to plant and plough 5 acres each

*By October 2010*

- Cost of above per pastor/village = £100
  - *Supporters will be linked to a pastor/village for progress*
  
- *Or smaller amount*
  - *Ploughing and equipment* - £50
  - *Seeds and planting* - £25

### **NOTE -**

*This is a **ONE** time support amount as harvest delivers long term sustainable income*



## Prayer Support needed

- For the financial success of this project in particular for the practical support of organisations that have offered crop and machinery training
- At least 210 people/organisations/churches/youth groups etc to provide the right financial support
- For the villages as they work on this project balancing their finances work, family, schools fees and farming until the sunflower harvest
- Strong 1<sup>st</sup> season of the right amount of rain and harvest to generate the right level of income for the following season
- Access to the correct technical support, training and equipment to maximise return
- Dickson Chilongani and pastors for wisdom and knowledge as they distribute/support and implement the project locally



## Typical example

- Local man irregular income of around £20 per month
- Often choice between feeding family, treatment for daughter or paying school fees
- His daughter has "sickle cell anaemia" and needs regular hospitalization at significant cost
- Lack of rain has meant a significant drop in income from usual farming methods and crops.
- Funds generated from Sunflower harvest would provide a means to pay medical costs, food and school fees



A typical school in Dodoma



A local hospital

# Pictures

A Pastor and villagers





## Further information

Thank you for your support, for more detailed information or to **make a donation** please contact

**Steve Hallett**  
**Sunflowers for Life Project**  
**Well Street United Church**  
**Buckingham**  
**Bucks**  
**MK18 1ET**  
**01280 823940**  
**07702 098719**  
[sheb.hallett@btconnect.com](mailto:sheb.hallett@btconnect.com)



Cheques made payable to ***Well Street United Church***  
If UK taxpayer please also add – ***I wish my donation to be gift aided***  
and provide your full address

Steve trained at Trinity College Bristol with Dickson and is the UK coordinator of 'Sunflowers for Life'

# Appendix



- Rainfall details
- Dodoma capital