

Opportunity: Income & Livelihood

Providing communities with the training and support so that families can generate their own income and livelihood is vital to helping them to achieve self-sustainability.

WE Charity's holistic and sustainable development model is designed to empower communities with the tools they need to lift themselves out of poverty. The **Opportunity pillar** addresses income and livelihood that work at overcoming their household's and community's economic challenges. It provides both men and women with the training and support they need to increase their income-generating skills. These skills are then passed on to their children and friends which help to ensure long-term, sustainable solutions that can thrive for generations.

WE CHARITY'S OPPORTUNITY PROJECTS IN PARTNERING COMMUNITIES INCLUDE:

- *Animal husbandry, which includes milking/breeding animals*
- *Business and financial literacy workshops*
- *Leadership and skills training*
- *Women's and Men's lending circles and support groups*
- *Vocational training*
- *Honey production*
- *Artisans projects*
- *Girls' clubs*

When mothers are given the education, tools and skills to earn a living, they are in a position to provide for their children. And they do—sending them to school, accessing health care and ensuring they don't have to go to work to help support the family. Empowered women also have more freedom to shape their own lives, acting as role models to and holding out a hand to the generation of girls behind them.

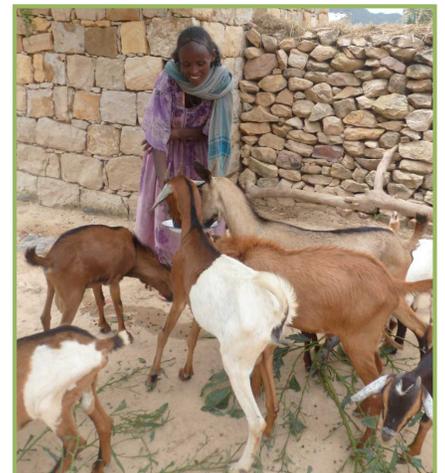
More Facts:

- 1 in 6 people in developing communities lives *on less than \$1.25 a day.*
- In most countries, women only earn 60 to 75% of what men earn, but work longer hours with less time for education and self-care.
- The world economy *could increase by 17 trillion dollars, if we could close the employment and wage gap between men and women.*

Meet Mohani

Mohani squats next to one of her three goats and gently squeezes the udders over a tin bucket. Later that day, she will give this nutritious milk to the children in her community, so they can continue to grow healthy and strong. Her gentle demeanour and kind eyes attract children of all ages looking for not only a cup of delicious goat's milk, but also a warm smile. While she has no children of her own, she acts as a godmother in her tiny village, encouraging the children to attend school.

Mohani is also a **WE Charity ambassador**. Despite being illiterate, she has proven to be a strong leader within her community and has implemented a goat rearing project as a form of livelihood development for women in her tribe. With her assistance, 60 goats were distributed to the tribe's women, who were given training on proper goat care. As one of the women elected to manage the group's collective bank account, she is responsible for ensuring they deposit savings each month, earned from selling goat meat and milk. Thanks to Mohani's guidance, and **WE Charity**, these women say they have dignity because they can control their own income.



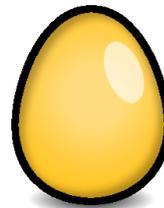
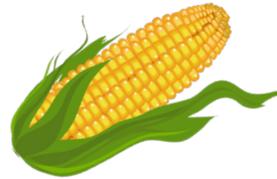
In addition to tending to the goats, Mohani helps her husband in the fields with their corn and wheat crops. They both received training in best agricultural practices to improve the productivity of their land and now enjoy a higher crop yield. Her husband also breaks rock from the hillside to sell for construction projects. Mohani's determination to improve the quality of life in her village has defined her as a prominent leader. She's playing a pivotal role in its development and sharing her skills with others while encouraging children to attend the local **WE Charity school**.

"Opportunity" Activity

Farmers have animals and crops to help provide food and money for their family. Help the farmers with this fun "matching" activity.



What does each animal or item produce?
Draw a line to the best match. 



What does a goat provide for a family in Tanzania? List as many things as you can think of, and discuss why a goat is important to these families? 



Your participation in the Dance-A-Thon will empower communities like Oltepesi in Tanzania, Africa with the tools they need to get the training and support needed to establish & increase their income-generating skills to help lift them out of poverty.