



**SHOCC** is a small charity working with trusted partners. We work with managers who have demonstrated need and have clear goals. We will then support a project financially and through tailored advice and encouragement. As a result, our projects illustrate reciprocal philanthropy where we have an ongoing relationship with our partners, treat them with respect and have a two-way, empathetic approach, aiming for projects quickly to become self-sustainable. We have very few administrative costs and 99% of every donated pound goes to our projects.

## ENGARUKA PARISH MTO WA MBU TANZANIA [SDG's 9, 11, 17]

## PROJECT STATUS: COMPLETE

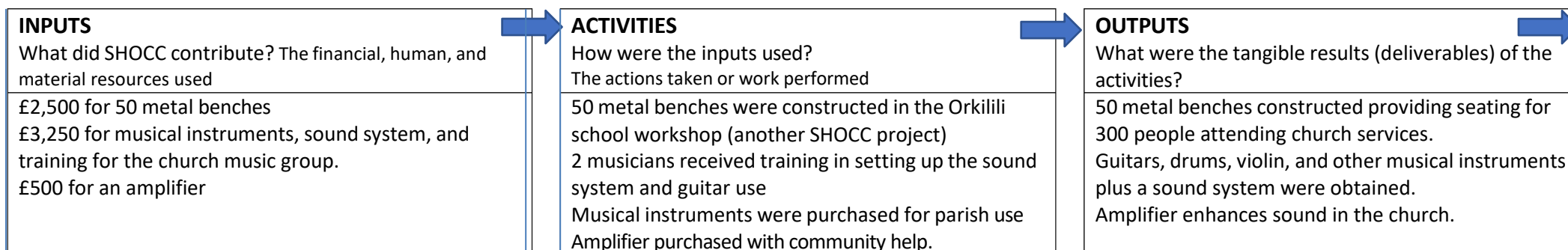
**Project brief:** To help the Engaruka community to develop, SHOCC worked with the Parish Priest to provide musical instruments and seating provision at the town church. Following a visit by a SHOCC trustee in 2022, a request was presented for funding to replace an old amplifier used in the church. The trustees agreed to provide most of the funds required and asked the community to provide the rest.

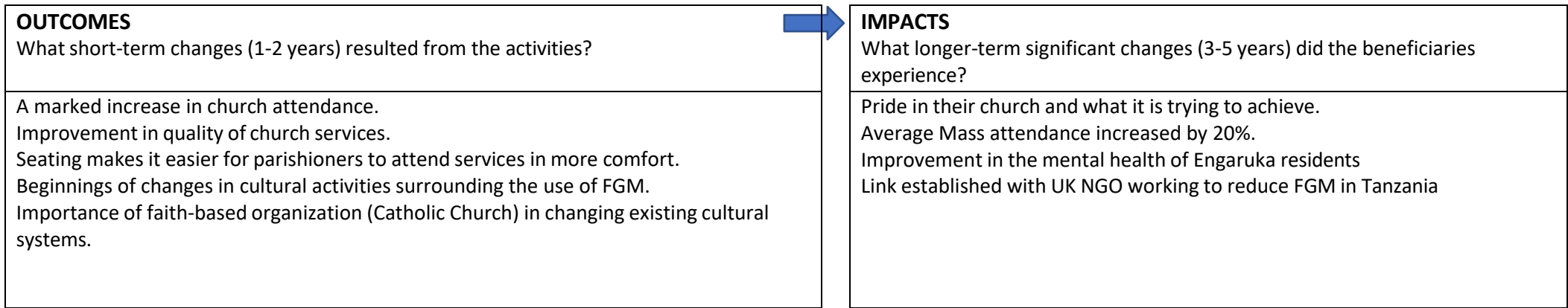
Date of entry:	22.02.2023
Project type:	Community
Year(s) of project	2015 - 2023
Awarded to date:	£6,250

**Background:** In 2015, Trustee Dr Kevin Cook attended Sunday Mass at Engaruka some 60 kilometres north of Mto Wa Mbu in Tanzania. Engaruka is a large Maasai village of some 8,000 inhabitants who follow a cattle-based lifestyle. The village is a tourist attraction partly as it gives visitors an opportunity to visit Maasai families in their homes and also because it lies close to 15<sup>th</sup> century iron age ruins. Religion forms an important part of community life amongst the Maasai and Dr Cook was asked if SHOCC could provide funding for the church choir who required musical instruments and a sound system. Funding was obtained from a past student of the university and training provided for the instrumentalists.

During a second visit in 2018, the parishioners requested that SHOCC provide funding for seating for the church. Orkilili School (see separate SHOCC project) agreed to construct the metal benches in its workshops as part of its pupil training. 50 benches were constructed and transported to the church where they were welcomed by the parishioners. What makes this project additionally interesting is that the construction of the benches enabled two SHOCC projects to link to the mutual benefit of each

### Our theory of change





**Stories and case studies, with descriptions and anecdotes from beneficiaries [to be added when received from partners]**

“Engaruka village is one hour’s drive from Mto Wa Mbu. It is like travelling into another era. Fr Peter Kway, ever energetic and resourceful, took the opportunity of a visit from SHOCC Trustees to say a very special Mass for a gathering of devout Maasai parishioners. The head catechist had asked for a blessing for the circumcision of his two sons and we were invited as witnesses. Somewhat baffled, we jumped into his four-wheel-drive vehicle and hung on tight.

As the day evolved and we breakfasted on roast meat in a Maasai home, it became clear that a bargain had been struck between the catechist father and Fr. Peter. A blessing would be provided for the sons on condition that the girls of the village were not touched. Female circumcision (Female Genital Mutilation or FGM), is widespread if not universal in these remote areas and Fr Peter was daring to challenge the malign and sometimes life-threatening practice. His sermon asked the congregation to look at the white visitors. These women, he told them, are happily married and have grandchildren and yet they are not circumcised. There followed an audible intake of breath. It was our amazing privilege to be an object of wonder and to be witnesses to a different way of life. The parish had asked for musical instruments and amplifiers from the Global North; they were being invited to offer their girls a new way of life in return.” [Elizabeth Byrne Hill SHOCC Trustee after a visit in 2018]

Photographs were taken by Trustees and others when visiting the project.



The man on the left is a member of the church music group and is dressed in the traditional Maasai manner. Members of the choir are seated in the front rows of the top right photo.

The two lower photographs show the old and new benches in use. The old (left) are wooden and subject to termite attack, lasting only a few years unless treated with an expensive preservative. The ones on the left are metal and will have a much longer life.

The funding enabled 50 metal benches, with kneelers to be constructed at the Orkilili Secondary school workshops. Each can comfortably seat up to six persons.







### THE SITUATION IN JUNE 2022

A new primary classroom has been constructed with local village community help near Engaruka about 40 miles from Mto Wa Mbu. This will enable children who attend the local infant school to continue their education locally instead of walking many miles each day to school. Fr Peter Kway has also obtained funding to develop a water source many kilometres from the town where local herders can obtain water. The water is piped to the site. The two photos below show women getting water for domestic use and for their animals.

