



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.

ORKILILI SECONDARY SCHOOL MOSHI TANZANIA [SDGs 2, 4, 6, 10]

PROJECT STATUS: LIVE

Project brief: SHOCC will work with Orkilili Secondary School to develop a fully functioning school with boarding facilities and the ambition to initiate innovative technological facilities. It will seek to strengthen its links through establishing a volunteer programme that enables university students to spend time at the school. (See the project on the school farm). Following the reduction in pupil numbers (from 400+ to around 30) following Covid, the school has had to consider its future. It applied in 2022 to become a technological training institute.

Date of entry:	24.02.2023
Project type:	School build
Year(s) of project:	2008 -
Awarded to date:	£62,789

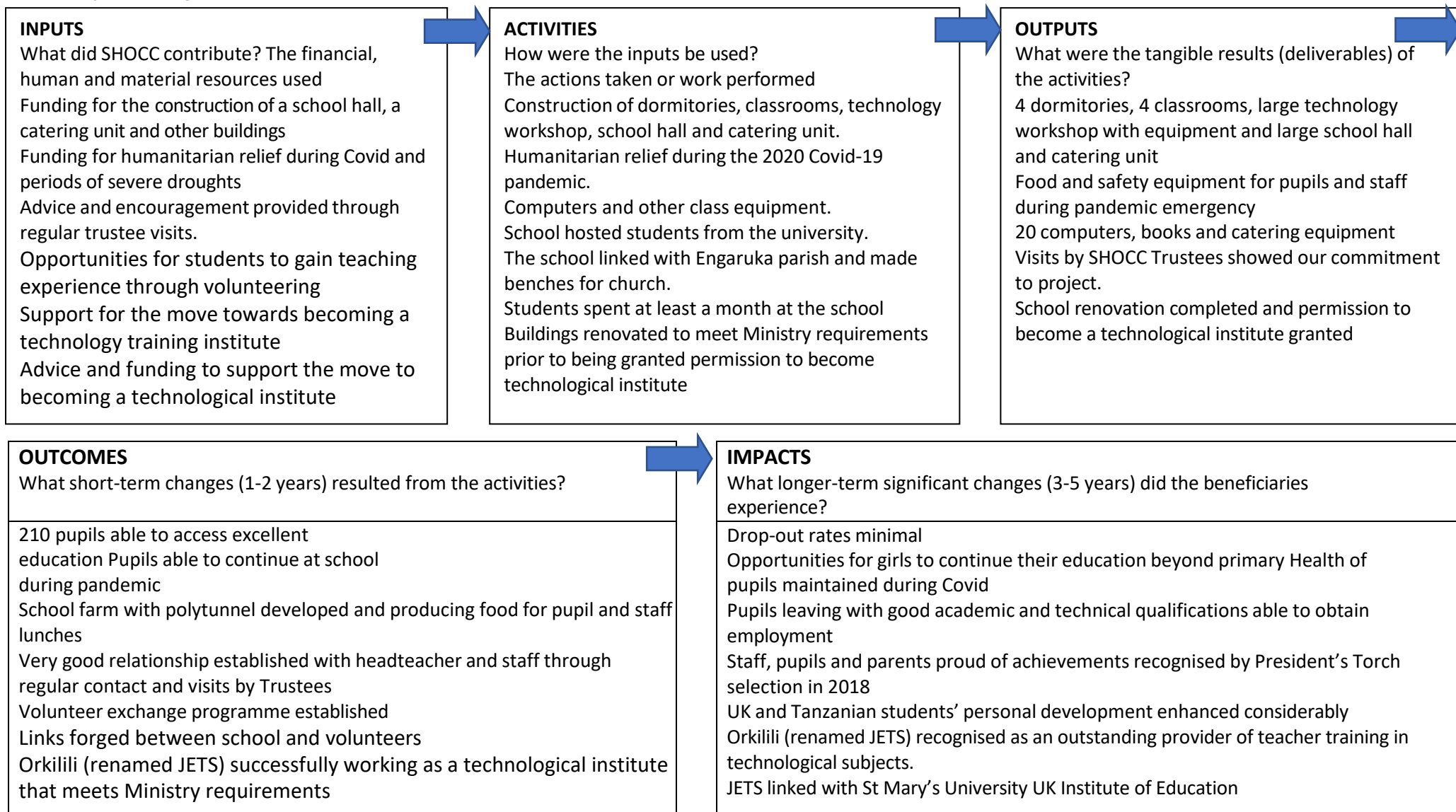
Background: Orkilili Secondary School opened in 2006 with two classes, no electricity and few other facilities. Over the next few years two further classrooms were added. The next most urgent need was dormitory facilities. Three dormitories and a matron's flat were built with the help of The Kilimanjaro Project and were opened by Elizabeth Byrne Hill in 2007 while a group of St Mary's University students was visiting on a short teaching experience.

Since SHOCC became a registered charity in 2008, it has helped raise fund the construction of further dormitories, a technology workshop, computer room, a school hall and a well-equipped Catering Unit.

Orkilili caters for pupils who do not find places at government or private schools, and it has opened up opportunities for pupils who would otherwise receive no formal education after the primary stage. The school management team, headed by Mama Mcha, believes that while all pupils need to follow the National Academic Curriculum, many pupils benefit from learning technological and practical skills that will lead directly to employment such as catering, mechanics, electronics, car maintenance and bricklaying, skills in short supply in Tanzania. This innovative approach has attracted very favourable attention from the Education Department.

Following the unsustainable reduction in pupil numbers following Covid, the school has applied to become a technology training institute training teachers for secondary school. SWHOCC wishes to continue to support the school in this venture.

Our Story of Change



Stories and case studies, with descriptions and anecdotes from beneficiaries

On March 12th 2021, MamaYohana Mcha, Principal of Orkilili Secondary School, celebrated 50 years as a teacher. Several past students have compiled a video reflecting on Yohanna's impact on their lives and thanking her. These are some of their comments. SHOCC is also delighted to congratulate her on her wonderful contribution to Tanzanian education and to have been able to help her during the recent part of this journey.

- "I am who I am because of your guidance, mentorship and setting the right example for us. Thank you for teaching me how to live with generosity, patience and Godly love. Happy 50th anniversary. Lulu.
- "You gave me a foundation so firm. Your imprint lives forever in my mind and heart". Maggie
- "I feel so lucky to be part of your 50-year teaching journey. It's your unique guidance and love that has enabled me to excel in all that I do." Vickie
- "You are a great motivator. I've made so much progress with your support and encouragement." Florah
- "Thank you so much for teaching me the importance of speaking eloquently, with correct grammar." Matt.
- In 2017, I was lucky enough to be welcomed to Orkilili for a month. I feel hardly able to say I was a volunteer as, looking back, I received so much more from Mama Mcha's school than I could ever have given. What struck me most about Okilili is that, from Day 1, Henry and I, complete strangers, were welcomed into every part of the school's life with such great respect and generosity of spirit, from staff and students alike, it was as though we were long lost friends. But this generosity and kindness wasn't restricted to the school grounds – to name a few examples; during the evenings, one of the teachers would take us under his wing to try different local foods in the area; one Sunday, we were invited to spend a wonderful day at the home of two of the pupils; another weekend, we were invited to a family wedding of one of the staff who we hadn't even met. I cannot finish without also mentioning the respect and pride the pupils had in both their work and their facilities – from the dining hall to the catering unit, classroom to the workshop – everything was immaculate. What this school is given, Yohana makes into something with lasting impact. (Bea volunteer 2017)



Much has changed since Principal Mama Yohana Mcha, started Orkilili Secondary school in 2005/6 with 13 students who had not managed to gain a place in a government secondary school and 8 Maasai orphans who were given free places. Today it is a thriving school with students studying the full Tanzanian curriculum AND obtaining qualifications in extra-curricular subjects such as mechanical and electrical engineering, catering, motor vehicle maintenance and construction. The school has been designed with classrooms surrounding a quiet, central area with shady trees and seating for pupils to relax (photo top left). The photo top centre shows two volunteers, Bea and Henry with Mama Yohana, outside the Cornwall catering unit. The photo top right shows students celebrating their successful catering exam results. The bottom photos show a class in progress, the mechanics workshop with Mama Yohana explaining how a car works to Assumption Sister Schola and SHOCC Trustee Elizabeth Byrne Hill. The bottom right photo shows the excellent spacious school hall constructed with a grant from the Murtagh Trust. Its roof can harvest around 20,000 litres of water during the two rainy seasons; water that is crucial to development in this semi-arid area with an average annual rainfall of only 400mms. Mama Yohana has constructed three interlinked tanks capable of holding much more than the hoped for 20,000 litres and this will be filtered and used for drinking and washing. SHOCC intends to continue supporting this excellent school not least through the successful volunteering programme supported by the Catenian scholarship.





THE SITUATION IN 2019 PRE-COVID

Before the Covid pandemic struck, Orkilili school was flourishing. It had excellent facilities for teaching the full Tanzanian academic curriculum and had also developed its technical subjects; unusual for a Tanzanian secondary school. It had been chosen as the first stop on the prestigious President's Flame tour of the country and pupil numbers were excellent and results good. It had a popular scout troop and had recently constructed three large water tanks to harvest water from the school hall roof during the rains. It was managed by its Principal, Mama Yohana Mbise (right).

Covid has seriously affected the school, particularly in terms of pupil numbers which have fallen dramatically. A vision for the future is being developed which may focus more on technical subjects and perhaps even teacher training.

SHOCC will continue to support this project as it seeks a new identity and mission.

