



Who we are

We are a group of women architects and allied professionals committed to enhancing social justice by mobilizing women to spearhead building adequate shelter for marginalized communities in Tanzania. TAWAH is officially registered as an NGO under the Tanzania Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2002 in March 2011 with the registration number 4487 and Charitable number. From 2023 TAWAH has grown from being volunteer based into a fully operating NGO which now deploys 16 staff members and 3 interns to continue our mission.

TAWAH's work is supported by a wide range of stakeholders. Grassroots stakeholders - including women trainees, youth, elderly beneficiaries, and local communities - play an active role in shaping programs to ensure alignment to real community needs. Professional partners such as architects, engineers, vocational institutions, and academic collaborators contribute technical expertise and mentorship, while community member stakeholders including volunteers, donors, local leaders, and civil society partners support TAWAH's mission through advocacy, resources, and sustained engagement.

Vision

Alleviate poverty and empower marginalized groups in Tanzania.

Mission

Use innovative techniques to improve living conditions and build capacity for income generation among marginalized groups in Tanzania.



How we take action

TAWAH uses a holistic approach to provide decent shelter and expand opportunities for the communities most affected by poverty. Central to this approach is empowering women with construction skills that enable them to generate income and contribute meaningfully to local development. Women trained by TAWAH participate in building safe and sustainable homes for vulnerable groups, including the elderly, using locally available materials and innovative techniques to ensure durability.

This focus extends beyond technical training. TAWAH supports female university students through mentorship programmes that encourage their continued participation in a sector traditionally dominated by men. By strengthening women's skills, confidence, and livelihoods, TAWAH enhances the wellbeing of entire households, recognising that women are often the primary caregivers whose knowledge directly improves the living conditions of entire families.

In a context where social norms often discourage women from working in construction, TAWAH challenges these barriers by demonstrating that women are builders. In doing so, TAWAH not only transforms individual lives but also advances broader Sustainable Development Goals by promoting gender equality, resilient communities, and environmentally responsible construction.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Change Taking Roots

“TAWAH serves to address poverty-driven challenges, including unsafe housing, marginalized and vulnerable communities, gender inequality, and environmental injustice. Through the empowerment of women with construction skills, the innovative use of locally sourced materials and appropriate technologies, TAWAH works to improve living conditions while building capacity for sustainable income generation”



Demand exists for **trained women in construction**

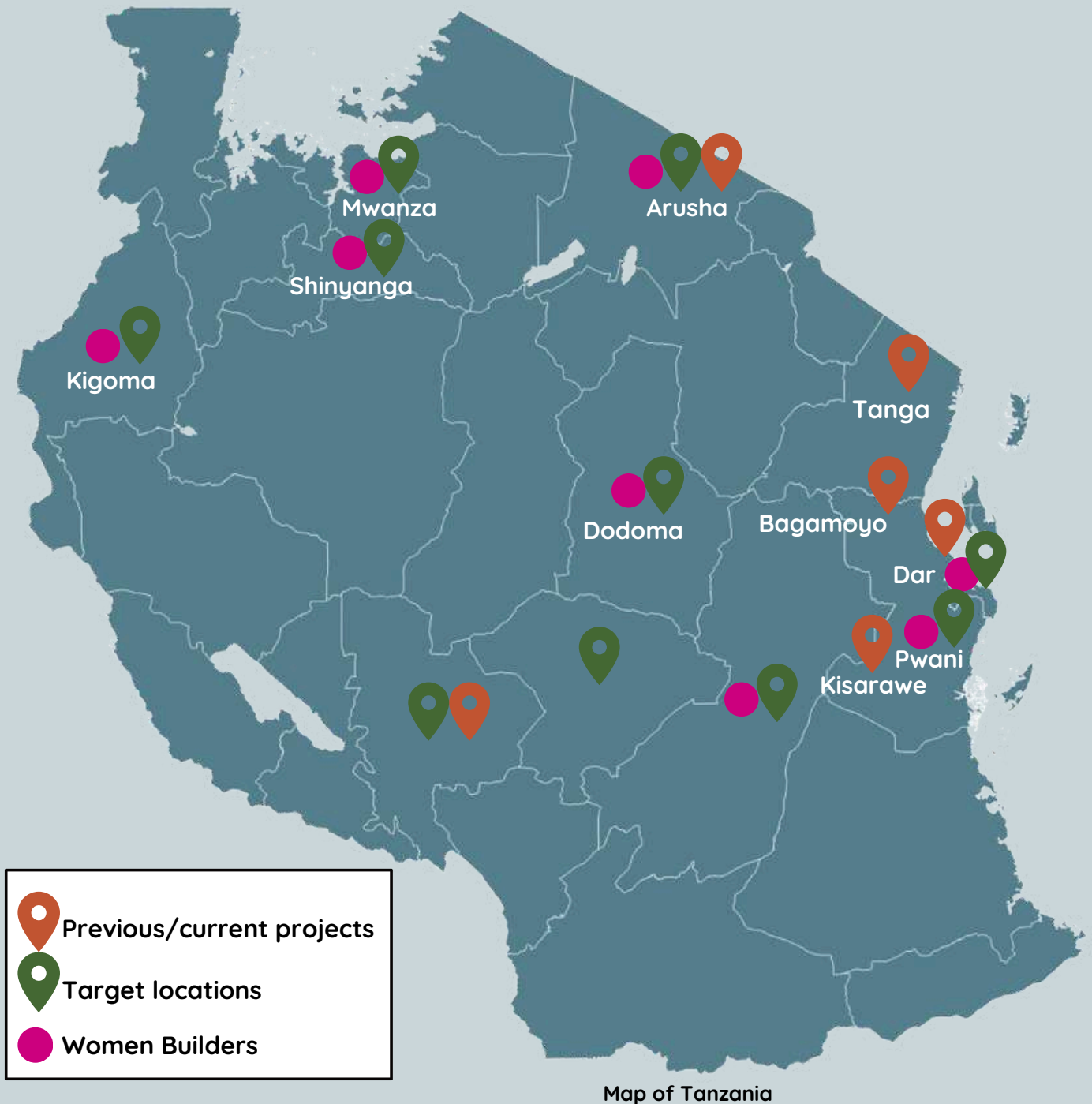


Policy environment allows adoption of low-carbon construction techniques



Cultural norms can shift with sustained engagement

WHERE WE WORK IN TANZANIA



Since 2011, TAWAH's work has expanded across multiple regions of Tanzania, including projects in **Pwani, Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Tanga, Mbeya** and reaching women builders from **Pwani, Mbeya, Njombe, Mwanza, Kigoma, Shinyanga, Dodoma, Morogoro, Arusha** and **Dar es Salaam**. Reflecting a journey shaped through community partnership and shared learning where we collaborate with women builders, students, and local leaders in each region.

Looking ahead, TAWAH seeks to broaden the reach of its core programs to more regions across Tanzania including the areas where our women builders originate, allowing us to sustain the network we have built and continue offering support to graduates beyond the vocational center. In addition, TAWAH plans to grow its presence in Iringa, where a connection has been established to support the architectural design of upcoming school projects and to implement a WASH program.

OUR GLOBAL REACH



TAWAH's impact has grown beyond Tanzania's borders, reaching **Dubai, USA, Portugal, Italy, the UK, Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, Mexico, South Africa, Zambia, Nigeria, Spain, France** and **The Netherlands**. Through its diverse programs and collaborative projects, including the Women in Construction Mentorship Program, University Partnerships and Volunteer Program, TAWAH has built meaningful global connections that foster knowledge exchange, promote women's empowerment in construction, and inspire inclusive development through shared learning and innovation.

Over the next five years TAWAH aims to extend its global reach even further, bringing construction innovation, collaborative learning and global advisory to new countries through Mentorship Programs, the TAWAH VTC, and the Volunteer Program. For the training of women builders specifically, we plan to target **Malawi, Kenya, Ghana, and Congo**, places where initial connections have already been established.

OUR IMPACT

Strategic Outcome 01

136

Total reach



132

Female 97%



4

Female 3%

Strategic Outcome 02

297

Total reach



216

Female 72.7%



81

Female 27.3%

Strategic Outcome 03



Total reach

Strategic Outcome 04

1,705

Total reach



1,537

Female 90.1%



168

Female 9.9%

Media Engagement Reach

61,902

Total reach



50,152



10,051



403



1,326





Stories of Change

“TAWAH has revived the dreams I had lost by equipping me with comprehensive construction skills, ranging from making soil bricks and sand cement blocks to building houses. I also had the opportunity to attend training at VETA for three months, which I completed successfully.

Since graduating from VETA, I have already secured three jobs. Through these opportunities, I am now able to take care of my children, support their education, and manage some everyday challenges through my construction work.

Through these skills, I can already see positive progress, and I believe I will continue striving for greater success. As women, when we work hard and stay determined, we are capable and can perform very well.”

Halima Ibrahim Lukonge

TAWAH VTC Woman Builder- 2025



“I am a woman builder and I encourage younger women to stay strong and be willing to face challenges because there is no job without difficulties.

Since I started this work, I have realized that age keeps moving forward, and through the income I earn, I have managed to buy my own motorcycle. I gave it to a young man to operate as a business, and it now generates additional income for me.

As I grow older, I know there may come a time when I will no longer be able to continue with construction work. That is why I decided to invest in purchasing the motorcycle, so it can support me in the future when I am unable to keep working in construction.

I truly love this work, but I am also aware that my age is advancing.”

Sauda Amri Kirumbi

TAWAH VTC Woman Builder - 2023



Strategic Outcome 01

Increase Women's Participation in the Construction Sector

TAWAH continues to advance women's inclusion and representation in the construction sector through practical skills training, professional development initiatives, and community-based engagement. During the first quarter of 2026, a series of activities were implemented to strengthen technical capacity, expand employment pathways, and support women's leadership within the built environment.



Enrollment of Cohort 5 at TAWAH Vocational Training Centre (VTC)

Nineteen young women originating from Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Songwe, Manyara and Pwani were enrolled in Cohort 5 at the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre. The four-month training programme provides intensive hands-on exposure to construction practices, with particular emphasis on sustainable building materials production and practical site-based construction techniques. The programme is designed to expand women's access to technical skills while strengthening pathways toward employment and income generation within the construction industry.

Advanced Vocational Skills Training

Twenty graduates from Cohort 4 of the TAWAH VTC were supported to pursue advanced vocational training at VETA Chang'ombe in Dar es Salaam. The three-month programme focused on specialized trades including painting, carpentry and electrical installation. By strengthening technical competencies and trade certification, the initiative aims to improve graduates' competitiveness within the labour market and increase their participation in professional construction work.

Women Builders' Participation in the Mhaga Construction Project

Eight trained women builders were engaged in construction activities in Mhaga Village, where they participated in the production, curing and installation of Interlocking Stabilized Soil Blocks (ISSB). Their participation provided practical field experience while demonstrating women's technical capability in construction processes traditionally dominated by men. The engagement also contributed to shifting community perceptions regarding women's roles in the building sector.



Training on Property Ownership and Human Rights

A total of twenty-nine participants (25 women and 4 men) attended a training session on property ownership and human rights. The training focused on strengthening awareness of legal frameworks related to land and property ownership, improving understanding of women's rights, and equipping participants with knowledge necessary to advocate for equitable access to property within their communities.



Professionalism and Employability Workshop for Young Professionals

Forty-one young women professionals from architecture, engineering, quantity surveying and planning participated in a professionalism and employability workshop organized by TAWAH in collaboration with the University of Dar es Salaam and the Nijiri Platform. The workshop addressed professional ethics, labour market readiness, and personal branding, providing early-career professionals with guidance on navigating employment pathways within the construction and built environment sectors.



Financial Literacy Training for Women Builders

Nineteen young women builders participated in a financial literacy training delivered in partnership with TAMFI. The training addressed practical financial management skills including budgeting, savings strategies and income planning. Strengthening financial capacity among women builders contributes to improved economic stability and supports long-term sustainability of their professional engagement in construction activities.

Strengthening Security Infrastructure at TAWAH VTC

Construction of the phase one security fence at the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre progressed substantially during the quarter, reaching approximately 80% completion. In preparation for the next phase, procurement of construction materials for phase two of the fencing works has reached 30%, ensuring continuity of the planned security improvements at the training facility.



Strategic Outcome 02

Advance Sustainable Construction Techniques

TAWAH continues to promote sustainable construction practices through the use of locally available materials, low-carbon technologies and climate-responsive design approaches. These efforts focus on demonstrating practical building solutions that reduce construction costs while minimizing environmental impact. Through community projects, training infrastructure and collaborative partnerships, TAWAH advances the development of affordable and sustainable housing solutions while creating hands-on learning environments where women builders and trainees gain practical experience in sustainable construction techniques.



Launch of the Elderly Hub (Bibi Kisozi)

On 4 February 2026, TAWAH officially launched the Elderly Hub at the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre (VTC), a dedicated gathering space designed to support elderly community members. The facility is named in memory of Bibi Kisozi, the first beneficiary of TAWAH's low-cost, low-carbon and decent housing initiative, whose legacy continues to inspire the organization's work in inclusive and dignified housing.

The launch event brought together community members, trainees, institutional partners and local government representatives. A total of 161 participants attended the event, including 96 elderly community members (41 women and 55 men), 35 young women, 22 men, 5 partner representatives, and 3 local government officials. The strong participation demonstrated broad community ownership and institutional support for initiatives that promote dignified living conditions for older persons.

The Elderly Hub serves as a demonstration structure showcasing low-carbon and climate-responsive construction practices. The building utilizes Interlocking Stabilized Soil Blocks (ISSB), a sustainable building material that significantly reduces cement consumption while making use of locally available soil resources. Architectural strategies such as extended roof overhangs protect the earthen walls from direct rainfall, improving structural durability and reducing maintenance requirements.

The roofing design integrates a rainwater harvesting system, allowing efficient collection and storage of rainwater for site use. Building openings are strategically oriented to promote natural ventilation, and mosquito mesh screens are installed to maintain airflow while ensuring comfort and protection for users. Landscaping around the hub incorporates recycled construction materials, including repurposed safety equipment and leftover materials creatively used for flower planting.

Additional environmental enhancement has been achieved through tree planting and simple sand-based landscaping, which reduces the need for additional processed materials.

Beyond serving as a social and recreational space for elderly community members, the hub also functions as a practical prototype for age-responsive and low-carbon housing, demonstrating how simple architectural solutions can improve accessibility, comfort and resilience for elderly populations.



Expansion of ISSB and Sand-Cement Block Production Workshops

Construction of brick production workshops at TAWAH VTC is currently ongoing with the aim of improving and increasing the production capacity of building materials used in training and community construction projects. The workshops themselves are being constructed using low-carbon materials and techniques, providing a live demonstration of sustainable building approaches.

Once completed, the facility will strengthen the training environment for women builders while supporting the continuous supply of ISSB and sand-cement blocks for ongoing projects.



Construction of an Underground Rainwater Storage Tank

To address increasing water scarcity challenges affecting construction activities and training operations, TAWAH has initiated the construction of a 200,000-litre underground rainwater harvesting tank at the Vocational Training Centre. The system collects rainwater from roofing structures designed to facilitate efficient water channeling and storage. The stored water will support construction training activities, brick production processes and general site operations.

This initiative contributes directly to several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation through improved water accessibility, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through resilient infrastructure development and SDG 13: Climate Action by strengthening climate-adaptive water management practices.



Construction of the TAWAH VTC Public Toilet Block

Construction of a public sanitation facility at the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre commenced during the reporting period. The structure is being built using sand-cement blocks produced on site as part of the practical training programme for trainees. The blocks are manufactured using locally available materials, allowing the project to minimize transportation costs, reduce material waste, and strengthen hands-on learning in sustainable and community-based construction practices.

At the same time, the construction process provides practical training opportunities for women trainees who are actively involved in block production, masonry works, and other construction activities as part of their vocational learning experience. The facility is designed to accommodate the needs of multiple users within the training centre and the surrounding community. The sanitation block includes an accessible toilet specifically designed for elderly persons and individuals with disabilities, equipped with supportive features that enhance safety, mobility, and ease of use.

In addition, the structure provides separate male and female changing rooms for workers at the centre, two shared bathrooms, two shared toilets for female users, and two shared toilets for male users, ensuring adequate, safe, and inclusive sanitation facilities for daily operations at the training centre.

Beyond improving hygiene and sanitation conditions, the facility has been integrated into the centre's anaerobic wastewater treatment system, where wastewater generated from the sanitation block will be directed for treatment and recycling. The system supports water reuse within the centre and reinforces TAWAH's commitment to resource efficiency, environmental sustainability, and responsible water management practices.



Strategic Partnerships and Institutional Collaboration

During the 2026 first quarter period, TAWAH strengthened partnerships with several institutions to expand knowledge exchange, training opportunities and sustainable construction initiatives.

TAWAH signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to implement a joint initiative focusing on low-carbon construction materials and the use of resources from neglected mines for sustainable building applications. As part of this collaboration, TAWAH will host a 14-day training program scheduled for July 2026, aimed at exploring innovative approaches to low-carbon construction technologies.

Furthermore, TAWAH has established collaboration with Lyra in Africa to support improvements of girls' hostels in secondary schools. Under this partnership, TAWAH provides technical expertise in low-carbon and sustainable building materials as well as architectural design consultancy, ensuring that the proposed hostel developments adopt climate-responsive and durable construction solutions.



Strategic Outcome 03

Build a Resilient TAWAH

TAWAH continues to strengthen its institutional capacity through strategic leadership, organizational development and partnerships that support the long-term sustainability of its programs. The organization is committed to operating as a resilient, well-governed and financially sustainable institution capable of delivering consistent, high-quality training, community projects and collaborative initiatives within the construction and built environment sector.



Strengthening Organizational Capacity

During the reporting period, TAWAH expanded its operational team to support program implementation and institutional development. Four personnel were engaged, including two full-time staff members and two interns. One staff member was recruited to serve as Fundraising and Strategic Lead, responsible for strengthening resource mobilization, partnership development and long-term organizational strategy.

The remaining team members were engaged within the carpentry department at the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre (VTC) to support technical training delivery, workshop coordination and mentorship for women trainees enrolled in vocational construction programs. Strengthening the technical training team contributes to improving the quality and continuity of practical skills development at the Centre.

Acquisition of Charitable Status

TAWAH successfully secured a charitable organization number from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA). This registration represents an important institutional milestone as it formally recognizes TAWAH as a charitable entity operating for public benefit.

Obtaining a charitable number provides several strategic advantages for the organization. It strengthens legal recognition and compliance within national regulatory frameworks, enhances credibility and accountability when engaging with development partners and donors, and allows the organization to benefit from tax-related considerations applicable to registered charitable institutions. In addition, charitable registration increases transparency in financial management and strengthens confidence among partners, funders and collaborating institutions supporting TAWAH's programs.

International Institutional Membership

TAWAH has also been registered as a member of Architects without Borders, an international network connecting organizations working at the intersection of architecture, humanitarian action and sustainable development. Membership in this network provides opportunities for global visibility, knowledge exchange, collaboration with international practitioners and potential access to new funding channels that support architecture-led social impact initiatives.



Expansion of Fundraising Channels

TAWAH expanded its fundraising strategy through a partnership with MYRIAD USA, an international philanthropic platform that enables nonprofit organizations to receive donations from donors based in the United States. Through this collaboration, TAWAH is able to diversify its funding sources and expand access to international philanthropic support, particularly from individual donors, foundations and institutions operating within the U.S. philanthropic ecosystem. This partnership strengthens the organization's long-term financial sustainability while increasing global engagement with TAWAH's work.

Strategic Partnerships Supporting Training and Skills Development

TAWAH continued to strengthen partnerships with organizations that complement its training and empowerment programs at the Vocational Training Centre.

Formal collaboration agreements were established with the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) and the Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI). Through these partnerships, additional learning modules have been integrated into the training curriculum at TAWAH VTC, focusing on women's property ownership rights, legal awareness and financial literacy. These modules equip women builders and trainees with knowledge that strengthens both their professional development and their ability to navigate economic and legal systems that influence property ownership and financial independence.

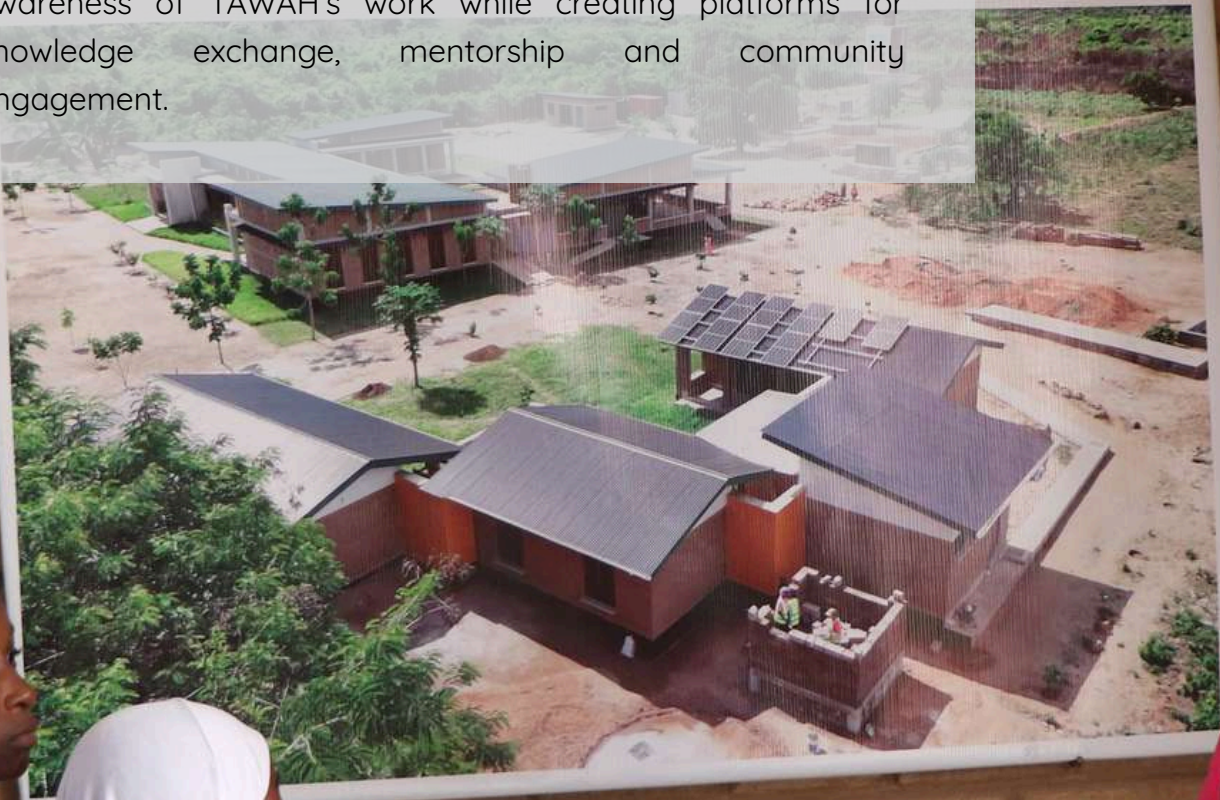
TAWAH also partnered with Insignia Company Limited, a supplier of construction finishing materials including paints and related products. This collaboration supports the strengthening of the painting training workshop at the vocational centre through technical demonstrations, product-based training sessions and potential internship opportunities for women trainees interested in specializing in finishing works within the construction industry.



Strategic Outcome 04

Increase Advocacy and Visibility

TAWAH continued to strengthen its advocacy and outreach initiatives by engaging communities, educational institutions and partners in conversations that promote women's participation in construction, STEM education and sustainable development. These activities focused on increasing public awareness of TAWAH's work while creating platforms for knowledge exchange, mentorship and community engagement.



Community Engagement Meeting in Mhaga Village

A community engagement meeting was conducted in Mhaga Village bringing together members of the TAWAH team, community leaders and local representatives. A total of 25 community members participated in the discussion. The meeting provided an open platform for dialogue on the progress of ongoing community initiatives, including housing and construction activities implemented by TAWAH in the area. It also served as an opportunity for community members to reflect on achievements, discuss existing challenges and collectively identify ways to strengthen collaboration and community ownership of the initiatives.



International Women's Day STEM and Mentorship Engagement

TAWAH commemorated International Women's Day through an advocacy and mentorship engagement aimed at encouraging girls to pursue education and careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), as well as practical vocational skills within the construction sector.

The activity brought together 26 girls from Mhaga Primary School, 26 girls from Jokate Secondary School, and 19 young women trainees from the TAWAH Vocational Training Centre. The event was also attended by two primary school teachers, two secondary school teachers, one village leader from Mhaga, and nine members of the TAWAH team. Through experience sharing sessions, mentorship discussions and practical demonstrations, participants were encouraged to explore opportunities in technical and construction-related fields traditionally dominated by men.



Community Charity Giving and STEM Awareness Day

TAWAH also organized a charity giving and community engagement day in Mhaga Village, bringing together students, community members and institutional representatives. The event reached 384 primary school students from Mhaga primary school, accompanied by 8 teachers, 15 community representatives, 19 girls from TAWAH VTC, 20 members of the TAWAH team, five local government officials, and 15 representatives from TGGA.

In addition to the charity activities, the event included experience-sharing sessions focused on STEM education and practical learning pathways, highlighting the importance of early exposure to science and technical skills among young learners. The initiative strengthened relationships between the organization and the community while promoting educational inspiration for young students.



Launch of the TAWAH 15-Year Storytelling and Documentary Initiative

As part of marking 15 years of TAWAH's work, the organization officially launched a storytelling and documentary initiative that captures the journey, impact and experiences of the organization over the years. The documentary highlights voices and experiences from housing beneficiaries, women builders, volunteers, members, mentors, mentees, partners, funders, local government officials and long-term supporters of TAWAH.

This initiative aims to document lessons learned, amplify community voices and increase the visibility of TAWAH's contributions to sustainable housing, women's empowerment and vocational skills development. The storytelling campaign will culminate in a major showcase event planned for July 2026.



Girls' STEM and Mentorship Outreach in Iringa

Through its partnership with Lyra in Africa, TAWAH expanded its advocacy efforts to secondary schools in Iringa, reaching 1,129 girls through mentorship sessions and experience-sharing engagements focused on STEM education and leadership.

The outreach activities involved 321 girls from Ifwagi Secondary School, 410 girls from Lundamatwe Secondary School, and 398 girls from Mazombe Secondary School. The sessions introduced students to practical career pathways within technical and construction-related fields, while also encouraging confidence, leadership and participation of girls in STEM disciplines.



Lessons Learnt

Q1 implementation demonstrated the importance of stakeholder engagement, adaptive planning, continuous mentorship, strong communication systems and practical learning approaches in enhancing program effectiveness and beneficiary participation.

The quarter also highlighted the need for improved documentation systems, realistic operational planning and strengthened institutional partnerships to support sustainable impact



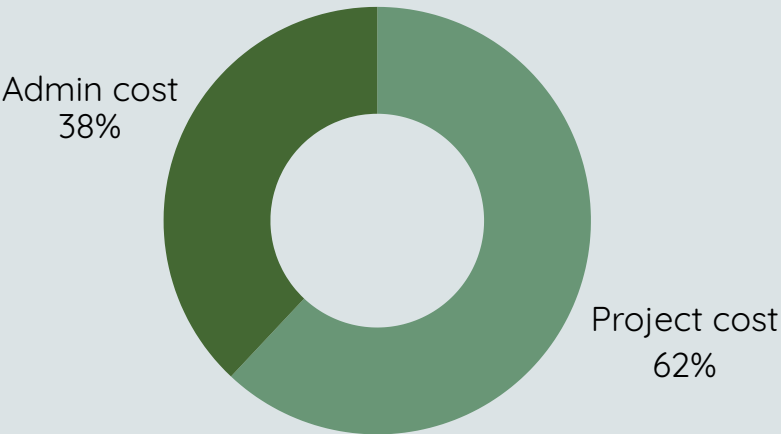
FINANCE UPDATES

The 2026 budget for Tanzania Women Architects for Humanity (TAWAH) is
TZS. 2,023,635,393.00/ USD 775,339.23

Budget	TZS
2026 Annual Budget	2,023,635,393
Quarter 01 Budget	505,908,848

Funds raised this year.	TZS
Restricted funds	1,408,797,537
Unrestricted funds	107,139,039

Expenditure	TZS
Project cost	130,063,016
Admin cost	79,714,600



TO OUR ESTEEMED PARTNERS

TAWAH sincerely appreciates the continued partnership, collaboration, and support received from all our partners during the first quarter of 2026. Your contribution has played a significant role in enabling the implementation of our programs and strengthening our efforts toward empowering girls and young women in Tanzania.

Through your support, we have continued to create opportunities for learning, mentorship, leadership development, and community engagement. The progress achieved during this quarter reflects the value of collective action and shared commitment toward sustainable social impact.

We highly value the trust you place in our work and remain committed to building strong partnerships that drive positive change in the lives of the communities we serve.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for walking alongside us in advancing our mission.

Funders:



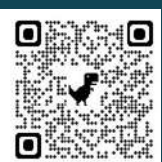
Partners:





Decent Shelter for All

TANZANIA WOMEN
ARCHITECTS *for* HUMANITY



Website

www.tawahtanzania.or.tz



Contacts

+255 763 228 600

tawah@tawahtanzania.or.tz



Address

Makongo juu. Plot no. 535 Block 4

P.O.Box 35821

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania