



***From short term to long term support:***  
**Community responses to improve future livelihoods  
options of (AIDS) Orphans in Rural Areas**

*A case of Nata and Lusu Wards in Nzega District, Tabora- Tanzania*

**“ALL CHILDREN ARE OUR CHILDREN”**

**A Research Thesis submitted to the Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Masters Degree in Management of Development with Specialization in Rural Development and HIV/AIDS**

**By**  
**Mdala Edson Fedes**  
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**Van Hall Larenstein University of Professional Education,  
Part of Wageningen University and Research Centre  
Wageningen, The Netherlands**  
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## List of abbreviation

ACT	Anglican Church of Tanzania
AIDS	Acquired Immuno Defficiency Syndrom
ADEP	Aids Defense and Environmental Program
CHF	Community Health Facility Fund
CSH	Child Survival and Health Fund
EED	Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst e.V. (EED)
DCDO	District Community Development Officer
DFID	Department for International Development
FAO	Food and Agriculture organization
GO	Government Organisation
HIV	Human Immuno Virus
IGA	Inome Generating Activities
MVC	Most Vulnerable Children
NGO	Non Government Organisation
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
STD	Sexual Transmission Diseases
TANGOC	Tabora NGOs Cluster
UNAIDS	The Joint United Nation Programme on HIV/ AIDS
USAID	United State Agency for International Development
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
UN	United Nation
WEGCC	Women Economic Group Coordinating Council
YADEC	Youth Advisory Development Committee

## **Abstract**

This study aims to identify the responses of community in supporting AIDS orphans in rural areas a case of Nzega District in Tabora, Tanzania. The study was conducted in two villages of Nata and Mwaluzwilo to represents other villages that have high number of orphans. The study focuses on the strategies in place within the community to improve livelihoods option for AIDS orphans and the existing community practices in protecting the productive assets left by parents. The information was collected from head of households taking care of orphans, Government and Non Government officers and from two focused group discussions conducted one in each village.

In general the study revealed that communities are not well organized to take responsibilities of supporting to improve livelihoods options of orphans. Family members are the ones playing a big role in supporting the orphans while at the same time are facing the challenge of poverty and overburden. Property grabbing, the practices which is done by relatives was realized to contribute in creating the source of vulnerability of the orphans' children.

The study revealed that the alternative way that can contribute to improve the future livelihoods options of orphans is for the community to take responsibilities of ensuring orphans children access to education, transferring knowledge and skills on agriculture, Income generating activities and vocational training.

The study also revealed that the negative community perception that the role of supporting orphans children is of Government and Non government Organizations hinders to get involved in creating alternative means of earning their future. For the sustainability of the initiatives to support orphans, Government and NGOs should concentrate to empower the community to be responsible in improving the future lives of AIDS orphans.

Finally, the study suggested for the entire community to establish local systems that that will involve every member of the community and institutions to ensure before an orphan reach age of being self dependent, he/she has created assurance of the future livelihoods.



## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **1.0 Introduction**

The report is designed to explore the responses of community in improving livelihoods options of AIDS orphans in Nzega District, Tabora Tanzania. It focuses specifically on the community practices in protecting productive assets left by the parents and strategies in place to improve future livelihoods options of orphans. The report is organized in five chapters; these are introduction, literature review, methodology, Discussion and findings; and conclusion and recommendation.

### **1.1 Background information**

Worldwide, it is estimated that more than 15 million children under 18 have been orphaned as a result of AIDS. Around 11.6 million of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa. In countries badly affected by the epidemic such as Zambia and Botswana, it is estimated that 20 percent of children under 18 are orphans - most of whom have lost one or both parents to AIDS. AIDS is responsible for leaving vast numbers of children across Africa without one or both parents. In some countries, a larger proportion of orphans have lost their parents due to AIDS than to any other cause of death - meaning that, were it not for the AIDS epidemic, these children would not have been orphaned UNAIDS (2008).

Children orphaned or made vulnerable by AIDS (OVC) are more likely to be malnourished, less likely to be educated, more likely to be abused and suffer severe psychosocial distress. In many communities, traditional ways of caring for orphans and vulnerable children, such as the extended family system, are being severely strained by the multiple, mutually exacerbating impacts of HIV/AIDS. The challenge is to find ways to help communities care for the unprecedented number of children and families rendered vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. UNICEF, (2006)

As the number of orphans varies between countries, so it varies between different regions within those countries. Particular areas may have higher or lower percentages of orphans, largely depending on the local HIV prevalence rates which are associated with difference social, economic and cultural factors. There is an also substantial difference between rural and urban areas in coping and responding mechanisms towards Orphans livelihood needs.

There is an urgent need to help, care and protect these children. There is also a need to prevent people becoming infected with HIV so that the number of children orphaned in the future is minimized. In many countries a variety of initiatives are now taking place to help AIDS orphans. The number of children requiring support is increasing rapidly, though, and in many instances the increase in response is not keeping up with the increase in need. Responses need to be scaled up, and this is going to need increases in both financial resources and commitment over the next few years.

B .Carol (2002) noted that, *"If this situation is not addressed, and not addressed now with increased urgency, millions of children will continue to die, and tens of millions more will be further marginalized, stigmatized, malnourished, uneducated, and psychologically damaged"*.

The increasing numbers of most vulnerable in the country (it is estimated that Tanzania will have 4,000,000 orphans by 2010) due to a variety of factors such as poverty and HIV/AIDS pose a great challenge to the programs and the country. Today's vulnerable children are potentially tomorrow's adults with HIV and the number of MVC increasing rapidly in the years to come. As this increase has caused the burden to Government and NGOs, support strategies are needed to be developed at community levels to address this new challenge. With the combined efforts of the public sector, civil society and organized citizen groups, the challenge of sustainably helping and improve livelihood options of vulnerable children of Tanzania can be achieved.

Current estimates are 2,400,000 orphans in Tanzania and an estimated 10-12% of Tanzanian children are considered vulnerable with poor or minimal access to care, protection, education, health care, nutrition and shelter. The majority face death or long-term sickness of parents and guardians, distress, bereavement and abandonment, hunger and poor nutrition, vulnerability to HIV / AIDS, poverty, rights violations and exclusion from education. The increasing numbers of most vulnerable children in the country is due to a variety of factors such as poverty and HIV/AIDS. UNAIDS, (2008).

In the most affected districts like Nzega in Tabora Region, orphaned children are missing livelihood options for their growth and development. Due to lack of livelihood options and proper support from relatives and community members most children tend to engage in bad behaviors like drug use, crimes and prostitution. This is because families and communities are faced with increasing pressures from HIV/AIDS and poverty, traditional safety nets are weakened and demands begin to exceed available resources for care, food, income, and/or labor needs. *"The increased spiral of adult deaths in so many countries means that the number of children orphaned each day is expanding exponentially. Africa is staggering under the load".* ("Stephen Lewis, UN Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa).

### **1.1.1 HIV/AIDS overview in Tanzania**

The rate of HIV/AIDS new infection and prevalence in Tanzania has dropped to 5.7 percent in 2007/2008 down from 7.0 percent in 2003/2004, according to the latest available figures revealed by the Tanzania HIV/AIDS and Malaria Indicator Survey 2007/2008. The survey has found that women had recorded a higher prevalence rate of 6.6 percent as against the 4.4 percent posted by men in the country.

The survey, carried out in all the 26 administrative regions of Tanzania, has found that the island of Pemba in the Indian Ocean archipelago of Zanzibar had registered the lowest infection and prevalence rate of 0.3 percent whereas the southern region of Iringa had the highest rate of 15.7 percent. The survey was carried out among Tanzanians aged between 15 and 49 years. In young women ages 15 to 24, there is an HIV prevalence rate of 0.9 percent, which is higher than the 0.5 percent prevalence rate among young men in the same age group. Other populations at high risk for HIV infection include people in prostitution, miners, police officers, prisoners, people in the transport sector, and the military. Injecting drug use to the street children who don't have proper support from the community is also increasing, highlighting the need for improving prevention efforts and expanding access to treatment and care.

## **1.2 Problem statement**

The experience shows that the responses towards the needs of orphans have been focusing on short term rather than long term support. Most initiatives done by the development organization and civil societies are mainly targeting for care and material support as a means of coping to the immediate needs like provision of food, clothes, soap, beddings, and other materials. This approach contributes less to prepare the future life of orphans and when reached the age of being self dependent their life becomes uncertain.

It has been observed that the community is the most efficient institution to respond towards creating sustainable livelihoods options to orphans (Williamson 1996). However, responses of the community to improve future livelihoods options of orphans are not recognized. Therefore, strengthening community capacities in taking responsibilities to support orphans will be the most efficient, cost-effective, and sustainable way of improving livelihoods and well-being of orphans children.

It is from this ground that this study is intended to examine the responses of the community in improving livelihood options of orphans and come up with recommendations, which will enable the Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church, to adjust its approaches in developing programs that contribute to build the capacities of the community to respond in improving future well-being of orphans.

## **1.3 Objective of the study**

### **General Objective**

The general objective of this study is to examine the responses of community in improving livelihood options for orphans aged between 12 and 18 years in Nzega district, Tabora Region

## **1.4 Main Research questions**

### **1.5 Research question 1.**

What strategies are in place within the community to improve future livelihoods options of orphan's?

#### **1.5.1 Research Sub Questions**

1. What are the community perceptions on their responsibility to improve future livelihood of orphans?
2. How relatives are involved in planning the future of orphans before and after the death of parents?
3. What kind of life skills and knowledge are essential for the future livelihood of orphans?

### **1.6 Research question 2**

What are the existing community practices in protecting productive assets of orphans left by parents?

### **1.7.1 Research Sub Questions**

- 1 What are productive assets necessary to be protected for improving future livelihoods of orphans?
- 2 How Government and Non Government Organizations are involved to empower the community in protecting property grabbing and improving livelihoods of orphans?
- 3 How useful of assets left by parents are when relatives take responsibility to care for children?

## CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.0 Introduction

In the previous chapter the report highlighted the introduction, background information, problem statement and objective. This chapter consists of two sections which cover the definitions of basic terms and concepts that build the product of the report.

### 2.1 Definition of Basic terms

#### 2.1.1 Orphans

Differences in orphan definition have program and policy implications. It is thus, very important that researchers, epidemiologists and policy-makers explicitly state their understanding and usage of the term "orphan". Not only does it vary if we approach it from an epidemiological or a legal point of view, but the ordinary language usage varies among people of different cultures and ethnic groups.

The UNICEF (2004a) report *Children on the Brink* defines an AIDS orphan as a 'child who has at least one parent dead from AIDS'. Barnett T. and Whiteside A (2007). These definitions contain several important elements and distinctions: on one hand, there is a child who may have lost one or both parents; on the other, there is an emphasis on maternal orphan hood, as it leaves the young animal (also true of infants) in a particularly vulnerable situation; finally, there is a figurative use of the word, which puts on the same level parentless children and people who are alone, solitary; abandoned, cast-off, forsaken, lost; disregarded, ignored, neglected, slighted.

In this report the term orphans have used to mean; *a child whose one or both parents has died and typically experiences serious psychological, emotional, social and economic loss*. As most orphans have common needs, this report basically is looking on the specific support required to prepare children of age 12-18 being able to manage their future livelihoods. The selection of this age interval is due to the fact that children under this age are knowledgeable enough to be trained on different alternatives that apply for them to earn their future life. The orphans considered are those in need and who follows under this situation:

- Orphans who live on their own (orphan-headed households) and those who are disabled.
- Orphans who are taken care of by grandparents.
- Orphans who live with one parent but who is unable to provide for them.
- Orphans who stay with guardians who do not treat them well.
- All those children who are disabled even though they are not orphans.
- Children who live with chronically ill



### **2.1.2 Community**

The term community have been defined with various professionals in different ways depending in the context they want to apply, the business community; the community of scholars (2005) defines community as a social, religious, occupational, or other group sharing common characteristics or interests and perceived or perceiving itself as distinct in some respect from the larger society within which it exists includes all people living in the village and all social groups in the village.

From group dynamics and Community Building by Jerry Hampton (2002) defined a community as *A group of two or more people who have been able to accept and transcend their differences regardless of the diversity of their backgrounds (social, spiritual, educational, ethnic, economic, political, etc.) This enables them to communicate effectively and openly and to work together toward goals identified as being for their common good.*

In this study the term community has used to mean the totality of social, religious, public sector and private sector groups that are working closely in the society towards supporting to improve the livelihoods of orphans.

### **2.2.2 Productive assets**

Possessions which are used to generate income or to grow food, such as land; tools and equipment; and animals which are used in farming or business Holden S, (2005)

### **2.2.3 Livelihoods**

The definition of 'livelihood' has been extensively discussed among academics and development practitioners Francis, 2000, Radoki, 2002). There is a consensus that livelihood is about the ways and means of 'making a living'. The most widely accepted definition of livelihood stems from the work of Robert Chambers and Gordon Conway: 'a livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living' (Carney, 1998:4). Ellis (2000) suggests a definition of livelihood as 'the activities, the assets, and the access that jointly determine the living gained by an individual or household'. Parrott N, H. Paul, and Drs. W. Annemarie (2006).

Wallman (1984) who did research on livelihoods in London in the early 1980s approached livelihoods as always more than just a matter of finding or making shelter, transacting money, and preparing food to put on the table or exchange in the market place. It is equally a matter of the ownership and circulation of information, the management of social relationships, the affirmation of personal significance and group identity, and the inter relation of each of these tasks to the other. All these productive tasks together constitute a livelihood. For an anthropologist such as Wallman livelihood is an umbrella concept, which suggests that social life is layered and that these layers overlap (both in the way people talk about them and the way they should be analyzed). This is an important analytical feature of the notion of livelihoods.

One feature that these definitions and interpretations share in common is that they eloquently underline the generally accepted idea that 'livelihood' deals with people, their resources and what they do with these. Livelihoods essentially revolve around resources (such as land, crops, seed, labour, knowledge, cattle, money, social relationships, and so on), but these resources cannot be disconnected from the issues and problems of access and changing political, economic and socio-cultural circumstances.

In this study livelihood has also used to mean creating and embracing new opportunities and diversity of activities that enables different livelihoods options of an orphaned children. While gaining a livelihood, or attempting to do so, orphans may, at the same time, have to cope with their situation, such as education, food problems, need of land, diminishing resources, changing life cycles and kinship networks due to loss of parents caused by HIV/AIDS. These problems and needs, together with new emerging opportunities, influence how material and social resources are mobilized for the support of orphans.

#### **2.2.4 Livelihoods options**

Livelihoods option refers to diversification or an increasing multiplicity of activities (regardless of the sector), or it can refer to a shift away from traditional rural sectors such as agriculture to non-traditional activities in either rural or urban space – i.e. sectoral change. When it also involves moving the location of livelihood, or some other intrinsic economic quality, we could call it adaptation. Daniel Start and Craig Johnson (2004)

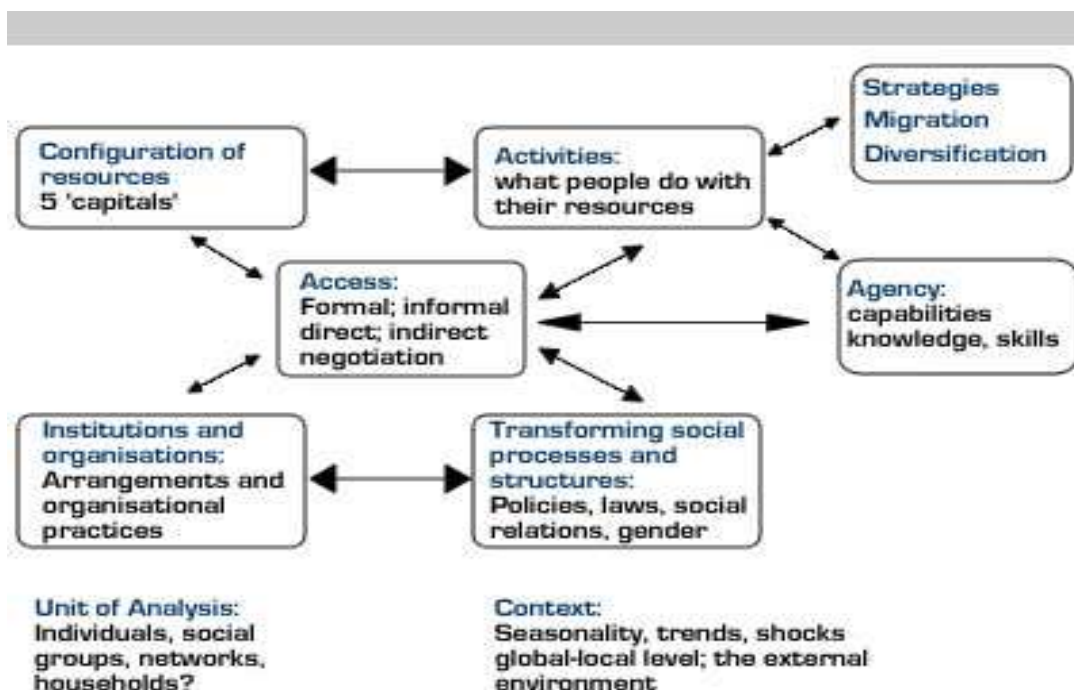
Several recent studies have emphasized ‘multiple livelihoods’ (e.g. Bryceson, 2000; Francis, 2000) or ‘occupational multiplicity’ (Breman, 1996). An individual has a diversified livelihood where s/he has multiple jobs or incomes, but a household can have multiple livelihoods, even though each member is in fact specializing in one activity (Ellis, 2000b).

In this study livelihood options implies the diversification of difference activities that creates an environment as a means to support an orphan earning or improving their future life.

#### **2.2.5 Livelihoods Framework**

This part elaborates an analytical framework for rural livelihoods. This framework gives understanding of the diverse nature, and the complexity, of social change of orphans in rural areas, where there is a wide range of processes and factors that affect AIDS orphans livelihoods. Some operate at the global level, others at the regional or local, community and family levels. Property grabbing, loss of essential knowledge and skills such as agriculture, lack of social care and protection, psychological problems, education, HIV/AIDS infection, social cohesion and so on all influence the way orphans children that are able to construct and sustain a living. The framework thus needs to accommodate such processes of social change and how they affect the configuration of available key resources and what individuals, households and community can do with such resources to improve the livelihoods of orphans. The framework intends to deepen our understanding of social differentiation and vulnerability. It aims to be dynamic, by taking into account the capacities of orphans themselves, the changes that take place over time and how this affects the variety of ways by which orphans try to adapt and/or cope with the changes in their institutional and physical environment.

This part outlines the analytical framework for examining and documenting livelihoods and their transformation. It begins by disentangling the component parts of livelihoods and gradually integrates these together and builds up the framework.



**Figure1: Livelihood framework**

According to (Curry J et al, 2006) briefly, households are seen to possess five sets of capital assets essential to their livelihood strategies: human capital, natural capita, financial capita, social capital and physical capital. Utilizing these assets, households adjust to their physical, social, social, economic and political environments through a set of livelihood strategies designed to strengthen their well being. Stokes ( 200:2)

Livelihoods can only be understood if we take account of, and examine, the locally specific contexts in which they occur. So we need, for instance, to examine the interrelations between the processes, which operate at various scale or levels that impinge on livelihoods. The figure above -adapted from DFID – schematically presents the various components of an analytical framework to analyze livelihoods (Carney, 1998; Scoones, 1999; and Ellis, 2000).

Usually, livelihood analysis begins with the taking stock and specifying the key resources local people have at their disposal that can be useful in supporting orphans. Resources are a key component of livelihoods especially for the community that aiming to be responsible in developing strategies to improve livelihoods of orphans. They may be tangible resources (such as land or cattle) but many are non-tangible. For examples, one could think about policies or law as resources around which orphans' livelihoods revolve. Social protection and social cohesion like providing labour to communal farms for orphans is another example of non tangible community resource. It is essential to identify these resources in a non-rigid way, particularly as they can have multiple meanings.

In summary: an analysis of orphans livelihoods needs to take into account the ways in which orphans live use and can access to opportunities, protect and acquire their rights, adopted with community and institutions, and live and work in socially accepted environment , which itself is the product of a particular configuration of global, local and community processes.

## **2.3 Theoretical Review on Responses to the orphans' needs**

Children affected by HIV/AIDS need support in a wide range of areas, including economic, material, emotional, and legal protection. Although a number of organizations seek to meet the needs of children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, local communities continue to be the primary loci of support for these children. One USAID survey found that 74% of the time relatives provided food for orphans and vulnerable children, and 19% of the time they relied on their friends for food. Religious groups were used the remainder of the time (7%), when needed.

### **2.3.1 Economic and Material Responses**

This section discusses some of the initiatives that the United States and the international community implement to serve the needs of the children affected by AIDS, and some of the challenges that these programs face. USAID supports a number of programs that offer material and other support to orphans and vulnerable children, mostly through its Child Survival and Health Fund (CSH) programs. Many of the programs use an integrated approach, which responds to more than one set of needs. For example, USAID uses a combination of funding sources to support school feeding programs that reduce hunger, malnutrition, and disease while advancing basic education. Similar programs that combine food and education aid have been instituted by the World Food Program (WFP) and UNICEF, as well as by other international and local non-governmental organizations, such as Save the Children. Since the majority of orphans and vulnerable children depend almost exclusively on their families and communities, some are advocating that organizations directly offer support to those groups. Suggested interventions include issuing stipends, financial assistance, or emergency support for families who care for orphans and vulnerable children and those that slip into complete destitution. Critics of this strategy have expressed concern that children can be exploited through direct stipends, such as has reportedly happened in Botswana. Although the country provides stipends, food aid, and pays school fees for its orphaned children, some caretakers are reportedly giving the children substandard care. Observers assert that empowering community groups to monitor the care and support provided can minimize instances of exploitation. Additionally, schools feeding programs and community cooperatives have been found to be effective strategies to supplement the care that communities provide for vulnerable children, and minimize the likelihood of abuse. Microfinance services are also seen by some as a promising way of enabling families who care for orphans to support themselves.

### **2.3.2 Education and Skills Training**

Attaining basic education and employable skills is an important part of preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS and breaking the cycle of poverty. Education has a number of positive impacts, particularly for orphans and vulnerable children. Not only are those who are educated more likely to have a higher income than those who are not, studies have also shown that the educated are also less likely to contract HIV and tend to have children later in life. Messages about HIV prevention are beginning to be integrated into school curricula to raise awareness about the disease among the young, a group that experiences an estimated 1,600 deaths daily. HIV/AIDS awareness remains very low among the young. According to a 2001 UNAIDS survey, 74% of young women and 62% of young men aged 15-19 in Mozambique are unaware of any way to protect themselves against HIV. Furthermore, half of the teenage girls surveyed in sub-Saharan Africa did not realize that a healthy-looking person could be infected with HIV/AIDS. Organizations are implementing a variety of approaches to increase access to education among orphans and vulnerable children. Some advocate implementing programs that offer both traditional and non-traditional responses, such as community schools, vocational training, and interactive radio education.

Community schools have been an attractive alternative to some because such schools do not have user fees, uniform requirements, or related school expenses. Additionally, they utilize local teachers who often work on a voluntary basis, and are more affordable and accessible to the poorest children because they are able to adapt to community needs (flexible hours and harvest schedule). Some disadvantages of community schools are that they can be of a lower quality than government schools and risk becoming a second tier for the poorest children. Additionally, volunteer teachers may leave the schools if offered a paid position, the quality of education that they offer may be lower than that of paid teachers, and the community schools could be forced to close if donors decide to spend their funds elsewhere, since the schools rely on donors for infrastructure and material support.

Vocational skills training, particularly farming skills training is critical in areas where parents have died before relaying knowledge of agricultural procedures. In an effort to combat famine in heavily affected areas, UNICEF has launched a program in Swaziland that offers training in farming to children orphaned by AIDS and affected by famine. This program is intended to help the children develop a source of income and combat famine that is affecting the region. Experts argue that vocational skills training programs can have additional benefits for girls. It is hoped that those who participate in vocational training will no longer be forced to rely on sex work to feed themselves and their siblings.

### **2.3.3 Protection and Legal Support (the issue of property grabbing)**

Children who are solely responsible for their siblings struggle not only to support the household, but also to keep their homes. Property grabbing is a practice where relatives of the deceased come and claim the land and other property, is reportedly a serious problem for widows and child-headed households. Traditional law in many rural areas dictates that women and children cannot inherit property. Property grabbing has a number of negative consequences particularly for girls and women. Girls may experience sexual abuse and exploitation from their new caretakers; girls and women may be forced into the sex trade in exchange for shelter and protection, further increasing the risk of contracting HIV.<sup>1</sup>

Some are concerned that the practice of property grabbing heightens the strain on extended families and increase the number of street children. In an effort to help parents prevent property grabbing, USAID supports organizations, such as the Population Council and UNICEF, which work with HIV infected parents to plan for the future of their children through will-writing and other succession-planning initiatives. These initiatives encourage HIV-infected parents to disclose their HIV status to their children, appoint and train stand-by guardians, create memory books (journals of lasting record of life together and family information), and write wills before they die. National legislation, at times, has minimized the effectiveness of succession programs. The legislative issues that AIDS-affected countries are beginning to face are often complex and interlinked. For example, the single issue of inheritance rights may require governments to ensure that each child has a birth certificate and national identification (which many children in developing countries do not have), to strengthen the coordination and administration of their child services and social services departments that offer safety nets to children, to revisit property and trustee laws, and to reconsider who may legally represent minors. Laws in many rural countries follow traditional cultural practices, which are based on the extended family structure.

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<sup>1</sup> UNAIDS, "Progress Report on the Global Response to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic, 2003," [http://www.unaids.org/html/pub/Topics/UNGASS2003/UNGASS\_Report\_2003\_en\_pdf .htm].

However, in the wake of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, they inadequately protect orphans and widows, as all adults in whole families may have died. When the close family members die, children can be left in a precarious situation, as they may be forced to rely on distant relatives, who may be unknown. In many cases children are left with their grandmothers, women who often have little legal power.

UNAIDS recently reported that 39% of countries with generalized HIV epidemics (countries with an HIV rate of more than 1%) have no national policy in place to provide care and support for orphans and vulnerable children, and 25% have no plans to develop such strategies. National legislation that would establish and/or enforce inheritance rights of child- and widow-headed households could help to curb the escalating street children population and minimize the practice among young girls and women of trading sex for security and shelter, ultimately contributing to HIV prevention. The proliferation of property-grabbing has led some to call for an increase in orphanages. Supporters of increasing the use of orphanages argue that many communities are overwhelmed and can no longer effectively care for children orphaned by AIDS. <sup>2</sup>

Children who live in orphanages have access to education, food, shelter, and nurturing, which they may not be able to secure on their own, advocates of orphanages say. Some, including USAID, argue that orphanages do have their place in society, but that they should be used only in cases of last resort. Those who express caution about increasing the use of orphanages to respond to the growing orphan population argue that poverty will be the primary reason that parents place their children in institutions. Due to the high level of poverty in many areas, many parents send their children to orphanages simply because they are unable to support them. Research has shown that only 25% of children in institutional care do not have any known relatives. Supporters of community-based care argue that children who are raised in orphanages have a hard time being self-sufficient as adults because they do not learn life skills, do not have community connections (a critical part of networking and job seeking), have difficulty adapting to life outside the orphanages, and develop a mentality that they will always be cared for.

Ethiopia is currently implementing a country-wide reintegration program, after finding that orphanages were too costly and unhealthy for the social and cultural development of the children. Some caution that orphanages can undermine community efforts to support orphaned children and separate them from their families. Instead, they argue, efforts to support orphaned children should focus on strengthening community networks and initiatives. In this view, community-based support can both enable the children to stay within their communities, and enable donors to support more children, as the cost of supporting a child in an orphanage is substantially more than supporting a child within its own. Salaam T, (2005).

#### **2.3.4 Social protection Interventions**

The psychological impact of HIV/AIDS on children is often overlooked. Not only do many children who live in heavily affected areas contend with the death of one or both parents, but they also frequently face the death of younger siblings, aunts, uncles and other relatives. While there are a number of programs that address the material needs of orphans and vulnerable children, there is less emphasis on helping children cope with the trauma associated with witnessing the deaths of family members. The additional burden of caring for terminally ill

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<sup>2</sup> "Report on Meeting on African Children without Family Care," Windhoek, Namibia, November 30, 2002

relatives may send children into shock leaving many of them with unanswered questions about their own mortality and future.

The psychological impact of HIV/AIDS on the young is often misunderstood, particularly in the classroom. Children who are affected by HIV/AIDS may be frequently absent or tardy from school, find it hard to concentrate or unable to assume school-related expenses, such as school fees, uniforms, books and other school supplies. While teachers may have noticed that AIDS-affected children tend to have lower performance in school, many apparently do not link the behavior with HIV/AIDS. As a result, some organizations are beginning to train teachers on how to identify grief-related behavior. Teachers who have completed grief-identification training have reported that the sessions “opened their eyes to the reasoning behind what they had identified as misbehavior of orphaned students.”Salaam T, (2004).

Programs are also being developed that enable children to play, a luxury to many orphans and vulnerable children. Children affected by HIV/AIDS often begin to assume adult responsibilities, such as earning wages, caring for the terminally ill, and cultivating the land, leaving them with little to no time for recreational activities. These children may also be stigmatized and isolated, as ignorance about the virus remains high. There are programs that offer psychosocial support for orphans and vulnerable children, including peer support groups, recreational activities, and counseling. While psychosocial support for orphans and vulnerable children is important, the same type of support is often overlooked for caretakers.

Reports of grandmothers caring for a dozen children with little to no income are not uncommon. The grandmothers are often exhausted and overworked. In many rural areas, senior citizens have no social security or retirement benefits. As a result, children under their care are more likely to be uneducated and malnourished. In response, caretakers and a variety of organizations have begun to develop programs that offer support to the caretakers. Grandmothers are beginning to form groups where they rotate supervision of children and allow each other an hour of respite. Some are also developing support groups to discuss and find solutions to their problems. Some non-governmental organizations offer stipends and financial support to the caretakers and are training them to talk to the children about their grief. Salaam T, (2004).

## **2.4 Community responses to orphans.**

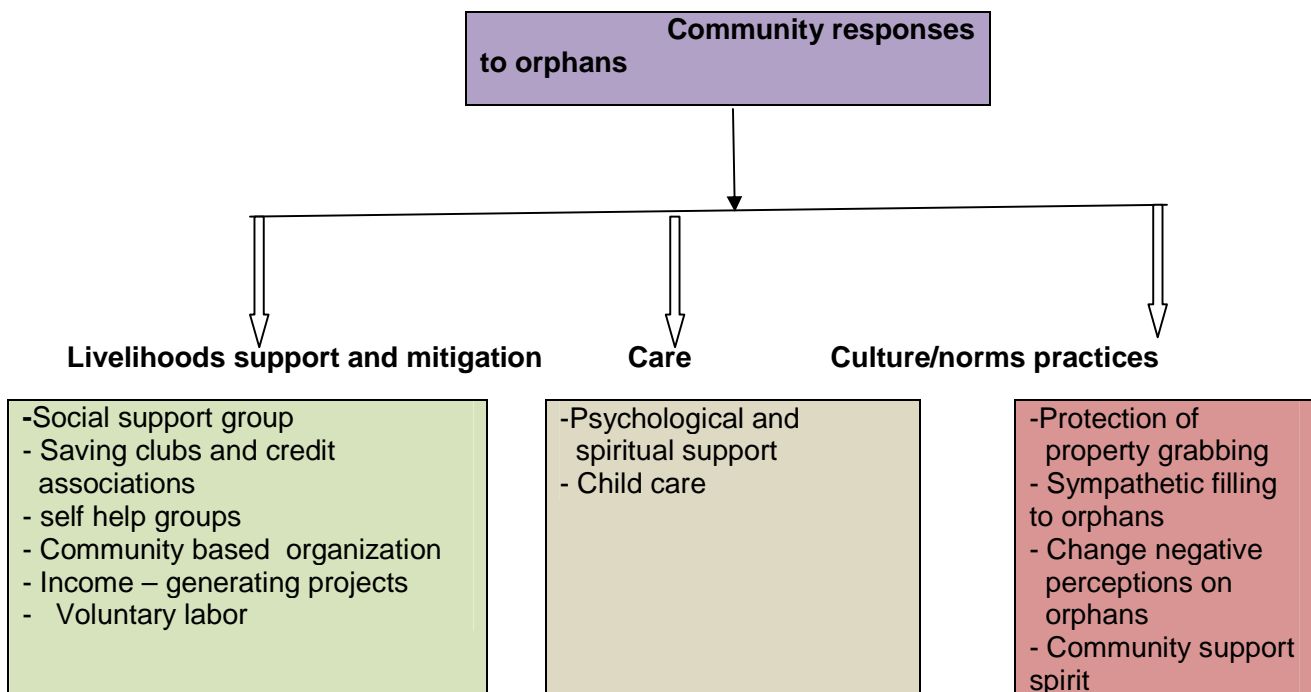
Most communities have developed a wide range of complex and innovative strategies to survive the adverse impacts of orphans. The literature revealed that in many areas, communities have spontaneously joined together to support and assist families and children affected by HI/AIDS. The paradox is that community – based responses may be the most cost-effective intervention while being the least visible (Hunter and William, 1997).

Some community coping mechanisms are initiated from within the communities- one might refer to them as being indigenous or grassroots responses – and some are introduced into the communities and are finally supported by outside agencies such as NGOs, International development agencies, the government or churches. Depending on how communities are mobilized and how receptive they are to the initiatives, such projects can be successful and be sustainable when the donors withdrawal. The figure below categorizes community responses in three broad groups that are not mutually exclusive. The responses under each group are not also mutually exclusive. For example a community based organization might be involved in several support and mitigation activities that include orphans support, labour sharing, income generating projects, and treatment and care. (UNAIDS, 1999)

Reviewed studies show that people affected by HIV/AIDS access help principally from family, neighbours, community institutions and local informal organizations. The World Bank Kagera study in Tanzania found that families who lost bread winners through AIDS reported that 90% of their material and other assistance came from family assistance groups such as savings clubs and burial societies. Only 10% of assistance was supplied by NGOs and other agencies.

### 2.4.1 The major forms of community support to orphans

- Orphans support in the form of nutritional and educational support
- Repair deteriorated houses where orphans live
- Home care and visiting orphans for psychological support
- Preparation and distribution of school uniforms
- Apprenticeship and training on small income generating skills for orphans' adolescents
- Agriculture projects at various levels to increase food in poor orphans household
- Income generating projects to produce food and cash



**Figure 2: Categorization of Community responses towards orphans**

From the table above, coping responses take the form of different organizational groups, i.e. social support groups, informal associations, self help groups, and AIDS service organization (ASOs). While the differences between the different groupings is not necessary clear, the first three groups tend to be grassroots or indigenous responses to AIDS by the community, where membership is by choice rather than ascriptive and the groups attempt to solve social problems through local participation, social



action, resource mobilization and building a sense of community (Altman, 1994). The other two tend to be formal grassroots organisations which rely to some extent on external support from NGOs or other agencies who act as intermediaries in the development process in which some decisions may be made externally.

## **2.5 Family support Vs Institutional support**

According to the international community, the family remains the best place to support orphans and source of creating livelihoods options. Therefore, strengthening families' and communities' capacity to care for and protect these children is a priority, as well as strengthening the institutional capacity of African governments and local organizations so that they can develop plans to help orphans and vulnerable children.

### **2.5.1 Strengthening capacity for families to protect and care for orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS**

The strategies to help orphans and other vulnerable children affected by HIV/AIDS envisaged today by the international community, African governments, and civil society are directed toward placing children within the family system Williamson, (2004).

*“Keeping children within their extended family, community, and cultural setting in the spirit of continuity is now unanimously supported at an international level regarding children’s protection; all the more since this option is now a recognized right for children. According to Article 20 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child ‘when considering [placement] solutions, due regard shall be paid to the desirability of continuity in a child’s upbringing’”. Service Social International and UNICEF,(2004).*

This new international conception of orphan care was greatly influenced by numerous studies carried out in sub-Saharan Africa that revealed how ill suited the implemented institutional structures such as orphanages are to foster orphans. For several decades, building orphanages was considered an appropriate response to the growing number of orphans. However, researchers expressed criticisms concerning the care for children in such institutions while stating that on the one hand this form of care was not adapted to the African context because it represents a break with family and community structures, impeding the child’s well-being and socialization and failing to respond to his or her needs. On the other hand, in the end, orphanages only absorb a negligible number of orphans Ntozi and Nakayima, (1999).When placement in the orphanage is inevitable, it should be considered temporary, and all efforts should be made to reintegrate the child into the community as soon as possible Landis, (2002). In addition, costs for institutional care in an orphanage are high. According to the World Bank, in Tanzania, the cost for institutional care was approximately six times higher than that of placement in the family. UNICEF, UNAIDS et al., (2004).

UNAIDS, 2002 reported that 39% of countries with generalized HIV epidemics (countries with an HIV rate of more than 1%) have no national policy in place to provide care and support for orphans and vulnerable children, and 25% have no plans to develop such strategies. National legislation that would establish and/or enforce inheritance rights of child- and widow-headed households could help to curb the escalating street children population and minimize the practice among young girls and women of trading sex for security and shelter, ultimately contributing to HIV prevention. The proliferation of property-grabbing has led some to call for an increase in orphanages. Supporters of increasing the use of orphanages argue that many communities are overwhelmed and can no longer effectively care for children orphaned by AIDS.

## CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY

### 3.0 Introduction

This chapter covers methodology which used during conducting this study and has five sections. The first section offers research design of the study. The second section covers the sampling procedures used. Section three covers method of data collection and the fourth section covers data processing and analysis while the last section covers the limitation of the study.

### 3.1 Research area

The study was conducted in two villages of Nzega District, namely Nata (Nata ward) and Mwaluzwilo (Lusu ward). Nzega District Council is one of the six Districts of Tabora Region and it covers the area of 9,226 square kilometers, and it is located between 32o30 and 33o30 longitudes east of Greenwich and Latitude 3o45 and 5o00 south of Equator. The District borders Igunga District in the East, Uyui District in the South, Kahama District in the West and Shinyanga rural District in the North. It is on the main road to Rwanda and Burundi countries as well as a junction to Shinyang, Tabora towns and Mwanza towns.

From the results of National population and Housing Census carried out in 2002, Nzega District Council has total population of 415,203 where by 202,243 were males and 212,960 females; and the total number of households was 73,579 while 5.7 was the average household size; population growth rate is 3.1% per annum.

Administratively, there are four Divisions, 37 Wards and 134 Villages and 969 sub-villages in Nzega District Council, also the Council has two election constituencies and the following table shows Administrative structure of the Council at the District level.

**Table 1: The number of divisions, wards, villages and sub village**

Division	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	No. of Wards	Villages	Sub-Village
Nyasa	1,591	12	46	361
Mwakalundi	1,263	8	31	231
Bukene	3,761	8	25	171
Puge	2,611	9	32	206
Total	9,226	37	134	969

**Source: Nzega District profile**

### **3.2 Research design**

The research has both quantitative and qualitative approach which is based on empirical data and literature. The study employed an analytical case study to gather information from the community members while semi – structured questionnaires were used to collect data from respondents and key informants (government and NGOs officials) and households that take care of orphans. A case study method was involved in-depth interviews and focus group discussion.

### **3.3 Sampling criteria**

The simple random sampling procedures were used for this study to select the research area, respondents and key informants. Selection of Nzega District as a study area was due to the fact that it has high number of orphans (22,742) as compared to other districts of in Tabora region (Uyui, Urambo, Sikonge, Municipal and Igunga). Selection of Nata and Mwaluzwilo villages as study area was to represent other villages which fall under the major factors that contributes to high prevalence (7.1) and increasing rates of orphans' i.e these factors are said to be mining activities and highway location.

Mwaluzwilo village (Lusu ward) is located nearby LUSU GOLD MINING; the village is characterized to accommodate mining workers who attracts most women to visit in the village for the purpose of earning income money through informal business, transactional and commercial sex. This interaction has contributed to the increase of orphans as a result of HIV/AIDS. While the other village of Nata is located along the high way of Da es salaam to Mwanza, Rwanda and Burundi. During the construction of this road the respondents reported that there were too much sexual behaviors which were involved between road construction workers and inhabitants in the area. Within this period there was a spillover of new infections of the AIDS disease in the population. Currently these villages has emerged as big centers with high population and interaction of various activities such as food vendors, bars, guest houses and other small businesses that attracts in and out movements of people. In 2007 the conducted an exercise District to identify number of Most Vulnerable Children (MVCs) in Nzega, the findings revealed that those villages that are located nearby mining areas and along high ways have 2 times higher number of orphans as compared to other villages.

In selecting respondents the procedure involved was simple random selection whereas small units of 10 households in each village that take care of orphans aged between 12 and 18 were selected randomly to respond for the interview. The selection criteria was based on households with different characteristics in terms of number of dependants present in the family, income level of the household, age and sex of household head.

### **3.4 Sampling frame:**

A total of 20 respondents from householder living with orphans, 4 officers from of NGOs dealing with orphans support, 4 village leaders (Ward and Village Executive officers) and 2 District councils officers (Economic and Planning and Community development) head of departments were contacted for interview. In the proposal the researcher planned to conduct a focused group discussion with representatives of NGO, CBOs and support groups present in the study area but it was difficult to organize them because of the nature of availability (some are in town). There was no support group contacted for either interview. A case study involved 2 focused group discussions of 15 people from each village. The table below show the distribution of respondents, key informants and focused group discussion.

**Table 2: Distribution of respondents per category**

Respondent's category	Respondents target	Percentage
Households with Orphans	20	66.67
District council personnel	2	6.67
Ward/Village government leaders	4	13.33
NGOs	4	13.33
Total	30	100
Focused group discussion	Participants	Sessions
Nata village	15	1
Mwaluzwilo village	15	1

**Source: Field survey 2009**

### **3.5 Method of data collection**

#### **3.5.1 Primary data**

The process of data collection was in most cases interactive between the researcher and interviewee and most information were required qualitative data about the existing community practices on supporting livelihoods of orphans and protecting their assets when parents die. Field work process was largely interactive, seeking as much qualitative data as possible on experiences of the community for supporting and protecting assets practices of orphans. The researcher was keen in making sure that interview ethics are adhered. First researcher introduced himself properly, and then started with general questions and ask more specific questions later, New questions were asked on the basis of the answers for better understanding of the subject matter, also researcher did not stick to the order of research checklists but was flexible, sensitive questions was asked at the end, and lastly answers were rephrased to check whether researcher has understood his respondent.

#### **3.5.2 Secondary data**

Secondary data collection was gathered from various literatures in the text books available in library and internet. Various reports from the District council; Economic and Planning, and Community Development departments, NGO offices involved for interview and relevant documents in the village government offices were used to supplement the information obtained.

### **3.6 Methods of data processing**

The data collected through questionnaire have been analyzed manually. The tables have been generated through the use of excel. For the data collected using semi-structured interviews and focused group discussion transcription was done after each day of the interview. Though there was no use of any recording devise the opinions the key informants were reconstructed and some are used in the results and discussion sections.

### **3.7 Limitation of the Study**

There were some leaders who did not provide positive cooperative during the process of collecting data in field. In Nate village it was difficult to get people for conducting focused group discussion. After the village Executive officer speculated and realized that there is no allowance for participants during the discussion meeting to be provided, he keeps postponing organizing the meeting until when the Ward Executive took initiatives to intervene. There is a tendency that when people are invited to attend a seminar or training they are given allowance, in practice when you organize an activity that need to sit with people for a given time without preparing for allowance in some circumstances it is difficult to get of people. In this situation it took me many days to collect my data as was planned

## **CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS**

### **4.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the major findings of the survey collected in the research area. It also presents the discussion on the community perceptions' on support the livelihoods of orphaned children, dependency composition of households, the practices to plan the future of children when parents before and after the death of parents, knowledge and skills necessary to transfer for the future of children, productive assets essential to be protected for improving livelihoods of orphans, the responses of Government and Non Government organizations in community empowerment. This part is divided into two; one is the responses in empowering community to protect property grabbing and response to empower community in improving livelihoods options of orphans.

Finally, is it presents the experience of assistance the orphans they benefit from assets left by their parents after relatives decide to take them care. Findings presented in this chapter are the results of information obtained as responses from the interviewed group's categories; members of households taking care of orphans, village Government, district officers, and officers from NGOs dealing with orphans support. The findings also have presented from the information obtained from two focused group discussions which involved community members in two villages. In each part the researcher presented the findings and discussion.

### **4.1 Community perception on supporting orphans**

In one focused group discussion session conducted at Nata village, participants were observed to have different views on how they perceive orphans in terms of the right to be taken care and supported by the community. The discussion was centered to show that orphans children can't be a burden of all community members but relatives, government and NGOs are the ones responsible to support them. Community members have no fillings to be obliged get involved with helping the children of others. It was also revealed that the system of helping needy people in the community regardless that are orphans or hand capped, such kind of practices does no longer exist in their context as it was practiced before.

The results from the discussion revealed that in some circumstances relatives of orphans contributes to build the attitude and behaviors of the people to feel irresponsible in providing support to orphans. This was given an example that other guardians doesn't want to be recognized that are poor, the action of giving support to an orphans who live within his territory is an indication that he/she is unable to manage supporting the orphaned children. A good example for the community members to feel irresponsible is during property grabbing cases among relatives. It was reported that for the fear of get attacked by relatives no outsider can dare to get involved in helping Orphans in case there are in conflict of related to property grabbing. Other participants were having a notion that children have nothing to expect from them, "we normally support so that we can also be supported, if I support an orphan what should I expect from him/her" one respondent said. Majority in the group showed that they were not aware that have responsibilities to get involved in supporting and protecting the rights (property and other rights) of orphans. Nevertheless they were reported that are unable to analyze the likely diverse impacts that to happen to the community in case have not involved to support improve the life of orphans.

However after the intensive discussion, a researcher assistance reminded the Tanzania Anti – stigma campaign by the First Lady of Tanzania (2007) Mama Salima Kikwete who says, "*Orphans are Tanzanian children; they do not belong to anyone but ourselves, the most*

vulnerable children in our midst belong to all of us and need to be cared for and supported by all of us in our communities (*Watoto wote ni Wetu*), *All Children are Our Children*". (PACT TANZANIA 2007). This statement brought their mind back and in the end the majority declares that there is a possibility of community to take responsibility of assisting orphans to improve their life if can be mobilized and empowered. One participant reported by giving an example that "Assumes the orphans who doesn't have care and support decide to engage in the use of drugs and rape, it is our daughters who will be at risk; when steal it is our neighbors who lose properties. While if we could take initiatives to support their life such effects couldn't happen in our community" When a researcher wanted them to mentions the behavior changes which can be resulted due to negligence of community not to involve in improving livelihoods options of orphans, they mentioned as follows:

**Table 3: Behavioral changes among needy orphans**

Boys	Girls
Taking of drug	Prostitution
Street Life	Early marriages
Look for jobs	Look for jobs
Become thieves	Get pregnant
Become unruly	Become impudent and unruly (will not listen to advice, cannot be sent, answer back, etc)
Denies	Denies

**Source: Field survey, 2009**

From the table above, it was reported that the mentioned behavior changes are associated by:

- Most families living with orphans are burdened, therefore limits members of households to access the required services like food, clothes and shelter, school fees.
- Orphans children they experience rude treatment and discrimination from relatives and guardians.
- Due to financial difficulties these children the drop out from school and find remaining idle.

The above points have the implication that, when these children miss support they denies themselves, become street children and involve in transaction sex. Girls decide to involve in prostitution behavior for the sake of earning income to meet their needs the situation that increases susceptibility to the infection of HIV/AIDS. Not enough through changed bad behavior of boy's orphans such as robbery, use of drugs and raping will contribute to decline of security, peace and harmony in the community. Therefore there is a possibility of increasing transmission rate of HIV/AIDS among other community members who will engage in sexual practices with girl's orphans.

Later on the discussion of two groups of Mwaluzwilo village in Lusu ward and Nata village revealed that there is a possibility of community members to change their attitudes in involving

for improve future livelihood of orphans. The study pointed out that community can take responsibilities in the following:

- Establishment of orphans account which will facilitate to meet different orphans needs such as School fees
- Provide Social protection and care through psychological support services
- Protecting assets
- Contributing food to the orphanage stock during harvesting period
- Provision labour support to the orphans farms or household responsible to care for the orphans
- Facilitate to introduce income generating activities

Although the views of the community members about supporting and protecting assets and improving livelihoods options of the orphans sound negatively, they are concerned with ignorance on this topic. The perception of thinking that orphans have to get assistance from relatives, government and NGOs is contributing to continue worsening the future of children. The Executive Director of UNICEF Carol Bellamy, (2004) stated that: *“The silence that surrounds children affected by HIV/AIDS and the inaction that results is morally reprehensible and unacceptable. If this situation is not addressed, and not addressed now with increased urgency, millions of children will continue to die, and tens of millions more will be further marginalized, stigmatized, malnourished, uneducated, and psychologically damaged.”*

At the community level their opinions are influenced by lack of awareness on the importance of improving the life of orphans that was proved during the discussion. At the beginning they showed to be irresponsible but after analyzing the likely impact of not supporting the orphans both agreed to see the need of getting involved. Another issue is the reality that for orphans being vulnerable to the different needs, automatically will adopt bad behavior. This becomes as a pushing factor which unwillingly forces to behave in such way but in reality the influence of the community to leave them without support and remain pointing as orphans contributes to increase stigmatizing. In all villages, orphans are seen to be a major problem that is putting a strain on all individuals. Communities admit that in the past, no one saw orphans as a problem because there were not as many as they are today. They also note that this increase is largely due to the increase in death due to common illnesses, which are on the increase today. Some of the diseases mentioned are diarrhoea (7), malaria (5), AIDS (1), STDs (2), tuberculosis (3) and diseases related to witchcraft (2).

#### **4.2 Dependency composition in households taking care of orphans**

It was imperative for a researcher to investigate the composition of children under dependency in the household because it gives an overview of the quality of service children’s are getting and the burden that care taker might have. The findings revealed that 80% of households have an average of 2-4 children who are orphans and 20% average of 3 - 6 not orphans per household. In particular most orphans found in households were reported to lose their mothers whereby in female headed households surveyed found to have an average of 36 total children as compared to 27 in male headed households. One respondent Maria Paul from Nyalanja sub village in Nata village said that “due to economic hardship unmarried women tend to bear children with different men, in such situation they bring children to their grandparents for care and assistance.



When the mother dies automatically the children remains living with their grandparents or other relatives”. It was also reported that in cases where the same women fall seriously sick the first solution beforehand is to come back to their parents with children where afterwards when happen to die the children will be taken care in the grand parent premise.

The table below shows the average size of household headed by female and male.

**Table 4: Average number of children in female and male headed households**

Head of household	Household heads interviewed	Average number of orphans	Average number of children not orphans	Average number of children in a household
Female Headed Household	12	15	21	36
Male Headed Household	8	10	17	27

**Source: Field survey, 2009**

From the table above households headed by female households have a greater number of orphans than households headed by males. This has an interpretation that those households headed by females are overburden than those of male.

During the household survey it revealed that out of 20 interviewed head of households, 60% are women. This variation has been characterized by the fact which shows most men to die before the women. This has an implication when the women remain with to the burden of supporting the children. The respondents in these households reported that most households living with orphans are economically poor. A case study conducted in Zambia confirmed the same where 77 percent of all people in female headed household were poor compared with 72 percent in male headed household. (Ekaas, 2003). Their major means of earning livelihoods is through agriculture which depends on the availability of rainfall, they also face challenges of poor harvest due to shortage of agriculture inputs like fertilizers. The finding revealed that there is no support these household are getting from the community members. 90 % of respondents reported to have no community systems and arrangements to support orphans and their families. One of the reason contributing for the children to migrate in town is due to life difficulties resulted from lack of support from guardians. Therefore this has an implication that poor income among households living with orphans contributes to limit chances of orphan’s children improving their livelihood options and as a result undefined future life.

In practical, the distribution of orphans reflects that a larger number of orphans are found guardians at mother. This is because most of the children return to their home village to be cared for by their grandmother once their parents have died. The implications of this move from urban to rural contributes to increase the size of the family where will be taken care of. At the same time, when come back the uncle or aunt may not be able to take in all the orphaned children. Some fear to have a burden of care especially when think of school related costs. In a study conducted in Zambia an interview complained the same about the burden of caring orphans; he said “Yes, orphans are a burden because it’s not possible for one to spend a lot of

money on medicine, transport, food, instead of using it on one's own children for school" (Bond, 2003). Thus, children are separated from each other and may even live in different villages. This separation may encourage the child to think that they are less privileged than the other children are and withdraw or resent his/her siblings. But also it is difficult to get assistance from other relatives who may be leaving in other village. Despite this separation; the community is not completely insensitive to the needs of the child. Through certain traditional rituals and practices, the child is made to "forget" their parents and continue with life. However, it is this "forgetting" that creates room for further problems among the orphan generation. They learn to withdraw from society and make friends with fellow orphans as a result become street children. The child is often times seen to be difficult and unruly by the guardian and in some cases physically/verbally abused.

UNAIDS, 2003 reported that when the close family members die, children can be left in a precarious situation, as they may be forced to rely on distant relatives, who may be unknown. In many cases children are left with their grandmothers, women who often have little legal power. "Elderly people are the first whose functions within the family group are affected, when the epidemic affects several members of the same family, the elders must take on the care of ill family members as the last recourse, and even resume lucrative activity to provide for the family needs or cover the children's education costs. This statement underlying the fact revealed from the findings that a growing proportion of orphans is now cared for by either the oldest or female headed households. These families comprising a number of children who are not economically productive because of age and they are still at school. These families have fewer capacities to support orphans even the primary needs such as food and clothes. A good example is one household in Nata village where an old woman is taking care of four children; she also stays with her son who decided to come back at home after he has fallen ill. But when was asked about the major means of earning income to support those dependants she said that, she gets income through grain sieving at the milling machine, the work which its earning is not enough to meet the households needs. On the other hand, these families have little time to involve in farming activities therefore they find that always are facing problems of food. Shortage of food can make a child to be stunted due to poor nutritious foods that are not available. Stunting has long-term effects. Foundations for future life are poorly build with poor physical condition, compromising immune systems and mental functioning. This can affect the ability of children to benefit from education and to function socially and economically later in their lives.

It is also difficult for poor households to think on how they can contribute to improve the livelihoods option of the orphans if it cannot manage to attain its own livelihoods. Most women who live with children have are economically poor the condition that undermine their negotiation power within the society. Due to the burden of caring orphans other women may tend to engage in transactional sex as a way meeting the basic needs and to support the children. The behavior contributes to put in high risk of getting infection of HIV, in case she contaminate with the disease it have implication that when fall chronically ill will not be able to continue supporting the children. As from the findings, the burden at the household level that is caused by the increasing number of orphans is becoming higher than the capacity the household care takers have to support these children. In this case the responses that observed from the families to support these children not likely to make children get their future well being.

### **4.3 Practices to plan the future of children**

#### **4.3.1 Planning the future of children before death of parents**

The findings from household survey revealed that most parents they die without prepare future plan of their children. This was recognized after the researcher wanted to know whether when parents were seriously sick had involved relatives and/or children to plan for the future. Among 20 respondents interviewed during the survey only 4 reported to get involved in discussion of planning future of the children. Others reported to experience deaths where there was no meeting or conversation held among relatives and children. Those reported to have discussion they said, the commonly agenda during the discussion for many deceased were to look the possibility of continuation of school support, guardianship for the children and inheritance plan of the assets. Out of respondents interviewed 20% reported to have been agreed to take responsibilities of paying school costs and guardianship. No one was declared to have a discussion concerning inheritance plan of the assets. A number of people involved to plan were justified from relatives who disclosed their health status before death. They indicated that it is not common for chronically ill person in the villages to undergo HIV test because they believe to have witchcraft-ted and others tested have the fear of being stigmatized, thus hinders to disclose their sero status. However during the interview, parents who died were reported to suffer chronically ill for 1-3 years and it is only 5 respondents who reported to experience the death of parent's after suffering for 4-6 years. Within the period of sickness they tend to sell all assets for the sake of getting money to buy medicine, food and other households' bills. This was confirmed by one of the respondent Amina Hussein from Mwaluzwilo village in Lusu ward who argued that: "When our father died we didn't see the need of discussing about the assets that are not present because all were sold when the parents was sick".

The practice of writing a "will" before death as one of the inheritance plan for the future of children was put as an agenda during the focused group discussion. One respondent contributed his experience by saying that it is not common especially for the parents who have assets to write a "will" for their children before he die. "In one side it advantageous to do but in the other side it is not recommended", one participant argued. The reason behind is that some children when have already allocated their assets and parents shows delaying to die they decide to kill them so that they can be free to take their entitlements.

Planning the future of children is said to be very important in the process of preparing the future of the children. In some circumstances children are observed to be vulnerable even while their parents are still alive. This is because when the parents fall chronically sick children starts to experiences changes in their life. Some children start to withdraw from schools and engage in household activities like farming as a means to replace the labour force which has reduced from the sick person. Also when happen that the parents are sick and they are not in a position to disclose their sero status it becomes not easy for the children to ask. In such condition some parents hesitate to disclose their serostatus, a situation that makes children to be concerned with their future. In cases where parents have failed to disclose their status there is a possibility of dying without making future arrangements for guardianships, schooling and other issues. In the research conducted the majority of parents who died were not disclosed their serostatus, this gives a picture that the present orphans in the community were left without having a clear plans for their future.

The UNAIDS, (2005) best practices collection highlights the case study of the project which were implemented in Uganda on succession planning. It noted that "Succession planning helps the HIV- positive parents to plan for the future of their children in order to ensure the long term well being by appointing guardians who will be stand by for taking care of the children, prepare

will, starting income generating activities, creating memory books, alleviating worries and improving the current and future well being". For the case of education many guardians are seems to have concern by letting children at least attend the primary level of education. But this is because primary education in Tanzania is free in terms of school fees; this removed barrier helps parents and guardians to be able send their children at school. Despite of this universality the orphans children gets drop out when are required to buy uniforms and many other school contributions. Still the problems are recognized at the level of secondary school, many guardians' fails to pay the school cost and children start to lose future direction.

#### **4.3.2 Planning the future of children after death of parents**

The practices reported during conducting a survey and focused group discussion on planning the future of children after death of their parents revealed that, traditionally after three days of death of let say a man relatives are supposed to meet and discuss the ultimate life affairs of the mother and children left together with belongings (Isabhingula). It was shown that not all deaths occurs you will experience to see relatives organize and conduct meetings after the death of their family member, it is normally done when the deceased were considered to be well off and has left value assets and properties. In rare cases where the family is considered to be poor they meet for the aim of dividing responsibilities of caring and deciding for guardianship of the children. However when meet together the aim is not to look for alternative solution of helping the family members remained rather to see how they can benefit from those assets and properties. In family where the deceased had left belongs some relatives took the children for the interest of getting the asset as a child will go with his/her share inherited.

During focused group discussion the findings revealed that when the children are taken by relatives they experience to be treated harshly as compared to other children within that particular family who are not orphans. Some children have experienced to leave the school when relatives failed to pay for their education while others are forced to engage in household activities like farming and rearing cattle. When the researcher wanted to know whether the assets distributed to the children are of useful to them, 75% of people interviewed said that there is a tendency of the guardian to bribe children that they are keeping that asset until the time they will be able to manage by themselves while in turn the assets disappear silently. There were two cases reported about this scenario; one was reported by a widow woman known as Mwajuma Shabani from Nata village that after the death of her husband she lost assets and properties which were to assist in supporting her children. After interviewed she expressed as follows:

**Box1: A case study widow who failed to support children after properties was taken by older daughter.**

*“My husband was a primary school teacher for more than 30 years; he was married to two wives where I was a second wife. The first wife was dead one year before the death of my husband. After the death of my husband we conducted a meeting with few religious elders (Muslims) whereby they requested to list all assets which have left by my husband; among assets listed were farming land, 12 houses, mango trees, cows, ox plough, and ox- carts. Because the husband had other children apart from mine they ordered to keep the document contains the inventory of assets at the court for security purposes. However some assets like a bank book were not seen as the older daughter from the first wife who is working in town had taken it. As the time went on the oldest daughter opened the claim for inheritance before the court, she used to go with my children when she was in the process of claiming their rights but sometime she was going alone. By that time she was continuing to support my children by providing food, clothes and school necessities. I realized that she is doing all those because she wants to shut me down as she was holding all assets left for the reason that is the one responsible to look after her young brothers and sisters. After a long time I came to recognized that she had taken all money alone; and assisting my children through provision of food and school materials was a technique to help process go smoothly, but she knew that will compensate. At the moment I am staying with six children, my work is to sell local beer which is helping at least to get food. Very little support my children they are currently from her sister.”*

Another case study was reported during the interview conducted to Mwanzila Jeremia. After she asked whether the deceased had left any assets after death, he reported that a mother of that child had left a plot. After she has fallen sick for long period she said that in case she will die the plot will be given to her daughter. While probing the researcher decided to ask the daughter orphan who was around whether she had given already that plot as the order from her mother. The daughter said that “Yes I know that I have a plot which my mother left to me but I have never shown even where that plot is” Cases similar to these where relatives are holding assets of the children in sense that they will give to them after they have grown up was reported during the focused discussion conducted with community members.

Case number on is reflecting the situation where there were no family meetings organized before when the parent was sick. It is difficult to protect intangible assets like bank book since was not mentioned as asset belonging to the deceased. If there could be a succession planning meeting all assets had a possibility of being listed down and written in a memory book. After the death of the parent all successor would have an opportunity to get their rights. Preparation of inventory of assets also helps for the family to know what exact assets has left and helps to decide which one can be used currently and which ones can be kept for future use. Many women and children lose their property because of ignorance of their right for inheritance. According to Seodi White (2004), Malawi National Coordinator of the Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA) research trust, property grabbing is illegal. However, White said the law also states that, in the absence of a written will, the property of the deceased should be divided between family and relatives. In this case relatives get power to grab the assets because there is any legal document which shows the ownership of the left asset. The same happened during the study, the women who were suppose to have a right to inherit the properties of left by the

husband as she was staying with 6 children, and she decided to leave all responsibilities of claiming to the older daughter.

Due to ignorance of their rights they delegate responsibility to the wrong person whom their interest is different from facilitating towards success of acquiring their inheritance rights. Some children and women when their property are grabbed they decide to keep quiet because they believed they deserved to be treated like that just because they didn't know their rights." But also it showed that lack of funds hinders them to make follow up as most claims are done in town where they need to travel and incur other related costs. Corrupt officials sometimes demand bribes which they don't have. In these circumstances orphans have found to lose their assets and properties which would help to improve their future lives.

However some parents who dare to re allocate the assets for the children, when happen the children left is young enough to recognize the asset, guardians have a tendency of keeping secret to tell children their properties. In case study number two, the girl happened to know the land left by her mother but up to the age of 15 she had never shown exactly where the plot is. Without meetings and documented inventory of assets before and after the death of the parents the children's will not be assure of school, guardianships and the right to inherit. Therefore future livelihoods become uncertain.

#### **4.4 Knowledge and skills necessary to transfer for the future of children**

From the survey conducted it was revealed that to improve the future livelihoods option of orphan's the community will need to integrate both material support and transferring of knowledge and skills that are necessary for them to apply in their future. This section highlights the facts from respondents that the knowledge and skills required are Education, vocational training, income generating activities, and farming.

##### **4.4.1 Education**

It has confirmed that most people interviewed were aware that education is the major asset which can help the children to manage their future life. During the interview 95% of the respondents reported that despite of poor sources of income they have still they are struggling to ensure that those children have access to education as it is only means which will help them to cope with life challenges. Among 20 households interviewed it is only 2 households which declare that there are 2 children who have failed to continue with his education due to financial problems, others were observed to be at school. However the respondents reported that at the level of primary school beside the workload of keeping enough children they are able to ensure a child is completing his/her studies. A good example is Amina Mihayo from Nata village who is a grandmother of 4 primary school orphan's children, she is about 60 years and the major means of earning income is through grain sieving at the milling machine. Through this work is paying school related costs like contribution, stationery and uniforms. She showed the importance of school to those children by saying that "Although my work is difficult and I am old enough I have to continue working otherwise loosing school to these children will create a heavy burden in their future life".

Most guardians declare that the problem starts after the child requires continuing with secondary education and vocational schools. As it has explained in section "a' above that most guardian has poor income, 13 out of 20 interviewed shows that they cannot afford to pay for

secondary school costs. In order to face this challenge the information obtained during focused group discussion indicated that some they get assistance from government and Non Government Institution.

Schools can play a crucial role in improving the prospects of AIDS orphans and securing their future. A good school education can give children a higher self-esteem, better job prospects and economic independence. As well as lifting children out of poverty, such an education can also give children a better understanding of HIV and AIDS, decreasing the risk that they will become infected. Schools can also offer benefits to AIDS orphans outside of education, such as emotional support and care. Malcolm, 2005 noted that, Education, broadly viewed as knowledge transfer and skill enhancement, offers a powerful means of countering HIV/AIDS and helping sustaining livelihoods. Education would provide the farm family with additional resources (skills, information and related knowledge) helping them to compensate for the assets lost due to grabbing practices". Unfortunately orphans may be the first to be denied education when extended families cannot afford to educate all the children of the household. And this is observed in the poor families who care takers of orphans who limit the opportunity of the children to attend secondary school level.

Subsidize education by paying (primary) school fees, distributing uniforms, textbooks, and other supplies or ensuring professional education or informal training for adolescent orphans. Free education for orphans has been adopted by some African countries such as Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Cameroon, Tanzania, and Zambia. This approach is essential to poor household who are taking care of orphans to be able think about other opportunity that can help to improve the life of orphans.

Among the households interviewed, none of the guardian who stay with secondary school children was assure of being able to send the child at high school due to poverty. This was also realized when on girl 'orphan' known as Salima who said that she is in the last year of her secondary school study but my guardians have already told that I have to get married because they are not able to pay for my high school costs. This has an implication that although education is necessary to improve the life of the orphans still the guardians are not in position to enable orphans reach the level that can assure their future live.

#### **4.4.2 Vocational Training skills**

Vocational training skill was reported by 60% of respondents to be a necessary livelihood option for the orphan's children. The fact revealed that this percentage of people interviewed had the idea that in case their orphaned children will not pass their primary education the alternative would be to send them to the vocational schools. The vocational skills mentioned were categorized by gender, meaning that girls can be developed their skill as well as boys. Tailoring was observed to be in the mind of respondents as a plan to develop girl's skills while boys were reported that they can involve in carpentry, house construction and garage works. During the survey a researcher came across a household where the guardian main work is carpentry, he decided to take brother's orphan's children whom are working with.

It is apparent that it is not all children who will be able to continue with either secondary school or higher school, some children who have failed to pass their primary education can be develop to continue with vocational education as alternative to the livelihood option for their future.



**Photo 1: Orphans girls who has employed in tailoring as a seamstress and way to put her**



**Photo 2: A 12 year school girl learning on how to use machine**

***on the a financially future security***

Teaching overall life skills, vocational training provides as a way for children facing setbacks to learn a sustainable means to earn income. The training gives them a foot up in life that they might not have otherwise had. CRS in Rwanda reported that "Vocational training helps orphans and their families by creating job opportunities. The children are able to quickly learn a new skill, which will help them support their families, increase their own financial independence, and raise their self-esteem." As the guardian reported to have these views to their children, community plans to ensure no children is losing either of the livelihoods option will help to stimulate their capacity of earning future income.

#### **4.4.3 Income generating activities**

During the household survey, it revealed that children who have been prepared to involve in income generating activities they don't experience life difficulties in their future. The same case is seemed to apply for women who have responsibilities of taking care of orphans. One respondent from Mwaluzwilo village in Lusu ward reported that through selling food vendor in a local hotel (mama lishe) she is managing to support her boy who is studying in high school. At the same time a researcher succeeded to interview the other son of in that household about life experiencing he is getting after the death of his father. He responded that when our father died he left a bar, and small business like saloon, as a family they agreed not to sell and divide money instead he decided to develop those business. At the moment his mother is employed in selling food while he is involving in bar business, through these works they have managed to support other children for schooling and other assistance.





**Photo 2: A woman who is supporting her children through selling food**

Through focused group discussion, the views was given that most family members they fail to support orphans by establishing small income generating activities due to capital problems. However ideas was given that there is a need for the community to strengthening a committee which will deal with mobilizing youth to form group income generating groups, this can help for them to get loan from different sources. In order to manage businesses Income generating skills are required to be developed for the children while still at the age under 18, this will give a room to be competent when they reach the age of being self dependent; the statement was argued by on participant in a focused group discussion meeting.

In Tanzania, villagers created committees to help the most vulnerable children. These committees collect and redistribute donated food and money from villagers and set up income generating activities and other types of support. Despite of the committees that have formed in the study villages, yet they have not adopted the system of collect and mobilizing the community to donate food and money for supporting children. However the basing from the focused group discussion conducted the participants are seems to recognize the importance of mobilizing community to have established system whereby people will introduce community income generating activities for the purpose of supporting children. Nevertheless, children as are members of the community are an opportunity for them to learn and adopt involvement in IGA as a skill to improve their future life. NGOs and Government are responsible to remove the barrier that seems to hinder majority especially the poor households whom were observed to fail develop their orphans in terms of giving them capital for starting business. Income generating activity can be another alternative for the children who have not managed to continue with secondary school or other option.

There is substantial evidence from divert setting that microcredit has the potential to play an important role in reducing poverty through improving households and management, increasing productivity, and smoothing income flows (Wright,2000). The statement contravene with the reality from the findings that many household taking care are poor and unable to involve in Income generating activities. Their state of poverty is contributing at higher percentage to fail improve the livelihoods of orphans who could engage in small business in order to earn income for their future. The importance of the community to intervene in building poor households taking care of orphans and or orphans themselves is essential to enable utilize involve in IGA as a

coping mechanism for livelihoods. Nevertheless, not necessary to give capital to the children for establishing the business but also giving them training can help to build their capacity in planning for the business. A successful story is seen to a school child (section 5.5.4) whom after apprenticeship training he decided to establish a poultry project which is helping to pay for his secondary school fees.

#### **4.4.4 Agriculture knowledge to the children**

In the study conducted, the guardians interviewed were confirmed to recognize the importance of transferring agriculture knowledge and skills to the orphaned children's. There is no any Junior Farmer Filed Schools reported in to be present in the study area. To allow children continue with school, they don't involve in farming activities dairy but during the weekend and holidays. Other was reported that beside of knowledge transferring through working in family farms, they also learn new agriculture skills at school. Community members don't provide labor power to the children farms. When the researcher asked the question whether there are introduced orphanage communal farms in village, the respondents declares that the level of social cohesion among the community members is not supportive to establish farms which will be cared collectively. However WEGCC organization that is working in the study area has confirmed to implement the project which has mobilized the community to introduce a communal farm for orphans as a pilot. The participants in the focused group discussion suggested that the alternative possibility to increase food availability in the most vulnerable household living with orphans can be in terms of contributing a certain amount of produce to the MVC committee in every harvesting season. The community have the possibilities to agree in common by every member to provide one bag or tin of either maize, sorghum, rice, beans which will be stored; and when happen that there is a household suffering from shortage of food, then the responsible committee can easily give support. This system is important to ensure food availability to the needy households but it limits the chance of old children to get agriculture knowledge which would have been transferred during participation to in farming activities.

Muller, T. (2005) noted that loss of labour has not only led to a reduction in the capacity of the work force but also losses of a qualitative nature. From the study conducted, Experience and knowledge is decreasing, transfer of skills from parents to children is diminishing. The traditional transfer of knowledge from father –to-son or mother-to-daughter is disrupted, and will have consequences for future rural livelihood management. This is bring an insight to the importance of introducing special programs like Field Farmer Schools of which children can be able to learn by doing. Similarly to the other livelihoods alternative reported to be necessary for the orphans children in improving their livelihoods, rural life involves agriculture activities as a major means of living. In order to earn life and secure food these children have to get enough knowledge concerning farming. Guardians have reported to be important in creating opportunity for transfer agriculture knowledge to their children. However some families are facing challenges of ability to purchase agriculture inputs for their farms thus hinders them to utilize this opportunity to transfer best agriculture techniques.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 1 Dec 2004, Rome on World Aids Day reported that parents fall sick and die from AIDS, knowledge and values are not passed to younger generations, leaving children with few skills to make a living, orphaned children are growing up without the necessary knowledge and skills for their future livelihoods as parents die before they have passed on practical farming knowledge to their children.

## **4.5 Productive assets necessary for improving livelihoods of orphans**

In this section the discussions will focus on productive resources necessary to be maintained for the support of livelihoods of orphans. Resources discussed were such as agriculture land, farm inputs and equipment, and labor power to support farming activities, and, rights to housing and shelter.

### **4.5.1 Agriculture land**

It was observed that in rural life land is needed for agriculture as the base of earning livelihood option of the majority. About 90% of people interviewed responded that among the common asset which is left after death of the parent is land. Land was said to be an important asset to support the future livelihoods of orphans both at the age of childhood and adulthood. However it was noted that there are some parents who die and leave children without land. There are two factors contributing to this, one is the fact that when the parents fall ill for a long period the production within the household is reduced. At this time household members start selling assets including land as a coping mechanism in order to meet different family needs like medical bills, food and other necessities. Save the Children Alliance, (2004) noted that, "During chronic illness the main effects are: loss of labour due to illness; loss of labour due to increased caring; increased requirements for spending on healthcare". Death leads to an immediate loss of labour, but can lead to other changes in household composition that can positively or negatively affect labour availability. There can be changes in livelihood patterns as remaining members try to optimize their available assets. This can lead to successful coping, or following a period of unsustainable response (e.g. by selling productive assets) could ultimately result in the dissolution of the household.

Another factor reported were results from traditional practices whereby women don't have right to own land. Such cases have been reported to be commonly happening to those women who flee in town to look for better life and engage in risk life like commercial sex worker, prostitution and food vendor and bar maids; in turn when they die by HIV/AIDS they find that they have not left land for their children. The orphans resulting from such kind of parents are not in position to inherit the land which could be more supportive to their future life.

In the focused group discussion, it was found that children left by parents without land in future are experiencing food problems and unsettled life when they grow up as compared to those who inherited land. But as it was discussed earlier in 4.2 (b), even those children whom their parents left land, it is almost 60 percent of the children who benefit from it. The study revealed that most of them end up with only the identity of owning land but in reality guardians remain benefiting from their assets. This has an implication that the relatives are the key element to ensure land is available and maintained to enable children cope with food production for their nutrition and future livelihood needs. Protecting land as an asset to the orphaned children was said to be important because when children reach the age of self independence it can be easy to establish their home. Still in their survival will need a land to carry out agriculture activities of which land will support.

### **4.5.2 Farm inputs and equipments and animals**

Farm inputs and equipments were reported to be important for the children and families responsible to involve in agriculture activities. Whereas parents had livestock as assets, it has been experienced that relatives tend to sell all cattle in order to get quick money. During a survey, a widow woman at Mwaluzwilo village reported that when her husband died he left 15 goats. This was also pointed out by (Ekaas, 2003) that "Although smaller livestock such as goats, pigs, and chickens have less commercial and social value, they are easier to buy, sell and

slaughter, and represent smaller investments. They are also an important asset.” But when the researcher wanted to know the progress of those goats she replied that she had sold all of them as she had problems of cash. Retaining these goats would have more sustainable benefit of getting manure which could help to increase farm yields. Most households taking care of orphans are economically poor to afford buying farm inputs for their farms, this contributes for the orphans to grow stunted due to malnutrition resulted by shortage of food at households. It is well known that the death and chronically ill of parents creates problems to the reduction of labour power for farming activities. This has an implication to the reduction of area for cultivation. Also there is a reduction in the purchase of inputs; more children drop out of school, a higher proportion of income is dedicated to maintaining food security, rather than making other investments. Farm equipments like ox carts and plough was observed to play an important role to help the family taking care of children cultivate larger farms and manage to maintain through application of manure and hence produce more crops to feed their families.

The same importance of these assets is reported in the case study conducted in Northern Namibia; cattle are sign of status and represent stores of wealth. The ceremonial value of cattle is also important as they are slaughtered at weddings and funerals (FAO,2000).There were no initiatives reported for the community to get involved in assisting protect farm inputs and equipments rather than a report on the events of grabbing them. Poverty among household members is a major source of people having immoral to protect the assets and equipments that are necessary for developing agriculture the household level. However the e households which owned the equipments and livestock there do no longer exist to support the life of the children.

#### **4.5.3 Other important asset (house and shelter)**

During the field survey it was revealed that rural housing has less value as compared to urban houses. When the parents die the house that are in villages are not commonly grabbed by the relatives, it was also elaborated that is the shame from other community members to own the orphans children since all community members are aware on it. Still almost every member in the villages has their own dwellings, which brings less important to take the house of the deceased. In the focused group discussion conducted in Mwaluzwilo village, participants pointed out that the practices experienced is where the parents have a house in town; because it is assumed to have a value they tend to hide grab the documents and sell it in secret. This event was explained again that the importance of planning and writing wills before the death is very important to protect the loss of these assets.

Housing and shelter creates an important to the future life of the orphans .From the field survey the experience was given after talking to a boy aged 25 years, although he has lost his parents but him looking very happy with life. He explained that when the parents died they left two houses in town where he is able to collect house rent monthly. The money has helped them to get capital and now is involving in small business in the village. The houses in the village left by the parents are staying are as parents died when they were of age 18, they decided to make life at their home. “We managed to protect our parent’s assets from the risk of being grabbed by relatives, this was because we were old enough” he said.

The reality confirmed during the study, these assets which are said to be important for diversifying orphans activities and their livelihoods are not protected because those who vested responsibilities to look for children they use for their benefit. . It is apparent that the community members are not involved in any matters related to orphans properties and assets protection. In their normal practices this task have been left to relatives who seen not to be of assistance in protection assets. Events of property grabbing by relatives are highlighted that are in different

forms. The table below shows different methods of property grabbing and the diverse impact of property grabbing:

**Table 5: Method and impacts of property grabbing**

Methods of property grabbing	Impacts of property grabbing
Take moveable property when parent is sick	-Eviction
Take moveable property after death of parent	- Destitution
Obtain burial order and death certificate of parent and gain access to moveable and immovable property (eg. Pension and bank account)	- Migration - Malnutrition
Assume guardianship of orphans and take moveable and or immovable property	- Sex worker and risk of re-infection - Pre – matured death - Increased number of orphans and street children - Neglect of children

**Source: Field survey, 2009**

This table clearly represents the fact that in some cases guardians act of assistance to support the children’s while have intentions to get the properties. When parents are sick these relatives take responsibilities of caring for treatment, but at the same the assets a sick person have are the ones spent for meeting medication expenses. For the sake of easy access to properties that play a role of acquiring legal documents like burial order and death of certificates that assist them to get immovable property like bank books. The loss of those assets has bad effects which contributes for the orphans children to lose opportunities that could prepare their future well – being. Children are forces to live un expected life that impacts negatively their future.

### **The effectiveness of traditional inheritance law and its practices**

The report suggested that communities have their own way in practicing inheritance matters when the deceased die, but the practices are flexible depending on the family decisions, views, and economic capacities background. In practice, sitting for the meetings after the death of the parents has two aims; one is to look the possibility of assisting the children and others because there were no written documents like a will they decide to divide those assets. The community practice is by looking whether the deceased had enough assets they sit if had not they don’t sit. But they can decide informally to take the children.

During the distribution of assets there is an issue of gender consideration. Boys are given a big share as comparing to girls, like wise older boys are also taking a big share as compared to others. The reason behind is that he is the one responsible to look for young brothers and sisters. Girls are given are given a small share but also was reported by the participants from group discussion in Mwaluzwilo village that in some circumstances they are completely not given. The reason here is that boys’ children are considered that are permanently staying at

home. Girls can get marriage to another family. When she gets marriage she cannot go with assets from home, because she will find other assets like land to her husband. For this case most women are not given land as an essential productive asset for their future use. The assumption behind is that in case it happen to return back at her original home she will find the assets still there. But in real sense, when the women gets marriage there is a possibility of raising children, in case her husband or herself die children will return to their uncle for taken care of. Because a mother didn't left any piece of land or tangible asset they will have no help as a means to improve their livelihoods. Again the land that has left in the hands of the boy is regarded as his own property. When the boys get married the family (children and wife) have to recognize that all assets found are belonging to them. This situation the children of the women returned are not entitled to claim mothers share.

This practice is also experienced in many communities, (Ekaas, 2003) noted that “ *In many parts of the world, widows and daughters receive a small share of their deceased spouse's or parents' property than do widowers' and sons*”. This is contrary to the property and inheritance and property rights that consider equality before the law between and men and women. In May 2003, the Human rights Commission adopted a resolution on women equal ownership of, access to and control over land and on their equal rights to own property and adequate housing (CHR, 2003). Basing on the findings the communities have lack of awareness on this law that makes many girls orphans to suffer for their future as they had not utilized the opportunity of parents' asset to support their life.

#### **Roles of local leaders in protecting assets and supporting for future**

According to the findings, when happen that parents have died, in the family where relatives have decided to sit for the purpose of discussing about the future of the children together with inheritance of properties left, village elders and local leaders are invited to attend the meeting. During the meeting they are required to listen the views of relatives, their major role remain to give advice on top of what have been discussed and agreed by relatives. In their presence as local leaders are not allowed to exercise their power even if have observed that children are not benefiting from the decision made. It can happen that children have advised to appeal for further action, leaders plays roles to give an introductory letter to the legal authority responsible.

In light to contribute in empowering the future of orphans, local leaders tries to look different opportunities from either government, NGOs, and other institution that have interest in creating livelihood opportunities to the children. The evidence is given through children who have been supported by uniforms, school fees. Through government initiatives LUSU GOLD MINING has paid a school fees to all children in Mwaluzwilo secondary school.

#### **4.6 Responses of Government and Non Government Organization in community empowerment to support orphans**

Government and civil societies like NGOs was reported to play roles in responding towards improving livelihoods options of the orphans. This group of key informants targeted to represent external development agents responsible to facilitate community participation in the process of improving livelihood options of orphans. The section presents findings obtained after interviewing the officers in the District Council and representatives of NGO that works in the study area. Findings revealed are categorized in four sub section as follows:

#### **4.6.1 District council response in empowering community to protect assets and property grabbing.**

During the interview conducted with Head of Economic and Planning and Community Development Departments, the researcher was interested to know how the government is involved in protecting the assets of the orphans. Among 2 informants interviewed, one reported that council through civil rights program have been creating public awareness on the importance of writing a will as a way to protect property grabbing events which happening after the death of parents. This program was responding about how the district council is involved. However, they said that Village Executive and Ward Executive officer are the ones who experiencing cases and complaints from families and orphans about properties grabbing, these leaders are working at grassroots level with communities.

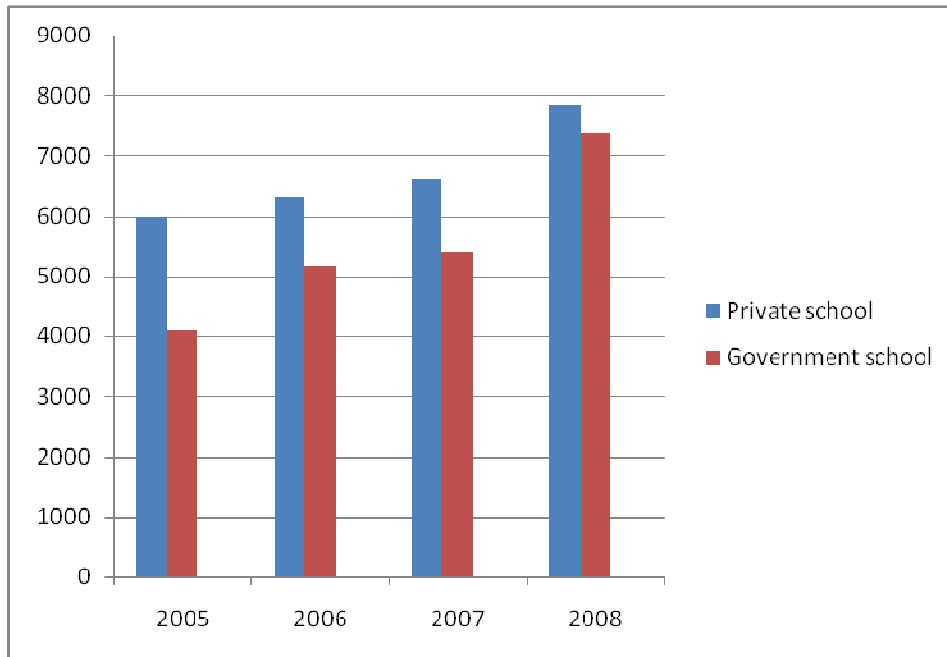
The findings revealed that at village level the government is responsible to receive complaints where relatives have failed to resolve in their own and provide advice for the children to follow procedures required in claiming their inheritance rights. It is not possible to intervene in the violence of relatives before they have reported as a case which needs legal assistance. A Ward Executive officer Mr Mapiigi from Mwaluzwilo Ward reported that he received one case where after the death of the parent a brother of the deceased wanted to take all assets left for the point that is going to take care of those children. The idea didn't get support from relatives and children as some were of the age of 14. When reported to the village government office the officer were given advice on the procedures children they are supposed to undertake in claiming their inheritance rights. At that time there was no any meeting which had organized among relatives to review the assets and plan for the future of those children. The first action he advised to relatives to call for relative meeting and discuss on rights of children they are entitled to after the death of their parents, thereafter he assisted by giving them an identification letter for introducing them to the legal bodies eg. Primary court

However there are courts at Ward Level mainly executed with consideration of inheritance customary laws. It was investigated that depends on the complication of the case submitted, some complains related to property grab has been solved at Ward level before even go to the Primary court. Through group discussion it was observed that Village and Ward Government levels play an important role to assist families and children who are not aware on inheritance and other human rights by giving education through village organized meetings.

#### **4.6.2 District council response in empowering community to improve future livelihood option of orphans**

It was reported by Mrs. Regina Shashi who is head of Economic and planning that the District council is much aware on the problem of increasing number of orphans and vulnerable children due to the problem of HIV/AIDS. In their plans they have shown to give a priority to the education sector by supporting orphans children who pass their primary school examination. She said that in the last four academic year 2007/2008 the district council paid a lump sum of TSHS 64,400,000,000/= approx. (USD 46538.46) for school fees and out of pocket money for all orphans children in secondary school who were observed to be in need of support. The process of identifying needy orphans is done by committees which were formed in response to of the guidelines provided from the district council. There is a committee at village level responsible to screen the names of orphans submitted by relatives and compile them for the use of the council. Because the committee is formed by members who live with orphans and their families, through set criteria they shortlist and approve names ready to be sent to the District council for support. Despite of these procedures, 85% of the respondents were claimed that there is a bureaucratic procedure for orphans to get school support from the government.

However the data from Economic and Planning Department shows that 107orphans children in secondary school have benefited from this fund. 39 in private school (22 male, 17 female); 74 in government school (66 male, 41 female). The district council has tried to intervene and assist families looking after orphans by paying school fees. The table below shows the amount of money spent in the last four years for support orphans children who are at secondary school level.



**Source: Nzega District council Economic and Planning Department.**

**Figure 3: Amount of money spent by the district for paying school fees to orphans children in secondary school. (1USD = 1300 TSHS)**

From the table above it shows the district support to vulnerable orphans children have an impact to contribute towards improving their future life. The data shows that girls at secondary school are less as compared to boys and this has an interpretation that, in the case of education as a strategy to improve livelihoods of orphans' boys has greater chance to develop more than girls, thus, less percentage of orphans' girls who manage their life through education base. However, the district is spending big amount of money for students in private school than government schools; but this has an implication that there are few children who are assure to continue with secondary school education in case after finish primary school they have not selected to join government secondary school.

Findings obtained after the interview conducted to Mrs Rozaria Magoti a Head of Community Development Department revealed that, in the process of supporting orphans the District Council in collaboration with PACT TANZANIA conducted a baseline survey to identify the Most Vulnerable Children (MVCs) in all 37 wards of Nzega Distrct. During the process community members were empowered thorough training, identification and formation of MVCs committee at District, Ward and village levels. The empowerments through training of committees were based on:



- Community mobilization in setting plans targeting to take responsibility in improving the life of Orphans and Vulnerable Children.
- Identification of orphans needs necessary to improve their future life
- Assessment of household capacity in taking care of orphans
- Community mobilization in opening village accounts for supporting orphans children

There is a proof that committees formed at all levels are just there as an identity. Among the respondents interviewed no one was declared to see any initiatives done by the committee in the process of supporting orphans. The same problem was observed to happen in the entire district that MVCs committees are non functional. In discussion She argued that *“ I did not see the logic behind to form new MVCs committee while there are HIV/AIDS committees that are also dormant, the district were supposed to strengthen the existing HIV/AIDS committees and add up more responsibilities related to orphans livelihoods support”*. Among the reasons observed for the committees to remain dormant without performing their responsibilities were; dependency syndrome of the budget from District Council and other NGOs. There is a notion among committee members that *“HIV/AIDS work is MORNEY”*. Therefore they think that nothing they can do without budget allocation from higher authorities.

In response to improve livelihoods options of orphans, the District Council through Community Development Department has prepared a plan to empower community to be able mobilize youths to form clubs. These youth clubs will have the task of sharing knowledge in life skills and apprenticeship. Orphans children are targeted to be accommodated within these clubs. The District Community Development Officer (DCDO) reported at the moment total of 333 youths 9 from each ward have received training on life skills. In the plan there is allocation of budget to support those clubs in terms of loans for income generating activities.

#### **4.6.3 NGOs and civil society’s response in building community capacity to protect assets and property grabbing**

The findings reported in this section are about interventions that build capacity of the community to respond in protecting assets and property grabbing. The organization identified were those that involved directly in orphans work (care and support). These are Youth Advisory Development Centre (YADEC), Tabora NGOs Cluster (TANGOC), Women Economic Groups Coordinating Council (WEGCC), and AIDS Defense and Environmental Program ADEP). None of the organization was reported to have been involved in cases related to property grabbing, findings revealed that this task have left to be responsibility of the government. However, through training sessions organized communities have raised awareness on inheritance rights and the important of writing wills before death. One officer interviewed said that *“the issue of supporting orphans in real sense is broad; we tend to overlook some aspects during planning and developing intervention stages”*. Complementing to the statement, 3 out of 4 officers interviewed posed the issue of donor interest to be another factor that contributes to planning activities which could be of useful for implementation to improve the livelihoods options of orphans. Other legal support reported apart from protecting assets of the children were to facilitate orphans children acquire birth certificates through paying fee related costs and other procedures. Through advocacy NGOs were reported to play part in issues like protecting child abuse and violence.

#### **4.6.4 NGOs and Civil society's response in empowering community to improve future livelihood of orphans**

The findings revealed that most NGOs working in area of orphans they focused on direct care and support rather than indirect support. (Holden S, 2005) differentiated direct and indirect HIV/AIDS work as ' direct AIDS work is focused on preventing HIV/AIDS, or care, treatment, or support for those who are infected while indirect AIDS work is focused on adopting development and humanitarian programme work in order to take into account susceptibility to HIV transmission and vulnerability to the impact of AIDS. In the course of livelihoods options to orphans, indirect work is mean to divert various activities that can contribute to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS to the future of orphans. From the study conducted it was investigated that the existing NGOs in the district have been actively in provision food provision, clothes, beddings, rehabilitation of houses, health services through Community Health Fund Facility (CHF). 3, psychosocial support through counseling done by volunteers, and school materials (uniforms, exercise books, paying schools fees) as a means to contribute towards improving their well – being and future livelihoods.

Nevertheless, Mr. Mohamed Ramadhan who is a Project Manager of AIDS Defense and Environmental Program (ADEP) reported that despite of their NGO to be still young, (established in June, 2002); in view to empower community they haven't done anything, but directly have managed to implement empowerment program to support orphans children improve their future life. Activities reported to be done were training children at the age of 12 – 18 on apprenticeship skills such carpentry, livestock keeping and animal husbandry, agriculture knowledge through gardening and bricks making. Later on youths are encouraged to form clubs where it can be easy for them to get loans for implementing activities. A good example as a story of success is about Mohamed Marco (15 years) who is an orphans after training he decided to start a project of poultry keeping whereby from selling eggs every day was assure of earning Tshs 6,000/= which is equal to 180,000/= (USD 138.46) per month. At the moment he is managing to pay school fees of secondary school.

Among the corresponded NGOs for interview, Women Economic Groups Council (WEGCC) and Youth Advisory Development center (YADEC) reported to have been involved at least in empowering communities to respond towards improving livelihoods options of orphans. At the time of conducting this research these two NGOs were in final phase of implementation of Jali watoto program funded by PACT TANZANIA. As has been said before in section 4.6 (c) about donor interest in developing project plans, in the guideline of grant application line items of improving livelihood options were strictly considered to be included in the project proposal. In respect to this view the research findings revealed that through campaign community have mobilized to get aware that the problem of supporting orphans is the responsibility of the community itself as it is perceived. Government and Non Government organization should be there to complement efforts already initiated by the community in supporting orphans. In other villages it was reported to have already established orphanage fund accounts although the same accounts is said to remain dormant.

The findings revealed that vulnerable households that are taking care of orphans have empowered through initiating livestock keeping (poultry, goat and cows) and provision of fertilizers and seeds. As a pilot the project made acquisition of a farm from the village where community members have demonstrated to collectively provide labour power to cultivate it for purpose of enhancing food availability to orphans. This support has an implication that through

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<sup>3</sup> A system where 10 people in a household have access for free health services

these projects orphans have the possibility of learning by doing in future will be able to implement in their own.

NGO is responsible to build the capacity of the community so that it can be able to provide support through their local organized systems. Community support systems are more sustainable as compared to the support provided by NGO and other Civil Organisations. Implementations of WEGCC have a clear objective to enhance building capacity of the community in supporting improving livelihoods option of orphans. For example the support of seed and fertilizers to poor household's members that are living with orphans and mobilizing community to take responsibilities of supporting orphans. The challenge to these initiatives is that the project implementation has duration of one year that means the possibility of continuation of activities is less and thus, orphans will remain in their vulnerability situation. As the community noted that are willing to adopt systems of taking responsibility to deal with issues of orphans, however this communities lack technical capacities in planning processes. The task of NGOs should remain to strengthen the extended families' and community economic capacity to provide for orphaned children's needs through access to micro credit, professional training for the orphaned children, the creation of income generating activities, mobilization, training and formation of support groups.

As AIDS claims the lives of more and more adults, the traditional safety net for orphans the extended family – were observed to overburden in helping the orphans and other members in. Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) sometimes step in to provide food, clothes, health and social services, school fees and even housing. But there is growing recognition that such small, intensive service delivery programs can help only a fraction of the children and families who need them. This response should also look in supporting the community to provide other services and assistance that are useful for future.

The idea of supporting community to be able improve livelihoods of orphas is highlighted by Bowsky (2004) who said "*Communities have always had to deal with vulnerable children and orphans,*". "*Our responsibility is to figure out from the communities what they need and how we can support and strengthen their traditional ways of caring for orphans and vulnerable children.*" Williamson later on came to this realize after nine years of implementation of the community based project while assessing orphan support needs in Uganda. Members of the assessment team assumed that government and NGO officials were at the forefront of the response to the orphan problem there, but that perception was reversed when they visited villages in Rakai and Masaka districts. "*We realized that the front line was the families and communities,*" Williamson (2003). "*And what the rest of us could do was going to have significance largely to the extent that it made it easier for families to cope made it easier for communities to support the families and the vulnerable children.*"

#### **4.6.5 Challenges of NGOs to the response**

From the findings reported, responses of NGOs to improve the livelihoods options of the orphans' children are not sustainable. This is because of the characteristics of the NGOs that are implementing projects in specific location and time. It revealed that the phasing out of the project have big impact to the continuation of the initiatives initiated to support improving and creating life opportunities to the children. An example noted are the children whom were supported through school fees by TANGOC, the project after termination of the project 2 children failed to continue with studies. Groups that were provide micro credit failed to exist because at the time of project phase-out had not gained enough capacity to run their activities,

information obtained says that currently do not exist. NGOs have challenge that its specificity in terms of location and time hinders to reach a number of orphans that are scattered in all villages of the district. (HIV/AIDS is a problem of the entire community). In this practice, most children have reported to miss the support. Government has opportunity to set plans that can affect the entire community. For example to pass the regulation that need villages to introduce special committees responsible to deal with orphans needs, the system of every village to have an orphan's fund/account and adoption of community approach to take responsibility of creating livelihoods options of the orphans children.

NGOs are obliged to adopt the approach of building capacity of the community and fewer efforts in providing direct support that are not sustainable to the future of the orphans' children. However NGOs interviewed were complaining about the availability and donor conditions for the funds to implement the projects. Donors have their own condition that have limit in planning process, some have their own interest of which is required to focus when preparing plans. Beside the underlying challenge, NGOs were observed to have a room to maneuver in lobbying the government for example to subsidize free education to the orphans at the level of secondary school.<sup>4</sup>

Regarding to protecting the legal support, NGOs proved that yet are not involved in in legal aspect that target to protect the assets of the children. The findings revealed that NGOs being located in town hinders to get aware of issues that happen in the villages, this is possible until when in case the NGO is implementing the project in that area. In this case the community dependency to the NGOs reported by participants in focused group discussion conducted in Nata village contributes to accumulation of children's problems that could be talked by the community.

#### **4.7 Usefulness of assets left by parents when relatives take responsibility to care for children**

The findings revealed that extended family is the most appreciated way of helping orphans children. After the death of the parents it was observed that 70% of the children are accommodated by the relatives in extended family system. According to the report of Tanzania HIV/AIDS indicator Survey 2007/2008, the prevalence rate reported of 5% was taken for the age group of 15-49. At this age parents die when their children has the age of 0-18 (the age where children are at school). According to the study the assets that left are kept under the hands of relatives or guardians for the reason that is responsible to take care and look for the children. The further revealed that for the case of usefulness of the assets to contribute in future life of children, among 20 households interviewed, 60% was reported that most parents die without leaving the assets to the children. Assets are being sold early as when parents are chronically ill: the reason for selling assets is to cover for medical expenses, food and others. But also other assets are sold to cover funeral costs, the practice which is done by relatives. 25% of participants reported that relatives when decide to take a child for guardianship, others have an interest of the share the children is coming with. Guardians have noted to bribe the children by the notions that are giving assistance while in practice the assistance given is low.

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<sup>4</sup> Most families living with orphans are unable to afford secondary fees and related costs.

Also the information reported from the findings, it experienced those children who taken care by relatives the treated in different way as compared to the children who are not orphans. Children that are not orphans are given favor as compared to orphan's children orphans. Table below show the differences in children treatment between orphans children and children that are not orphans. This results is compared to the study conducted in Zambia (Clay, Bond, and Nyblade, 2003), orphans often experience different treatment in the household. One of the main causes of this is being an orphan in a poor society.

Table 6: Treatment of orphans children and non orphan's children in the households

	Orphans children	Non orphans children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assisting parents with household chores (girls)</li> <li>- Looking after cattle</li> <li>- Assisting the family with cultivation</li> <li>- Looking after siblings when their parents are away</li> <li>- Assisting the community when they are digging graves (older children)</li> <li>- Running errands for parents/older people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daily attendance to schools</li> <li>- Eating well</li> <li>- Accessing good clothes</li> <li>- Participating in light household chores</li> </ul>

**Source: Field survey, August 2009**

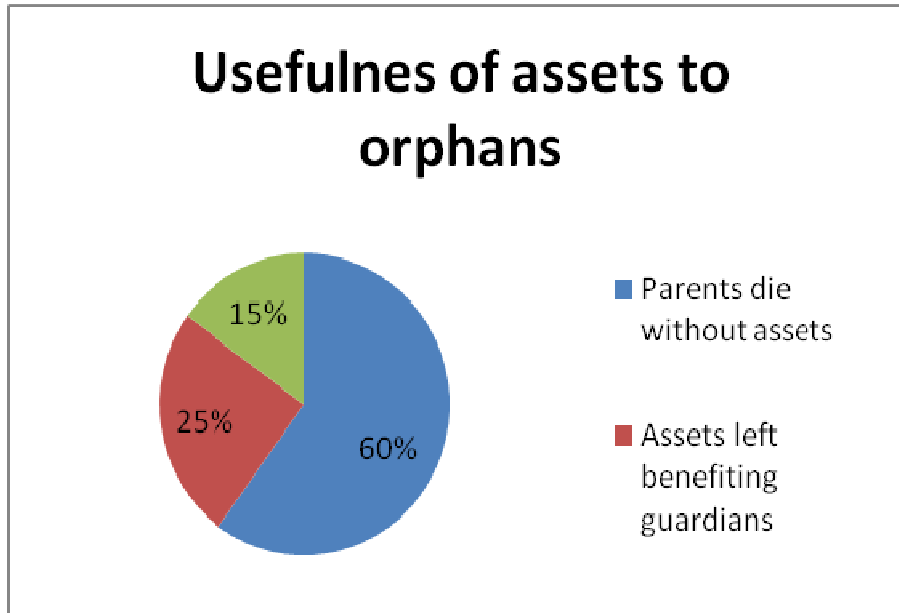
This table illustrates that children who are not orphans are living in favorable environment life. While Orphans children are treated in a way that limits their future opportunities like too much work. The overworking of children hampers for education development and has psychological effect to the children.

15% of the respondents interviewed were reported that the assets, properties and guardianship are useful to prepare the future of the future of orphans. This was revealed during the focused group discussion where one participant contributed that;

**Box 2: A family 'model' to positively support orphans**

*"It is not all family who practice to grab the properties of the children after death of the parents. I am the one who live with the children of my brother who died 5 years ago. After his we organized a family meeting as usually, during the meeting we decided that every child has equal right to inherit the assets and properties left. We divided the children for guardianship. Everyone was insisted by the meeting to be seriously responsible for the task given of supporting the future of the children, and we agreed that in case we will recognize that the assets a child was given has been used in different way, all relatives will have the right to question about it"*

This case reflects the families that were observed to have good moral, in this kind of family orphans have assurance of benefiting from the assets that have been left by their parents and are likely to get support for their future. However this practice is experienced from the family where relatives are economically somehow well-off. In families where relatives are poor they tend to admire assets that have been left by the parent and forget the future of their children.



Source: Field survey 2009

Figure 4: Illustrates responses of the guardians on usefulness of the assets left by parents.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter draws the conclusion of findings discussed in chapter 4 above; it also gives the general recommendations of the researcher to the decision makers and other development partners including the Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania (ACT) that will guide the plans to empower community in responding towards providing sustainable support to the orphans.

### **5.1 Conclusion**

From the results and discussion of findings it is concluded that community members are not involved in supporting orphans rather the big role is undertaken by extended families. Government and NGOs are just complementing the efforts of the families. However the extended families have less capacity to create means of livelihoods that can contribute to improve their future well being. According to people interviewed, the existing supports provided by the guardians are primary education through paying costs for uniforms, stationeries and other contributions. Guardians have responsibility also to provide social care and moral advice that will help children to grow in acceptable society way of life. Most households living with orphans are burdened and economically are poor; in this case they don't meet the needs of these children.

Also it is concluded that most children are made poor and vulnerable because the assets that could have to support their life were not protected after the death of parents. In the other hand properties and assets become secure from being grabbed by relatives if at all parents have to put future plans of their children before die for example writing wills, conducting family meetings before and after the death of the parents. It has confirmed that if the parents can manage to organize meetings with children and relatives before die, children are likely to get a right person who can provide a good guardianship and use the assets to improve orphans children for education and creating other means of their future survival. In particular, most deaths that occur, parents die without disclosed their HIV/AIDS status and this limits for other relatives to call upon the need to discuss about the outcome future of the children. It is important for the parents to disclose their health status when falls into serious colonially ill as it will help the remaining family members get prepared respond towards the likely impacts that occurring after death.

The community members have the perception that a role of care and providing support to improve the life of orphans is the responsibility of relatives, Government and Non Government Organizations. This perception has built altitudes for the community to see that they have no obligation of getting involved in developing strategies that will contribute to meet the needs and improve the future life of orphans' children. Nevertheless, the Government and NGOs are not in a position to solve the needs of the orphans and their families in a sustainable manner. Most intervention undertaken to support the orphans have a focus on short term than long term support perspectives, a situation that contribute to blind the future of the orphans' children. Through NGOs projects, community members have blinded and remain think that every support will be brought by the NGO while were support to take responsibilities. If the community itself could have perceived that has a responsibility to provide support and improve livelihoods options, there could be a sense of ownership and sustainability of the locally established initiatives and programs for the support of orphans.

The assurance of future livelihoods of orphans does not depend only on the primary direct care support such as clothes, food, beddings, health care and psychological support but also on the complementary diversification of livelihood opportunities such as transferring the knowledge and skills on education in general, vocational training (carpentry, tailoring, crafts, construction and mechanics) for out of school children. Not only that, while in school children can be advised and empowered to establish the activities which are less time consuming such as poultry keeping, such kind of projects facilitates for the children to attain his/ her school and other personal needs. Likewise, it is well understood that the majority of people who live in rural areas depend entirely on their livelihoods from agriculture activities. As these children have no parents to pass agriculture knowledge to them, parents and school program (curriculum) is contributing much to ensure children have enough knowledge and skills concerning farming egg gardening. The life skills and knowledge stands as the diversification of livelihoods options for the children, this has a meaning that children have chances to decide to involve in activity that seems to be necessary and within his/ her capability to develop.

Practice to protect the productive assets which has been left after the death of orphans' parents is not well enough considered for the sake of their future. Land, animals and farm equipments which is important for agriculture activities is countenance the challenge of being sold earlier when parents fall chronically ill and or die. These assets are sold in order to meet the medical expenses and other household's needs. When parents die the household members tend to sell assets for the sake of meeting burial and mourning costs. Traditional inheritance practices whereby women are not supposed to inherit land as they are considered having no permanent homes; limits children who have left by mother to acquire land as inheritance asset.

Finally strategies by the community to respond in improving livelihoods options and practices to protect assets which is important for succession life after children have remain without parents support. For the better future of orphans children, community should take responsibilities to support in creating livelihood options when children are still not in the age of self dependent. There the recommendation below will contribute to change the situation that can put children be in position to have support that is useful after the age of self dependent.

## **5.2 Recommendation**

From the findings it is highlighted that a community based approach is a good alternative to institutionalized support in resource poor settings. Extended family networks and community groups need to be supported. Many families have found to have fewer capacities that hinder the possibility of helping their orphans' children to have future life strategies. It is good practice to assist communities to identify their own problems and to work with them to identify solutions. Empower extended families and community members to improve their income will render for them to be able provide support to the orphans. The community should put an organized system and structure which will enhance the continuity support of orphans' children to acquire education for their future. The community is advised to establish special fund purposely support different needs of orphans who are most vulnerable. During the survey the researcher observed the account which was established in Nata village specifically to mobilize resources for school building construction. The same approach can be applied to establish an Orphanage fund account in the villages whereby community members will be required to contribute into. The money to be raised will enable to pay for school related costs of the children who are in difficult situation to manage the costs. The government is required to set as a district plan for all villages to establish orphanage fund.

Mobilised communities take responsibilities of supporting orphans using their available local resources become a sustainable and viable safety net for supporting orphans in the community.



Economic empowerment in parallel is an essential component as HIV/AIDS impoverishes further the already poor households. There is a need to strengthening the existing local MVCs and HIV/AIDS committees responsible, identify the needy children and mobilizing the local available resources to support orphans.

It is possible to support successful income-generating activities in a situation of extreme poverty by training orphans/guardians in IGA management and providing constant support and supervision. In this context the idea of IGAs came from the community themselves. Supporting income generating activities remains a key way of helping households to improve their incomes and subsequently their ability to meet orphans needs. Education for orphans on IGA also become essential to add an option for involve in small business that can boost the income. Creating empowerment through income generating should also be in consistence with provision of small loans to the poor households.

Life skills training is also very important to enable orphans manage their future life. Low self-esteem is inextricably linked with risk-taking behaviour among young people, life skills training empowers orphans to make informed decisions, particularly relating to their sexual and reproductive health.

Much can be done to ensure the legal and human rights of AIDS orphans through sensitization of leaders, and guardians to children's rights and needs, as well as sensitizing orphans to their own rights. Education on will writing should be prioritized in order to rescue the likely property grabbing practices commonly occurring after the death of parents.

During inheritance of assets and properties it is recommended for the children to retain assets for the benefits of the children and not divide individually as this can end up with others to sell their assets in order to get quick money and remain without nothing to support their future life. The collectively retained assets can provide continues support to the children for example who are still in primary education.

There is a need to emphasis the community mobilization to undertake a succession planning whereby parents will be responsible to organize the meeting with relatives and children for the aim of looking possibilities regarding to guardianship, education for children, and management of assets and properties which will be left after the death. This practice should go hand in hand with providing education to the community concerning the importance of writing will and division of responsibilities.

The kind of support to the orphans given by Government and NGOs should not only focus on provision of short term support but also look on interventions that are sustainable to improve future life of the orphans. However the school program to assist secondary school orphans for paying fees should be reviewed to be more participatory an flexible for all who meet criteria to access it.

Youths should be mobilized to form groups which will have the role of teach life skill, psychosocial support and income generating activities to the orphans.

Community care coalition where all institutions available in the village like religious, social groups, self help groups, farmers groups, should be involved to take responsibilities of supporting orphans. The MVC and HIV/AIDS committee should facilitate the process of identifying orphans and their needs, basing on an organization or social group interest , the responsible organization can decide which kind of support is willing to offer to the orphans or household responsible to take care of orphans.

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## Appendices

### Appendix 1: General HIV/AIDS STATUS SUMMARY

Indicator	Year	Tanzania (United Republic of )	Sub-Saharan Africa <a href="#">(R-1)</a>	World	Source
Adults and children living with HIV <a href="#">(I-1)</a> (Est)	2007	1,400,000	22,000,000	33,000,000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
Adults (ages 15+) living with HIV <a href="#">(I-2)</a> (Est)	2007	1,300,000	20,300,000	30,800,000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
Women (ages 15+) living with HIV <a href="#">(I-3)</a> (Est)	2007	760,000	12,000,000	15,500,000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
Children (ages 0-14) living with HIV <a href="#">(I-4)</a> (Est)	2007	140,000	1,800,000	2,000,000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
AIDS orphans currently living (ages 0-17) <a href="#">(I-5)</a> (Est)	2007	970,000	11,600,000	15 000 000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
Adults and child AIDS deaths <a href="#">(I-6)</a> (Est)	2007	96,000	1,500,000	2,000,000	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2</a>
nd = No data					

Source: HIV SITE

## Appendix 2:Prevalence

Indicator	Year	Tanzania (United Republic of )	Sub- Saharan Africa ( <a href="#">R-1</a> )	World	Source
Adult (ages 15-49) HIV prevalence (Est %)	<a href="#">(I-7)</a> 2007	6.2	5.0	0.8	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>
HIV prevalence, female sex workers, capital city ( <a href="#">I-8</a> ) (%)	Various years	nd	nd	nd	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>
HIV prevalence, injecting drug users, capital city ( <a href="#">I-8</a> ) (%)	Various years	nd	nd	nd	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>
HIV prevalence, men who have sex with men, capital city ( <a href="#">I-8</a> ) (%)	Various years	nd	nd	nd	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>
HIV prevalence, young women (15-24) (Est %)	<a href="#">(I-9)</a> 2007	0.9	3.2	0.6	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>
HIV prevalence, young men (15-24) (Est %)	<a href="#">(I-10)</a> 2007	0.5	1.1	0.4	<a href="#">UNAIDS, 2008</a>

nd = No data

**Source: HIV SITE**

**Appendix 3: Respondent category: Household taking care of orphans.**

**Household no:** .....**Sex of interviewee Male ( ) / Female ( ) Age** .....

**Village:** ..... **Ward**.....

**Date:** .....

Q1. Do you stay with orphans at your household? Yes/No

If yes, (a) How many are they.....

How old are they (1)..... (2)..... (3)..... (4)..... (5).....

How many girls .....how many boys.....

How many children do you have other than those you mentioned (your own children)

How many girls .....how many girls.....

Q2. Are there other children of the same relative whom doesn't stay with you? If yes, why and where are they stay?

Q3. What was the relationship with the parent(s) of orphans you live with??

Q4. Who was the first one to die between mother ( ) and father ( )?

Q5. What do you think was the cause of his/death death?

Father.....

Mother.....

Q6. For how long did you started to stay with these children(s)

Years.....months.....

Q7. During the time the parents of orphans were ill, did you managed to meet and discuss the future of their children? Yes/No

If yes, what did you discussed? Tick, Schooling ( ), guardianship ( ), other specify.....

Q8. Did the parents ever discuss their health condition before they died?

If yes, what did they say about their illness??

.....

Q9. What was the work of the parents??

Farming ( ), business ( ), employed ( )

Q10. What assets did they have before death? List

(i).....

- (ii).....
- (iii).....
- (iv).....
- (v).....

Q11 What assets did they leave after their death? List

- (i).....
- (ii).....
- (iii).....
- (iv).....
- (v).....

Q11. (a) If they left, what assets are still available at the moment? List

- (i).....
- (ii).....
- (iii).....
- (iv).....
- (v).....

(b) If there are assets still available where are they?

Q12. What were the reasons that made the change in assets (the ones left and the current)?

- (i).....
- (ii).....
- (iii).....

Q13. Did the parents write a will before their death of parents?

If yes, what was about the inheritance of farm land, house and other properties?

Explain.....

Q14. After the death of the parents what were the decision of relatives about taking care and support children to manage their life?

Q15. What have changed (circumstances) in life of orphans after the death of parents?

**Appendix 4: Respondent category: Focused group discussion.**

**Village:** ..... **Ward**.....

**Date:** .....

Q1. What do you think are the productive assets to assist orphans children earn their livelihoods

Q2. What are the community local (traditional) practices on the inheritance of the deceased assets?

Q3. In case of shortage of labour as an asset for farming activities, how do you help the orphans in managing agricultural activities? (Farming and getting agricultural inputs)

Q4. Do you believe that orphans children have more problems in their life as compared to children whom parents are alive? If yes what problems do they face?

Q5. Do you think that there is important to help these children for improving their future in life? If yes why it is important?

Q6. Do you think you have obligation to support the orphans in education, health services agriculture inputs, providing labor for farming, teach them life skills etc"? If no why do think you are not

obliged

Q7. As a member of the community what role have you been praying to assist the orphan's children live get better life in their future?

Q8. What kind of support does these children get from the community?

Q9 Do you think that these support are enough to make the orphans manage their life when will be elder?

Q10. In your opinion what do you think the community can do to improve the livelihood options of the orphans? Mention

Q10. What people think, say, do about supporting the life of orphans?

Q11. Have you observed the grabbing of orphans property by relatives when the parents die? If yes, what were the reaction of the community to help these orphans get back the properties

Q12. What have you been doing to ensure the rights of the orphans children are protected and observed?.

Q13. Have you experienced sexual exploitation especially to girl's orphans? If yes, what are those exploitations or abuse you have seen or heard about?

Q14. How do you help these orphans access education and information on their rights?



**Appendix 5: Questionnaires: Respondent category: Local leaders.**

**Village:** ..... **Ward:**.....

**Date:** .....

- Q1. Have you experienced and received some complains from orphans and their families about property grabbing?
- Q2. How did you handled those complains?
- Q3. Is there any law to protect the violence of grabbing the properties of orphans when the parents die?
- Q4. What is your role when such event happens? How do you assist the children to get their inheritance rights?
- Q5. How do you collaborate with other legal bodies to ensure properties of orphans are protected?
- Q6. Can you tell me what is happening about assets and properties when

**Appendix 6: Questionnaires: Respondent category: Government officer.**

**Department: Community Development**

**Respondent No.....**

**Date: .....**

Q1. What is your position in the employment you have?

Q2. Have you or your district council involved in supporting orphans?

Q3. What specific activities were you involved with?

Q4. The activities involved was it the project? If yes how long did it take?

Q5. In your plans to support orphans do you think of the support which contributes to improve their life in future? If yes can you give example of initiatives done to improve the future of the orphan's children?

If No, what do you think about the future of orphans?

Q6. In your district plans do you have component to empower community members to take lead of improving livelihood options of the orphan's children? If yes how do you do it?

Q7. Are there any children you support in their schooling? If yes how to you support them?

Q8. In your opinion do you think the government has much concern on the future life of the orphan's children? If yes, how can you say about this?

Q9. Do you know about Farmers Field School? If Yes how do you it?

Q10. Have you been practicing ant Farmer Fields schools in your district? If yes why did you adopted this approach?

Q11. Did you involve the orphan's children in Farmer Field schools? If yes continue with next questions, If Not who were involved or target group?

Q.12 How did you involved them and what was the success?



