



VOLUNTEER PROJECT IN KAMACHUMU, TANZANIA

ALISHA MIRZA VSO/ICS
VOLUNTEER



WHO AM I?

My names is Alisha Mirza

I am 23 years old

I Have grown up in Hertfordshire my whole life
(but have been fortunate enough to attend
university and travel in the last few years)

Will be starting a Midwifery degree this
September at KCL

I spent 10 weeks working on the RISE II project in
Kamachumu Tanzania with VSO/ICS

AIMS OF VSO/ICS

ICS is a development programme that brings young people aged 18 – 25 together to make a difference in areas that need it most

VSO believe that young people should be supported to become actors and leaders in development

Working with ICS this allows VSO to put this into practice

Aim of the RISE II Project

1. To improve learning outcomes for marginalised children especially girls by 2021
2. To increase household income and food security to vulnerable families

As a VSO/ICS volunteer I worked with teachers, students and parents to help address these aims.



WHO DID I WORK WITH?

The Kamachumu team consisted of 8 UK and 10 Tanzanian volunteers

We were divided into working and living counterparts

Also grouped into different committees which included CAD, ACD, Social and media



Photo of the team along with our team leaders and project officer

Creating posters to advertise our first CAD



Me and Dina presenting our ACD presentation



My Living Counterparts Victor and Editha



Host Home

During my time in Tanzania I lived with a local family in Kamachumu
Each host home took in 1 – 2 Uk volunteers and 1-2 TZ volunteers
I learnt a lot from my host family including many local traditions, family and house dynamics and many skills such as how to hand wash my clothes, cook on a traditional charcoal fire and of course Swahili



VOLUNTEERING IN THE LOCAL SCHOOLS



Volunteers were split into 7 working groups where we each worked in 7 different primary schools and 2 secondary schools

Each week we ran;

3 - 3 hour sessions with standard 3 helping to improve both maths and reading skills

1 – 40 minute sessions with standard 5 and standard 6 addressing issues such as gender equality, communication and children's rights and responsibilities

1 – peer support/ career guidance sessions with secondary school students in form 1 and 3



KAMACHUMU A PRIMARY

KAMACHUMU A PRIMARY



- Standard 3 sessions aiming to improve Maths and Reading skills





KAMACHUMU A PRIMARY

- Standard 6 classroom during a gender equality session

IBUGA SECONDARY

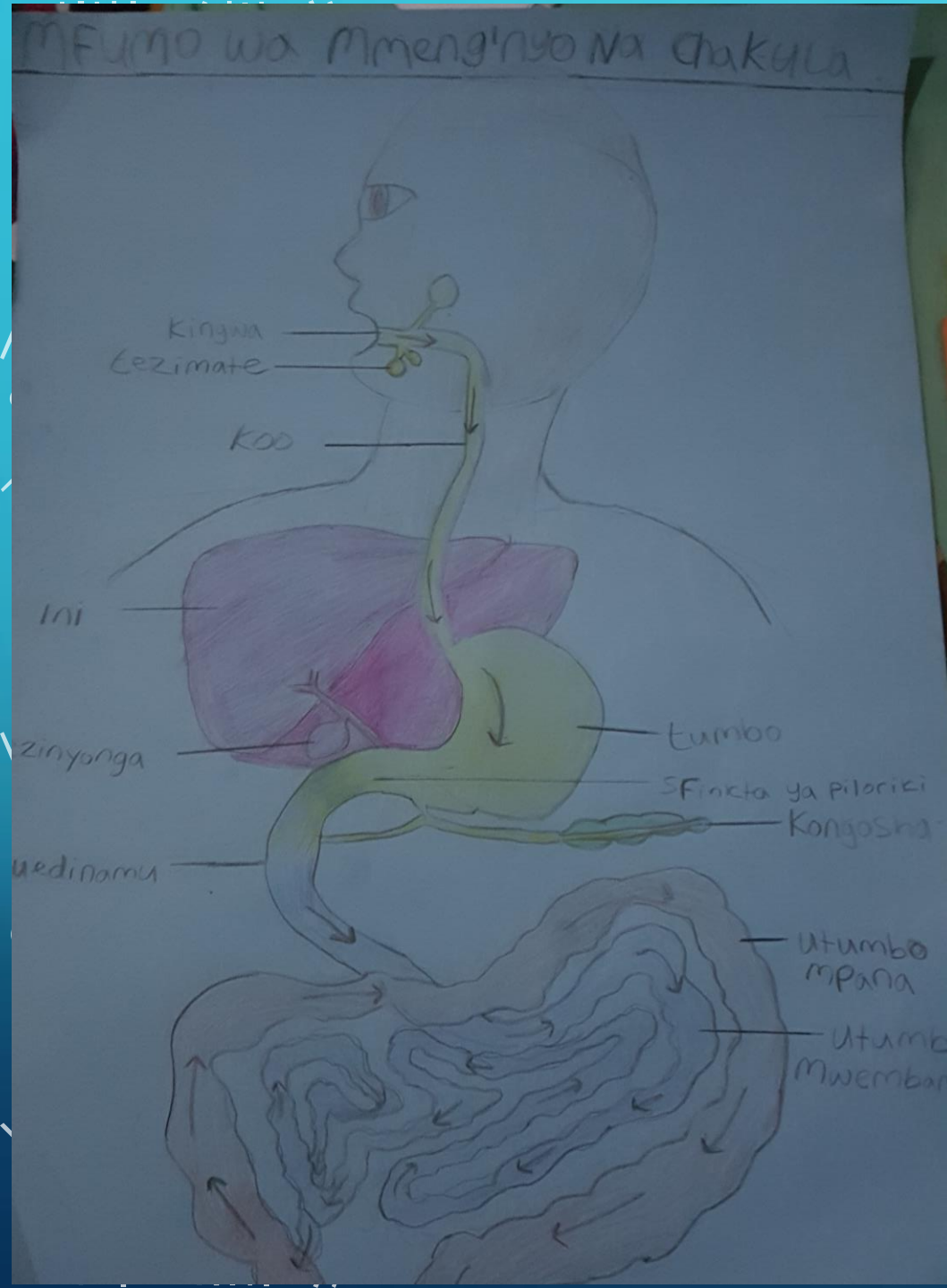
Alongside my TZ counterpart I helped to delivery 3 peer support sessions to Form 1 tackling the issues of;

- Peer Pressure
- Decision making
- Problem solving

The other club delivered to the secondary school was career guidance which tackled;

- CV writing
- Goal setting
- Planning for the future





CREATING TEACHING AIDS AND MURALS

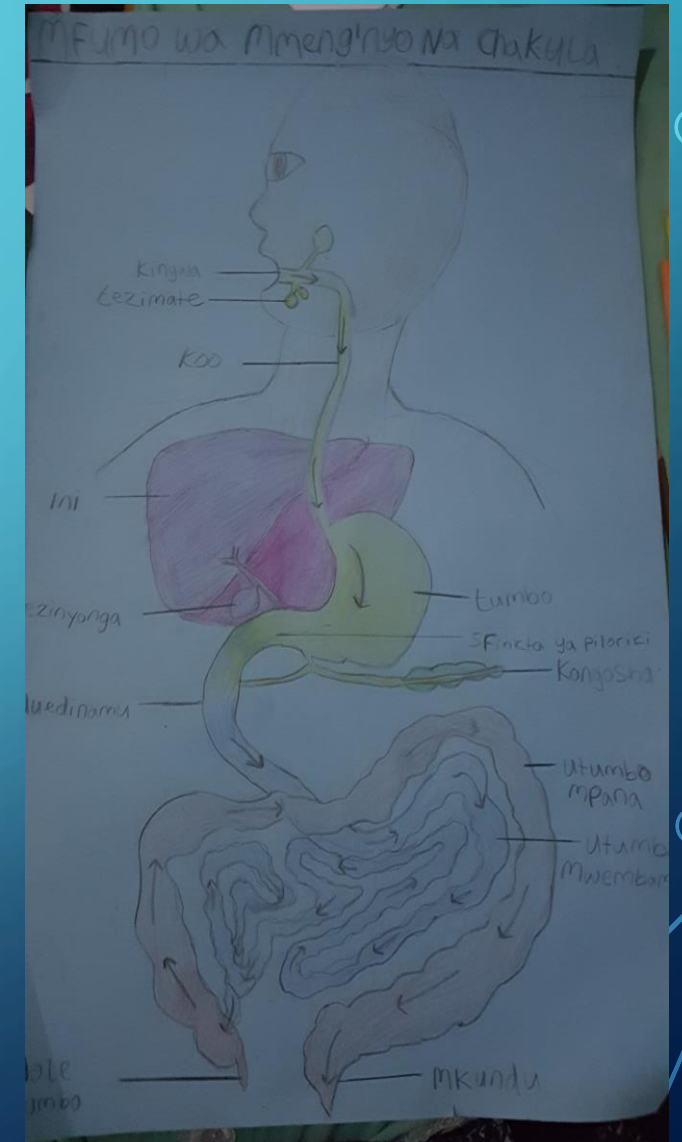
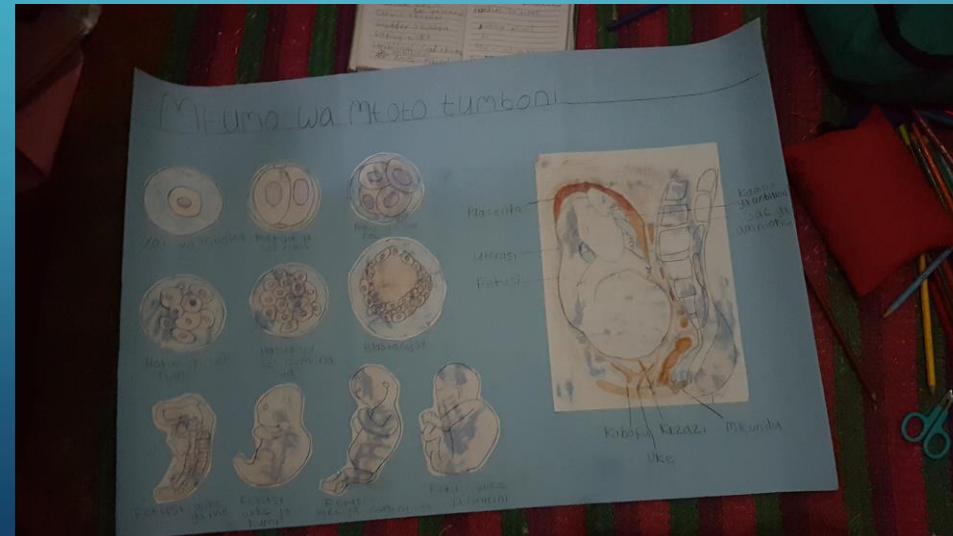
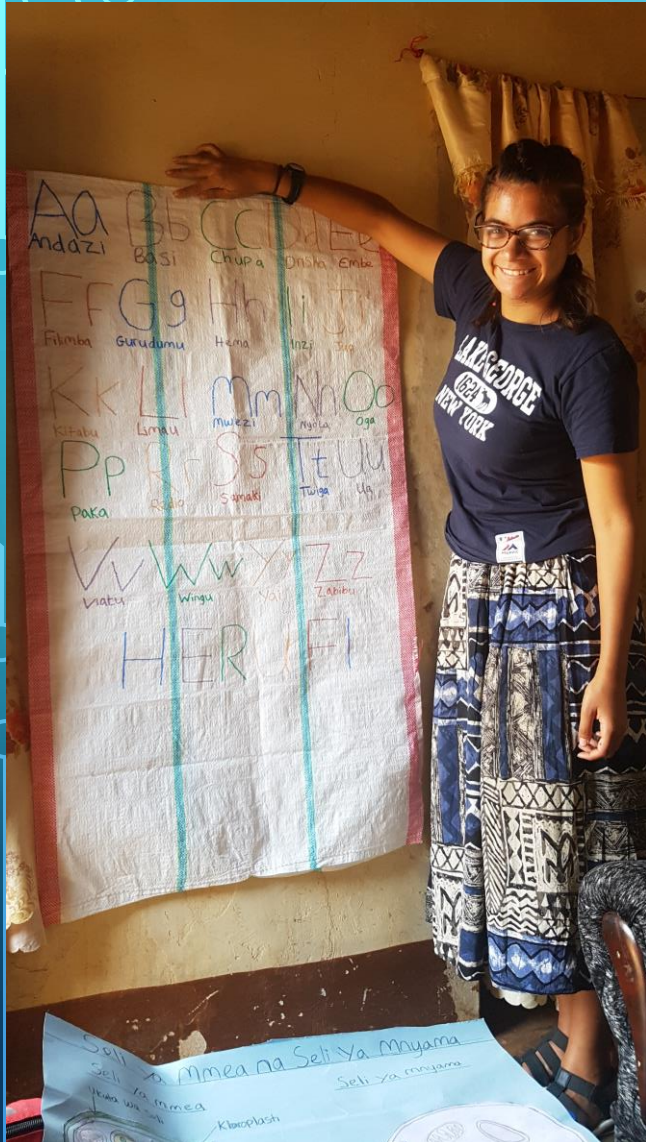
Throughout the placement we communicated with teachers to help produce visual aids that could be used to aid teachers in their classrooms

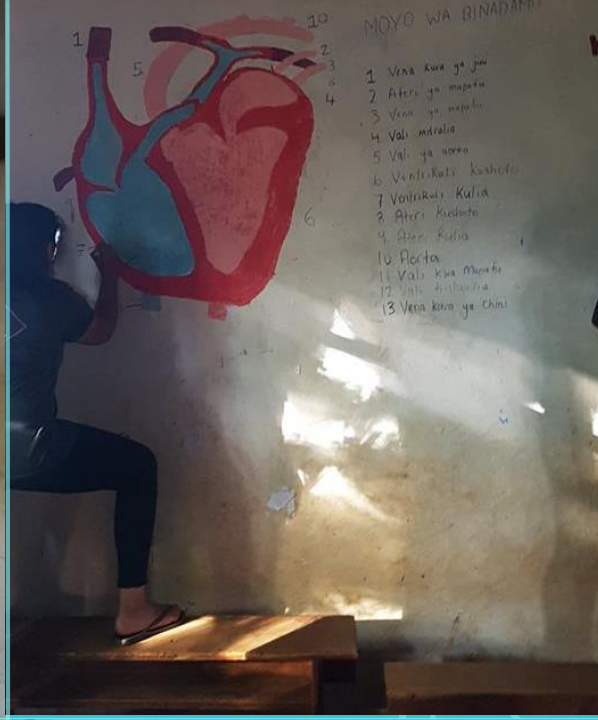
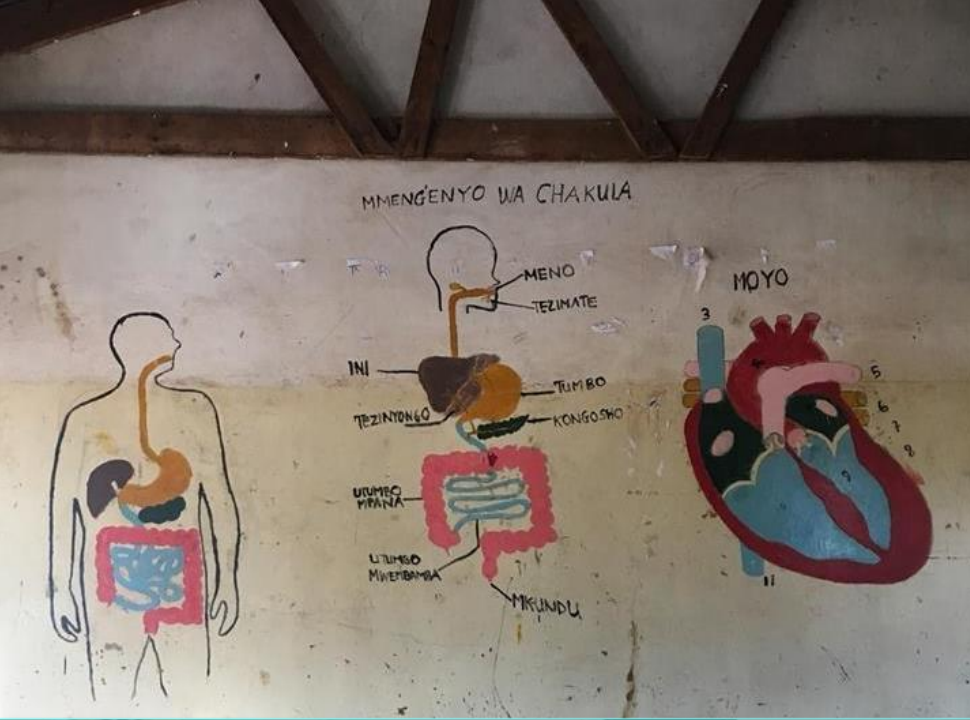
We also created murals both inside the classroom and on the outside walls

To ensure sustainability of these resources we made sure to use locally available resources

It was also essential to ensure we were producing things that the teachers wanted and felt would be useful to them.

TEACHING AIDS





INSIDE MURALS PRODUCED

- All 7 Primary schools asked for murals and educational diagrams for their school



OUTSIDE MURALS PRODUCED



The most popular mural requested were maps of East Africa or the regions of Tanzania

LIVELIHOOD

One of the aims of the RISE II project is to increase household income

This allows a higher level of food security

Gives children the chance to go to school

We worked with 7 farming groups to

Facilitate weekly meeting and feedback information from the RISE II project

Collect information from surveys about the farmers income sources and living situations

Collect research to find out the specific shocks and stresses the local farmers faced and their resilience to them.



COMMUNITY ACTION DAYS - CADS

During our time in Kamachumu we were able to deliver three CADs

CAD topics;

1. Harassment and bullying in schools
2. Gender equality
3. Good health and sanitation



OUTCOMES OF THE PROJECT

- Achieved 3 community action days total attendance 634
 - Ran 160 primary school sessions including standard 3, 5 and 6
 - 48 secondary school sessions for form 3 and 1
 - Created 114 teaching aids and murals
 - Ran 30 livelihood sessions involving 66 farmers
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- Worked cross culturally and in a dynamic and unfamiliar environment
 - Learnt about Tanzanian and East African culture
 - Facilitated the planning and implementation of sessions and events
 - Strongly improved many essential skills for personal development

ACTION AT HOME

So far as part of my action at home;

- Given talks about my experience
- Researched and signed petitions including the VSO/ICS open letter, petitions looking to improve education, protection of the environment and equality for those with disability
- Organised 2 litter picks with a group of friends around Welwyn Garden City

WHAT'S NEXT?

Upon returning back to the UK

- Continue my personal development
- Remain an active citizen
- Return to ICS/VSO as a team leader



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

- Any Questions?

