

Life in Tanzania



A photographic exhibition celebrating the work of the Anglican Church in Tanzania.



Anglicans in
World Mission

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Tanzania is one of the most politically stable countries in Africa. It is also a poor country, with approximately 36 per cent of the population living below the UN poverty line.

Most of the country's 41 million population live in rural areas where they eke out a living with subsistence farming. Others work in the agricultural industry, helping to process exports such as coffee, cotton and tobacco. Other exports include minerals and resources, such as gold and natural gas. Tanzania is also popular with tourists, being home to Mount Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti National Park.

Alongside poverty, other challenges include AIDS, drug trafficking and unemployment, particularly among young people. In response, the Anglican Church of Tanzania (ACT) is working to tackle poverty by helping communities to access healthcare, education and employment.

Anglicans were among the first missionaries to arrive in Tanzania. USPG's connection dates back to 1863 when missionaries were sent by the Universities' Mission to Central Africa (now part of USPG).

Today, ACT comprises 23 dioceses, with a membership of 4.5 million.

According to the Revd Canon Dr Mwita Akiri, bishop-elect of the 2010-established Diocese of Tarime, told USPG: 'Our mission includes a commitment to

present the whole gospel to the whole person. The church is attempting to reach out to all Tanzanians, regardless of race, creed, gender or political affiliation.'

One recent development was the establishment of the Anglican St John's University, which aims to train national leaders with Christian values.

Bishop-Elect Mwita Akiri explained: 'Tanzania needs a well-trained workforce and leaders who have reverence for God. At the moment, many young people have no skills and are falling into drug abuse and crime. At the same time, many in civil service feel no obligation to serve God and be accountable to the people. We want to change that.'

Much of ACT's work is supported by USPG, including hospitals, clinics, nursing schools and theological education – some of which are featured in this exhibition.

The Rt Revd John Simalenga, Bishop of South West Tanganyika, said: 'The church is helping to alleviate poverty by working with communities. We wish we could do much more.'

He added: 'We would like to thank USPG for giving us a helping hand in extending the gospel of Jesus Christ.' ■

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St Joseph's Church, in Peluhanda, in the Diocese of South West Tanganyika. Mainland Tanzania is approximately 30 per cent Christian and 35 per cent Muslim, with 35 per cent holding indigenous beliefs. Zanzibar is more than 99 per cent Muslim.



Children having fun in Central Tanganyika. Tanzania has a young population with around 43 per cent aged 14 or under, and only 3 per cent aged 65 or older. (This photo: USPG/Fergus King; all other photos USPG/Leah Gordon.)



A pregnancy clinic at the USPG-supported St Francis' Hospital, in Kwamkono, in the Diocese of Tanga. As well as providing maternal care, St Francis' is tackling malnutrition, HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.



Kindergarten run by the Anglican Sisters of St Mary, in Njombe. Many children in Tanzania miss out on an education. Some children miss primary school because their parents need them to work at home to help support the family. And, for those who complete primary school, secondary school places are limited.



Sister Felista is a teacher at St Mary's Kindergarten, Njombe.



Housein is a patient at the USPG-supported Kwamkono Polio Centre, in Tanga. He made these crutches in the centre's workshop. Most patients at the centre are children with physical disabilities, who are provided with corrective surgery and therapy.



St Andrew's Cathedral Youth Choir, in Njombe. They are singing to help raise AIDS awareness. An estimated 1.4 million people in Tanzania are living with HIV.



Sister Lucy, of the Anglican Community of St Mary, trained at the USPG-supported Milo Bible School where, alongside theology and pastoral care, students are taught farming, tailoring and other practical skills.



Sister Lucy prays for Rustika in the Anglican Church in Matiganjole. As well as preaching and counselling, Sister Lucy also teaches agricultural skills in subsistence farming communities.



The out-patients waiting room at the USPG-supported St Luke's Hospital, in Milo. With limited resources, the hospital is providing a wide range of medical services, including an immunisation programme and education in nutrition.



Lay catechist Christina Mng'ong'o, who trained at the USPG-supported Milo Bible School, prepares tea. Christina promotes a cow-breeding initiative, which means villagers have milk and can use biogas from cow manure for lighting and cooking.

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The Rt Revd John Simalenga, Bishop of South West Tanganyika



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