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# Tanzania

**Total area:**

945,203 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:**

51,820,000 (2014)

**Literacy:**

68%

**Official languages:**

Swahili, English (higher courts and higher education)

**GDP (PPP) per capita:**

\$3,296 (2017 est.)

**Life expectancy:**

58 years

**Religions:**

36% Muslim, 26% indigenous beliefs, 21% Catholic, 12% Protestant, 4% Atheist or Agnostic 1% other religions

## Prayer points

**Living water for the Zigua**

Although the area where the Zigua people live has plentiful rains, most have no way to store water. For much of 2018 the pump at the village well was burnt out and the government system to deliver water didn't reach them. The result was that the cost of a single Jerry can of water was out of reach for every household in the area. People rode over 10km to obtain even a can of water. Water is one of those things that you don't consider too much until you don't have it; then it consumes you. Now that the well in the village has been fixed, pray that the Zigua would turn their thoughts to the Living Water, and be consumed by it. (AIM International - February 2019)

**Lupembelwasenga Water Project Tanzania**

The residents of Lupembelwasenga in Tanzania used to fetch their water from the river 2km away and carry it home. Through instigation of the local church, Lupembelwasenga Water Project is bringing clean spring water from the next valley and pumping it to the top of the village using a solar powered pump. Residents provided the labour for laying the distribution pipe system to bring water within reach of every household. Alongside this, there is health and hygiene teaching, and training of a water users' association to own and operate the system. Pray that the project brings lasting health and poverty relief benefits to the village, bringing glory to God as a result. (Emmanuel International - December 2018)

**Bringing Jesus to Tanzania**

Pray for the people of Tanzania who are living in spiritual darkness, following their traditional religious

beliefs. There are many Christian evangelists preaching the gospel to villages and, in a recent trip into villages in the South Maasai area, a few evangelists preached to 325 people and 20 gave their lives to Jesus. Please pray for these new Christians, that their faith will grow and their relationship with the Lord will strengthen, and they will be a light in their communities. Pray also for the evangelists as they faithfully continue to make Jesus known in Tanzania. (Mission Aviation Fellowship UK - December 2018)

### **Alagwa of Tanzania**

Pray that God's kingdom would come in power among the Alagwa of Tanzania. May there be Alagwa disciples who make disciples in many villages. For the new Alagwa believers, we ask God that they may have the courage to share the good news of Jesus with their family and friends. Pray for the church in Kwa Madebe, that the believers may grow in faith there. Pray that it would be a missionary church, reaching those from all people groups in the community. (AIM International - March 2018)

### **To be Strengthened**

The majority of people in rural Iringa are smallholder subsistence farming families who are trying to make a living from the land. However, once fertile soils are being depleted and eroded and there is need to develop alternative streams of income. 'Imarika' is the name of a project in Tanzania that includes areas of training in savings and loans, fuel efficient stoves, afforestation, conservation agriculture, beekeeping and poultry. 'Imarika' is a Swahili word meaning 'to be strengthened.' Please pray for the project to grow, for the environment, and church to be strengthened and for smallholders to be helped by this project. (Emmanuel International - November 2017)

### **Women's Football**

In Tanzania, a woman's football team has been set up as a way of helping the women to engage with scripture. Three times a week the ladies meet to practice and spend time learning to read the Safwa language and how to lead Bible studies. They come from different denominations. Some don't go to church but they are starting to learn the word of God. Pray for connections with significant people in communities that will enable the word of God to reach many people in the Safwa language. Pray for the ladies on the football teams, that they would not only have fun playing together, but would be motivated to read the Bible and would be changed by the power of God's word and his Spirit at work amongst them. (Wycliffe Bible Translators - September 2017)

### **Beekeeping Businesses**

Rural village beekeeper groups and an apiary at a church planting school have been started in the Mwanza region of Tanzania. In addition to the monetary and health benefits of honey, bee hives in a field greatly increase crop yields. Beekeepers are trained to manage hives, harvest them and market the honey. Women's groups are taught to make beeswax products such as candles, lip balms and soaps, along with entrepreneurship training. Please pray for these beekeepers and mothers that we meet regularly to study God's word. Pray for the growth and strength of their hives and businesses. (Emmanuel International - May 2017)

### **Tanzania floods**

Emmanuel International is helping the church in Pawaga, Tanzania, to assist victims of the floods which occurred in February. Families' food supplies were destroyed when flood waters washed away the crops. Thanks to donations already given to this appeal, food was delivered to the church and distributed. One of the victims who received supplies was the mother of Amina, a baby girl who was miraculously born on a termite mound while her family awaited rescue from the flood. We thank God that baby Amina is doing well, but her family is currently homeless. Please pray for families affected by the flooding as they are rebuilding their lives and for the local church supporting them. (Emmanuel International - May 2016)

### **Alagwa breakthrough**

Please pray for spiritual breakthrough among the Alagwa, that the fear and demonic activity which enslaves so many people there may be broken. May our God who releases captives set many souls free to love and serve him. Community is of ultimate importance in decision making, so please pray that whole families will come to faith among the Alagwa. (AIM International - March 2016)

### **The Zigua People**

The Zigua people of KomSanga village in northeastern Tanzania have never heard the gospel. Please pray that even before missionaries go to live among them and share the good news that God would be softening their hearts to his message of love and redemption. (AIM International - January 2016)

### **Physical to spiritual healing**

In the village of Chidudu lives Velonkia, who suffered from a terrible illness. One day she accepted prayer from the evangelist team and became well. "I believed in Jesus because of that ministry", she explains. But life didn't miraculously turn around to be trouble-free - her one-year old baby boy became seriously ill with malaria and died. Despite the difficulties and loss she has experienced, Velonika loves the Lord and is grateful for the clinic and evangelists that visit each month. Give thanks for the witness of evangelists and medical staff through monthly safari clinics in Tanzania. Pray that many like Velonika will receive physical and spiritual healing. (Mission Aviation Fellowship UK - November 2015)

### **The Rufiji delta**

The Rufiji delta in Tanzania is nearly 370 miles long and has the largest mangrove forest in East Africa. Many of the villages are located on islands only reachable by boat or plane. Pray for the inhabitants of these remote villages which are vulnerable to flood and have only limited access to healthcare and other essential services. (Mission Aviation Fellowship UK - July 2015)

### **Goats for evangelism**

For a number of years now, AIM has been running a livestock project which loans goats to evangelists from the Africa Inland Church Tanzania (AICT) working in the Lake Eyasi area. The project aims to help them in a sustainable way, encourage them to breed a herd and then return the original goats to the project within a four year period. The idea is that through the goat herds the evangelists will be able to supplement their incomes. Give praise to God that recent highlights have included the first goat twins being successfully reared and seeing one evangelist having to enlist the help of a second herder as his flock grows. It has also been encouraging to see people who have tended to live 'hand to mouth' start to take a more long term view of things as they have seen the value and number of their goats increase over time. (AIM International - January 2015)

### **'Megavoice' talking New Testaments**

The Yao are a predominantly Muslim people group spread across Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania. In Malawi a number of church-planting pastors from the Zambezi Evangelical Church are seeking to reach out to the Yao with the truth of the gospel. They are planning to lend 'Megavoice' talking New Testaments in Yao language to individuals or family groups who are curious to hear about Jesus. The pastors will then follow up by asking or answering further questions. Please pray that through this initiative many Yao people would come to know Jesus. (Zambesi Mission - July 2014)

### **Safina Street Network**

Safina Street Network is an holistic outreach to vulnerable children and young people in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Many come from broken families and decide to live on the streets. They face crime, drug abuse, hardship and repeated rejection. Safina aims to help these children to know God and come into a relationship with him through Jesus Christ as well as assisting them with shelter, food, medical treatment, education and life skills. Pray for all those involved with this project. (AIM International - January 2014)

### **Ostracised by their communities**

No one knows for certain, but the Datooga are thought to number at least 100,000, spread out over a vast area of bush in North and Central Tanzania. Traditionally they follow animistic beliefs and practices, in which animal sacrifices and ancestral spirits play an important part. Datooga Christians who decline to take part in traditional rituals are often ostracised by their local communities. Pray that believers will be able to stand firm in the Lord and enjoy being free from these traditional practices and superstitions. Pray that their freedom in Christ will attract many more to follow Jesus. (AIM International - July 2013)

### **The Datooga**

Datooga is the name of the large group scattered across Tanzania to which the Barabaig and Taturu belong - there are possibly 16 groups or clans. The Datooga respect and fear their ancestors and communicate with them through the spirits, so witchcraft and sorcery is rampant. Five Old Testament foundational stories have been prepared to be translated and recorded by some Datooga believers who just recently graduated from Bible School. They are grateful that they already have four parables of Jesus recorded in the Datooga language which the local people listen to with rapt attention. Pray that the Holy Spirit would open the hearts and minds of the Datooga people to the truths they are learning about a God who wants a true, deep and loving relationship with each one of them. (AIM International - May 2012)

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