

# Final report – Vavroušek scholarship

**NAME:** Kateřina Mejsnarová

**YEAR OF STUDY:** Second year of master degree

**TOPIC OF THE INTERNSHIP:** Microfinance, SHGs, and poverty reduction: case study of two NGOs (Tanzania/Kenya)

**SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT:** 10 000 CZK

**COUNTRY OF IMPLEMENTATION:** Tanzania and Kenya

**PERIOD:** February-April 2018

**OUTLINE:**

## □ **Brief description of the internship:**

My internship was focused on research. Proposed research project analyses effects of activities of two projects with similar focus. The first project is implemented by Wakulima Maendeleo Group (WMG). The organization operates in Utengule/Usangu region, Tanzania. The second project is implemented by Anglican Development Services (ADS) Nyanza: Savings with Education. This project is implemented in Nyanza region, Kenya. Both organizations have status of non-governmental organization, both operate in rural regions and both provide their service to similar clients (relatively poor people with low education). Both organizations provide their clients with access to microfinance service and educational seminars.

The main objective of this research is to compare selected features of both projects with clients' preferences (i.e. to compare clients' expectations about quality and features of services provided by projects with reality), to identify impact of projects on clients' living standards, and to analyze cost effectiveness of both projects.

## □ **Description of the activities:**

The research was based on various qualitative and quantitative methods. Activities done in field were following:

WMG, Tanzania: collection of project documentation (reports from meetings, constitution, photo documentation); distribution and collection of two different questionnaires (MFs Clients' Preferences; questionnaire about client's households) – number of collected questionnaires 72 and 72; 9 individual interviews with project clients, 4 individual interviews with NGO management; 2 individual interviews with project supervisors; 1 focus group with project clients (those who were interviewed individually): part of this focus group was creation of asset index values; 1 focus group with NGO management.

ADS Nyanza, Kenya: collection of project documentation (narrative report, evaluation report, contract, photo documentation); distribution and collection of two different questionnaires (MFs Clients' Preferences; questionnaire about client's households) – number of collected questionnaires 198 and 198; 11 individual interviews with project clients, 6 individual interviews with NGO management; 2 individual interviews with project replicators; 2 focus group with project clients (those who were interviewed individually): part of these focus groups was creation of asset index values.

Unforgettable part of my activities was communication with NGO managements, clients, scheduling of all meetings and project observation. In case of WMG I visited one meeting with chairmen of project groups and some trainings fields. In case of ADS Nyanza I visited one lecture of their educational seminars and one saving group meeting.

A part from the research I was doing also some activities for Maendeleo (the main donor for Wakulima Maendeleo Group) in Tanzania, as a member of that organization.

#### **□ Benefit of the internship for student and partner organization:**

##### a) student

This internship was motivated by my membership in NGO Maendeleo (which is main donor of Wakulima Maendeleo Group). I volunteer in the organization for almost five years and this volunteering has become inseparable part of my studies. All members of the organization have spent a lot of time and efforts to assure development of its activities in Tanzania. Therefore, it is right to ask about efficiency of Maendeleo's projects in terms of benefits created for members of supported self-help groups. I suggest, that the future answer for that question is real benefit for myself and also other members of both NGOs. I experienced many new situations and I learned many new things from management of both NGOs and project clients. Although I have some experiences with research (Tanzania, Malawi) it was my first time to conduct research with large NGO, like is ADS Nyanza. It really learned me a lot and it promoted my personal development. It also helped me to develop my language skills (English, Swahili) and to find out new culture and to understand local communities more. The last benefit, which I will mention is that the internship allowed me to collect data for my diploma thesis.

##### b) host institutions - Wakulima Maendeleo Group, ADS Nyanza

By meeting main objective of the study and all partial goals, I collected data, which will help me to identify selected strengths and weaknesses of both projects and propose respective recommendations. I will be able to measure efficiency of both projects in terms of cost-effectiveness. Naturally, my activities led to experience sharing amongst both organizations and the sharing process is still continuing. Both NGOs will get an evaluation report, which can help them in their efficiency and in their future project planning.

□ **Presentation of the outcomes of the internship:**

The presentation about my internship will be a part of sponsors meeting of Maendeleo organization, held on 8.6.2018, in Prague.

I suggest that as another presentation I can consider my diploma thesis and the two reports for both researched NGOs.

<b>FINAL BUDGET:</b>	<b>My own expenditures</b>	<b>Contribution from Vavroušek scholarship</b>
Vaccination (cholera) + medicaments	1 500	-
Transportation costs	15 700	10 000
Local expenditures (food, accommodation, transport...)	9 000	-
Visas (Tanzania, Kenya)	2 100	-
Cost for realization of research (printing, token, transport fee)	3 700	-
Total	32 000	10 000
<b>Total sum</b>	<b>42 000</b>	