African SMILE Update 4/29/21 Written by Dan Dahle

Emergency Food Supplies

The draught and low crop yield early in the season means that their food supplies will be chronically low until the next crop season. The last price per bag of corn is 65,000TSH (~\$30USD) The price of corn is going up due to short supply and high demand, and buying more now is prudent to cost effectively secure a supply.



Corn / maize is distributed to those in need at Chardeleco, a community to care for lepers.



Leper woman and man receive food to sustain them

Two Water Tower Project

Water supplies for the hospital are centralized into a very large water tank for the village, but sometimes that tank runs dry. It is critical for the hospital to have a reliable supply near the maternity ward and operating room / theater.



Water platform is built with handmade bricks



Water tank is delivered to construction site by ox-drawn cart



Completed water tower

Hospital Vehicles

We also received a request for help with repairs to two hospital vehicles. One (white Land Cruiser) is running and in need of maintenance and the other (black Land Cruiser) needs repairs to get it running again. The white land cruiser is used for patient transport, including ambulance services when needed, as well as other hospital needs. The black land cruiser would be used for transport of hospital doctors, nurses, and administrators for business around the region. Currently the white land cruiser does both duties, which means it may not be available for medical emergencies.



Carrying many passengers to a remote site



Tanzanian roads are hard on vehicles. Here a tire blew out and local villagers helped out with ingenuity when no jack was found in the vehicle.



After rains the roads become difficult to travel. 4WD is a necessity to go to surrounding villages.

Hospital Vehicles



Tanzanian roads, even the major roads in good shape like this one, are rough on vehicles.





The same vehicle is used for building supplies in the 'big city' of Singida.

And, the same vehicles serve emergency transport needs. Here a generator is lashed on the roof to power an oxygen machine to support transporting a new born an hour away for emergency treatment.