



Tanzania Journey

November 10-12, 2025

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Travel Details

Itinerary

The following is a tentative itinerary and is subject to change as details continue to be finalized. Although we do our best to follow the order of activities outlined below, changes may be necessary due to weather, route conditions, status of projects, and other factors beyond our control. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Monday, November 10

Dar es Salaam

- The journey begins with a **welcome reception and dinner** at the Hyatt Regency, Dar Es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro. Please make your way to the rooftop terrace at **5:00 PM** to meet your fellow travelers and the Room to Read staff who will be your guides for the journey.

Tuesday, November 11

Dar es Salaam

- Begin the day with breakfast at the hotel, available from 6:30 AM in the Palm Restaurant to the left of the Registration Desk. Please gather in the lobby at **7:40 AM** for a brief overview of the day's schedule and activities. At 8:00 AM, we will depart in four groups to schools located approximately 1 hour from the hotel. Each group will experience our comprehensive **Literacy Program** firsthand and engage with students, teachers, and local school and government officials. Following the morning visit, all groups will come together for lunch at a local restaurant.
- Following lunch, each group will visit a partner school implementing our **collaborative Girls' Education Program**, a two-year technical assistance model focused on Life Skills education. During the visit, you'll participate in a life skills session alongside girls and engage in discussions with students, teachers, and parents.
- After bidding farewell to the school community, we'll return to the city center for a **group dinner** at Akemi Restaurant. Over dinner, we'll reflect on the day's experiences, enjoy local food, share highlights, and inspire one another to continue our commitment to the children we serve.

Note: *If a student or community member approaches you and asks for additional resources or funding, please do not make any commitment to them about extra support beyond the scope of our programs. Instead, please connect the individual with a Room to Read Tanzania staff member.*

Wednesday, November 12

Dar es Salaam

- Enjoy breakfast before starting the day's activities. Breakfast service opens at 6:30 AM in the Palm Restaurant to the left of the Registration Desk.
- This morning is reserved for a visit to the State House, where we may have the opportunity to meet with **Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania**. The meeting will be confirmed a few days in advance.

- Following the meeting at the President's Office, we will return to the Hyatt Regency to commence the **scheduled board sessions**. *Please note that the timing of the sessions may shift after we have confirmation for the State House visit.* Guests not attending board meetings are welcome to spend the day exploring the local area or relaxing at the hotel.
 - 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Africa Regional Board Meeting, Lake Victoria Conference Room. *(Africa Regional Board Only)*
 - 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM: Lunch will be provided for all board members.
 - 12:30 – 2:30 PM: Joint Board Meeting, Zanzibar Conference Room. *(All Board Members are welcome)*
 - 2:30 – 4:00 PM: Global Board Meeting, Lake Victoria Conference Room. *(Global Board Only)*
- Zanzibar Conference Room is located on the Ground Floor. Lake Victoria Conference Room is located on the Mezzanine Floor.
- Guests are free to depart today after their respective board meetings conclude. Please make airport transfer arrangements through the hotel and plan to arrive at the airport approximately three hours before your international flight, and two hours before your domestic flight.

Attendees List

Board Members

Yusuf Alireza	Global Board & Middle East Regional Board (Chair)
Paul Agbaje	Switzerland Regional Board
Andrew Balls	Global Board & UK Regional Board
Malick Badjie	Middle East Regional Board
Vinni Bhandari	UK Regional Board
Mary Byron	North America Regional Board & Emeritus Board
Mike Cannon-Brookes	Global Board (Chair-Elect) & Australia Regional Board
Andrew Clifford	Australia Regional Board
Jane Clifford	Australia Regional Board (Chair)
Meron Demisse	Africa Regional Board
Harriet Fesq	Australia Regional Board
Toby Norton-Smith	Australia Regional Board
Alison Gorman	Australia Regional Board
Charles Gorman	Australia Regional Board
Stanley Hainsworth	Global Board
Beth King	Global Board
Camilla Lindfors	UK Regional Board
John Lindfors	Global Board (Chair) & UK Regional Board (Chair)
Nadia Logab	Middle East Regional Board
Tomoya Masanao	Global Board & Japan Regional Board
Yuri Masanao	Japan Regional Board
Robert Mead	Australia Regional Board
Alan Miyasaki	Global Board & ASEAN Regional Board
Bilkis Moir	Switzerland Regional Board
Meg Nakajima	Japan Regional Board
Ben Piper	Global Board
Mindy Silverstein	Switzerland Regional Board
Imran Sherali	Africa Regional Board
Vicky Tsai	Global Board & North America Regional Board
Erica Wax	UK Regional Board

Dagny Yousuf
Ryad Yousuf
Kirsten Zaki

UK Regional Board
UK Regional Board
Australia Regional Board

Guests

Amelia Beaumont
Mintoo Bhandari
Jill Feeney
Felix Fesq
Inigo Fesq
Tristian Hainsworth
Charlie Payne
Sam Gorman
Jocelyn Kung
Daniel Moir
Kimberley Moir
Daniel Niel
Mead Over
Tiffany Spratt
Faye Stirling

Guest of Mike Cannon-Brookes
Husband of Vinni Bhandari
Guest of Mary Byron
Son of Harriet Fesq & Toby Norton-Smith
Son of Harriet Fesq & Toby Norton-Smith
Wife of Stanley Hainsworth
Guest of Sam Gorman
Son of Alison & Charles Gorman
Global Board Guest
Husband of Bilkis Moir
Daughter of Bilkis Moir
Guest of Vicky Tsai
Husband of Beth King
Guest of Robert Mead
Guest of Mike Cannon-Brookes

Room to Read Staff

Geetha Murali
Laurie McMahon
Heather Simpson
Shari Freedman
Michael Bowers
Maria McGlynn
Collins W. Munene
Titus Kazungu
Viola Kirongo
Zamaradi Said Islahi
Esther Muthoga
Joan Minja
Agripina Kadama
Tupokigwe Wambibi
Bugumba Jafif
Prisca Mdee
Hadija Hassan
Jacktan Magesa
Delphina Ntangekei
Desmond Mgongolwa
Joan Msumi
Vanessa Francis
Priyanka Gouthaman
Janelle Prescott
Jay Duenas
April Butcher
Tiyanna Doolabh
Angelique Collis

Chief Executive Officer
Chief Development & Communications Officer
Chief Program Officer
Chief Financial Officer
Chief Program Implementation Officer
Chief of Staff
Regional Director, Program Operations, Africa
Associate Director, Literacy, Africa
Regional Operations Manager, Africa
Global Director, Girls' Education Program
Program Manager, Partnership & Expansion
Country Director, Program Operations, Tanzania
Director, Program Operations, Tanzania
Senior Manager, Program Operations, Tanzania
Manager, Program Operations, Tanzania
Director, Literacy Program, Tanzania
Senior Manager, Girls' Education Program, Tanzania
Senior Manager, Research, Monitoring & Evaluation, Tanzania
Senior Manager, Communications, Tanzania
Manager, People Operations, Tanzania
Senior Manager, Accounting & Finance, Tanzania
Country Director, South Africa
Senior Development Director, Africa, Middle East & Southeast Asia
Development Director, Australia & East Asia
Associate Director, Stakeholder & Community Engagement
Associate Manager, Stakeholder & Community Engagement
Analyst, International Business Development
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Preparation Guidelines

International entry requirements

VISAS

Depending on your country of origin you may need to apply for a visitor/tourist visa.

Tanzania: For information on visa requirements for Tanzania, please visit this website: <https://www.immigration.go.tz/index.php/visa-and-pass-information>.

Our visa application guidance comes directly from the Ministry of Immigration in Tanzania. Please follow the instructions provided, even if you have followed a different process in the past. Before applying for a visa, ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months beyond your intended stay and has at least one blank page for the visa stamp. You'll also need your flight/return ticket booked before completing the application. Please see relevant links below:

- [Instructions for US Passport Holders](#)
- [Instructions for non-US Passport Holders](#)

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

It's the responsibility of the traveler to ensure that passports are valid for six months beyond the intended length of stay. There should be at least two consecutive empty visa pages (not endorsement pages) for any visa, as well as for entry stamps on arrival. If you are extending your journey to other countries, please meet entry requirements for those countries as well.

VACCINATIONS

YELLOW FEVER: Yellow fever at least 10 days before arrival is required for travelers originating from or transiting through [WHO-designated yellow fever countries](#).

MALARIA: During the journey, we might be near and traveling through areas identified by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as potential malaria transmission areas. Please visit the [CDC travel website](#) for current warnings and guidance.

ZIKA: The World Health Organization has not categorized Tanzania as a country with current or previous virus transmission. Check this [website](#) for the most current information.

Trip expenses for participants

Expenses you will need to cover:

- Personal travel documents and reservations including visas, flights, and hotels
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Transportation not included in the itinerary (please arrange airport transfers directly through your hotel)
- Medical expenses and traveler's insurance

- Items of a personal nature i.e., gratuities for hotel and restaurant staff, curios, phone calls, ATM & bank fees, etc. Please note that tipping is customary for great service in Tanzania.
- Storage or transport of excess luggage

Insurance

You are solely responsible for ensuring that you carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover yourself, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of your trip to Africa.

Accommodation & Travel

Hotel

Hotel Name: Hyatt Regency Dar es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro

Address: 24 Kivukoni Rd, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Phone: (+255) 764-701-234

Website: <https://www.hyatt.com/hyatt-regency/en-US/darhr-hyatt-regency-dar-es-salaam-the-kilimanjaro>



Travel Guidelines

Packing Recommendations

DRESS CODE

It is important to dress appropriately and wear modest clothing when visiting schools or attending government meetings. You can expect the staff and school community to dress in business casual for the visits, and we encourage guests to do the same.

Because there is a possibility we will visit the Tanzania State House, please be prepared with clothing that is appropriate.

- For men, a dark suit is appropriate, while for women, a tailored dress or pantsuit is recommended.
- In general, please dress conservatively and professionally, covering your shoulders and knees. Avoid sleeveless tops, short skirts, and overly tight clothing.

Please keep these guidelines in mind as you pack.

- Modesty is especially appreciated in rural areas and religious settings.
- Shoulders and knees should generally be covered. Women are encouraged to dress modestly, and men should avoid wearing shorts in formal or traditional settings.
- Sleeveless outfits or clothing above the knees may be considered inappropriate in schools.
- Slippers or sandals that are not part of a formal outfit are prohibited.
- The [guidelines for dress code for public servants](#) can help you choose appropriate attire for school visits and other occasions.

Remember to pack the following items:

- ☑ Passports, air tickets, inoculation certificate or booklet (if required)
- ☑ Make copies of all important documents, including passports, visas, driver's license, credit cards, airline tickets, insurance information, etc. Leave one set of copies at home with someone you can easily contact. Keep one set with you.
- ☑ Dress comfortably for walking and travel. We recommend pants or long skirts, blouses, t-shirts, and light long-sleeved shirts, a sweater or pashmina for air-conditioned vehicles, hotels, restaurants, and meeting rooms.
- ☑ Shorts and short skirts are acceptable in cities and on beaches.
- ☑ Bathing suit
- ☑ Basic toiletries, hand sanitizer, and mosquito repellent
- ☑ Sunglasses, hat, lip balm and any sun-protectant you normally use
- ☑ Umbrella (for rain and sun protection)
- ☑ Toilet paper or tissue to carry with you. Bathroom facilities at school are basic.
- ☑ Small travel medical kit with typical items such as bandages, painkillers, anti-diarrhea medication, anti-itch cream, sanitary napkins or tampons, cold medicine, sleep aids, ear plugs, antihistamines, and, if needed, an adequate supply of prescription medications clearly labeled, etc.
- ☑ Small towel or handkerchief
- ☑ Plug adaptors and (if needed) power converter (types D and G)
- ☑ Suitcase or backpack with luggage locks. Each piece of luggage should be clearly labeled. A colored ribbon will identify your luggage more easily if it is a black bag.

Travel Tips

Health and security

HEALTH & SECURITY

There are a few basic health and security matters that require care and attention during your travels. The following points are recommended guidelines only. Please consult your doctor and check with your country's health department at least 4-6 weeks prior to departure for any changes in health regulations.

FOOD AND WATER

Please note that we will be dining at the hotel and local restaurants throughout the trip and menus will reflect the local cuisine. Although we will ensure there are vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free

options during our scheduled meals if you have dietary restrictions, please keep in mind that local cuisine may strongly differ from what you are accustomed to. If you tend to be a selective eater or just want some variety, we suggest bringing snacks from home. It is strongly recommended that you drink bottled water throughout your travels in Tanzania. Avoid tap water and ice unless it is made from boiled, bottled, or filtered water. We advise that you do not brush your teeth with tap water. When in urban centers and your hotels, tap water might be safe to drink, but please check with your hotel upon arrival. It is important to stay hydrated during periods of heat and humidity. We will have a supply of bottled water with us in the vehicles. If there is an item you are unsure about, please check with local Room to Read staff and hotel staff. Below are some general rules of thumb:

Safe to consume...	Please avoid...
○ Food that has been thoroughly cooked inside and out, and that has been served too hot to eat immediately ○ Fruits with thick skins (oranges, bananas, etc.) and thin-skinned fruits (apples, berries, etc.) may be okay if the peel is thoroughly washed in clean water ○ Commercially bottled water and beverages served in sealed containers ○ Beverages made with boiled water, such as hot coffee and tea	○ Raw food and cold sauces ○ Under-cooked meats, eggs ○ Any cooked food that has been allowed to stand for several hours at room temperature ○ Food and beverages from street vendors or market stalls ○ Ice if you are not sure of its origin

Health Advisories

- *Medical Conditions:* Please make us aware of any medical conditions you have prior to your arrival. This includes any allergies e.g. bee stings, nuts, shellfish etc.
- *Medicine:* As a safeguard, it is recommended that you travel with medicines to help manage Travelers' Diarrhea. Use Pepto-Bismol and/or Imodium to help manage mild to moderate cases of Travelers' Diarrhea. Antibiotics should only be taken on a stand-by basis once moderate-to-severe diarrhea occurs. Always disinfect your hands prior to eating, after going to the bathroom, or having contact with animals. Note that a member of the Room to Read staff will always have a first-aid kit on them.
- *Helpful Sites:* We highly recommend that you read more about preventative measures, requirements, suggestions, and tools by visiting the following webpages.
 - [Tanzania Travel Guidance, U.S. State Department](#)
 - [World Health Organization: Tanzania](#)

SECURITY NOTES

For the duration of the journey, professional security has been arranged to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants. This is a standard precaution, allowing all board members and guests to enjoy a secure and smooth experience.

Guidelines for Personal Safety:

- Do not carry large quantities of cash.
- Do not carry jewelry, wallets, or purses that are not travel-safe and cannot be worn over your shoulder.
- Use your dress and appearance to blend in rather than stand out. Pack accordingly.
- Always inform others of your plans (family, consulate/embassy).
- Leave copies of all your information (credit cards, passport numbers, air tickets, itinerary, etc.) with family or friends at home.
- Once you have arrived, keep your travel documents in a separate, secure location from your passport.

Local information

ETIQUETTE

Our Tanzania team has put together this [great overview of appropriate etiquette](#) in Tanzania.

LANGUAGES

A range of more than 100 languages are spoken across Tanzania, with the three most widely spoken being Kiswahili, Sukuma, and English. In school, Kiswahili is often the primary language of instruction in early grades until grade 7, at which time English is the official language of instruction.

FLIGHT CHECK-IN TIMES

Please check in early at all airports (at least two hours prior for domestic flights, three hours for all international flights) due to additional security affecting international travel around the world.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Please be courteous, polite, and always ask permission before taking pictures of local communities. More specific guidelines regarding photography at projects are provided in the “Visitor Guidelines” section of this binder. Please note that photography of government buildings, many airport buildings, State House, and officials in uniform is normally strictly prohibited.

ELECTRICITY

It is recommended that you travel with a universal plug adapter. The voltage in Tanzania is 230 V. Don't use the main power for your computer without an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) device.

COMMUNICATION

Telecommunications in urban areas is possible and cell phone access is available. However, do not expect cell phone coverage in less accessible areas. Internet access is available at our hotel.

LOSS OF ARTICLES

We will do our best to help you locate your misplaced items, but please note that we cannot accept any responsibility for the misplacement of any of your personal articles during your travels.

TIME ZONES

Tanzania: GMT +3

TELEPHONE CODES

Tanzania: +255

CURRENCY & CONVERSION RATES (as of October 2025)

Local currency: Tanzanian Shilling (TZS)

AUD 1.00 : TZS 1,624

EUR 1.00 : TZS 2,895

GBD 1.00 : TZS 3,315

USD 1.00 : TZS 2,461

Pre-reading recommendation

Books

A Girl Called Problem by Katie Quirk

Uhuru Street: Short Stories by M.G. Vassanji

The Tree Where the Man was Born by Peter Matthiessen ft. Jane Goodall

Room to Read Storybooks

[Stories from Tanzania](#)

Videos

[Inside Room to Read's Literacy Program in Tanzania](#)

[Tanzania: The Royal Tour](#)

Room to Read's Blog: The Latest

[Girls' education in Africa: The most powerful investment we can make](#)

[Unlocking talent: Meet Naifat from *She Creates Change*](#)

Websites

[Ministry of Education, Science and Technology](#)

[Home | PO-RALG](#)

[Tanzania Institute of Education \(TIE\)](#)

Visitor Guidelines

Engaging with local Room to Read staff, students, & communities

Our Room to Read country and community-based teams work hard to operate our programs. They are proud to have visitors to our work and ensure that each visit is memorable, interactive, and educational. The agenda that you receive before your visit is set in advance in collaboration with the school director(s) and teachers and aims for minimal disruptions to the daily functions of the students, teachers, and administrators. We believe it is important to recognize that, first and foremost, our projects are places to learn where daily routines add to students' success.

We are so excited to show you our work and have you meet the students and teachers that you support through Room to Read! Visits provide a vital connection point that we hope you find inspiring, informative, and motivating. We value our global communities coming together, because the more connected we feel, the more we will act in a way that supports each other and, in turn, serves our world.

Navigating the local landscape

Throughout your visit, our Room to Read team will be your guide and translate from the local language to English. Please keep in mind that English may be a second, third, or fourth language for many of our staff. If you require translations in a language other than English, we must receive your request at least two weeks in advance of your visit. We prepare the school for your visit in advance. This includes explaining your relationship with Room to Read and asking community members to refrain from directing funding questions to you. However, please defer to our staff if you are asked by a school or community member for additional funds, facilities, or materials during your visit.

Our program model acts as a catalyst for community participation, ownership, and pride. Therefore, we ask visitors to refrain from bringing gifts or supplies to school communities or local Room to Read staff. While we appreciate the desire to bring something to the school, we ask visitors not to bring gifts to not foster a culture of dependence between the students and guests. Room to Read relies on community involvement and co-investment to increase the likelihood of success and long-term sustainability of our projects.

Please be mindful that activities are time-bound. We request that you do not ask for activities to be extended or shortened during your visit. Any changes to the schedule should be requested before your visit.

Please do not commit to additional support as all school partnerships are carefully planned for and approved by Room to Read in collaboration with local government partners.

Visiting partner schools

In many of our countries of operation, it is customary for schools to welcome guests by presenting them with flowers, garlands, and/or food. Please be sure to take flowers or any other non-food gift items with you when you depart as it will be seen as disrespectful to leave them behind. If you are allergic to pollen and/or grass, tell a Room to Read staff member so they can communicate this to the school. If you are offered food or drink during your visit, you should accept it, though it is a personal choice whether to eat the food offered. Sealed bottled water and soft drinks are generally safe to consume. Feel free to pass anything off to our local staff that you do not want. If you have questions about culturally appropriate responses to gifts, please check with the Room to Read staff member leading your visit.

Accessibility

Government schools in the countries where we work are often not equipped for those with physical disabilities. If you require wheelchair-accessible vehicles or need special arrangements at the school, **please let us know as soon as possible.**

Child Protection Policy

We want to make sure we connect in the most appropriate manner, and according to Room to Read's child protection agreement. Please review the [agreement online](#), and adhere to the guidance listed below.

During your visit, do NOT:

- **Meet with a student alone. A Room to Read staff member must be always present.**
- **Be linked directly to a student (i.e. sponsor a student, start a pen pal relationship, etc.).**
- **Exchange contact information (including social media friend requests) with local Room to Read staff, students, or community members.**
- **Offer a student (or his/her family) special gifts or promises of future monetary support (i.e. money for tutoring or school supplies, tuition support for university education, etc.).**

Sharing your experience

We invite you to share your experience with your network! However, we kindly ask that all participants refrain from posting about the trip on social media until it has concluded. This includes sharing photos, videos, or location details.

This precaution is in place to help ensure the safety and privacy of our entire group and our local partners. Once the visit is complete, we'll provide ready-to-use language and images through

Oktopost, which you're welcome to use to highlight your experience and the impact you're helping make possible.

Whether you decide to post photos or videos or not, we ask that you document your visit in a sensitive manner and in alignment with our [Visitor Agreement and Child Protection Code of Conduct](#), and [branding guidelines](#). It is critical that you never photograph someone in a situation that puts them at risk, portrays personal or sensitive information, or compromises their privacy or safety. Please speak to your Room to Read contact in advance of your visit to determine what photography and/or videography is appropriate. Remember that your photos, videos, and description of your visit will reflect upon a group of people who are often not given a platform to share their own voices. We ask that you share the story of communities responsibly.

Responsible Travel

As a global organization, Room to Read strives to be socially responsible, promote ethical travel to our project sites, and ensure that we are always respectful of the communities we work with and their respective cultures. We also seek to provide positive experiences for all visitors to Room to Read school communities or offices. Whether you are a novice traveler or a veteran globetrotter, below are tips that can help you prepare for this unique experience:

Every trip you plan comes with choices that impact the people and environments that call your destination home. From where you choose to eat and sleep, the resources you consume, the places you visit, and the ways you participate in local culture, there are many ways to make responsible [travel choices](#).

When visiting local communities, it's helpful to reflect on your own cultural perceptions, which are based on your personal lived experience and cultural background. If something makes you uncomfortable, recognize the value of being uncomfortable, ask yourself why and learn more about potentially conflicting ideas from another point of view.

Room to Read works in partnership with local governments and communities. As a guest and visitor, we encourage you to approach the experience with empathy, assume positive intentions, and treat the people you meet as experienced and valuable partners from whom you can learn in our shared goal to promote literacy and gender equality.

Following your visit, we kindly ask that you direct any questions or requests for information to your main contact on the Development Team at Room to Read. Our local team's primary focus is to oversee the implementation of our programs and therefore cannot manage direct correspondence with donors and visitors outside of your visit.

Program Information

About Room to Read

Founded in 2000, Room to Read's mission is to nurture foundational learning skills in children. Our contextualized approach **develops children's literacy and life skills in a dignified and gender-equal way**. We nurture these essential skills in education by training and coaching educators, creating quality learning materials and spaces, strengthening education systems, and delivering programs directly and with partners – all while honoring the dignity of every child.

52MM+
children benefited
globally since our
founding

44.5 MM
Books distributed
cumulatively

4.1 MM
Adolescents benefited
from our Girls' Education
Program cumulatively

Our **Literacy Portfolio** supports children in developing literacy skills and a love of reading by training and coaching educators, creating quality curriculum and children's book content in local languages, and enriching learning spaces that enable children to become independent readers.

Our **Gender Equality Portfolio** supports all adolescents, particularly girls, to develop life skills that promote gender equality with curriculum that focuses on collaboration, resilience, leadership, decision-making and critical thinking.

We are a valuable partner of choice for government, other system and program partners as well as investors focused on education. Committed to accelerating learning outcomes for more children, more quickly, **Room to Read has benefited 52 million children across 29 countries**.

By the end of 2027, we aim to double the number of children and communities we support each year. Room to Read envisions a world free from illiteracy and gender inequality, where all children have room to read, learn and grow.

Room to Read's work in Tanzania

Room to Read launched its work in Tanzania in 2010 to help improve access to quality education and has since established a strong presence in the country as a trusted partner to the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE). To date, the government has adopted several of Room to Read's approaches into national curricula and policies. For example, Room to Read helped develop the new national Grades 1 and 2 literacy curricula, and Room to Read's Life Skills Education guidelines have been granted initial approvals from TIE, creating pathways for these curriculum improvements to be implemented in schools across Tanzania.

In Tanzania, Room to Read implements two key programs:

- **Literacy:** Room to Read provides local educators with the training and resources they need to ensure more students are more effectively learning how to read and write. Room to Read

also equips schools to establish and maintain child-friendly libraries, filled with colorful, local language books developed by local authors and illustrators, in partnership with Room to Read.

- **Girls' Education and Gender Equality:** Room to Read supports secondary school students with mentorship and life skills workshops to help adolescents – especially girls – navigate the many challenges, biases and pressures they face, including the pressure to drop out of school early.

Room to Read Tanzania Results:

- *Room to Read has implemented its Literacy Program in **18,074 schools***
 - *More than 1.56M books distributed across the country*
 - *4MM+ children benefited in Tanzania*
- *Our Girls' Education Program has reached 25,208+ adolescents in Tanzania*
- *86% of Girls' Education Program graduates have enrolled in tertiary education and/or are currently employed within one year*

Africa Strategy

BRIEF SUMMARY

Since launching work in Africa in 2006, Room to Read has been a dedicated partner for local schools, communities, governments, and other education sector organizations in implementing evidence-based literacy and gender equality programming. Our journey began in South Africa in 2006, expanding to Zambia in 2008 and Tanzania in 2012. Since then, our work has reached Uganda, Rwanda, Malawi, and Kenya with plans to extend to additional countries in the coming years.

10.1 MM+
children benefited
across Africa

6.4 MM
Books distributed
to schools and
communities

1,207
Original and adapted titles
published in 19 African
languages

Looking toward the future, Room to Read aims to benefit more children, more quickly by scaling evidence-driven, cost-effective interventions in collaboration with governments and partners. Over the next three years (2025-2027), Room to Read aspires to double our investment in Africa to triple the number of students benefiting from our Literacy and Gender Equality programming. These three-year aspirational goals include:

- **Doubling our investment in Africa-based initiatives to \$75 million**, as compared to the prior three years.
- **Tripling the number of children benefited to at least 8 million annually** across Africa by 2027, as compared to the prior three years.

- **Expanding and deepening our impact across at least eight countries**, which will include building on our existing work in Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, and expanding to additional countries.
- **Growing and strengthening our partnerships** with local and national governments, education organizations, and other innovative partners to establish sustainable systems and scalable solutions that will benefit future generations of children.

TANZANIA'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Over the next three years (2025-2027), Room to Read Tanzania will build on the progress we have made to influence national curricula and ensure it is supported through high-quality implementation in regions and districts. Our key priorities include:

- **Supporting national rollout of Grade 1–2 learner books and educator training.** Room to Read will scale Grade 1–2 Learner Books by supporting educator training through a “Training of Trainers” (ToT) model. This will be piloted in Mkuranga and Temeke, where master trainers identified by the government will be trained to coach district and school-level educators. By 2027, we plan to expand to two new regions (likely Dodoma and Dar es Salaam) and develop a pre-service teacher training curriculum.
- **Expanding access to high-quality, culturally relevant storybooks.** We will continue co-publishing storybooks in Tanzania and collaborate with the government to strengthen local printing and distribution systems. In pilot districts, we will increase book-to-student ratios and measure learning outcomes, sharing findings with the government to advocate for greater investment in learning materials.
- **Expanding life skills education for boys and girls.** Building on the integration of our life skills framework into national guidelines, we will co-develop learning materials for selected subjects and corresponding educator training using gender-transformative approaches. Next steps include partnering with teacher colleges, identifying content gaps, and training government officials. We will also pilot new life skills content in schools under our Girls’ Education Program and assess its impact in Tanga in 2026.
- **Exploring expansion to Zanzibar.** Room to Read will explore expanding to Zanzibar in partnership with local organizations such as the Zanzibar Institute of Education and Milele Zanzibar Foundation. A feasibility study will assess opportunities to adapt our literacy and life skills models, including the Accelerate model for life skills education.

Thank you!

We look forward to embarking on this journey with you and hope that this binder will serve as a helpful guide prior to your departure. By following the guidelines and recommendations provided, we will be ready for a smooth, exciting, and informative journey. It is our hope that during this visit you will gain first-hand experience of Room to Read’s game-changing work thanks to investors like you. Should you have any additional questions or clarifications prior to the journey, feel free to contact tiyanna.doolabh@roomtoread.org.

