NATOPIWO *Annual Report* 2026

Monduli Juu, TANZANIA

NATOPIWO Organization

Table of Contents

A guide to this year's report

Founder & Director's Introduction **3**

About Natopiwo **4**

About Natopiwo 5

Our Vision & Mission 6

Two Organizations — One Shared Purpose 7

Highlights of 2025/2026 **8**

Natopiwo Preschool 9

Women's Health Education 10

Community Tree Planting 11

Drought Relief 12

Water Tank Installation 13

Community Impact **14**

Testimonials **15-16**

Natopiwo at Work **17**

Women's Literacy Class 18

Women's Sewing Class 19

Family Health 20

Climate Awareness 21

Education Support & Erosion Mitigation 22

Supporting Students Beyond Preschool 23

Partnerships, Internships, & Research **24-26**

Partnering in 2027 **27**

Financial Review and Proposed Budget **28-31**

Appreciations **32**

Founder & Director's Introduction

Hello Friends,

This year we celebrate nine years of community-led service, as Natopiwo Organization continues to deliver practical, life-enriching support and opportunities to Maasai communities across northern Tanzania amidst pressing challenges. Over the past year, our early childhood education program experienced an incredible 96% surge in enrollment, welcoming 98 preschool children alongside our ongoing support for secondary and college students. Additionally, we expanded our women's empowerment initiatives through literacy and vocational tailoring classes. We collaborated with the community to mitigate severe local soil erosion. Internationally, we solidified our operational foundation by sharing vital education research at Oxford University and other UK and US universities and organizations. We also continue our valued collaboration with our US-based nonprofit partner, Natopiwo Partners; Rotary and Eco Rotary Clubs in the US; the French NGO Terre O Vent; and two family foundations. We extend our deepest gratitude to you, our global partners whose generous donations and ongoing collaboration makes these many sustainable, community-centered successes possible. **Thank you - ashe naleng!**

- Musa Kamaika, Founder & Director

About Natopiwo

Our story, vision, mission, and the two organizations working as one.

About Natopiwo

NATOPIWO (*Lifted Up*) is a Tanzanian registered nonprofit, non-governmental organization operating in rural Maasailand in northern Tanzania. The work of NATOPIWO supports Maasai families in the Monduli Juu Region pursuing knowledge, empowerment, health, economic independence, and a joyful community.

Our Vision & Our Mission

Our Vision

We envision a knowledgeable, empowered, healthy, economically independent, and joyful community.

Our Mission

To facilitate equitable access to education, health, and environmental resources through participatory, community-driven initiatives that empower marginalized populations in Monduli Juu.

Two Organizations — One Shared Purpose

NATOPIWO PARTNERS is a U.S. registered 501(c)(3) notprofit organization whose sole purpose is to collaborate with and support the important, ongoing work of NATOPIWO.

NATOPIWO PARTNERS is committed to serving as an ally in the broadest sense of the word, providing financial, practical, and moral support for initiatives conceived and carried out by the **NATOPIWO** team and their partners in Tanzania.

Highlights of 2025/2026

Preschool progress, Women's involvement, and Community support across the year.

Natopiwo Preschool

98 enrolled students,

more than 50% more than planned.

Daily Meals.

Helps students stay focused and attentive.

Half of the students are female

reflecting the community's growing willingness to send both boys and girls to school

As our longest-running program, the Natopiwo Preschool has consistently served as the main entry point to education for children from low-income households in the community.

Women’s Health Education

One of our newest initiatives is the organization of workshops aimed at promoting women’s health and wellbeing through education and support surrounding reproductive health. This workshop has been a frequent request from members of the community, leading to classes being held in both December of 2025 and most recently July of 2026. Participants highlighted the necessity of extending these lessons to the broader community, including men as well as women.

Community Tree Planting

1000+ Trees Planted

The trees planted provide shade and protect fragile soil from erosion, reducing gully formation.

Seeds are sown in the minds of students, which inspires environmental awareness, action, and community-led conservation .

Drought Relief Keeps The Community Going

When both the short and long rains failed to fall this year, extreme water scarcity led to thirst and, soon after, hunger in the community. With the help of generous donors, Natopiwo stepped in to provide **$10,000** worth of water and food relief, prioritizing children and women.

Water Tank Installation

6 Tanks Installed

The tanks provided help ensure access to water and **provide security** in the increasing periods of water scarcity.

Installed at community school to ensure children have **access**.

Community Impact

9 Years of Operation

273 Preschool Graduates

100% of Graduates attend Public School

85 men given healthy family training

18 of women trained on women and family health

15 women trained on vocational and literacy skills

$10,000 of water and food relief directly in the hands of women and children

THANK YOU DONORS

Testimonials

Testimonials

"I have come so far with the help of Natopiwo. I did not have much when I started school, but somebody decided I was worth investing in. As I complete high school, I am so grateful for this opportunity. I just want to say, Thank you for not forgetting kids like me!"

- Joan Raymond (Natopiwo Secondary School Assistance Recipient).

Lifting Up Together: Natopiwo at Work in Monduli Juu

Literacy classes and vocational training for the community

NATOPIWO Organization

Women's Literacy Class

Started to support mothers who wanted to help their children with homework, and has now evolved into a **confidence-building initiative** and opportunity for Maasai women to shape their futures. Teacher salaries and all materials paid for by Natopiwo and our donors.

The program has recently expanded to help women manage small responsibilities that require reading and writing skills so they can understand basic written health, marketplace, and civic information.

Women's Sewing Class

Fully funded opportunity for more community members to learn and grow their sewing skills. Since its initiation in 2024, the class has doubled the number of machines from 2 to 4 thanks to generous donations. The expanded program has led to more attendees developing skills that lead them to become leaders and teachers in the community.

For example, one attendee has now started her **own** garment repair business and has now become a role model for other women looking to have an income.

NATOPIWO Organization

Family Health

An innovative family health initiative is now available for **both men and women**. Originally designed for women to teach family spacing, the program was expanded to include men at the direct request of the women. The curriculum promotes health and shared household decision-making.

Climate Awareness Community Conferences

Monthly gatherings of Indigenous Maasai leaders in Monduli Juu to talk through the climate mitigation strategies that their communities need to implement: harvesting rainwater, resetting and restoring grazing lands, reimagining what a herd looks like, investing in education, and backing women's economic groups.

Educational Support

Natopiwo has continued to support local children in their secondary school education, with a focus on youth from households that face significant barriers and would otherwise struggle to continue learning due to extreme financial constraints, loss of parents, or the absence of consistent support at home.

Erosion Mitigation

As erosion remains a critical issue in Monduli Juu, Natopiwo has continued their investment into erosion control and prevention. This work builds off of the increased presence of Natopiwo-led and community-led climate conferences that raise awareness for the importance of stewardship. Investment in sandbags and materials used to create safe paths is critical.

Supporting Students beyond Preschool

10

Beneficiaries

ALL School

Fees Covered

ALL Personal

Requirements

Covered

Partnerships, Internships & Research

In addition to our global partners, Natopiwo values the continued collaboration with key Tanzanian NGOs that work in health, education, economic development, and women's and girls' empowerment within Maasai communities. These organizations - including **Mwangaza, Mwandamo, Monduli Juu Orphans Project, Nengai Foundation, LEA, and Empowered Girls Africa** - all share a grounded commitment to advancing practical solutions in close partnership with Indigenous communities. Thank you all!

Partnerships, Internships & Research

This year, Natopiwo is thrilled to have welcomed two incredible interns: Adele Gjerde (University of Wisconsin, Madison) and Sebastian Vargas Hipple (Carleton College). Adele and Sebastian served as teachers at the preschool, offering student enrichment in the form of art, song, games, and a bit of English language instruction while lightening the load for the teachers. They also good naturedly pitched in with other Natopiwo projects that arose, including helping build the second classroom, working with the women's literacy class, and rolling up their sleeves on report writing. Thank you Adele and Sebastian!

Partnerships, Internships & Research

Finally, Natopiwo Director Musa Kamaika and Natopiwo Partners Vice President Laura Wangsness Willemsen shared findings from their Fulbright-funded research project in person at Oxford University and London Interdisciplinary School, and virtually at the Comparative and International Education Society and the University of Minnesota's Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Africa Conference. Special thanks to Musa's many gracious hosts who made his trip to the UK possible!

Partnering in 2027

As we enter the next fiscal year, the Monduli Juu community and Natopiwo, working together, have identified some key goals, and with your help, we can **make them a reality**. Year after year, more students graduate from Natopiwo preschool and need assistance to continue pursuing their educational dreams. We are hoping to raise an additional $10,000 USD to support these cohorts of older students. In addition, following years of requests from the community and a gift of land from the local government, we hope to break ground on the Natopiwo Women's Community Center. By shifting the women's literacy, financial, and vocational training from the preschool to its own center, this will increase the capacity for Natopiwo to provide high quality early childhood education while, at the same time, empowering local women to continue their education and advance wellbeing.

We need your partnership to accomplish this, and look forward to working with you to achieve these dreams!

Financial Review

Revenue, expenditures, balance, and the proposed budget for 2026.

NATOPIWO Organization

Revenue, Expenditures & Balance

$7,491	$88,903	$81,869	$14,525
Starting Balance 2025/2026	Total revenue 2025/2026	Total expenditures 2025/2026	Closing balance

All Figures in USD - 25, 000 TSH to 1 USD Conversion Rate

Categorized Expense Report

- **Transport and Trips**
    - UK Trip
    - Transport/Logistics for Dar Es Salaam trip
  - **Total Expenses: $1,540 USD**
- **Natopiwo Preschool Expenses**
    - Food
      - Maize, Sugar, Peanut Butter, Utensils, etc.
      - **Total Expense: $2,672 USD**
    - Academics/Stationeries
      - Health Insurance and Uniforms - 98x
      - Blackboards/Chalk, Pencils, Pens, Staplers, Sharpeners, Folders, etc
      - Exercise Books, Ruled Paper, Erasers, Ream of Paper
      - Recess Gear: Soccer Ball, etc
      - **Total Expenses: $5,589.67 USD**
  - **Total Preschool Expense: $8,262.84 USD**
- **Director Stipend**
  - **Total Expense: $2,500 USD**

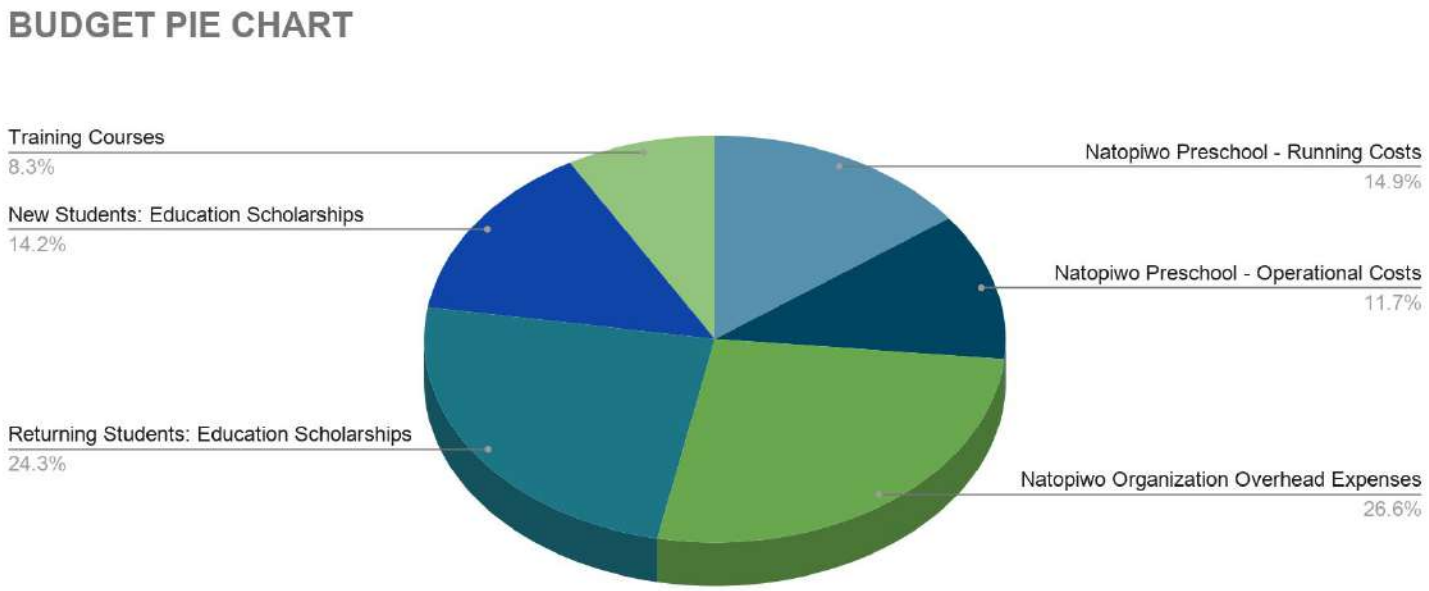
- **Administration/Operational Cost**
  - Program Salaries
    - Program Officer Salary
    - Cook and Assistant Cook Salaries
    - Teacher and Assistant Salaries
    - Accountant Fee
  - Teacher Training Programs and School Board Meeting
  - Government Fees
    - National Security Social Fund(NSSF) - 10%
    - Government Mandated Office Space Rent
    - NGO Fees
    - Internet
  - **Total Expense: $10,985 USD**

- **Students Pursuing Higher Education**
  - Secondary School Level - 10 Students Receiving Support
    - School Fees and Personal Requirements
  - **Total Expense: $12,500 USD**
- **Women's Literacy and Sewing Machine Classes**
  - Teacher Allowance, Sewing Facilitator Allowance and Teaching Materials
  - **Total Expense: $3,086 USD**
- **Family Spacing Training**
  - Facilitators Salary, Aids, Supplies, Food and Refreshments
  - **Total Expense: $1,640 USD**
- **Drought Relief**
  - Maize(corn) for Affected Community
  - Clean Water for Natopiwo Preschool and Neighborhood
  - Maize(corn) Transportation to Monduli Juu
  - **Total Expense: $9,975 USD**
- **Milling Machine Conversion Project - Gas to Electric**
  - Labor and Materials
  - **Total Expense: $5,337 USD**
- **Water Tanks Construction Project**
  - Construction costs of six 35,000 liter tanks
  - **Total Expense: $18,000 USD**
- **Natopiwo Preschool Expansion Project - New Classroom**
  - **Total Expense: $8,126 USD**

ALL FIGURES IN USD
Conversion Rate: 2500 TSH = 1 USD

Grand Total Expenses: $81,869 USD

Proposed Education Budget for the Fiscal Year 2027



Training Courses

- Women's Sewing Course
- Women's Literacy Course
- Family Planning Meetings
- **Total: $4,100 USD**

Higher Education Scholarships

- School Fees
- Personal Requirements
- Books, Uniforms, Bags, etc.
- **Total: $19,000 USD**

Natopiwo Preschool

- **Natopiwo Preschool - Running Costs**
  - Meals
  - Tools
  - Insurance
  - School Books and Materials: Staplers, Pencils, etc.
  - **Total: $7,344 USD**
- **Natopiwo Preschool - Operational Costs**
  - Teacher Salaries
  - Cook Salaries
  - **Total: $5,760 USD**

Natopiwo Organization Overhead Expenses

- Office Space Rent
- Government Fees: NGO and Social Security
- Director, Program Director and Accountant Salary
- **Total: $13,128 USD**

ALL FIGURES IN USD
Conversion Rate: 2500 TSH = 1 USD

TOTAL EDUCATION BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2027: $49,332 USD

With Gratitude

Thank you donors, partners, staff, volunteers, and community members. We are so grateful to have received your support and hard work. As we continue to progress and support our community, we look forward to continuing to share this journey with you!

Sincerely, **Natopiwo**