



# the Emmanuel Connection

December 2023

## Focus on EI countries: Tanzania

*EI Tanzania started long ago and officially became a partner country in 1994 in Iringa.*

After nearly 30 years, in 2023, EI Tanzania became an affiliate. We currently have 10 active projects, 1 in Tanga, 3 in Iringa, and 6 in Mwanza. We are blessed to have 3 missionaries and 16 national staff members.

Tanzania is in east Africa with a fast growing population of over 61 million people. Swahili is the main language and Tanzania claims to be the birthplace of Swahili on the continent.



Tanzania is very religious with a minority of traditional worshipers and a majority of Islam and Christianity, with Islam being more prominent in the coastal areas and Christianity in the interior areas.

**VICOBA (village community banking) is part of many of the projects in Tanzania**

**EI United Kingdom**  
[www.eiuk.org.uk](http://www.eiuk.org.uk)  
[info@eiuk.org.uk](mailto:info@eiuk.org.uk)

**EI International**  
[www.ei-international.org](http://www.ei-international.org)  
[paul@ei-international.org](mailto:paul@ei-international.org)

**EI Canada**  
[www.eicanada.org](http://www.eicanada.org)  
[info@eicanada.org](mailto:info@eicanada.org)

## Please keep these concerns in your daily prayers...

- 1 Canada, United Kingdom, United States of America:** The EI Christmas catalogue has been distributed in print and online. Pray for a good response financially to the needs that are shared in the catalogue.
- 2 Malawi:** The country needs rain. The maize is withering as we have now gone weeks without rain since planting.
- 3 South Africa:** We have many year-end events this month: we have evangelistic outreaches at the church, final modules for the many courses, and a large Christmas carol event which is very well attended in the community. Pray for opportunities to share the hope of the gospel and for people to know Christ as their Lord.
- 4 Tanzania:** Western Tanga needs good rain. Edward has finished up agriculture seminars and is on vacation. Please pray for a restful time.
- 5 Haiti:** Haiti has suffered from gang violence for decades but the current wave of brutality escalated after the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. Gangs have taken control of large parts of the country, waging terror on residents and killing hundreds. We are still praying every Tuesday for Haiti. Please join us in prayer for the country, but also for our partner church, Oeuvre Evangelique Baptiste Bethesda, and for the homes for boys and girls that they still maintain in spite of the difficulties brought by the political instability.
- 6 South Africa:** Pray also for the two Christmas parties at the Safe Houses in December. Extreme Response is hosting a great year-end party with gifts as is Home From Home. Pray that it would be more than just festivities but a time to know the reason for the season and that the children might know their need for a savior.
- 7 Philippines:** Our friends from Barrio 3, Dimapolot and some areas in Davao city have experienced flooding recently. Pray as they return to their homes and begin the huge task of cleaning up, repairing, and rebuilding homes.
- 8 Uganda:** During the month of December we will be training two prospective Ugandan missionaries in how to start and run a successful business, as they seek to use business to support their outreach to Muslim communities in Uganda's North-West.
- 9 Tanzania:** The Newby family will travel to Kenya today, spending some time away until the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for safe travels and good family time.
- 10 Malawi:** The Mozambique church leaders will identify and send Mozambican students to Chisomo for discipleship and carpentry training. Please pray that they choose wisely and pick capable students.

- 11 Brazil:** We praise God for the Terena Bible School 2023 graduation. It's so good to see God's blessings on the Bible School indigenous students and leadership.
- 12 Uganda:** Pader Urban Archdeaconry will be holding a youth conference from today to the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for this opportunity to reach many youth with Biblical teaching and life skills.
- 13 Malawi:** Hunger in Malawi is unusually difficult and prevalent this year. Cyclone Freddy destroyed many crops and the kwacha has devalued around 70% this year. Prices for maize, seeds and fertilizer have risen well beyond the capacity of a village Malawian to contend with. Pray for God's mercy on the poor who work very hard but who need assistance this year.
- 14 Canada:** The EIC audit is ongoing. We thank God for our auditors and their faithful attention to detail and accuracy. Our finances are God's provision and our records are for His glory.
- 15 Philippines:** December is a time when families of our student scholars gather for "Family Day". Please pray for open hearts as the birth of Jesus (Isah al-Masih) will be shared as part of the program. Most of our tribal and Muslim students and their parents have professed to accept the message of salvation but some are still reluctant and/or afraid.
- 16 South Africa:** We (the Sayers family) ask for prayer that we would enjoy a bit of 'summer relaxation' in our Southern Hemisphere Christmas. This is one of those small windows of time where many of the ministry responsibilities are on hold and programs are on pause. We trust this will be a refreshing and refilling time of relaxation and revitalization.
- 17 Philippines:** Our SALT team is undergoing training regarding compliance, governance, and financial accountability with another mission organization. Pray for wisdom for the officers and cooperation from all our members.
- 18 United Kingdom:** Sue and Linda are taking today off to attend a nativity play. Linda is on leave from today and Sue from 21 December. The office will be closed until 1 January 2024.
- 19 Canada:** The EIC office is joining together for a Christmas dinner today. Please pray for a good time of fellowship as we reflect on the season.  
**Malawi:** The Momentum project is dealing with malnourished children, especially at this time of the year when most households are lacking enough food.
- 20 Uganda:** We have an online board meeting tentatively scheduled for today. Please pray for wisdom (and also for good internet connections!) as we have a number of policies and documents to review.

- 21 International:** Many of our EI family around the world will travel to see loved ones through Christmas and New Year. Please pray for safety.
- 22 Tanzania:** All of the staff are working to produce work plans for specific components of our projects. Please pray for wisdom and discernment.
- 23 International:** International has 6 Task Forces, groups of EI staff members, who are working on the various areas outlined in our 5-year strategic plan. We thank God for each person who is participating. Please pray for God's continued wisdom over each discussion.
- 24 Malawi:** Scott and Lorilee MacLean seek God's wisdom as they facilitate several projects such as the choir project, reading club, tree-planting, writing a course on Psalms, and responding to community needs.
- 25 International:** May the God of all grace and peace keep your hearts as you celebrate the incredible gift of love for each of us through God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Happy Christmas!
- 26 Tanzania:** In the Tanga project, we look to start activities in the new year. Please pray for funding.
- 27 Philippines:** Our volunteer teachers sacrificially give their time, talent and even finances to teach the children's discipleship materials. Pray that the children will understand who God is and learn to put Him first in their lives.
- 28 Tanzania:** The Nyamiswi Beekeeping group needs your prayers, please; especially that they would find a farm to hang their hives on.
- 29 Brazil:** Pray with us for a good succession plan for EI Brazil director. We've been looking for a young leader, who loves God, His Church, and the work with poor people, to take over the current director, after he retires.
- 30 South Africa:** Living Hope Church is planning for our next year of ministry opportunities. The success of our outreaches, conferences, theological studies, membership courses, and camps have been a wonderful way for the saints to grow in their depth and breadth spiritually. We want to honor the Lord for the increase He has brought to our body of believers.
- 31 International:** Happy New Year! May you know the presence of God's blessing throughout your 2024.

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:6