

Sustainable Community Development in Tanzania

5 Years of Education Abroad



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Tanzania Partnership Program
International Studies and Programs

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Service learning

The education abroad program through Sustainable Community Development in Tanzania (SCDT) has made it possible for a group of students from Michigan State University (MSU), the Institute for Resource Assessment at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM-IRA), Dar es Salaam College of Education (DUCE), and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) to learn hands-on how sustainable development is practiced. In its fifth year of programming, SCDT offers students two interrelated opportunities: 1) undergraduate students work with faculty and graduate student leaders in sustainable community development on collaborative research projects using a community engagement approach; and 2) graduate student leaders receive support for programs in areas related to the sustainable community development initiatives of MSU's Tanzania Partnership Program (TPP). The SCDT program is generously funded by Gerald A. and Karen A. Kolschowsky.



Cultural excursion

SCDT is at the forefront of MSU's and TPP's efforts to embed community engagement principles into the study abroad experience. This six-week program incorporates the academic literature on development with involvement in a community engagement project that focuses on development. As part of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural teams, students and faculty from MSU, UDSM, DUCE, and SUA work together and with the community to organize, manage, and complete projects. The program site, Naitolia, is the focus of several long-term collaborative TPP development and research initiatives developed in partnership with numerous Tanzanian academic institutions, development organizations, and government entities. Students engage with ideas of development through their relationships with each other and the community. In doing so, they learn to situate development theory into practice.



Student interaction

SCDT is designed to be a transformational experience for MSU and Tanzanian students while increasing community capacity and improving community well-being. During the program, students learn about the socioeconomic organization and customs of the Maasai, the history of development in Tanzania, different approaches to development, and receive linguistic training in Kiswahili. To culturally orient and deepen students' connection to the community, the SCDT program includes a homestay with local families. Students gain an awareness of the similarities and differences in sustainable development challenges in Tanzania and the US and the strategies for addressing them in both contexts.

SCDT students gain friendships and form international academic partnerships that continue long after the program ends. By the end of summer 2017, sixty-one MSU and Tanzanian students will have participated in this innovative study abroad program. SCDT participants continue to achieve great things, both academically and professionally.

PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVES

DUCE

Caroline Charles Shao, 2014. (UDSM Tutorial Assistant, (Dar es Salaam, TZ)

The program had a great deal of impact on my academic choice to become a resourceful and competent teacher. My view of the world has changed for the better thanks to the program. My way of thinking and analyzing issues in the world is not the same as it was. I am now hungry and thirsty for development that I tend to search and seek for every opportunity for possible and sustainable development around me.

Salmon Daudi Oloo, 2014. (UDSM Student Loan Officer, (Dar es Salaam, TZ)

Prior to visiting the field site, I did not have a serious concern to the people who are said to live in a disadvantaged environment. But after the program and observing the lifestyle of Maasai, Datoga and Hadzabe with the realities of food insecurity, lack of clean and safe water, hostile environment, lack of strong village leadership and uncoordinated governance, I questioned my role to the community and nation at large. I am intending to further my postgraduate studies in Research and Public Policy for a good policy is the blueprint for development.

SUA

Gloria Peter Njau, 2016. Veterinarian (Dar es Salaam, TZ)

The study abroad program has helped me grow confidence with work. I worked with farmers, training them on proper brooding and rearing of chicken for improvement of nutrition and raising of income. Since then and in my current job, I have been involved in projects targeting rural areas.

Kabelege Moses, 2016. Veterinarian (Mbeya, TZ)

The program helped me to create a good brotherhood and friendship with MSU students and DUCE former students. It also gave me the exposure and lessons which I apply until now, such as, water treatment by using sunlight. The program has played a crucial role for me getting a job in Hester Bioscience Company by sharing my experiences from the program.

UDSM-IRA

Beatus Mbogo, 2013. Secondary School Teacher (Mwanza, TZ)

I believe that I am better employee because I had gained a lot of diverse skills and experiences from moving around during the Study Abroad Program. These skills and experiences help me solve dilemmas creatively, to improve the quality of teaching in the direction of sustainability, and to inspire my students to achieve the best in academic and socio-cultural issues and interactions.

Neovitus Cassian Sianga, 2015. Conservation Program Officer (Arusha, TZ)

TPP program in Naitolia helped me to develop my working capability in terms of balancing my development and conservation work. I worked with the pastoral group that researched human wildlife conflict in terms of livestock depredation. Through the program, I saw the importance of protecting the livestock and big cats to improve community livelihood. I'm currently working on a livestock protection model that demonstrates the value of shared knowledge, exhibits culturally appropriate solutions, provides a regular point of community outreach, and serves as a model to communities in other parts of Tanzania and East Africa.



Homestay family



Community engagement

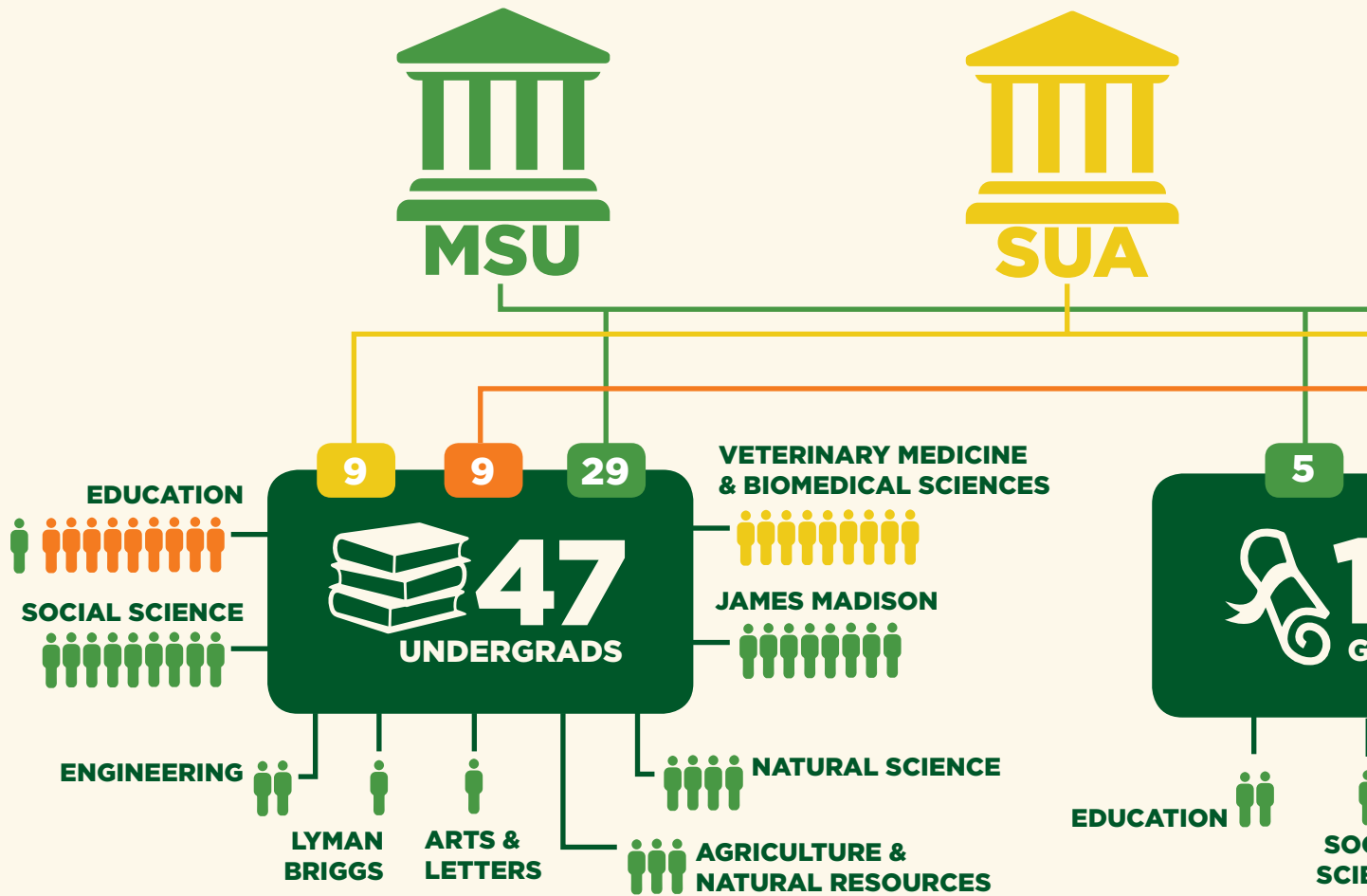


Engaged research

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

PARTICIPATION

FROM YEARS



ACTIVITIES

FROM YEARS

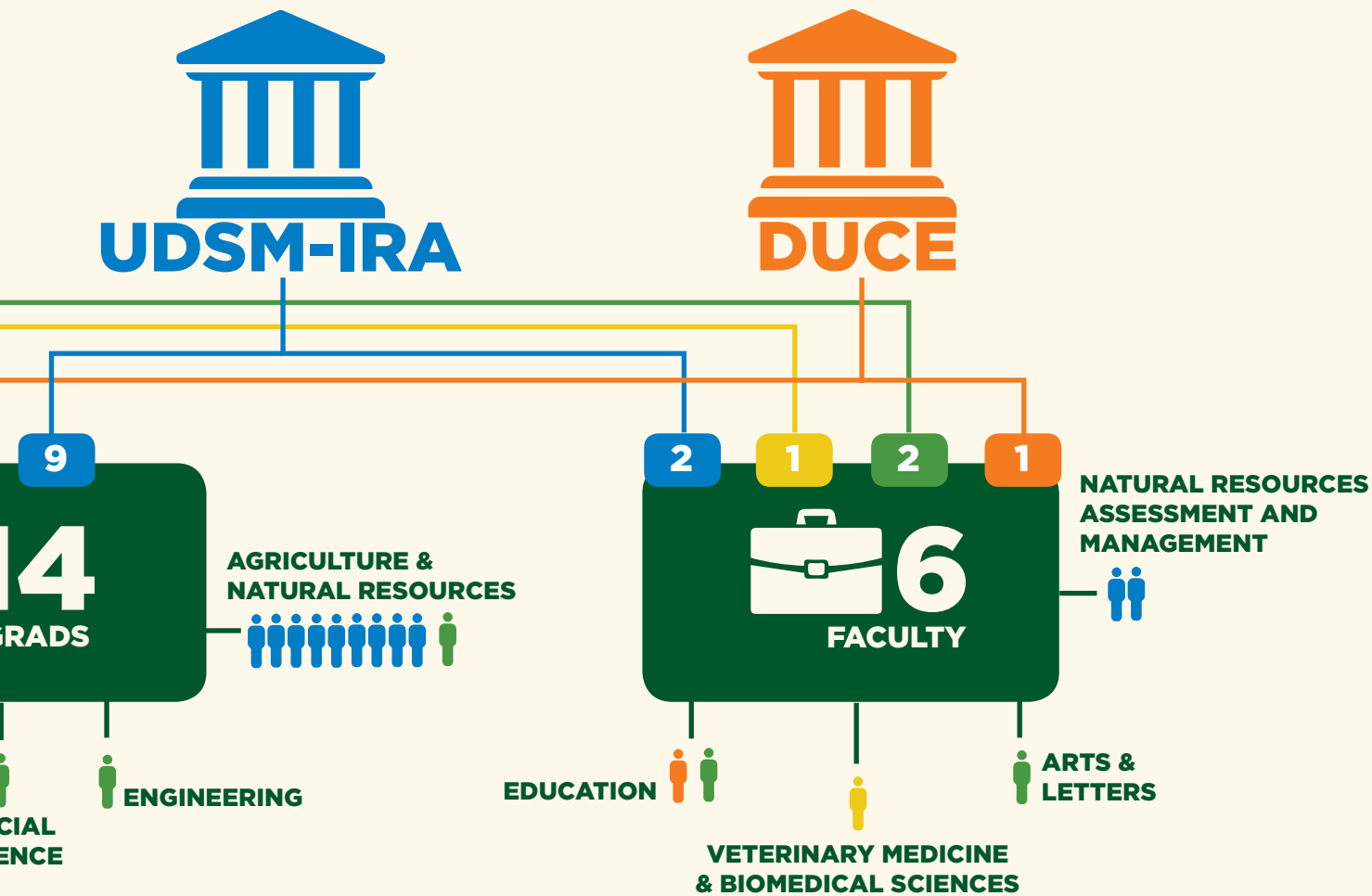


ASSESSMENT | IMPROVEMENT | RENOVATION | INSTRUCTION | EMPOWERMENT

ANTS AND ACTIVITIES

IPANTS

2013 TO 2017



IVITIES

2013 TO 2017



| PRACTICES | NUTRITION | WORKSHOPS | COLLABORATION | COMMUNITY

PARTICIPANT PERSPECTIVES (CONT'D)

MSU

James Cotter, 2014. High School College Adviser (Kalamazoo, MI)

For the past two years I have been serving as the College Adviser at Comstock High School (Kalamazoo, MI) as part of the Michigan State University College Advising Corps. I have kept strong perspective while remembering that before community development, must come community involvement. One must gain trust and respect in a community before the needle of their initiatives is moved. And most importantly the goals of the individual must reflect the goals and needs for all. Since Naitolia, through time and trust, I've become an active member of the Comstock community, and Naitolia has been and will continue to be my foundation.

Clare Worthington, 2015. Administrative Assistant (East Lansing, MI)

I am currently an Administrative Assistant in the MSU Office of the President and Board of Trustees, and I am completing my Master's in Business Management through Harvard University. The lessons and experiences of my study abroad experience influenced my choice to pursue a career in nonprofit work, especially in those with an international focus. The worldview and compassion for others in far reaches of the world that I gained from this trip have stayed with me in the two years since its completion, and I hope to continue learning positive methods for effective change and international engagement in the years to come.

Betty Okwako, 2012, 2013. Assistant Professor (Albion, MI)

As a native of the East African region, I am very familiar with the culture and language of the community where the Tanzania study abroad program takes place. As an African scholar working in the West, you always have in the back of your mind to go back and make a difference. This study abroad gives me a chance to go back and share an amazing learning experience in community engagement with undergraduates and graduate students. I am so excited for them to see and learn about a place this is very different from what they know.



Supporting teachers

STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS

UG = undergraduate, G = graduate

2013

ETHAN CHUPKA	MSU • Education • Kinesiology (UG)
JUSTINE BRUNETT	MSU • James Madison • International Relations (UG)
KAITLYN RULE	MSU • Natural Science • Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (UG)
HANNAH CLINE ROBERTS	MSU • Social Science • Global & Area Studies (UG)
LYDIA SARACINA	MSU • Social Science • Psychology (UG)
NDEKA KIZITO	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
GRACE KAKAMA	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
BEATUS MBOGO	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
BEATRICE SAWE	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)

2014

KAITLYN BEYER	MSU • James Madison • Social Relations & Policy (UG)
ALISHA BROWN	MSU • Education • Education Policy (G)
JAMES COTTER	MSU • Social Science • Intr Studies in Social Science (UG)
MIKOLE LEVRAN	MSU • Social Science • Global & Area Studies (UG)
DEVONNA MCCARTHY	MSU • Social Science • Intr Studies in Social Science (UG)
BENJAMIN SPREITZER	MSU • Social Science • Social Work (UG)
FELIX AIDUNUS	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
HYASINTA PAUL	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
FLAVANIUS FERDINAND	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
SENIORINA MWINGIRA	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
EDWARD OTIENO	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
FELIX YEBOAH	MSU • Ag & Natural Resources • Community Agriculture, Recreation, & Resource Education Policy (G)
CAROLINE CHARLES	DUCE • Education (UG)
GEORGE MWANANZUMI	DUCE • Education (UG)
DAUDI SALMON	DUCE • Education (UG)

2015

JANE AHLBORN	MSU • James Madison • International Relations (UG)
HANNAH BOYKE	MSU • James Madison • Social Relations & Policy (UG)
ELISE CARUSO	MSU • Social Science • Psychology (UG)
KRISTEN GMEREK	MSU • Arts & Letters • Global Studies Arts & Humanities (UG)
TULA NGASALA	MSU • Engineering • Civil & Environmental Engineering (G)
JESSICA OTT	MSU • Social Science • Anthropology (G)
CLARE O'KANE	MSU • James Madison • Comparative Culture & Politics (UG)
RHEANNE PECSENYE	MSU • James Madison • International Relations (UG)
LINDA MUNISI	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
NEOVITUS SINGA	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
ISAYA KIBAYA	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
MICHALE LINGOFU	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
FARAJA NGENDELO	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
DISMAS GEORGE	DUCE • Education (UG)
HAPPINESS JOSHUA	DUCE • Education (UG)
STANLEY STAFORD	DUCE • Education (UG)

2016

ALONDRA ALVIZO	MSU • Ag & Natural Resources • Agribusiness Mgmt (UG)
CARLY COHEN	MSU • Engineering • Environmental Engineering (UG)
TULA NGASALA	MSU • Engineering • Civil & Environmental Engineering (G)
DAVID RAVITZ	MSU • Engineering • Environmental Engineering (UG)
ALEXANDER RAY	MSU • James Madison • International Relations (UG)
MEGAN VILLONE	MSU • Social Science • Global & Area Studies (UG)
LINDA MUNISI	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
RONALD NDESANJO	UDSM-IRA • Ag & Natural Resources • Assessment & Mgmt (G)
FARAJA HOSEA	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
MOSES KABELEGE	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
GLORIA NJAU	SUA • College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomed Sciences (UG)
ELIZABETH MUSHI	DUCE • Education (UG)
JANETH MWASHAMBWA	DUCE • Education (UG)
BISEKO SIMON	DUCE • Education (UG)

2017

MIA BOSANKIC	MSU • Ag & Natural Resources • Environmental Studies & Sustainability (UG)
VERONICA BUSCHHAUS	MSU • Social Science • World Politics (UG)
SAMUEL CAYEN	MSU • James Madison • International Relations (UG)
OACIA FAIR	MSU • Ag & Natural Resources • Environmental Studies & Sustainability (UG)
ASHLEY GREENLEAF	MSU • Lyman Briggs • Lyman Briggs (UG)
AIMEE MONTAMBEAU	MSU • Natural Science • Human Biology (UG)
ASHLEY NANCE-PANEK	MSU • Natural Science • Human Biology (UG)
MYCALA SMITH	MSU • Natural Science • Zoology (UG)

STUDY ABROAD FACULTY LEADS

BETTY OKWAKO-RIEKKOLA	MSU/Albion • Education
JONATHAN CHOTI	MSU • Arts & Letters
FAUSTIN MAGANGA	UDSM-IRA • Natural Resources Assessment & Mgmt
VICKY MOSHY	UDSM-IRA • Natural Resources Assessment & Mgmt
S.I. KIMERA	SUA • Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
EMILIANA MWITA	DUCE • Education



2013



2014



2015



2016



2017



Dar es Salaam
College of Education



Sokoine University of
Agriculture



Aga Khan Foundation



University of Dar es Salaam



Michigan State University