IN BUSINESS FOR A BETTER FUTURE: THE STORY OF NASHIPAI B

The Nashipai B VICOBA group was formed in February 2020 when 30 women from Monduli came together with different backgrounds, ages, and experiences but with one common goal: to uplift themselves and their families.

Their financial literacy and entrepreneurial journey began with training from the Pastoral Women's Council (PWC), where they were introduced to the power of VICOBA (Village Community Banking). This foundational knowledge sparked a desire for growth and financial independence among the members.

In early 2023 a Credit Officer of Engishon Microfinance Monduli Branch visited Nashipai B VICOBA to promote its financial literacy and business training as a gateway to affordable loans. At the time, many of the women were already engaged with other lending institutions active in the region, like BRAC and Vision Fund. When they learnt about Engishon fair lending practices, training provisions and community-centered approach, they saw a better path forward. By October 2023, the group had received their 1st Engishon loan of 3,000,000 TZS (USD $1,200), followed later by a 2nd loan of 7,000,000 TZS (USD $2,800).

The impact was transformative. With the funds received, the women reinvested in their small businesses, generating enough income to restock and meet essential needs, especially for their children. They can now afford school uniforms, tuition, and supplies —empowering them to prioritize education and secure their children's future.

Today, Nashipai VICOBA is a testament to the power of women united by knowledge, courage, and opportunity. In Esilalei Ward and beyond, Engishon's outreach sparked a shift in economic activity and mindset. Women gained financial confidence and understanding, leading many to transition from other microfinance providers to Engishon. The added value of financial literacy and entrepreneurship training made all the difference to the members of Nashipai B VICOBA.