



## *School Context*

The field research work of the PAL team has been located in Manzese, an administrative ward in Kinondoni Municipality divided into 6 sub-wards (mtaa) Kilimani, Uzuri, Mvuleni, Muungaro, Midzini and Manzaimmoja). Located approximately 7 kilometres from the city centre of Dar es Salaam, Manzese is an 'informal settlement' in a very highly populated area and, as such, is typical of peri-urban areas where dwellers acquire land without formal process (Ramadhani, 2007, p28).

Manzese is characterised by ethnic heterogeneity, multi-racial groups and a wide range of social and economic groups. In most of these informal settlements, the affluent and the poor live side by side. The population is estimated at 67,002 (32,613 Females and 34,389 males) living in 5,500 households, and is reputed to be the largest squatter settlement of Dar es Salaam city in terms of population and area. During the 1970s it was notorious for robberies and 'lawlessness' and earned the name 'Soweto' (Kironde, 1995). Overall there is a lack of basic infrastructure, which results in overcrowding, poor sanitation and poor waste management. The area has been targeted by different initiatives to improve the infrastructure and to improve the safety of its inhabitants, especially women. In 2002, Manzese was one of the first areas in Dar es Salaam to implement crime prevention initiatives under the framework of UN-HABITAT's Safer Cities Programmes. It was observed that it was a hostile area, especially towards women, who were subjected to sexual violence exacerbated by the lack of street lighting, narrow streets, congested housing, too many guest houses and bars (UN-Habitat, 2002). Unemployment is very high, especially for youths, and many people are engaged in petty trading activities and hard manual labour; there is a high rate of HIV and prostitution. The area is culturally mixed with a varied ethnic community and equally divided along religious grounds – roughly 50% Muslim and 50% Christian. Although the infrastructure is steadily improving with better roads, there is no dispensary or hospital and the inhabitants have to go to another ward to be treated for any illness.

Against this backdrop, there are four primary schools serving this culturally diverse population: Ukombozi, Manzese, Uzuri and Kilimani. The recent primary school enrolment figures show that there are 6,690 primary school children enrolled in the four primary schools in the ward. There is a shortfall of teachers for schools in this ward, although this does not necessarily mean a shortage of teachers overall but reflects the way in which teachers are deployed throughout the district. This issue of redeployment and discrepancy is being investigated by the District.

Table 1 below shows the school enrolment and number of teachers.

School	Enrolment	Ideal Number of Teachers	Current Number of Teachers	Shortfall
Manzese	1934	55	43 (78%)	9
Uzuri	1535	44	38 (86%)	6
Kilimani	1436	41	27 (65%)	13
Ukombozi	1785	51	43 (84%)	8
Total	6690	191	151	33

Table 1. Manzese Ward: Primary School Enrolment and Number of Teachers  
(Manzese Ward Education Office)

Significantly, there is only one secondary school in the ward. Ukombozi School is adjacent to Manzese school – literally side by side. Uzuri School is adjacent to Kilimani. The ‘twinning’ of primary schools in large urban compounds has proliferated throughout the region due to the large number of primary school children in the area in order to cater to the demands of the donors and to achieve the EFA/MDG targets.



Alicia Fentiman  
Seonghye Moon  
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