



Ministry

Irrigation

# The Snapshot Newsletter

## Kenya Water Security and Climate Resilience Project

Quarterly Issue 6, October 2021

### From The Project Manager

The Kenya Water Security and Climate Resilience Project (KWSCRCP) provides this newsletter as a forum for the project team drawn from the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the Project Implementing Units (PIUs) for both KWSCRCP 1 & 2, to share successes, challenges, lesson learned and the impact our efforts, have on the project beneficiaries.

The KWSCRCP 1 covers the Lower Nzoia Project (LNP), Water Sector Reforms, Nzoia FFEWS, and Investment Planning while KWSCRCP 2 covers irrigation, livelihood, sanitation and water infrastructure, and the Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam project in Kwale County, which are government flagship projects.

The newsletter is produced quarterly and shared online. I would like to encourage colleagues to share project experiences, milestones and best practices. To our stakeholders and readers, we will be glad to receive your feedback.

Eng. Simon Mwangi  
Project Manager, KWSCRCP

### Lower Nzoia Project Cumulative Progress as of Sept. 2021

Lower Nzoia Project	36%
NLIP infrastructure	42%
Dykes	75%
Rehabilitation of Bunyala Irrigation Scheme	72%
Bunyala Irrigation Management Facility	95%
Nyadorera Irrigation Management Facilities	85%
Rehabilitation of Bunyala Buildings (8No)	95%

The progress scheduled has been slowed down due to delays attributed to long procedures of acquiring land required for the construction works and disputes. However, the project safeguard teams through the Grievances Redress Committees and the National Lands Commission are doing everything possible to address the challenges.

## Principal Secretary Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Inspects Mwache Dam Project



Right: The Principal Secretary Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Joseph Wairagu Irungu (CBS), inspects the ongoing water construction works at Marere springs in Mwache Dam Project on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The PS also visited the Pemba Dam intake and Treatment Works Project and the Mwache Dam site in Fulugani.

In October 2021, the Principal Secretary (PS) Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Joseph Irungu (CBS) inspected the ongoing activities at Mwache Dam project. The PS was accompanied by Eng. Sam Alima the Water Secretary, Aboud Moeva Irrigation Secretary, Mugambi Gitonga CEO NIA, Eng. Martin Tsuma, CEO CWWDA, and Eng. Simon Mwangi, who supervises the works on behalf of the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation.



Kwale County Governor Salim Mvurya address a media press conference after a meeting attended by the PS Joseph Irungu (CBS), NLC Commissioner Kazungu Kambi, Adrian Cutler World Bank, MCA Kasemeini Hon. Antony Yama, Kwale County Commissioner and the Project Manager, Eng. Simon Mwangi on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021



# Lower Nzoia Project Updates

## Annual Progress Review Meeting

The Lower Nzoia (left) and CRWSCR (right) projects held the implementation annual work plan and budgeting progress review workshop held in October. The team mapped out a way forward for addressing the outstanding challenges derailing project progress. A similar follow-up meeting is scheduled for the end of the year.



## Construction Works Progress



Head works: (Left) Casting of concrete for the staircase and operating platform for the sand trap and main canal concrete curing.  
Right: Installation of the frames for the flushing sluice gates for the Diversion weir and murrum access



Bunyala Irrigation Scheme rehabilitation of the staff at 95% completion  
Left: old houses

Nyadorera Irrigation Management Facilities at 85% completion



## Land Acquisition Milestones and Livelihoods Restoration

The Lower Nzoia Project (NLP) has acquired 96% of the land needed for the construction works in blocks 1-4 and 75% at the Northern and Southern dykes. Besides, the project management safeguard team and the National Lands Commission (NLC) are addressing some grievances for the parcels that have not been compensated. The Resettlement Implementation Consultant has sensitized the PAPs on financial management and as a result, some have started small businesses to restore livelihoods.



*Tobias at the retail shop and new home*

**Tobias Omondi** from Ombochi village is one of the youthful PAPs recently compensated in block 2. He bought land in the same block, built a home and start a retail shop business. He is also one of the farmers being trained on high-value crop farming.



**John Nyafuaya** from Komenya sub-location was compensated for his land and house. He bought a piece of land and built a house. With the remaining funds, he revived his carpentry business at Kalaka market. John is currently doing rain-fed small scale farming. He plans to increase his cropping area when irrigation water is available.

**Right:** Vitalis Juma's retail shop at Kalaka market. After the compensation, he built a house and opened a retail shop. He also bought a motorbike which he uses to supply fresh fish at the market. He currently depends on rain-fed farming, and he plans to concentrate on farming when irrigation water is available.







## Boost for Agricultural Support and Value Chain and Income

The Lower Nzoia Project is starting to deliver results to beneficiaries. Over 50,000 people are directly benefitting including farmers in the irrigation command area, receiving training in improved agricultural practices and those benefiting from watershed interventions. Full documentation of the agriculture support and value chain including production, harvest and post harvest, market linkages and value chain:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19HvPsoGmA30QU\\_q-k4XZGp2eBh\\_cRUZv/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19HvPsoGmA30QU_q-k4XZGp2eBh_cRUZv/view?usp=sharing)

### Production of clean planting materials



ISC agronomist, Miriam Otipa (right) supervises the clean seed production shade at Bunyala Irrigation Scheme demo farm

A nursery with 42,049 assorted vegetable seedlings has been established with 99% success rate. The seedlings from the first cycle are being distributed to early adopter farmers as part of training on the use of clean planting materials and introduction to new crop technologies. The crops grown include tomato (Zara F1, Kilele F1, Ansal F1 and Nyota F1), capsicum (California Wonder F1 and Super Bell F1), Onions (Africa Red F1) Kales (Tausi F1 and Mfalme F1), Spinach (Fordhook Giant F1), Water Melon (Sukari F1 and Ndovu F1), butternut (Waltham F1) and Africa night shade with a propagation period of 21-27 days. The target varieties give high yields, are tolerant to pests and diseases and are adaptable to the project area.

The project will establish other five demo shade nets with a capacity to produce three million clean planting materials per year. Youthful members of the farmer produce and marketing groups are trained to manage the shed nets as an enterprise and ensure constant supply of clean planting materials to farmers when the project ends in 2022.

Over 8,400 (of 12,600 targeted) farmers have been trained in good agricultural practices in the production of high-value crops. The farmers receive extension support services from the project staff in collaboration with the extension officers from Busia and Siaya counties and other stakeholders. One hundred and forty eight (148) farmer producer and marketing groups have been formed and operationalized.



Farmers receive the clean planting materials



## Boost for Agricultural Support and Value Chain and Income

### Empowering Farmers through the Cooperative Societies

The project has trained five existing farmer cooperative societies leaders in financial management, leadership, management and governance, service provision and audit and market linkage. As a result, Magombe Multipurpose and Bunyala Rice Farmers Cooperative Societies have initiated a credit of Ksh 190m from the Co-operative Bank of Kenya. The cooperatives have established mills, tractors for ploughing and combine harvesters which are hired out to the farmers at a competitive price. From the credit, the farmers are paid for the paddy rice on delivery at Ksh 45 per kilo from Ksh 42. The cooperatives have increased the market base of the farmers. For example, Magombe Cooperative has partnered with a private investor who has installed a second miller. The cooperative has also increased rice suppliers including Tororo Millers in Uganda, Kenya Nation Produce and Cereal Board and private traders besides the Kenya National Trading Corporation.

Besides, the Bunyala Rice cooperative has increased its turnover to Ksh 42m from Ksh 16m.

More details on media coverage: <https://youtu.be/ezTO88YvYi0>  
@Chams Media September 2021



Rice from Magombe Cooperative Society packaged for sale



**Left:** Preparation of treated rice seeds at Bunyala Irrigation Scheme. The farmers buy the planting seeds at a subsidized price of Ksh 110 per kilogram. The treated seeds are resistant to pests which reduces the costs on pesticides thus increasing profit margins



**Right:** The new storage facility at the Bunyala Irrigation scheme. This is cushioning the farmers from post-harvest losses.

**Left:** Old storage facilities. In 2020, despite a bumper harvest, the farmers lost tones of rice after harvest due to rains



## Boost for Agricultural Support and Value Chain and Income

### Early Adopters

**Augustine Ochieng** is one of the early adopter farmers and a member of the Nyabengi farmer producer and marketing group. The group was trained on high-value crop farming, post-harvest handling and marketing linkages.

“After receiving the training, I have increased my tomato sales from KES 15,000 to 70,000 from the same portion of land. From the proceedings, I deposited a down payment for a solar pump and dug a shallow well. My income has improved, and I pay for my children education, which was a heavy task before,” says Ochieng.

He plans to increase the cropping area and crop diversity when irrigation water is available. Ochieng also grows capsicum, kales, spinach, maize and beans to ensure crop rotation and diversity.

‘We are training on crop diversity and staggering production to ensure continuous supply and income flow,’ explains Dorvin, Agricultural Operations Coordinator at the Implementation Support Consultant



*Ochieng (right) with Dorvin Stockdale, Agricultural Operations Coordinator at the Implementation Support Consultant*

### Good Agriculture Practices Uptake

David Omolo from Nyadorera A sub-location is a member of the Nyabengi farmer producer and marketing group who was trained at Augustine Ochieng’s farm. He plants tomatoes, kales, spinach and coriander. “The diversification and staggering of the crops help me get a continuous income from the farm.

The uptake of high-value crop farming has attracted more business in the community. Over seven new agro-vet businesses have been opened, compared to only one before the project started, due to demand for inputs from the farmers. The suppliers offer up to 50% discounts on the inputs with free delivery to the farmers.

The ISC identified two (2) sites for on-farm demonstration establishment in blocks 13 tertiaries 2 and 3 at Khutemekho and Lodwa FPMGs. Sites selected, are suitable and the establishment of two on-farm demonstrations has been planned for October 2020. 112 farmers (47 male and 65 female) attended and participated in the establishment of on-farm demonstrations and practical sessions of training.



*David and his wife in their farm*



# Lower Nzoia Project Updates



**Stephen Ochieng** is a youthful farmer and early adopter in Nyandorera sub-location, Siaya County. He is a member of the Nyaraha farmer producer and marketing group. Before he joined the group, Stephen worked as a casual labourer in Nairobi but a visit to his family home one weekend changed his life. When he saw the profits that farmers trained by the project were making from their farms, he decided to leave his job in Nairobi and join the Nyaraha farmer producer and marketing group. He started transferring skills he learned from the training to his quarter-acre piece of land. He planted 200 stems of tomatoes and sold the yield for KES 15,000. This encouraged him to plant 1,500 stems which gave him his first-ever KES 150,000 net.

Since then, he has never looked back. Besides tomatoes, Stephen plants kales, capsicum, butternuts and bananas. He makes a monthly profit of KES 30,000 from his farming and provides jobs to tens of women and youth as casual labourers. Traders purchase the produce from his farm and this reduces the cost of transportation and allows him more time to work on his farm.

From the income, he has built a home for his family and can pay school fees without much struggle unlike before. Stephen is already in negotiations to lease more land to expand his farming when the irrigation water is available.



*Traders buy the produce from farmers and sell at the local markets*

## On-farm demonstrations

To date, the ISC has established 16 on-farm demonstrations. The on-farm demonstrations offer the farmers hands-on practical training in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for irrigated commercial agriculture. The training includes nursery establishment, field preparation and management, management of higher value crops, post-harvest management and marketing.

One hundred and twelve (112) farmers (47 male and 65 female) participated in the establishment of on-farm demonstrations and practical training.



# Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam Project Updates

## PAPs show great resilience as they settle in their new homes



*Mambo Tungwa Shera, a PAP planting seedlings of some local vegetables in his new parcel of land*

**Mambo Tungwa Shera** is one out of 485 PAPs in priority 1 and 2 who have recently relocated from the project area after receiving their compensation. Mambo began working on his farm located in Mlungunigera village. He has been able to construct his house, put up a water tank and toilet. He has also started constructing some rental units in anticipation that he will get tenants from workers employed at the dam when construction begins. In terms of the areas where the PAPs have relocated to, the majority have built their primary dwellings in Mlungunigera Village which is close to the project area.

**Fifty-eight year-old Mgongo Keke Mwangoo**, one of the Project Affected Persons from Chinguluni is a family man married to one wife and a father of seven children. According to Mr Mwangoo, he says that he lost personal land, trees and structures in his previous parcels both in Fulugani and Chinguluni villages. The Fulugani parcel was pure land with developments in form of trees. The one in Chinguluni was his family land where he had his structures and family. He further noted that his livelihood was pegged in those two parcels. "I harvested sand and stones on the shores of Mwache river," he said.

Mwangoo said that the relocation from the two areas to his new parcel in Miyani Mnyenzi made him shift his source of income from sand harvesting to farming. He however noted that there were challenges in farming such as low or lack of rainfall. His farmland is about once acre. Mr Mwangoo noted that he was used to living in a community setting and now he was in his compound enjoying peace and silence.

"The project has had its pros and cons in my life. With the project's compensation, I have been able to build houses for my children, that they live in proper houses than before where we all stayed in one mud house. I have also managed to pay school fees for my daughters in high school." Mr Mwangoo stated.

The wife noted that her biggest challenge relocating to her new home was the sense of belonging to a community (Chama). She stated that she wanted to venture into the business of selling fried potatoes to passers-by since her parcel was located along the roadside. Given that the parcel was along the road, Mr Mwangoo said that he had been approached by several business people wanting to rent space to put up businesses since his parcel is in a prime area. Mr Mwangoo said that he was still waiting for compensation from one of his developments. "Once I get the money, I will buy livestock and chicken for farming." He spoke. Judging from the structures built, he said he was happy with the work and effort put into constructing the structures. His construction workers were part of the trainees at National Construction Authorities (NCA). He finally said that his main aim after settling down was to educate all his daughters and have them be respected women in the community.

The PAPs have indicated that they are now taking up new livelihood activities such as the construction of rental houses, starting and



# Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam Project Updates

starting and expansion of shops (kiosk), power saw ownership, motorcycle/boda- bodas, posho mill ownership, selling of tanked and piped freshwater, grocery kiosk, improvised fishing systems, food cafes, kitchen garden farming and many others. When they are asked why they have not majored in agriculture, they cite climate change and unfavourable weather patterns as issues of concern. They also want to venture into other higher-income sources mentioned above and add that the pre-compensation financial training they received to have opened up their eyes” to other business and livelihood ventures.

An interesting phenomenon in the relocation is that families that were living together in the same land parcels are moving together to the new homes even when each household is compensated separately. According to the Dam Engineer, Kiprotich Tireito who has been working on the project for a couple of years, this is quite a unique thing for the Duruma. “With modernization, most of the communities have embraced the individualism culture but here, it is different. In a way, it is also refreshing to see families continue to support one another and there is still an appreciation of clannism and traditional values.” He adds that has not been lost on him though his main engagement is in the engineering aspect, the dam construction. According to the Safeguard Expert, Dr Winnie Wairimu, firstborn sons have a key responsibility of taking care of their elderly parents and therefore most families stick together. This is an advantage, she explains since the vulnerable persons in families continue to be taken care of in familiar family settings compared to a case where they would have been separated in the name of taking “special care’ by the project.

According to one of the PAPs, Pastor Titus Ndao, this project has greatly supported them by planning with them and ensuring that compensation money is used properly avoiding the pitfalls witnessed during the relocation for the construction of the standard gauge railway. He explained that the continuous follow up of



*Mwango and some family members in their new home during a visit by the RIC social workers*

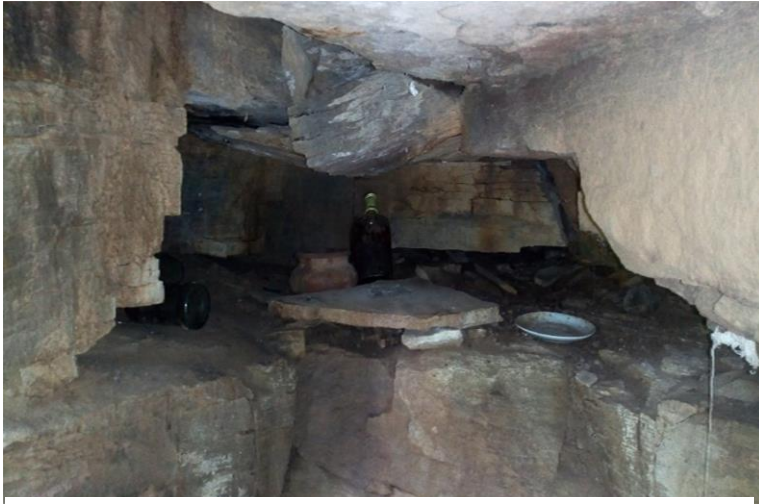
PAPs such as on how they were progressing with the construction of their houses, ensuring that land transactions during the purchasing of the land took place amongst other initiatives has paid off. “Initially, as a community, we felt belittled by this continuous monitoring but looking back, we truly appreciate the project’s support in this relocation process including provision of transport!”.

Amid all these successes, there are still a few issues that some PAPs feel could have been handled better especially when it comes to the amounts received as compensation and though they have relocated, there have been some expectations that this could be reviewed upward. Also, some of them were not fully compensated for all their properties at the same time with some receiving money for land and getting delays in receiving for structures and vice versa. There is a looming drought in the area and the fact that those relocating missed out on a planting season may cause food challenges to the households. The project is mitigating against such adverse effects through the preparation of livelihood plans jointly with the families. These are valuable lessons moving forward but generally, there has been great goodwill towards the project by various stakeholders.



# Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam Project Updates

## Safeguarding traditions: Relocation of Shrines and Graves



*A relocated shrine*

The Mwache Dam resettlement activities have been going on in earnest over the last year and this has impacted many aspects of the community's life. An almost invisible but very important impact is on the cultural heritage of the Duruma community. It is easy to assume that modernization has subsumed several cultural practices that in yesteryears were revered by local African communities. This is not so. The Duruma people are the main inhabitants of the proposed Mwache Dam area. They are a sub-tribe of the Mijikenda community living on the Kenyan coast and they reside mostly in Kwale county. The community has primarily remained traditional and has not been quick to pick up to foreign beliefs of Christianity and Islam. To date, only a small percentage have been converted to Christianity and Islam. The community treasures its traditions and culture despite the influence of modernization.

Among these beliefs and practices were taboos that were seen as social and religious customs placing restrictions on particular things, actions and a person's way of living. Although some of these taboos have been overtaken by events, some still influence how some Africa communities handle certain occurrences. As much as some community members have adopted the new forms of religious worship, a majority of the community still have a deep attachment to traditional worship and the shrines are crucial in their normal way of life.

As an African community, witch doctors also exist and most of them have shrines where they go and pray for powers. This shrine may be found in the forest or a bush. Some of them can be big stones, a tree, a bush, a cave and some can have a house. These have to be moved as well for the owner to stay in peace or continue to possess the powers. Before the whole thing is moved, the owner has to talk to the spirits a day before just like they do for graves. The owner has to call the one who gave them the witch doctor hood to facilitate a successful migration process. Bulls, goats or chickens of different colours varying from black, white and red or a mix these three colors are slaughtered and their blood or a mixture of the blood, different herbs and liquid perfume poured on the ground or splashed on the body of the witch doctor. The whole process is accompanied by traditional music with different beats and rhythms from the locally made and traditional accepted instruments. All performers have to be in specific attires of specific color piece of cloth and the dressing mode differ with a designation in the ceremony.



*A stakeholders' consultative meeting on the relocation of graves and shrines. In attendance: Hon. Anthony Yama, MCA Kasemeni, Hon Ramadhan Bungale CECM, Social Services and Talent Management Kwale, Chairman and secretary of the Mavyonini shrines, Justice Kombo Secretary Utamanduni CBO (the CBO in charge of the community shrine at Mwache bridge), RIC and PMU*



# Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam Project Updates

The relocation of graves and shrines is currently done simultaneously with the relocation of households. According to tradition, it is a bad omen to relocate a grave before one first relocates their household. Therefore, relocation of households has to be done first before remains are decommissioned or evacuated and re-buried. The community still adhere to their traditions in the way they bury their departed ones, take care of their graves and even how they relocate the graves when the need arises. The departed members of the community are treated with a lot of reverence and their graves including communal burial sites are well preserved. The communal burial sites known as “*Chikuta*” are clan owned but the respective dependents of the departed ones take care of and lay claim to the graves. It is traumatic for many families in the Kenyan context to disturb the dead by relocating their remains and carrying with it the added burden of potentially upsetting the ancestors.

Traditionally, failure to accord respect to holy places (shrines), following proper procedures for relocating the burial sites and shrines and other cultural items can have dire consequences on the individuals, the community and even the project. Angry ancestors are often believed to be responsible for misfortunes such as illness, drought, livestock deaths, crop failure, loss of employment, etc. The disturbance of the dead in their graves is, therefore, regarded as a serious matter and belief dictates that when graves are disturbed, sacrifices should be made to the ancestors to appease their spirits. The nature of the sacrifice usually depends on the role that the ancestor is perceived to play in the lives of living descendants. The disturbance of a grave of a person of great community or family significance might call for the sacrifice of a goat; provision of traditional beer and hiring of a customary expert to “transfer” the grave among other activities.

Given this, the project endeavour to ensure that the project-affected people cultural rights are respected. In consultation with the community, village elders and the chiefs, the project has been able to identify the communal gravesites, individual graves, family gravesites, graves along the river Mwache, communal shrines, family shrines, individual shrines and other spiritual/cultural items/ artefacts in the project area

which are identified locally by names such as Bahasi, Fingo and Koma. A cultural heritage plan was developed and assurance was given to the community that all graves, burial sites and shrines that are affected and identified will be relocated according to the Duruma cultural practices and procedures. The council of elders will lead this process.

## Protecting the project catchment area



Coast Development Authority (CDA) supplied seedlings to community members to plant in one of the project activities. Cumulatively, 16 tree nurseries have been established. Dambale and Mwachiga Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs) have set up seven nurseries for indigenous/exotic species in Nyongoni, Marenje-mlunguni, Mwadudua-Vigurungani, Mwangómbe and Mwaruphesa. Besides, two Bamboo nurseries have been established in Chinguluni and Kasemeni. Each nursery has approximately 10,000 seedlings.



*A tank donated by CDA to support the tree nurseries*



# Mwache Multi-Purpose Dam Project Updates

## Strengthening communities in the prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Harassment and GBV

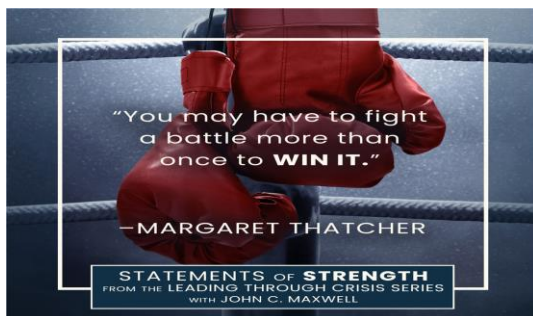
Womankind Kenya is the service provider for implementing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Harassment and Gender Based Violence in Mwache Dam project. Its mandate include (i) Engage with and support local populations to ensure SEA and GBV prevention and response; (ii) Support prevention of SEA, SH and GBV occurring at the community level as a result of the project in all levels of the project; (iii) Ensure comprehensive survivor-centred care and support; (iv) Build out management and coordination mechanisms for SEA and SH; and (v) Develop targeted prevention and risk mitigation measures to address risks linked to Fulugani School. Some of their achievements include mapping of women groups in twenty (20) villages of Mwache Dam Kasemeni Ward: Fourteen(14) villages of Peku, Miyani, Majengo, Madikoni, Bofu B, Vikinduni, Chinguluni, Hanje, Nunguni, Fulugani, Bokole, Ngomeni, Mwachipa and Mutulu, Mwavumbo Ward: Six(6) villages of Nihutu, Luweni, Mwashanga 1&2, Maweu and Changa. They have also conducted a capacity assessment of the groups. They have also trained twenty(20) community focal persons; eighteen(18) women and two(2) men and community stakeholders(Community Health Workers(CHWs), Court Users and Paralegals twenty (20) women and twelve(12) men. There is also a toll-free number used for raising awareness-raising and receiving of cases and distributed IEC materials.



*Training of women group community focal persons*



*Assessment Ushirika Women Group in SEAH and GBV in Ngomeni Village*



**Do you want to share project impact stories, challenges or feedback?**

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