

**NAME: Mariam Mapenzi Changawa**

**POSSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2008**



I am Mariam Mapenzi Changawa from Vitengeni league field in Vitengeni division. I joined Moving The Goalposts in 2008 when I was in primary school class four and my life has never been the same again.

I started playing football with girls from my community in 2008 having been brought together by MTG. My football skills improved within 2yeeears I also became more confident and this led to my

selection to join MTG United team in 2010. Its very special to be part of this team because fellow girls look at you as a leader and you become proud to be among the best 30 girls out of 6,000 girls who play football in the annual league.

Playing football and inspiring other girls has enabled me to get several opportunities, I have travelled to regions within East Africa. In 2015 I was playing in the MTG united team for girls below 16 years which participated in Moshi Tanzania for the East Africa cup and we were proud to bring the champions cup home to Kenya.

Pursuing education has not been a smooth journey for me and fellow girls in my community who also join to play in the MTG annual league. I was privileged to get part football scholarship for secondary education with a school in a different County "Waa girls" which has the best football team.

Participation in the Global Goals tournament in Nairobi was the most exciting experience, I had fun, I learnt and got inspired by some of the participants to persue my dreams. When I went back home everyone in my community was proud of me because they watched me playing on television. Playing Football has changed my life! Iam famous, my leadership and football skills have been enhanced.

**NAME : Esse Mbeyu Akida**

**POSITION: MTG United Player**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2001**



At 8 years old I was drawn to the football pitch a journey inspired by my brothers who would allow me to go and watch them play football. I was among the first girls that joined Moving The Goalposts in 2002. Watching my brother's play was an agony, because I was allowed to play with the ball when they were done playing. Girls in my community were not allowed to play football or even stay out of the house for long hours. When I heard of Moving The Goalposts, my hope was awakened a sport for development organization that empowers girls and young women in Kilifi. I never missed football training, my mother was told that I am a good player and when she once came to watch me play, she has never left my side. ***"My mother is my number one fan"***. I was a very shy girl, but drew the attention of men when I was playing, when walking out of the pitch I would feel confident that my skilled playing would open up the space for more girls to play football. From 200 girls when I joined to now 9,000 in 2017 girls playing football in Kilifi and Kwale Counties, I feel proud because our society now accepts girls to play football, go to school and pursue their careers. This was not the case during my mother's time, she was required to be a home maker, laborer and sometimes they would be forced to get married to older men. I did not want a miserable life and that's why I practiced the skills I got during the weekly reproductive health sessions on decision making and negotiation.

MTG girls are empowered and sometimes envied by the boys because we have the football and sometimes they don't. We sometimes shared our football and this has made us to harness some additional power and occupy spaces in the community.

My football career has grown over time, I played for MTG United Team in the National Women's league, I later joined a football club in a neighboring town, then MTG supported me to join University because my parents were not able to help me. I had stayed home for a year after secondary education. I now play for the University football team. I currently play for the Kenya National Football team; Harambee Starlets since 2015 and this was because of my outstanding football skills. I have been among the best players for her team that has been participating in national and international tournaments. I was awarded as the top scorer for the

just ended 2016 COTIF Women Football Tournament in Valencia, Spain where I scored a total of five (5) goals in four (4) matches during the tournament. I scored three (3) goals in the first match against Benfica Portugal Women which made the Kenya Harambee Starlets win 3-0 against their opponent. We played the second match against Española and won 3- 1 with me scoring two (2) goals for my team!

My team also participated in the Africa Women's Cup of Nations (AWCON) 2016 in Cameroon, the first time ever for the team to reach this level of the completion.

I was feted in 2016 as a youth heroin in my County the first ever young woman to receive such credentials. My mother received this award/crown on my behalf. I am playing for Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. I firmly believe that gender equality is the key to deliberate women from all forms of oppressions and discrimination. I am an ambassador for Change.

**NAME: Amina Fondo**

**POSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2010.**



I am 20 years old from Mnarani a community in the rural Coast of Kenya in Kilifi county which is home to close to 300,000 women and girls between 9-25 years. In my County only 20% of girls transition from primary to secondary school. This means that 240,000 young women and girls have, at most, 8 years of education and are out of school and probably out of work. We are vulnerable on a number of

levels, we are less visible, and most of my friends are out of school, with little or no education and poor knowledge of their rights, especially their sexual and reproductive rights. I have seen the effect of lack skills among my fellow young women to negotiate for safe sex (condom use they many are now pregnant and other' opt for an unsafe illegal abortion, or commit to a marriage whilst still seen as a 'child' (under 18) in Kenyan law.

This situation has not been easy to live with thanks to Moving The Goalposts, a sports for development organization that is using football to empower girls and young women. Together with my young sister we joined Moving The Goalposts to play football with fellow girls. Football has become my hobby, I play with a passion. I have travelled far and wide in East Africa because of playing football, I received a scholarship to persue my secondary education. I live with my father who has been my great support after my mother passed away. He is very proud of me and always encourages me to continue playing football.

My dream is to be the winner of The Global Goals tournament. I would like to go the UN general Assembly and meet the world leaders, tell them of my story of how playing Sport has changed my life. I would like to tell them to promote Sport for girls and young Women in all parts of the World.

**NAME: Mariam Samini Daniel**

**POSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2008.**



I will live to cherish this moment, when I joined MTG's Executive Director to receive the prestigious Laureus Sport for Good award in Germany 2016, I became very proud of who I am. I stood up and took a picture of Rachel, The Executive Director of Moving The Goalposts and Organization that empowers girls and young women in the Coastal region. I knew that this

award was for MTG our community and the girls who every Saturday participate in Moving The Goalposts program with the desire to change their lives. During the ceremony met and interacted with famous people like David Rudisha who is a World record holder in athletics, he really motivated me and I came to realize that sport is a way of achieving one's dream.

I had travelled in 2011 to Germany to play friendly matches accompanied by "Auma Obama" a sister to the former American president Honorable Barack Obama. Being around her made me ***feel that the sky is no longer a limit for girls and young Women in the World.***

I strongly believe that girls and young women should not be subjected to any form of violence and abuse, after being informed about my rights by MTG and learnt skills to claim them I feel I will confidently condemn and champion for equality. I can stand and take actions, educate others especially girls and women against violation of their rights and the importance of educating a girl child in the community. As I believe, what a man can do, a woman can do better, and educating a girl child is like educating the whole nation which has now come to reality since women be in the front line in everything.

**NAME: Mwanaidi Karisa**

**POSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2005**



Taking the bold move to blow the whistle was the beginning of becoming a football star. My name is Mwanaidi Karisa from Mnarani field, am 21 years old and I joined Moving The Goalposts in 2005. When I was the referee of the match everyone came closer to see what I was doing. I would always leave the house on Saturdays to go to the football field with my friends. I was very happy when two of my childhood friends made it to the MTG United

team, Amina and Kache. Amina plays in midfield position, and Kache is the goalkeeper. I was nervous when I officiated my first match where girls from my field (community) were playing. Now when I am called upon to referee boys matches I feel even more proud. I take my referee role seriously and when I make the decision all players have no choice but to respect it because at that moment I do not ***“blink my eye”***

I played for MTG’s team that participated in the National Women’s Premier League in 2011 and 2013, some of our opponents were older but I could defend against them tirelessly. I have traveled to places I only read about in our geography book, my mother has never travelled outside Coast region and when I come back from my football tours I narrate a lot of stories about places and people who live there.

I was supported to pursue secondary school education by MTG because my family could not afford to pay for my school fees. I stand tall in my community because now I have an education and I have received offers to join other professional clubs in Kenya.

Participating in the Global Goals World Cup enabled me to understand the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. I got a chance to meet my role model a player in the Kenya National Women’s team Harambee starlets. Congratulations to the organizers of the global goals world cup Participating in the Global Goals World Cup enabled me to understand the 17 Sustainable Development Goals I look forward to more football trainings, team work in preparation for the tournament that will be held in New york. My dream is to play for the Kenya women national team

**No. 5**

**NAME: Fatuma Baya**

**POSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2005.**



Every Saturday I walk for 30 minutes to join fellow girls in my community who play football, I always look forward to this day because the field is a safe place for many of us. I have a dream to be a recognized as a leading women's coach in my community. I love when coach girls who are below 10 years, they follow instructions and play with all their

heart. My name is Fatuma Baya from Mnarani league field from rural Kenya, Kilifi County, I started playing football in 2005 when I was still at a young age of nine. Being in MTG has enabled me to acquire football skills, learn about my rights and also know ways how I can claim my rights.

I feel very special in my family because of my achievements through playing football, I am the first child to a provincial boarding secondary school because of my football skills, I got an education scholarship where MTG paid part of my school fees throughout my secondary school years. I have travelled around our Country and in East Africa playing football and I have made so many friends through the game of football.

I feel more confident than before, I can stand in front of people and speak out. I would like to become an International football player in future. Big up to Moving The Goalposts for nurturing my skills and exposing me to different places of the world.

**NAME: Christine Rehema Kaingu**

**POSSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2009.**

I always recall 2009 as the year when opportunities opened up for me. This was the year that I joined Moving The Goalposts from a friend's invitation. My name is Christine Rehema Kaingu I come from a family of 7 I live with my parents and I have been playing football since I was in primary school class four. My League team in MTG team is Beautiful flower

What attracted me to joining MTG were the stories I heard in the community of how girls lives were transformed through playing football. Not all families were happy that girls lives were being transformed in my community, I also knew of some of my neighbours who would not allow their daughters to play football because they had hidden agenda's some of them wanted to marry them off and others wanted to take them to nearby towns to work as domestic workers. One day I saw one of them discouraging my mother when she saw me in a group of girls playing football and I knew I had to persuade my parents so that they could allow me to join MTG which they did and have never regretted this, because of numerous opportunities that they have seen me get compared to other girls.

In the year 2015, I was selected to be trained as a football coach in one of the residential trainings organized by MTG. The skills enabled me to offer coaching sessions to the players and made them qualify for the divisional championship; an annual MTG event organized in November.

I was later trained as peer educator and had a role to pass sexual and reproductive health information to fellow girls in my community. This has made me to be considered as a role model by my peers and younger girls because when they come to me I give them advice on reproductive health issues, I have improved my leadership skills, become more courageous and confident.

I was selected as one of the MTG United football players in 2014 and got opportunities to play and travel to many places for tournament including the recent Global Goals World Cup. Football has made me to be who I am today and my parents are happy because I am a very good role model.

**NAME: Sarah Rehema Kitsao**

**POSITION: MTG United player.**

**IN MTG SINCE: 2002.**



Winning and Losing are among the many great lessons we learn in football. It's very stressful when you are a Goalkeeper of a team, something I like doing and would like that we training many women as goalkeepers. My name is Sarah Rehema Kitsao from Mnarani league field. I joined Moving The Goalposts in 2002 through my friends. I have grown through MTG. I had my

daughter when I was 20 years a turning point in my life, its strengthened my relationship with my mother who was a great support, she still allowed me time to go and play football while taking care of the baby. My daughter is now 5 years she loves playing football. Every Sunday during practice she comes to the field wears her training kit and sits on the touch line to cheer me on. I have a day job in a T-shirt printing company as a designer and this has enabled me to pay for my daughter's school fees and take care of my younger siblings after my mother passed away. I am a coach trainer, I mentor younger life skills coaches so that they can effectively pass HIV/AIDs and Nutrition information through football drills.

Football made me to be among the privileged Kenyan's and women who watched and participated in a parallel event held during the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. Since childhood my dream had been to meet star players from very strong Nations. Watching the quarter final match between Ghana against Uruguay was one of my achievements. I met and shook hands with the legendary football player 'Diego Mara Dona'.

Am so proud to be one of the MTG girls. I ensure that I come for weekly practices during weekends because of my passion in football and my dedication as a goalkeeper.