



## Dovetail

by Vickie Reynen, Africa

Dovetail, *verb*: to join (two pieces of wood) with dovetail joints  
**: to fit together in a pleasing or satisfying way**

I'm pretty sure I have both heard and used the word "dovetail" many times without knowing its true meaning. Basically, I had the right idea ... but I do know there were times when I wondered about the word's origin. I've since "googled" it and now have a clearer understanding.

I have recently witnessed developments which have come together in a way that definitely is "pleasing" to me, and to others, that can be best described by the word "dovetail."

For several years there was a joint effort by leaders in the Free Methodist Church Kenya (FMCK) to organize a Non-Government Organization (NGO) that could assist in developing projects to strengthen and empower the women of the FMCK and their surrounding communities. In 2011 Tumaini Women Kenya (Hope for Women in Kenya) was officially approved by the Kenyan government and given permission to operate under the umbrella of the FMCK. After the official approval the NGO struggled to effectively organize projects and begin reaching women in our communities.

However, I'm happy to say things have really "dovetailed" in 2014.

At the end of 2013 Tumaini was without a project manager. Right about the same time, one of our FMCK pastors, Rev. Peter Wanderi, was transitioning out of a pastoral position. Rev. Wanderi has had both training and experience in micro-finance, small business development and discipleship training. After consideration, the Board of Administration asked Rev. Wanderi to begin navigating the way to get the NGO on course.

In the months since Rev. Wanderi has been project manager, more than 10 new groups have been started. These groups are designed to empower women spiritually through Bible study and prayer, and economically through revolving loan funds and instruction in starting and managing their own business and group projects.

These projects are also able to "dovetail" with several other partners, including International Child Care Ministries, Women's Ministries International and SEED Livelihood. Additionally, since Tumaini is an officially approved NGO, it is eligible to receive resources from the Kenyan government designated for self-help groups like ours.

It's taken some time ... but we're so thankful for the way the Lord has allowed things to fit together in "a pleasing and satisfying way."



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