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Welcome to the first of the new FISCH Bites, a bite-sized profile of a Child at FISCH. These snapshots will hopefully show to you, our Friends of FISCH, the ways in which FISCH is currently helping and assisting our Kids. You can expect to receive the Bites four times a year. We hope you enjoy reading about our Children in Iringa, and how their lives are being transformed! Please do think of them in your prayers.

Tibilius

Tibilius was born in Ilandutw village, and lived with his father after his mother died when he was a month old. His stepmother was unwilling to take care of him and so Tibilius moved into the care of his grandmother, a labourer in a farm. Unfortunately Tibilius had to move back in with his father and stepmother when his grandmother died. Another relative supported him in his education by providing clothes and equipment for him but eventually he had to work as a farm labourer and on the streets selling bananas and sugar cane alongside his studies, in order to finance them.

After primary school, Tibilius worked for a carpenter and then alongside a bricklayer, saving money for secondary education. He eventually was reunited with his sister who worked locally and she helped him out by assisting in rent for a room, saving Tibilius from living on the streets.

Tibilius was keen to go to secondary school but finances did not allow this. Tibilius and his sister approached FISCH, where he was welcomed by Atu, one of the original members of the FISCH Iringa Team. After interviews and assessments Tibilius was registered with FISCH and accepted to live at the Drop-in-Centre. He eventually went to secondary school, and in his holidays stayed at the Drop-in-Centre (DiC), attending extra lessons conducted there. FISCH provided him with meals, school uniforms and assisted with school fees. FISCH were really proud when Tibilius' grades come through – he had got good grades, including an A in English, and B+s in Basic Maths, Biology and Chemistry.

FISCH then sponsored him through the next stage, where he majored in physics, biology and chemistry. Tibilius' dream is to be a medical doctor in the future. He has sat his final exams and now resides at the DiC awaiting his results, and to find out whether he will make it to university.

Tibilius wishes to thanks Atu, the FISCH Staff in Iringa, and all the UK Team and Friends of FISCH for supporting him over these years. We are very proud of him, and wish him all the best for his future!