Utooni started in 1978 as a simple six family work group based on the traditional mwethya (work group). Then it was only interested in growing vegetables,

Having prioritized development needs, Utooni began the first subsurface dam. It was to be used to expand the vegetable nursery for the expanding group. It was also to provide water for livestock so that labor would be released for development activities. The National Council of Churches of Kenya and