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QUARTERLY

# Newsletter

JANUARY - MARCH 2015

## Events/ News Brief

EcoEnergy Research Report-  
Dialogue on Land Rights done  
Between Actors

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## ActionAid Tanzania

Holds National Review

## AATZ Staff Celebrate

International Women's Day





# COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I am so delighted to see our thoughts to initiate and institutionalize Quarterly Newsletter kicks off with the emergence of this first issue. I recognize efforts made for this to happen and I humbly appreciate all who have contributed to it one way or another.

As an organizational principle, ActionAid Tanzania gives much emphasis for documentation, sharing and learning. Doing so occupies significant place across all its programming cycle. Quarterly Newsletters are among key instruments towards this end. They offer opportunity to convey organizational messages in the fight against poverty, share achievements and events and also provide space for reflection by other actors.

The Human Rights Based Approach, our overarching development approach presupposes consistent exchange of information towards building common understanding on development issues, networking and coalition building. We recognize this as a crucial process because structural causes of poverty are diverse that demand the involvement of multitude of actors that share common vision.

I trust this Quarterly Newsletter will offer opportunity for regular exchange of information on key development issues and will contribute much to improve efficiency in our programming and organizational development works. I invite our staff, partners and all others to contribute towards further improvement of this product.

Regards  
Yaekob Metena



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# EVENTS / NEWS BRIEF

## EcoEnergy Research Report- Dialogue on Land Rights done Between Actors

The long awaited report of the research on Bagamoyo EcoEnergy Project was launched on March 17, 2017 with day-long dialogue between Actors on land rights. The Report was presented in the presence of representatives from affected communities, local and national CSOs, donors (USAID, IFAD), government ministries (Ministry of Agriculture) and Bagamoyo (District Council Chair), AATZ staff and Board, academicians and media people. A total of 130 participants took part in the event facilitated at Blue Pearl Hotel, Dar es Salaam. The use of a music band added colour to the event where they conveyed messages on communities' land rights.

The theme of the dialogue was **'Implications of large scale agro investment to smallholder farmers: Cases in Spotlight.'** ActionAid Tanzania (AATZ) staff and the researcher presented the research process, findings, conclusion and recommendations of the research. This was followed by presentations of other land rights cases by three CSOs which work on land rights (Tanganyika Law Society, Tanzania Natural Resource Forum and MVIWATA). The panel was moderated by an external facilitator.

Community representatives shared testimonies and vocally applauded the findings and recommendations of the research and urged the government to take the necessary action. Representatives from the government ministry, the Bagamoyo district council, SAGCOT (the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor) and IFAD though acknowledged existence of some problems around



Participants following a dialogue

the project, criticized ActionAid for not involving key government stakeholders in the research process and strongly opposed to the recommendation especially on suspending the project.

The AATZ team made elaboration on how information was collected from local government representatives during the research process and efforts made to access further information from key national and local government institutions. Community representatives, CSOs & lawyers have appreciated the research process, findings and conclusions.

At the end of the process, the vice chair of ActionAid Tanzania Board made an impressive closing remarks urging the government to consider community voices, the research findings and recommendations and take action to address issues and ensure sustainable development.

## Ben Phillips in Tanzania

Ben Phillips, Director of Policy, Research, Advocacy and Campaigns of the International Secretariat has made a visit to ActionAid Tanzania from March 16 – 20, 2015. He took part in the Bagamoyo EcoEnergy research report launch event, had meetings with Senior Management Team (SMT), the campaigns team and visited Policy Forum and Unguja Local Rights Program.

During his meeting with the SMT, he was briefed on the profile of the country and ActionAid Tanzania by Yaekob Metena, the Country Director. The briefing was followed by reflections on the country program's policy and program works, sponsorship processes and financial management.



Ben Phillips in a field visit at Unguja

Ben's visit at this point in time is a reflection of the International Secretariat's solidarity with AATZ and the highest level support. He was very much impressed on the way the Bagamoyo report launch was planned and organized as well as reflections made during the dialogue on investment on land.

The meeting at Policy Forum was attended by Ben, Yaekob and Andrew Mbega, the Governance and Accountability Coordinator. Semkae Kilonzo, Coordinator of Policy Forum shared highlights of the Forum's priorities and achievements, its partnership with AATZ and the overall CSO environment in the country. Exchange of ideas was made on broader roles of CSOs and the operating environment during which Ben has also shared his experiences.

In the visit to Unguja Local Rights Program (LRP), Ben was accompanied by the Country Director, (Yaekob Metena) Scholastica Haule, the Women Rights Manager and Aleena from ActionAid UK. The team's visit coincided with a visit by three members' team from OAK Foundation to review the progress of the 'Prevention of Violence Against School Age Children'. Aleena from ActionAid UK also took part in the project progress review and field level monitoring. The LRP team presented brief highlights about Zanzibar, the LRP program background and the status of the OAK Foundation funded project. This was followed by a visit to schools in Mahonda and Kijini Shehias. Meetings were held with members of school clubs and School Management Committees.

The second day of the visit focused on meeting with



Ministry of Women Empowerment and Social Welfare of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar about works on prevention of violence against women and girls and the collaboration between the government and the LRP. Women's group engaged in jam production which was initiated and supported by the LRP was also visited in Gambo shehia.

At the end of his visit, Ben expressed his impressions on good works done at national level and the LRP. He appreciated the courage of the AATZ team in taking the landfor campaign work a step ahead by launching the report effectively and advised on areas that requires further attention. Reflecting on the LRP program, he shared his advice on the need of designing programs in a way they bring impact and used for replication by other actors, integration and linkage among program works and the need to focus on power shift as a guiding principle of programming.



## AATZ STAFF CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

*By Scholastica Haule, Women Rights Manager)*

International Women's Day was celebrated on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in AATZ with its staff joining billions of people and activists across the world for achievements in promoting women's rights and deliberate on actions to address the gaps remaining on realising gender equality in Tanzania. As part of demonstrating its commitments to women rights, ActionAid Tanzania organized a luncheon seminar to national staff to celebrate the IWD. The event aims at taking up women rights issues and join solidarity with those who promote women's rights agenda and capture information on our





*Women cutting a cake to mark IWD at AATZ office*

women's work within the organization's structure and across our programs and further link it with the 2015 IWD theme which says **'Make It Happen'**. The theme encourages effective action for advancing and recognizing women. This motto calls all actors to walk the talk and take action beyond the rhetoric.

Video messages from two key UN officials were shared to participants of the event. "When we unleash the power of women, we can secure the future for all," Says UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon on the 2015 International Women's Day while the UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka calls on countries to step it up for gender equality and make commitments that gender parity must be reached before 2030. "In 2030 we want to be able to talk about the world that has achieved gender equality a reality" UN Women Executive Secretary.



Discussions were held reflecting on the general overview of International Women's Day presented by the Women Rights Manager and the key messages shared was stimulated and spiced by the game which was organised through designed questions where individuals picked and attempted to respond with the support from others. The questions aimed at testing the staff knowledge basing on facts and events around women rights across Tanzania and globally. Some of sample questions which guided the discussion consist of; *the proportion of men and women in Tanzania, the manifestations of women's rights violation in Tanzania, some highlight on clauses in the Tanzania Constitution that outlines women's rights.* We further looked at the global position on women leadership reflecting on the top presidential and prime ministers positions held by *women and women with high political appointment in Tanzania and how their positions have influenced the change of women status in the country.*

Discussions also looked at the AATZ policy/strategy provisions on women and finally, a story of Mama Yoyo, a Massai woman who modelled leadership on education empowerment was shared. According to Maasai culture and traditional practices, Mama Yoyo was forced to drop school, forfeit her dream and right of growing up and enjoy her childhood. She got married with four children. Realising the importance of education, Mama Yoyo worked hard to ensure that all her four children access good education. Mama Yoyo did not just end on taking her children to school but also she later went back to school and regained her right to education that she lost during her childhood. The story of Mama Yoyo gives a reflection that women are resilient and can make it happen.

At country level, reflection was made on the national affirmative actions that aim at elevating women status on the critical areas. For instance, special seats on leadership positions, the 30% women representation and the like are worth mentioning. The question now is to what extent we have made progress? A challenge was posed to women elite and how they can effect change to majority women who are less advantaged. Do women who get empowered take to the ground and utilize the knowledge for the benefit of majority women? Above all, participants challenged one another on how we as promoters of women's rights scale up and take up issues above the awareness raising and empowerment. In conclusion, a call was made for more actions to be put in place to ensure that the all achievements we have made on promoting women rights should be felt at the local level and women we work with.

# WORLD SOCIAL FORUM

By Samwel Mesiack, Programme Officer

The World Social Forum (WSF) was held in Tunisia from 23- 28 March 2015 which brought together activists and CSOs from across the globe. During the five-day event, **70,000 delegates from more than 4,000 organizations** representing 120 countries discussed a **wide range of issues and topics** including, climate justice, immigration, media freedom, women's rights, refugees and energy. Tanzania was represented by two persons one from ActionAid Tanzania and the other from Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP).

A separate session was organized to discuss global convergence of land and water struggles and on the implication of New Alliance to developing countries.

## Why meeting on the Global Convergence of land and waters struggles?

The meetings aimed to unite all the struggles for Land and Water and against the criminalization of activists thereof. The organizing committee called all participants to familiarize with the declaration entitled "**Rights to Water and Land, A Common Struggle**". This declaration originated from the social and grassroots movements and their allies met at the African Social Forum in Dakar in October 2014. The declaration will be endorsed in a spirit of solidarity and collective efforts and will be a starting point for the development of a Global Convergence of Land and Water Struggle. Issues raised in the meeting included;

- Global agenda- New Alliance promoting land and water struggles in developing countries.
- Initiatives set by Multinational companies to blackmailing to sabotage civil society organizations that seek to promote smallholders farmers agenda.
- Land and water struggles as a fast growing phenomenon in developing countries
- Absence of policies promoting smallholder farmers agenda in most developing countries.

Discussions were also made on the implication of New Alliance to developing countries. Below are some of implications:

- Provide adequate land for private companies hence lead to land grabbing
- Small holder farmers remained as laborer's hence lead to food insecurity.
- Change of policies including those that favor great investment to agriculture that in turn affect small holder farmers to access land and water resulting to violation of human rights.
- New Alliance is about opening market in Africa for G8 countries' products and natural resources exploitation.

As a way forward, all participants agreed to play their role as civil society to lobby and advocate to the decision makers at all level on the importance of land and water as a human right principle. Participants committed to use the declaration as a tool to enforce states to promote openness and transparency to ensure accessibility and control of land and water to small holder farmers. It was suggested to advocate for stopping implementation of New Alliance and make adequate reform in it. It was further suggested that, during reformation framework for food sovereignty to make sure African and developing countries strengthen their capacities to produce food for their daily consumption.

This year, World Social Forum has become an instrumental platform for all participants to share experiences of the struggle against privatization of land and other natural resources. The impact of privatization of land and water pose a great risk to smallholder farmers losing their land. During the meetings, participants signed a petition against land grab in Africa, Asia and Southern America.





*Participant learning through photo gallery during the Review*

## ACTIONAID TANZANIA HOLDS NATIONAL REVIEW

Keeping its tradition of self-reflection, Action Aid Tanzania organised a National Participatory Review and Reflection Process (PRRP) in which community representatives, local and national partners, the government, ActionAid Tanzania National Board, the staff and media people came together to take part in the session on March 3, 2015. PRRPs are done by way of ensuring the organization's accountability to people, partners and stakeholders with whom it works. The event brought together 71 participants and marked the culmination of series of 2014 yearend PRRPs facilitated across all Local Rights Programs in February 2015 in which a total of 1,114 participants took part.

The process and outcome of LRP level PRRPs, the why and how of PRRP, the 2014 performance of the organization as well as its 2015 plan were shared to participants. Moreover, the 2014 performance of LRPs, partner organizations and head office departments was presented in the form of exhibition in photo gallery. Selected community members have also shared live testimonies on how AATZ programs are empowering people living in poverty, concerns they have on programs and suggestions on the way forward.

Participants generally appreciated AATZ's commitments to address root causes of poverty, its works on community empowerment and organizing participatory processes to ensure accountability and transparency. On the other hand, critical reflections were made on achievements vis-a-vis the plan, failures and missed opportunities of the year on the side of AATZ, partner organizations and communities. In addition, major lessons learnt from the implementation process were discussed and suggestions were made to AATZ and partners on the need of ensuring program focus and quality and the sustainability of initiated programs. The need for working more with media, building strong alliances and coalitions with organizations that share similar vision and enhancing staff capacity on resource mobilisation for program funding.

As an outcome, the process enabled actors from various levels to know what is done across the implementation areas, jointly review the performance and reflect on the plan and created opportunity for learning and sharing. Moreover, it has helped AATZ to capture voices from communities, partners and stakeholders that can be used as input in future actions.



# PUBLIC SERVICE GOVERNANCE TRAINING



*Training participants in a group photo*

## **By Andrew Mbega, Governance Coordinator**

ActionAid partners implementing the Program Objective Plan (POP) and other strategic partners had an opportunity to attend the Public Service Governance training at MS Training Centre for Development Corporation in Arusha From 9th - 13th February 2015. A total of 14 staff took part in the training from nine partner organizations. Partners who sent their staff include; Youth Partnership Countrywide (YPC), Association of Coffee Farmers in Mbeya (SHIVIWAKA), KINNAPA Development Programme, NARAMATISHO, Tanzania Youth Vision Association (TYVA), HakiKazi Catalyst, KINGONET, CHANGONET, Tanga Youth Development Association (TAYODEA) and Tandahimba Farmers Association (TAFa).

The training is one of the newly introduced courses at the centre aimed at enhancing skills, attitude and practices of civil society organizations in demanding for better public

service delivery from the government as well as the state owned companies that were privatized.

The training course covered among others; public service financing, budget cycle and processes in public service, ethics and integrity, corruption and advocacy strategies for civic engagement.

During the course, participants had an opportunity of visiting Usa River town to get an insight of how garbage disposal is conducted and how the water supply in the town is managed, both services have been outsourced to the private owned companies. Participants were then able to ask question from the town's council officials and also proposed best ways of providing better services in waste disposal and garbage collection as well as ensuring there is maximum supply of water to Usa River residents.



# FROM THE LRPs

## New Livelihood Project in Singida Region

**By Sosthenes Maganja, Chamwino IRP Coordinator**

Singida LRP has just won a three years project entitled Singida Nutrition and Agro Ecology Project (SNAP) project which will be implemented in 14 villages of Singida district and it is a collaborative project between Cornell University USA, Ilonga research Center, Nelson Mandela University, Singida district council and ActionAid Tanzania. The Project duration will be 36 months funded by Mcknight foundation. The main objective of the project is to test if a participatory; agro ecological peer farmer education intervention can be effective in improving legume production, food security, and infant and young child feeding in the district.

A three days inception meeting was held in Singida that was aimed to kick start the project smoothly at all levels i.e communities, researchers and other collaborative partners. The meeting was attended by researchers from Cornell University, USA, Ilonga research station, Nelson Mandela, ActionAid Tanzania and representative from Singida district council.

Specific objectives of the meeting were:

- Developing relationships – share overall goals of organizations and team members
- Review the proposal and discuss plan of activities in detail
- Discus roles and responsibilities of each partner in the implementation of the project
- Visit some villages in the district and have discussion with communities on food security issues and nutrition
- Review and agree the criteria for selection of the project villages

During the inception meeting, it was agreed that the project will be implemented in 14 villages of Singida district and selection of villages will be done after further assessment. After thorough review of project document participants also developed M&E questions and indicators.

The project will focus on research where a number of academic and research institutions will be involved. Main roles of partners consist the following among others:

- ActionAid Tanzania and Singida local government authority will be overseeing the implementation of the project
- Ilonga Agricultural Research Institute will provide seeds and participate in training. It will also provide technical expertise and support on agronomic issues related to legumes and cowpea in particular
- Cornell University; Nelson Mandela University will provide technical expertise and support on Agroecology system based approaches to nutrition
- Nelson Mandela University will do baseline survey focusing on nutrition practices, food security dietary diversity and farming practices.



*Groundnut farm-one of main legumes type*

# PARTNERS FORUM

## KINNAPA: Advocating for Public Accountability on Education in Kiteto District

By Dinno Celestine, Programme Officer - KINNAPA



*Training of School Management Committees at Kiteto*

Youth Parliaments and their role in pushing successful implementation of KINNAPA Development Programme is a community based non-profit organization. It was established in the early 1990s by people from six villages, to deal with land encroachment issues facing pastoralists and peasants in the district of Kiteto. It was registered in January 1992 under Societies Ordinance 1954 and obtained "Certificate of Compliance" in 2006 under the NGO Act of 2002. It's headquarter is located in Kiteto District, Manyara Region.

For over 20 years, KINNAPA has been working in Manyara Region with support from different donors to help people in areas of education improvement, health, agriculture and livestock development, water, environment and natural resource management, nutrition improvement and women empowerment.

KINNAPA started partnership with ActionAid since 2007 when it was supported by MS-Tanzania. ActionAid supported KINNAPA to implement Public Accountability Project in 20 villages. The project's objective is to improve social service delivery particularly in education sector through accountability work led by youth, women and socially excluded groups. This is through improving the influence of youth, women and socially excluded groups on political decision making process at local and national level.

In Kiteto, factors such as low level of awareness among communities on their rights and entitlements, including that of services provided by the government, public budgeting and expenditure processes, representation in various decision making bodies e.g. school committees, village and district councils, technical committees, village assemblies, and youth councils, has led to lack of accountability among the village and district government authorities.

Inadequate access to information and lack of transparency has made majority of people unaware of their rights to participate in; planning, monitoring and implementation processes. Hence, systematic marginalization is observed which prevents people in influencing decisions affecting their lives and holding LGAs accountable for providing social services. With support from ActionAid in 2014 KINNAPA performed following activities in collaboration with Kiteto district council and respective communities.

- Built the capacity of School Management Committees in 20 schools to enhance community participation and efficiency in the management of school development plans and public resources.



- Facilitated establishment of community based accountability systems such Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS), Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM), etc
- Built the capacity of Local Government Authorities' leaders on their roles and responsibility towards provision of improved public services.
- Organized district level stakeholders fora for discussing on the status of social services, particularly education service in the district.

As a result of interventions under public accountability project, the following achievements were noted;

- Village governments have adopted the use of notice boards to inform citizens on their decisions in planning, budgeting and expenditures. This helps to increase transparency.
- As a result of oversight role played by the School Management Committees (SMCs) in managing school resources, Matui Primary School has received funds from Central Government to renovate two classrooms that were in bad condition for a long time, and availed 20 desks for pupils.
- Leaders have accepted responsibility to be questioned to their constituencies. As a result of efforts made by the PETS exercise, village chairpersons were dismissed from their positions due to public funds embezzlement in Kaloleni, Njoro, Matui, Lesoit, Kijungu, Partimbo, Orpopong'I, and Enguseroengine villages.. The newly elected leaders have made commitments to their constituents to ensure proper utilization of the public resources.
- Local Government Authorities now consult and involve citizens in decision making on development processes. E.g. Citizens now do not only attend Village Assembly Meetings but they effectively participate in decision making on planning and budgeting.
- District Council has committed itself to increase budget in education sector by 8% in the 2014/15 budget year.

The Programme Objective Plan (POP) on public accountability and Tax Justice is a five years program aimed at improving the functioning of democratic structure through downward accountability mechanisms by empowering citizens to engage in decision making processes and hold government bodies accountable for quality social service delivery. Other partner organisations implementing the program that are supported by ActionAid are, Naramatisho (Chalenze), Youth Partnership Countrywide - Kibaha and Mafia), Tanzania Youth Vision Association-,TAYODEA (Tanga), Chamwino NGOs Network-(Chamwino district), SHVIWAKA (Mbeya), Tandahimba Farmers Association-Tandahimba. The main funder of the project is DANIDA through ActionAid Denmark.

## Youth Parliaments and Their Role in Pushing Successful Implementation of Development Projects

*Interview with David Chanyegea, Director of TAYODEA*

Tanga Youth Development Association (TAYODEA) is an umbrella organisation representing the interests of youth and youth organisations in Tanga Region. Founded and registered in May 2000, the organisation implements Programme Objective Plan (POP) on public accountability and Tax Justice program funded by ActionAid Tanzania which aims at improving the functioning of democratic structure through downward accountability by empowering citizens to engage in decision making process and hold the government accountable for quality social service delivery.



*Youth parliament members in a training session organised by TAYODEA*

One of key achievements of the program is the establishment of Youth Parliament. Recently, AATZ's Communication Officer conducted an interview with TAYODEA Director on the purpose and value addition of the Youth Parliaments.

*Interview continued on next page!*

**Qn: What was the main goal of establishing youth parliament?**

**Ans:** The main goal of establishing youth parliament was to create a platform for youth in Tanga region to get a forum to discuss issues affecting their life and society at large.

**Qn: What kind of information have you been availing to the youth to help them in advocacy work?**

**Ans:** What TAYODEA has been doing is to facilitate regular awareness raising meetings/sessions with members of youth parliament specifically on how to conduct evidence based advocacy, Social Accountability Monitoring and how to link their advocacy efforts from village to District level and ensure youth have adequate knowledge on policies, laws, tax justice and accountability issues

**Qn: How do you ensure that youth participate fully in the implementation and monitoring of development projects in their areas?**

**Ans:** First of all, youth should be empowered to understand that they have a role to play in monitoring development projects in their areas. They should have ownership in those projects and feel obliged to participate fully during planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in their localities. Second, through Public Accountability program, TAYODEA established Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) groups which participate on implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development projects in their areas.

**Qn: What strategies are in place to ensure Youth Parliament operate effectively?**

**Ans:** To make sure that the Youth Parliament will operate effectively, TAYODEA equipped its members with relevant skills on how to conduct youth work from the ward to the district level. We have also facilitated their regular meetings and discussion of issues in their localities and trained the leaders on leadership and advocacy skills.

**Qn: Is the Youth Parliament recognised by relevant authorities?**

**Ans:** Yes. It is recognised by local leaders and district authorities. Recently, we had consultative meetings between local leaders and Youth Parliament to discuss the best way on which members of parliaments may fully participate on Ward Development Committees.

**Qn: What is the outcome of your monitoring on the availability and utilisation of funds related to youth programs?**

**Ans:** As a result of efforts made by the Youth Parliament, Lushoto District council has involved youth in planning and distribution of allocated fund for youth related programs in the district for the first time which has led to the establishment of Lushoto Youth Development Fund.

Moreover, in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, Sports and Youth, the Lushoto Youth Saving and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs) led by Youth Parliament has been granted projects funds which will benefit youths. In 2014, the Lushoto District contributed Tsh 10,000,000 (Ten million) and the Ministry granted 19,000,000 to Lushoto Youth SACCOs. In addition, National Housing Cooperation has provided 8 brick machines to Lushoto District (4 to Bumbuli District Council and 4 to Lushoto District Council) to promote youth economic and income generation.

**Qn: What are the other achievements brought so far by the Youth Parliament?**

**Ans:** Through different meetings, we have succeeded to motivate and unite youth in Tanga Region to understand that they have a role to play for better life in their communities and development of Lushoto district in general regardless of their political differences. However, our advocacy efforts made local government authorities to pay attentions on issues related to youth because they know that if they did not consider youth in their plans, youths will make noise.

**Qn: What are the main challenges related to youth in Lushoto District?**

**Ans:** They include among others; unemployment, lack of participation in decision making processes and inadequate opportunities for better education and vocational training.  
**Qn: What has been the contribution of TAYODEA in resolving these challenges?**

Generally, TAYODEA has been Advocating for better education that will enable youth to secure employment in any part of Tanzania in formal and informal sectors. We have also established Youth Resource Centre where youth will be able to access information. We have facilitated youth to conduct SAM in their localities which helped towards better use of resources and also provided entrepreneurship trainings to promote self-employment.

**Qn: How has AATZ support empowered TAYODEA to execute its work?**

**Ans:** AATZ played an important role to all achievement I mentioned above due to the fact that it is the one who funded TAYODEA to conduct public accountability activities in Lushoto District. It has supported TAYODEA financially and technically through regular staff training at MS- TCDC Arusha and Dar es Salaam on various courses. It has also supported our organizational development and programmes through placement of inspirators and the role played by Advisors is worth mentioning.

Since 2010, Youth Parliament has been established in all 8 District of Tanga Region. Each ward conducted election for two (2) representatives of Parliament who will participate in District and Regional Parliament. Currently, the Youth Parliament has a total of 394 youth MPs.



# STORIES OF CHANGE



## A Better Future through Farming Fruits and Vegetables

Bi Pili Kashinde, 30 year old is a mother of 3 who realised that engaging in agriculture is an opportunity of eradicating poverty in their homestead and community level. Living with her family in Mahonda Shekhia North Unguja, Pili was determined not to continue living in poverty while a lot of opportunities are available in her area. She confirmed that being empowered was the only secret for her current success in life.

Narrating her story, she reveals that, before the training organized by ActionAid, she was just staying idle at home and life was very difficult. "I had no any income, the whole family was depending on my husband's little income which was not enough to support all the family needs. I was not happy in such kind of life".

When ActionAid started intervention in their area in 2012 under the Young Women Entrepreneurship & Freedom for Change project, It organised training to potential young women entrepreneurs in which Pili and other women did not hesitated to participate. Focus of the training was to build capacity of 20 young women groups in areas of self-recognition as women and their position in the community, how to demand their rights, social entrepreneurship, lobbying and advocacy skills and how to undertake Public Expenditure Tracking System (PETS).

Immediately after the trainings, Pili and other group

members started to implement practically what they have learnt including identifying available opportunities in their areas. She engaged herself in vegetable farming and batik making. She went further by mobilising other youth and women who stay idle to join productive groups and do farming activities. She believed that it is only through groups they can be able to easily access market information and technical assistance from agricultural extension practitioners.

Pili said through farming, her income has risen significantly. Currently, she earned more than Tzs 900,000. The income of Pili and other members of JUWAKAMU have seen increased significantly and she credits the success on the initial training she received on entrepreneurship through AATZ and the organization's successive supports.

Started with almost nothing, Pili now own her own plot of land, and other small businesses. 'These helps me to get enough earnings that enabled me to cater for my family needs, said Pili.

She advises her fellow young women to stand up and engage in farming as an opportunity for them to eradicate poverty.

Young Women Entrepreneurship & Freedom for Change was among AATZ projects started in 2012 with the aim of mobilising and building capacity of 2000 young women economically, socially and politically. The project was being implemented in Districts of Bagamoyo, Kibaha, Singida, Handeni and Zanzibar through the support of ActionAid Denmark.

# ACTION AID TANZANIA COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPER

By Elias Mtinda, Agriculture and land Rights Manager

Since it was established as full-fledged country program in 2000, ActionAid Tanzania has developed and rolled out two Country Strategic Papers (CSPs). The first CSP covered the period between 2002 – 2005 that emphasized service delivery with elements of Rights Based Approach while the second CSP served the period between 2006 -2010 that gave much emphasis to Human Rights Based Approach to development.

After series of reviews and participatory processes in from 2011 – 2013, the third CSP was put in place as of the beginning of 2014. The strategy defines AATZ works from 2014 – 2018 and is named as ‘*Citizen’s Action to End Poverty and Safeguard Rights*’ contains three strategic objectives and six organizational development priorities. The three strategic objectives or program priorities include *promoting sustainable agriculture and control over land and other natural resources, Governance, public and corporate accountability and women’s rights*. There are nine key change promises under the three strategic objectives.

In this issue, we will focus on Strategic Objective 1: Promote sustainable agriculture and control over land and other natural resources. In the implementation of objective one, the organization is aiming at contributing in the improvement of agricultural productivity and livelihoods for smallholder farmers and fishing communities in Tanzania.

The organization believes that access to and control over land for women and youth is key in promoting food security for smallholder farmers. In Sub Saharan Africa, women accounts for 70 - 80% of household food production. Their contribution is so significant despite unequal access to land, farm inputs and access to information. Given the fact that smallholder women farmers are the main contributors to agriculture and play a great role in ensuring the food and nutrition security of households, the organization engages in promoting women’s access to and control over land through trainings on land laws and their land rights, policy and other guidelines that affect their agricultural work. Smallholder women farmers will be empowered to engage in policy making processes and to hold their leaders accountable on women’s right to land.

Climate change is also a threat to food security. A robust and coherent global pattern is discernible of the impacts of climate change on crop productivity that could have consequences for food availability. Stability of the whole food system may be at risk as a result of climate change because of variability in supply. In Tanzania, it is likely that climate variability and change will exacerbate food insecurity in areas currently vulnerable to hunger and under nutrition like Dodoma, Singida, Manyara and other semi-arid regions. Given the situation and the needs for food and nutrition security, the organization will engage in promoting adaptation and mitigation actions towards a “Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) system” that is more resilient to climate change influences on food security. Across the strategy period, smallholder farmers and women will be empowered on CRSA concepts and practices, and demand the government to support CRSA practices.

The organization will continue working with relevant partners and networks at local, national and international level under strategic objective one. Some of the ambitious targets to reach as stipulated in the key change promise are as follows.

#### **Key Change Promise (KCP) 1:**

By 2018, 13,680 smallholder women farmers, youth and other small holder farmers will have gained access to and use of land for productive purposes and will be effectively engaging in decision making on matters of land and other natural resources at family, community and national levels.

#### **Key Change Promise 2:**

By 2018, five National Civil Society Organisations and coalitions along with local farmers’ movements will be actively engaged in holding the government to account for security of land tenure specifically for women

#### **Key Change Promise 3:**

By 2018, 22,000 women and small holder farmers will have adopted climate resilient agriculture concepts and practices, increased agricultural production and have enhanced access to markets.

#### **Key Change Promise 4:**

By 2018, five public financial institutions and the private sector will demonstrate increased accountability through committing services and financial support to farmers and farmers’ organizations.

These promises are expected to be realized through our national level programs, partner organizations and local rights programs. Consistent monitoring will be done involving communities we are working with, partners and stakeholders at all level.



# ACTIONAID TANZANIA'S CORE IDENTITIES

## Our Vision

- Seeing Tanzania without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys his/her right to a life of dignity

## Our Mission

- To work with poor and excluded people to eradicate poverty and injustice

## Our Core Values

- o **Collective responsibility:** We believe in shared responsibility in working with the poor and excluded to end poverty and injustice.
- o **Solidarity with the poor:** We believe in alignment with the poor, excluded people and their organisations in the fight against poverty.
- o **Accountability and transparency:** We believe that horizontal and vertical accountability and transparency both at individual and collective levels are pivotal towards organisational effectiveness and subsequently reduction of poverty.
- o **Honesty and integrity:** We believe in absolute honesty and integrity in utilising and managing the organisation's resources entrusted to us for the benefit of the poor and excluded.
- o **Mutual respect:** We believe that every human being regardless of race, sex, religion or political affiliation has a right to a life of dignity.
- o **Equity and justice:** We believe in giving equal opportunity for all in accordance with their potential, irrespective of race, age gender, HIV/AIDS status, colour, class, ethnicity, disability or religion.
- o **Humility:** In our presentation and behaviour, we recognise that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty.

## Our Approaches

- Human Rights Based Approach
- Working with and through partners and alliances
- Women at the centre of our works
- Working with children and youth
- Use of participatory tools and methodologies

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