



IN THIS ISSUE...

**Our Echo in
Communities**

PG 01

Get informed more

PG 06

The Standing Agenda

PG 07

Testmonial

PG 08

This Quarter in Pictures

PG 09

Women actions toward child protection!!!

Kilwa District is mainly of a patriarchal society endowed with Swahili culture. Divorce has been a common practice in the area, where in most cases children are left with their mothers upon separation.....

Read more....PG 02



P05

Featured: the Launch of Youths Climate Activists' monthly Cycle Reflection



P01

Kilwa women in Lead to profile their Association



P03

ActionAid TANZANIA FIGHTS THE POVERTY IN THE LEGAL ARRAY - *The Interview*

Message from Country Director

In this issue, we will recount various activities which reflect one of ActionAid Tanzania's key aspirations to overcome vulnerabilities and advocate a just society.

Despite all the challenges of 2022, the first quarter of the year 2023 encompasses CSP V namely **"actions for resilient and just society"**, where women and young people continue to be at the center of our programming works; And hence the perseverance to our priorities.

As we are still in the preliminary stages of our fifth country strategic paper, ActionAid Tanzania strives for social inclusion and all possible provisions to ensure that each of us becomes an effective part of our work.

We believe that ActionAid Tanzania staff, partners, stakeholders, and the communities we have been working with, form the bedrock of our implementations through participatory approach; Their dedication has been essential to our work, and as such we extend our special thanks for the valuable work done during the first quarter of this year 2023.

BAVON CHRISTOPHER
Country Director

KILWA WOMEN IN LEAD TO PROFILE THEIR ASSOCIATION

Kilwa women association alias TUJIWAKI has been empowered by ActionAid Tanzania to enhance their engagement in the community towards safeguarding Children's and Women's rights. Through different capacity development programs, TUJIWAKI has been increasingly recognized by other stakeholders in and out of the district in the areas of dealing with violence against children and women. Different stakeholders have started engaging TUJIWAKI in enhancing children's and women's rights.

The Canadian embassy in Tanzania has recently offered to partner with TUJIWAKI in the girls' rights to education project focusing to provide vocational skills to girls who failed to pursue their studies due to violence issues. The officials from the Canadian Embassy visited Kilwa and met their TUJIWAKI counterparts to finalize the engagement preparations.



TUJIWAKI during the partner monitoring visit when they met with visitors from Canadian embassy.



“We thank ActionAid so much for your valued support to our efforts in strengthening our engagement with the community members to end violence against children and women. Your support has contributed towards capacity development on various aspects, our association has been vibrant in and out of our district. TUJIWAKI is increasingly becoming popular beyond our district as a result our groups at village levels have been attracting other Civil Service Organizations (CSOs) for partnerships and collaborations. This has enabled us to extend our support through our like-minded partners to support women and children located in distant areas where we are unable to reach.” **Commented Pili Kuliwa, the TUJIWAKI's general secretary when they met officials from the Canadian Embassy**

WOMEN'S ACTIONS TOWARDS CHILD PROTECTION

Kilwa District is mainly a patriarchal society endowed with Swahili culture. Divorce has been a common practice in the area, where children are often left with their mothers upon separation.

Some of the divorced women would re-marry and unfortunately, the men to whom they marry would not allow the kids to join the new couple as a result, the re-married women leave their children to the hands of grandparents who are also less energetic and lacks financial means to meet the living costs.

This situation compels the grandparents to allow their grandchildren to start engaging in petty trading like fish and vegetable selling to earn their living. Usually, the best time for petty trading is evening, which exposes children to risks of violent acts and hence being denied their rights to protection, education, and health.

ActionAid Tanzania has been empowering and supporting TUJIWAKI to scale up and strengthen its engagement with the community in addressing violent acts against children through the initiated women's reflection circles.

During the visit to women's reflection circles, plans and implementations were reviewed, whereby reporting of violent acts in the community was notable. From January to March 2023 a total of 7 early marriages were reported and intervened under the support of the women's

reflection circles, 25 incidences of family abandonments were reported and channeled to the relevant departments, instituted paralegals, social workers office, and police gender desk. All issues were worked on and finalized to allow children to access basic needs and other parental care from their parents, especially fathers. There has been increased communication and cooperation among the women and children through reflection circles, children's clubs, and linkage of issues for building a strong advocacy base and further follow-up. For example, in Miguruwe primary school, in 2022 children raised a demand for classes that were almost collapsed, and women through their reflection circles monitored, reported, and advocated for the construction of 2 classrooms in the school to replace them where the government finally planned and constructed those 2 classes.



01 Our Echo in Communities

ActionAid TANZANIA FIGHTS THE POVERTY IN THE LEGAL ARRAY - The Interview

It is undisputed that, lack of general education to law hampers local populations from accessing their basic rights as preserved in the constitution. Furthermore, costs associated with and involved in conducting legal cases have been a major problem for the poor in accessing justice.

The global legal trend shows that Paralegals are helpful and influential in the realization of basic human rights especially in areas where vulnerable social groups such as women and children exist, and the formal legal setups are hard to find. It is by this fact, in 2021 ActionAid Tanzania being a supporter to fight against poverty, conducted a capacity development to engage to train 14 paralegals. This step was expected to help people to access legal services at affordable cost.

Joseph was among 14 paralegals trained in 2021 and here is his experience in the practical aspect.



What is your name?

Joseph Lufunga Gundula

What is your role as a paralegal in Kilwa?

To provide legal aid service

How did you initially get the skills and upgrade refresh?

ActionAid Tanzania sponsored a capacity building session conducted in 2021, where 14 of us were trained to become paralegals. After that training, only 10 of us have been actively practicing in providing legal aid to people in Kilwa District.

For how long have you been giving legal aid?

3 years Since 2021 up to date

What are the social groups mostly

reaching you for support?

Mostly, we get women in need of legal support in search of their rights. Especially on gender-based violence and resource allocation after maternal separation.

Are there any institutions you work with in discharging your support?

Village Executive Officers (VEOs), Ward Executive Officers (WEOs), Police, Court, Religious Leaders, etc.

Have you ever faced any threats in executing your duties?

No

01 Our Echo in Communities

What are the challenges you have been facing?

Funding has been a big challenge to sustain the activities such as stationeries, and transport to reach out to distant villages in the district; also, refresher training when laws change.

What have been the common issues or incidents mostly reported?

Education of legal aid, Paralegals to be known in society that they are providing legal aid service

Can you give a statistical performance trend in legal aid?

Statistical performance is, for 2021/2022, 38 incidents were registered, of which 30 were successfully resolved and 8 were referred to primary courts. For the year 2022/2023 so far 11 incidents have been reported, out of which 9 were successfully settled and 2 were referred to advanced legal machiner (primary courts)

How do you see the legal support status in the absence of ActionAid as of now?

In the absence of action aid, we will be able to keep providing support, however in the event of moving to distant parts of the villages transport will be a big challenge.

What is your call to the local community, Local Authorities, and other stakeholders?

My call to the local community and the LGAs is to cooperate with

paralegals to make a balanced society.



Joseph Gundula, Kilwa paralegal



THE LAUNCH OF YOUTHS CLIMATE ACTIVISTS' MONTHLY REFLECTION CYCLE

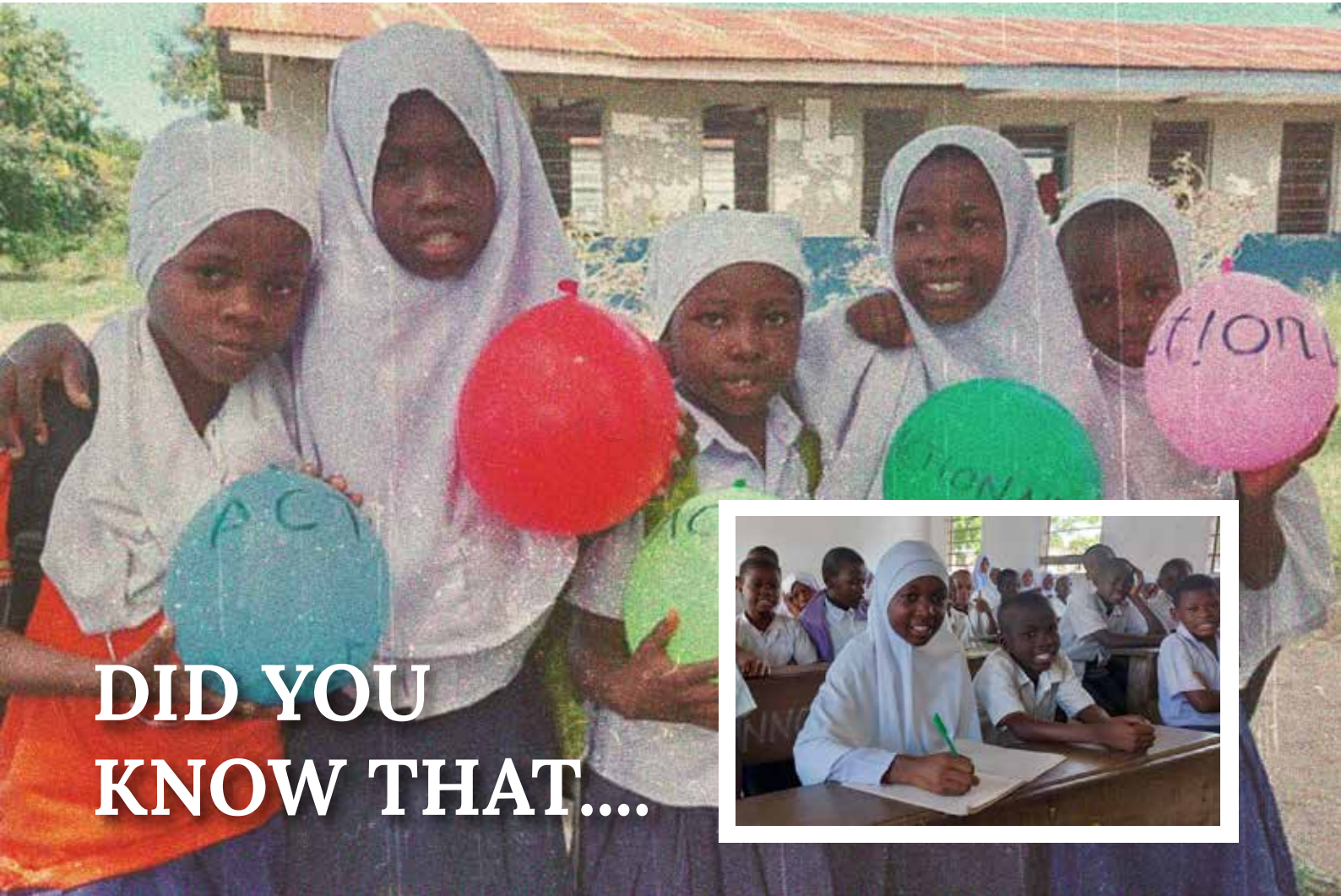
ActionAid Tanzania youth wing alias Global Platform (GP) Tanzania, among other plans, has established the monthly climate change Activist reflection circles program which brings young people together to discuss and reflect on their challenges freely towards solutions.

During its first session conducted in January 2023 at the GP office at Mbezi Beach Africana, the focus was to create plans and strategies for smooth program operations to create a bigger impact on communities, particularly young people.

“This program is among the three programs tailored inhouse to operate within the existing budgetary constraint, but aiming at imparting what it takes for the youths to be in the forefront of Climate change agenda and raising community awareness” Arif Fazel, the GP Tanzania Coordinator stressed.

The session which included nine youths, including six females and three males generated pictorial and video-based content narrating the cause, effects, risks, and climate change mitigation and shared with the public through GP Tanzania and ActionAid’s social media channels for raising awareness.

Community resilience and systems change for Climate justice is one of the ActionAid program’s priority areas, which is one of the changes expected from young people to advocate for the reduction of climate change’s accelerating factors like the use of fossil fuel and industrialized agriculture that use environmental harming chemicals; and influence the asking of policies and finance to redistribute resources.



DID YOU KNOW THAT....

ActionAid International was founded in the UK by Cecil Jackson-Cole when 88 UK supporters sponsored 88 children in India and Kenya. It was originally called “Action in Distress” and operated as a charity focussed on supporting children, with its first headquarter in Oxford Street in London.

Its first overseas office was opened in Nairobi Kenya in 1974 and at that time the children’s support scheme had registered 2000 children being helped with their schoolbooks and uniforms.

ActionAid was the first INGO to move its headquarters from the Global North to Global South, when the London-based headquarter was moved to Johannesburg in January 2004 with hubs in Asia, the Americas, and Europe.

WORK LIFE BALANCE EFFECTIVENESS

‘A leadership-staff commitment’

Nowadays, there have been unimaginable competing trend between the time devoted at workplaces and that spent to personal endeavors. Staffs have found themselves being caught in the catch of unacceptable stresses, relationship issues, being unproductive etc because of these opposing demands.

Equal prioritization between workplace demands and personal ones are important in establishing the “balance” between the two. Time is important resource needed by the work and the life and needs to be “equally” apportioned. The way we conduct ourselves at workplaces in what we do, how we do and when we do, accounts for the culture of the organization.

Staying long hours at the workplace may lead to late arrivals at homes, limited time to personal matters late sleeps, late workups, and subsequently possible delay working in the next day.

The big volume mostly causes this but rather more by poor time management and therefore affecting the work-life balance.

Provision of flexible working arrangements may dilute the effects on the work-life balance and allow staff to sufficiently deal with personal endeavors such as career development, social care and interactions, maternal responsibilities, etc.

While ActionAid Tanzania is continuously reviewing and improving its Policies at the workplace such as maternal and paternity leaves, working from home provisions, Staff have been determined to prioritize their tasks and pursuing career development programs to remain relevant and productive.

“We need to review the way we work to enhance our productivity”, said Bavon Christopher, AATZ Country Director during the reflectional session and 2022 office closure event. This retrospective comment could mean that being productive which is an outcome of effective work-life balance, is the responsibility of the entire organization i.e. management and the staff.

“ Creating genuine support for work-life effectiveness at all organizational levels usually requires strong leadership in the areas of culture change management. ”

AAI Work-Life balance Policy



Testimonial:

CHILDREN RESCUED AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN UNGUJA.

“My name is Mwajuma Haji living at Mfenesini sheila, and I am a women and children coordinator of the sheiha. In our community, there have been a lot of things that have been done by ActionAid to give knowledge to the community on how to prevent violence against children. Personally, I have been attending different pieces of training and workshops on the prevention of violence against children, and I have been able to pass the message to my community members. Also at schools, children use school clubs to learn about violence and how to protect them from being abused. Generally, the whole community including children is aware of how to prevent violence from happening.

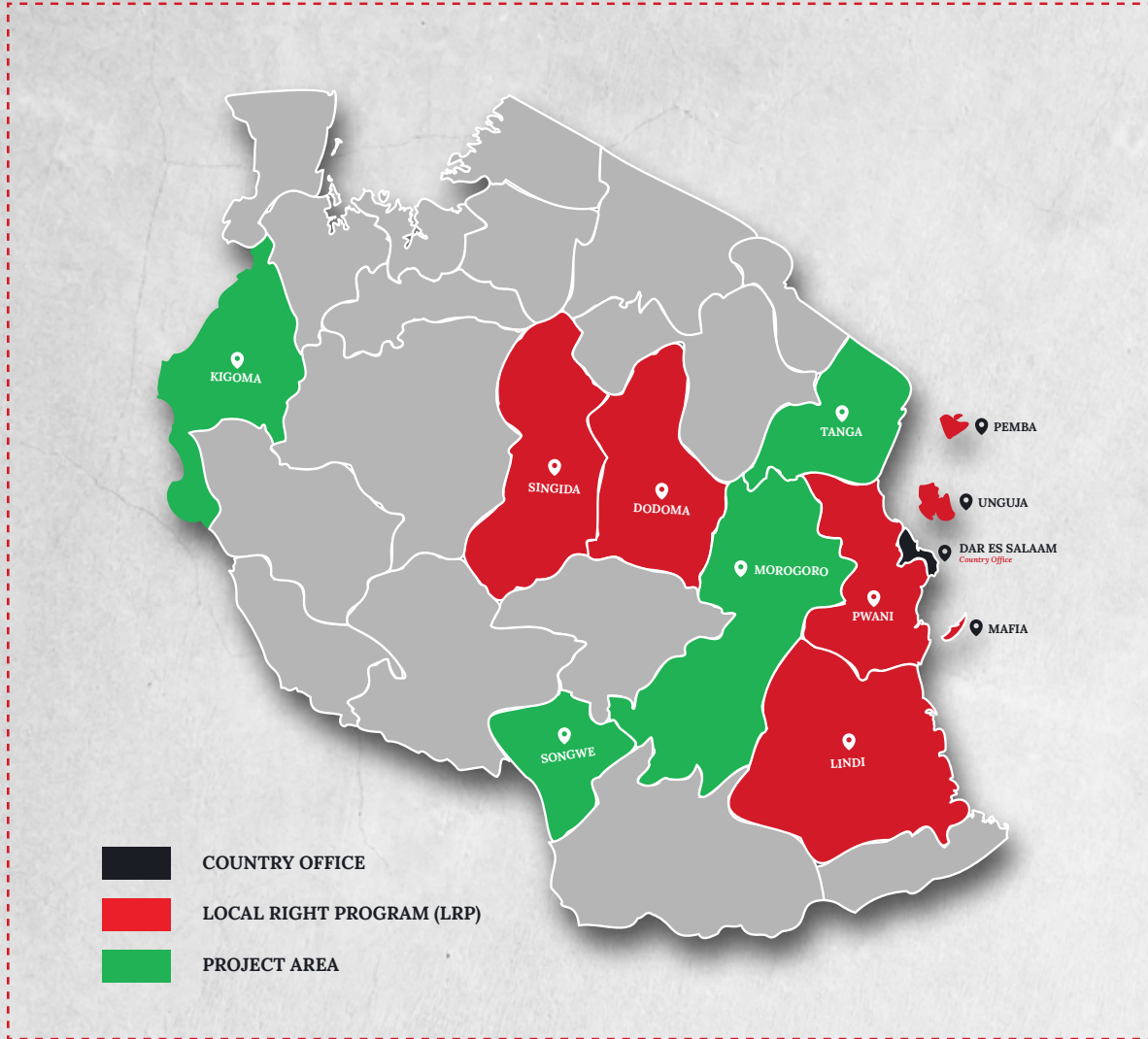
Alhamdulillah! We recently succeeded to rescue a girl from being raped. A girl who went to a distant river to fetch water met a strange man on her way; That man showed her some money and asked her to accept him so that she could get the money. This girl who is a member of a school club told the strange man (perpetrator) to let her take the water home first and would come back to meet him. Upon arriving home, the girl told her mother of the episode and the mother informed the neighbors who slowly matched to the scene and took cover in the bushes close to the long-waiting man. When the girl got closer to the man, the man attempted to snap her; However, all of a sudden the man found himself being surrounded and held under arrest by the neighbors and was taken to the police station. This is my experience on how we as a community can join efforts to fight violence against children. Thanks to ActionAid for all the empowerment made to our community”.

Due to continuous interventions in the capacitating community on the prevention of violence against children, communities in North Unguja are now taking joint actions in protecting children. During the learning session on the Prevention of sexual violence against children aged 7-14 years, Mwajuma Haji (42) narrated how they rescued a little girl from being rapped.

05 This Quarter in Pictures

Engagement memories with the people we work at different levels.





ActionAid Tanzania

Plot No. 79 Makuyuni Street,
HSE No. 379 Mikocheni B Area,
14121 Dar Es Salaam,
P.O. Box 21496.

web: www.tanzania.actionaid.org

    @ActionAidTz