



16 Days of Activism **Newsletter**

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF)

November 2019

Issue No. 1



25th November - 10th December 2019



Adv. Anna Kulaya

WiLDAF National Coordinator

WiLDAF and GBV MKUKI Coalition members are proud and excited to be unleashing another amazing turn of events that has transpired in the last quarter of the year 2019. This newsletter focuses on the impact of the 16 Days of Activism campaign 2019 which the launch took place in Dodoma from 24th - 26th November.

The theme for the event was **“Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands Against Rape.”**

The theme centred on increased advocacy for an end to sexual violence in particular rape, sextortion and sexual harassment.

Sexual violence is still a problem across Tanzania despite laws and years of campaigns. There is a need to unpack the push factors to help inform interventions. There is also a need to lobby for the generation of more data on sexual violence, improve mechanisms for evidence gathering and ensure speedy delivery of justice for survivors of gender-based violence.

Quoting Police Report on Crime and Road Traffic Safety for the year 2018, there is an increase in rape incidences in the country. The perpetrators are close persons (such as parents, relatives, and teachers) who were otherwise trusted and charged to protect victims from violence. This has, in turn, made previously thought safe places such as homes and schools no longer safe.

Most of the cases are poorly prosecuted as key witnesses withdraw from incriminating perpetrators who they are related to.

“We need family Court, Domestic Violence Act to speed up violence against women and children and to hold the perpetrators accountable”

- Adv. Anna Kulaya

In addition to those victims of rape do not report to authorities fearing shame, stigma from society.

Through this newsletter, an overall summary of the events that occurred will be explored, exclusively detailing the night of the lighting of candles, the rewarding work of teaching students as well as the trials and triumphs that occurred during the week.

Through all this, I would like to thank the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children for their continued support and collaboration during the entire period of planning and commemorating the 16 Days of Activism campaign, our partners including the Embassy of Ireland, UNWOMEN, Legal Service Facility (LSF), Foundation for Civil Society, PACT, Freedom House, Restless Development, our stakeholders and board members for staying strong with us through this journey.

Last but not least, I would like to thank WILDAF team and GBV Mkuki coalition for working diligently and for their incredible devotion during the launch. Together, we have been able to reach many platforms as well as addressing issues of gender-based violence, violence against women and children, sexual harassment and rape.

With that, it is with great pleasure that I present to you this newsletter that will hopefully broaden your perspective on the matters at hand in Tanzania and also give you an insight on the grandiose issues that stand in front of us in the fight for women's human rights.

Asanteni sana

Through the vigil event, we came together as a family to remember our friends, relatives, and the entire community who were victims of violence and who have lost their lives due to gender-based violence with some of the names of those who died being displayed in the banner.

As the evening progressed, WiLDAF, GBV mkuki coalition members, higher learning students, representatives from police gender desks and representatives from development partners UN WOMEN to mention a few were gathered at Jamatini roundabout in Dodoma to light up of candles, have a moment of silence and short speeches from different organization representatives to pray and to remind ourselves about GBV cases in our societies.

We also reminded ourselves that violence is unacceptable in our societies. As it has a physiological, social and economic impact on children who suffered the most.



Lucy Tesha – from the UN Women Tanzania addressing the crowd.



Participants of the vigil as they bow their head in remembrance of women who have been lost to violence.



Some of GBV mkuki coalition members taking a picture at Jamatini ground during the candle light event.



Student participants holding up a frame that spreads awareness about generation equality

Over 5000 participants, representatives from the Government officials, international communities, National and International humanitarian agencies working on GBV prevention and response, Civil Society Organizations, GBV MKUKI Coalition, students from local secondary schools and universities, participated in the launching day.

Different artistic performances from traditional dance, poetry, drama, and Bongo Flava were performed to deliver messages and trigger conversations as well as actions to youth and communities ending on GBV and in particular on putting an end to rape.

Bongo Flava artists Maua Sama, Barnaba, and Shetta performed special songs inspiring youth to take actions towards ending GBV. Also Hellen Bulugu a renowned poet delivered a powerful poem.

All performances carried messages calling for every individual to take actions against GBV as well as support victims from students' and other invited entertainers carrying out the message relating to the campaign theme.

While performing Shetta, Barnaba, and Maua calling the youth and the communities at large to take action against Sexual Violence included



Performance from Artist Barnaba Boy inspire younger generation

In 2018 The Tanzanian National Bureau published statistics that showed that rape cases stood at 7,617.

Rape, sextortion and Sexual Harassment, reflecting the global theme which aimed to call upon all generations to stand against rape.

Shetta emphasized to the students and youth that they have the power to reduce rape and sexual harassment within their communities. We should leave no one behind.

The campaign goal was to draw attention from different reflections, societal factions and stakeholders to issues around GBV, moving it into the spotlight and placing it at the centre of efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Guest of Honor, The Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, honourable Ummu Mwalimu (MP) urged stakeholders to view the increase of GBV cases reported to the police stations in Tanzania positively way as a result of efforts to encourage victims to report incidences of violence. She further encouraged stakeholders and communities to continue to support victims and report all incidents of violence.

Speaking on this year's theme **"Generation Equality: Stands Against Rape"** called on every institution and individual at all levels to take action in their capacity to stand against and work to eliminate all forms of GBV.

For the higher learning institutions Hon. Ummu Mwalimu urged the Police Force to establish police gender desks in universities to give access to students to report GBV cases immediately.

Community development and social welfare officers in all districts councils to establish community programs to end GBV issues and to provide support to GBV victims in their respective councils by considering the allocated budget and availability of development partners.

She emphasized that stakeholders not to concentrate on a few regions and further directed the Permanent Secretary to supervise on the mapping of stakeholders to determine which stakeholders are doing what and where.

National Bureau of Statistics shall produce and provide data on GBV at the level of district councils. "Let's move from regions and now go to the district to get data that will guide us on where to strengthen our interventions".



The Guest of Honor: Hon. Ummu Mwalimu, addressing the crowd during the Launching of 16 Days of Activism.

"Establish gender desks in universities and higher learning institution to give opportunities for students to report GBV and sextortion cases"
- Hon Ummu Mwalimu

The government has increased one-stop centre from 4 to 13 in 2019. Also, the government established a free education system for primary and secondary schools in efforts to reduce gender inequality and child marriages. The Government has also developed the National Plan of Action to end violence against Women and Children which is now on the third year of implementation.

She also commended the efforts of Tabora Regional Commissioner with his famous statements on imprisoning whoever is involved in the child marriage ceremony, whether a leader who officiated or just a guest calling upon the civil societies to issue a recognition award to Tabora Regional Commissioner Hon. Aggrey Mwanri for his tremendous efforts to end child marriage.

Talking on the effects, GBV costs 3.5% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) blocking visions of becoming industrialized and middle-income countries. In concluding her remarks Honorable Minister issued the following directives to the relevant authorities:

Community development officers in all district councils to make sure that they supervise the establishment and running of the women and children protection committee in regional, district, ward and village level as indicated in the NPA VAWC 2017/22.

Community development officers to start an online database to get actual dis-aggregated data on GBV and compare them with the available statistics.

Girls should be empowered and not engage in sexual acts and concentrate on their studies.

Religious leaders are forgotten in interventions and training to end GBV. Therefore, they should be involved.

Head of schools (primary and secondary) to submit a quarterly and annual report to the commissioner of education on the number of students who got pregnant in school and the actions that they took against the perpetrators.

And lastly, engaging men as equal partners in ending GBV.



Honorable Ummy Mwalimu (MP) in a group photo with UN Women Tanzania Representative, Ms. Hodan Addou, WILDAF National Coordinator Adv. Anna Kulaya and students from different secondary schools in Dodoma.

Ms. Hodan commended the government of Tanzania for continued commitment to adhering to the global initiatives on the promotion of women's and girls' rights such as the Beijing Platform for Action, Convention for Eliminating all forms of violence against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of Children. The commitment is demonstrated in-country programs pushing for an end to GBV in particular recent efforts to make gender-responsive budgeting a reality for the effective implementation of NPA-VAWC. Also, she delivered the following messages;



Ms. Hodan Addou, UN Women Tanzania Country Representative, address the crowd at the launching of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign.

“ Calling upon people from all walks of life across generations to take a bolder step yet against rape, putting victims at the center of responses and holding the perpetrator accountable. ”

The United Nations stands together with the Governments, Development Partners and Civil Society in support to ensure that women and children are safe from all forms of violence. Further, the reiterated commitment to support effective implementation of NPA-VAWC, laws and policies and other investments working to improve prevention and response such as the PGDs

Globally 1 in 3 women are affected by sexual violence. 15 million adolescent girls worldwide have experienced rape.

Much research on sexual violence in particular rape has shown a long and costly impact on physical, psychological, social and economic well-being to the survivors and how if not prevented or left unpunished can cause a lifetime social-economic burden to countries. In many African countries, more than half of these costs for addressing the rape cases are paid by the government. These include health care, social services, and the criminal system.

Therefore investing in prevention can improve the health and quality of lives of women and girls. The need to eliminate all forms of violence can go a long way to accelerate the achievement of SDGs. National discriminatory laws, cultural practices, and poor justice delivery can promote new forms of violence against women and girls.

Also, strengthening the capacity of law enforcement officials to investigate the crimes and supporting the survivors through the criminal justice process with access to legal aid police and justice services as well as health and social services especially for marginalized women. Having more women in the police forces is the critical first step in regain survivors trust. Tackle institutional and structural barriers, patriarchal and negative stereotyping around gender that exists in security, police and judiciary institution as they do in other institutions.

Dr. John Jingu remarked on the widespread of GBV both in private or public domain calling for all individuals to take stand against GBV. Speaking on initiatives taken by the Government Dr. John Jingu mentioned the criminalization of GBV, free education, PGCD, One-Stop Centers, WCPC, NPA-VAWC.



Dr. John Jingu The Permanent Secretary of MOHCDGEC



Adv. Lulu Ng'wanakilala (LSF Chief Executive Officer), addressing the crowd during the Launching event of 16 days of Activism

Legal Service Facility (LSF), is supporting more than 200 organizations in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar offering legal aid services to communities in particular women.

LSF has been working very closely with the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs (MoCLA) and MoHCDGEC to attain equality among communities.

GBV cases represent 7% of all cases reported at paralegal centres across the country. Statistics indicate that 5226 (3447 females, 1179 males) GBV related cases were reported at different paralegal centres across the country in 2018. In the year 2019 statistics from January to September 7483 (3357 females 1306 males). 94 rape cases were reported from January to September 2019. The figures give a clear picture of how women and girls and most victims of GBV.

The numbers above represent only a fraction of actual figures as most of the rape and other forms of GBV remain unreported.

LSF is committed to bringing access to justice closer to the communities and thus why there are paralegals across the country to solve daily problem to our communities.

Student's Special Performance

26th November 2019



The 2019 launching event featured secondary school students at the centre of message delivery and target of awareness messages on GBV.

The aim was to impart knowledge and inspire the young generation (both boys and girls) to be champions of the social movement towards ending GBV.

“

Great performance is never luck. It takes a lot of focus, heart and hard work

”

Some of the notable performances included a special parade of 100 secondary students. The parade performed its composed song with messages to promote the rights of boys and girls to protect each other from violence.

Exhibition

26th November 2019

The launching activity featured exhibitions from government institutions and CSO's working on issues around GBV. The idea was to provide education and raise awareness among participants as well as to offer support services to GBV victims.

Services offered included legal aid whereby lawyers and paralegal ,provide legal aid to GBV victims in adding their province education on sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) as well as general women's human rights including the right to live free from violence.



Institutions and organization participated also showcased their works on ending GBV and supporting victims. Police gender and children desk showcased handling of GBV cases at one-stop centre from reporting, supportive health services, investigation, evidence collection to prosecution in a Court of Law. MoHCDGEC brought and disseminated guidelines, directives and other publications made relating to GBV, women empowerment and children welfare.



Pictures showing exhibitors providing services to the participants.



Participants as they initiate the discussion for the annual reflection meeting.

The annual reflection event brought together government officers and civil society organizations (CSO), who are implementing the National Plan of Action to end Violence Against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC).

Some of the key issues raised that were concern include:

- There is not much attention given to the implementation of the NPA-VAWC at local levels.

- One-stop centres that have been formed are not efficient.
- GBV cases are still not reported.
- GBV cases are still handled by a normal police officer instead of police gender desk.
- Sextortion is still rampant in prisons for simple reasons such as getting food.

In response to the issues raised, the delegation came up with implementable strategies. This included:

- Build capacity to regional and district councils on the implementation and reporting of NPA-VAWC activities
- Establishment of Gender desks in universities.
- Map NPA-VAWC committees in different regions

Criminal Justice System Dialogue

6th December 2019



H.E Paul Sherlock, Ambassador of Ireland

A dialogue brought together 100 participants representative from the Government, CSO's and other stakeholders to discuss the Challenges, Opportunities and Gaps to End Gender-Based Violence in the country.

Among the main concern raised included the fact that there is a lot of intervention on the criminal justice system which is not known as stakeholders.

Besides, there is a big gap in coordination in the criminal justice system as each institution is working in isolation.

Regarding the matters of GBV the following were observed

- No specific law on GBV.
- Absence of strong linkages between investigation and prosecution.
- Current laws do not put in place requirements, guidelines and procedures for care of survivors of GBV.

The dialogue came up with the followings outcomes on the improvement of criminal justice in Tanzania.

1. Strengthen the capacity of the Criminal Justice Institutions to respond to GBV.
2. Develop an actionable plan to strengthen the criminal justice system to ending GBV in Tanzania.
3. Improve coordination among the criminal justice institution in Tanzania to better inform the NPA-VAWC.

This event brought together the Government, Trade Unions, Employment Associations, Development Partners, Civil Society Organization towards ending GBV in the workplace.

Objectives of the meeting were; to provide a platform for extensive dialogue and discussion on ending GBV at workplaces, build capacity among trade unions leaders and develop actionable plans and strategies to end GBV at workplaces.

Issues raised during the symposium include;

- Inadequate legal framework to address GBV at workplaces.
- Normalization of harmful behaviors and practices affecting women at workplaces.
- Insufficient resources to support victims of violence at workplaces

The symposium came with the following suggested actions to end GBV at workplaces;



Dr. Cornel Mtaki presented during the national symposium on ending GBV at workplaces.

- The Government should strengthen legal frameworks including ratification of ILO Convention No. 190 2019.
- Advocate employers to enact GBV policies at workplaces.
- Increase campaign to raise awareness on women's right to work in a violence free environment.
- Establish safe mechanism and channels to encourage reporting of violence at workplaces.

Safe School Forum (Shule Salama)

7th December 2019



Neema Samwel- Advocacy and Communication Officer- WILDAF. Moderate the safe school forum.

This forum brought together students from Kibasila, Benjamin William Mkapa, Turiani, Tandika, Makumbusho, Saku secondary schools, Turiani, Mikocheni primary schools, teachers, CSO's and other stakeholders discussed the violent and unsafe environment for children in schools which are major obstacle to fully achieving children's right to education.

Ranging from physical, sexual to emotional abuse, violence is a daily grave reality to the majority of students.

The forum had the following objectives

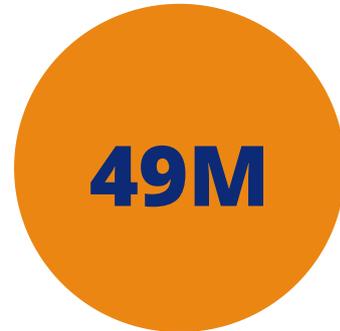
- To influence parents and teachers to model positive behaviour strategies.
- To promote a positive and equitable relationship between students, parents and teachers.
- To help students develop life skills and stay safe at school.

Students were asked to present their opinions on corporal punishment and many say that alternative punishment should be used.

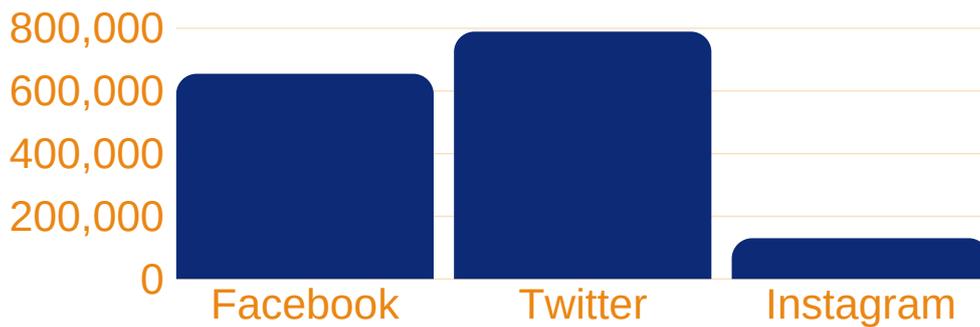
Social Media Reach During the 16 Days of Activism Campaign



Over 49M people world wide were reached through social media by use of # as hashtag



Direct reach through social media



Participants Attending

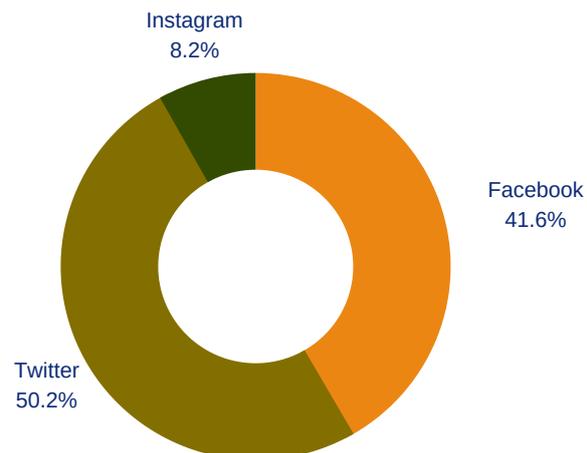


A record of more than 5,000 people were reached during this year's launch event.

Hashtag Used:

- **#Orangetheworld**
- **#Kizazichenyeusawa**
- **#Simamadhidiyaubakaji**
- **#16Daysofactivism**

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Women in Law and Development in Africa Mikocheni A area. WILDAF
Street Block F. Plot
No. 635 P.O. Box 76215. Dar es salaam, Tanzania
Mobile:+255222701995
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @wildaftz