



The 16 Days of Activism

Against Gender Based Violence

Newsletter





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Esteemed readers,

Greetings from WiLDAF Tanzania,

In support of WiLDAF Tanzania's devoted and enthusiastic team, we are pleased that you are here as we wind up the 16 days of activism campaigns that kicked off from 25 November to 10 December. The best part of 2020 was having you with us, rest assured.

On behalf of WiLDAF, we are very pleased and optimistic about the impact we left in our community during these 16 days of activism against GBV. That was definitely a team effort by WiLDAF and our partners, particularly UN Tanzania, UN Women, UNFPA, Embassy of Finland, Embassy of Sweden, USAID, Legal Service Facility, Foundation for Civil Society, Save the Childrens, and the government of United Republic of Tanzania.

This year's theme gives everybody the responsibility to focus on our position as a generation to trust and support gender equality, while at the same time growing momentum to ensure that everyone believes in equality.

We would like to thank the guest of Honor,

the Deputy Speaker of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dr. Tulia Ackson (MP) for her full participation during the launching of 16 days of activism, a commemoration event that was held on 25th November at Mwl J.K. Nyerere International Conference Center.

Again, we extend our sincere gratitude to our key players and champion activists, higher learning institutions, media houses, journalists and photographers for their full cooperation during the entire campaign.

I want to assure you all this is not the end of gender-based violation activism. Better things are yet to come, we are very excited with 2021 and ready to deliver the best.

On behalf of WiLDAF Tanzania Staff, I thank the editorial team, which includes myself, Adv. Anna Kulaya, WiLDAF Tanzania National Coordinator, Stephen Shishira, Program Officer for Legal Education, Trainings, and Capacity Building, Rehema Maro, Research Monitoring and Assessment Specialist, and Rhoda Nashon, ICT Officer, for their tireless efforts in making this work possible.

Regards,
Adv. Anna Kulaya
WiLDAF Tanzania Executive Director

The 16 Days Marathon against GBV



“Stand Against Gender Based Violence ,Change Begins With Me”

The attempt to make the world a safer place to live in includes a sequence of events and efforts of a number of key actors working together to protect human rights and to bring an end to violations of all kinds. This includes the incidence of gender-based violence (GBV), which is one of the most widespread human rights abuses in the world that knows no social, economic or national boundaries.

The Women in Law and development in Africa (WiLDAF) organized a commemoration event with the coined theme "Pinga ukatili wa kijinsia mabadiliko yanaanza na mimi" in the annual international movement of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence (GBV).

The 2020 Campaign was launched on 25th November 2020 at Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre. Graced by the Deputy Speaker Honourable Tulia Ackson, the launch attracted more than 700 participants from the Government Ministries, Department and Agencies, Development Partners, Civil Societies, Higher Learning Institutions, media and the Private Sector.

During the launch, Ms Anna Kulaya the WiLDAF Executive Director and MKUKI Coalition National Coordinator on her opening remark broke the ice and sent a friendly request for the government to enact new laws, curb domestic abuse, create family courts, deal with domestic violence, speed up the review of the 1971 Marriage Act Law and allocate budget and disburse.



Picture No 1: Adv. Anna Kulaya, WiLDAF National Coordinator, during the launching of 16 days of activism campaign against gender based violence

Ms. Janeth Magoni, RPC-Ilala, who represented Commissioner Lazaro Mambosasa, reminded the participants that the police force is committed to ensuring that justice is carried out in all possible ways. She emphasized that the police are against GBV and all forms of violence and that they will always strive to put an end to violence in close cooperation with other stakeholders.

The UN Resident Coordinator for Tanzania, Mette Norgaard Spandet, Her Excellency, the Ambassador of Denmark to Tanzania, and Mr. Zlatan Milišić, also called for a joint initiative to save women and girls from the burden of violence. They addressed the development of safe houses, the enhancement of the

capabilities of service providers, and the partnership to end GBV with boys and men.

The Guest of Honor, the URT Deputy Speaker, Hon. Dr. Tulia Ackson asked GBV MKUKI Coalition to share GBV data which will help members of parliament to have evidence data. In addition she inquired on the deliberations made in the course of commemorating the campaign in order for the parliament to implement. GBV Taarifa App, an innovative software aiming at increasing accessibility to support services amongst GBV survivors was launched during the inauguration day. The application is accessible on Android and IOS platforms providing emergency response as well as resource information on GBV prevention and response (picha ya GBV Taarifa App)



Picture No 2. Hon. Tulia Ackson, the Guest of Honor, delivering key note address



Picture No 3. Panelists during the launching of 16 days of activism campaign against gender based violence

To cast an anchor on the 16-day activism against GBV, the campaign encouraged male participation. Since GBV will not be eradicated without the participation of all community members and the involvement of traditional and religious leaders as agents of change in their communities we hope that the actions will contribute to transparency beyond the government to include the judiciary, the political parties, higher education institutions, employers, and the general society, encouraging all Tanzanians, boys and girls, men and women, to be active participants in ending gender-based violence.





Changing the Narrative; Ending GBV at the workplace

Women are disproportionately impacted by gender-based violence including sexual harassment and assault in the workplace. During this year commemorations of 16 Days of Activism GBV MKUKI Coalition and hosted a multi sector dialogue to strategies and strengthen efforts to end GBV in the world of work

The multi sector dialogue held at Golden Tulip in Dar Es Salaam on the 1st and 2nd of December focused on a very significant conversation that championed the vitality of building a safer space of work for women a gender that is frequently susceptible to gender based violence by strengthening anti-GBV practises in the place of work.

The main focus of the forum was to increase awareness on violence and harassment in the world of work, further strengthen stakeholders' understanding of the ILO Convention No 190 of 2019

on Violence and Harassment and to create the movement for ratification of ILO Convention No 190 on Violence and Harassment.

Nevertheless, the forum took into account the alarming rate of violence and harassment in the world of work and sought to utilize the 16 Days of Activism momentum to champion ratification of ILO Convention No 190 of 2019 on violence and harassment. This is an effort to strengthen legal and policy frameworks that pro-

“The dialogue was engineered under the theme ‘Ratification of ILO Convention No 190 of 2019 on Violence and Harassment.’”

tect women from all forms of violence and harassment. The dialogue was attended by all key players in the labour sector (including the

Government, Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE), Workers Union, Civil Society and International Labour Organization).

The second day of the forum sought to strengthen participants' understanding on the global mandate to end violence and harassment in the world of work, specifically glancing at the ILO Convention No. 190 of 2019. It was unanimously agreed there is a strong need to ratify the convention to improve protection of women and girls.

**STOP
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN**



The key stakeholders of the dialogue, fairly in all groups proposed a ratification strategy and roadmap in the following steps:

- 1 Identification of key stakeholders
- 2 Centralization meeting to the identified key stakeholders
- 3 Advocacy meeting with Members of the Parliament
- 4 Development of Policy Paper
- 5 Policy paper dissemination Engagement with the public

Nevertheless, the dialogues agreed that there is a need for organizing Capacity enhancement training, undertaking lobbying and advocacy meetings and related engagement events, formation of champions and use of the Collective campaigns as important interventions towards Tanzania's ratification of the ILO Convention No. 190.

At WiLDAF Tanzania, we acknowledge the work of fellow key players, stakeholders, and the government as

without them joining forces and collaborative efforts key achievements will not be attained.



Dr. Katanta Simwanza, session moderator and other participants of the multi-sector dialogue on ending Gender Based Violence (GBV) at workplaces



Strengthening support Services for GBV Survivors

In the same heart of the 16 days campaign, WiLDAF hosted a multi-sector dialogue with key players in the GBV case referral system to thoroughly evaluate the case referral system, identifying the gaps and come up with a way forward that will effectively ensure justice to the victims of GBV.

The multi sector dialogue held at Golden Tulip Hotel ,Masaki Dar Es Salaam engaged social welfare officers (SWOs),health Service providers ,Police Gender and children desk,National Prosecution Office and the Judiciary.

The dialogue had two key objectives

- To strengthen referral systems for effective support services to GBV survivors.
- To improve coordination amongst actors both government and private.

The panel and plenary discussions raised constraints towards effective GBV case management which involved the reluctance of doctors to testify before the court due to lack of security assurance outside the court,Most perpetrators being close relatives resulting into most cases being resolved at family levels, mishandling of key evidences due to negligence and corruption, Improper filling of PF3 forms by both doctors and police,existence of tradition and customs that perpetuate violence and Stigma to victims of violence.

The dialogues also raised a concern on the delay of cases attributed to many factors including shortage of staff and Lack of accountability amongst institutions dealing with GBV cases with each institution working in isolation,absence of integrated case management system that would guaran-

tee effective inter-institutional collaboration,coordination in handling of GBV cases and disintegrated data and information system with no linkage between one system and another.

In the second day of the dialogue a comprehensive multi-sector actionable plan was developed to improve inter-institutional case management.

**16 DAYS
OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE**



Creating safe spaces:

Establishing Gender Desks in Higher Learning Institutions

Tanzania is making strides towards eliminating Violence Against Women in all places. The Government is set to establish gender desks in higher learning institutions to address among others, the alarming rates of sextortion and other forms of sexual violences. This initiative was directed by the former Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Honourable Ummu Mwalimu, during the launching of 16 Days of Activism Campaign Against Gender Based Violence, 2019.

During this year's campaign, WiLDAF collaborated with the Ministry of Health Community Development

Gender Elderly and Children to convene a 2 days conference with higher learning institutions vice chancellors and rectors to review "Guidelines on the Establishment and Monitoring of the Gender Desks in Higher Learning Institutions". Development of the guidelines is a step towards establishing the said gender desks and seek to ensure effectiveness of the desks towards eliminating GBV

In his speech, which was read by Mrs. Mboni Mgaza (Director for Gender), the Permanent Secretary for Community Development, Dr. John Jingu remarked that, establishing gender desks in higher learning institutions will improve

reporting, support services as well as availability of data on GBV at the respective institutions and national level. Further, Dr. Jingu reiterated the Government commitment to eliminate violence in the country through the roll out of National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC).

The two days conference played a crucial role in not only setting foundation towards functional gender desks in higher learning institutions but also provided a platform for developing broader collective commitments to eliminate GBV and create a safer learning environment for all.

According to the Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCP) report on Sextortion in Higher Learning Institutions: Case of University of Dar es Salaam and University of Dodoma, 50% of respondents interviewed agreed on existence of sextortion in higher learning institutions. This signifies high prevalence of sextortion in the sampled universities.



The Caravan Route of Change

From 29th November to 04th December 2020, GBV MKUKI Coalition in collaboration with the MoHC-DGEC organized a caravan visiting higher learning institution to raise awareness on sextortion and create movement for establishment of University Gender Desks.

In the course of 6 days the caravan was able to reach four (4) higher learning institutions namely: Mzumbe University (MU) located in Morogoro region, University of Iringa (UoI) located in Iringa region and Njombe Institute of Health and Allied Sciences (NJIHAS) located in Njombe region.

The Caravan managed to engage 1627 students (756

women and 871 men) in all three universities and increased their awareness on issues around sextortion in both prevention and response aspects.

The caravan successful inspired young generation to become active participants for social transformation towards gender equality and ending GBV in the country. Anti-GBV champions or ambassadors for change were identified and recruited at each of the three visited Universities.

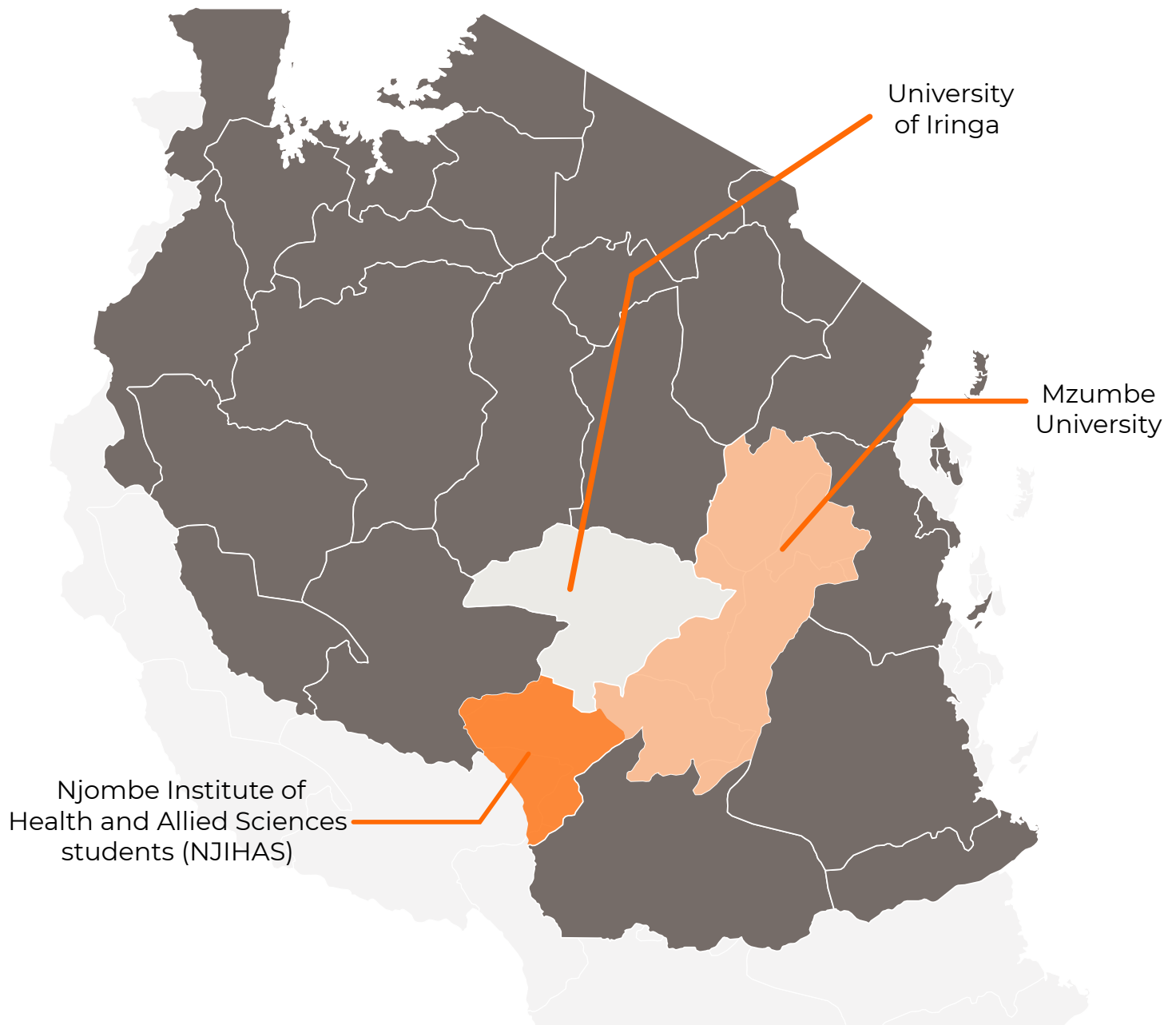
The champions will serve as agents for change and local points for raising awareness on GBV and in reporting GBV incidences. Champions in all universities will be con-

nected through WiLDAF network for mutual linking and learning purposes.

Visited universities' administrations also made commitment to make the gender clubs more effective and planning to establish gender desk soon after the validation process of the National guidelines on establishment of gender desks in Higher Learning Institutions.

We at WiLDAF Tanzania are excited and looking forward to extending this kind of programs to other universities and establishing GBV desks at higher learning institutions upon completion of government guidelines.

The Caravan Route of Change Map



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ANTI-GBV CHAMPIONS

On 8th December GBV MKUKI Coalition in collaboration with UNFPA hosted a ceremony to recognize and honor 16 extraordinary individuals who have taken tremendous actions to address GBV, this includes prevention and responses to cases of violence. They were acknowledged

for their effort and the fact that they come from persistent patriarchy systems, but they managed to beat the odds, change their mind-sets and become champions for change. They are all ordinary individuals doing extraordinary things using the urgency to fight GBV and harmful practices

and embracing this year's 16 Days national theme Change Begins with Me. The award day is dedication to realize a country where women and girls rights such as freedom and equality is being recognized by presented and recognized champions of change as follows;



ROSE NJIRO

Survived different forms of abuse including marriage at a very young age to become leading activist in the maasai communities. She works to transform culture that perpetuate violence and empower fellow maasai women and girls to actively participate in social-economic activities.

RHOBI SAMWELI

Rhobi has dedicated her life to saving girls from female genital mutilation, child marriage and all forms of violence. She was mutilated against her will, as a young girl, and nearly bled to death in Serengeti and Butiama Districts, Mara Region.



CHRISTINA MARWA

She laid down her tools, as a "ghariba" female genital mutilation (FGM) cutter, five years ago. She joined Hope for Girls and Women in Tanzania, to create awareness in communities in Serengeti District in Mara region, about the harmful effects of FGM.

SHEIKH ALI MOHAMMED ALI

Seven years ago, he started moving from mosque to mosque, Madrassa to Madrassa, village to village, funeral gatherings, wedding gatherings, open village meetings, and youth corners preaching that GBV is against religious teachings and later on together with other 11 faith leaders he managed to voluntarily set up the Chake Chake District Faith Leaders GBV Action Group in Zanzibar.



JANETH MAWINZA

Growing up in a community that undermined women's rights, shaped her desire to work intensely in the fight against gender-based violence. She currently works with local government and community groups and frontline responders in Dar es Salaam, to build women and girls an urgency to protect themselves against sexual harassment.



RAHABU KENNEDY

A sexual reproductive health and rights advocate, and a radio presenter in Kahama District- Shinyanga. Running a radio programs on teenage pregnancy, Gender-Based Violence, challenging beliefs that men in some way, have the right to beat women, and that it is a woman's fault, life skill and income generation; encouraging girls to remain focused on their education.

JOYCE KIRIA

Joyce kiria, Founder of WANAWAKE LIVE TV, a survivor of Gender Based Violence, set up the TV as a tool to raise women voices, and for them to fight for the rights including cases of violence against women and girls and importantly, provides a platform for communities to positively debate persistent gender and social norms that continue to devalue women and girls with a view to setting up community structures that support equality and equity of both men and women.



KALA JEREMIAH

He is a well-known Hip Hop artist who is driving change through his music and his powerful lyrics to his huge followership of over 1 million followers on Instagram. He directly touches on social issues, and inequalities, including the rights of people living with disabilities, and the challenges faced by youth and children living in poverty.

DR. KATANZA SIMWANZA

He invests his own time in activities that call for and to GBV and harmful practices, delivering sexual and reproductive health and rights education to both in and out of school, young people.



MAIMUNA KANYAMALA

She is a feminist and activist with believe that when women are economically empowered, they have more agency to protect themselves and gender-based violence and therefore, she has partnered with International Feminist groups from Ireland and Canada to build a global solidarity against Gender-Based Violence.



MR. THOMAS MPONDA

He is the chairperson of the Tanzania Albinism Society and a promoter of the rights of people with disabilities. Like many children with albinism growing up in Tanzania, Thomas was made to suffer some sort of punishment. The violence and abuse he suffering was inexcusable, it could have been prevented. He, however, was determined, he wanted change and he realized that this change needed to begin in his community.

MR. SELEMANI BISHAGAZI

A leader of the Kipunguni Paralegal Centre, who is fighting to end Female Genital Mutilation- FGM. Recognizing that it is not only a women's rights but also an economic issue, he has come up with a new, sustainable, income-generating opportunities for women 'ngariba' who previously made a living out of FGM



DR. JUDITH ODUNGA

A former National Coordinator of WiLDAF Tanzania, one of the pioneers of the 16 Days of Activism. WiLDAF has been coordinating these National Campaigns in Tanzania for more than 20 years. The force that WiLDAF has become today evidences her expertise in building coalitions.

JOHN MYOLA

He is the Executive Director of Agape AIDS Control Programme in Shinyanga Region that is campaigning to end child marriage. He's also the founder of Agape Knowledge Open School. John recognizes girls who have been rescued from child marriage or who have become pregnant at an early age must be given a second chance to realize their potential



HAPPINESS ELIUFOO

She was part of the team that established the Police Gender and Children Desk in Hai District Kilimanjaro. She works with communities to raise awareness about harmful practices including Female Genital Mutilation, she builds trusts, to encourage survivors to break the silence and to hold the perpetrators to account.

HON. ZAINAB TELACK

The Regional Commissioner of Shinyanga, deservedly has the reputation of a bold leader. She works with the National and local government and organizations in strong advocate and protecting women and girls rights –as evidenced by her directives to councils that they should allocate money in their budget to ensure girls can buy sanitary pads.





Representatives from the MoHCDGEC, Development Partners and GBV MKUKI Coalition members during the press conference towards launching of the campaign



The participants of the National Launching event of 16 days of activism, The event was held at Mwl Julius Nyerere International Conference Center Dar es Salaam on 25th of November 2020.



From the left Adv. Anna Kulanga WiLDAF County Coordinator, Hon Tulia Ackson Deputy Speaker of the URP and Hon Zlatan Milisic Tanzania Un Resident Coordinator during the Launching event of 16 days of activism.



Some of the anti-GBV champions receiving awards in recognition of their extraordinary efforts to end GBV in their communities



Inspector Dr. Christina Onyango, from Police, Gender and Children Desk presenting on the functions of the desk in ending Gender Based Violence (GBV)



Jovial WILDAF staff during the National launching of 16 days of activism campaign

Miss Cecilia Assey, Deputy National Coordinator handing gifts to anti-GBV champions from Iringa University



Accessibility To Justice For Women & Girls



Advocacy For The Enactment Of Gender Sensitive Policies And Laws



Women Political And Economic Empowerment

Our Partners



Ambasáid na hÉireann
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