



## COALITION FOR WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS TANZANIA



Annual Report 2022

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## 1.0 MESSAGE FROM THE BOAD CHAIR BOARD AND NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Dear reader, Welcome to read the Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs TZ) Annual Report 2022. This annual report is unique in a sense that since the official registration of the organization in 2019, for the first time we are reporting guided by our Strategic Plan launched early in 2022 and which will take us through 2026.

During this year of reporting, we hope you will see the extent the Coalition has implemented its vision and mission as well as its contribution to protect and amplify the voices of Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania.

In this report, you will also see the efforts of Women Human Rights Defenders of Tanzania to promote and protect the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups in the community. From small Coalition of few women, it has now reached out to several regions and zones of the country serving the hard-to-reach communities such as in Ngorongoro and elsewhere.

The membership has increased from 68 members in 2021 to more than 86 members in 2022. The increased membership has amplified the women human rights defenders agenda all over the country, which is still new to many members of the community.

On behalf of the Board and secretariat express deep appreciation to our members, secretariat team for commitment and resilient to implement growth and expansion of the Coalition even in hard times such as Covid-19 and other human and natural disasters challenging the world today.

We also express our deep gratitude to our development partners; Civil Rights Defenders, Urgent Action Women Fund Africa, American Philanthropist Funds, Irish Embassy, United Nation Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Frontline Defenders, Vital Voices for Global Partnership, Global Funds for Women, East Africa Human Rights Defenders (Defend Defenders), THRDC, and Gender Links for the support. We look forward for your continued support for the protection of women human rights defenders for better future of women, girls and other marginalized groups in Tanzania.



.....

**Maria Matui (Adv.) – Chairperson**



.....

**Hilda S. Dadu (Adv.)-National Coordinator**

## 2.0 OUR COALITION

The Coalition for Women's Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs-Tanzania) is a non-governmental organization established in 2019 with the registration Number ooNGO/R/0367. Its head office is in Dar es Salaam Tanzania. The Coalition was established to strengthen movement of Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania. During the year 2022, the Coalition for Women's Right Defenders-Tanzania has implemented a range of activities guided by the One Year Action Plan 2022/2023, which contains five outcomes derived from five objectives.

### Our Vision

A Tanzania/Society in which all women and girls are free from all sorts of human rights abuses.

### Our Mission

To empower, protect and strengthen a vibrant movement of WHRDs. We do this through evidence-based advocacy, capacity building of member organizations and providing protection support to WHRDs.

### Strategic Areas of Focus

#### *Movement Building*

The choice of this pathway is informed by the Coalition's recognition of the significant role that women movements have played in the social development of Tanzania and the potential they still hold.

While some practitioners and activists describe the women's movement in Tanzania to be fragmented, siloed and insular, others feel that while some divisive issues still remain unresolved, Tanzania women's movements are alive and visible in so far as there has been a collective response to some major needs of women and Special groups in the country.

## *Working for a Safer Environment*

The promotion and protection of WHRDs requires an appropriate enabling and safer working environment. In fact, it often requires overcoming structural constraints that deny the spaces to operate safely and free from violence in the Country.

The Coalition has a strong advocacy agenda and commitment that is expected to lead to the recognition of WHRDs by relevant government agencies and an improvement in the legal and institutional environment.

### **Main Strategic Objectives**

- Coordination of Women Human Rights Defenders of Tanzania
- Capacity Building to WHRDs on human rights instruments.
- Evidence based Advocacy through Research and Documentation
- Protection Support for Women Human Rights Defenders at risks and threats
- Collaborate with Government and human Rights stakeholders for Protection of WHRDs to Promote human Rights in Tanzania.

## **3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN THE YEAR 2022**

### **3.1 Outcome # 1: Evidence Based Advocacy**

***Objective:** Facilitate the visibility and recognition of women human rights defenders in Tanzania and document their struggles, researching, producing and disseminating information, successes and challenges.*

The implemented activities under this objective were: -

#### **3.1.1 Virtual National Dialogue on Emerged Brutal Killings of Women and Girls**

On February 11, 2022, the Coalition for Women's Human Rights Defenders (CWHRDs-Tz) conducted a one-day virtual dialogue to discuss on women's rights, GBV as well as the emerged brutal killings in Tanzania. The activity was a result of the increased cases of GBV and brutal killings most of victims being women. The aim of the dialogue was to find out possible causes of brutal killings in the community, assess the status of ongoing interventions to prevent it as well as recommend on

rigorous measures to be taken to curb the vice. The dialogue brought together 149 people comprising of coalition members, other human rights defenders in the United Republic of Tanzania, Freedom House Data Driven Working Members, media stakeholders, Muslim and Christian clerics, Development partners as well as Human rights activists in the country.

The participants in the dialogue recommended several ways to end the problem including learning best practices from other countries to embrace culture of equality and stop culture of violence. In addition, the dialogue recommended for CSOs, media and all stakeholders to come with joint efforts and continue with awareness creation to protect the right to life particularly of women and girl's rights. Other recommendation called on religious leaders and community to speak out against violence in and outside the worship houses and marriage events. They also recommended review and amendment of the laws and customs that perpetuate GBV such as the Marriage Act of 1971 as well as focusing in improving people's mental health. The dialogue participant also recommended for stakeholders to come out with a joint strategy to make GBV a national agenda as well as changing people's attitude and behaviors' of seeing GBV as the family and private issue, something which is a stumbling block for early reporting of signs of violence.

On its part, the Coalition called on active-duty bearers to take actions against perpetrators of brutal killings and GBV, increase protection of girls and women rights as well as to sustain peace within the country.

### **3.1.3 International Women's Day Commemoration Dialogue on the Efforts of WHRDs to Combat Climate Change**

The Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs-Tz) in collaboration with its member Women in Action Towards Economic Development (WATED) conducted a dialogue on the Efforts of WHRDs to Combat Climate Change impacts to women and girls during the commemoration of International Women's Day 8th March 2022 at Handeni District in Tanga region. The dialogue coincided with the theme for the year 2022 International Women's Day ***"Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow"***. In total 43 participants (35 women and 18 men) among the attended, 25 were youth (21 women and 4 men) from WHRDs, CSOs, Local Government Authorities and media attended the event.



The dialogue was intended to discuss the impacts of climate change to the marginalized group especially women and girls. The event also recognized the efforts of women and girls (WHRDs) of climate change adaptation, mitigation and response for sustainable development.



*Ms Rose Ugulumu (CWHRDs Board Member) makes presentation during the climate change impacts and adaptation dialogue in Handeni Tanga*

During the dialogue, participants got a chance to watch documentary video recorded from Mazingara Ward, Handeni District explaining on the impacts of climate change to women and girls. The impacts including: - increased risk of violence against women and girls and increased risk of child marriage the situation pushing women to become more economically dependent on men. It was also revealed that girls are more likely to miss classes or drop out of school due to lack of water for sanitation and increased engagement in the domestic roles mainly of fetching water and collecting firewood. Climate change also increased risk of maternal mortality rate.



*A group photo of participants of dialogue on climate change impact and adaptation during the commemoration of International*

It was revealed that, despite women being disproportionately affected by climate change, they play a crucial role in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Women have the knowledge and understanding of what is needed to adapt to changing environmental conditions and to come up with practical solutions. But gender inequality (restricted land rights, lack of access to financial resources, training and technology and limited access to political decision-making spheres) often prevent them from playing a full role in tackling climate change and other environmental challenges.

### 3.1.4 Campaign against Online Gender Based Violence for WHRDs and Women

On March 22, 2022 Coalition launched the second campaign against online GBV themed “*Nasimama Dhidi ya Ukatili wa Kijinsia Mitandaoni*” (*I stand against online GBV*). During the campaign, social media posters with different messages were posted based on equal rights to use social media, legal implications of online GBV et,c aimed at protecting the rights of women and girls including WHRDs and women in leadership against online gender-based violence.



*One of the posters carrying different messages against online gender-based violence*



### **3.1.5 Mapping of Women Human Rights Defenders**

To realize this overarching objective, the Coalition conducted mapping exercise to establish evidence-based advocacy information on the WHRDs dealing with human rights issues, their roles, capacities and challenges including risks and security they are facing in their daily operation. The activity conducted from September and November 2022 was to strengthen the advocacy roles of Women Human Rights Defenders in addressing the rights of women, girls and other vulnerable groups in the area of operation of the Coalition.

The exercise reached out to 120 individual respondents through questionnaire and more than 10 key informants were interviewed through Key Informant's Guide. The Coalition was able to produce the report and shared preliminary findings to stakeholders during the International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on 29 November, 2022.

### **3.1.6 International Women Human Rights Defenders Day Commemoration**

The International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders is commemorated annually on 29 November. This year, the Coalition commemorated the day in Dodoma with objectives to appreciate the roles of Women Human Rights Defenders and to promote working in solidarity in defending human rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups. The event was preceded with various panel and plenary discussion with human rights prominent from women's rights defenders, government leaders and academicians.

The preliminary finding of mapping report was shared to highlight their roles and responsibilities in defending women's rights in the community, challenges and chart the way forward on addressing the challenges in solidarity. More than 100 WHRDs, government officials, representatives from, CSOs, Development Partners, international organizations and media people attended the event.

### **3.1.7 Training of WHRDS on Impacts of Climate Change and Gender Based Violence**

The training held in Handeni and Bagamoyo Districts between 16 and 25 October 2022 reached WHRDs in rural areas with the purpose of imparting knowledge on Climate change impact and its relation to Gender based violence.

In total, 80 WHRDs from Handeni and Bagamoyo Districts, NGOs, CBOs, small business groups and savings groups attended the training. Areas touched during the training included introduction to Climate change concepts, its impact to the enjoyment of human rights,

women right and how climate change contribute to Gender Based Violence (GBV). The participants also learned on how to create network to report cases of GBV related to climate change impact as the way forward to reduce climate change impacts.

The short term outcomes of this activity was creation of three groups of women human rights defenders to support women and girls facing climate change effects. . The tasks of the groups will be to educate the local population about how climate change contribute to GBV, report incidents of GBV and document the cases of GBV. The coalition provided counter Books and trained groups for effective documentation and reporting.

### **3.1.8 Media Advocacy, Publicity and Visibility**

During this reporting period, Coalition managed to increase advocacy and visibility through mainstream and social media.

In 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the Coalition issued statements condemning acts of violence against women in political parties. The Coalition condemned the act NCCR Mageuzi to force and threaten her General Secretary Ms. Martha R .Chiomba to resign her position with the reason that caused chaos within the party. Following the situation, CWHRDs-Tz issued a statement through social media to call political parties to protect and respect the civil and political rights of women and girls. The Coalition further requested the registrar of Political Parties to ensure all political parties adhere to Party Constitution, National Constitution and other laws and guidelines.

In May, 2022 the Coalition issued another statement to call for action against the emerging brutal killings of women and girls in the country. The source of killings were claimed in the name of jealousy among intimate partners. The statement demanded the Government accountability to protect women and girls from extremes gender based violence that attribute to violate the rights to life.

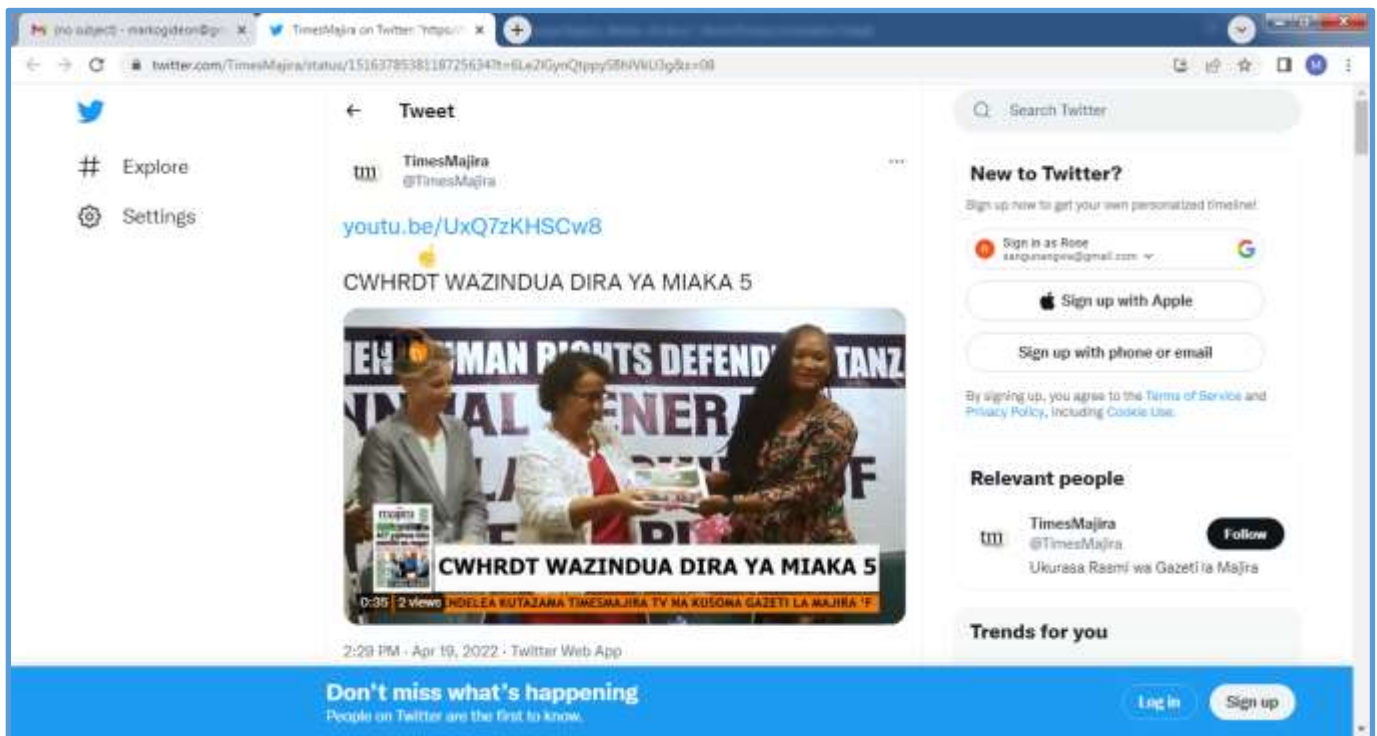
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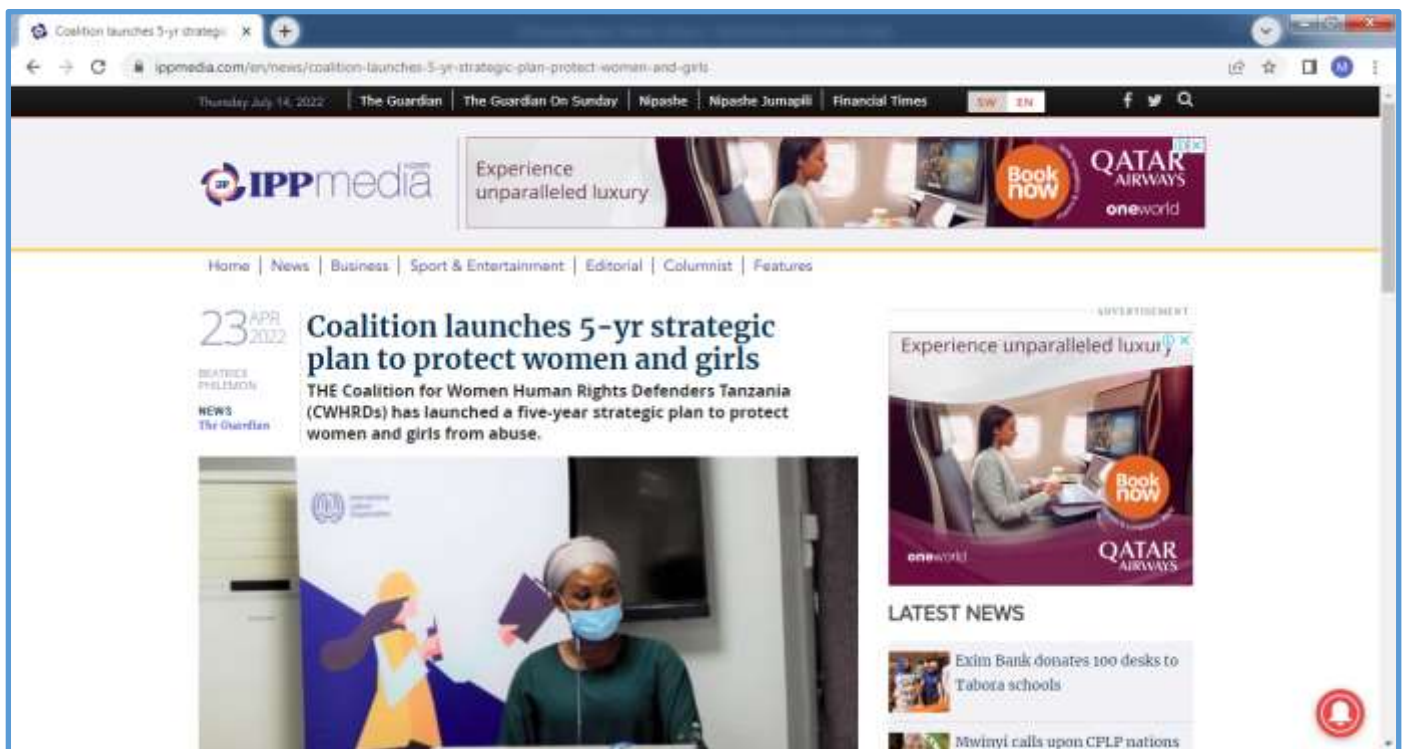
*CWHRDs Tz National Coordinator, Hilda Dadu speaks during the issuing of press statement to condemn brutal killing of women and girls mostly by intimate partners*

The coalition submitted the recommendations to the National Task Force of Political and Multiparty Democracy on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. The recommendations based on enhancing the interest of women and girls in political positions and those who intend to inter in politics and condemn acts of discrimination and gender-based violence occurring during political processes. This is in line with the coalition goal of promoting and creating safe enabling environment for defending the rights of women, girls and special groups.

The Coalition events and activities also attracted publicity through mainstream and social media. See the pictures below.



link <https://twitter.com/TimesMajira/status/1516378538118725634?t=6Le2lGynQtpySBhIVkU3g&s=08>



link <https://www.ippmedia.com/en/news/coalition-launches-5-yr-strategic-plan-protect-women-and-girls>







# WHRDs urged to forge links with parliament, networks

The Guardian April 22, 2022

By Beatrice Philimon

WOMEN Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) have been urged to strengthening partnerships with Parliament and other networks such as Tanzania Women Parliamentary Group (TWPAG), Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA) to support reforms of legislation and policies.

UN Women Country Representative, Hodan Adou made the remarks yesterday when speaking at the launch the Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs) five-year strategic plan.

Hodan said some of the policies have been a thorny as it bars them from freedom of association, assembly, and expand the room of civic space.

She said strengthening partnerships is crucial to easily address hurdles prevent WHRDs from exercising their rights to political participation.

She also advised them to build strong relationships with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), such as conducting joint gender-sensitive analyses on national legisla-

tion, policies and programmes to ensure compliance with the state's international human rights obligations.

Other issues includes strengthening capacities on the administration of justice to ensure effective access to justice by WHRDs, developing protection protocols and to act as referral channels to report cases of intimidation, threats and reprisals against WHRDs.

UN Women as a part of the UN System in Tanzania strongly believes that the significant role of Defenders of women's rights in bringing about positive development outcomes must be recognized and supported.

It is on this basis that in 2020, UN Women developed a guidance note on -Supporting Women Human Rights Defenders which provides a model of integrated action to guide our collaboration with, and support to WHRDs.

She was pleased to note that the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Tanzania plays an important role in strengthening engagement with civil society organizations

and WHRDs.

As national, regional, and international human rights protection mechanisms can offer remedies and protection for violations or threats. "I encourage you to actively participate in these mechanisms, particularly through the preparation of shadow reports to human rights reporting processes such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

CHRGG's chairman, Judge (rtd) Mathew Mwaimu noted that his commission is working tirelessly to promote and protect the rights of human rights defenders.

So far, he said that the commission in collaboration with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) have conducted a baseline assessment to 13 Tanzanian Mainland ministries, departments, National Institutions and Agencies especially those in one way or another encounter with human rights defenders in their day to day activities.





### 3.2 Outcome # 2: Improved Membership Affairs

**Objective:** *Building capacities of WHRDs members of the coalition through other national women's movements, women's rights organizations and networks as well as promoting collaboration and coordination among human rights and women's rights organizations at the national level to strengthen responses concerning safety and wellbeing of WHRDs of Tanzania.*

Under this Outcome, the following were the activities implemented: -

#### 3.2.1 Capacity Building for WHRDs on International Human Rights Mechanisms

The launching of CWHRDs-Tz Strategic Plan for 2022-2026 on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 was accompanied with the learning session on the International, Regional and Sub regional human rights mechanisms.

The objective of the session was to enhance understanding of human rights mechanisms to WHRDs increase access to justice for Women, Girls and other groups. Through that session, WHRDs gained understanding on the International Human Rights instruments including:

- 1949 Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR)
- 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)
- 1966 – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- 1966 – International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)



- 1979 – International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The session was technically and financially supported by UN OHCHR EARO.



*Ms. Catherine from UN OHCHR East Africa Regional office – Ethiopia facilitates during the learning session on the International Human Rights Mechanisms*

### 3.2.2 Capacity Building on Monitoring, Documenting and Reporting on Economic Social Cultural Rights for WHRDs and CSOs of Tanzania

On 27-28 June 2022 CWHRDs TZ conducted Capacity building to WHRDs on methodology for monitoring, documenting and reporting progressive realization of the right to health, food and water () and engagement with human rights mechanisms and Treaty Reporting (African Commission on Human and People's Rights, TBs, UPR and Special Procedures) on thematic Economic Social Cultural rights issues.

WHRDs increased understanding on Human Rights indicators and frameworks, which help to monitor implementation of human rights. WHRDs also learned on methodology for monitoring progressive realization of the right to the highest attainable of physical and mental health including monitoring laws and policies, budgets and practices.

WHRDs were familiarized with the 2030 Agenda, its Sustainable Development Goals and their linkage with human rights, gained experience on justifiability of Economic Social Cultural Rights on strategic litigation of maternal health.

The participants were also informed to understand that National Human right Action plan should recognize the protection and promotion of human rights and not limited to a single topic, sector, or government ministries, departments or agency and it should identify twenty-three human rights issues including economic, social and cultural rights that address the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.



*Group photo of WHRDs, facilitators and commissioner from CHRAGG attended the training on monitoring, documentation and reporting on Economic, Social Cultural Rights.*

In order to fill the existing capacity gap to Women human rights defenders and women led organizations, in monitoring, documenting and reporting accountability, accessibility, quality and availability of right to health in Tanzania, The coalition worked and built capacities of 40 WHRDs from CSOs to understand the aspects of monitoring, documenting and reporting issues regarding health rights. UN OHCHR East Africa provided Technical Assistant to the team of WHRDs of Tanzania.

### **3.1.2 Dialogue on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights**

The Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania conducted the dialogue discussion on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights to find out the understanding of the availability of post-abortion care services to women and girls in the country.



*Participants of the discussion dialogue on SRHR and available services of post abortion care for women and girls*

This activity was done in collaboration with the coalition member Young and Alive Initiative (YAI). The Dialogue aimed at increasing understanding and awareness to WHRDs of Tanzania on sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) by discussing how unsafe abortion and lack of post-abortion care services affect the reproductive health of women and girls as well as recommend the strategies to solve the problem.

The strategies recommended include making information on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights including post abortion care affordable, available and accessible. Other recommendations focus on expansion of the quality post-abortion care services, building community's capacity to increase their understanding that Sexual Reproductive Health is a human right, improve health provider's ability to offer abortion services within the current legal context and increasing access and utilization of family planning methods.

### **3.3 Outcome # 3: Institutional Development and Sustainability**

**Objective:** *To strengthen human and financial resources, improve secretariat members, to improve governance programs, Board of directors' performances and motivate staff and volunteers.*

Some of the activities falls under this area were as follows: -

The Coalition launched its five years Strategic Plan from 2022-2026 with the theme ***"Create safer working environment for WHRDs to ensure women's and girl's rights are protected."***



The CWHRDs-TZ Strategic plan for 2022 -2026 based on two focus thematic areas which are i) Creating resilient and robust movements and ii.) Create a safer working environment for women human rights defenders.



*Ms. Hodan Adou -UN Women Country Representative (up left), Mr. Onesmo Olungurumwa-THRDC National Coordinator (up right), Retired Judge Mathew Mwaimu Chairperson CHRAGG (down left) and Mr. Daniel Lema-Freedom House (down right) during the Launch of Strategic Plan*

The launch of Strategic Plan held on **19<sup>th</sup> April 2022** in Dar es Salaam was officiated by the Guest of Honor **Ms. Hodan Addou**, the Country representative from UN-Women. The event was attended by **94 participants** (73 women and 21 men) the youth were 36 (26 female and 10 male) and 3 people with disabilities (2 female and 1 male). The participants were drive from CWHRDs-TZ, journalists, development partners, CSOs and Government Officials.

### 3.3.2 CWHRDs-Tz Annual General Meeting

On **20<sup>th</sup> April, 2022** the coalition held its **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)** with its **68 members** of the coalition who gathered from rural and urban areas of Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. During AGM members were able to discussed annual activity financial reports of 2021 as well as e election of Members of Board of Directors.

New Board of Directors (4members) were elected and 2 members were re-elected to support secretariat on the implementation of its five-year Strategic Plan for 2022- 2026.



*Group photo of participants during the CWHRDs Annual General Meeting*



*Candidates vying for Board membership ask for votes from Annual General Meeting members*

### **3.3.3. Digital Security Capacity Building for the team of the Secretariat.**

CWHRDs-Tz secretariat team participated a six months online series of trainings on feminist Digital

Safety Resilience for Women Human Rights Defenders from February to July, 2022. The training was facilitated by the Association for Progressive Communications Women's Rights Programme under the Global Fund for Women (End Violence project). The aim of training was to build confidence to WHRDs on using digital platforms, with a clearer understanding of risks and steps to consider, remedying them and carrying out their advocacy work in safer digital platforms. Among other thing, participants learned Online Gender Disinformation and Misinformation, Hate Speech and Stigmatization toward WHRDs, Data Privacy and Gender, Feminist Principals of the Internet and WHRDs, Internet Footprint and Anonymity, Feminist Learning Circle on Risk Assessment, and WHRD on Care and Healing Strategies.

### **3.3.4 Learning and networking with other Allies**

The Chairperson and National Coordinator of the coalition paid a visit to the Regional Human Rights Defenders Coalition (Defend Defenders) in Uganda for learning to increase protection of WHRDs. Further, the visit was to learn and handing on succession of the coordination of the East Africa Women Human Rights Defenders Network to the CWHRDs TZ for the next phase of 2023 and to plan for EA WHRDs network Annual General Meeting of 2022.

Additionally, during this reporting period, CWHRDs -Tz Board of Directors and Secretariat team including project Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Project Legal Officer and Membership Affairs Officer capacitated through invited workshop and meetings.

- CWHRDs attended the learning session of Monitoring and Evaluation which was conducted by Tanzania Gender Network Program (TGNP) on March 31, 2022. The learning session was aimed to explore tools for feminism gender lens in each project CSOs conducts.
- CWHRDs attended three different workshops for Climate Change which aimed to lighten on how SCOs can chip in climate issues that seems to be new agenda. The workshop took place on Feb 24, 2022, March 20, 2022 and April 24, 2022.
- CWHRDs-TZ attended a 3 days' Workshop (25-27<sup>th</sup> January 2022) organized by Bright Jamii Initiative aimed on raising awareness to women to participate on decision making from family level to community level and discuss the factors that limit women to participate in decision



making. The workshop conducted in Tanga region and involved 3 villages namely Chongoleani, Putini and Ndaoya,

- The Coalition also attended workshop organized by Zaina Foundation on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in Dar es Salaam aimed on building strategic plan of digital rights which will guide and give internet rights to users. Participants also got training on using Virtual Private Network (VPN) during shutdown of internet.
- The Coalition got Capacity buildings to engage Government actors and stakeholders on COVID-19 prevention, mitigation and advocacy on voluntary vaccination. The activity was organized by My Legacy organization on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in Dar es Salaam.
- CWHRDs-Tz attended workshop on 13-14<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 in Bagamoyo intended to increase ability and build skills for Reproductive Human Rights Defenders on Strategic Litigation to set legal standards for safe abortion cases from rape and incest within the existing legal framework. The workshop organized by WGNRR Africa and involves participants from CAMMAC, LSN, Journalists, Advocates from TLS and Service Providers.
- CWHRDs-Tz participated in the stakeholders meeting for review and validation of accepted recommendations of Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The first phase of review was conducted in Morogoro region in April 09, 2022 and the second phase of validation was conducted at Dar es Salaam in May 22, 2022.
- National Coordinator was invited to Uganda to attend annual general meeting of Defend Defenders – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 in Uganda.
- National Coordinator visited Sweden during the Defenders Day 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Supported by Civil Rights Defenders
- National Coordinator was invited to attend an advocacy learning sessions on African Commission Human Rights mechanism 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 – supported by Defend Defenders Uganda
- National Coordinator was invited to attend East African Women Human Rights Defenders AGM in Nairobi Kenya 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022.
- National Coordinator was invited to attend Feminist Republic for African Women Human Rights Defenders in Nairobi, Kenya on 30<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022

- The Coalition participated in 16 days of activism events prepared by our sisters' organizations- MKUKI Coalition.
- Staff and Board of Directors attended the workshop by Defend and THRDC to introduce HRDs including WHRDs on the tactical tools for human right defending and commemoration of International Human Rights Day. The event was conducted in Dar es Salaam from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

In both events, Board and secretariat learned lessons on monitoring and evaluation, digital security for HRDs and advocacy.



*The chairperson and National Coordinator of the Coalition visited Regional Human Rights Defenders Coalition (RHRDC) to learn and strengthen their partnership towards protection of WHRDs. In the pictures are National Coordinator with RHRDCs Executive Director, Program Director and Administration Manager.*





*Joyce John from CWHRDs contributes in one of the capacity building sessions*

### 3.3.5 Training of Staff and Board of Directors on Advocacy, Communication and Branding

The training conducted on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 to strengthen communication advocacy and branding capacities secretariat and Board members.

The advocacy session dwelt more on feminism advocacy to facilitate the coalition to understand the concept of feminism, types of feminism the Coalition can opt in conducting effective advocacy.

The communication and branding unpacked, why communication and branding are important elements in advocacy, the essential elements consider when developing communication and branding strategy. Types of media to use for both internal and external audience and the kind of messages to channel to different audiences.

Secretariat and Board of Directors increased their capacities on communication, branding and advocacy from feminisms approaches.

### 3.3.6 Staff and Board of Directors Training on Governance, Leadership and Management

The training was conducted on 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 to strengthen capacities of members of the Board of Directors and staff on governance, leadership and management.

Board members and staff were able to understanding their roles, responsibilities, values of the Coalition and existing governance, leadership and management gaps. They were also able to develop one-year action plan for implementation of activities related to governance, leadership and management.

### 3.3.7 Staff Meetings

The secretariat continued conducting weekly and monthly staff meetings to evaluate and reflect implementation of the planned. Activities

### Outcome # 4: Protection and Legal Support

***Objective:** To support national organizations of women's human rights and individuals who works in defending human rights in the country in promoting and strengthening collective action for protection, establishment solidarity and protection networks, the promotion of self-care and advocacy and mobilization for the safety of WHRDs.*

### 4.1 Provide protection support which included relocation, Psychological and Family Support to WHRDs

The Coalition provided support to its WHRD member who faced threat while defending the rights of women and girls in Loliondo, Ngorongoro. The government authorities barred meetings with women and girls, her phone was surveilled and her contacts were tracked, threatened to ban their office in case they continue defending women and girls' rights. The victim was supported by; being provided digital security training to secure her gadget and relocation of the office.

CWHRDs-Tz provided legal and security support to WHRD from Kilimanjaro who survived death from community members' relatives of culprit of rape case and defilement of children when she was trying to access justices of victims of sexual gender-based violence.

The Coalition provided home security support to WHRD when Masai Community threatened to kill her for defending Maasai girl children from forced child marriage.

The Coalition also provided legal and security support to WHRD threatened to stop follow up of the cases of suspected rape and defilement of children brought to the District court at Kinondoni.

CWHRDs provided personal security and digital training and relocation to a female Journalist from Arusha who was barred from reporting any information related to land rights in Loliondo, Ngorongoro. This Journalist was also threatened and monitored by the authority to stop attending Government events due to the task of reporting health issues especially during COVID-19. CWHRDs provided legal, medical and family support to four victims of extreme Gender Based Violence from January to June 2022. The victims of GBV in Mtwara, Dar es Salaam and Kilimanjaro regions.

#### 4.2 Promoting Self Care and Well Being for WHRDs

Coalition conducted self-care and well-being session to WHRDs on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2022, to reduce incidences of mental health to WHRDs. UN OHCHR-EARO facilitated the technical support to WHRDs in how to remove work stresses and traumas resulting from defending works.



*The learning by doing approach was practiced during WHRDs self-care and well-being session*

## 4.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

CWHRDs-Tz achieved the following in course of the implementation of the planned activities;

- i. CWHRDs-Tz Successful launched its Strategic Plan 2022-2026
  - ii. Increased institution capacity on governance, leadership and management.
  - iii. CWHRDs-Tz reached more than 300 WHRDs and other stakeholders through capacity building.
  - iv. Provision of protection support to eight (8) WHRDs and other 4 victims of extreme Gender Based Violence.
  - v. Increased access to justice for victims of Gender based violence through capacity building to WHRDs on understanding national, regional, sub regional and International Human Rights mechanisms
  - vi. Increased capacities of Monitoring, Reporting and documenting of Economic, social and cultural rights of more than 400 WHRDs from various CSOs of Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.
  - vii. Established strong relationship between the CWHRDs-Tz and Development Partners
  - viii. Established strong collaboration with Government institutions
- Trust and recognition of the Coalition increased (From 68 members in 2021 to 82 in 2022)

## 5.0 CHALLENGES

- a. Shortage of financial resources to cover all coalition expenses (rapid responses to WHRDs at risks, staff allowances and salaries, office equipment and tools).
- b. Digital Technological challenges include obstacles of using digital platforms to reach WHRDs especially in rural areas due to unstable and unreliable internet accessibility and connectivity.
- c. Low understanding of WHRDs agenda by stakeholders. There is low understanding among stakeholders and WHRDs on how to link up their roles with other development agenda such as the need to eradicate GBV, maternal and newborn deaths and increasing number of women in decision-making positions.

- d. Restrictive Laws such as freedom of expression, discrimination laws and lack of a comprehensive Gender based Violence law increase challenges for WHRDs.
- e. Absence of National Protection Mechanisms of Women Human Rights Defenders that will guarantee safety and security of WHRDs to continue defending human rights of marginalized groups.
- f. Cost of running advocacy activities of WHRDs; and
- g. Lack of legal recognition of Women Human Rights Defenders

## 6.0 MAJOR PROJECTS IN 2023

- i. Strengthening Financial Management, Personnel and Equipment – Strengthening Organizational Capacity, Monitoring, Evaluation and Networking
- ii. Implement Mwanamke Mtetezi Mstahimilivu Mleta Mabadiliko (Resilient Woman Human Right Defenders
- iii. Advocacy on Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders
- iv. Capacity Building to WHRDs members on Public Litigation
- v. Develop Resource Mobilization Plan and mobilize resources from diverse sources – to fundraise **TZS 345,278,000/-**