

TANZANIA NETWORK OF LEGAL AID PROVIDERS (TANLAP)



ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

2019

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List of Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CAG	Controller and Auditor General
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CCBRT	Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DDA	Data Driven Advocacy
DOLASED	Disabled Organization for Legal Affairs and Social Economic Development
FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FCS	Foundation for Civil Society
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICRLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
LEAT	Lawyers Environmental Action Team
LHRC	Legal and Human Rights Centre
MDH	Management and Development for Health
MOCLA	Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs
MoHCDGEC and	Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly Children
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics
NED	National Endowment for Democracy
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NOLA	National Organization for Legal Assistance
PCCB	Preventing and Combating Corruption Bureau
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SWO	Social Welfare Officer
TANLAP	Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers
TAWLA	Tanzania Women Lawyers Association
TCRA	Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority
THRDC	Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition
TIFLD	Tangible Initiatives for Local Development
TVMC	The Voice of Marginalized Community
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WHO	World Health Organization
WiLDAF	Women in Law and Development in Africa
WLAC	Women's Legal Aid Centre

Acknowledgment

The completion of this report could not be possible without the esteemed support of individuals and institutions. We are grateful for the support received in 2019 from various development partners, namely UN Women and National Endowment for Democracy (NED) for generous financial support to implement activities for 2019.

Secondly, we would like to acknowledge the huge work done by the Secretariat under the supervision of the Executive Director, Ms. Christina Kamili for their expertise and knowledge throughout the entire year 2019. We would also wish to extend our sincere appreciations to members across the country for their continuous support and engagement in the implementation of various activities in 2019 particularly those members in project area such as in Kagera, Mwanza, Mbeya, Dodoma and Dar es Salaam. They have been instrumental to ensure that TANLAP continues work to ensure the provision legal aid and access to justice are enjoyed by all people in the country. Similarly, special appreciation goes to the Board of Directors under the leadership of Chairperson Dr. Hellen Kijo Bisimba for the continued guiding the Secretariat to implement the activities in accordance of the annual work plan. We commit to continue with this spirit of cooperation in the coming years.

Furthermore, TANLAP also wish to acknowledge the support from government institutions during the implementation of the activities in 2019, with special appreciations to the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs and the Office of Regional Commissioner of Kagera. All in all, we acknowledge the bold support from various stakeholders mentioned and not mentions, in the implementation of the activities in 2019. Their contributions, time and comments have been useful for TANLAP to advocate for legal aid and access to justice in Tanzania.

Message from the Board Chairperson

The Board of Directors of TANLAP is delighted and honored to present the organizational annual report of the year 2019. It was the year which TANLAP continue to implement the Strategic Plan, which will last 2020. It was the year to celebrate the achievements the organization has achieved in advocating for the provision of legal aid and access to justice in Tanzania particularly for women and girls. It was the year for reflection on the challenges for improvement in the next years that TANLAP will influence changes in the provision of legal aid and access to justice in the country.

In 2019, we have enjoyed a highly cooperation from various government institutions, to mention a few; The Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs; The Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania; The Judiciary and many other institutions, which we engaged during the implementation of the activities in 2019. We trust that, this kind of working relationship we have established will continue in the next years for the benefits of the Tanzanian community who dreams for access to justice in their country.

Our duty as the Board of Directors has mainly been to ensure the Secretariat perform the activities under the strategic areas of and Capacity Building; Advocacy and Networking; Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid Provision; and Organizational Development and Sustainability. Despite the financial challenge in 2019, we are very proud and happy to, UN Women and National Endowment for Democracy for the support provided to ensure the activities are implemented. We will continue to work together and looking other development partners to ensure that financial resources are available for the next years.

We are happy that the Board was able to held mandatory meetings as stipulated in the founding documents. We are also happy for the Secretariat under the Executive Director, Ms. Christina Kamili for their efforts, knowledge and tireless spirit to implement the activities in 2019 despite the financial challenges encountered. The detailed report accomplished as highlighted in this report is the testimony of their efforts and dedications.

We further feel humbled to acknowledge the support from members of TANLAP for their immense support to the Board and the Secretariat. We the Board, we will always make sure that we use all our experiences, expertise and time to make TANLAP grow and reach another level. With special note, we are privileged to acknowledge the support we have received from the general public and media outlets in 2019. We believe, with your true continued support, our mission, vision will be achieved in the future years.

Dr. Helen Kijo -Bisimba
Board Chairperson
December, 2019.

Message form the Executive Director

This is a brief annual report that gives detailed activities planned and implemented in the year 2019. It also includes the achievements, challenges and lessons learned during the implementation of activities in 2019. In the year 2016, TANLAP embarked on the implementation of the Strategic Plan of 5 years. The year 2019 was the fourth year of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, which focus on Capacity Building; Advocacy and Networking; Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid Provision; and Organizational Development and Sustainability.

We are humble to inform you that, despite the financial scarcity 2019, TANLAP was able to continue with the implementation of the activities as detailed in the annual working plan. We are happy that the Secretariat under the management of the Executive Director, Ms. Christina Kamili was able to engage with civil society organizations, government institutions, and the community within and beyond the country as part of networking for effective provision of legal aid and access to justice.

For smooth management of the organizational resources, the Executive Director remained a Chief Accounting Officer of the organization supported by the Finance and Program Officers. We are also, privileged to report that the management conducted all its required meetings to ensure smooth and proper implementation of the planned activities.

Finally, we are happy to present to you this report, we have tried to make the report friendly user so that the majority of readers can have the general essence of what we have done in the year 2019. It is our humble plea, that you will give us constructive comments for improvement in future years that will assist us to achieve our vision and mission.

Christina Kamili
Executive Director
December, 2019

Chapter One: Introduction

1.1 About TANLAP- A brief Description

Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP) is an umbrella national network working in the legal sector. It is a membership network comprising of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) and other institutions providing legal aid in Tanzania. Founded in 2006, TANLAP's core aim is to work and link up with other Civil Society Organizations in providing quality legal aid and advocate for access to justice among the poor and marginalized sections of society in Tanzania. TANLAP is registered under the NGO Act no 24 of 2002 and has a certificate of compliance (No. 1300). TANLAP founding members organization's comprise of the following: The Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT); the Disabled Organization for Legal Affairs and Social Economic Development (DOLASED); Lawyers Environmental Action Team (LEAT); Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC); Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA); Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF); Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC); and the National Organization for Legal Assistance (NOLA).

1.2 TANLAP Main Objectives

-  To strengthen the capacity building on legal literacy among legal aid providers.
-  To extend and improve Legal Aid provision in the country.
-  To initiate, promote, support as may be deemed expedient, any proposed legislation or other measure affecting the interests of its members.
-  To build mutual understanding and coordination amongst Legal Aid Providers and legal aid clients in the country.

1.3 Mission and Vision

VISION

TANLAP envisions a society with access to justice

MISSION

TANLAP is an umbrella organization established to enhance the best practice and capacity of its members for quality Legal aid services

1.4 Strategic Areas

-  Capacity Building
-  Advocacy and Networking
-  Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid Provision
-  Organizational Development and Sustainability

2 Chapter Two: Summary of Activities Implemented in 2019

2.1 Introduction

This reporting period covers the activities TANLAP has implemented from January to December 2019 under the financial support of UN WOMEN and National Endowment for Democracy (NED). The activities comply with the Organizational Strategic Plan focusing on the areas of Capacity Building; Advocacy and Networking; Organizational Development and Sustainability; and Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid Provision. Some of the activities cover the project aiming to improve democracy, rule of law and access to justice with the focus to strengthen the capacity of Legal Aid Providers to advocate for human rights and access to justice in the poor and marginalized communities in Tanzania. TANLAP has also implemented some of the activities under the project focusing on promotion and protection of cohesive state and non-state actors' collaboration to ensure the realization of freedom of expression and association, a freer civic space and rule of law in Tanzania. The project that will bring about strengthened periodic policy engagement platforms for state and non-state actors on improving collaboration amongst state and non-state actors leading to a freer Tanzanian society that respects freedom of expression and assembly and the rule of law in Tanzania. Similarly, some of the activities focused on the provision of legal aid for enhancement of access to justice for women and girls in Tanzania, particularly in Kagera region as the project area.

2.2 Capacity Building

2.2.1 TANLAP Conducted Capacity Building Session with Police Officers

On the 26th and 28th November 2019, TANLAP conducted capacity building session with selected members of the police force in Mwanza and Mbeya respectively. In Mwanza, the session was conducted on the 26th November 2019 at the rock city mall and twenty-two (22) Police officers attended the session. In Mbeya, the session was conducted on the 28th November 2019 at GR Hotel and twenty-two (22) police officers attended the session.



A picture taken during the capacity building session with Police Officers in Mwanza on the 26th November 2019 at Rock City Mall- Mwanza.

In Mwanza the activity was implemented in collaboration with member organization – Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) while in Mbeya the activity was implemented in collaboration with Sauti ya Haki Tanzania. The capacity building session aimed

to equip Police Officers how to deal with Gender Based Violence (GBV) related cases to ensure women and children's rights are protected, promoted and enhanced. The activity is part of the project that seeks to state actors- justice institutions and non-state actors in the Promotion and protection of a cohesive state and non-state actors' collaboration to ensure the realization of freedom of expression and association (FoE/A), a freer civic space and rule of law in Tanzania.



A picture taken during the capacity building session with Police Officers in Mbeya on the 28th November 2019 at GR Hotel- Mbeya

During the discussion, it was concluded that to create non-adversarial platform for engagement between state and non- State actors is key to protect, promote and enhance human rights. Police Officers in Mwanza and Mbeya were reminded about their crucial role they hold to ensure protection and promotion of human rights; enhancement of the provision of legal aid services; combating GBV to enhance the rule of law in Tanzania in collaboration with various actors.

As the action point, Police Officers requested non state actors to continue engaging them particularly to capacitate them on modern ways to address GBV cases with the focus of GBV cases originating within families. Also, they specifically requested for capacity building on the Marriage Act, 1971 as they acknowledged majority of them have limited knowledge of the legislation. TANLAP will continue to seek for resources that will facilitate capacity building session with Police officers on the Marriage Act.

2.2.2 Facilitated Refresher Course and Training for 60 Paralegals in Kagera

As part of the project activities in Kagera, TANLAP facilitated the paralegals refresher course and training on the modern approaches in dealing and reporting GBV cases to 60 Paralegals and Legal Aid Providers. The 10 days training was conducted in two sessions. The first session was from 16th – 25th January 2019 and the second phase was on the 2nd – 11th May 2019. The training sessions were held at MHOLA offices in Muleba. The training was supervised by the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs (MOCLA). The training was facilitated by qualified and certified trainers by the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs (MOCLA). The 60 Paralegals (29 male, 31 female) were picked from local community in eight districts of Kagera

region, which are Bukoba Municipal, Bukoba rural, Muleba, Ngara, Misenyi, Kyerwa, Karagwe and Biharamulo. Also, school club guardians (teachers) were part of the trainee. They were capacitated on various legal matters relating to the protection of human rights and access to justice because they have a fundamental role in girl's rights and legal club in their respective schools. The language used during training was English, Swahili and sometimes local languages for easy elaboration and understanding.

A group photo taken during the first phase of Paralegals refresher course and training that was held from 16th -25th January 2019 at MHOLA office – Muleba. The training was part of compliance of the Legal Aid Act and part to capacitate Paralegals on the modern approaches in dealing and reporting GBV cases. The training was facilitated by TANLAP under the supervision of MOCLA



Participants were taught in theoretical and practical (Field visit). In the training sessions, 12 topics under paralegal training manual were taught as follows; Introduction to Plagiarism; Introduction to law; Land law; Office management and administration; Criminal Law and Procedure; Civil Procedure and Civil Obligations; Contracts; Employment and Labor Relations; Law of Family and Domestic Relations; Government Structures and the Law-Making Process; Dispute Settlement Process and Institutions; and Basic Rights and Duties. All topics were taught and in relation to the guideline as narrated in paralegal training manual. Furthermore, the participants had enough time during and after classes to discuss the topic taught by the facilitators, and how they can solve community problems in their respective areas.

During the second training phase, participants were also privileged to practice what they have learned by going to the field. They had the opportunity to visit Kiga Village in Ruralanda Ward- Muleba. In collaboration with one trainee paralegal, Mr. Kaiga and Mr. Evert -Ward Councilor, the field visit was useful for paralegals to practice what they have learned by listening and engaging with community members in Kiga village and provide legal aid. As the result of the outreach activity, it was revealed that women in Kiga village and Ruralanda ward are the main producers in the community. They involve more in agricultural activities than men. About 90 community members were attended by paralegals, the trainers and TANLAP and MHOLA representatives. Community members were educated mainly on how to demand their rights and demand justice in once their rights have been violated. The engagement with

community members revealed that in Kiga village many cases are related to land, marriage, and inheritance matters. The second phase refresher course and training was closed on the 11th May 2019 by Hon. Amoni Mpanju- Deputy Permanent Secretary of MOCLA. Hon. Mpanju had the opportunity to deliver closing remarks to the trained paralegals and the member of the working group established by TANLAP in Kagera to address GBV. In a special way, Hon. Mpanju applauded the initiatives taken by TANLAP to ensure women and children's rights in Kagera region are fulfilled, this is because the government cannot reach all the people without support from other stakeholders. Hon. Mpanju recommended to TANLAP that people from the National Bureau of Standards and Health Department should be added to the working group established by TANLAP. Hon. Mpanju concluded by thanking the UN WOMEN who support the implementation of the project in Kagera and requested for continuation of the project at least for five years.



Pictures taken on the 11th May 2019 during the closure of second phase refresher course and training by Hon. Amoni Mpanju- Deputy Permanent Secretary of MOCLA. Hon. Mpanju had the opportunity to deliver closing remarks to the trained Paralegals and the member of the working group established by TANLAP to address GBV in Kagera

2.3 Advocacy and Networking

2.3.1 Convened quarterly Meeting with LAP's and Justice Institutions

As part of the of the activities of the project aiming to improve democracy, rule of law and access to justice, with the focus to strengthen the capacity of Legal Aid Providers (LAP's) to advocate for human rights and access to justice in the poor and marginalized communities in Tanzania, TANLAP convened quarterly meeting with a Task Force of LAP's and justice institutions. The first meeting in 2019 was held on 21st of February 2019 at Wanyama Hotel in Dar es Salaam. TANLAP convened a Task Force meeting of 15 participants among them

being Legal Aid Providers. The aim to convene the Task Force was, to prepare for the advocacy meeting with selected members of the Parliament in Dodoma. Similarly, the Task Force brainstormed on the trend of the human rights situation in Tanzania as well as analyze the NGO Act and its Regulations. Cognizant to the shrinking space of civic space in Tanzania, particularly the limited space for the civil society organization to operate, it was important to continue establishing working relations to ensure access to justice.



Working in the realm of civil society under the NGO Act and its Regulations, it is very fundamental for stakeholders to be aware of the applicability of the statutes and its impacts to the sector operations. In this regard and for smooth cooperation within the civil society organizations and beyond, understanding of the content of the NGO Act and its Regulations is key. Hence, TANLAP had interests on issues of human rights and access to justice, particularly for women and children. The Task Force had the opportunity to give comments on the general situation of human rights and access to justice in Tanzania. This helped to measure and assess the adherence of fundamental principles of human rights as incorporated in the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania and other laws.

The second quarter meeting was conducted on 29th June 2019, the meeting was to analyze the Schedule of Amendments following the bill proposing amendments of various laws that have direct implications to the CSO's sector. The bill proposed amendments of various laws, including, the Non-governmental Organizations Act, 2002, The Statistics Act, 2015, The Tanzania Society Act, The Trust Incorporation Act, The Film Act, and the Companies Act,



2002. The analysis revealed that despite the intention to amend various laws for proper coordination of CSO's, the Task Force has no doubt that the proposed amendments pose a huge threat to CSOs operations and existence. The key issues identified after the analysis includes, the definition of the NGO, although the proposed schedule of amendment has expanded the definition to include NGO's which work on good

governance, law and order and human rights, the definition is still not comprehensive as it does not cover aspects of charitable organizations and the definition is not autonomous compared to the definition appearing in the parent Act.

Furthermore, suspension the NGO pending the decision of the Board was an issue for concern. In this issue, the amendment proposed that NGOs should be given 30 days' notice to showcase why it shouldn't be suspended. This aspect is still contested. The powers to suspend NGO should rest to the Board after hearing the NGO. Similarly, monitoring and evaluation has been identified as an issue of concern. The schedule of amendment proposes that the Minister may issue guidelines for conducting monitoring and evaluation. The concern here was not the issue of NGOs being monitored by the Minister but rather the timing of the monitoring and evaluation process. NGOs still encourage that the Minister should continue with the monitoring and evaluation exercise, but the same should be well spelled on when it should be conducted. Our proposition was to have monitoring and evaluation conducted on an annual basis after issuing an activity report and publication of the annual audited report. TANLAP will continue with advocacy with other stakeholders to ensure that CSO's are operating in the environment as per the proposed amendments, while continuing with further engagement to review and amendments of the laws.

As part of monitoring trends of human rights in Tanzania, on 6th September 2019, TANLAP convened a Task Force to address the Global Access to Justice Project questionnaire in response to prepare the country report on access to justice. In responding to some questions in the questionnaire, The Task Force noted that since independence, there has been no specific legislation for legal aid in Tanzania until 2017 whereby the Legal Aid Act was enacted, however the government of Tanzania committed itself to a legal framework related to legal aid at international and national level. It used the framework to guide provisions of legal aid services. Some of the laws related to legal aid include the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977, the National Prosecution Service Act of 2008 and The Legal Aid (Criminal Proceedings) Act.



Article 13 of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 stipulates that all persons are equal before the law and are entitled, without any discrimination, to protection and equality before the law. Under Article 13 (6) (a) on the right to fair trial it states that:- “When the rights

and duties of any person are being determined by the court or any other agency, that person shall be entitled to a fair hearing and to right of appeal or other legal remedy against the decision of the court or of the other agency concerned.” Section 3 of the Legal Aid (Criminal Proceedings) Act, Cap. 21 R.E. 2002 of the Laws of Tanzania, states that: “Where in any proceeding it appears to the certifying authority that it is desirable, in the interests of justice, that an accused should have legal aid in the preparation and conduct of his defense or appeal, as the case may be, and that his means are insufficient to enable him to obtain such aid, the certifying authority may certify that the accused ought to have such legal aid and upon such certificate being issued the Registrar shall, where it is practicable so to do, assign to the accused an advocate for the purpose of the preparation and conduct of his defense or appeal, as the case may be.”

It was also noted by the Task Force that despite the fact that, the law does not restrict the provision of legal aid to other criminal offences, in practice however, the suspects of Capital Offenses (murder and treason) alone have been accorded with pro bono legal aid by the government. On the other hand, those indigent people who needed legal aid in civil cases were not covered by these laws until the coming up of the Legal Aid Act, 2017. The enactment of the Legal Aid Act is considered to be among the major development strategy that recognize paralegals in the country and which ensure the provisions of legal aid services to poor and marginalized groups, which represents the majority of the population who otherwise could not afford the costs of the legal service.

2.3.2 Convened a meeting with Members of Parliament in Dodoma

Seeking to improve democracy, rule of law and access to justice in Tanzania, TANLAP on the 3rd June 2019 held a meeting with 35 selected members of Parliament of the Constitution and Legal Affairs Committee. The meeting was held at Morena hotel in Dodoma. The focus of the meeting was to create human rights awareness to the selected members of Parliament. It was also intended to forge for collaboration between TANLAP and selected members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Constitutional and Legal Affairs and the Parliament. As civil society space shrinks in Tanzania, civic leaders and citizens alike face added pressure from government as they pursue their basic rights. Journalists, politicians, human rights defenders, and civil society activists have faced threats, intimidation, and arbitrary detention by government authorities for criticizing policy or pursuing stories the government deems inappropriate. The need for established policy platforms to identify opportunities for collaboration amongst state and non-state actors in Tanzania cannot be gainsaid. The meeting provided the opportunity to share experience and forge for establishment of collaboration to ensure adherence and accountability in respect to human rights in Tanzania. Members of Parliament have the fundamental role to represent the interests of the people to ensure human rights are respected, protected and promoted by the state and other actors.



As the way forward, TANLAP proposed Action Point for collaboration with members of Parliament. The meeting agreed to convene at least two sessions per year between TANLAP and Members of the Constitution and Legal Affairs; Community Development and Services Committees to review the situation of human rights, democracy

and provision of Legal Aid service in Tanzania. That, other proposed way forward was taken for further discussion by members of the Constitution and Legal Affairs for adoption. Knowing the role of CSOs in Tanzania, especially in the environment in which the civic space is shrinking, CSOs must remain watchful to any kind of proposed amendment of various laws. This became even more important, particularly when the proposed laws for the amendment have direct impact to the existence and operation of CSOs in Tanzania.

For collaboration between TANLAP and Members of the Constitution and Legal Affairs Committee, TANLAP is proposing areas to work together to ensure the protection and promotion of citizens' rights, legal aid service and access to justice. Hence, apart from the proposed action point, TANLAP and the Committees agreed to convene at least two sessions per year to review the situation of human rights, democracy and provision of Legal Aid service in Tanzania. While, the recommendations such as Members of the Constitution and Legal Affairs; Community Development and Services Committees to initiate public debates on the Media Services Act, 2016; Cybercrimes Act, 2016; Statistics Act, 2015; the Police Force Auxiliary Services Act, 1969; the Online Content Regulations, 2018 that affect the rights of people to freely express themselves through mainstream media and online platforms, still under discussion.

2.3.3 TANLAP submitted recommendations on various proposed bills

TANLAP was invited by the Parliament of Tanzania to submit the opinions for the amendments of the Political Parties Act. TANLAP under the support of OSIEA organized 13 Civil Society Organizations to submit to the Parliamentary Committee the opinions of concerning the amendment of the statute. The 13 CSO's gathered in Dodoma and prepare an advocacy document for submission. The amendment of the Political Parties Act was received

with mixed feeling from the public. The majority had the feeling that the amendments are more like to limit public and parties participation in democratic processes as it vest unlimited powers to the Registrar of Political Parties. The critics come from those who believes that the power given to the will affect the internal administration of political parties and reduce freedom of association. The full joint submission is available to the organization website.

On a similar note, TANLAP was invited to attend the public hearing on bill issued on the 19th June 2019, titled Special Bill Supplement (The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3), Act, 2019. The hearing was scheduled to be on the 21st June 2019 at Msekwa hall – Dodoma. As the bill was issued under a certificate of urgency, it proposed the amendments of various laws, including, the Non-governmental Organizations Act 2002, The Statistics Act, 2015, The Tanzania Society Act, The Trust Incorporation Act, The Film Act, and the Companies Act 2002. The five laws are currently the main legislations in the country that register and regulate Civil Society Organization (CSOs). TANLAP and other CSOs were invited to appear before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitution and Legal Affairs, to give views and opinions on the 21st and 22nd June 2019, just two days after the bill went public. In collaboration with USHIRIKI Tanzania, Legal and Human Rights Centre, the bill was analyzed and the recommendations were submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitution and Legal Affairs. The recommendations were submitted orally and in writing. The analysis revealed a number of conflicting issues that require more dialogue among stakeholders. The general recommendation of TANLAP was withdrawn of the bill for further consultations. However, on the 27th June, the bill was passed in the parliament picking few recommendations from CSO's including TANLAP. And on the 30th June, the President endorsed the bill to become a law.

2.3.4 TANLAP Participated in the Law Day and Provide Legal Aid

TANLAP was invited by the Registrar of the Judiciary to provide legal aid from 31 January to 5th February 2019 at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es salaam toward the Law Day which normally is celebrated on the 6th of February. TANLAP in collaboration with its five members in Dar es salaam; Legal and Human Rights Centre, Women Legal Aid Centre, Tanzania Women Lawyers Association, Crisis Resolution Centre, and Kinondoni Paralegal participated in providing legal aid and exhibition of legal materials and different laws.



2.3.5 TANLAP attended ICGLR Regional Symposium on Good Practices in Combating SGBV

On the 10th – 12th December 2019, TANLAP had the opportunity to attend the ICGLR Regional Symposium on Good Practices in Combating SGBV in the Great Lakes Region. The conference was held at Speke Resort and conference center, Kampala – Uganda. *“Sexual and Gender Based Violence is one of the biggest wars that we have today in the Great Lakes Region,”* Uganda’s State Minister for Gender and Culture-Peace Mutuuzo told a Regional Symposium on the best practices to combat SGBV in the Great Lakes region on Thursday December 12, 2019. The three days’ symposium at the Speke Resort- Munyonyo, Kampala brought together SGBV experts from all the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) member States as well as specialists from different development agencies. While closing the conference, Minister Mutuuzo noted that *“SGBV, corruption and theft are still some of the biggest wars the Great Lakes Region countries are facing and must work together to win.”* According to the Minister, the Great Lakes region has had a history of SGBV and this has had far reaching consequences. *“GBV reinforces and deepens inequalities between men and women, girls and boys and compromises the health, dignity and security of those affected, GBV occurs in the households and families (domestic violence), in the community, at work places, in schools and institutions as well as situations of armed conflicts.* In her elaborate speech the Minister applauded all the efforts in place in different Great Lakes Countries to combat and suppress the crime of SGBV. *“There is commitment. There is work that has been done. There is much that has been achieved but also there is much more to do”* As far as strengthening the fight against SGBV is concerned, Minister Mutuuzo emphasized the need to among others involve men at all levels starting from the household and family, to the community and policy making level because they have the crucial power to make society better for women and girls.

2.3.6 TANLAP attended the Launch of the 16 days of Activism against GBV

As part of networking, on 26th November 2019, TANLAP attended the launch of the 16 International day’s campaign of activism against GBV in Dodoma. The event organized by Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children and UN WOMEN. The commemoration of 16 days of activism against GBV aimed to remind the world on the need to promote and protect women and girls’ rights in all life aspects. This is because statistics indicate that women and girls are most victims of GBV. For example, the Demographic and Health Survey report of Tanzania of 2015/2016 indicates that about 40 percent of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence in their lifetime, while 17 percent have experienced sexual violence. On a similar note, World Health Organization (WHO) statistics indicates that out of 100 women, 35 have experienced GBV in terms of physical violence of rape. In Tanzania, various initiatives have been put into place to address GBV in the community, including the National Plan of Action to end Violence against women and children of 2016-2021. The theme of this year’s commemoration was *‘Orange the World: Generation Equality Stand against Rape’*.

2.3.7 TANLAP attended Civil Society Conference on Civic Space

Working to strengthen rule of law and democracy in Tanzania, from 22nd to 23rd November 2019, TANLAP attended a civil society conference on civic space and the role of civil society organizations in shaping a better future. The conference held in Arusha at MS- TCDC organized by Action Aid Tanzania and Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC). As civil space shrinks in Tanzania, civic leaders and citizens alike face added pressure from government as they pursue their basic rights. Journalists, politicians, human rights defenders, and civil society activists have faced threats, intimidation, and arbitrary detention by government authorities for criticizing policy or pursuing stories the government deems inappropriate. The conference resolve to issue a public statement in Dar es Salaam on the 4th December 2019 that will highlight the action points resolved during the conference. TANLAP will continue working with like-minded civil society organizations to reclaim the civic space, rule of law and access to justice in Tanzania.

2.3.8 TANLAP attended a meeting organized by TIFLD

On the 12th November 2019, Tangible Initiatives for Local Development (TIFLD) invited TANLAP to attend the meeting on exposition of the state of the art online parliamentary forum. The meeting was conducted at Sea Shells – Kijitinyama, Dar es Salaam. The session brought together civil society organizations to familiarize with the established Bunge Forum by TIFLD. According to TIFLD, the Bunge forum aims to promote citizen's oversight and issue-based accountability by bringing Members of Parliament closer to address various issues raised by people in respective constituencies.

2.3.9 TANLAP Visited by NED Representative

On the 11th November 2019, National Endowment for Democracy (NED) representative visited TANLAP offices for brainstorming on the current project TANLAP is implementing under NED support. The two-year project for promotion and protection of a cohesive state and non-state actors' collaboration to ensure the realization of freedom of expression and association a freer civic space and rule of law in Tanzania. The



project focus is to establish platforms for collaboration among state and non-state actors to ensure access to justice for marginalized communities in Tanzania. The reason to seek for promotion and protection of a cohesive state and non-state actors' collaboration to ensure the realization of freedom of expression and association, a freer civic space and rule of law in Tanzania is due to the continued existence of extremely restrictive environment for all types of expression deemed undesirable by the government.

2.3.10 TANLAP attended Civil Society Organizations Week

TANLAP as a network of Legal Aid Providers, from 4th – 8th November 2019 attended the Tanzanian Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) week under the leadership of the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) in Dodoma. The week was geared at



TANLAP Executive Director Ms. Christina Kamili, The Registrar of Legal Aid Felistas Mushi, Executive Director of TAWLA Ms. Tike Mwambipile and the Retired Judge Makaramba pictured during the CSO's Week in Dodoma

strengthening the operations and standing of the sector by enhancing engagements among CSO's themselves, and between CSO's and multiple other players including the central government, parliament and the private sector. As the fifth-phase government's emphasis on industrialization, CSO's can position themselves as a strategic partner in efforts to realize the country's development vision. The theme for the CSO's Week 2019 is "Progress through Partnership: Collaboration as a Driver for Development in Tanzania." The agenda for the event will enable CSO's to unlock mutually beneficial partnerships with the central government, parliament and the private sector and any other important development stakeholders. The CSO's Week had exhibitions, deliberative discussions, networking and CSO's awards.

2.3.11 TANLAP Attended CSOs – Media Forum

On the 29th April 2019, TANLAP was invited to participate in the meeting that aimed to facilitate effective Media –Civil Society Engagement. The meeting organized by FCS and held at Double tree hotel in Dar- es Salaam. The aim of the meeting was to create an entry point for effective media- CSO's engagement and collaborations. It introduced CSO and the sector as an important collaborator/ partner in the national development process. Similarly, the meeting aimed to engage media stakeholders so as to



provide them with information research in hundreds of development initiatives by communities and CSO's all over the country. It was a meeting to showcase and disseminate on the work of CSO's and their contribution to build an industrial economy. At the end of

the meeting, participants had explored opportunities, ideas and fresh approaches for joint collaboration with the pillars of the state, the private sector and other development actors in Tanzania

2.3.12 TANLAP Attended the Legal Aid Week in Simiyu

TANLAP as a network of Legal Aid Providers in Tanzania attended the national Legal Aid Week commemoration organized by the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs (MOCLA) in Baridi Simiyu. The Legal Aid Week in 2019 occurred from 21st – 25th October. Before the launching of the Legal Aid Week, MOCLA in collaboration with other stakeholders had the opportunity to conduct a media campaign in various media houses to publicize and popularize the Legal Aid Week. Through media campaign the public was informed of various activities that will be conducted during the Legal Aid Week and those who have legal issues must visit identified places for legal aid. From 21st – 25th, during the Legal Aid Week, key activities conducted included, provision of legal aid to people who cannot afford to hire advocates; capacity building and training for various stakeholders on various laws including the Legal Aid Act and Legal education to the public. The theme of the Legal Aid Week in 2019 was Legal Aid for Sustainable development. TANLAP as a network of Legal Aid Providers will continue to work collaboratively with MOCLA and others stakeholders to ensure full implementation of the Legal Aid Act that provide for the opportunity for poor and marginalized to access legal aid in Tanzania.

2.3.13 TANLAP Attend the Tanganyika Independence Day Commemoration

TANLAP was invited to attend the commemoration of the 58th Tanganyika Independence Day on the 9th December 2019 in Mwanza. TANLAP Executive Director, Ms. Christina Kamili had the opportunity to attend the commemoration. In this year, the commemoration has also been attended by the official opposition party in Tanzania after boycotting the commemoration after the 2015 general elections. The attendance of the official opposition party in Tanzania has been perceived as the new beginning of collaboration between the government and other political parties towards the realization of democracy, civic space and rule of law that have shrunk in the past few years. TANLAP will continue working with the government and other stakeholders to ensure access to justice in Tanzania.

2.3.14 TANLAP attended the Workshop in Kampala

Networking within and beyond the country, on 5th November 2019, TANLAP had the opportunity to attend a workshop to validate the report on the implementation of the Kampala Declaration on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kampala. The report highlighted the milestones, challenges and the way forward towards the implementation of the declaration within member states. It is noteworthy to remember that in 2011 member states

of the Great Lakes Region adopted the Kampala Declaration to prevent, punish and respond to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in the region. The 2011 Kampala declaration defined the actions to be undertaken to prevent the occurrence of SGBV, end impunity for sexual crimes and provide support with legal, financial, medical and psychosocial support. TANLAP as the network of Legal Aid Providers in Tanzania has been in the forefront to fight against violence against women through the provision of legal aid and community awareness creation. Drawing the experience from the Great Lakes Region, TANLAP will continue to collaborate with stakeholders nationally and internationally to ensure violence against women in all forms are eradicated and women and girls live a safer life within their communities.

2.3.15 TANLAP Attended High Level Regional Conference on Justice and Good Governance



Working on access to justice, TANLAP was privileged to attend to the high-level regional conference on justice and good governance, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya at Windsor hotel and Country Club from the 13th -14th May 2019. The theme of the meeting was *combating impunity and uphold human rights as key contributions to peace and security*. It was a technical –level consultation meeting. The Tanzania team was under Hon. Amb. Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga- Minister of the Constitution and Legal Affairs. Other team members were, Mr. Gerlad Mbwafu- Private Assistant to the Minister; Hon. Katarina Revocati- Chief Registrar of the Judicial of Tanzania; Mr. Edson Makallo – Deputy Director of Public Prosecution; Mr. Francis Nzuki- Commissioner; Ms. Veronica Matikila- GLICN Focal Point; Ms. Christina Kamili- Executive Director- TANLAP; Ms. Helge Flard- UN

Coordinator Adviser and Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez- UN Resident Coordinator.

Ministers of Justice of the great lakes declare that, *despite the progress achieved, still greater concerted efforts are required to uphold human rights, promote justice, and eradicate impunity for serious human rights violations in the Great Lakes region*. To ensure concrete progress on these critical priorities, approve the following recommendations; Action required to ensure national, regional, continental, and international legal instruments are adopted and implemented; Action required to promote and implement appropriate and effective transitional justice legal frameworks, policies, strategies, and programmes; Priority measures

to strengthen or set up effective mechanisms to promote and protect human rights at the country and regional levels; Accelerate and enhance the implementation of measures to ensure better and greater access to justice especially for the most vulnerable groups; and Implementation of the Declaration. With many specific issues in each area, the declaration was adopted in Nairobi, Kenya on 15th May 2019. TANLAP was the only participants coming outside the government circles in Tanzania.



Right - Tanzania delegation led by Hon. Amb. Dr. Augustine P.Mahiga- Minister of the Constitution and Legal Affairs. Left TANLAP Executive Director and UN Resident Coordinator

2.3.16 TANLAP Participated in Regional Meeting on Extractives

As part of networking, on the 22nd May, 2019, TANLAP was invited to attend at the regional meeting on extractives. LEAT organized the meeting attended by various stakeholders in Tanzania. Cognizant to the efforts from the government to ensure the natural resources are beneficial to the present and future generations, there is high need to ensure proper protection and utilization of natural resources especially extractives.



2.3.17 TANLAP Participated in the Workshop on Security and Human Rights

As the national umbrella of Legal Aid Providers, on the 25th May 2019, LHRC invited TANLAP to participate in the workshop on security and safety when advocating for human rights. The workshop was organized at LAPF towers Dar es Salaam. Knowing the threats associated with human rights activism, it is important for activists to be aware of the security tips for safe operations. There have been intimidations facing human rights advocates all over the country. The intimidations and restrictions are sometimes originated from legal framework or authorities. The need for security awareness is fundamentally important, particularly when civic space seems to shrink. The workshop was then followed by the LHRC annual general meeting, the meeting, which brings together member to reflect on the operations of the organization in a respective year.

2.3.18 TANLAP attended the meeting organized by the Ministry

As part of networking within the realm of CSO's and beyond, on the 10th July 2019, TANLAP participated in the meeting organized by the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC). The meeting was held at Karimjee hall- Dar es Salaam. The aim of the meeting was to bring together stakeholders from the realm of Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) to brainstorm on the amendments of the NGO Act. The NGO Act, 2002 was part of the SPECIAL BILL SUPPLEMENT (THE WRITTEN LAWS (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) (NO.3) ACT, 2019). The bill, which was assented by the President Magufuli on the 30th June 2019. Despite stakeholder's engagement in the amendment process, there had been public outcry that the time to debate for the bill was unrealistic because the bill was issued under a certificate of urgency on the 19th June 2019. Stakeholders had little opportunity to give views to the Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs, they were only given two days. On the 27th June, the Parliament passed the bill with minor adjustments from stakeholders' comments. After the bill being passed and assented by the President to become a law, the government institutions took initiatives to inform the public about the amendments made. As part of such initiatives, the Ministry invited the CSO's stakeholders into the discussion aiming to clarify some of the doubts raised from the public regarding the amendments. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Minister of the Ministry who tried to explain to stakeholders that the intention of the government to amend such laws is not to punish organizations rather to strengthening accountability, performance and transparency.

2.3.19 TANLAP attended the Universal Periodic Review Mid – term Report

On the 11th July 2019, TANLAP Executive Director had the opportunity to provide the welcome and opening remarks during the quarterly Universal Periodic Review Mid – Term Report Strategic meeting. The meeting was held at Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Dar es Salaam. The organization works in the areas of general and political rights; child rights; social rights; economic and social rights; Human rights defender and freedom of



association; and People with albinism and disabilities gathered to discuss and add inputs to generate the mid-term report from CSO's. TANLAP has been working with stakeholders to ensure the UPR process provide the opportunity for legal aid and access to justice for poor marginalized communities in Tanzania. TANLAP will continue to use the

UPR process as one of the international opportunities for engagement to ensure issues affecting the proper provision of legal aid are addressed in Tanzania.

2.3.20 TANLAP Participated in the Discussion of the CAG report

On the 28th May 2019, TANLAP was privileged to attend the dialogue at Kisenga hall – Dar es Salaam organized by Wajibu Institute of Public Accountability. The dialogue focused to bring together CSO's to discuss on how to make the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) report of 2017/2018 more accessible to the public through CSO's in promoting accountability and good governance. The former CAG Mr. Uttoh – The Executive Director of Wajibu Institute, told the participants that one of his frustration during his time as the CAG was the failure of the government to implement the recommendations emerged after the auditing report. One of the recommendations which was not implemented was the tendency of members of parliament to be appointed as a member of various boards of public institutions or agencies.



2.3.21 TANLAP participated in the SADC Summit

TANLAP had the opportunity to be part of the CSO' to the SADC summit that was held in Dar- es Salaam, Tanzania. As this year Tanzania became the host nation of the SADC, CSO's had to strategize on how to engage with SADC summit and beyond. SADC summit was held from 13th – 15 August 2019 at Golden Tulip Hotel, CSO's in Tanzania had the opportunity to engage with other CSO's within the SADC region in the fifth Southern African Civil Society Forum.

The theme of the SADC was 'Towards a Prosperous and Integrated Africa – Equity and Justice for All'. During the SADC Summit, TANLAP had the opportunity to conduct a side event with the theme Legal Aid a necessity to an inclusive industrial economy in SADC countries.



The sub-theme was the role of legal aid in fostering an industrial economy and realizing equity and justice for all. The discussion was concluded that the provision of legal aid services is important to ensure prosperity in the industrial economy that enhance the realization of equity and justice for all. Hence, countries within the SADC block must embrace the provision of legal aid services as one of the pillars for industrial economy.

TANLAP had a booth to showcase its activities during SADC CSO summit and one among the guest visited the TANLAP booth was Hon. Dr. Damas Ndumbaro- Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation. The Deputy Minister was informed the tasks TANLAP is undertaking to ensure effective provision of legal aid services to ensure access to justice for all.

2.3.22 TANLAP Attended the Meeting Organized by UN Women

On the 20th August 2019, UN Women invited TANLAP as one among the grantees to discuss on promoting access to justice in Tanzania. The discussion, which was held at UN WOMEN offices in Tanzania, aimed to brainstorm and share best practices on what is working and what is not working to promote access to justice in Tanzania.



Madam Beatrice Duncan – Policy Advisor, Constitutional and Access to Justice from UN Women Headquarters had the opportunity to share her experience working toward promoting access to justice for all. During the discussion, it was revealed that about 5.1 Million people in the global lack meaning access to justice and the situation are perpetuated with a number of factors. For example, in some countries, when a man rapes a girl, he may escape the punishment simply by marrying a girl – victim. For TANLAP, basing on the implementation of the project in Kagera under UN WOMEN support focusing on legal aid provision for enhancement of access to justice for women and girls, what is working to promote access to justice includes; establishing of the Anti GBV working group; analysis and publication of simplified laws and regulations; community mobilization; coalition building and networking and creation of the online server. The discussion ended by suggesting a way forward to improve access to justice in Tanzania including;

- ⇒ Establishing gender desks, children and women’s desks, and people with disabilities desks in various places offering services to the community including Police stations
- ⇒ Increasing access of legal aid services, particularly for women and children
- ⇒ Creating a conducive environment for legal empowerment, especially for women
- ⇒ Ensuring institutional sustainability of legal aid and Legal Aid Providers
- ⇒ Improving the use of Information Communication Technology in legal proceedings, such as recording of evidence, database management of cases
- ⇒ Strengthening the laws dealing with Judicial misconduct and corruption
- ⇒ Training young Lawyers on access to justice system, legal framework of Tanzania, uphold of human rights and gender equality
- ⇒ Embracing leave no one behind the agenda like women with disabilities, people with albinism, girls

- ⇒ Ensuring women’s participation in Justice Delivery Systems
- ⇒ Training Journalists on reporting GBV
- ⇒ Understanding the political context
- ⇒ Ensuring recruitment of justice official based on merit and integrity
- ⇒ Improving alternative dispute resolution mechanisms
- ⇒ Ensure use of Swahili language in court rulings
- ⇒ Ensuring availability of legal assistance to victims of sexual violence through Judicial Clinics, legal assistance
- ⇒ Establishment of mobile courts
- ⇒ Advocate for review of legislations – customary laws to comply with international standard
- ⇒ Engagement with traditional leaders for mind-set changing

2.3.23 TANLAP Attended Regional Conference on Universal Periodic Review

TANLAP participated in the Regional Conference on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) the meeting that was held 11th -13th June 2019 in Kigali Rwanda. Cognizant that during the UPR session in 2016, the government accepted number of recommendations from member states, but there have been delays to implement some of the accepted recommendations. Some of the recommendations which were accepted and not yet been implemented includes those relating to the constitution making process, the process that was postponed in 2015. TANLAP was able to share regional best practices on UPR particularly with the focus to Tanzania.



2.3.24 TANLAP Provided Facilitation to the Session Organized by TVMC

TANLAP as a network of members, on 8th December 2019, TANLAP Executive Director had the opportunity to provide facilitation about the Legal Aid Act (2017) and the Regulations of 2018 to GBV Protection Committees in Shinyanga. The training was organized by The Voice of Marginalized Community (TVMC)- one of the active members of TANLAP working in Shinyanga. As the National Plan of Action to end Violence against Women and Girls in Tanzania establish GBV Protective Committees at various levels, it was important for TVMC

to capacitate them about the Legal Aid Act and its Regulations. The Legal Aid Act and its Regulations provide the guideline for provision of legal aid to marginalized communities in Tanzania, hence it is important for the GBV Protective Committees to be aware of the statues. It has been noted, despite the establishment of the GBV Protective Committees at various levels, the committees have never come into full effect due to budget constraints. In some areas, they have fallen short to convene working sessions to implement the National Plan of Action to end GBV. Many committees have remained functionless and unaware of various laws and regulation in place to address GBV in Tanzania. TANLAP will continue to collaborate with member organizations to ensure GBV related cases are addressed successfully in Tanzania.

2.3.25 TANLAP Attended Validation of Civic Space Advocacy Strategy

TANLAP was invited to attend the workshop organized by THRDC on Validation of Civic Space Advocacy Strategy. The workshop aimed at strategizing on how to increase the documenting capacity of CSOs, so that they can be able to report all situations of violence in their area. Currently, CSOs have been ignored, but it is their duty to find a way that they can work with the government, so the workshop also stressed on how CSOs have a great influence and impact by working together with the government. The workshop held on the 10th April 2019 at Seashells hotel, Dar Es Salaam.



2.3.26 TANLAP Attended to CSO's Quarterly Civic Space Working Group Meeting



As part of networking, TANLAP is a member of the CSO's civic space working group that organized by THRDC under the support of PACT and Freedom House. The civic space working group agreed to conduct quarterly meetings to assess the situation of civic space in Tanzania. The first meeting was held on 14th of June 2019 at THRDC offices. The meeting identified various issues

affecting civic space in Tanzania including the presence of laws that curtail the fundamental principles of association and expression. CSOs will continue to forge for collaborative working relationships with the government to ensure adherence to the principles of democratic society and rule of law.

The second quarterly meeting was held on 23rd August 2019, at Stella Maris hotel- Bagamoyo. As a member of the group of Civic space, TANLAP has continued to advocate for democratic principles that embrace human rights, gender equality and rule of laws to ensure fundamental principles like freedom of association and speech are protected and promoted in the country. And the third quarter meeting was held on the 3rd December 2019 at THRDC with the aim to assess the works of the CSO's in defending the civic space in Tanzania. Despite the closing of civic space, civil society organizations will continue advocating for fundamental human rights, access to justice and the rule of law in Tanzania



Pictures taken during CSO's civic space working group meetings, during sessions in Bagamoyo and Dar-es Salaam.

2.3.27 TANLAP attended the Brainstorming Session on FGM Commitments



On the 28th August 2019, TANLAP participated on the stakeholders brainstorming meeting on Female Genital Mutilation commitments, the meeting organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The stakeholders were picked from regions with higher FGM prevalence such as Manyara (58%); Dodoma (47%); Arusha (41%); Mara (32%); Singida (31) and Tanga (14%). TANLAP and other participants had the opportunity

to brainstorm of the government commitments to end FGM ahead to on the road Nairobi-committing to end FGM. It was revealed that 25 years ago, 179 countries gathered in Cairo-Egypt developed a Plan of Action that recognized FGM as against human rights. In Tanzania there have been various efforts to end FGM, the recent commitment evidenced is the National Anti FGM Strategy of 2019-2022. The focus of the Strategy is to reduce FGM prevalence 10% from 2016 to 5% in 2022. Despite the existing challenges around FGM practices, government and other stakeholders have committed to reduce FGM by 5% by the end of 2022. TANLAP will continue with networking with stakeholders to ensure realization of gender equality, access to justice that aims to end violence against women and girls including FGM.

2.3.28 TANLAP attended the Regional Dialogue on Freedom of Expression

Networking internationally, on the 29th August 2019 TANLAP representative attended the Regional Stakeholder's Dialogue on the State of Freedom of Expression in East Africa. The dialogue was held at Best Western hotel – Entebe Uganda. The theme of the dialogue was Promoting Access to Justice for Media Practitioner: How to Build a Supportive and Resilient Legal Aid Response Mechanism. CSO's and media representatives from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda working on human rights, democratic development, transparency, digital media, women and youth empowerment, legal aid, litigation and other issues of public interest attended the dialogue. CSO's in the region committed to collaborate and provide support to each other through individual and joint efforts at the national and regional levels to protect and promote freedom of expression in East Africa.



In recent years, freedom of expression in East Africa has been faced with various threats such as intimidation of and reprisals against journalists and activists through smear campaigns, arrests, detention and disappearances; enactment of restrictive laws and policies; curtailment of civil society's and media's freedom of movement and ability to freely operate especially in electoral contexts; restrictions on access to information through banning of newspapers and shutting down of media outlets and civil society organization's; surveillance of activists and journalists in physical and digital spaces; criminalization of dissent; use of excessive force to disperse peaceful protests and demonstrations. To address the threats of the freedom of expression and how to build a supportive and resilient legal aid response mechanism, there must be engagement in regional advocacy; strengthening protective mechanisms, including litigation and legal aid; increasing the use and protection of digital space.

2.3.29 TANLAP Visited by UN WOMEN



As the supporter, on the 14th November 2019, UN WOMEN representatives from Tanzania and Nairobi offices visited TANLAP offices for a discussion on the project TANLAP is implementing on legal aid provision for enhancement of access to justice for women and girls in Kagera region. The UN WOMEN team wanted to know about the activities accomplished in the implementation of the project. During the discussion, some of the activities which TANLAP has implemented

includes; maintained and updated the TANLAP platform/hub on the website; printed and disseminated the Legal Aid Act, of 2017 and its Regulation of 2018 to Legal Aid Providers in Kagera Region; established girl's rights clubs in 8 districts' secondary's schools; trained 30 paralegals in Kagera; coordinate Legal Aid Providers and Paralegals to commemorate 16 days of activism against GBV in November 2018; and coordinated a working group of 27 members and stakeholders of women and children's rights. After the brief discussion, it was noted that the project has benefited many women and girls in Kagera and UN WOMEN hopefully will extend their support to the coming year to ensure access to justice through the provision of legal aid.

2.3.30 TANLAP Attended the International Legal Aid Group Meeting



As part of international networking, TANLAP was able to participate in the International Legal Aid group meeting that was held in Ottawa – Canada. The meeting was held from the 17th – 20th June 2019. TANLAP was represented by the Executive Director. The Executive Director had the opportunity to presented to the meeting the situation of

legal service in Tanzania following the enactment of the Legal Aid Act in 2017 and the Regulations in 2018. Participants had the opportunity to visit the Canadian Supreme Court and learnt on how they provide justice to the people timely. They were warmly welcomed and received a welcome remark for the Registrar of the High Court of Canada. The Registrar is also the champion of women political rights. Participants had also the opportunity dialogue

on the role of women judges of the High Court in Canada. The meeting was fruitful for experience sharing and learning.

2.3.31 TANLAP Conducted a Dialogue with Kagera Regional Commissioner

While implementing the activities in Kagera, TANLAP had the opportunity to engage with the Kagera Regional Commissioner to provide feedback about various activities including stakeholders meeting. In his remarks, the Regional Commissioner commended the activities TANLAP has implemented in Kagera under UN WOMEN support. He supported the establishment of Anti GBV clubs in secondary schools and all other activities aiming to fight against violence against women and children through the provision of legal aid services to enhance access to justice.

For him, the huge challenge to attain the justice in the community is that the majority of community members like personalities when seeking for services instead of the system. The people don't want to follow the procedures set to access services, instead they want to see top officials like the Regional Commissioner, at the regional level or the President at the national level, while they skip other existing channels. Some of the community members have their own answers to various problems they have, so when they seek services, they want results similar to their pre-developed answers, hence, a contrast to their wishes, they normally feel they haven't been serviced.



To bridge the gap, efforts to increase public legal understanding must be strengthened to reach many people in the region. The efforts can be through media campaign, public rallies and community dialogues. The campaign must also involve public official to link the efforts from the government and that from the non-state actors. TANLAP will continue to collaborate with the Kagera region Secretariat to fight violence against women and children in Kagera using legal aid provision to ensure access to justice for all.

2.3.32 TANLAP participated in the Gender Festival Ceremonies at TGNP

TANLAP had the opportunity to participate in the Gender Festival hosted at TGNP Mtandao. The Gender Festival was conducted at TGNP campus at Mabibo from the 24th – 26th September 2019. Nearly 1000 individuals from government institutions, development partners, learning institutions, media



outlets, influential people and retired leaders attended the festival. The theme of the 14th Gender Festival was “*Wanaharakati mbioni kubadilisha dunia*”. In commemoration of the Beijing 25 years anniversary, the Gender Festival provided the opportunity for participants to discuss various matters aiming to enhance gender equality in Tanzania.

Some of the key matters discussed includes, movement building for economic rights and justice; movement building for equality social services; movement building for community and women’s property rights; movement building in women leadership voice and participation; movement building for environmental justice and climate change; and movement building to promote women participation in political leadership. The Festival provided an opportunity to share experiences on how to strengthen the efforts towards emancipation of women in all life aspects and enable them to fully participate in building the economy of the country. TANLAP will continue networking with like-minded institution within the realm of CSO’s and beyond to ensure proper provision of legal aid services that guarantee access to justice for poor communities in Tanzania.

2.3.33 TANLAP attended the UPR Mid – Term Report Validation Session

On the 28th September 2019, TANLAP attended the UPR Mid- Term Report Validation session organized by THRDC at Kisenga hall – Dar es Salaam. As part of networking and engagement in the international processes, TANLAP has been in the forefront to ensure the existing international and regional forums are utilized effectively to ensure access to justice. As Tanzania was reviewed in 2016 during the UPR process, the follow-up of the implementation of the accepted



recommendations is important. Ahead to the coming review process, TANLAP with other

organization under the coordination of THRDC had the opportunity to prepare the mid-term report before inviting other organizations to give comments to the report basing on their experience to engage in the UPR process as CSO's. The validation session was to ensure inclusivity of various concerns coming from the CSO's jurisdiction, highlighting the status and commitments toward the implementation of the accepted recommendations.

2.3.34 TANLAP Attended the Launching of CSO's Elections Manifesto 2019/2020



TANLAP had the opportunity to participate in the launching of the CSO's election manifesto of 2019- 2020. The event that held on the 28th September 2019 at Kisenga hall- Dar es Salaam. The theme of the CSO's election is "Tanzania we want'. Basing on the past experience to develop similar CSO's election manifesto in 2015, CSO's have launched the manifesto prior to the local government election and year before general elections. This is to give room for political parties and other stakeholders to

understand the content of the CSO's election manifesto before deciding whom should they vote for. The CSO's election manifesto represents public concerns and demands that elected leaders must fulfill them. Among the demands includes the completion of the constitution making process and protection of human rights and access to justice for all.

2.3.35 TANLAP visited Member organizations and stakeholder's offices

TANLAP and the Registrar of Legal Aid from MOCLA had the opportunity to visit project stakeholders in Kagera region for experience sharing due to their participation in the project implemented by TANLAP focusing to enhance access to justice through the provision of legal aid. TANLAP had the opportunity to visit, the Police Gender Desk in Bukoba, Assistant Registrar of Legal Aid in Bukoba; the PCCB office in Muleba; Social Welfare Office in Muleba;



Police Gender Desk in Muleba; Social Welfare Office in Bukoba. As part of the Anti GBV working group, they have been instrumental in the course of the implementation of the project. The network established stands as the referral for clients with various cases in Kagera region. They have been very supportive to ensure project activities and goals are achieved as planned. The Bukoba Police Gender Desk had requested TANLAP to assist the construction of Offices for Gender Desk activities that will enhance effectiveness and privacy of clients. TANLAP will continue working with stakeholders to ensure collective efforts are enhanced as struggling to end violence against women and children in Kagera.

A picture (left) taken during TANLAP visit at the Police Gender Desk at Bukoba- Kagera Police Regional Offices and a picture (right) taken at MHOLA offices- Bokaba branch.

2.4 Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid Provision

2.4.1 Conducted Dialogues on Girls and Women's Rights

Throughout the project period, TANLAP in collaboration with project implementing partners has conducted dialogues on women and girls' rights in Kagera region. The dialogues were conducted in hospitals; schools and in market places. In some places, like in Bukoba District, the Assistant Registrar of Legal Aid who also is a Community Development Officer organized 8 community forums to discuss issues

Post Details

Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers
Published by Facebook on 10 May '19

As part of the 10 day refresher course for 30 paralegals that started on 2 May 2019 in Muleba, the training that organized with TANLAP in partnership with member organization- MSHOLA, the trained paralegals visited Ruralanda Ward in Kiga village to provide legal services to Community members. The community members showed up to receive legal aid. The refresher course is part of project activities aiming to address violence against women and children in Kagera region. The project implemented by TANLAP in collaboration with MSHOLA under @Shureman financial support.

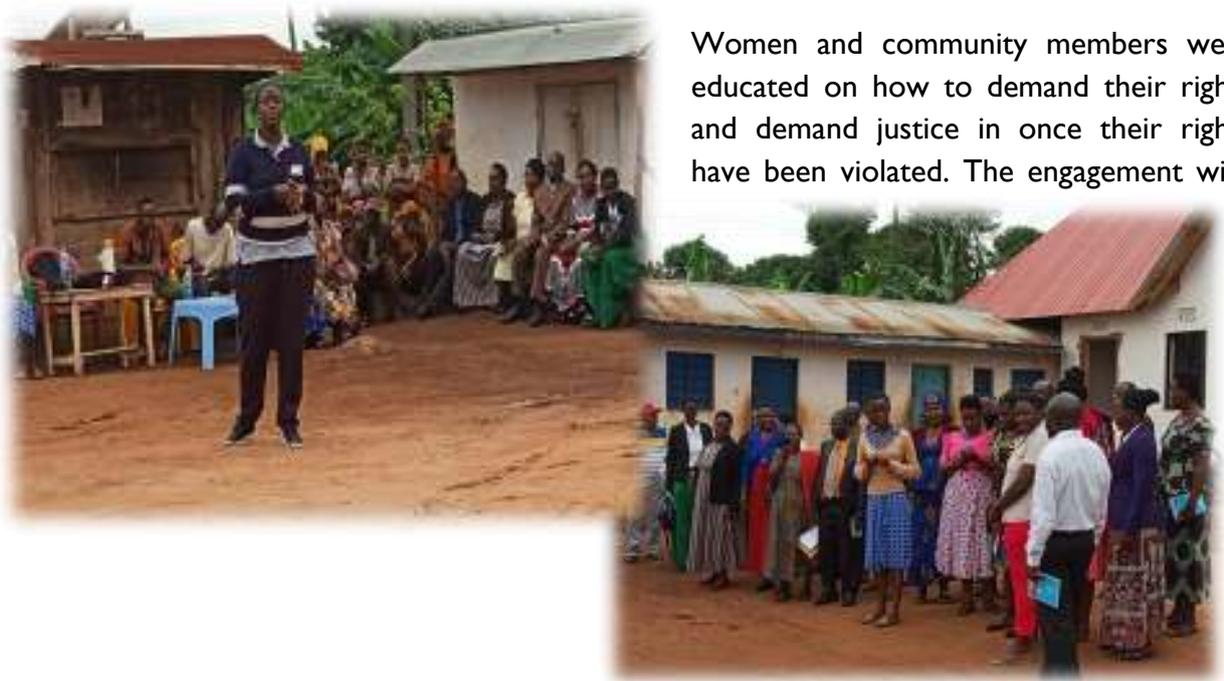
Performance for your post		
2,104	People Reached	
289	Views, Comments & Shares	
294	294	0
0	0	0
3	3	0
0	0	0
103	Page Likes	
99	0	4

2,104 People Reached 289 Engagements

Ms. Lilian Elias a representative from MOCLA giving speech to the community forum during one of the dialogues on women and girls in Kagera in Muleba- Kiga Village

affected women and children. In Muleba; Ngara; Karagwe, community dialogues were conducted in hospitals; schools; market places and with women's economic groups established by implementing partners. The dialogues were conducted during the commemoration of the 16 days of activism against GBV and eight dialogues were conducted in Kagera districts. The aim to conduct the dialogue was to capacitate women and girls to stand and defend their rights in the community.

On the other hand, community dialogues were conducted during training of Paralegals. As part of the practical training, Paralegals had the opportunity to engage with the community through community dialogues on women and children's rights. For example, during the second training phase of Paralegals on the 10th May 2019 participants had the opportunity to visit Kiga Village in Ruralanda Ward- Muleba and conduct community dialogue, which was attended by nearly 90 people. As the result of the dialogue, it was observed and revealed that women in Kiga village and Ruralanda ward are the main producers in the community. They involve more in agricultural activities than men.



Women and community members were educated on how to demand their rights and demand justice in once their rights have been violated. The engagement with

community members revealed that in Kiga village many cases are related to land, marriage, and inheritance matters. Also, during the first phase of Paralegals training on the 24th January 2019, TANLAP, MOCLA and the trained Paralegals had the opportunity to conduct community dialogues on women's rights at Legal education provision at Kyamkwikwi village, Izigo ward – Muleba. The dialogue was attended nearly with 150 women and men. Paralegals had the opportunity to engage in small group and one to one discussion and provide legal education to community members.

Community member's highlighted key challenged facing women and girl's, including property (land) ownership. On the other hand, on the 11th September 2019 TANLAP visited Mwangaza Women Group located in Itoju, the ward of Izigo in Muleba district. TANLAP has the opportunity to dialogue with women's group and share experience with them on how they have benefited from the project implemented by TANLAP under UN WOMEN support. For them, they have been benefited a lot, especially increasing awareness on gender related matters due to the project of provision of legal aid services for enhancement of access to justice for women and girls in Kagera.

Furthermore, dialogues on women and children's rights were conducted as part of Anti GBV working group to engage with community members. For example, on the 10th September 2019, TANLAP; MHOLA and Registrar of Legal Aid and members of the group had the opportunity attend the community dialogue at Kariakoo market in Muleba. The team had the opportunity to educate the community on the importance to uphold women and children's rights toward the attainment of the industrialized Tanzania. The country economic development will have no meaning if women and children's rights are violated. The community was also informed about procedure when seeking for legal aid services. About 100 community members at the market place were reached during the community dialogue.



Pictures taken on the 10th September 2019, during community dialogue at Kariakoo Market Place in Muleba involved TANLAP staff, Registrar of Legal Aid from MOCLA, Social Welfare Officers and Solicitors. During the dialogue, it was identified land disputes as a core and rampant problem in Kagera affecting majority women. The situation is motivated by community attitudes towards land ownership as women have limited right to own land due to the existence of the patriarchal system. Women have been denied right to own land or their lands have been confiscated by relative immediately after the death of their husband. On the other side, poor parenting to children is also a problem in Kagera. Many parents, especially those in rural areas spent little time with their families. Hence, making children victims of violence. The situation is critical to families, which are under guardians. Some of the guardians have been reported as the main perpetrators of violence against children within the household. The provision of legal aid and legal education was important to enable the public to be able to report incidences of GBV or able to seek legal services once they have need of it.

2.4.2 Established Girl's Rights Clubs in Secondary Schools in Kagera region

In order to ensure women and girls are empowered to demand and protect their rights, TANLAP established girl's rights and legal aid clubs (came to be known as Anti GBV clubs) in selected districts in Kagera Region. The clubs have been conducted debates and teach younger girls about their rights, including the right to education, the importance of the rule of law and access to justice. In collaboration with Kagera regional government, the clubs were established in schools of Kagemu (Bukoba Municipal); Kalabagaine (Bukoba rural); Bunazi (Misenyi); Kayanga (Karagwe); Kaigara (Muleba); Shunga (Ngara); Kagango (Biharamulo); and Kyerwa (Kyerwa). The clubs were established on 25th – 27th February 18th -22nd March 2019.

A picture taken during clubs visit in Kagango secondary school- Biharamulo, club members demonstrating their understanding to GBV



A picture taken at Kagango secondary school showing club members, TANLAP staff in front of the poster displayed at school ground indicating the availability of the legal aid services against GBV. The poster developed by Anti GBV club established by TANLAP under UN WOMEN support. The poster also shows (left corner) UN WOMEN is the supporter of the project that implemented by TANLAP.

Table: # of Anti GBV clubs in 8 Secondary Schools in Kagera region

Schools	Girls	Boys	Total
Kayanga	86	32	118
Kyerwa	94	28	122
Kaigara	89	31	120
Bunazi	77	23	100
Kagemu	103	36	139
Kalabagaine	71	33	104
Shunga	76	26	102
Kagango	83	20	103
Total	679	229	908

The established clubs in the secondary schools provide opportunities for girls, boys, Paralegals, Welfare Officers and Teachers meet and discuss issues relating to girl's rights and legal aid services to ensure girls' rights are protected and promoted within the communities. One teacher from each school has been selected as the club guardian, and each district has one Paralegal and one Social Welfare Officer to assist debates in the clubs. Through the clubs, students have been capacitated and they have started to realize their potentials to demand and protect their rights in their communities. They are now ambassadors to the community to fight violence against women and girls. New club members will be recruited in each academic year, Paralegals and Social Welfare Officers in respective districts will continue to supervise the clubs in close support of club guardian teachers. In school and out of the school, members of the clubs will continue living as gender champions and advocates of women and girls' rights, ambassadors of access to justice and anti-violence advocates. They will grow to adulthood knowing that violence against women and girls is the burden to the community, which impedes the country economic and social development. TANLAP and school managements have agreed that clubs will be convened on monthly basis wherever the school timetable allows and Paralegals and Welfare Officers will continue teaching and mentoring club members in their respective schools.



Pictures taken during the establishment of girls clubs in Kagera region. A picture top TANLAP, UN WOMEN representatives and Assistant Legal Aid registrar during club visit at Kalabagaine secondary school in July 2019. A picture left –bottom, a girl defending the motion that girls have equal rights as boys during the debate in Bunazi Secondary School. A picture right – bottom, taken during the establishment girls club in Kagemu secondary school.



Picture taken during the establishment girls clubs in Kagera. A Picture top (right) Kagango secondary school; a picture top (left) Kaigara Secondary School – Muleba; a picture bottom (left) Kayanga secondary school – Karagwe; and a picture bottom (right) students reading a simplified version of the Legal Aid Act during the establishment of girl’s club in Shunga Secondary school in Ngara

During the evaluation of the clubs, testimonies were provided by club members on how the clubs have benefited them. They are now aware of types, causes and impacts of violence against women. They are also aware of the Legal Aid Act and other basic laws to protect them within the community and now they are able to speak against violence. Some of the testimonies from Secondary schools are highlighted below;

A girl aged 17, studying form three was in deep trouble, that, the father attempted several times to convince her to engage in sexual relations, but she was reluctant to accept. She then consulted fellow students within the club for help. They decided to report to the club guardian. The teacher took the initiative to invite the father for discussion before legal steps. After the discussion, the father apologized and he promised that he will not attempt to seduce the daughter for sexual relation. The girl has never been disturbed by her father; she is progressing well with studies.

Testimony from Kagemu secondary school

"I had a friend who dropped from school when we were standard three. He used to take care of goats in the jungle after his parents separated. He decided to go to live with his mother, unfortunately, his mother was used to take by force the money he accumulated from doing petty jobs in the community. He decided to go to his father, but his father had another wife and the step mother didn't want to see him. He was confused. He came to me for advice on what to do because he felt disappointed and dehumanized. He was confused and he had no hope. I tried to use the knowledge I have acquired from the club sessions to help him. I felt very much disappointed and failed to protect my friend, when I was still struggling on how to help him, on Monday 15th July 2019, he committed suicide by hanging himself to a tree"

Testimony from Bunazi Secondary school.

The establishment of Anti GBV clubs in 8 secondary schools has some key achievements as mentioned by stakeholder's including members, teachers and government officials. Some of the achievements includes;

- ⇒ Reduced school dropouts due to pregnancies, For example, in Kagango 3 pregnancy cases in 2018, only one case in 2019; Kayanga secondary 9 pregnancy cases 2016, 2 cases in 2018, no pregnancy cases in 2019; Shunga 7 pregnancy cases in 2018, no pregnancy case in 2019
- ⇒ Increased knowledge of GBV among club members, they are now able to explain the types, causes and impact of GBV
- ⇒ Increased knowledge among club members on some laws such as the Legal Aid Act and its Regulations
- ⇒ Enhanced ability to report cases of GBV within schools and in the community like the cases reported to the club guardians.

2.4.3 Established a Working Group Stakeholders of Women and Children's Rights

As part to enhance coordination of Legal Aid Providers and Paralegals to protect and promote the rights of women and girls, TANLAP established a working group of 27 members and stakeholders of women and children's rights picked from 8 districts of Kagera region. The group now known as Anti GBV Working Group. From the government departments, members of the established working group are Social Welfare Officers; Community Development Officer; Assistant Registrars of Legal Aid; Legal Officers; Representatives from Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCB); Police Gender Desk while from the public members are Paralegals and representative from Civil Society Organizations. Since its establishment in January 2019, the working group has been conducting quarterly meetings to discuss and share experience towards the fight against GBV in Kagera.



Hon. Richard Luyango delivering the Keynote Speech on behalf the Regional Commissioner during the working group session in September 2019 in Muleba. As the Working group members identified DNA test hinder access to justice in some of the GBV cases, the District Commissioner promised to speak with the Regional Administrative Secretary and the Regional Medical Officer on how to improve the management of DNA tests on time to ensure ceases are handled accordingly.

The working group session, which was held on the 11th May 2019 at MHOLA offices provide the opportunity for members to report the progress in addressing GBV and ensure timely access to justice for women and girls in Kagera. Its last meeting was conducted on the 10th September 2019, at MHOLA. The invited guest of honour was the Kagera Regional Commissioner, who was represented by Hon. Richard Luyango- Muleba District Commissioner. The Registrar of Legal Aid from MOCLA also attended the session.

The working group addressed various cases and stand as the referral among members to provide services to clients in Kagera. The working group has identified that land cases still among key challenges in Kagera. The argument that was also substantiated by Hon. Luyango during in his speech to the working group. He said *“basing on my experience as District Commissioner in Muleba District, I normally receive 70-90 land cases per day. Many people experience GBV, but they don’t speak or report anywhere. There are some few public servants who collude with perpetrators to take away other people’s rights”*.

- ❖ Challenges identified hindering the struggles to handle GBV cases in Kagera
 - ⇒ Rape cases, especially within the family members. For example, 8 old girl in Biharamulo was raped by her father, the case is in the court; 12 years girls in Biharamulo was raped by her uncle, the cases is in the court
 - ⇒ Some of the GBV perpetrators tend to run away after being granted bail
 - ⇒ The DNA process takes longer period, which sometimes disrupt the case processes
 - ⇒ The cost for DNA test is higher, it demands 300,000 for single sample testing, hence majority cannot afford the costs
 - ⇒ In Kagera there is no hospital to administer the process of taking DNA samples, hence the sample have to be taken to Mwanza

- ⇒ Personnel in Kagera to administer DNA test have little knowledge on how to handle the DNA kit received from MDH
 - ⇒ Poor cooperation from some of the family members', especially on family rape cases. Relative are not willing to give testimony
 - ⇒ Poor cooperation from girls in cases of pregnancies, they tend to identify the wrong person and preserve the actual one.
 - ⇒ Many of the Police Stations don't have privacy facilities to handle GBV cases
- ❖ Priority areas for project programming in Kagera region
 - ⇒ Provision of parental education to community members
 - ⇒ Construction of school dormitories for girls as the strategy to make them stay away from the temptations and risks of sexual abuse
 - ⇒ Improving the bail system to ensure perpetrators have no room to run away after being bailed
 - ⇒ Enhancing the provision of education in schools, community on violence against women and children
 - ⇒ Capacitating members of the committees under the National Plan of Action to end violence against women and children
 - ⇒ Increasing number of Anti GBV clubs in primary and secondary schools
- ❖ Key achievements of the Anti GBV working Group
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Muleba managed to provide legal aid services to community forums in 5 wards
 - ⇒ The Police Gender Desk has received 50 GBV cases and 19 have been taken to court
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba has handled 72 matrimonial cases
 - ⇒ Assistant Registrar of Legal Aid has managed to organize 8 community forums in Bukoba Rural to discuss issues affecting women and children
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo managed to conduct 13 seminars about sexual corruption
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo managed to establish 13 Anti-corruption clubs in secondary schools
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo published 4 educative articles about corruption
 - ⇒ PCCB in Kagera has managed to conduct 2 public rallies on corruption
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk managed to handle 11 rape cases in Bukoba Municipal
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba managed to apprehend 33 suspects of GBV cases in Bukoba Municipal
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba managed to handle 2 rape cases demanded DNA test
 - ⇒ MOHALA managed to conduct 8 public dialogues in Karagwe on the rights of women and children
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Biharamulo managed to take 2 rape cases to the court
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Biharamulo managed to re-unite 12 years girl who was illegally trafficked to Dodoma for domestic works
 - ⇒ Social Welfare in Karagwe managed to handle 5 rape cases, 1 case the perpetrator sentenced 30 years in jail

⇒ Police Gender Desk in Muleba managed to return a land to an orphan girl, the land which was confiscated by relatives

2.4.4 Maintained and Updated the TANLAP platform/ hub

Due to an increase number of internet and social media/platforms users in Tanzania, TANLAP innovatively opted to create, maintain and update the organizational social platforms/ hubs for women and supporters of children to interact with Legal Aid Providers for service delivery. With the support from UN WOMEN, TANLAP has maintained and updated the organizational social platforms since the start of the project in November 2018. It has become easy for Legal Aid Providers, Paralegals and clients interact through



organizational Facebook page; twitter account; Instagram account and the organizational server. Seventy-seven (77) member organizations located all over the countries have been able to post the cases they have received and handle in their jurisdictions. Maintaining Updating the TANLAP platform/ hub for women and supporters of Children to interact with Legal Aid actors has enhanced the provision of legal services and increase the visibility of



TANLAP nationally and beyond. The cases have been addressed by Legal Aid Providers; Paralegals and member of the working group depending on the nature of the case. The most reported cases were Land matters, Employment disputes, Child maintenance, Probate and others.

TANLAP will continue to maintain and Update the organizational platform/ hub for women and supporters of children to interact with Legal Aid actors in the course to fight against GBV through the provision of legal aid services. The social platforms proved to be a quick and easy means for public interactions to discuss issues and help each other depending on the geographical location or to make referral respectively. In the coming year, it is the plan of the organization to expand social network interaction through establishing the organizational online television channel for wider interaction with the public.

Top mention earned 97 engagements

UN Women Africa
@unwomenafrica · Jul 23

In #Tanzania we have partnered with @tanlaptz & established Gender-Based Violence student clubs in 8 secondary schools in the Kagera region. Through trainings, debates & edutainment, we are empowering students to take a stand against GBV & promoting access to justice. pic.twitter.com/sQEYySiZaP

JUL 2019 SUMMARY

Tweets	5	Tweet impressions	3,875
Profile visits	42	Mentions	8
New followers	7		

Post Details

For discussions for your post

2,363	247	172
Retweets	Replies	Engagements

Post Details

Interactions for your post

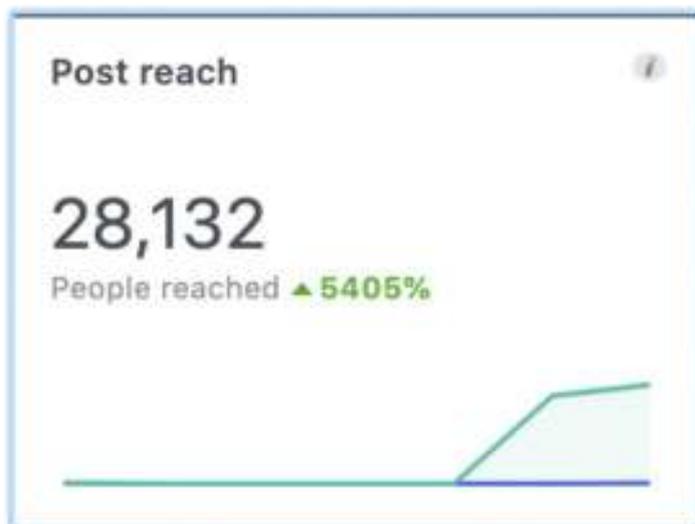
1,428	178	34
Impressions	Engagements	Retweets

2.4.5 Posted on TANLAP Website Documentaries and Educational Materials

The idea to post on organizational website documentaries and educational materials on women and children's rights emerged as a response to address the challenge of public low understand of the issues relating to women and children's rights. Also, due to the rapidly increasing users of social media as announced by the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) that now the country has



nearly 23.14 Million use their handsets to go online, posting on organizational website educative materials on women and children's rights would reach many Tanzanians. Materials such as Legal Aid Act; Legal Aid Regulations; Marriage Act; the National Plan of Action to end Violence against women and children; National Strategy to End Female Genital Mutilation and many others were posted to the organizational website. Documentaries developed during the implementation of the project such as case studies; testimonies; speeches; appreciations were posted on the organizational website.



The documentaries mainly were recorded from project beneficiaries and those participated in the implementation of the project. On the side of the project beneficiaries, it involved community members and students in schools, while to those participated in the project documentaries involved, the Kagera Regional Commissioner; Muleba District Commissioner; Registrar of Legal Aid; Assistant Registrars of Legal Aid, Police Gender Desks in

Muleba and Bukoba; Social Welfare Officers in Bukoba na Muleba; and MHOLA staff. On the other hand, TANLAP produced the documentary summarizing the implementation of the project highlighting the achievements and challenges of the project implemented in Kagera. The documentary was aired in Star Television on Friday 4th October 2019 at 21:30. The public had the opportunity to learn through the testimonies given by project beneficiaries and get to know the situation of GBV in Kagera region and the interventions TANLAP implemented to address the situation under UN WOMEN support. TANLAP will continue to use the

documentary for public education to create awareness on issues of GBV and its impact to the community using the experience from Kagera region.

2.4.6 Conduct Dialogue using Community Radios and Televisions

TANLAP conducted a media session with Star Television to raise awareness to the community on the right to a fair trial and legal aid to all cases. The session was conducted on the 26th July 2019. It was important to create public awareness on the right to a fair trial and legal aid because it has been noted that one among the challenges facing access to justice in Tanzania is public narrow understanding of the legal landscape. The majority of the people are not aware that they are constitutionally entitled to a fair trial in courts of justice. It is the constitutional and fundamental principle of presumption of innocence until when proved guilty after a fair trial. The public must be informed that malicious prosecution, which also contributes to the shrinking of civic space in Tanzania is totally prohibited in the constitution. The role of TANLAP is to continue creating awareness to the public to protect and defend their constitutional rights, including the fair legal trial in courts of justice

2.5 Organizational Development and Sustainability

2.5.1 Fundraising activities

As part of organizational development and sustainability, TANLAP has been fundraising in order to generate enough financial resource for effective interventions as per the strategic plan. TANLAP has secured funding from the National Endowment for Democracy for two-year contract has been signed from 1st October 2019 to 30th September 2021. TANLAP has also submitted the proposal to UN WOMEN for project extension after a one-year contract. TANLAP within the consortium with TAWLA, WiLDAF and KWIECO still waiting the feedback from USAID following the submission of the joint proposal. TANLAP will continue submitting proposals to development partners once the opportunity deemed appropriate to ensure sufficient resources are secured for effective project implementation on legal aid and access to justice.

2.5.2 Staff and Board meetings

TANLAP has been conducting staff and board meeting to ensure compliance with organizational regulations and policies. The staff meetings have been useful to shape the organizational direction in the implementation of project activities. Also, TANLAP has been conducted the board meeting in each quarter. The meeting was held at TANLAP offices. The board has the role to provide directives on proper adherence of rules to ensure program and financial compliance. The board has been meeting quarterly and receive both narrative and financial reports of the respective quarter. From the board, the Secretariat receives

instructions for improvement in project implementation. TANLAP will continue with the inclination to organize the board meeting on a quarterly basis

TANLAP Board of Directors met as scheduled for monitoring, advice and direct the implementation of activities of the network. For example, on the 11th February, 2019, TANLAP conducted its quarterly board meeting at TANLAP Secretariat - Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam, starting from 2.00pm. The following were the agenda of Board Meeting: - Opening of the meeting; Adoption of the Agenda; Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting; Matters Arising; Membership and Membership fees; Approved Annual Plan; Annual Financial report and Audited report; Directors Report; Annual General Meeting preparation and Closing of the meeting. All quarterly board meetings in 2019 were conducted accordingly.



2.5.3 TANLAP Conducted Annual General Meeting

TANLAP called its members for Annual General Meeting in which all members of TANLAP were invited to attend. The AGM was conducted on 03.04.2019 at Lush-Garden Arusha where 63 members attended the meeting. It opened at 03:52 PM by the Registrar of Legal Aid Ms. Felisasi Mushi. She delivered the opening speech and wish participants to continue with the meeting. The following are the proposed agenda for the AGM Meeting: -



Opening of the meeting; Adoption of the Agenda; Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting; Matters arising; Directors' Report; Audited report; Annual and Entrance Fees; Approval of the Auditor; Any Other Business and Closing the Meeting.

Members adopted the meeting and confirmed minutes of the previous meeting. The board presented the Director's report, which contained the annual activities and financial reports to its members and the members approved the

report. Also proposed for the Auditor, and members to pay the contribution on time as agreed in every AGM for development of TANLAP. Also, members asked for changing the board of TANLAP as the constitution provides for every four years should make changes to allow new members of the board to take chance.

2.5.4 TANLAP Conducted the Organizational Capacity Assessment

- ⇒ TANLAP conducted the Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA), the assessment was held from 16th -26th of July 2019, and it was highly participatory, involving members of the Management Team and Staff as well as some TANLAP and Board Members selected for this purpose. The approach to the assessment involved reviewing of the available administrative and technical documents, workshop with staff as well as self-administered questionnaire, interviews with Board members. Key findings of the Report are;
- ⇒ TANLAP is a highly professional and competent Network of Legal Aid Organizations. Its capacity to plan, manage and administer projects is highly satisfactory.
- ⇒ The organizational structure of TANLAP is appropriate in relation to its vision, mission, functions and activities.
- ⇒ Despite few staff, particularly at the program level and despite the significant staff turnover, the organization has been able to function well and deliver satisfactorily in its mandate and operations.
- ⇒ The organization stands to be the largest CSOs' network of Legal Aid Providers (LAPs) in the country and has established a strategic partnership with key government line Ministries and Department in policy analysis, hence continuing influence policy has gained reputability.

On the other side, the major gap observed within the organisation is limited funding and dependence on donor projects to sustainably execute its mandate and functions. This has led to:- limited operationalization and review of the current strategic plan; Understaffing affecting the execution of its mandate and core functions; Minimal staff turn-over diminishing the capacity strengthening efforts affecting the effectiveness of the organisation; Untimely payment of salaries, lack of insurance coverage and remunerations of its staff

3 Chapter Three: Achievements

1. Implemented project in Kagera, MOCLA has replicate part of the project activities – establishment of girl’s rights clubs in Simiyu region as experience learning from participating in the implementation of TANLAP project in Kagera.
2. Managed to maintain and update the TANLAP platform/ hub for women and supporters of children to interact with legal aid actors. The platforms have been active for information sharing.
3. Managed to post on the organizational Website Documentaries and Educational Materials on Women and Children Rights. The materials, including Acts, Regulations, and documentaries from project beneficiaries and stakeholders
4. Managed to conduct dialogues on girls and women’s rights in in schools; market places; villages; hospitals in Kagera region. For example, in Kiga Village in Ruralanda Ward- Muleba; in Kyamkwikwi village, Izigo ward – Muleba. Through the community dialogues and in the implementation of the project activities from November 2018 to October 2019, the number of individuals received legal education and legal aid services is around 100,725 (58205 Female and 42550 Male) in 8 districts of Kagera region.
5. Established Girl’s Rights Clubs in 8 Districts Secondary Schools in Kagera region. The clubs have 908 members from all 8 schools (679 girls and 229 boys). Through the clubs, members were able,
 - ⇒ Reduced school dropouts due to pregnancies, For example, in Kagango 3 pregnancy cases in 2018, only 1 case in 2019; Kayanga secondary 9 pregnancy cases 2016, 2 cases in 2018, no pregnancy cases in 2019; Shunga 7 pregnancy cases in 2018, no pregnancy case in 2019
 - ⇒ Increased knowledge of GBV among club members, they are now able to explain the types, causes and impact of GBV
 - ⇒ Increased knowledge among club members on some laws such as the Legal Aid Act and its Regulations
 - ⇒ Enhanced ability to report cases of GBV within schools and in the community like the cases reported to the club guardians.
6. Managed to facilitate paralegals refresher course and training to 60 paralegals (31 female and 29 male). The Paralegals are now recognized by the law and are aware of the modern approaches to fight GBV in the community.
7. Managed to establish a Working Group of 27 Members and Stakeholders of Women and Children’s Rights. Members are from 8 districts in Kagera, members are Social Welfare Officers; Community Development Officer; Assistant Registrars of Legal Aid; Legal Officers; Representatives from Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCB); Police Gender Desk while from the public members are Paralegals and representative from Civil Society Organizations. Members had achieved;
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Muleba managed to provide legal aid services to community forums in 5 wards
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk has received 50 GBV cases and 19 have been taken to court

- ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba has handled 72 matrimonial cases
 - ⇒ Assistant Registrar of Legal Aid has managed to organize 8 community forums in Bukoba Rural to discuss issues affecting women and children
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo managed to conduct 13 seminars about sexual corruption
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo managed to establish 13 Anti-corruption clubs in secondary schools
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo published 4 educative articles about corruption
 - ⇒ PCCB in Biharamulo managed to conduct 2 public rallies on corruption
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk managed to handle 11 rape cases in Bukoba Municipal
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba managed to apprehend 33 suspects of GBV cases in Bukoba Municipal
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Bukoba managed to handle 2 rape cases demanded DNA test
 - ⇒ MOHALA managed to conduct 8 public dialogues in Karagwe on the rights of women and children
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Biharamulo managed to take 2 rape cases to the court
 - ⇒ Social Welfare Officer in Biharamulo managed to re-unite 12-year girl who was illegally trafficked to Dodoma for domestic works
 - ⇒ Social Welfare in Karagwe managed to handle 5 rape cases, 1 case the perpetrator sentenced 30 years in jail
 - ⇒ Police Gender Desk in Muleba managed to return a land to an orphan girl, the land which was confiscated by relatives
8. Participated in International Legal Aid Group Conference in Ottawa. TANLAP had the opportunity to present to the meeting the situation of legal service in Tanzania following the enactment of the Legal Aid Act in 2017 and the Regulations in 2018. The meeting was an opportunity of experience sharing and learning on access to justice
 9. Organized capacity building session with Police officers in Mwanza and Mbeya
 10. Strengthened working relationship with state and non-state actors in Kagera region to fight violence against women and children
 11. Strengthened working relationship with state and non-state actors in Mbeya and Mwanza regions to ensure the promotion and protection of a cohesive state and non-state actors' collaboration to ensure the realization of freedom of expression and association a freer civic space and rule of law in Tanzania
 12. Networked with other stakeholders in various processes in Tanzania and beyond.

4 Chapter Four: Lessons Learned

In the year 2019, TANLAP has learned that collaboration among stakeholders both state and non-state is important in the struggles for human rights and access to justice for poor and marginalized communities. Collaboration among Legal Aid Providers; Police Force; Media houses; Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance; Members of Parliament; Paralegals provide a platform for experience sharing on how citizens can be provided with effective and timely legal aid services, protection of human rights and ensuring access to justice. Stakeholders have different experiences, hence collaboration and sharing experience provide the opportunity to make adjustments basing on the reality on the ground. For example, to address GBV cases within the household such as rape, it calls for stakeholders' participation and collaboration to ensure incidences are reported to appropriate authorities for further actions.

The collaboration must be accompanied with community awareness creation and education to enable changing of community mind sets and attitudes. TANLAP will continue to enhance the collaboration with the relevant stakeholders to ensure positive results in the fight against GBV to ensure access to justice through the provision of legal aid services. TANLAP has learned that it is important to have a reflection session at least after every six months, where stakeholders will assess their preference towards achieving human rights and access to justice in poor communities in Tanzania

Furthermore, TANLAP have learned that the strategies and interventions to address and eliminate GBV must focus to create awareness at the grassroots. For example, during the engagement with the Kagera Regional Commissioner, he mentioned low public awareness as a critical cause and source of the continuation of violence against women and girls in Kagera, and in order to address the problem full community involvement is important. Even during the engagement with the Police Gender Desk at the Regional Police Station in Kagera, it was identified that community participation in GBV related cases is very minimal due to limited understanding and reasons connected to culture, tradition and beliefs. Limited awareness has motivated some of GBV victims to be reluctant to report and seek remedy in the courts. Sometimes, even when the matters are taken to the court by the Republic, some of GBV survivors or relatives are not ready to cooperate to ensure justice is attained and the perpetrators are in custody. Also, a lesson learned about the importance to invest in community awareness was articulated by students during the visit to schools to attend debates in Anti GBV clubs in 8 secondary schools. Students claimed that they face some challenges from the community when they want to transfer the knowledge acquired in clubs in the community as the intervention to address GBV. Some of the community member's even family members are less cooperative. Hence, they proposed more programs to address low community understanding of the importance to eliminate violence against women and children.

Specific to rape cases, some of the victims have the inclination of identifying a wrong perpetrator wittingly to protect the actual one. This also provided us a lesson that perpetrators, victims and parents sometimes can partner to distort the cases due to corruption. We have also learned that in some cases the perpetrators of violence against children are close relatives and sometimes parents. This lesson was learned from two

testimonies in Kagemu, Bunazi secondary schools and rape cases in Biharamulo. We have learned parent's irresponsibility to their children is a huge factor perpetuating violence against children in Kagera. We have also learned the importance of investing in the younger generation in terms of prevention rather than focusing on treatment. This came as the result of seeing young students are now getting confidence and understanding of GBV related cases and are able now to speak and address various challenges

5 Chapter Five: Challenges

Sustainability of Legal Aid Provision depends largely on the availability of fund. The scarcity of resources has remained a challenge for effective provision of legal aid service, particularly for training and capacity building of Paralegals and Legal Aid Providers. Insufficient resources have limited TANLAP to implement the activities as detailed in the Strategic Plan and Annual Plan. In the coming years, TANLAP will continue fundraising for sufficient resources to implement interventions as detailed in the organizational strategic plan. On the other hand, TANLAP will continue to coordinate member organization across the country for the implementation of the activities that enhance the rule of law and access to justice.

Beyond and outside of TANLAP's control, shrinking of civic space has continued to refrain effective public participation in democratic processes. Some people have fear because they are not sure what will happen after exercise their freedom of expression. Although in many documents it appears that people have freedom of expression, but freedom after expression is not guaranteed. With the community that fear to express their concerns, it is challenging to implement activities aiming to address human rights and access to justice for poor communities. To address the challenge, TANLAP has been very keen in observing laws and regulations when implementing various activities and TANLAP has been operating within its mandates stipulated in the organization constitution. TANLAP keeps up with all legal developments and ensures compliance with the law and working within the bureaucracy, not against it.

6 Chapter Six: Conclusion

In the year 2019, there have been progress in the provision of legal aid in Tanzania after the enactment of the Legal Aid Act (2017) and the Regulations of 2018. The Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs has been a central coordinating body, linking the state actors and the non-state actors to ensure provision of legal aid and access to justice, democratic governance and the rule of law in Tanzania. In 2020, TANLAP will continue to work collaboratively with various stakeholders in the coming years to ensure access to justice, especially for poor communities including women and children. Similarly, TANLAP would like to thank the National Endowment for Democracy, UN WOMEN and others for continuing to support the implementation of TANLAP interventions. TANLAP will continue to ensure proper utilization of resources with strict adherence of integrity and accountability.