Germany Supports WFP’s Humanitarian Assistance for Refugees in Tanzania

In December, the World Food Programme (WFP) welcomed a €3.25 million contribution from the Federal Republic of Germany to support its work in favour of refugees and asylum seekers in Tanzania in 2018-19.

“WFP greatly appreciates this generous contribution from the Government and people of Germany,” said WFP Tanzania Country Representative, Mr. Michael Dunford, “Germany is a key supporter of WFP’s programme providing life-saving food assistance for refugees in Tanzania.”

WFP distributes monthly rations consisting of cereal, pulses, vegetable oil and salt as well as fortified supplementary foods for vulnerable pregnant and lactating women, children under five, malnourished persons with HIV/AIDS and hospital in-patients. In addition, high energy biscuits are provided to refugees in transit.

Germany’s €3.25 million contribution to WFP will provide life-saving food assistance for over 290,000 refugees currently being hosted in Kigoma region. Photo | WFP/Tala Loubieh

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Word From The Government

“….. I would like to thank all Development Partners who have supported the commemoration of this important day. I wouldn’t be able to mention all of you but let mention a few: the UN organization dedicated to gender equality (UN women), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)…..”

The Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa, speaking at the launch of 16 Days of activism against Gender Based Violence in Dodoma on 25th November, 2018.
Republic of Congo.

“My country is proud to support WFP in helping those in need who have found refuge in Tanzania,” said Dr. Detlef Waechter, Ambassador of Germany to Tanzania. “It will be important to get political conditions right for the refugees to return to their home countries voluntarily and safely.”

While limited funding forced reductions in rations between February 2017 and October this year, increased support from donors, including Germany, has enabled the restoration of full rations. WFP continues to raise funds so that food rations do not need to be reduced in the coming months.

Volunteers contribution to building resilient communities appreciated on IVD

International Volunteer Day (IVD) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985. Since then, every year governments, the UN system and civil society organizations have successfully joined volunteers around the world to celebrate the Day on 5 December. According to United Nations Volunteers (UNV), more than one billion people volunteer globally, which is equivalent to over 109 million full-time workers. Most volunteers work informally, with around 70 per cent of all volunteers working in their own communities helping the people around them, while 30 per cent volunteer through formal organizations. On IVD 2018, the government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the United Nations celebrated community volunteers who contribute to making their communities more resilient against natural disasters, economic stresses and political shocks.

The commemorations took place in Zanzibar and were coordinated by UNV in collaboration with 10 other volunteer organizations. The event took place at Mapinduzi Square and brought together more than 300 Volunteers. About 250 units of blood were donated to National Blood Bank which has been facing challenges to attract sufficient donors. The event was graced by Minister of Youth, Culture, Arts and Sports, Ambassador Ali Karume, and UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez.

UN Volunteers donating blood and taking part in various medical services at Mapinduzi Square in Zanzibar during the IVD Celebrations.

Photo | UN Volunteers
A year on from the brutal killing of 15 United Nations peacekeepers from Tanzania in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the head of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) paid a visit to some of the victims’ families last month to honour the memory of the soldiers who died in what was the biggest single loss of UN Peacekeepers in recent history.

Speaking on the island of Zanzibar, home to 13 of the 15 fallen peacekeepers, Under Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix told the affected families that their loved ones’ service and sacrifice would never be forgotten.

“I know that it’s difficult to find words to express your pain. But let me assure you, that as you will never forget your brave heroes, we will never forget them as well,” he said.

The peacekeeping chief’s address concludes a two-day visit to the country, where he also met with members of the Tanzanian People’s Defense Force.

On 7 December 2017, suspected...
Allied Democratic Force (ADF) fighters, ambushed a contingent from the UN Stabilization Mission in DRC (MONUSCO), at its Company Operating Base in Semuliki in the Beni area of North Kivu. A protracted fire-fight ensued between rebels, the UN blue helmets, and Government troops.

Besides the 15 Tanzanian peacekeepers serving under the blue flag who lost their lives, 44 others were wounded.

The North Kivu region in eastern DRC, has been the site of numerous assaults on UN peacekeeping forces. Two months before rebels struck last December, two other blue helmets were killed in action and another 18 wounded in an attack on their base in the same area.

Secretary-General António Guterres has called the 7 December killings an indicator of the growing challenges faced by the UN’s peacekeeping operations around the world, and in remarks directly following the attack, he dubbed the deliberate acts “unacceptable” and “a war crime.”

During 2017, more than 110,000 peacekeepers were deployed across 15 missions around the world, and nearly 19,000 UN personnel work in DRC alone, making it the second largest peacekeeping mission behind UNMISS, in South Sudan.

Since 2010, 154 peacekeepers have been killed in DRC.

Savings Groups Opening a Window of Hope for Refugee Women

“Now my family listens to me,” said Ekyoci, a 34-year-old Congolese woman. “Every time when I have suggestions, like when to rebuild the house and how to spend our money, my husband listens to me. It was not the same in the past.”

Ekyoci is a refugee who has lived in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp for the last 22 years. Since she first arrived, Ekyoci has grown from a little girl to a mother of three, yet there are still no signs in her view of complete peace back home.

Ekyoci now runs her own micro-business, buying vegetables from the host communities and selling them at the common market in the camp. The business generates around 12,000 TZS ($5.20 USD) profit per month, which she saves in her UNCDF-supported savings group. “Before joining the group, I spent whatever little money I had,” said Ekyoci. Lack of know-how hindered her from planning and managing her money. “What else has changed is the attitude of my family—now they respect my views, because I run a business and contribute to the household.”

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Despite experiencing some setbacks, Ekyoci is a good example of how savings groups can promote positive saving behaviours, build confidence, and empower women on a personal and at the community level.

UNCDF’s savings group model allows low-income households to build assets; mitigate shocks related to emergencies, illness, or injury; and make productive investments.

Such livelihoods efforts that strengthen refugee self-reliance reshape our understanding of the people whose hands reach out for the food rations—if provided the right tools and opportunities, these hands can carve out a resilient path and fulfil the potential that has been stifled by conflict and displacement.

For the thousands of women savings groups members supported by UNCDF, one loan can kickstart a future, providing a window to a life with vision and hope.

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“What else has changed is the attitude of my family—now they respect my views, because I run a business and contribute to the household.”

- Ekyoci, a 34 year-old Congolese woman.
In Tanzania fighting to end violence against women and girls has become a way of life not only for the police and the courts of law but also for the men in communities such as those found in Kigoma.

According to Mr. Yassin Ally, the executive director of Kivulini Women’s Rights in Kigoma, violence against women and girls is slowly becoming a thing of the past, and even an embarrassment in some enlightened neighbourhoods. His organisation is partnering with UN Women in projects working to end violence against women and girls.

Kigoma is one of the areas that was this year selected for this year’s 16 Days of activism against based violence campaign to intensify efforts to protect its women and girls and to harness creation of peaceful communities.

A total 61 percent of women, age 15-49 have experienced sexual, or emotional violence committed by their husband or partner; with 33.4 percent suffering violence in the 12-months preceding the Demographic and Health survey of 2015/16.

Through the generous funding from the Governments of Norway and Sweden, in April 2018, Kivulini Women’s Rights started implementing the one-year projects in Kasulu, Kakonko and Kibondo.

The initiative aims to build communities’ capacity to prevent and respond to violence. Following some months working with the local communities, Ally said the attitudes of people are starting to change, with some men also working as champions of peace.

“We are seeing some change. The male champions now view all forms of violence on women and girls as a betrayal to their families and the country’s commitment towards protecting the rights of women. They now believe that it is every woman’s right to live their lives to the fullest and in peace,” says Ally.

Following the partnership with UN Women, up to 300 community volunteers, including over 50 male activists have received some trainings that have initiated them into becoming champions against gender-based violence.

The campaign in Kigoma also targets the police, local government, health care workers, teachers and court officials in the ongoing community engagements aiming to improve service delivery.

Uniquely, this year’s 16 Days campaign sent a clear message...
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that even men from the corridors of power are also on board the fight to end gender-based violence.

The fact that the campaign was launched by the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa, and the Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Ambassador Seif Ali Iddi in Zanzibar, demonstrates the commitment of the government.

Speaking during the 16 Days campaign launch in Zanzibar, the UN Women Representative in Tanzania, Hodan Addou welcomed the participation of senior government officials; the UN; the civil society; the private sector; and local communities in all the key activities. She explained this reflected the importance of pushing for gender equality in all sectors, that is if Tanzania is to make significant progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

“I believe through strengthened partnerships we can improve the quality of lives of many women and girls in Tanzania. This is important because a win for women and girls is a win for Tanzania,” Addou says.

She emphasized the need to create a more enabling environment, free of violence, alongside investing in girls’ education and increased development initiatives for all women to enable their full participation in the development of the country.

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- Hodan Addou, UN Women Representative in Tanzania.
SPECIAL REPORT
16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

(front row, from left to right) UNAIDS Country Director, Dr. Leo Zekeng; UN Women Representative, Ms. Hodan Addou; and UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez, along with other UN officials, at Jamatini Roundabout in Dodoma. UN Women lit up the roundabout orange as part of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. Photo | Zainul Mzige

Music artist Christina Shusho performs a song about ending gender-based violence during the launch of the 16 Days campaign in Dodoma. Photo | Zainul Mzige
Young people raise their voices as they commemorate World Children’s Day in Dar es Salaam. In late November, UNICEF Tanzania in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children organized an Activate Talk with children and young people under the theme “My Aspirations, My path…” to commemorate World Children’s Day.

The event graced by the Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Hon. Ummy Mwalimu, was attended by children, youth, government officials, Members of Parliament, development partners, faith-leaders and the private sector.

The aim was to give space for young people to be inspired, motivated and encouraged on their dreams and remain hopeful for the future, despite the many challenges they are facing.

Five young people shared their experiences on how they have managed to hold on to their dreams and aspirations despite the struggles that they have encountered.

The speakers were Miss Tanzania 2012 Brigitte Lyimo; a 14-year-old student, Vanessa Innocent; radio presenter Millard Ayo; a university student of Computer Engineering, Witness Mtui; and a leader of Junior Council of United Republic of Tanzania, Raphael Dennis. Their voices inspired their fellow peers and stirred a constructive dialogue between young people and other key stakeholders on how they can ensure children in Tanzania grow up with hope for a better future.

One of the main messages of the
In her speech, Ms. Mwalimu, reminded parents to be hands-on in raising their children and reiterated the government’s commitment to ending violence against children in the country. UNICEF Representative, Ms. Maniza Zaman, said young citizens of today, play an important role in ensuring the implementation of the promises made in the SDGs as they will have a major impact on them.

“This next generation has the potential to be the next generation of talent and innovators in this fast-changing world. All they need is equal opportunities - to be heard and supported to make the right choices for themselves so that they grow up with hope and live a life of purpose and compassion,” stated Ms. Zaman.

Children and youth from across the country #GoBlue to join UNICEF Tanzania at the Activate Talk for World Children’s Day. Youth, children & #ChangeMakers took the stage to inspire young people in Tanzania to fulfil their dreams and aspirations. Photo| UNICEF

“From page 9

The Activate Talk was themed around the topic, “My Aspirations, My Path” to inspire young people around the country to follow their dreams despite what challenges may stand in your way. Photo| UNICEF
Bank of Tanzania (BoT) went blue in support of UNICEF Tanzania to commemorate World Children’s Day. On the 27th of November, UNICEF Tanzania held an #ActivateTalk at the BoT to give children and #ChangeMakers a platform to amplify their voices and advocate for children rights. Photo | UNICEF

“Never give up on your dream! I knocked on many doors and eventually one opened. Now I use my voice to raise awareness on the rights and needs of children who can’t.” Brigette Alfred, Miss Tanzania 2012 shares her inspiring story to youth and children across Tanzania at the Activate Talk. Photo | UNICEF

But first let’s take a selfie! Radio Presenter and Celebrity Millard Ayo takes a photo with UNICEF Representative Maniza Zaman at the Activate Talk! Millard shared his inspiring story of how he made his career from humble beginnings. Photo | UNICEF
Up like clockwork at 6 am, Mr. Sinzikayo attends to vegetables in his small garden before heading out to his day job at Good Neighbors Tanzania (GNTZ), one of UNHCR partners in Kigoma Region. Mr. Sinzikayo (50) is a bachelor’s degree holder in agriculture and animal keeping from University of Burundi with more than 10 years of experience, living in Mtendeli refugee camp.

His passion and work in agriculture has a direct impact on over 170 refugees and 240 host community around the refugee camp who are now able to balance their diet as well as improve their incomes. “I fled to Tanzania in search of a better life for my family in 2016 after seeing my friends’ bodies in the river near my home,” narrated Mr. Sinzikayo. One year later, he joined the GNTZ agricultural programme and uses his skills to teach both Burundians and Tanzanians small-scale farming using organic planting methods. Under this agricultural program, Mr. Sinzikayo specializes in teaching beneficiaries how to grow vegetables such as cabbage, spinach, egg-plants, onions and chilies for subsistence and market consumption.

“Mr. Sinzikayo is an excellent teacher who encourages us to ask questions...”
and teaches through practice,” said Donasien, Kasanda villager living near Mtendeli camp. “Our teacher still visits my kitchen garden to see how far my egg plants and carrots are growing,” said Marina, a Burundian refugee mother of two.

“He is almost overqualified; Mr. Sinzikayo could run a larger-scale agricultural project, had the situation been different, explained Takaaki Miura, UNHCR Associate Livelihoods Officer. “Agriculture is the dominant sector in both Kigoma region and Burundi, and we want to see more of such cross-border knowledge transfer,” added Takaaki.

Mr. Sinzikayo appreciates his job and wishes more could be done to expand agricultural projects. “I hope we could expand to include animal farming training in order to supplement the kitchen garden training, and more farming tools,” he adds. He is married and a father of 5 children.

UNDP supporting access to legal aid across Tanzania

Building on the success of previous years, the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs (MoCLA), in collaboration with UNDP Tanzania and the Tanzania Paralegals Network (TAPANET), organized and coordinated Legal Aid Week 2018 across Tanzania from 26th to 30th November 2018.

Legal Aid Week was launched by MoCLA in Morogoro in late November in recognition of the fact that millions of indigents in Tanzania still have limited opportunity to and knowledge of how to access legal aid assistance. Through the Strengthening Access to Justice and Human Rights Protection in Tanzania project, UNDP is supporting MoCLA to strengthen legal aid sector oversight, through the implementation of the 2017 Legal Aid Act, and supporting initiatives which ensure better access to legal aid assistance.

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Women and girls are disproportionately disadvantaged and therefore this year’s Legal Aid Week theme was ‘Equal access to legal aid for all Women and Girls’. Events across the country provided education, advice and legal aid services to an estimated 500,000 indigent and vulnerable people (preliminary figure). The legal aid services were provided by paralegals from TAPANET, advocates, police from Gender Desks, lawyers and government attorneys.

The event is a good example of how ensuring access to legal aid requires the engagement of stakeholders across the legal sector; local and national government; and civil society. The importance of legal aid in Tanzania was further emphasized during the celebrations of the commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders on 9th December (Human Rights Defenders Day), an event arranged by the Human Rights Defenders Coalition (HRDC) and the Network of Legal Aid Professionals (TANLAP), and in which UNDP participated.

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The 2018 UN Conference on Trade and Development Report was launched on the 22nd of November at the ILO conference hall in Dar es Salaam by the UNCTAD Economic Affairs Officer Mr. Dennis Banda along with Ms. Ellen Maduhu from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation and the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez.

The sub-title for 2018 was, “Entrepreneurship for Transformation; Beyond Business as Usual”. Members of the Diplomatic Community, researchers, media representatives and UN officials participated in the launch.

The report assessed the status of entrepreneurship in Least Developed Countries, in which it found that among other things entrepreneurs focus on medium sized business and lack innovation, a tendency which caused them to have a short lifespan. This report also linked the contribution of the LDC entrepreneurs to progress in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicating that they could be transformed to be more innovative and to contribute to the quicker achievement of the goals.

The report argued that structural transformations need to be undertaken in order to include the local entrepreneurs in the global value chains making them more productive.

Challenges faced by entrepreneurs were outlined and recommendations were made. For example, one recommendation was that policies need to target the most transformational firms – those with a high potential to overcome deficiencies in least developed country economies and achieve increases in productivity, while creating jobs and being able to survive in the contemporary global market. The report identifies the type of policies most suitable to spur transformational entrepreneurship.

UNCTAD’s Least Developed Countries Report provides a comprehensive and authoritative source of socio-economic analysis and data. The report is intended for a broad readership of governments, policy makers, researchers and all those involved with LDCs’ development policies.
The UN Migration Agency – International Organization for Migration (IOM) – joined the government of the United Republic of Tanzania in commemorating International Migrants Day on 18 December 2018 at Mnazi Mmoja Grounds in Dar es Salaam. This year’s theme was: “Migration with Dignity.”

The International Migrants’ Day 2018 commemorations in Dar es Salaam were carried out from 16 December to 18 December. The first two days were dedicated towards civic education and information for visitors and guests. This included information on migration-related services such as e-passports and e-visa, among other things. Additionally, exhibition booths were erected as part of the commemoration which showcased the work of IOM Tanzania, the Tanzania Immigration Services Department and the Tanzania Regional Immigration Training Academy in Moshi which is run in partnership with the IOM African Capacity Building Centre.

Remarks on International Migrants Day 2018 from Dr Anna Makakala, The Commissioner General of Tanzania Immigration Services Department. Photo | IOM

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The United Nations in Tanzania continues to raise awareness on the Global Goals. Recently, with UNICEF’s funding, the United Nations in Tanzania trained and held active discussions with over 600 youth to enable them to be conversant with the global development agenda and their own development priorities in the isles. The awareness raising campaign on the Global Goals seeks to make sure that young people are engaged on its implementation. The outreach in Pemba and Unguja is a continuation of an initiative which was launched in Arusha in 2016 by the UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez.

Remarks on International Migrants Day 2018 from Hon. Dr Anna Makakala—The Commissioner General of Tanzania Immigration Services Department.

Photo | IOM

Over 600 youth trained on Global Goals in Unguja & Pemba

UNICEF supported an SDGs training for over 20 young reporters in Unguja.

Photo | UN

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Speaking at the Lumumba Secondary School where one of the four trainings took place, the RC Office’s Partnership and Communications Associate stated that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda requires the involvement of everyone. She congratulated the students for their commitment to understand the Global Goals and assurance of taking part in the implementation. She also pointed out the importance of youth’s participation in development issues in Tanzania where youth comprise more than 60 percent of the population.

“You have a very important role and responsibility towards your fellow youth as Youth. The knowledge you have received today will enable you be good advocates for the SDGs at home, at school and in your communities. In this way, we hope you can take responsibility for the advocacy and implementation of activities in support of the Global Goals. As such responsibility for the Global Goals rests with all of us and especially the youth." said Ms. Didi while addressing the youth at the event.

One of the participants, Ms. Lailat Mwinshehe from Shamiani Secondary school, expressed her appreciation for the training noting that this is the second time such a training has been carried out in Pemba. “I feel educated, informed and enabled to communicate the new Global Goals to my family, my friends, and my peers. This knowledge was not clear to me before because I did not have the opportunity to attend the previous training. "I feel educated, informed and enabled to communicate the new Global Goals to my family, my friends, and my peers. This knowledge was not clear to me before because I did not have the opportunity to attend the previous training. The Global Goals Agenda will end at 2030, and I will be 40 years old. I want to be part and parcel of witnessing the successes in their implementation and this is why I am playing part in raising awareness among other colleagues.” Said Lailat.

Three secondary schools and a group of twenty young reporters participated in the training in Unguja while over 400 secondary school students from Shamiani, Mitiulaya, Maendeleo and Limbani secondary schools were trained in Chakechake, Pemba.

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- Ms. Lailat Mwinshehe, Global Goals Training participant.

**Upcoming Days**

- 27 January – International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust
- 4 February – World Cancer Day
- 6 February – International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
- 20 February – World Day of Social Justice

**A Stronger United Nations for a Better World !**

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