"I would like to begin today with a vote of thanks for the continued robust support the UN Tanzania has provided to the region through the Kigoma Joint Programme. On the same note, I would like to thank all development partners contributing to this programme particularly Governments of Norway, Ireland and Sweden. Your support is truly appreciated by the people of Kigoma."

Kigoma Regional Commissioner, Retired Brigadier General Emmanual Maganga at the 4th Steering Committee Meeting for Kigoma Joint Programme on February 4th, 2020 in Kigoma Region

Earlier this year, the Royal Norwegian Embassy provided an additional USD 4.3 million (approximately TSh. 9.9 billion) to the UN to support the implementation of the Kigoma Joint Programme (KJP), bringing Norway’s contribution for the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan II (UNDAPII) (2016-2021) in Tanzania to USD 26.1 million (approximately TSh. 60 billion).

The KJP is an area-based programme, jointly implemented by 16 UN Agencies in collaboration with regional and district government authorities, to accelerate development

Continues on page 2
in communities in Kigoma Region that currently host approximately 278,000 refugees and asylum seekers. Speaking at the signing ceremony in Kigoma Town, Mr. Hans Corneliussen, Counsellor of Political Affairs of the Norwegian Embassy, underlined the importance of the close cooperation between the UN and regional and district government and emphasized that the participation of communities was key to driving local ownership of the programme and improving the lives of people in Kigoma. Norway is a strong supporter of the UN One Fund in Tanzania and its support to the KJP means that over 9,000 smallholder farmers have improved crop harvesting and storage practices; Women and Children’s Protection Committees have been established in all four local government authorities where the KJP is implemented; and 12,894 youth and women entrepreneurs have benefitted from skills development, business management trainings and facilitated access to finance. The construction and renovation of 11 water supply systems as well as school and community sanitation facilities have also commenced.

Mr. Michael Dunford, UN Resident Coordinator i.e. and World Food Programme (WFP) Country Representative, also in attendance at the ceremony, thanked both the government and the people of Norway for their support to UN activities. “Norway has been a strong partner of Tanzania and the United Nations for many decades. Focusing on the needs of host communities in the (Kigoma) region, these resources will allow us to build on the results that have been achieved so far by the KJP, accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”

On behalf of the Government, Kigoma Regional Commissioner, Hon. Brig. Gen. Maganga, thanked Norway and development partners for supporting the people of Kigoma, pledging his commitment to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the programme.

Norway’s contribution will be channelled through the Tanzania One Fund, established for UN agencies in the country to support the implementation of UNDAP II.
GOING TO THE LAST MILE.... ON BICYCLES!

Peer educators at six UNFPA-supported Adolescent and Youth-Friendly (AYF) corners in Simiyu Region have each received a bicycle to make the hard work they do in their communities a little bit easier.

Thirty peer educators now have a bicycle supplied by UNFPA with funding from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) as part of the two-year ‘Nilinde Nikulinde Project’ to help them cover the long distances they travel within their neighbourhoods and beyond to promote positive behaviours through Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) outreach. An additional 35 bicycles will be distributed to the remaining seven UNFPA-supported AYF corners in Simiyu later this month.

The 65 peer educators in Simiyu Region who have graduated from UNFPA implementing partner’s Kiota Women’s Health and Development’s (KIWOHEDE) sexual and reproductive health and rights training work tirelessly in their communities to break down taboos and to support their peers to make healthy and informed choices about their SRH choices that have a real impact on their future. They are part of a network of UNFPA-supported peer educators in Tanzania that reached over 80,000 adolescents and young people with SRH information and education in 2019, including vulnerable youth who are out-of-school.

Continues on page 4
The peer educators are also an important link to the 13 Adolescent and Youth Corners dedicated spaces adjoining health facilities that UNFPA has renovated and equipped in Simiyu Region since 2018 under the two-year ‘Nilinde Nikulinde Project’. The corners provide a safe and enabling environment for vulnerable adolescents and young people to meet and to access a range of age-responsive SRH services – including voluntary family planning, HIV voluntary counselling and testing, psychosocial counselling, and information on menstrual hygiene management. Peer educators raise awareness about the services available at the corners and make referrals as needed.

With 10 years left to deliver on the Global Goals for Sustainable Development, UNFPA is stepping up efforts to ensure that Tanzania’s youthful population, especially adolescent girls, have access to comprehensive and age-responsive information, education and adolescent-friendly SRH services wherever they live so that they can make a safe transition from adolescence to a healthy and productive adulthood...and no one is left out or behind.

WORKING TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN ZANZIBAR

Violence against women and children (VAWC) is a daily reality in Zanzibar. According to the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey 2015/16, 14 per cent of women have experienced physical violence in Zanzibar. Trafficking in persons (TiP), is a form of VAWC often a result of gender inequality and the lower social status of women and children in families, communities and societies.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), through the Zanzibar Joint Programme (ZJP), is collaborating with the Government of Zanzibar to end VAWC in Zanzibar, and, in January 2019, held a two-day training on commercial exploitation, including the trafficking of women and children, with the Anti-Trafficking Secretariat.

The training brought together 20 participants from responsible government ministries as well as Representatives from Immigration Services, the Police Department, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and the Judiciary.

Continues on page 5
On 23 January 2020, UN Tanzania, the World Food Programme’s (WFP) Innovation Hub Tanzania and the UN Innovation Network (UNIN) hosted the first UN Innovation Night in Tanzania. The event showcased ongoing innovations and underscored the UN’s commitment to using innovative approaches to advance progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

New ways of working and a culture that enables innovation and experimentation are critical to bringing new approaches to the work of the UN. And to facilitate this culture change, many UN agencies have now established dedicated teams to promote innovation at the global, regional and country level.

Speaking at the event, Michael Dunford, WFP Tanzania Country Representative, emphasized that business as usual will not help achieve the delivery of protection, assistance and referral services for women and child survivors of trafficking and violence.

Guest of Honour, Ms. Wahida Maabad Mohammed, Director of Elders and Social Welfare Department, Zanzibar, and a member of the Anti-trafficking Secretariat, urged participants to cascade their new knowledge to fellow government officers and the community to end the trafficking of women and children and other forms of violence. A network of individuals who are committed to addressing trafficking and other forms of violence in Zanzibar was established at the training.
SDGs, and that there must be a commitment to collaborate to leverage new technologies and innovative thinking to keep the UN at the forefront of some of the biggest challenges facing the world today.

The Innovation Night marked the end of an eight-week Tanzania Innovation Safari a part-time innovation training series to identify challenges to realizing the SDGs with participants learning how to progress possible solutions using innovative techniques. Over the course of the Safari, six teams from 13 different UN entities worked together to identify cross-cutting challenges and innovative solutions to accelerate progress on the SDGs.

During the Innovation Night, teams were given three minutes to pitch their ideas. A team from the WFP pitched the idea of a media outlet using a smartphone and mini projector to broadcast content that could reach as many as 40 million Tanzanians.

The Safari was organized by the WFP’s Innovation Hub, UNIN, and supported by the Office of the Resident Coordinator, and brought together different UN entities who learned about basic innovation tools and methods that they can apply in their mandate areas. Similar boot camps may be replicated and potentially scaled up both within and outside Tanzania.

Continues on page 7

“Business as usual will not help us achieve the SDGs, we need to be innovative, forward thinking and not afraid to try new things”

Michael Dunford, WFP Tanzania Country Representative
Children and young people in Tanzania have started a movement to ensure that their voices are heard at some of the highest levels of decision-making in the country. In January, nearly 300 children from various youth networks and platforms participated at the Youth Summit, organized by Femina Hip in collaboration with UNICEF.

The summit was yet another milestone in the movement to ensure that the voices of young people and children are heard;

*Continues on page 8*
Continued from page 7

a journey that began in early 2019 as part of the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC@30), where, with UNICEF’s support, over 34,000 children and young people came together to develop the Children and Young People’s Agenda – a declaration of their hopes for Tanzania’s future. Outreach activities also reached over 9 million children and young people from government bodies, civil society organizations, youth-led networks and school-based platforms to build awareness of children’s rights and to create a demand for them to be upheld.

The Children and Young People’s Agenda provides a foundation for youth champions to lead advocacy meetings with different stakeholders including business leaders, religious leaders, donors and development partners and parliamentarians in both mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. All stakeholders who discuss the Agenda with young people commit to take action.

At the Youth Summit, young people identified three key issues from the Agenda which are at the top of their agenda in 2020: an improvement in the school curriculum and increased completion of secondary education by adolescents; economic empowerment, with a focus on building opportunities for volunteers and interns to prepare young people for the job market; and an expansion in access to youth-friendly health services, especially facilities that increase access to sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services. The recommendations are timely as the country gears up for the general elections later this year.

UNICEF Representative Shalini Bahuguna (left) addressing the youth summit held in DSM, looking on is Femina Hip Media Director, Amabilis Batamula. Photo | UNICEF Tanzania

Continues on page 9
Last month Mary had to travel 25 miles to deliver her baby at Kasulu District Hospital suffering from eclampsia she nearly didn’t survive the birth neither did her son. Mary’s friend, however, who is currently pregnant with her first child will not have to leave her home until shortly before she delivers she will be able to receive skilled care during birth at the newly-constructed maternity ward at Muzye Dispensary.

The maternity ward at Muzye Dispensary in Kasulu District, Kigoma Region opened by District Commissioner for Kasulu District, Colonel Simon Anange, on 3 February now has three separate rooms, a nursing station, bathroom, and improved water system, and will be equipped to provide the full range of quality reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) services.

The renovations are part of UNFPA’s ongoing support to the Government of Tanzania to prevent maternal and newborn deaths by increasing access to timely and skilled care during pregnancy and delivery, including emergency care when complications arise. For the 21 women who on average give birth each month in the dispensary’s catchment area motherhood is now safer, accelerating Tanzania’s progress towards national and global commitments.

UNFPA is upgrading health facilities and providing training to health staff in four districts of Kigoma as part of activities under the Ujana Wangu Nguvu Yangu My Youth, My Power project funded by the Government of Ireland. Muzye Dispensary was one of nine health facilities identified for renovations.

Continues on page 10
Continued from page 9
by UNFPA and regional and local government in 2018. Over the last year maternity wards have been built at six of these facilities and three are at an advanced stage of construction. All renovated facilities will be equipped to deliver quality antenatal, delivery, and postnatal services. In the second year of the Ujana project an additional 12 facilities will be renovated.

UNFPA is also capitalizing on the investment in infrastructure and equipment by supporting training for staff at the renovated health facilities to increase capacity for the provision of quality RMNCH services, including emergency obstetric and newborn care. And a campaign will be rolled out in the catchment area of facilities to generate awareness and demand for services.

UNFPA continues to support efforts to accelerate progress towards zero preventable maternal deaths by 2030, ensuring that no one is left behind in the implementation of national and global development goals in Tanzania.

Pregnant women can now access timely and skilled care during pregnancy, delivery, and in the weeks following birth at the newly constructed maternity ward at Muzye Dispensary. Photo | Grace Mongi/UN Tanzania
As part of the ILO’s Green Jobs Project in Tanzania, implemented under a global cooperation agreement with the Government of Sweden, a Green Challenge competition was recently organized, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Tanzania Recyclers’ Association (TARA). The competition called for young people, especially young women, to submit green enterprise innovations that will drive the development of sustainable enterprise in Tanzania and make the economy greener.

The competition was implemented in partnership with a local business development service (BDS) provider that offered non-financial business services to innovative SMEs to help them expand their businesses.

SMEs who entered the competition were also given an opportunity to increase the production of green products and services by accessing a tailored business development programme, on the ILO’s internationally recognized Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) package. The SIYB package includes a management training programme that focuses on the improved management of small businesses to create more and better jobs in developing economies and economies in transition.

Entrants of the Green Challenge competition submitted their business plans online – there were 88 submissions from 11 regions of Tanzania where they were evaluated using a professionally set of criteria. Eight finalists were selected from four different categories – Green Business (manufacturing or service), Green Agribusiness, Renewable Energy and Waste Management and Recycling.

H.E. Anders Sjöberg, Ambassador of Sweden to Tanzania and Prof Esnati Osinde Chaggu, Chairperson, The National Environment Management Council, recently announced the winners. The winners, young people who have innovative and environmentally friendly businesses and products, will participate in a four-month BDS training programme.

The International Labour Organization (ILO), under a global cooperation agreement with the Government of Sweden, is implementing the 14-month Green Jobs project to promote job creation for youth and women that is environmentally friendly. The project will serve as a building block for future larger-scale programmes.

For more information on the competition please visit: https://youtu.be/8iBSSRtIxxQ

Continues on page 12
Ambassador of Sweden to Tanzania, H.E. Anders Sjöberg commended the participants and highlighted that it was important for Tanzania to have entrepreneurs and start-ups that are helping to promote a greener economy. Photo | ILO Tanzania

The eight finalists of the Green Challenge Competition were selected from four different categories - Green Business (manufacturing or service), Green Agribusiness, Renewable Energy and Waste Management and Recycling. Photo | ILO Tanzania
More than 200 Students from Dar es Salaam schools in March this year participated in a learning session about anti-Semitism and living together in peace as part of the commemoration which marked the International Day of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

The German Ambassador in Tanzania, Regina Hess addressed the students in partnership with the organizers from the UN Information Centre in Dar es Salaam.

The Ambassador informed students about the need to live together in peace and harmony, she further educated that “There is no need to discriminate anyone living in our midst”. Adding that, “Atrocities happen in daily life, in other countries it’s complex but if you were aware of this thing happening every day in our midst, it is easier to know how to respond and end discrimination.”

The students also heard about the ‘Never again’ message from the UN Information Centre’s Information Officer, Stella Vuzo who spoke about the killing of six million Jewish men, women and children and people considered not fit to live due to their disabilities, beliefs and appearance by the Nazi regime led by Adolf Hitler.

A message from the UN Secretary General expressed concerns about “The resurgence of hatred in recent years, from violent extremism to attacks on places of worship, which shows that antisemitism, other forms of religious bigotry, racism and prejudice are still very much with us.”

Antonio Guterres urged all people to fight hatred because Seventy-five years on, neo-Nazis and white supremacists are resurgent, and there are continued efforts to diminish the Holocaust and deny or downplay the responsibility of perpetrators.

Students toured an exhibition at the Little Theatre and watched a film titled, “The Accountant of Auschwitz” on a recent court trial of an old Nazi perpetrator years after the Holocaust happened.

The United Nations holocaust education programme started in 2005.

“The resurgence of hatred in recent years, from violent extremism to attacks on places of worship, which shows that antisemitism, other forms of religious bigotry, racism and prejudice are still very much with us.”

Regina Hess, German Ambassador in Tanzania
UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL DAYS

March 22nd – World Water Day
March 24th – World Tuberculosis Day
March 25th - International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery
April 7th – International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda
April 7th – World Health Day
April 25th – World Malaria Day

A STRONGER UNITED NATIONS FOR A BETTER WORLD

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