

## WHO PROVIDES MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO ZANZIBAR TO FIGHT COVID-19

Issue No. 90  
May - June 2020

### HIGHLIGHTS

- WHO Tanzania provides technical support to Zanzibar decentralization of COVID-19 response
- WFP, Japan Partner to fight Malnutrition in Tanzania.
- COVID-19 catalyses efforts to end child labour in Tanzania
- On World Refugee Day, everyone can make a difference and every action counts.



The Liaison Officer for WHO, Dr. Ghirmay Andemichael hands over the medical supplies and equipment to the Director General of Health Services and chairperson of the COVID19 National Task Force at the Ministry of Health, Zanzibar, Dr. Jamala Taib. Photo | Agnes Kenneth/ UN Tanzania

As of 29th June 2020, COVID19 pandemic has raged the globe with a total 10,021,401 cases and nearly half a million (499,913) deaths. The number of confirmed cases and deaths globally and in the African Region, is on increase. As part of strengthening the International Health Regulations (IHR) -Core capacities and strengthening the system for critical care, the World Health Organization (WHO) Tanzania, has provided technical experts,

medical equipment, supplies and full set of amenities for establishing Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC) in Zanzibar.

As a continuation of strengthening the system for critical care, improved Infection Prevention and Control and strengthening of the surveillance system to combat COVID19 in Zanzibar, WHO has commissioned the procurement of 36 medical equipment, supplies and surveillance tools

to be handed over to the ministry of Health, Zanzibar. These items include hospital beds, personal protective equipment, and patient monitoring tools among others. The total cost of the donation is 95,657,500.00 Tanzanian Shilling equivalent to USD 41,992.00.

At the handing over ceremony, the Liaison Officer for WHO, Dr. Ghirmay Andemichael thanked the Ministry of Health and the Government of

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Zanzibar for the leadership and close collaboration with WHO and the UN system in general and reiterated that the collaboration and support to build capacity to prevent, respond and control health emergencies will continue. He reminded that the medical equipment and supplies is intended to strengthen Zanzibar's capability to cope with the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, improve critical care and prevent health workers from acquiring infections. He emphasized that we

should not show complacency, as the pandemic is not showing a sign of decline and advised individuals to take responsibility in adhering to the government directions and recommended measures to curb the spread of the virus. Together we will defeat this pandemic. He added that the positive behaviors that we acquire during this pandemic will also have a spilling effect to prevent other communicable diseases like cholera.

The donation was received by the Director General of

Health Services and chairperson of the COVID19 National Task Force at the Ministry of Health, Zanzibar, Dr. Jamala Taib. The Director General thanked WHO and the UN system for the continued collaboration and reiterated that the medical supplies and equipment procured through the UN in Tanzania would go a long way towards boosting the Government's efforts to strengthen healthcare services and effectively combat the pandemic.

## PANDEMIC IMPACTS ON ENDING-FGM EFFORTS



The COVID-19 crisis, and its accompanying lockdown measures, has the potential to derail progress to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Tanzania. Photo | Karlien Truyens/UNFPA Tanzania

With support from safe houses in Serengeti and Butiama Districts, Mara Region, for girls who are fleeing female genital mutilation (FGM). In spite of the crimi-

nalization of the practice in Tanzania in 1998 and the government's commitment to deliver on the global goal of zero gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices including FGM as evidenced in the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children – 32 per cent of women and girls (aged 15 to 49) in the region have undergone FGM.

In March 2020, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania announced the closure of all schools kindergarten to secondary for 30 days to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic; the following day all universities, colleges and vocational training centres also closed.

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As in other countries in the region the COVID-19 crisis, and its accompanying lockdown measures, has the potential to derail progress to eliminate FGM in Tanzania, something Rhobi Samwelly, founder of Hope for Girls and Women, is already witnessing.

The cutting season the time of year when most FGM/cutting activities take place in the region is not due to start in Mara until December but Hope for Girls has already rescued 62 girls at risk of FGM. They were unable to reach additional 60 girls who had already been cut by the time support arrived. Valerian Mgani, Association for the Termination of FGM, also in Mara Region, tells a similar story - 27 girls have been

cut since March, something Valerian says he has never seen before.

The pandemic is also having another, less reported, adverse impact on ending FGM efforts: already stretched resources have to go further. Hope for Girls provides its residents with vocational training and also supports girls with fees and boarding costs to attend school. But with the closure of education institutions, girls have had to return to the safe houses, which means there are more mouths to feed and more girls to accommodate.

Butiama and Serengeti safe houses have a combined capacity of 100 they are currently home to 187 girls. ATFGM Masgana is also cur-

rently housing 187 girls at its centre although numbers are decreasing since the reopening of universities, colleges and vocational training centres and Form 6 of secondary school on 1 June.

2020 is the start of the Decade of Action, with just 10 years remaining to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda - including zero GBV and harmful practices for everyone, everywhere. As we move forward, UNFPA and its partners will accelerate and deepen efforts to ensure that progress made towards national and global goals towards eliminating FGM in Tanzania does not stagnate or at worst reverse and focus on building back better.

## WFP, JAPAN PARTNER TO FIGHT MALNUTRITION IN TANZANIA



Village Community Banking Group (VICOBA) in Nduu village supported by the Boresha Lishe programme. Photo | WFP/Mwanzo Millinga

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The Japanese government has contributed US\$1.5 million to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to support the implementation of the four-year (2017-2021) *Boresha Lishe* nutrition project in rural areas of Central Tanzania.

The European Union (EU) and Japan funded *Boresha Lishe* project aims to improve access to and use of nutritious foods for 30,000 women and children through social behaviour change communication, provision of specialized nutritious

foods in Bahi and Chamwino Districts in Dodoma Region and Ikungi and Singida Rural Districts in Singida Region.

The project works to improve knowledge on nutrition, dietary diversity and water, sanitation and hygiene practices (WASH). In addition, keeping small-scale livestock, planting diverse crops and mobilizing Village Community Banking Groups (VICOBA) are promoted, increasing access to capital as well as nutritious foods.

Supported by the contribution from the Government of

Japan, WFP is supplying and installing solar power kiosks to 40 VICOBA supported under the project. The kiosks contain rechargeable rental devices such as lanterns and are operated as a business, providing income opportunities for the VICOBA and community members.

For the supply and installation of solar power kiosks, WFP is working with a Japanese private company, leveraging its expertise accumulated through their business operations over the years.

## COVID-19 CATALYSES EFFORTS TO END CHILD LABOUR IN TANZANIA



A dialogue meeting involving ILO, NGOs and community members at Ndevelwa, Tabora. Photo | ILO Tanzania

The world has made remarkable progress in eliminating child labour. 94 million less children are engaged in child labour over

the last two decades. The joy of these tireless efforts has however been halted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Novel challenges emerge especially

with lockdowns threatening increases in child labour, child abuse and student dropouts once schooling resumes. The global theme for the 2020 World Day against Child Labour (WDAKL), marked on 12 June, was “COVID-19: Protect children from child labour, now more than ever!”. The implementation of the theme is evident in Tabora region where COVID-19 is catalysing efforts to address child labour.

Efforts to end child labour in Tabora are championed by the Regional Commissioner (RC) Hon. Aggrey DJ Mwanri, who is also the patron of child protection activities in the region.

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His office with the support of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) through the ongoing project entitled “Addressing Decent Work Deficits in the Tobacco sector (DWiT)” along with other child labour stakeholders have funded radio-based learning programs called Tabora Darasa Plus. These programs air classroom-like sessions for pupils who are at home due to COVID-19 availing lessons from those in preschool to form four throughout the week. The programs are aired through community radios and have reached approximately 50-60% of students in

the region during the period when schools were closed thereby helping children to continue learning during the pandemic.

Between March and June 2020, 12 ward level bylaws have been reviewed to address child labour. The reviews have been informed by the community level awareness campaigns conducted by the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) and the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) through the support of the ILO’s DWiT project on the need for child protection especially during the pandemic.

Commemoration of the WDACL came at an opportune time to complement the ongoing initiatives. Among others, the ILO in collaboration with its constituents and partners, i.e. the Prime Minister’s Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons With Disability), The Tabora Regional Commissioner’s Office, TUCTA and ATE reminded the stakeholders and communities on the need to focus on and ensure the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), specifically target 8.7 to eliminate all forms of child labour by 2025.

## EVERYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EVERY ACTION COUNTS



United Nations Resident Coordinator Mr. Zlatan Milisic addresses guests attending World Refugee Day live TV panel discussions in Dar es Salaam. **Photo | UNHCR Tanzania**

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**I**n 2020, World Refugee Day (WRD) was marked against a backdrop of dramatic social change. Not only had record numbers of people fled their homes to find safety but the entire world is grappling with the devastation of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In Tanzania, like in most other countries, the traditional in-person commemorations that would have brought together large gatherings were not possible this year due to COVID-19. Nonetheless, through a series of activities and a virtual event, the United Nations, together with the Government and other partners, were successful in reminding the world that

everyone, including refugees, can contribute to society.

The hybrid approach to the virtual event, which included a mixture of several satellite activities and a social media campaign using media personalities and local celebrities, laid the ground for the main event, which was broadcast on live television to millions of Tanzanians and international audiences. The United Nations Resident Coordinator, Mr. Zlatan Milišić made opening remarks, which were then followed by panel discussions. Panellists included representatives of the Government, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), academia, civil society, non-governmental

organizations and a refugee.

Mr. Milišić appreciated the generosity of communities and countries that are hosting refugees. “On behalf of the UN family, I thank the Government and people of Tanzania for their generosity. In particular, communities in Kigoma have been hosting refugees for many decades despite also facing social and economic challenges of their own.”

Tanzania has been a model of peace and stability in the East and Southern African region and has had a long tradition of welcoming and hosting refugees.



Nyarugusu refugee leader Ms. Angeliqe Abiola leading a dialogue between refugees and humanitarian organisations on issues affecting refugees during World Refugee Day celebrations. **Photo | UNHCR Tanzania**

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Currently, the country hosts more than 283,000 refugees, mainly from the DRC and Burundi.

UNHCR Representative in Tanzania, Mr. Antonio Canhandula called on the public to reflect on the plight of refugees. He noted that in this time of COVID-19, they were particularly vulnerable but hailed their courage and eagerness to join the war against coronavirus.

“I would also like to invite you all to a moment of reflection and recognition of the small acts of heroism of refugees who are on the frontlines fighting this pandemic alongside their hosts and alongside aid workers. Some are using their tailoring skills to make face masks for their community. Others are playing a key role in disseminating mass information and

awareness messages,” he said.

In the refugee-hosting region of Kigoma, other satellite events were held. In Nduta Refugee camp, UNHCR and Partners organized a livelihood exhibition at the HelpAge Office. In Nyarugusu Camp, 26 dialogue sessions took place. The topics touched on issues affecting refugees, such as the importance of family planning, how the community can fight malaria, education, environment, etc. Also, children from Nyarugusu Refugee camp and the host community took part in an Art competition followed by a panel discussion on refugee issues.

WRD is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. Each year it is marked on June 20 and celebrates the strength and

courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

Beyond the WRD, the United Nations and all partners appeal to everyone to help continue the global movement of solidarity and action. Everyone can make a difference, and everyone action counts in the effort to create a more just, inclusive, and equal world.

*“On behalf of the UN family, I thank the Government and people of Tanzania for their generosity. In particular, communities in Kigoma have been hosting refugees for many decades despite also facing social and economic challenges of their own.”*

**Zlatan Milišić,**  
UNTZ Resident  
Coordinator



Participants of the of dialogue in Nyarugusu refugee camp. Photo | UNHCR Tanzania

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both theoretical and the best possible practical training we can give them," says SUZA IoT Director Dr Aley Nassor. With assistance from ILO, key industry professionals such as chefs, housekeeping managers and trainers will provide intensive practical training for the apprentices at the institutions.

The ILO plans to continue with its COVID-19 support once hotels are ready to receive the apprentices. "The ILO will incentivise partner hotels to continue with training the apprentices by covering the apprenticeship allowance costs due to destabilizing nature of the pandemic on the hospitality sector," the ILO Skills National Programme Officer, Comoro Mwenda says. With the COVID-19 pandemic



The first day back focused training on COVID-19 preventative measures for the apprentices. Photo | ILO Tanzania

still a global threat, many sectors, particularly tourism and hospitality are under threat. The ILO Skills programme is working to help mitigate the short and long-term effects of the pandemic for the Apprenticeship programme

in the hospitality. "An innovative approach is necessary to help mitigate the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic poses for the programme," said Mr. Mwenda.

The Apprenticeship Programme is funded by the government of Norway, and is part of ILO's Skills and Employability Branch, which aims to provide technical assistance to Tanzania's social partners to promote skills training and access to the labour market.



Apprentices are back to their training institutions for the practical training normally conducted at the programme hotel partners' facilities. Photo | ILO Tanzania

*"The ILO will incentivise partner hotels to continue with training the apprentices by covering the apprenticeship allowance costs due to destabilizing nature of the pandemic on the hospitality sector,"*

**Comoro Mwenda,  
ILO Skills National  
Programme Officer**

## WFP, BELGIUM CONNECT TANZANIA FARMERS TO REFUGEE FOOD MARKET



Clockwise from top left: Rose coco beans, red kidney beans and yellow beans — WFP buys the first two varieties which are cultivated commercially as part of the Enabel project. Photo | WFP/Max Wohlgemuth

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and Enabel, the Belgium Development Agency, have partnered up to unlock a new market for farmers in Kigoma, supporting their refugee neighbours.

Enabel works with 15,000 farmers throughout Kigoma region under the Sustainable Agriculture Kigoma Regional Project. Using a 'pro-poor' value chain development approach, farmers are systematically supported from production all the way through to storage and marketing. Access to finance helps farmers purchase things such as improved and marketable seed varieties, pesticides and

fertilizer while coaching on good agricultural practices helps maximize the quantity and quality of their harvests.

About 15 kilometres from farms supported by Enabel is Mtendeli Refugee Camp – a historic refuge for asylum seekers from neighbouring countries. The camp reopened in January 2016, following an influx of refugees from Burundi and currently hosts more than 30,000 refugees. Refugees in Tanzania are restricted by a strict encampment policy with limited resilience and livelihood opportunities. They are dependent on the humanitarian community to provide for basic needs such as food.

WFP provides refugees with rations of cereals, pulses (including beans), vegetable oil, specialized nutritious food and salt to meet their daily minimum food requirements.

“WFP is a big buyer of food commodities produced locally in Tanzania,” says Michael Dunford, WFP Representative in Tanzania. “In collaboration with Enabel, WFP is now able to help unlock a new market for smallholder farmers in the host community that can benefit from WFP’s support to refugees. With the success of this procurement, WFP will continue to expand support through more purchases directly from the local community.”

With the assurance that WFP would buy their beans, farmers supported by Enabel were mobilised to produce beans of sufficient quantity and quality. This year, WFP, under the coordination from Enabel, purchased almost 400 metric tons of beans from Nyakitonto and Muugano Kiziguzigu Agricultural Marketing Co-operatives (AMCOS). These AMCOS’ bean aggregation efforts straddled the four districts of Kakonko, Kibondo, Kasulu and Uvinza, all in Kigoma region.

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Jackson Christopher, a resident of Kakonko district, serves as the chairperson of Muungano AMCOS. "Having lived with refugees as neighbours for most of my life, it is encouraging that WFP has given the opportunity to support them through food supply opportunities," says

Christopher. "In the past, our market interactions with refugees has been limited, but the collaboration with WFP has put us on a different level."

The beans, purchased for more than US\$300,000, will be distributed in the coming months to the 230,000 refugees hosted in Kigoma.

*"Having lived with refugees as neighbours for most of my life, it is encouraging that WFP has given the opportunity to support them through food supply opportunities,"*

**Jackson Christopher,  
a resident of Kakonko  
district**

## POVERTY AND TABOO ARE STUMBLING BLOCKS TO MENSTRUAL HEALTH FOR GIRLS IN ZANZIBAR



Adolescent girls visit the youth-friendly centre before the COVID-19 outbreak in Tanzania. Photo | Gonzalo Bell/UNFPA Tanzania

**A**faafa\* (19 years) had her first period almost six years ago. She remembers her mother took her from their home in Mwembe njugu (near Zanzibar Town) to Makadara, where her mother's best friend Bi. Maimuna lives. She stayed there for nine days learning about the importance of

cleanliness during menstruation and what could be used to manage the menstrual flow including using pieces of cloth, which she was told should remain white a symbol of hygiene. She was also told not to "play with boys" as she could get pregnant.

The most important message Afaafa was asked to remember, however, even if she forgets everything else was that menstruation is shameful. Nobody must ever know she was menstruating, Bi. Maimuna insisted, "even your husband is not supposed to know this." Pieces of cloth used during her menses were to be kept hidden and washed and dried away from other people's eyes.

It is now six years since Bi. Maimuna's initiation, but her words are still fresh in Afaafa's mind. She is engulfed by fear every time her monthly period draws close and one of her main worries is that she won't be able to afford sanitary towels. She tries to save from the Tsh. 500 (around 20 cents) she is given to spend at school until she has Tsh 3,500 (US\$1.50) enough to buy them, but often she has to resort to using pieces of cloth.

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This causes her more distress there are no changing rooms at her school; water is scarce; and the two toilets are used by more than 200 girls. For these reasons Afaafa says if she doesn't have any sanitary towels, she stays at home "I don't want to shame myself in front of my peers," she quietly adds.

As Tanzania continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations Population Fund

(UNFPA) Tanzania is prioritizing the sexual and reproductive health needs of women and girls as part of its support to national COVID-19 efforts, including by ensuring that the 10 UNFPA-supported Adolescent and Youth-Friendly centres across Zanzibar remain open with physical distancing and COVID-19 infection prevention and control measures in place. These centres are a lifeline for girls like Afaafa safe spaces where they can access age-appropriate information

and services and talk about issues such as menstruation for many of them for the first time.

The COVID-19 crisis will eventually pass and during the recovery phase, UNFPA Tanzania will continue to step up efforts in Tanzania to ensure that no girl is held back from realizing her dreams, aspirations and potential because of her period by 2030.

## WHO TANZANIA PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO ZANZIBAR DECENTRALIZATION OF COVID-19 RESPONSE



World Health Organization Representative to Tanzania Dr. Tigest Ketsela Mengestu handing medical supplies to Dr. Elias kwesi, the Director of the Emergency Preparedness Unit of Ministry of Health Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children in Dar es Salaam. **Photo | WHO Tanzania**

**I**n March 2020, when COVID-19 cases were identified the government closed all education institutions, suspended sports, political rallies and international flights. However, since May 2020, the country has been reporting

less cases, hence as of mid-June, these restrictions are being relaxed in phases.

Given the available information, COVID-19 is likely to be with us for some time. Therefore, the health system in Tanzania is embracing the

reality of integrating COVID-19 services at districts health facilities and continuing other essential services, thus moving from a centrally managed response.

Following this decentralization policy, the Ministry of Health in Zanzibar has designated health facilities to manage COVID-19 cases in each district. These facilities will isolate suspect cases, collect samples for testing and manage them appropriately. Severe cases will be referred to central level treatment centers.

The Ministry of Health with technical support from World Health Organization (WHO) have developed technical guidance in all five areas of response, namely:

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coordination, surveillance, case management and infection prevention and control, risk communication and community engagement and logistics.

“We wish that all health facilities in Zanzibar have the capacity to identify, collect samples and manage COVID-19 cases. Cases may decline now but they may recur. Therefore, we need to capacitate our district health management teams, our health facilities and health volunteers to detect suspect cases, isolate them and even take samples,” said the Emergency Operations

Centre Manager Dr. Hussein Haji.

According to Dr. Haji designated COVID-19 treatment facilities within districts have been identified in Unguja and Pemba and in the former clinical teams have been mentored on case detection, case management and IPC practices. The second phase will be mentorship of health care workers at designated facilities in Pemba.

The new approach is expected to be more effective as the available services in the health systems will be used to optimize care for all patients. In addition, 500 community

health volunteers who had been originally trained to reach households to provide support for maternal and child health services have been re-trained to support contact tracing for COVID-19.

“WHO is ready to provide technical and financial assistance to strengthen the response to COVID-19. We are also sharing new evidence and knowledge as it evolves. It is very important to make sure that our health systems in their entirety are prepared to deal with health emergencies,” said Dr. Tigest Ketsela Mengestu, WHO Tanzania Country Representative.



At the height of COVID—19 alarm community members adhered to precautionary behaviors, including using hand washing facilities placed at business premises and public areas, like this one at Makunduchi commuter transport stop in Zanzibar. Photo | WHO Tanzania

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Workmen and WHO staff handling boxes of medical supplies and equipment that were procured and donated to the Government in Dar es Salaam. Photo | WHO Tanzania

## CELEBRATING THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD (DAC) THROUGH A SPECIAL INFLUENCERS' WEBINAR

DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD WEBINAR WITH UNICEF TANZANIA PARTNERS

### PANELISTS

unicef  
for every child



**Given Edward**  
Founder and CEO  
Mtabe & MyElimu  
Innovations



**Neville Meena**  
Secretary General  
Tanzania Editors Forum



**Pamela Shao**  
Chief of Field Office (MINS)  
UNICEF



**Raphael Denis**  
Digital Story-teller  
UNICEF



**Hassan Ali Mzee**  
Chairman  
Zanzibar Association  
of Tour Operators  
(ZATO)



### MODERATOR

**Mariam Mmbaga**  
UN Volunteer  
UNICEF

25th June 2020  
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join us on Facebook Live  
@UNICEFTanzania

   @UNICEFTanzania

Official poster for the Day of the African Child Webinar which was organized to understand the role that UNICEF and many of our partners are playing to support children and young people especially in the post-COVID 'new normal'. Photo | UNICEF Tanzania

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Each year, June 16th, offers an opportunity to commemorate the memory of the thousands of young, brave children who marched in Soweto, South Africa, in 1976 to protest apartheid and to demand equal education. The legacy of these courageous children, many of whom lost their lives, continues to build a better future for children across Africa today. The Day of the African Child holds a special relevance this year as the world grapples with the new virus. This year, in order to observe the Day of the African Child, UNICEF Tanzania organized a special webinar with many of our key influencers to understand the role that UNICEF and many

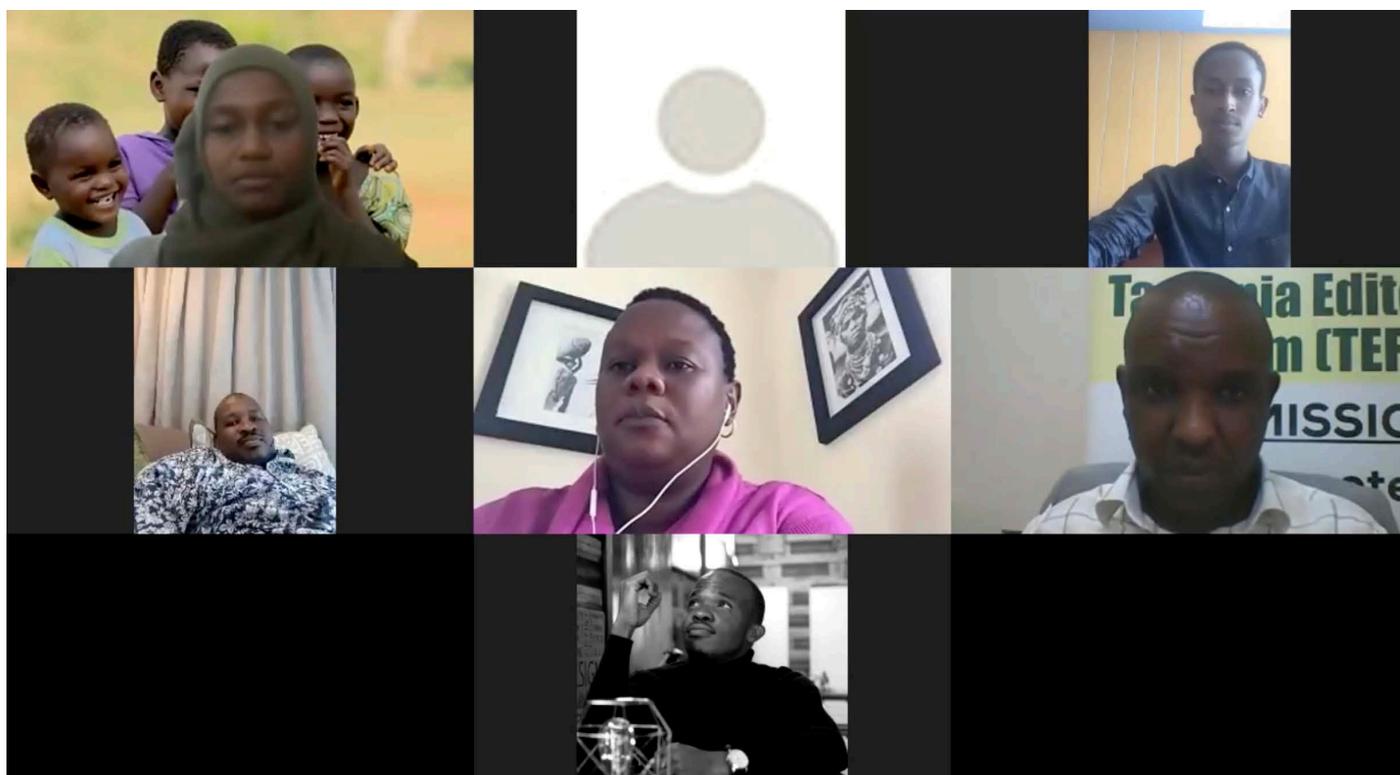
of our partners are playing to support children and young people especially in the post-COVID scenario as schools and universities reopen and children return to a 'new normal'.

The webinar featured a range of stakeholders from the technology, media and private sector and was moderated by Mariam Mmbaga, a United Nations Volunteer with UNICEF.

Mr. Raphael Denis, a UNICEF digital storyteller and young champion advocating for the rights of children and young people in Tanzania kicked off the discussion by highlighting the leadership role played by young people during

the coronavirus pandemic in Tanzania. He highlighted how young people played a key role in leveraging social media and digital technology to share information and raise awareness. Mr. Given Edward, social entrepreneur and digital guru, spoke about how educators can be more prepared and leverage technology to improve learning. He stressed that the current crisis has made it more urgent to address the digital divide in the country so that many more young Tanzanians receive equal opportunities to learn and innovate.

Neville Meena, Secretary General, Tanzania Editors' Forum highlighted on the role of the media to advance



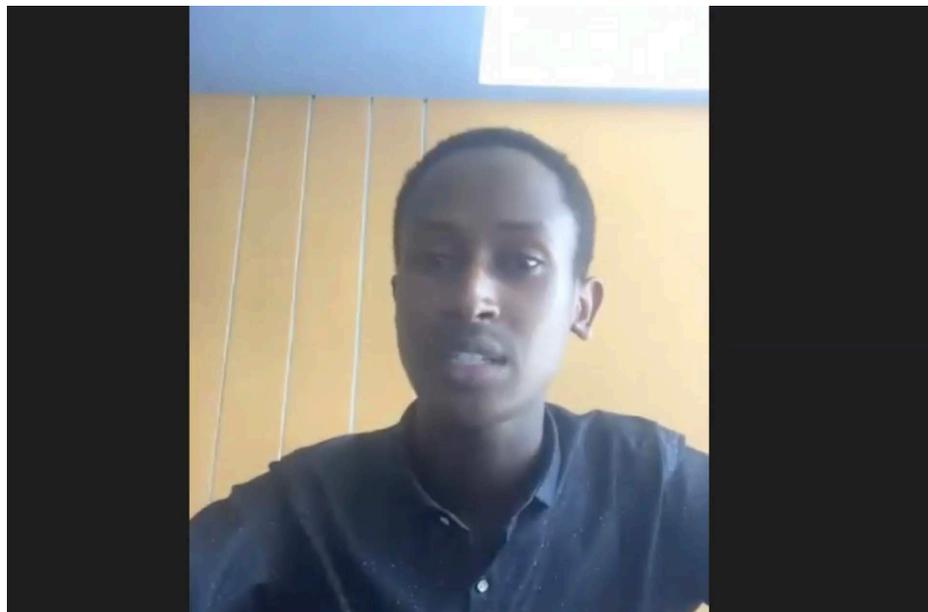
We had six key influencers who took part in the webinar which commemorated the Day of the African Child. Photo | UNICEF Tanzania

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children's rights by continuing to focus on development stories, Mr. Hassan Ali. Mzee, Chairman of the Zanzibar Association of Tour Operators (ZATO) spoke on the role of the private sector and particularly tourism partners in fulfilling their responsibilities to respect and support the rights of children.

Pamela Shao, UNICEF Chief of Mbeya, managing and leading UNICEF programmatic commitment in the Southern Highlands regions of Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe and Songwe, provided an overview of what DAC means for UNICEF in Tanzania and how historically UNICEF has enabled children and young people to stand up for their rights. She also spoke about UNICEF's support to the Government in respond-



Raphael Denis, a UNICEF digital story-teller, who spoke about the power of young people as agents of change for a greater Africa in the special webinar organized by UNICEF Tanzania. Photo | UNICEF Tanzania

ing to the pandemic and how the organization is enabling children and young people to be highly effective partners in the taking forward the child rights agenda in the country.

All the panelists took questions from the audience

before the one-hour session was wrapped up. The webinar was broadcast live on social media and received a lot of traction with nearly 5000 people tuning in on Facebook to catch it live. Do watch the recording [here in case you missed the live session.](#)

## GOVERNMENT & IOM CONDUCT POE PREPAREDNESS & HEALTHCARE FACILITY ASSESSMENTS

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) – the United Nation Migration Agency in collaboration with Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MHCDGEC), the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Ministry of Health, Zanzibar conducted a readiness and needs assessment focusing on strategic Points

of Entry (POEs) and nearby health facilities in Kagera, Kigoma, Mbeya, Mwanza and Songwe regions of Mainland Tanzania, Unguja and Pemba in Zanzibar.

With the financial support of the Government of Japan and Department for International Development (DFID), the assessments identified capacity needs and gaps at the POEs in terms of both personnel and equipment needs for traveller screening

and referral. This included both official and non-official POEs into the country. The assessment revealed that few of the POEs had a full set of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), sufficient handwashing facilities, isolation rooms or the permanent infrastructure for health surveillance, decontamination facilities and biohazard waste bins both in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

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Based on the Points of Entry assessment recommendations, IOM has started to procure, deploy and donate handwashing facilities and screening equipment.

In June 2020, IOM donated handwashing facilities to 20 Points of Entry and 11 nearby healthcare facilities in the Kigoma region but also donated handwashing facilities to 28 Points of Entry and 5 nearby healthcare facilities in Unguja and Pemba islands.



An informal Point of Entry (PoE) assessment being conducted at Ngalawa fish Market Bububu Kihinani, Unguja. Photo | IOM Tanzania/Nuwe Blick

“Thank you so much for bringing these handwashing facilities including buckets, sanitizers and soaps, we will place them at entrance to and exit of the POE for our staff and clients/migrants to wash their hands before entrance and when leaving the POEs. This will not only improve our prevention measures

to COVID-19 but also other communicable diseases.” said Officer Masunga Simon, Officer in Charge at Manyovu Point of Entry in Kigoma region.

“Thanks, IOM, for the support of handwashing facilities to our POEs. The POE has two divisions one for the fish

auction and the other for the travelers from Mombasa Kenya to Micheweni, therefore the facilities will help the travelers protecting themselves from diseases such COVID-19, Cholera and so on.” said Dr. Suleiman Faki, Environmental Health Officer at Kwa Mjawiri unofficial P O E in Micheweni Pemba.



The assessment team at a Health Care Facility (HCF) in Kizimkazi Dimbani. Photo | IOM Tanzania/Nuwe Blick



A Point of Entry (PoE) Isolation tent at Pemba Airport. Photo | IOM Tanzania/Nuwe Blick

## UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL DAYS

**July 18<sup>th</sup>** - Nelson Mandela International Day

**July 28<sup>th</sup>** - World Hepatitis Day

**July 30<sup>th</sup>** - World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

**August 12<sup>th</sup>** - International Youth Day

**August 19<sup>th</sup>** - World Humanitarian Day

**A STRONGER UNITED NATIONS FOR A BETTER WORLD**



**UNITED NATIONS  
TANZANIA**



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