

WINDA'S STORY: SAYING NO TO FGM

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Young people advocate with MPs on their agenda for change
- Refugee twins among the first to receive birth certificates in Tanzania
- SIDO: Local transformation through investment
- Prevention of disease: All Staff at Borders Must Be on Alert



UNFPA is supporting efforts to accelerate progress towards the global goal of zero FGM by 2030 and a better and more equal world for girls like Winda.

Photo: UNFPA Tanzania

Winda* was 13 and just about to start secondary school when her father told her he wanted her to be cut (undergo FGM). "He told me I was now grown up and I had to be cut so that my family could be proud of me and be respected in the community," she recalls.

With the obvious devastating effects, it seems like it should be an easy decision to say no to FGM. But for Winda and millions of women and girls around the world – who live

in communities where FGM is seen as a 'rite of passage' and where girls who are 'uncut' are stigmatized and often unable to marry saying no can mean losing your community, your family and friends.

Female genital mutilation has been illegal in Tanzania since 1998 and the government is committed to ending the practice, as articulated in national, regional and global development agendas, and evidenced by national decreases in the practice. But

regional disparities exist and in Mara Region Winda's birthplace 32 percent of women aged 15 to 49 still undergo FGM.

Winda had been educated about the harmful impacts of FGM; ending FGM activists had visited her school. She knew she could suffer serious short and long-term impacts, even death, and was terrified. She pleaded with her family not to cut her with her brother's support –

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but they refused to listen.

Winda made the courageous decision to run away from home and walked for three days to reach the Police Station at Mugumu. Here she met Sijari, a police officer at the Police Gender and Children's Desk, who took Winda to a safe house run by Hope for Women and Girls, Tanzania, in Serengeti. Winda is now 17 and is still at the safe house. She is being supported to continue her education and says she still dreams of becoming

a doctor.

Winda is among the many young women who are saying no to FGM in Tanzania, and she is not alone. Young men, parents, and communities have made the decision that they do not want to carry this practice forward, that they want a better future for their children a better and more equal world for their daughters.

UNFPA remains committed to accelerating efforts to reach the global goal of ending FGM by 2030 from the strengthen-

ing of the policy environment in Tanzania and across its borders to the bolstering of prevention and response systems; increased awareness raising in communities and schools and the scaling up of alternative rites of passage. As we approach the International Day of Zero Tolerance for girls like Winda and many others like her we echo the clarion call around the world: "This is no time for inaction: Unite, fund and act to end FGM".

WAD 2020: USING INNOVATIVE HIV SERVICES TO EXPAND AND ENSURE CONTINUED HIV CARE

The world has made significant progress since the late 1990s, but HIV remains a major global public health issue. And like many other major health issues, it faces additional challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 1 December WHO, UNAIDS, UNESCO and UNICEF, joined the Government of Tanzania, partners, programme implementors, civil society and the public in paying tribute to all those working to provide HIV services, and in calling on global leaders and citizens to rally for "global solidarity" to maintain essential HIV services during COVID 19 and beyond. It is a call to focus on vulnerable groups who are already at risk and expand



UN Resident Coordinator, Zlatan Milisic (left), welcomes Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (right) to the UN booth at World Aids Day commemorations in Moshi district, Kilimanjaro region. Mr. Milisic reiterated the UN's commitment to continue supporting the Government of Tanzania in the fight against HIV/AIDS. *Photo: Deborah Kaluzi/UN Tanzania*

coverage to children and adolescents.

The Prime Minister, Hon.

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Kassim Majaliwa, graced the national commemorations in Kilimanjaro Region and noted with concern that youths aged 15–24 accounted for 80 percent of new transmissions. The high rate of new transmission among youth is critical to Tanzania’s progress towards Sustainable Development Goals in health, that target to decrease new transmission among populations, including youth.

The work of the UN in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Tanzania has focused on policy making and providing guidance that aim to halt the increase of new transmissions and guarantee

life-saving antiretroviral medicines (ARVs) for children, adolescents and adults living with HIV.

The UN, in collaboration with partners, has supported the country to develop the HIV Self Testing (HIV ST) framework as an additional strategy for HIV testing in different population groups. The framework has been utilized as the basis for the matching funds and applying to the Global Fund for the period 2021-2023.

In the year 2020, the UN has been instrumental in assisting translation of the Accelerated Plan for HTS services to the sub-national level

whereby nine high burden regions were supported to develop operational plans for focused, targeted and prioritized HIV Testing based on disease burden.

On his side, UN Resident Coordinator, Zlatan Milisic reiterated the UN’s commitment to ending AIDS. “The UN works in close collaboration with the Government with the common objective of ensuring an equal distribution of development gains across the country, and to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 that will make a positive impact on the people of Tanzania,” he said.

REFUGEE TWINS AMONG THE FIRST TO RECEIVE BIRTH CERTIFICATES IN TANZANIA



Zeomary and her twins at Nduta refugee camp in Kibondo district, Kigoma region. *Photo: Maimuna Mtengela/ UNHCR Tanzania*

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As Zeomary Rudashi rushes towards the registration center in Tanzania's Nduta refugee camp, her excitement is palpable. Today is a special day and not even the heat of the sun can dull her mood.

She leans forward to balance the weight of one of her twins, tied snugly on her back and urges on her seven-year-old daughter, who is carrying the other baby.

"Today is a great day for Belyce and Jaqueline who are only three weeks old," she says with a broad smile as she joins the queue. "They will get birth certificates. I feel like they belong somewhere."

Zeomary, a Burundian refugee, is a mother of seven and has been living in Nduta camp for the past five years. She fled Burundi's political upheaval in 2015, finding refuge in Tanzania. Since she left her family's belongings and documents behind, she often worries that her children may not be recognized as Burundians and risk becoming stateless.

But thanks to a birth registration exercise, led by Tanzania's Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA), the Ministry of Home Affairs, the UN Refugee Agency UNHCR, the Norwegian Refugee Council and other stakeholders, Zumary's three children



Zeomary during the birth certificate registration process. *Photo: Maimuna Mtengela/ UNHCR Tanzania*

who were born in Tanzania will receive legal documentation, together with some 13,500 other refugee children under five years. This is the first time that such an exercise includes refugee children like Zumary's.

The #IBelong Campaign aims to end statelessness by 2024 and is commemorating its sixth anniversary this year. World leaders are urged to include and protect stateless populations and make bold and swift moves to eradicate statelessness.

UNHCR's Representative in Tanzania, Antonio Jose Canhandula, has applauded the Tanzanian Government's move to include refugees in the initiative. "The right to a name, identity and registration at birth is a right for all children," he said. "This pos-

itive development will confer important legal protections on them."

He added that while the lack of birth registration itself does not make children stateless, its absence can hamper the ability of people to prove their descent and place of birth, which are the two main elements to establish an entitlement to the nationality of any State.

The registration exercise, which took place in Nduta camp as a pilot, will soon be rolled out in Mtendeli and Nyarugusu camps. In total, some 55,000 children who lack official birth certificates will benefit. "My lucky twins have certainly come with blessings for the community. "I can't wait to show my husband the documents," she beams.

YOUNG PEOPLE ADVOCATE WITH MPS ON THEIR AGENDA FOR CHANGE



"As a young person, we have the obligation to make sure the water systems in our schools and in our country are upheld so that children are protected from infectious diseases. Children can be WASH heroes too!" - Rose Mweleka, UNICEF Young Champion and University Graduate says while addressing members of Parliament.

**All Photos Credit: UNICEF Tanzania*

On November 20th, 2020, young people in Tanzania commemorated the World Children's Day with over 300 newly elected Members of Parliament and presented to them their Agenda for change, urging them to prioritize key issues in education, health, WASH and child protection sectors so as to improve children welfare in the country.

The young advocates Abdullatif Hassan (16), Agape Joster (13), Rose Mweleka (24) and Mariam Mbagha (26) presented key recommendations from the Children and Young people Agenda that

was developed in consultation with more than 34,000 children in 2019 as part of the 30th anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC@30). Over 5 million children were reached with messages on the CRC and their rights as part of the preparatory activities for the Agenda that was launched by the former presented of Tanzania, H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

The event under the theme; 'Reimagine a Better World for Every Child,' was held in Dodoma and was graced by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Job Ndugai,

and Deputy Speaker Hon. Dr. Tulia Ackson, who both made powerful commitments to children paving the way for future strategic dialogue. "We have heard you. As MPs we understand that we have a big responsibility to ensure we debate issues that affects our children and push the government to take positive action to address them. We commitment to use the agenda that you have presented to us and we will use it as our refence as we push for key issues that you have recommended," said hon. Ndugai.

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In his remarks, the UN Resident coordinator, Zlatan Milisic, insisted that in order to achieve all the Sustainable Development Goals by

“Sustainable development is, by definition, development that can be carried on by future generations. So, making the right choices for children is critical to the SDG agenda.”

Zlatan Milišić, UNTZ Resident Coordinator

the year 2030, children must be put at the centre of the agenda. “Sustainable development is, by definition, development that can be carried on by future generations. So, making the right choices for children is critical to the SDG agenda.”

On her side, UNICEF Representative, Shalini Bahuguna, said SDGs will only be achieved if we all work together and recommit ourselves to the principles and implementation of the CRC. “As

parliamentarians, you have an important role in helping meet the SDGs. You can set strong policy directions and debate, and shape laws that protect children and monitor their implementation in your constituencies. You can also speak on behalf of children once you understand issues that affect their wellbeing and set in motion debate and action through policy, legislation and effective financial investment for the benefit of children,” she added.



Ahead of the World Children’s Day Celebrations, the Parliament of Tanzania turned blue with UNICEF Tanzania to show their support and commitment to child rights in the country. Going blue on World Children’s Day is representative of UNICEF’s mandate to stand for the rights of every child and reimagine a better world for every child.



The World Children’s Day celebrations took place in Dodoma with the guest of Honour, Hon Job Ndugai, The Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of Tanzania. On this day members of Parliament listened to the voices of young people and joined UNICEF in reimagining a better tomorrow for the children of Tanzania.

“Parliamentarians have the power to set the vision for the country and monitor it’s progress. Decisions you make here today can directly impact how children will develop in the future. We request that you harness this power and put children first!”-Shalini Bahuguna, UNICEF Tanzania Representative, speaking at the WCD celebrations.

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"Parliamentarians, I urge you to read the Children's Agenda. Listen to what these children are saying. We have the responsibility to make their recommendations a reality and build a better future for every child in Tanzania"- Hon. Job Ndugai, Speaker of the Parliament.



On the occasion of World Children's Day, UNICEF Champions and Members of Parliament celebrated this iconic moment at the Parliament and made a commitment to upholding the rights of children as well as fulfilling the rights of every child.

WORLD AIDS DAY CELEBRATIONS, ZANZIBAR



Guest of Honor Mr. Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, the Second Vice President of Zanzibar greeting some of the organizers (UNAIDS and ZAC) of the World AIDS Day (WAD) commemorations outside Idris Abdul Wakil Hall. *Photo: Agnes Kenneth/ UN Tanzania*

Every year, on 1st December, the world commemorates World AIDS Day. People around the world unite to show support for people living with and affected by HIV and to remember those who lost their lives to AIDS. In Zanzibar, the commemorations took place at Idris Abdul Wakil Hall where the government and partners came together to celebrate achievements and renew commitments to ending AIDS in Zanzibar. The week-long commemoration and the climax event were supported by UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNFPA and AMREF Africa and the guest of honor was Mr. Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, the Second Vice President of Zanzibar.

It is important to note that,

on aggregated data, Zanzibar is on track to achieving its 90-90-90 targets by end of this year. With the latest data indicating a 90-93-95 achievement, the national program is working to disaggregate these achievements so as to have more granular data that will ensure that gaps are identified and addressed in all population groups, particularly for those who are more vulnerable and are likely to be left behind.

Zanzibar AIDS Commission (ZAC) chairperson, Dr. Salhia Ali Muhsin, called on the government and partners to increase support and funding in the projects towards ending HIV/AIDS in the country. She also suggested that there should be more con-

trols on the use of social media especially for youth.

The representative from the United Nations, Dr. Loy George, emphasized invigorating solidarity and share responsibilities to end AIDS in Zanzibar. He called on the government and all partners to support investments in health and social protection systems in the country and crucial elements for eliminating AIDS by 2030.

Honorable Hemed Suleiman Abdulla emphasized on collaboration between the government and private sector in order to eliminate AIDS in our society. In addition, he thanked all partners for their contribution towards the Zanzibar AIDS response.

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Guest of Honor Mr. Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, the Second Vice President of Zanzibar greeting some of the organizers (UNAIDS and ZAC) of the World AIDS Day (WAD) commemorations outside Idris Abdul Wakil Hall. *Photo: Agnes Kenneth/ UN Tanzania*



Participants of the WAD commemorations in Zanzibar including representatives from the government, and UN agencies. *Photo: Agnes Kenneth/ UN Tanzania*

PROMOTING CROSS BORDER TRADE

Muhange Cross-Border market is 46 km western side of Kakonko town bordering the Burundi Republic. For years it has been attracting traders from neighboring areas including the hinterland catchment of about 200 km from both countries. The products and services traded are livestock, poultry, cereals, horticulture, construction materials, textiles, foods, beverages. Through KJP, UNCDF supported Kakonko District Council to construct a market which will foster business environments across the border with the aim of transforming business practices of about 3000 traders who are mainly women.

Justina Amato, a mother of 11 and a trader from Muhange cross border market says, the old market condition wasn't friendly especially during rainy season, there were no sheds to protect us from heavy rains. Despite its business volume, the products and services were exchanged in an open place with no storage facilities, toilets, water supply, and many other key facilities, which lead to spread of communicable diseases like cholera around the market area. Women were significantly subjected to abuse because, in some



Justina Amato, tomato seller at Muhange cross border market. *Photo: UNCDF Tanzania*

instances, they had to trade with their infants and hygienically the area was not clean.

Due to lack of permanent market facilities, the government was not able to collect a sizable amount of fees and levies, substantial economic and trade opportunities were wasted. She continued saying, "Our products used to get rotten as most of them are perishable for example tomatoes and fruits, this provided us with a very big loss. This market is historic to us as it will help us store our product in a well-organized manner and reduce the burden of carrying our goods every".

Easter Jacob Jandi Muhange cross border market Manager says, "The market is beyond a trade area, it has become a recreation center where people

meet, drink, eat and discuss various issues. With modern market, traders slaughter up to 10 cows and 12 and above goats/sheep per week. The business expects to rise once the borders are open".

Speaking during the field visit Kakonko District Trade Officer, Ms. Imelda Hokororo says, "The market leads to promotion of peace and security, not only created employment opportunities but also promoted peace and harmony between countries". She added that, prior the project, many cases of banditry, theft and loss of life were reported as people used to do business locally without a designated center. With the center, now peace is abundant, and traders are assured of their security.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA PROVIDES FOOD TO SUPPORT REFUGEES



WFP Country Director and Representative Ms. Sarah Gordon-Gibson together with Deputy Chief of Mission, Ms. Heashin Ahn and Port Director Mr. Elihuruma Lema holding the bags of Super cereal with sugar at the WFP shed. **Photo: WFP/Janet Muya**

In early December, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea handed over food commodities to the World Food Programme (WFP). The event took place at the Dar es Salaam port and was attended by, Deputy Chief of mission from the Embassy of Korea Ms. Heashin Ahn, WFP Country Director and Representative, Ms. Sarah Gordon-Gibson and Dar es Salaam Port Director, Mr. Elihuruma.

The food commodities were purchased from a USD 300,000 donation made to WFP by the Korean Embassy. WFP purchased 292 metric tons of Super Cereal with sugar, a nutrient rich blended food,

for its Refugee Operations in Tanzania.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ms. Gordon-Gibson expressed her gratitude for the donation saying, “the food will relieve refugees who are totally dependent on WFP’s assistance at the refugee camps.” She further added that the Super Cereal will cover their food needs for 24 days, along with other commodities – fortified maize meal, pulses, fortified vegetable oil and salt.

Commenting, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Korea, Ms. Heashin Ahn, said as a recipient-turned-donor country, Korea has consis-

tently increased its official development assistance and has worked closely with WFP in its development journey. “My country is committed to the eradication of hunger all over the world,” said Ms. Ahn.

She thanked the Korean government for its commitment to responding to and investing in the most vulnerable populations, especially women and children. “I am very pleased to see our partnership becoming stronger and wider, with the Korean government’s recent USD 300,000 contribution to WFP Tanzania to support refugees living in Tanzania,” Ms. Ahn explained.

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She was upbeat that the food commodities handed over would provide life-saving assistance to refugees in Tanzania especially at a critical time of worldwide food crisis coincided with COVID-19 pandemic. “I reaffirm the Korean government’s commitment to the development and enhancement

of people’s lives in Tanzania and our partnership with the WFP in tackling the complex humanitarian challenges,” she assured.

Lastly, the Dar es Salaam Port Director, Mr. Elihuruma Lema said the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has given to WFP one shed for its humanitarian goods at the Dar es

Salaam Port. “We have given a specific shed which is now called WFP shed in recognizing the importance of humanitarian activities that the organization conducts in the country,” Mr. Lema stated while representing TPA’s Director General, Eng. Deuseddit Kakoko, at the ceremony.

“I reaffirm the Korean government’s commitment to the development and enhancement of people’s lives in Tanzania and our partnership with the WFP in tackling the complex humanitarian challenges,”

**Ms. Heashin Ahn,
Deputy Chief of Mission
at the Embassy of
Korea**



A port official, loading food assistance at the WFP Dar port from Korea donation’s to refugees’ operations. **Photo: WFP/Janet Muya**



The WFP Port Team, Deputy Chief of Mission from Korea Embassy Ms. Heashin Ahn, Port Director Mr. Elihuruma Lema at the food commodity handover ceremony at the Dar port. **Photo: WFP/Janet Muya**

PREVENTION OF DISEASE: ALL STAFF AT BORDERS MUST BE ON ALERT

With the rise in frequency and urgency of infectious disease alerts across borders and locally, the Ministry of Health Community Development Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) has been working with the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners to improve surveillance at points of entry (POE) at ports, airports and ground crossings.

These efforts have resulted in staffing all 56 official border posts with health officials and more sessions of supervision to update their skills and integrate early detection activities in the protocol of receiving arrivals.

In mid-November 2020, with funding from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), WHO supported mentoring port staff in nine border posts in Southern Highlands of Tanzania in Rukwa, Katavi, Songwe and Mbeya regions.

The supportive supervision and mentorship empowered POE staff to detect, separate and refer suspect cases and keep themselves safe from possible contact with disease.

According to the Port Health Coordinator in Southern Highlands, Dr. Deodatus



Observance of infection control and prevention protocol at points of entry is critical for breaking the circle of transmission of infectious diseases including COVID-19. *Photo/WHO Tanzania*

Kilamlya, despite trainings and staffing port with designated health officers the MOHCDGEC noted gaps in execution. "Other cadres of staff at ports used to leave health-related matters to the health officers, and had shallow understanding of highly infectious diseases," he said. Often the check point was improperly stationed therefore arrivals mingled around before anyone could possibly single out a suspect.

During the supportive supervision health officials and non-health officials at ports of entry practiced using a guide developed by MOH and the UN Agency for Migration (IOM) to detect out travelers that may have symptoms.

"A janitor for instance can notice a traveler that uses a washroom after every few minutes and suspect

diarrhea.

The cleaning staff can then ask the traveler to wait at isolated place and call a health officer for further steps," said Dr. Clara Jones, a POE unit official from MOHCDGEC headquarters who was among the mentors.

Additionally, port officers learned and rehearsed protocols for isolating and referring a suspect case, drill they did not know before the mentorship. "The safety of our staff is as important as controlling possible importation of infectious diseases at our points of entry. Therefore, we need all staff at points of entry to integrate personal hygiene routinely in their habits at work and get involved in singling out travelers that present symptoms." said Dr. Jones. WHO also distributed the tool to other points of entry.

SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT CONTINUITY TO REVAMP TOURISM SECTOR



UNDP Operations Manager, Jeremiah Mallongo, (left) hands over medical equipment to Dr. Juma Mambi (Right). Acting Director General, Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Gender and Children. *Photo: Agnes Kenneth/UN Tanzania.*

In response to the Government emergency preparedness and the UN's coordinated efforts in responding to the COVID-19, UNDP recently procured medical equipment to support the Government of Zanzibar. The procured medical equipment, worth USD 117,441, is aimed at strengthening the health sector's response against COVID-19 and other health crises. The equipment includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including surgical gowns, surgical masks, examination gloves and patient monitoring tools like ICU Ventilators, Respirators and Oxygen Concentrators. The equipment will also contribute towards implementation of Standard

Operation Procedures (SOPs) for COVID-19 that would guide tourist operators, health workers and the local community in adhering to COVID-19 safety guidelines.

In view of recent easing of travel restrictions and reopening of tourism and hospitality facilities in Zanzibar; UNDP in collaboration with the Zanzibar Commission for Tourism and other key stakeholders in the tourism sector have formulated the 'Integrated Tourism Recovery and Resilience project in Zanzibar'. The project underscores the importance of taking immediate and integrated measures in response to the recovery of a stronger and resilient tourism value chain in Zanzibar. Moreover,

the project is expected to have significant impact on the recovery of a stronger and more sustainable tourism sector as well as in improving the competitiveness and integration of SMEs, including women and youth in the tourism value chain, thus creating employment opportunities and ultimately contribute to poverty reduction in the country.

The tourism sector in Zanzibar accounts for about a third of its GDP, 80 per cent of its revenue and remains the biggest employer in the island. In this regard, the COVID-19 pandemic has substantially derailed the growth and progress of a key contributor to the national economy.

THE CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE FIGHTING TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN TANZANIA



Kala Jeremiah, hip hop artist, social activist and champion of change is challenging Gender-Based Violence through his music. *Photo: UNFPA Tanzania*

Rahabu was 17 when she became pregnant and dropped out of school, crushing her dreams of becoming a teacher. She returned to her home in Kahama Town at the age of 22, after having left her abusive husband and now with two children and attended and graduated from the Adolescent Girls Initiative a programme set up by Kiota Women's Health and Education (KIWOHEDE) and supported by UNFPA that aims to help girls who have left school in Shinyanga Region, which has one of the highest drop-out rates in Tanzania.

Today, Rahabu has her own

radio show and is an activist, educating her peers and their parents about the importance of girls remaining in school. She challenges attitudes of young people in her community in Kahama, making them question beliefs that a man has the right to commit violence or if a girl is harassed, she did something to provoke the perpetrator.

Rahabu was one of the 16 champions of change who received an award at a ceremony which took place in early December in Dar es Salaam at an event organized by Women in Law & Development in Africa (WiLDAF) and the Coalition Against Gender-Based Violence (MKUKI) with

the support of UNFPA and the Danish Embassy in Tanzania as part of commemorations for 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women.

The 16 champions of change, selected through a nomination process, came from different walks of life and have different motivations that fuel their passion to end gender-based violence (GBV) but they have one thing in common: they are all ordinary individuals doing extraordinary things, using their agency to fight GBV and harmful practices; they show how individual action to combat GBV can add up to a forceful nationwide movement. From a faith leader in Zanzibar, a youth activist in Shinyanga to a hip hop artist in Dar es Salaam the champions' collective message is loud and clear if we work together, we will get the change we want to see a more equal world for every woman and girl everywhere.

Notwithstanding progress in Tanzania, data shows that violence against women and girls remains unacceptably high; combatting a problem of this magnitude requires an equally powerful response. As part of 16 Days commemorations,

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WiLDAF and MKUKI again with the support of UNFPA and the Danish Embassy in Tanzania also organized a religious dialogue in Zanzibar for leaders from all faiths key allies in driving the advancement of women and girls' rights in Tanzania. Faith leaders issued

a joint signed commitment pledging to step up efforts to end GBV and harmful practices in their communities.

As we enter 2021, with the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals looming ever closer, UNFPA remains determined to deliver on our

global pledge and will continue to support a whole of community effort; working together, harnessing energies, doing more and doing it better to realize the future we want: a safer, healthier world for every woman and girl.

IOM PARTNERED WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) Tanzania, the UN Migration Agency, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children of the United Republic of Tanzania, prepared and responded to current threats posed by Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and other Public Health Events in the United Republic of Tanzania.

IOM Tanzania works closely with the UN agencies and has recognized Points of Entry (PoE) Pillar Lead within the UN Response to public health events in the country. Specifically, IOM Tanzania provides leadership on strengthening PoE surveillance, Infection Prevention, and Control (IPC) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) measures, in addition to supporting the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) and Logistics Pillars.



Team of technical experts from Ministry of Health reviewing the SOPs 3. *Photo: IOM Tanzania*

IOM implemented COVID-19 response interventions in line with the specific objectives for Point of Entry of the National COVID-19 Contingency Response Plan July 2020 to June 2021 in the United Republic of Tanzania. IOM supported the development, review, and dissemination of SOPs on exit and entry screening for COVID-19 and

other Public Health Events at the PoEs.

The SOPs aims to strengthen the Surveillance at the Points of Entry to prevent and control possible importation and exportation of diseases and any public health risks in United Republic of Tanzania. In addition,

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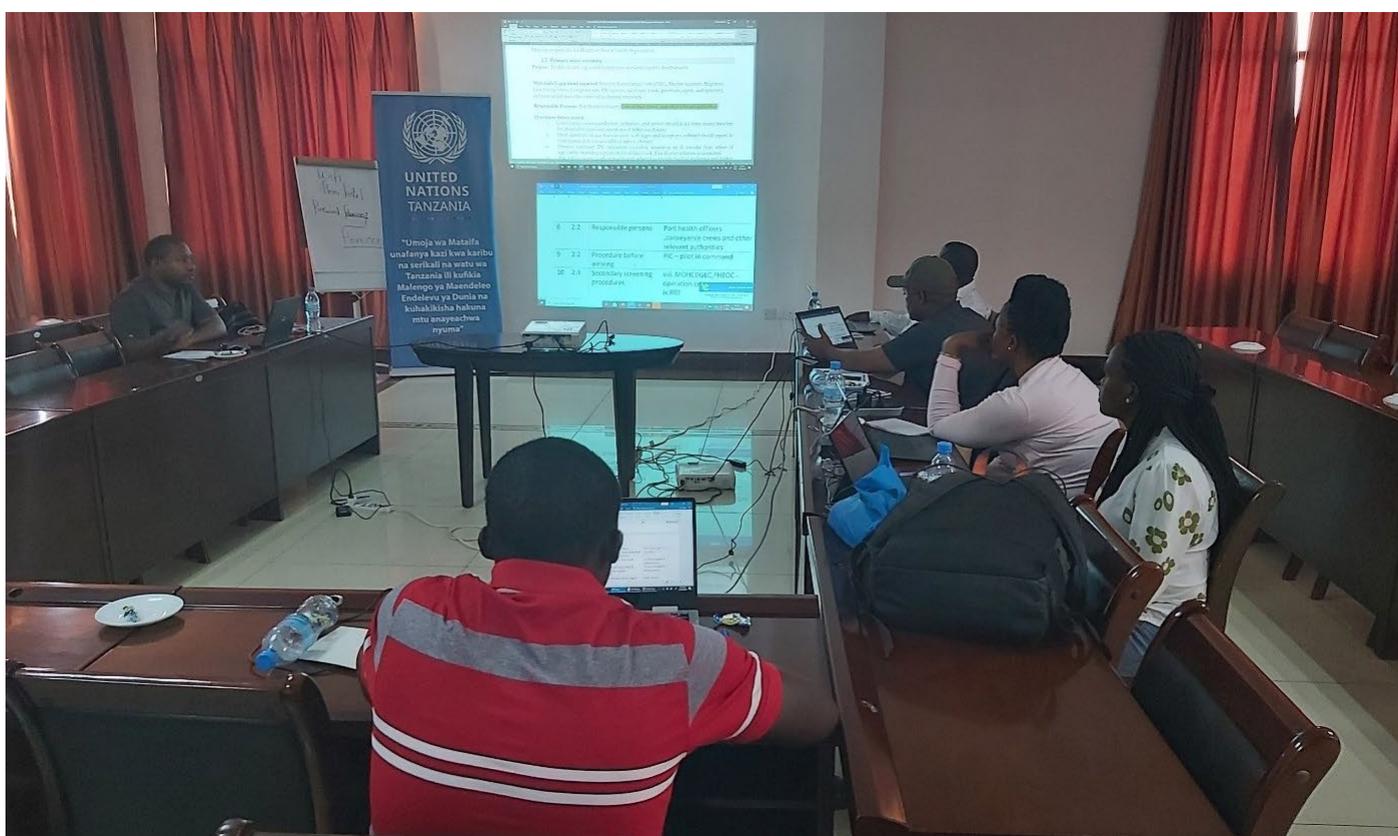
IOM strengthened the capacity of Ministry staff (127 border and port health officials) to detect and respond to COVID-19 cases in the strategic PoEs and enhanced IPC/WASH and RCCE interventions along mobility corridors in the regions of Mwanza, Mbeya, Dodoma, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Dodoma, Tanga and Dar es salaam. Specifically, IOM engaged border and port health officials in rolling out/cascading the RCCE interventions in their respective border points and designated POEs. The interventions disseminated information, prevention advice and advice on when/how to seek health care for travelers.

Furthermore, IOM provided technical guidance on cross border collaboration initiatives through facilitation of inter-regional coordination meeting on COVID-19 and other Public Health Events. Lastly but not least, IOM will provide protective equipment, non-touch thermometers and other response tools and equipment to PoEs and facilitate mentorship and on-site training to frontline workers at the strategic PoEs, health facilities in border zones, and along the referral pathways.

The interventions are funded with the financial support of the Governments of Denmark, Sweden and

United Kingdom. “Front-line officers including Port Health and Border Officers need to acquire most relevant information and practice urgent measures necessary to minimize the risk of infection and transmission of communicable diseases.” said the IOM Chief of Mission (CoM) to the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr Qasim Sufi.

IOM uses the Health, Border, and Mobility Management (HBMM) framework to increase the local preparedness, response, and prevention of epidemics, with the current focus on COVID-19 and Ebola virus disease (EVD).



Team of technical experts from Ministry of Health reviewing the SOPs 4. *Photo: IOM Tanzania*

SIDO: LOCAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH INVESTMENT



A woman trader from SIDO drying kernel nuts using sun dryer ready for oil processing before UNCDF support. *Photo: Mariam Simba/UNCDF Tanzania*

Historically palm tree has been traditional crop in Kigoma, it produces palm oil for cooking and kernel oil for soap manufacturing. In Kigoma Ujiji Municipality that is where SIDO industrial park situated, most of the kernel produced in Kigoma rural are processed at SIDO, it is estimated that 3 Kg of kernel nuts make 1 liter of oil. It takes 4-7 days for an aggressive woman to dry 660 kg of kernel which produce 220 liter of oil, daily capacity at the park is 3 tons per day per one machine. UNCDF through Kigoma Joint Programme supported SIDO industrial park to completely transform how the kernel nuts are dried and clarified by providing a modern machinery for drying

and clarification of oil.

Tabitha Charles (42) a mother of 2 children from SIDO industries. She says, "I joined SIDO few years ago, before that I used to sell clothes. Our biggest challenge was the time

we spend drying our crops, it took us up to 5 days for the crops to be completely dry". She adds, "Of late the business wasn't good, as the weather condition was not encouraging, we experienced a very heavy rain. The kernel nuts couldn't dry on time, it took almost a month. It was also difficult for us to get firewood's to help us in clarification process. I couldn't sell my products on time which made me fail to get money to pay for my son's school fees.

Tabitha believes that they we'll no longer spend much time drying our crops using traditional sun dryers which weren't efficient compare to modern machines. "Our production capacity will also increase because we will be able to buy more crops and produce more oil".



After UNCDF support now women traders use a modern machine which is fast and efficient compare to sun dryer. *Photo: Mariam Simba/UNCDF Tanzania*

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL DAYS

February 4th - International Day of Human Fraternity

February 6th - International Day of Zero Tolerance to
Female Genital Mutilation

February 13th – World Radio Day

February 20th - World Day of Social Justice

A STRONGER UNITED NATIONS FOR A BETTER WORLD



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