



## **Background briefing**

### **UN-Women Operational Response in the United Republic of Tanzania**

*Summary: Since 2007, Tanzania has been one of eight countries piloting Delivering as One (DaO) initiative of the UN Reform. UN-Women as part of the UN System in Tanzania has been operating under the UN Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II), and has been participating in the development and delivery of joint work plans, joint budgets and common results. In this regard, the UN-Women Country Strategy is aligned to the UNDAP II priorities and to national development plans, strategies and priorities in Mainland and Zanzibar. The presentation to the Executive Board will demonstrate UN-Women's support to the government of the United Republic of Tanzania while strengthening partnership with CSOs and development partners.*

### **UN-Women's Country Level operational response in Tanzania**

Tanzania is signatory to numerous international and regional human rights conventions and development frameworks, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Protocol of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the African Union Agenda 2063 'The Africa We Want' and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The constitution of Tanzania (1977) prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender and provides for equality (Articles 12 -13). The Penal Codes safe guards dignity of women and prohibits gender based violence with punishment to sexual offenders. The Act further prohibits FGM. Tanzania's National Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP II), covering the Mainland, and the MKUZA 2 Successor Strategy for Zanzibar for the period 2016-2021 have specific clauses advocating for women's participation as key decision makers in realization of the 2030 Development Vision. Commitments to women's economic empowerment are further reflected in the Five-Year Development Plan II, while the Successor Strategy for Zanzibar integrates specific policy measures both for economic empowerment and protection of women and girls from violence. Furthermore, the Government of Tanzania has shown its commitment towards promoting equality and equity between women and men, and in this regard, has established the Human Rights and Good Governance Commission, amended the Public Leadership Code of Ethics and has passed laws to protect women, girls and children. Several steps have been taken to reduce the discrimination against women by developing and adopting the Women and Gender Development Policy (2000), which is currently under review. Recent national and global processes have facilitated policy dialogue and reflection on gender equality and women's rights in Tanzania, including the national level dialogue on SDG localization and implementation of the Agenda 2030 as well as the review in early 2016 by the CEDAW Committee of the State Party Combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report.

The Country Office operates in the context of UN Delivering as One (DaO) and is committed to fully implementing the approach. UN-Women's programme interventions are aligned to the Five Year Development Plan for Mainland and the Zanzibar Successor Strategy and to United Nations Development Assistance Programme (UNDAP) II and more specifically, with the gender responsive results and targets outlined in the following UNDAP II Thematic Results Outcome Groups: Democratic Governance, Women's Leadership and Political Participation, Violence against Women and Girls, Inclusive Growth, Resilience, Environment & Climate Change and HIV/AIDS. The Country Programme has adopted three UN-Women Flagship Programme Initiatives: Women's Political Empowerment and Leadership; Prevention and Access to Essential Services to End Violence against Women; and Making Every Women and Girl Count – Supporting the Monitoring and Implementation of the SDGs through Better Production and Use of Gender Statistics. In relation to its normative and coordination role, UN-Women continues to promote the accountability of the UN system, supporting the government and mobilizing civil society organizations, private sector and other stakeholders, for the effective and accelerated implementation of the global and regional instruments and commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women. In the context of the 2030 Agenda on 'leaving no one behind', UN-Women's interventions target the most vulnerable groups including rural women, women with albinism, women with disabilities, women pastoralists, and HIV positive women. Through the HeForShe campaign, engaging with men and boys is a cross-cutting issue in all of its interventions. Furthermore, it will support preparations of the Government of Tanzania to submit its next State Party Report in March 2020 and the UPR review tentatively scheduled for April/May 2021.

### **Women's Leadership and Political Participation:**

The United Republic of Tanzania, (URT) has made progress in advancing women's leadership and political participation. The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (1977) provides for quota, 30% for Parliamentary seats are reserved for women. After the 2015 general elections, the government decided to increase the quota from 30% to 40%, which makes the percentage of women members of Parliament at 36.8%, a progressive step towards achievement of the SADC agreed benchmark of 50% representation. Women represent 19 percent of the total number of cabinet ministers and represent 38 percentage of the Deputy Ministers. However, women hold key cabinet ministerial positions in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, (MoCDGEC); the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training (MoESTVT); Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism; the Ministry of State in the Prime Minister's Office – Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and Disabled. The Vice President is a woman, a record-landmark in Tanzania's history.

UN-Women's Leadership and Political Participation Program (Wanawake Wanaweza) is well aligned with the National Gender Policy, the UNDAP II Outcome on "Women and girls increasingly participate in political and public life and are elected to leadership position" and the UN-Women Flagship Programme Initiative: *Women's Political Empowerment and Leadership*. Excellent partnerships have been created in this portfolio with the national gender machinery, the National Electoral Commissions (EMBs), the Office of Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP), the Women Parliamentary Caucus in Mainland and Zanzibar, as well as CSOs and women's rights organizations. *Wanawake-Wanaweza* programme has supported the Women Parliamentary Caucus to undertake

gender policy analysis on legislations and budgets; as a result, women's rights and gender equality principles were incorporated in 10 laws and bills (six in Mainland and four in Zanzibar). The laws included among others; The Evidence Act Cap 6 was amended to review section 127 to simplify evidence collection and presentation for criminal cases including VAW cases which benefits women survivors of violence; the amendment of the Land Dispute Court Act Cap 216 which provides additional days for lodging cases in the Land Dispute Court which benefits women who form majority of complainants; lastly the Zanzibar Khadi's Court Act have been reviewed to include more women in the decision making committees at Shehia/community levels. Currently through UN-Women support to the Women's Parliamentary Group (TWPG) there is a process to develop and submit a private motion in the Parliament to push the government for a policy for provision of free menstrual pads for adolescent girls and young women in schools and tax holiday for menstrual pads locally produced in Tanzania at lower the cost.

Through the support of UN-Women, ORPP adopted a Gender and Social Inclusion Strategy to guide systematic incorporation of GEWE principles and Zanzibar Electoral Commission adopted a Gender and Social Inclusion Policy and its principles were integrated in the Institutional Strategic Plan. 1,214 community and religious leaders were supported to undertake advocacy initiatives and develop action plans and strategies that promote women's leadership in their respective communities. All 22 registered political parties have undertaken measures to promote the participation and leadership of women, youth, and People With Disabilities in elections through the adoption of provisions on women, youth and PWDs' political participation in the Code of Ethics for political parties, e.g. avoidance of discriminatory practices such as abusive language, as well as in Election Observers Guidelines and Voter Education Guidelines. UN-Women partnered with media houses to increase their coverage of women, youth and PWD leadership and political participation, supporting also 44 Community Radios, 20 TV and radio stations and 15 newspapers. The gender audit and capacity needs assessment of the National Assembly (NA) currently underway is contributing towards the development of a Gender Strategy and Action Plan and HeForShe Strategy development and operationalization in the NA.

Gender equality and social inclusion principles were incorporated within the proposed amendments of the Elections Expenses Act and Political Parties Act including recommendations for harmonized nomination procedures for political parties to ensure inclusive, fair and transparent internal political parties procedures and election processes. The number of women nominated for elections and elected by constituencies as Members of Parliament and Councilors increased as a result of capacity development, advocacy and communications initiatives supported by UN-Women. UN-Women's program interventions on Leadership and Political Participation has been generously funded by the Governments of Finland, Ireland, Sweden and USAID.

### **Women's Economic Empowerment:**

An estimated 5.2 million women and men are employed by or run small businesses, compared to 2.1 million women and men in formal employment. This underlines the importance of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), 54% of which are owned by women. However, challenges in accessing financial services (including informal savings and loans mechanisms) and business development services as well as gaps in terms of accessing market information create barriers for women to grow their MSMEs, in particular in rural areas. In relation to formal employment, the gender gap remains

significant and higher in the formal regular employment (28%) than in the casual employment category (21%). There are also high rates of youth unemployment with more than 1 out of 5 youth being unemployed representing 21.1%. In Tanzania approximately 80% of the population does not have access to formal financial services and must rely on IFGs for savings and loans services. It is estimated that 75% of IFG members are women.

In line with the recommendations emerging from the Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, UN-Women supported seven policy reviews on women's equal participation in the economy through employment and entrepreneurship. UN-Women supported the Gender Impact Assessment of the Government Empowerment Funds (revolving loans for entrepreneurs), which has resulted in an on-going process to restructure the various Empowerment Funds. Upstream strategic interventions included further strengthening the existing partnership with the Ministry of Trade on gender responsive trade and enterprise development policies and capacity development building on entry points and opportunities linked to regional integration in the East African Community (EAC) and customs protocol. Mechanisms which facilitate and track the performance of Informal Finance Groups (IFGs) including savings and loans groups in the country were developed in partnership with the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC). The Informal Finance Group (IFG) Guidelines ensure that each informal savings group is registered with the Local Government Authority and reports regularly on performance of the group. The guidelines protect women's investments by ensuring accountability of group leaders. As such, financing barriers have been reduced and women's capacity to invest is being increased through strengthening of financial intermediary services for women farmers, traders and Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) owners. UN-Women is also supporting the review of the National Small and Medium Enterprise Policy in partnership with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment.

The Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) has been supported by UN-Women since 2012 and is the umbrella body working specifically for the empowerment of women entrepreneurs. Through the TWCC – UN-Women partnership in Cross-Border Trade, over 5,000 women entrepreneurs reported an increase of their incomes. At the same time, the partnership led to the establishment of 11 cross-border platforms for dialogue between women entrepreneurs and local government authorities. This model was identified by the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment as an innovative strategy and has resulted in platforms on women's economic empowerment being established in all 30 regions in Tanzania. Additional platforms are being established at the district level under government leadership.

Furthermore, UN-Women leveraged broader programmatic work of other UN Agencies on economic empowerment as part of a UN Joint Youth Employment Programme for the implementation of programmatic interventions on Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE). As a result of UN-Women's support in the area of WEE, 8,628 women entrepreneurs were equipped with knowledge and skills in gender responsive services including training on international trade requirements, supply chain management, packaging and branding, process of business formalization, access to finance/capital, trade standards, traceability, bar-coding, trade requirements, negotiations, documentation and business contracting as well as intellectual property regulations. The components of entrepreneurship development and access to finance have been incorporated into the Women's Economic Empowerment pillar of the UN Kigoma Joint

Programme, a first example of UN area based programming in Tanzania. This component is funded by the government of Norway

UN-Women is providing support to out-of-school pastoralist young women to develop their entrepreneurship capacity skills utilizing opportunities in the renewable energy sector. This includes placements for 100 out-of-school girls in private sector renewable energy companies and supporting them to start businesses as distributors of renewable energy products. Support for this work is through the Joint Programme that UN-Women is implementing with UNESCO and UNFPA under the “*Empowering Adolescent Girls through Education Project*” and funded by the Government of Korea.

UN-Women leads the UN Joint Programme on Women’s Economic Empowerment through Climate Smart Agriculture. The UN Joint Programme includes 10 UN agencies and aims at reaching 250,000 women and girls over a 4-year period, with the geographic focus being Dodoma, Singida and Dar Es Salaam, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministries responsible for the promotion of GEWE in Mainland and in Zanzibar. Under the Joint Programme on “*Inclusive Local Economic Development (IELD)*”, UN-Women, in partnership with UNCDF and UNDP, will engage with the private sector on the identification of opportunities for large scale interventions supporting women entrepreneurs through private and public investments. The IELD programme is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). UN-Women’s programme will contribute to development of policies and strategies that enhance women’s economic empowerment in selected sectors, strengthening of financial intermediation services for women entrepreneurs, advocacy against negative social norm and practices that are barriers to empowerment of women entrepreneurs; and strengthening knowledge base and research on WEE related priority issues. UN-Women’s interventions on economic empowerment have been generously funded by Norway, KOICA, Switzerland, Sweden and Canada.

### **Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls:**

Violence remains a daily reality for significant numbers of women and girls in Tanzania. According to the Tanzanian Demographic Health Survey (TDHS) 2015-16, 40 per cent of women between 15 - 49 years have experienced one or more acts of physical violence in the past 12 months; and 17 per cent have experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months. UN-Women together with UNICEF and UNFPA, is supporting the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Children and the Elderly in implementing the National Action Plan on Elimination of VAWC in both Mainland and in Zanzibar. The NPA represents the culmination of a significant political commitment towards the prevention and response to violence against women and children.

UN-Women has supported the Coalition Against VAW aim to advocate for reforms and implementation of laws and policies on EVAW. It has helped to increase awareness of local, religious and community leaders on women’s right to protection from violence, with particular focus on the engagement of men and boys, in the context of the HeForShe campaign. Over eleven million community members, community and religious leaders were sensitized on protection measures and prevention of violence as a result of community awareness raising and media/communications initiatives through commemoration of 16 Days of Activism and International Women’s Day. In support of government efforts to strengthen availability, accessibility and capacity of services to survivors of violence against women and girls, UN-Women has financed the establishment of 6 survivor-focused Gender and Children’s Desks (GCDs) in police

stations in Sitaki, Shari, Mpwapwa and Kongwa, Dodoma and Dar Es Salaam regions. A total of 5,513 women survivors of VAW accessed quality services in response to VAW including legal aid and other informational services.

As a result of UN-Women's supported capacity development initiatives, 35 media reporters, journalists and photographers developed skills on how to ethically report on incidents of VAWC; 115 legal aid providers and 151 magistrates, judges, judicial officers and judicial students were equipped with specific tools to handle cases of GBV in collaboration with the Gender Desk Officers; and 4,500 police were trained on how to handle VAW cases in the police stations. UN-Women is supporting protection mechanisms through support to the establishment of safe spaces for women and girls in public spaces. UN-Women's partnership with the Government includes: establishment of coordination structures for the effective operationalization of the NPA; integration of national training manuals on how to handle GBV cases in the GCDs into the training curriculum of Moshi Police Academy and the other three police Academies in the country; technical support to Police Partner Coordination Group that brings together over 30 institutions currently supporting the work of the police in GBV response. UN-Women is supporting the development of a Protocol on handling GBV cases for the Police, with emphasis on ensuring the protection of survivor's interests, and observance of human rights in close partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Tanzania Police Female Network.

In relation to access to justice, UN-Women is supporting the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs on addressing gender discriminatory legislation as well as strengthening the capacities of the justice sector to respond to violation of women's rights effectively and in accordance with international standards primarily through the implementation of the Legal Aid Act. Through support from UN-Women to the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs (MoCLA) on the process of enactment of the Legal Aid Act, 2017 which was approved by the Parliament and enacted. The law for the first time in Tanzania formalizes legal aid services and guarantees access to justice to marginalized groups and communities including vulnerable groups such as the poor, vulnerable women girls and women, people with disabilities and the elderly. The Institute of Judicial Administration is providing a human rights and violence against course in partnership with Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA).

With regards to services for survivors and prevention of violence in relation to the refugee response, since the start of the Burundian Refugee Crisis in April 2015, 764 GBV survivors (65 in Nyarugusu, 73 in Mtendeli and 48 in Nduta) received protection services in the three refugee camps. 100% of the 786 survivors received psychosocial support, 37% or 288 survivors accessed medical services, 19% or 146 survivors received legal counseling and 4% or 34 survivors received shelter assistance in coordination with other service providers in the various camps with the coordination efforts led by the IRC with the support of UNHCR. UN-Women contributed to this through a partnership with International Rescue Committee (IRC) to improve the quality of life saving GBV response and prevention services across all camps as well as other gender responsive services around leadership and economic empowerment through the construction and development of multi-purpose women centres in the three camps. UN-Women's program interventions on EVAW are generously funded by the Governments of Norway, Sweden and USA.

## **Governance and National Planning and Budgeting:**

UN-Women's support and partnership with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children (MCDGEC) in the Mainland, the Ministry of Labour, Empowerment, Elderly, Women and Children (MLEEWC) in Zanzibar, the Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP), Zanzibar Planning Commission (ZPC), the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), women parliamentarians and gender advocates has paid enormous dividends that have translated Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) as a priority agenda in key government processes including macro policy development; national data and statistics, financing and monitoring. These partnerships ensured increased visibility for gender equality issues in the reviews of the national development frameworks, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) localization process, and national development planning. The Zanzibar Gender Policy & Gender Equality Policy Implementation Strategy (2016) has been finalized with technical and financial support from UN-Women. In Mainland, the National Gender Policy (2002) and Gender Strategy (2005) are currently under review, with the support of UN-Women and other development partners. Building on these results, UN-Women will further provide support to both gender ministries in the Mainland and Zanzibar, to enhance their coordination capacities on gender mainstreaming, with specific attention to SDGs targets and indicators and advocacy for increased financing for gender equality. The review of the Gender Policy and Implementation Strategy in Zanzibar was instrumental in informing the prioritization in MKUZA II key result areas, as well as on the development of the draft National Action Plan for SDGs localization.

UN-Women support to the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme has significantly strengthened Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) capacity among decision-makers, evidenced by the various GRB tools and manuals that have been effectively utilized by five Local Government Authorities (LGAs) to analyze their budgets. As a result of this support, the use of GRB tools and manuals has led to allocation of financial resources to address GEWE issues in key sectors including water, improved infrastructure, adequate sanitation facilities for males and females in schools, in public facilities and market places in Kashapu and Morogoro District Councils.

The first government-led Tanzania Country Gender Profile (2016/17 TCGP) was developed as a result of a Ministry of Health – UN-Women partnership. The profile provides both qualitative and quantitative data on the status of women in Tanzania, and government's commitments to advancing gender equality through specific policies and programs across all sectors. Furthermore, a time-use module has been integrated in the Household Budget Survey (HBS) for 2016-17. The strategic value of undertaking the Time Use Module is the ability to explain the gendered nature of poverty at household level through the utilization of gender disaggregated data. UN-Women Tanzania Country Office is in the process of expanding its work on gender statistics through the partnership with National Bureau of Statistics and Office of Government Chief Statistician in Zanzibar under the Global UN-Women Flagship Program Initiative on 'Making Every Woman and Girl Count and in partnership with OECD and the Irish Embassy it will support the government to undertake a Social Institutions and Gender Index for Tanzania.

In collaboration with UNAIDS and in partnership with the Tanzania Aids Commission (TACAIDS), UN-Women supported the dissemination of the Gender Operational plan to Council HIV Coordinators (CHACs) in all 26 Regions. The dissemination of GOP was

part of an orientation for Regional and Council HIV and Aids Coordinators to ensure that gender aspects are mainstreamed in district HIV plans. The CHACs attested on the importance of having the GOP and hence were committed to include gender specific interventions in the 2018/19 district HIV plans. At macro level, various policies, strategies and processes have used GOP as reference in order to include gender related interventions. These include National Prevention Strategy 2017 and the 2017/18 review of the National Multi-sectoral Strategy on HIV/AIDS with the focus to reduce harmful gender norms, discrimination and violence. Development of gender sensitive guidelines-minimum package for gender intervention in prevention and response to HIV and AIDS especially the rights of women living with and/or affected by HIV&AIDS was completed with UN-Women support in 2017. The minimum package has been disseminated to key stakeholders especially HIV/AIDS coordinators at district, ward and village levels in 23 districts across Lake Zone. The tool has also disseminated to women leaders from WLHV organizations. The tools resulted to the formation of WLHV network which aimed at advocating for district and ward HIV committees to integrate gender issues articulated in the national Gender Operational Plan in response to HIV. The network is legally registered and has plan to roll out effectively from 2018. UN-Women's work on Gender-Response Budgeting and Planning is generously funded by the governments of Sweden and Norway.

### **UN-Women's Coordination and Normative Work:**

UN-Women leverages coordination of the Development Partner Group – Gender Equality as a co-chair with the High Commission of Canada and the European Union and is providing secretariat support. With the MHCDGEC, UN-Women co-chairs the Gender Mainstreaming Working Group – Macro Policy (GMWG-MP), which is a gender coordination mechanism that brings together the gender focal points from all sectors of government including higher learning and research institutions, CSOs, and DPG GE representatives.

With regards to the normative work, UN-Women supported preparations of United Republic of Tanzania's representation at the CSW 62<sup>nd</sup> and 63<sup>th</sup> Session as well as the submission of a Combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> CEDAW Periodic Report. As a follow-up to recommendations emerging from global processes, UN-Women works in close partnership with the Ministries of Gender both in Mainland and Zanzibar to ensure their effective implementation through a multi-stakeholder partner dialogue on entry points, opportunities and lessons learnt.

In 2018, UN-Women is leading the UNCT Gender SWAP-Scorecard assessment, in close collaboration with the Resident Coordinator's Office and the Programming Principles Task Team. Findings from the scorecard will be used to enhance gender mainstreaming across the UN System in Tanzania.