



## COALITION FOR WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS TANZANIA



## Annual Report 2023



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## 1.0 MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR BOARD AND NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Dear reader, Welcome to read the Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs TZ) Annual Report 2023. This annual reporting is guided by our Strategic Plan launched early in 2022 and which will take us through 2026.

During this year of reporting, you will see the extent the Coalition has implemented its vision and mission to protect and amplify the voices of Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania.

In this report, you will also see the efforts of Women Human Rights Defenders of Tanzania to promote and protect the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups in the community. From small Coalition of few women, it has now reached out to several regions and zones of the country serving the hard-to-reach communities such as in Ngorongoro and elsewhere.

The membership has increased from 8 members in 2019 to more than 100 members in 2023 with direct beneficiaries from 2023 interventions approaching to 200. The increased membership has amplified the women human rights defender's agenda all over the country, which is still new to many members of the community. The members most of whom are institutional play great role to protect the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups mostly in the hard-to-reach remote part of the country.

On behalf of the Board and secretariat express deep appreciation to our members, secretariat team for commitment and resilient to implement growth and expansion of the Coalition even in hard times of international economic crisis and other human and natural disasters challenging the world today.

We also express our deep gratitude to our development partners; Embassy of Ireland, Civil Rights Defenders, Gender Links and AmplifyChange, Urgent Action Women Fund Africa, American Philanthropic Funds, United Nation Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Global Funds for Women and East Africa Human Rights Defenders (Defend Defenders) for the support. We look forward for your continued support for the protection of women human rights defenders for better future of women, girls and other marginalized groups in Tanzania.

Maria Matui (Adv.) – Chairperson

Hilda S. Dadu (Adv.)-National Coordinator

## 2.0 OUR COALITION

### Background information.

Coalition for WHRDs is a leading Women Human Rights Defenders Protection Network as a non-governmental organization established in 2019 under Nongovernmental organization Legislation of 2002. Its head office is in Dar es Salaam Tanzania. The Coalition was established to strengthen movement of Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania.

During the year 2023, the Coalition for Women's Right Defenders-Tanzania has implemented a range of activities guided by the five year Strategic Plan scattered into an annual Plan 2023, which contains five outcomes derived from five objectives.

#### **Our Vision**

A Tanzania/Society in which all women and girls are free from all sorts of human rights abuses.

#### **Our Mission**

To empower, protect and strengthen a vibrant movement of WHRDs. We do this through evidence-based advocacy, capacity building of member organizations and providing protection support to WHRDs.

#### **Strategic Areas of Focus**

##### ***Movement Building***

The choice of this pathway is affirmed by the Coalition's recognition of the significant role that women movements have played in the social and political development of Tanzania and the potential they still hold.

While some practitioners and activists describe the women's movement in Tanzania to be fragmented, siloed and insular, others feel that while some divisive issues still remain unresolved, Tanzania women's movements are alive and visible in so far as there has been a collective response to some major needs of women and Special groups in the country.

##### ***Working for a Safer Environment***

The promotion and protection of WHRDs requires an appropriate enabling and safer working environment. In fact, it often requires overcoming structural constraints that deny the spaces to operate safely and free from violence in the Country. The Coalition has a strong advocacy agenda and commitment that is expected to lead to the recognition of WHRDs by relevant government agencies and an improvement in the legal and institutional environment.

#### **Main Strategic Objectives.**

- Coordination of Women Human Rights Defenders of Tanzania
- Capacity Building to WHRDs on human rights instruments.

- Evidence based Advocacy through Research and Documentation
- Protection Support for Women Human Rights Defenders at risks and threats
- Collaborate with Government and human Rights stakeholders for Protection of WHRDs to Promote human Rights in Tanzania.

### 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN THE YEAR 2023

#### 3.1 Introduction

This annual report is guided by the Coalition's Strategic Plan 2022 to 2026. The reporting start with strategic focus, the result at outcome, output and activity level. Under strategic focus, the report is arranged into two major strategic focuses, that is, movement building and a safer working environment.

Under Strategic Result Area ONE, Movement building, the focus is on having an effective and efficient secretariat with activities such as staff capacity building such as in financial management, recruitment of professional staff, and establishment of zonal held desks as well as development of various policies to guide operation of secretariat.

On the other result area under movement building is the increased member's capacity to network, protect and speak with one voice. The interventions include building capacities of members on protection and self-care, building capacities of members on women's rights advocacy engagement in regional and international fora, creation of membership database, conduct Annual General meetings, engage members in Coalition's events and link members with development and opportunities.

The movement building area of focus also seeks to strengthen members ownership of the Coalition agenda with several interventions which include development of conceptual clarity of agenda to members, engage members in emerging issues and involve members in conducting facts finding. Other interventions are related to documentation of success stories and provision of award for WHRDs Champions of the year and recognize their works.

Under strategic focus TWO; a safer working environment for WHRDs, the Coalition seeks to strengthen protection mechanisms to women human rights defenders through enabling a safer working environment with result area of creating safe working environment of WHRDs who may be victims of their human rights works. Protection Support, Advocacy and capacity building to members enhance the implementation of this strategic focus area. The integrated supportive protection interventions which include physical, digital and psychological supports for organization, individual and their family members of a WHRDs

at risk. These protection supports may range from provision of legal support, reallocation, medical, counselling and family needs as well as capacity building on safety and security of WHRDs at risk and digital security. Advocacy activities ranged from engagement, participation and networking with other human rights stakeholders national and regional.

### **3.2 Movement Building to Create a Collective Response of WHRDs to Needs of Women, Girls and other Marginalized Groups**

CWHRDs affirms the significant roles that women movements play in the social cultural development of Tanzania and the potential they still hold. The focus area promotes a collective response of WHRDs to some major human rights needs of women, girls and other marginalized groups in the country.

- Conduct Annual General Meeting***

Organization of Special Meeting - The special meeting was organized by the secretariat to deliberate on the Approval of auditor. The special meeting was held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 online attended by 14 members approved the auditor Shepherd Consulting.

The Annual General Meeting for members was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023. The meeting approved annual activity report, audited financial statements, work plan and proposed that Board come up with issues required for constitutional amendment



- ***Establishment of Zonal Desks to Strengthen Coalition in Upcountry***

The secretariat of the Coalition conducted a field visit to strengthen coalition of WHRDS in Zanzibar. The event held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 brought together WHRDS from Unguja and Pemba to discuss best ways of strengthening Coalition's interventions in Zanzibar. About 25 members gathered expressed on the challenges facing WHRDS in Zanzibar were identified. The challenges include inadequate financial resources making it difficult for WHRDS to reach out most of GBV victims at remote areas as well as less cooperation from law enforcement organs. The meeting resolved to strengthening fundraising and advocacy skills to Zanzibar WHRDS. Zanzibar focal point was selected to spearhead all communications about CWHRDs in Zanzibar.



WHRDs team during discussion of establishment of Zanzibar Desk for the Coalition.

- ***Coordination of East African Women Human Rights Defenders Network***

The Coalition is currently coordinating the East African Women Human Rights Defenders Network with participating countries including Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and Malawi. One of the Coalition activities include the role of secretariat during the Steering Committee meetings as well as coordination of strategic plan development.

- *Commemoration of International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders.*

The Coalition invited embers from all over the country to participate in the commemoration of the International Day for Women Human Rights Defenders where they networked with various development partners locally and internationally, witnessed launching and dissemination of Mapping of the Situation of Women Human Rights Defenders Report as well as listening to various speeches which highlighted the roles, challenges and opportunities of WHRDs.

The event was also used for validation of a factsheet on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights to guide WHRDs dealing with the issues of SRHR in their advocacy work as well as planning and programming.

The event also recognized remarkable work by grassroot based WHRDs in protecting their personal rights as well as rights of their families and communities they live. The first award went to Imelda



Ilomo, a lady whose husband raped her 2 daughters and in impregnated one of them. The brave woman took her husband to court and struggled for her children to go back to school. One of the children is back to school while the other will go back to school next year.



SWITZERLAND AMBASSADOR TO TANZANIA, DIDIER CHASSOT PRESENTS CERTIFICATE TO FADHILA FOR HER BOLDNESS TO FIGHT FOR HER RIGHT DURING THE COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, NOVEMBER 29, 2023.

The second award went to Fadina Mussa a lady who was in a legal wrangle with her husband fighting for her matrimonial property and immediately after she had filed the case, the husband called her pretending to want to reconcile only to mutilate both of her hands. In actual fact, his intention was to kill her but luckily, she survived. The Coalition provided support to secure accommodation for her in Mtwara from Tandahimba and have been working to find her artificial hands. The good wishers in the event extended their hands to contribute for her financial support.



FADINA MUSA SINGS A SPECIAL SONG TO DENOUNCE GBV, RAPE AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS STRESSING UPON THE NEED FOR THOSE IN POWER TO BRING CHANGES TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY

#### *- Workshop to Validate Mapping of Women Human Rights Defenders Report*

Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania conducted a one-day working session to review and validate a report on mapping of the WHRDs, the session was conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 in Dar es salaam, Tanzania and attended by the total number of 26 participants from different institutions and organizations. The validation was also attended by 5 government officials from President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Ministry of Home Affair-Gender desk as well as Community Development Officer and Social Welfare Officer from Kinondoni Municipal Council.

The objective of mapping of WHRDs was to establish the evidenced-based advocacy information of the situation of WHRDs who are responsible of defending human rights of women, girls

and other marginalized groups. The mapping also addressed capacities and challenges including risks and insecurities facing WHRDs in their daily activities.

The validation event assisted CWHRDs TZ to obtain inputs from stakeholders before publication and dissemination of the report.



*Group Discussion during Validation of WHRDs Mapping Report*

- Engage Members in the National Constitution Making Process***

The Coalition conducted online sessions for members on New Constitution making process. The activity implemented between May and June, 2023 engaged members on how to effectively participate in the discussions and provide inputs into the New URT Constitution making process. Members through these sessions, increased their understanding of the current constitution as major tool for human rights advocacy as well as constitutional making process. Members deliberated to use the knowledge to design new projects on enhancing women and girls' effective participation in the democratic process through participation in a new constitution making process.

- Documentation of Success Stories***

Printing of information, education and communication materials for documentation of Sexual Reproductive Health and Right (SRHR) cases focusing on incest and rape.

The publications printed include banners, Incest and Rape cases documentation focusing on SRHR report, brochure, cloth bags with SRHR messages and postcards with DQ codes for easy access of Coalition reports. The activity also includes design and printing of Coalition's annual report.

The coalition printed 2 banners with logo, vision, mission and objectives of the Coalition, 150 copies of Incest and Rape cases documentation focusing on SRHR, 150 copies of Annual Report, 300 copies of WHRDs Mapping, 200 pieces of bags with message and logos on SRHR as well as 1,500 cards with QR codes on Mapping situation of WHRDs report, Documentation of Incest Cases report as well as Annual report.

- ***Support members in resource mobilization***

The Coalition has supported members in different capacities and different thematic areas. For example, some members such as Women in Mining Association (WIMA) through Coalition link to development partners has fundraised for activities for empowering women in mining areas on issues of GBV and economic.



ONE OF THE GROUPS OF WOMEN MINERS IN SONGWE DISTRICT EMPOWERED BY WIMA

The supported enabled WIMA to reach out to the hard to reach areas of Songwe region where they empowered women in the mining sector on economic issues, gender based violence as well as security and safety in the mining areas.

### 3.4 Creating a Safer working Environment for WHRDs

The promotion and protection of human rights in Tanzania requires an appropriate enabling and safe environment for women human rights defenders. In fact, it often requires overcoming structural constraints that deny the space to operate legally

and safely in the Country. To enable this situation, in 2023 the Coalition undertake the following activities.

- *Documentation of Incest and Rape Cases in Relation to SRHR*

The Coalition conducted research to document Incest and Rape Cases in relation to Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights to support advocacy works WHRDs of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights in Tanzania. The research through field and court cases identified 27 incidents of incest and rape cases that facilitate multiple effects to women and girls reproductive health rights, unsafe abortion, school drop outs, continuous poverty circle, and so many rights violated due to sexual violence.

The documentation was conducted between April and May 2023. The documentation was intended to guide members working on the area of SRHR to have evidence-based information for Advocacy. It was also intended to enhance WHRDs of SRHR understanding on violation of sexual rights to women and girls and use the report findings as advocacy tools in their areas of operation.

Several members were involved in the collection of information during documentation of Incest and Rape Cases in relation to SRHR in Tanzania.

18 WHRDs members of the coalition and other stakeholders participated during validation of the report documented Sexual Reproductive Health and Right (SRHR) cases. The event was held on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The event was attended by WHRDs including defenders from the community, local government officials, and prosecutors at the community as well as relatives of victims. It was intended to validate the report through stakeholders' views and suggestions. The session was an opportunity for Coalition to get more information about incest and rape cases as well as recommendations to address the situation at the community level.

#### *Dissemination of Documentation of Incest and Rape Cases in Relation to SRHR Report*

Dissemination of the report to document Sexual Reproductive Health and Right (SRHR) cases focusing on incest and rape. The event was held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The event was mostly attended by WHRDs. It also included defenders from the community, local government officials and prosecutors at the community. It was intended to impart information to the WHRDs on report findings, intersectionality of WHRDs issues

when addressing rape and incest, get recommendations as well as suggestions of SRHR messages to be include into the project's publications. During the session, participants learned that issues surrounding gender-based violence as well as sexual rights are intersected, so the need for working in movement to address the issues. They provided suggestions as way forward to address incest and rape issues as they violate reproductive health rights of women and girls particularly in rural areas. They also formed repro rights messages for Coalition publications.



**WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS LISTENING TO MARY RUSIMBI, ONE OF THE FACILITATORS OF WORKSHOP TO DISSEMINATE DOCUMENTATION OF INCEST AND RAPE IN FRELATION TO SRHR REPORT**

- *Development of SRHR Factsheet*

The development of SRHR factsheet was meant to produce simple materials to be used by WHRDs to advocate for SRHR issues in their areas. The factsheet carries several contents on SRHR including legal issues, incidents of violation of SRHR as well as recommendations to various stakeholders on how to address challenges of SRHR facing women and girls. The factsheet will guide Women Human Rights Defenders on sexual reproduction health rights activities in Tanzania to advocate for women and girls' rights particularly those facing incest and rape as major cause of unsafe termination of pregnancy has been developed waiting for validation.

*- Capacity Building of CWRDs TZ Members on Self-Care, Wellbeing and Advocacy Feminism*

In September 2023, 25 WHRDs from almost 16 regions of Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar attended a workshop on security, wellbeing, and self-care. The activity aimed at promoting women human rights defenders practice of self-care, security, and wellbeing and conduct feminism advocacy to enhance their activism from a feminism advocacy. The emphasis was in the principles of feminism. .

These 25 WHRDs increased skills and knowledge to women human rights defenders on feminism advocacy, self-care and wellbeing.

The activity also created resilient to WHRDs so that they never give up or be discouraged to defend for human rights regardless how many threats they face in defending for human rights.



Resilient is the key factor that any WHRDs need to have and practice as the work of defending for human rights attract a number of threats which also may affect the family members their loved ones causing trauma, lack of confidence and despair.

*The Chairperson of the coalition, Ms. Maria Matui shared experiences of reducing work stresses to WHRDs during wellbeing and self care sessions*

Wellbeing sessions supported WHRDs to encounter trauma and work stresses experience from defending human rights of the marginalized indigents. The sessions also assisted WHRDs to reduce- msongo wa mawazo and activate their brains.

- Convening of *East African Women Human rights Defenders Protection Networks from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.*

The Coalition spearheaded a 1st convening of the Consortium of the Eastern African Women Human Rights Defenders Protection Networks of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania in June 2023, Zanzibar. The objective of the convening was to foster for a protection mechanisms among the three networks and their members who are at risk in protecting human rights.

The convening was attended with Women Human Rights Networks from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. The workshop came up with road map of running the consortium that aims on strengthening protection mechanism for Women Human Rights Defenders in East Africa region.



*In the picture, team of the Protection WHRDs Networks learning milestones on Protection's strategies are using. Adv. Harusi Mpatani shared experiences of the Coalition.*

- *Provision of Protection Support to WHRDs who are at security risk*

The Coalition provided protection support to several WHRDs who were at risk. For this year alone, 5 WHRDs received direct support that ranged from relocation, psychological and family support. Due to inadequate standby protection support at the Coalition, other 20 WHRDs received indirect protection support through partners referral and linked to other emergency support partners nationally and internationally in order to ensure are missing protection support. However, the coalition will continue fundraising for a standby emergency support to WHRDs at risk.

- *Capacity Building on Digital Security of WHRDs at Risk.*

The Coalition in collaboration with DefendDefenders under a Safe Sisters Program provided digital security training to ten (10) women human rights defenders members of the coalition. The workshop held in Bagamoyo to equip these WHRDs with digital security techniques which in most cases result into physical security risks of threats and attacks that also may lead to

surveillance and physical attacks. WHRDs participants were able to learn about concepts of digital security such as different between threats and risks. They were able to know that WHRDs cannot control threats but they can control and mitigate risks. Examples of threats include efforts of international terrorist's group to attack WHRDs cannot be controlled although it can be identified.

In order to control and mitigate digital risks, they were able to learn different methods such as using strong passwords, data encryption, using anti-virus as well as keeping software up to date.

- ***East African Women Human Rights Defenders Network Annual Meeting.***

Coalition which mandated to host the EAWHRDs Network facilitated the Annual Meeting of the network from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at Arusha Tanzania. WHRDs from Eight (8) East African countries of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Somalia, Tanzania and South Sudan attended the meeting. The agenda of the meeting were to strengthen networking and review a three years developed Strategic Plan of the Network. Meeting created a learning and sharing experiences of human rights violations from WHRDs respective countries. Transitional Justice Dialogue discussion was part of a meeting to provide insights to WHRDs working in crisis and war.

- ***Engagement in the annual CSOs Forum for Engagement with Other Civil Societies***

Members and secretariat of the coalition attended Annual National CSOs Forum held in Dodoma from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The CSOs Forum was to strengthen dialogue, foster collaboration and provide recommendations to support promotion and protection of human rights and advocacy for recognitions of works of CSOs in social development of the country. CSOs participation .....elevate the problem of shrink of Civic space in the country. The Forum brought organizations across a wide range of sectors and disciplines who have interest and a responsibility to reach and serve communities. Members and secretariat learned and shared experiences.

- ***Participation in the Commemoration of 75<sup>th</sup> UN Human Rights Declaration of Human Rights African in Regional Office in Nairobi.***

The National Coordinator participated UN High level meeting to commemorate the 75th UN Declaration of Human Rights where she shared ideas on how to continue to promote and protect human rights at regional and globally with the emerging of pushbacks and anti-rights movements. Hilda aslo emphasized the significance of investing on protection of Human rights defenders and put much emphasis on women human rights defenders who are working tireless to protect human rights at local and grassroots. She informed the delegates that WHRDs pursuing their human rights works in critical thematic areas

such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, environmental rights, rights of minority groups including indigenous and sexual rights are at most risks.

- ***Participation in the UN Women Consultative Meeting on advocacy Coalition/movement building and Transformative Feminism - ACT***

The coalition for WHRDs Tanzania participated in a regional consultative meeting on ACT to end violence against women and girls in southern and Eastern Africa which was organized by UNWOMEN Eastren and Southern African Office based in Nairobi. The consultative meeting was represented by a National Coordinator. The Consultative meeting objectives is to accelerate efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, with two overarching objectives; (1)To strengthen coalition building, networking, leader- ship and resilience of global and regional feminist women's rights movements. (2) To increase and enhance advocacy, campaigning, and policymaking on ending violence against women and girls through multistakeholder partnerships and coalitions. In Recognize the work of Women human rights defenders in ending violence against women, the ACT promised to put emphasis on the protection of women human rights defenders at regional.

- ***NGOs Forum and 77<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sessions of African Commission on Human and People's Rights***

Five members of the Coalition and secretariat attended NGOs Forum and 77<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sessions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights held in October 2023 in Arusha Tanzania. The purpose of participation was to enhance members and secretariat experience of advocacy engagement in regional and international forums. Members were able to exchange information with their fellows from other countries on various human rights agendas as well as learning from the sessions on how to engage with African Human Rights Commission mechanisms. Coalition of WHRDs Tanzania in collaboration with the Eastern African WHRDs Network use this opportunity to claimed a space for Protection mechanisms of Women Human rights defenders during a panel discussion at parallel event of NGOs Forum done by the National Coordinator of the Coalition. Ms. Hilda Stuart Dadu and other WHRDs from Africa Region.



African GOs  
Forum 2023  
in Progress  
in Arusha  
Tanzania,  
October  
2023

- *Participated in Advocacy meeting with UN Human Rights Special Rapporteur*

During NGOs Forum and ACHPR 77th ordinary sessions in Arusha Tanzania, October 2023, the Coalition conducted ad hoc advocacy meeting with delegates of AU and UN Human Rights Special Rapporteur in Arusha Tanzania, as side event to advocate for elimination of existing critical human rights violations in some parts of the country.

The representative of the coalition together with a number of women human rights defenders discussed the critical issues of human rights violation experienced minority groups, the situation of Women and WHRDs Ngorongoro and Loliondo to get their support to compel the government to bring back. The situation to normal.

### 3.3 Strengthening Institutional Capacity

- *Capacity Building Training for CWRDs Tz Secretariat and Board of Directors on Financial System Management, Personnel and Equipment.*

The training was held on 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at Bagamoyo district. The training provided a unique opportunity for a virtuous interaction with representatives of the CWRDs Board of Directors and Secretariat. The training was held to strengthening the CWRDs' secretariat and Board in financial system management. It was also intended to enhance efficiency operational in financial activities of CWRDs TZ. Selection of a suitable accounting package for Coalition.



In this training, 16 participants (6 members of board of Directors and 8 staff member of the secretariat) attended the training. The training was facilitated by facilitators form East African Human Rights Institute.. Participants were able to obtain knowledge on financial planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting as well as financial management, procurement, administration

and reporting. Finance Officers and Management team members of the Secretariat were oriented on the use of a software accounting package (QuickBooks).

- *Development of Policies to Guide Operation of the Coalition*

On 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023, the Coalition conducted a working sessions with Board of directors and management team members of the secretariat to review/develop policies of the coalition. The objective of these sessions were to strengthen governance and management of the Coalition. . The session dwelt more on Financial Policy, HR policy, Procurement policy, Sexual harassment and gender policy, communication policy as well as Board Charter. Various policies were improved and approved in the followed meeting of the Board of Directors. Three policies in this financial year were developed to strengthen the governance, project management and administration. The three policies include Safeguarding, Anti-corruption and Monitoring and evaluation plan were developed.

The financial management team are able to produce financial reports such as cashbooks and bank reconciliation in the real time and in a more professional way. The financial management team is currently able to use the new financial system for proper financial management.

In December 2023, the Board and secretariat attended annual review meeting to review progress of the organization as well as review of Communication and Advocacy. The meeting resulted into new ideas to be incorporated into Communication and Advocacy strategy of the Coalition. The Board and secretariat also refreshed on feminism advocacy as well as development of annual work plan with consideration of feminism advocacy concepts.



Expert from  
EAHRI,  
Christian  
Bantulaki  
facilitated  
financial  
management  
training.

- *Creation of membership database for the Coalition.*

The Coalition developed web application designed to address key aspects of WHRDs engagement, emerging cases of human rights violation including Gender-Based Violence (GBV) case tracking, and the documentation of success stories. The database integrates

these functionalities, to provide a powerful tool for institutional and members of the Coalition to collaborate, address challenges, and celebrate achievements.

- ***Management affairs.***

The Coalition was able to maintain its secretariat including the National Coordinator to oversee and supervise secretariat for implementation of daily activities of the Coalition. The Coalition has also maintained Programs Manager with overall role of managing programs and projects, resource mobilization as well as monitoring and evaluation. A Part time Finance Officer manages financial resources as well as reporting of financial statements. The Legal and Protection Officer carry out the role of protection and legal support to WHRDs, ICT Officer is responsible for managing ICTs as well as provision of IT support and equipment maintenance and proficiency and Administration and Membership Affairs Officer for administration of the office as well as leading membership affairs desk. The coalitions has been received two volunteers and interns who works for three months to gain experience.

- ***ICT Support and Use for Communication and Security***

The Coalition increased its use of ICT to support operation as well as acting as main communication platform for secretariat, board and members. To ensure ICT functionality, daily hardware checks were conducted for healthy of all Computers, day to day checks of Software updates were performed to keep Operating System and Application Up to date. This has contributed to improved security, bug fixes and enhanced performance. The social media platforms (eg.Twitter, Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn) were managed to ensure consistent Campaigning. The following is data for social media and website audience.

SN	Item	Followers	Likes	Motions	Posts	Viewers
1	Facebook	692	644	25		0
2	Twitter	338	746	45	848	0
3	Instagram	1400				0
5	LinkedIn	67	24		21	0
6	Website viewers					3873
	<b>Total</b>	2497	1414	70	869	3873

SN	Item	Followers	Likes	Motions	Posts	Viewers
Grand Total = 8,723						

- *Collaboration and networking with Government and other Human rights CSOs*

The progressive growth of the Coalition has increased its recognition by both local and international human rights interested partner due to its efforts to ensure that the rights of WHRDs are observed and protected as they play a most important roles in promoting human rights particularly the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups through the vibrant network of women human rights defenders.

This recognition has enhanced close collaboration between the Coalition and the Government, Development Partners, national and international CSOs and development Partners. This is evidently seen where the Government under Ministries of Community Development, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Regional Administration and Local Government, Ministry of Home Affairs as well as national human rights institutions such as Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance played crucial roles during Coalition's events.

The coalition is continuing to collaborate with Local NGOs including our sisters organization Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Jamii Forum, Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA), Tanzania Women Laywers Association (TAWLA), Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP), Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights Africa (WGNRR), WiLDAF and National Council for Non-Governmental Organizations.

The Coalition engaged in the joint programme with various organization to implement women engagement in peace building and political participation under Sisters Without Borders program, Group of Sexual and reproductive Rights who are members of CAMMAC

## 4.0 MEMBERS CORNER

Organization	Benefits from Coalition
Save the Mother and Children of Central Tanzania	Capacity building from Coalition has increased my confidence when conducting advocacy work. I was able to fight and get my property rights violated in my patriarchal family in the past. I have fought for my daughter to get her rights after divorce
Songambele Initiative Organization	Workshop on feminism advocacy, selfcare and wellbeing has increased my resilience and confidence in defending others' rights through increasing body health, mental fitness as well as caring for others.
Pemba Child Right Environmental and Malaria Control	Coalition interventions have increased my management as well as advocacy skills. I am now able to manage better my organization as well as fight for the right of women and children effectively and efficiently. I am now confident to conduct advocacy to my government as well as creating clear position of my advocacy purpose
Jumuiya ya Maendeleo ya Elimu kwa Watoto Pemba	Mapping report increased my understanding of the roles of WHRDs. Participation in the international day for WHRDs increased my understanding of challenges facing WHRDs and the way to deal with them through the resolutions reached. The training on URT Constitution increased my awareness of fundamental rights and the rights of marginalized groups
Youth VDT	Training on URT Constitution has encouraged me to consider participation in the new Constitution making as the roles of CSOs to ensure women, girls and other marginalized groups rights are protected through national Constitution.
Kigoma women development Organization	I have learned on concepts of feminism advocacy which has strengthened my role as woman human right defender.
JUMAVIWACHA	Participation in the commemoration of international day for women human rights defenders has reminded me about the essential role that WHRDs play all over the world and this has encouraged me to continue with my role as WHRD.
Tusishindwe Development Organization Pemba TUDOPE	Feminism advocacy, selfcare and wellness has helped me to address family problems but now has addressed my issues with confidence which has increased my effectiveness and efficiency as woman human right defender.

Arusha Women Legal Aid and Human Rights Organization (AWLAHURIO)	I learned the extent women and girls in the communities face multiple SRHR challenges particularly through incest and rape incidents. I have realized that we need to increase community awareness to protect girls at the family level because incest and rape is a huge problem in the country.
JUMUIYA YA KUTETEA HAKI ZA WANAWAKE NA WATOTO SHEHIA YA OLE (JUKUHAWA)	Coalition's interventions have expanded my network and solidarity when play the roles of protecting the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups. I learned different challenges facing WHRDs and the possible solutions to the challenges through witnesses from WHRDs attended international day for WHRDs
Macho Kwa Jamii	I learned that online platforms can be used effectively and successfully for communication among members and even conducting meetings without physical approach. Through Digital Security training, I am now confident with security when working with information because I know how to make them secure through various techniques including using strong password
Women's Promotion Centre	The Feminism Advocacy, Selfcare and Wellbeing Workshop has increased my understanding that in order for the WHRDs to play their roles must also consider about their self-security, wellness and selfcare and this has increased my confidence and energy of protecting the rights of marginalized groups.

## 5.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In the year 2023, CWRDs-TZ achieved the following in course of the implementation of the planned activities;

- CWRDs-TZ has enhanced the role of WHRDs in Tanzania as major providers of protection services to women, girls and other marginalized groups victims of human rights violations including gender-based violence as well as advocacy of the rights of women, girls and other marginalized groups in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.
- CWRDs-TZ membership has grown to increase its reach covering 20 out of 31 regions, equivalent to 64% of all regions in the United Republic of Tanzania, serving a potential of approximately 30 million people.

- CWRDs TZ has helped some organization members which had been struggling to obtain funding to get support after linking them to potential funders as well as providing technical support for proposal writing. An average of 20 million has been raised to support member organizations.
- CWRDs TZ managed to provide strategic directions for its members through provision of tools, knowledge and skills to guide them to pursue community issues of concern such as SRHR and selfcare, wellbeing and feminism advocacy.
- CWRDs TZ has increased members capacity to network, protect and speak with one voice. Support of members to participate in different international forums as well as training has enhanced their networking, making it possible for them to have direct contacts with development partners regionally and internationally.
- CWRDs TZ regional and national lead of women human rights defenders protection Network in East Africa.

## 6.0 CHALLENGES

- Shortage of financial resources to cover all coalition expenses (rapid responses to WHRDs at risks, staff allowances and salaries to maintain fulltime staff).
- Digital Technological challenges include obstacles of using digital platforms to reach WHRDs especially in rural areas due to unstable and unreliable internet accessibility and connectivity. Increase of online gender based violence silence WHRDs to use digital platform to conduct advocacy and share their opinions concerning violations of human rights in Tanzania and at east African regional.
- Low understanding of WHRDs agenda by stakeholders. There is low understanding among stakeholders and WHRDs on how to link up their roles with other development agenda such as the need to eradicate GBV and sexual violence, maternal and newborn deaths and increasing women participation in governance processes and in decision-making positions, environmental justices, climate changes and gender.
- Continuing of the existence of restrictive Laws to promote freedom of expression, discrimination laws and lack of a comprehensive Gender based Violence law increase challenges for WHRDs.

- Absence of National Protection Mechanisms and frameworks on Women Human Rights Defenders that will guarantee safety and security of WHRDs to continue defending human rights of marginalized groups.
- Lack of financial resources to support WHRDs members of the Coalition to strengthen their institutions for running advocacy activities at the grassroot level.

## 7.0 PLAN FOR 2024

- Strengthening Financial Management, Personnel and Equipment including Organizational Capacity, Monitoring, Evaluation and Networking of member organizations.
- Expand SRHR project to cover more areas geographically as well as reaching out to more WHRDs
- Advocacy on Protection of Women Human Rights Defenders
- Capacity Building to WHRDs members on Public Interest Litigation
- Strengthen agenda of protection of WHRDs to include more activities on selfcare, wellness and feminism advocacy as well as establishment of emergency fund.
- Continuing advocating for funding and nonrestrictive funding for Women Human rights defenders organizations.



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