



TANZANIA NETWORK OF LEGAL AID PROVIDERS - (TANLAP)

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Brief introduction of TANLAP

- Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP) is an umbrella national network working in legal sector. It is a membership network comprising of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Community – Based Organisations (CBOs), Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) and other institutions providing legal aid in Tanzania. Currently has 66 members and pending application for membership.
- Founded in 2006, TANLAP's core aim is to work and link up with other Civil Society Organisations in providing quality legal aid and advocate for access to justice among the poor and marginalised sections of society in Tanzania.

- TANLAP is registered as a company without shares limited by guarantee (Reg. no. 68892) and complies with the NGO Act no 24 of 2002 and is granted a certificate of compliance (No. 1300).
- TANLAP was established following realization of the need to have an independent network of legal aid providers to build the capacity of legal aid providers , to harmonize legal aid services and ethical conducts of legal aid providers and to have a collective forum for participation in policies and reforms.

Objectives, Vision and Mission statements of TANLAP

OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the capacity building on legal literacy among legal aid providers.
- To extend and improve legal aid provision in the country.
- To initiate, promote, support as may be deemed expedient, any proposed legislation or other measure affecting the interests of its members.
- To build mutual understanding and coordination amongst legal aid providers and legal aid clients in the country.

Vision and Mission statements of TANLAP

VISION

- TANLAP envisions a society with access to justice



MISSION

- TANLAP is an umbrella organization established to enhance the best practice and capacity of its members for quality legal aid services.

Overall Goal, Key Activities and Results expected

Overall goal

Access to justice and human rights to the poor and marginalized communities are protected and promoted.



Key activities

To realize the stated goal, TANLAP seeks to accomplish the following activities

- Building capacity of Legal Aid Providers
- Legal and human rights awareness and education
- Advocacy and networking

- Coordination of legal aid provision
- Research ,Publication and Documentation
- Organizational development and sustainability

Key Results

- Capacity of Legal Aid Providers strengthened
- Legal and human rights awareness and education enhanced
- Policy, practice and legal framework change for enhancing access to justice advocated for
- Coordination and harmonization of Legal aid provision improved.
- Research, publication and documentation strengthened
- Organizational Development and Sustainability strengthened.

Governance

- The Organization of TANLAP is geared toward ensuring that the mission and goals of the network are effectively and efficiently accomplished. In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the members of the network meet yearly at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which makes and takes decisions and actions on issues related to the membership, constitution and policies. The other functions of the Annual General Meeting include; approving annual reports, plans and budgets and selecting the Board of Directors and officers of the organization.
- The Board ensures the network has appropriate plans and approves quarterly, biannually and annual reports from the Executive Director. The Executive Director of TANLAP is responsible for day-to-day management of the Secretariat.

- The secretariat is responsible to the Board. Under the Executive Director, the Secretariat takes care of the operational activities by interpreting policies and strategies ensuring that activities are carried out according to plans and reports are written and submitted to relevant bodies and meetings. The Secretariat convene weekly and quarterly staff meetings and discuss issues for the overall TANLAP's organizational development and effectiveness.
- To inculcate and maintain a sense of network ownership and loyalty, TANLAP designs, implements and manages its programme using a participatory approach. The Secretariat makes deliberate effort to execute all its activities WITH and THROUGH members to avoid unnecessary competition and duplication of activities.

TANLAP's Structure



List of Board members

- Dr. Judith N. Odunga - Board chair person (WILDAF)
Mob: 0715-279914 wildaf_tanzania@yahoo.com
- Dr. Hellen Kijo-Bisimba – Member (LHRC)
Mob: 0713-337240 lhrc@humanrights.or.tz
- Adv. Theodosia Muhulo – member (WLAC)
Mob: 0754-431699 wlac89@gmail.com
- Adv. Tike Mwambipile – Member (TAWLA)
Mob: 0713-599486 tikeg3@gmail.com
- Adv. Gideon Mandes – member (DOLASED)
Mob: 0713-404240 dolasedtanzania@gmail.com
- Dr. CLEMENT MASHAMBA Member (nola)
Mob : 0784-433868 msaadawasheria@gmail.com
- Christina Kamili –Board secretary (TANLAP)
Mob: 0762-001029 kamilichristina@yahoo.com
- Mr. Gervas Lufingo – Member (AFRICARE)
Mob: 0784482597



Programme Beneficiaries and Geographical focus

- TANLAP provides services to member organisations and institutions across Tanzania. As the legal aid providers work with communities directly in promoting access to justice, the services of the network benefits women, poor men, Most Vulnerable Children, youths, people with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS and other marginalised groups.
- TANLAP plays an active role by taking part in policy and law making processes. This implies that decision makers, government leaders at various levels and other community leaders benefit from TANLAP services. In addition, educational and training institutions as well as researchers across Tanzania also comprise important beneficiaries of the network services.

Rationale for provision of Legal Aid

- LHRC Tanzania human rights report (2009),More than 80% of Tanzanians who are poor could not afford to hire private advocates to represent them in their cases. On the other hand a number of advocates enrolled in Tanzania is very small . For example as July 2013 there were around 3,000 enrolled advocates in Tanzania mainland. Proportionally, one advocate serves around 15,000 Tanzanians. According to population and Housing Census(2012) there are 44.9 million Tanzanians.



Description of existing operations at TANLAP

- TANLAP has been implementing different activities under the programme of Improving Rule of Law and Access to Justice in Tanzania since 2009 to date.
- Below are some activities that has been conducted since 2009 -2015 and the list of implementing partiners.

❑ **TANLAP conducted a two days workshop on Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response**

- The goal was to equip them with the necessary strategies for preventing and responding to Gender Based Violence at their work places and when attending LegaAid
- The beneficiaries were Legal Aid Providers organizations in Morogoro, Dar es Salaam and Shinyanga . A total of 27 Legal Aid Providers Organizations attended.
- The facilitator capitalized on four topics which were:-Background of GBV, types of GBV, causes, consequences, combating GBV where different Laws, Instruments and Policies for GBV were shared, responses to combat GBV, Challenges on GBV Prevention and Response, GBV and the New Constitution. During the workshop Legal Aid Providers were able to share the experience on Gender Based Violence. Each organization explained how it provides legal aid services to persons affected with GBV.



❑ **Capacity building to Mtwara based legal aid providers on the laws of a child.**

- Child welfare and rights emerged to be a global challenge. In Tanzania several measures have been taken to address the predicament albeit state persisting child rights violations in our communities are continuing to be a threat. It is against this background that the network has embarked on empowering Mtwara legal aid providers and other stakeholders on the importance of promoting, respecting and upholding child rights and later to have a working relationship between LAPs and other stakeholders in the region. Participants shared and discussed child issue and further came up with strategies to move forward where each stakeholder agreed to make sure that the rights of the child are known and protected. And as the way forward after the training; participants developed a working plan to be adopted for the implementation of the training lessons.



Participants of the capacity building training in Mtwara

☐ Capacity building for LAPs

- Training on the Law of Persons with Disabilities Act and Alternative Dispute Resolution



TANLAP members listening to the training on ADR and the Law of Person with Disability Act at TAMAL hotel in Dar es salaam.

- Training on Leadership, Governance and Financial Management



TANLAP members sharing ideas during the governance and leadership workshop at Kingsway hotel in Morogoro.

□ Advocacy and Networking

- Meetings on Constitution making process and enactment of Legal Aid Act



TANLAP 's Constitutional council meeting held at Makumbusho hall Posta in Dar es salaam

❑ Coordination and Harmonization of Legal Aid provision

- Developing Monitoring and Evaluation strategy



TANLAP members inputting a Monitoring and Evaluation strategy

- **Conducted Stakeholders Reflection Session on Access to Justice and Legal Aid Provision in Tanzania in the year 2014 and National Conference on Legal Aid Provision in Tanzania in the year 2015**



TANLAP members and other stakeholders during reflection session on 28th January 2014 at LANDMARK Hotel, to discuss on Access to Justice and Legal Aid in Tanzania.



The Guest of Honor Justice of Appeal Engela Kileo opening the conference of Legal Aid Providers at Rugambwa Hall, Osterbay on 11th December 2015



TANLAP members participated in the conference by exhibiting their work



TANLAP members, stakeholders, and other legal Aid Providers from Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda sharing their experience in providing legal aid.

❑ Research, Publication and documentation

- Conducted research on the state of the Legal Aid Provision for the years 2013/2014/2015.



The guest of honor Mr.Amir Juma Nondo (second from right side), the Executive Director of TANLAP Ms.Christina Kamili and other TANLAP members during the launching of the TANLAP report of 2013/2014 at Kings Way hotel in Morogoro



TANLAP staff with LAPs in Zanzibar during the visit for data collection November 2015



Consultant Mr. Jones Kapeleka sharing the TANLAP report on the State of Legal Aid Provision at Rugambwa Hall, Osterbay on December 2015

Achievement

- TANLAP has facilitated the promotion of provision of Legal aid services in the country and enhanced relationship with the government institutions and other stakeholders. Also has actively facilitated development of a framework for promoting effective collaboration and information sharing among Legal Aid Providers in Tanzania at large. For example Key stakeholders like the judiciary, MoCLA, CHRAG linked to legal aid providers
- Increased advocacy on access to justice and improved awareness of human rights and strengthened systems of human rights monitoring .for example ; Legal aid component has been included in the second draft and the proposed constitution , Vulnerable rights included in the proposed constitution and spearheaded efforts and focus toward establishment of the legal aid body and enactment of Legal Aid Act

- Increased information and awareness on the situation of the legal aid services in the country. ie statistics from the directory of legal aid providers and report of the state of legal aid services in Tanzania. Hence research, publication and documentation has been strengthened.
- Capacity of Legal Aid Providers strengthened. Different training conducted by TANLAP has increased knowledge on leadership, legal and human rights. for example skills on Leadership ,governance , ADR and the Law of Person with Disability.
- Trough provision of Legal aid ,many disputes have been solved at community level and hence promotion of peace, unity and respect for human rights in Tanzania.
- Strengthened networking and coordination has contributed to increased membership to TANLAP from 8 to 56 and other pending application

Challenges

- ▶ The absence of an enabling legal and regulatory framework; a stronger and more enabling legal and regulatory framework would lead to more systematic training and continuing legal education of service providers.
- ▶ The demand for legal aid services is steadily increasing while the capacity of LAPs and Paralegals to address them is relatively low. i. e no enough lawyers , most of LAPs are urban based, materials and equipments , and trainings on newly enacted laws.
- ▶ Lack of funds to reach all TANLAP members and other Legal aid providers.



Alliance with other Coalition/Networks/Forum

TANLAP forms part with other forums for advocacy and networking purposes inside and outside Tanzania .

- Tanzania Civil Society Consortium on Election Observation –TACCEO
- Jukwaa la Katiba Tanzania- JUKATA
- Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition –THRDC
- Rwanda Legal Aid Forum - Rwanda
- Legal Aid Providers Network – Uganda
- National Legal Aid and Awareness Programme and
- Legal Resources Foundation- Kenya

Key Development Partners

- WILDAF/USAID (TZS 714,128,000)- partnership for seven (7) years and implementation in progress
- WILDAF/IRISH AID (TZS 25,000,000) For three months (3) – completed
- Legal Sector Reform Program(LSRP) (TZS 60,000,000) - completed
- Legal Service Facility (LSF) (TZS 320,000,000)- partnership for two years – program completed
- Foundation for Civil Society (TZS 44,800,000) – partnership for one year program completed - initial negotiation for further partnership –
- Funding from OSIEA for one year (TZS 50,000,000)