



ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (High Level)

2023





# ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT-2023 (High Level)

#### Prepared by:

The Secretariat-Women Fund Tanzania (WFT)
Empowering Local Women Heroes

www.wft.or.tz



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# **ACRONYMS**



**AMs-**Annual Meetings

**AWDF-**African Women Development Fund

**BGMSC-**Grants Selection and Management Committee

**BODABODA**-Motorcycle taxi

C4C- Citizen for Change

**DMF-** Doris Mollel Foundation

**FGDs-**Focus Group Discussions

**GBV-**Gender-Based Violence

**KII-**Key Informant Interviews

**LGA-**Local Government Authority

MNS- Mental Health and Neurological Disorders

NGO- Non-Governmental Organization

PCCB- Prevention and Control of Corruption (Act, CAP 329)

RITA- Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency

SALESFORCE- A customer relationship management (CRM) platform

**SRHR-** Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

**SUJITA-** Shirika la Usawa wa Kijinsia Tanzania

**TAWIDO-**Tanzania Women in Development Organization

TAI- Thubutu Africa Initiative

**TPO-** Tanzania Philanthropic Organization

**VAWC-** Violence Against Women and Children

**VICOBA-** Village Community Banks

**WAJIKI-** Women and Youth Rights Conservation Initiative

WEADO- Women, Elderly, Advocacy and Development Organization

WFT-T- Women Fund Tanzania Trust

WFT-T- Women's Foundation for Transformation and Transformation

WCEL- Women's Coalition for Electoral Leadership

YWL- Young Women Leadership

## Stories from the field



"As an individual and a man, I have seen that the more we example, during the 2022/2023 population census, women and girls were asked for sexual corruption to be given temporary jobs... we thought this was more serious than we thought because it touches almost every aspect of women and girl's lives and experiences...then we decided to make it



"I think this process has helped us to learn from each other; for example, we know that young people use social media a lot, while our senior sister brings in the traditional approaches of using media, so we combine our approaches. For example, young people love social media and use it often; frankly, we think technologically compared to our senior sisters. But they also have ways of mobilizing and bringing people together, defining the agenda and bringing ownership of all members, ensuring everyone has the same level of importance in the movement. When we combine these, we are unstoppable





"Up to now, 159 domestic workers and their contracts; (80 in Bagamoyo, 35 in Morogoro, 30 in Musoma and 14 in Mwanza). Along with signing of the employment contracts, domestic workers are also conducting door-to-door sessions to empower colleagues and their employers with information on



We as a group are now aware of the violence against children, we as a group are now aware or the violence against children, and we have decided to lead the movement to end violence against children. We are engaging with safety desks and junior council members in schools to discuss the situation of children in terms of violence. Our focus is ensuring children are free and open about abuse, tell their stories about their experiences, and the community is supportive of victims to the point where they are no longer setapend or forced to hide the point where they are no longer ashamed or forced to hide the abuse for fear of being shamed."

#### Rehema Kenerd, A peer activist at Puni-YAWE SHINYANGA

'We are now close to 29 members who are engaged in the tomato value chain. I recently attended training in the United States of America and showcased our products. We have customers from many regions in the country. We are now not only focusing on the potato business but addressing other issues of importance to us as women such as gender-based violence including sexual and physical violence. Our group has created a safe environment to address these issues with our limited understanding of gender





"Our line of work is very difficult, and feeling alone makes it even harder... so I'm happy that I have other sisters who are in the same working environment as me, they understand my story. That's one of the reasons I enjoy being part of the network."



marital/relationship repairer, and yet I am looked at as an immoral being, a-good- for-nothing creature, and a source of moral decay. It's very interesting, and I think these conversations about bodily autonomy, wellness, and well-being are important, they ground us to look into what matters more than anything else."



"To date, through HER Initiative, a total of 3,054 adolescents, youth, and women, have been impacted, reaching over 45,524 viewers through online platforms. Animations serve as effective and inclusive educational tools, transforming abstract concepts into tangible and relatable experiences. Visual stimuli evoke emotional responses, contributing to lasting memories. Furthermore, the digital format enables easy dissemination of knowledge in today's digital







# **STORIES FROM THE FIELD**



Supporting inter-generational initiatives, combining efforts, and strengthening the movement beyond Dar es Salaam is important for learning and strengthening regional-based campaigns and collective advocacy.



# Rose Njiro -MIMUTIE

"One of the things I'm proud of the movement is how it also brought to light the regional movement on national platforms. For us outside Dar Es Salaam, we are used to always coming to Dar for national-level advocacy because Dar is almost national, I guess. But with the funding, we had our sisters come, for example to Loliondo which helped to raise our morale and we saw our girls getting so excited telling their stories to other sisters outside Loliondo...Just seeing new people was more than enough. And to me, that's the magic of the movement...bringing the light on each other"

Empowering Tanzanian Youth for a Brighter Future Amidst the backdrop of Tanzania's challenging unemployment landscape, the Youth Employability Boot Camp, initiated by Her Initiative in collaboration with KaziConnect, stands as a beacon of success and transformation. This multifaceted program, designed to equip young graduates with essential skills for the job market, has yielded notable success stories, illuminating the path toward a brighter future for Tanzanian youth.



#### Winifrida Alute

-Boot Camp participant

"I am grateful for the transformative experience I gained through the Youth Employability Boot Camp conducted by Her Initiative. Initially, crafting a compelling CV seemed like an impossible task, but the guidance and the program provided equipped me with the necessary skills. Moreover, my self-confidence during interviews have also improved, there's a lot of transformational changes I see in how I conduct myself. The boot camp not only shaped and improved my ability to articulate responses with clarity but also instilled a newfound sense of organization in addressing interview questions"



# **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

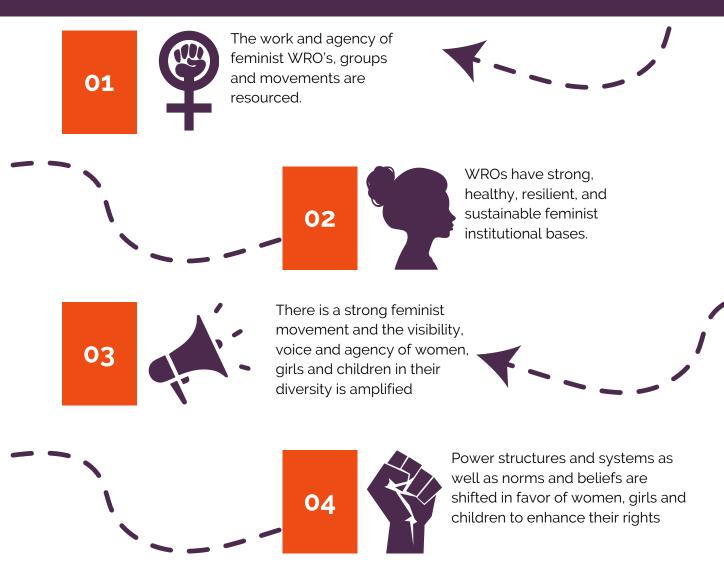
Women Fund Tanzania-Trust is the first and only feminist women's rights fund in Tanzania, and the second of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa. As it stands to date, WFT-Trust is part of a global community of over 40 feminist women's funds, working collectively to effect a paradigm shift on the funding and philanthropic agenda and leveraging a transformational change agenda to women's and girls' rights and empowerment.

Built on this foundation, our 'Herstory' has deep roots in both the organized women's movement and also in recognition of the informal ways in which women have been able to uplift and embolden themselves and their communities for more decades than they can count. WFT-Trust's role is to provide an empowering funding mechanism for women and girls, especially those grassroots-based in Tanzania that prioritize the issues that are of importance to their lives, and those that advance their enjoyment of human rights through collective voices and action drawing on diverse, inclusive, and intersectional women movements.

WFT Trust carries out its mandate through a two-pronged approach that includes innovative accompaniment & participatory grant-making and strategic alliance and partnership building. In addition to grant-making, WFT Trust targets and links grassroots WROs with national-level organizations to create mutually reinforcing movement-building processes that amplify women's voices and contribute to building a more equal and just Tanzanian society. This approach has ignited conversations and narratives on how Women's Rights Organization is funded in Tanzania.



The 2023 Annual Implementation Report presents major milestones, achievements, challenges, and lessons learned in the implementation of WFT Trust's annual work plan 2022 and the overall milestones in realizing the key outcome areas:





# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

In the year 2023 WFT-T continued to deepen its work to ensure the intended outcomes are realized, to ensure this, WFT-T implemented different initiatives across the five implementation strategies namely; Grant Making and Management, Capabilities strengthening and learning, Strengthening the feminist and children's movement, Resource Mobilization, and Strengthening and sustaining a healthy and growing women's right as detailed below;

01



#### **Grant making and management**

WFT-T continued to make the fund accessible to WROs and movement actors, women groups, and individual, and individual women at the local level contributing to enhanced capacity and better- equipped stakeholders to protect and promote women's rights.

#### Capabilities strengthening and Learning

For the year 2023, WFT continued to strengthen- the capabilities of women's rights organizations and other social justice movements through mentorship, shared learning and trainings that supports ideological clarity on feminism, movement building, activism and promotion of viability, sustainability, leadership, and effective institutions whose work is collaborative and visibly contributes towards transformative changes in society.



03



#### Strengthening the feminist and children's movement

WFT-T focus continued to be strengthening the movement and building strategic alliances and links between women's rights organizations and women's movement (s) in Tanzania and beyond for collective action in achieving women's rights.

#### **Resource Mobilization**

WFT-T as part of its commitment continued to mobilize resources locally, regionally, and internationally, supporting the protection and promotion of the women's rights and feminist movement building in Tanzania.



05



# Strengthening and sustaining a healthy and growing women's Trust Fund

WFT-T maintained and continuously improved a healthy and sustainable organizational base for realizing and delivering on WFT's vision and mission and for delivering on WFT-T's mandate.

### Outcome 1:

# The work and agency of feminist WROs, groups and movements are resourced

In the year 2023, WFT continued its commitment to ensure WROs, grassroots groups, women and children's movements are innovatively resourced to deliver on their mandates as well as building capacity and sustainability of these organizations. Funding and capacity building are important components to build, strengthen, and sustain movements, and therefore WFT has continued to invest in these areas as well as providing learning spaces and platforms for its grantees and partners.

### **Capacity Strengthening:**



WFT-Trust believes in its grantees' strength to grow and become resilient, and therefore facilitated multiple training to strengthen grantees and partners' transformative feminist ideological and conceptual clarity. In collaboration with the SRHR coalition, CWCEL and Anti-sextortion, 15 inter-sectional and transformative Feminist training and dialogues were supported. In addition, 5100 were trained on feminism, gender-based violence, and sextortion. These training and dialogues focused on bridging capacity gaps of stakeholders on policy analysis, feminism and feminist principles, systems, and laws to effectively influence public discourses.



No. of supported feminist training and dialogues

### Deepened intersectional advocacy strategies



A total of 570 (female 341 male 229) shared their experiences, and identified strategies that intersect and connect to their respective working agenda

Partners continued to undertake joint intersectional advocacy activities at the community level. eg Kipunguni combined women's economic empowerment, Agriculture, and Gender-based violence as intersecting issues, Sauti ya Wanawake Ukerewe (SAWAU) advocated for environmental justice and gender-based violence focusing on sexual violence particularly sextortion and other forms of gender-based violence.



No. Of engaged partcipants

### **Collective Campaigning and Advocacy:**

С

More than 30 member organizations joined Msichana Initiatives, TECMNE, and other WROs for the online campaign against child marriage and the marriage law reform. Her Initiative, organized a PANDA event to address discourses around feminist funding and promoting effective participation of young women entrepreneurs in digital technology.

Organizations such as SUKITA, TABATA Women TAPO, WiLDAF, Kipunguni, Door of Hope, Wote Sawa, and TGNP conducted training on feminism, gender-based violence, and sextortion to 1700 students, radio producers, football teams, and market women groups.

Facilitated WROs and grantees (Financially& technically) to participate in local and national events, including International Women's Day 2023.

Connected WROs to funding opportunities such women Funds and donors through the 15th year anniversary festive platform . More than 15 WROs were recommended for funds,( Women Rights Defenders, Her Initiatives, KINARA, SUKITA, WOTE SAWA, TAWIDO, MIMUTIE, and YAWE)

30



No. of organisations engaged during online campaign against child marriage and the marriage law reform



No. of students reached during training on feminism, gender-based violence, and sextortion

5,100



Photo: The Anti-Sextortion Coalition addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam, @WFT-T

### **Strengthened Accompaniment Support:**



WFT-Trust has continued to deepen our implementation strategies in this area, In the period under reporting we have continued to support WROs through mentorship to the following organizations:



Continued to support WROs through mentorship programme. 90 young women directors were capacitated through leadership mentorship 01 programme supported by WFT-T through WILDAF



feminist programming

02

04

06

07

Continued to strengthen and support the emerging Shinyanga EVAWC working group efforts in advancing women's and children's rights by offering technical and financial support and linking the group to emerging spaces. Through their collective organizing and collaborations, a total of 97 VAWC cases were reported and attended through referral systems. Among these cases, 51 cases have been concluded and the criminal offenders have been convicted, while 46 cases are still at the hearing stage. Out of these 9 cases were criminal cases,



Equality for growth through Women Champions conducted in market GBV and women rights campaign to 44222(28145f, 16077m) traders in 15 03 markets of Dar-Es-Salaam. This led to increasing awareness of GBV, sextortion, and its negative impact.



63 GBV cases have been reported by women traders from August 2022 to January 2023. Out of these 42 were psychological/use of abusive language, economic violence (11), sexual violence(2 and civil(8). Out of 63 cases, 57 were resolved and 6 were referred to different authorities.



Anti-GBV Guideline developed by Equality for Growth has been adopted by the Ministry of Community Development, Gender Women, and Special 05 Groups (CDGWSG) as the National Ending GBV/VAW guideline.



Systems and structures supporting the prevention of sextortion in Universities have been strengthened eg in UDSM commitments have been secured to increase resources for addressing GBV and sextortion.

been reported

#### Collective campaigning

- The children's coalition in collaboration with other activists coordinated by Msichana Initiative released a press statement demanding men be removed from the new NPA as victims of genderbased violence. The press release and media interviews as well as meetings in Dodoma led to the government through the Ministry to recall the process to remove men as victims. That was one of the achievements proving the power of collective voicing.
- The campaign's key success is its ongoing advocacy against the government's proposal to amend Section 25 of the PCCB Act. The proposed sub-section holds sextortion survivors equally accountable, a stance vehemently opposed by the coalition. By campaigning against this, the coalition has highlighted the importance of a victimcentered approach to combating sexual corruption, as a result, the process has temporarily halted following the challenge.

#### **Feminist TOTs:**



The TOTs have continued to use community radios to carry out dialogues on feminism and the contribution in understanding patriarchal values and norms eg. Mara community and Shinyanga

### Funding Applications received in 2023:

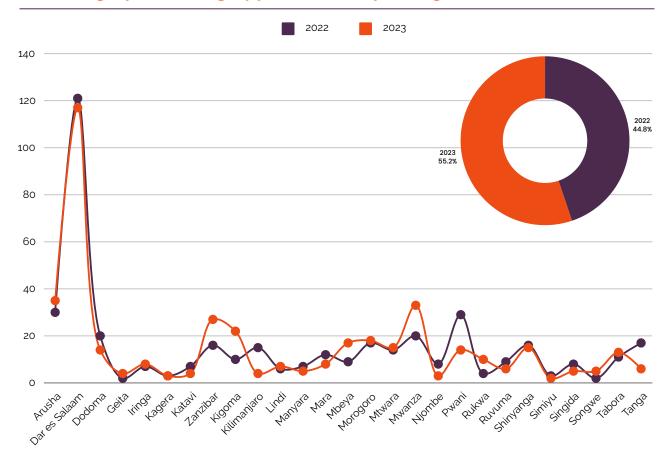


In 2023, a total of 420 applications were received from 27 regions and across 13 thematic areas which were GBV, economic justice, SRHR, elections &leadership, environmental justice, movement building, arts& culture, research documentation, education rights, EVAC, mental healthy, migrant rights and practical needs.

Out of 420 reviewed applications, 65% were first-time applicants, which is an increase from the year 2022.

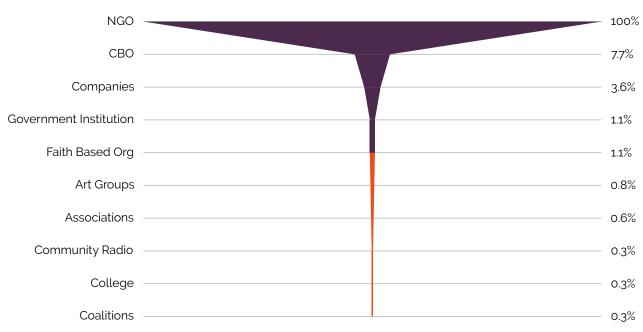
Among the 420 applicants, Medium window constituted 44% of all applications, followed by the Large window 30% (128), and Small Grants, which constituted 25% (105) Subventions, which accounted for only 1%.

#### A graph showing Applications as per Regions 2022 vs 2023



Graph: A graph showing Applications as per Regions 2022 vs 2023 ©WFT-T

#### A graph showing Nature of the Organizations Applied 2023



**Graph:** A graph showing Nature of the Organizations Applied ©WFT-T





# Outcome 2:

WFT Trust and WROs have strong, healthy resilient, and sustainable feminist institutional bases

# WFT-Trust institutional and organizational capacity enhancement:



Continued to strengthen and deepen its mandate as a movement builder and a thought leader in the use of feminist approaches for collective voice and organizing. For example, the training on SRHR and feminism has helped to amplify women's rights in SRHR.

Enhancing the conceptual understanding on feminist agendas, principles, and approaches in strengthening the agency, voice, and visibility of women, girls, and children. For example, Doris Mollel Foundation work on the SRHR Coalition has led to improved newborn care through the campaign for the extension of maternity health leave and improved healthcare.

The Ending Child Marriage Network conducted several interventions focusing on the Amendment of the Law of Marriage Act of 1971. This included national dialogues, position papers, and parliamentary engagement with parliamentary committees.

### **Sustaining the Feminist Agenda:**

P

Continued to provide thought leadership, technical, and financial support to its grantees and the coalition actors to strengthen collective voicing and ensure that the transformative African Feminist agenda is articulated, the gains are protected, sustained, and shared using social media handles, website, and IEC materials

01

To date 90/132 supported WROs reports are using best practices governance and management practices whereas 50/132 demonstrate positive feminist consciousness.

02

63.6% of grantees reports greater reach of programmes. 102/132 sampled WROs reported meeting objectives and targets as per their annual plan.



03

Supported 10 WROs with tools to incorporate feminist approaches in their agendas. There are an increasing number of institutions currently championing feminist advocacy agenda such as Door of Hope in Mtwara, Uongozi Institute, and MIMUTIE through their safe house response. Sauti ya Wanawake Ukerewe using the intersectionality approach to address climate justice and gender-based violence in Ukerewe, and other community-based organizations who are conducting joint advocacy to address gender-based violence and learning platforms for collective change.

No. of WROs supported with tools to incorporate feminist approaches in their agendas



To improve WFT-T's visibility in communicating its work the following actions were implemented. Hired a communication officer to strengthen its communication unit and launched a new website during the 15-year celebration. This has made easier for grantees to access information as well as read about their work and stories shared through the website.

04

The website is also used as a learning platform for grantees to better understand transformative feminist approaches and principles. WFT-T's presence on social media is also being felt by both the grantees and partners, the platforms are also being used by grantees and movement actors for campaigning and advocacy.



# Grantees/partners' institutional support and sustainability:





01

21

No. of Session conducted throug grantees induction meeting Continued to support its grantees with both financial and non-financial support through enhancing their financial management skills and practices. This resulted in enhancing grantees' and coalition members' understanding of transformative feminist approaches and how to incorporate them in the analysis of issues and interventions. Also, 40% of the grantees, including those implemented in the sexual reproductive rights area, graduated from the small grants window (with a cap of 15 million) to the medium window, and their understanding of the feminist agenda, principles, and approaches were enhanced.

Improved quality of reports and proposals writing skills as evidenced by those submitted to WFT-Trust. WFT-T received more than 15 letters from other funders to recommend funding

35% of WROs feel competent in designing programs, making a cumulative of 65% which is up from 58% in the last reporting period.

There is a 67 % increase in the percentage of WROs who have demonstrated competency in implementing programs from 43 % in the last cumulative report to 78% in the current reporting period. Eg,Umoja wa wasafirishaji wa Abiria Mikoani implemented a sextortion project in the transportation sector.



### **Connecting WROs to funding opportunities:**



Recommended more than 15 women's rights organizations to regional feminist funders around Africa and beyond. Out of these, six(6)organisations secured funding from UAF, AWDF, UNWOMEN, PROSPERA and Global Funds for Women. More than 8 grantees and partners were connected with esteemed, potential, and major funders.

Supporting grantee partners' learning and sharing events eg individual activists to participate in the learning and strategic platforms that influence local and national level advocacy.

17 movement actors were supported to attend national level events including IWD organised by UNWomen in collaboration with government and Shivyawata in Arusha



Recommended women rights organizations to regional feminist funders around Africa and beyond.



Women rights organizations secured funding from UAF, AWDF, UNWOMEN, PROSPERA and Global Funds for Women.

# Strengthening the viability of local women's rights organizations:

Ε

Through strengthening the visibility of WROs and the coalition's work, grantees such as Light for Domestic Workers, WAJIKI, Msichana Initiative, KINARA, and Door of Hope have continued to strengthen their organizational structures ensuring that they have a functioning board of directors as well as conducting Annual General meetings as required.

Continued funding intergenerational dialogues such as those coordinated by the grantee and coalition members during the 15-year commemoration of WFT-T, the gender festival, Day of a Girl Child, and other regional and international events where coalition members took the lead in the number of WROs seeking funding beyond WFT-Trust.



# Outcome 3:

There is a strong feminist movement and visibility, voice and agency of women, girls and children in their diversity is amplified.

#### Feminist movement building and Collective action: Strengthening Intergenerational, Inclusivity, and Intersectional Feminist Approaches for Feminist movement building in Tanzania:



WFT-Trust's funding through the intergenerational approach brings in young, mid, and older feminists to exchange knowledge, revisit history, and add new knowledge and experience from the young feminists in the country. For example, MSICHANA Initiative's role of Young Feminists in Promoting Children and Women's Rights Agenda, "The National Campaign on Ending Early Marriage in Tanzania" funded by WFT-Trust, is a platform for intergenerational dialogue aimed at sharing knowledge and experiences among and within the different generations in the women and girls' movements.

Supported expanding the movement to other regions beyond Dar es Salaam to combine with organizations for learning and strengthening regional-based campaigns

Collaborated with TAMWA to amplify women's rights issues such as women's leadership, girl child education, campaign against the marriage law, and sextortion.

The media fraternity infuses the feminist agenda in different platforms, such as during 16 days of activism, the World Press Free Day, and radio/TV and social media programs to discuss current/emerging women's rights issues. For example, a statement from KII, through TAMWA's connection, most social media, and international media houses like DW, BBC, and Voice of America picked the issue of child marriage using voices and experiences from Tanzania.



#### Lucy Gidamis -coalition member

"I think this process has helped us to learn from each other; for example, we know that young sister brings in the traditional approaches of using media, so we combine our approaches. For example, young people love social media have ways of mobilizing and bringing people together, defining the agenda and bringing ownership of all members, ensuring everyone movement. When we combine these, we are



Photo: Feminist movement building and Collective action ©WFT-T





# Rose Njilo -MIMUTIE

"One of the things I'm proud of about the movement, is how it also brought to light the regional movement on national platforms. For us outside Dar Es Salaam, we are used to always coming to Dar for national-level advocacy because Dar is almost national, I guess. But with the funding, we had our sisters come, for example to Loliondo which helped to raise our morale and we saw our girls getting so excited telling their stories to other sisters outside Loliondo...Just seeing new people was more than enough. And to me, that's the magic of the movement...bringing the light on each other"



Photo: School Outreach activities in secondary schools ©WFT-T

# In the year 2023, WFT-Trust has continued to strengthen its own institutional base as a prerequisite to strengthening the institutional bases of WROs which ultimately contribute to forming a stronger women's movement.

В

In coordination with the Doris Mollel Foundation, organized a training event involving various stakeholders including members of the SRHR coalition. These events and training strengthened coalition members' understanding of the agenda from the feminist perspective.

Similar events have been conducted for other coalitions such as the anti-sextortion to address the additional section 25 that proposed for victims of sextortion to be implicated the same as perpetrators.

In collaboration with other networks Women, Constitution, Election, and leadership Coalition analysed different issues of public interest such as DP World and produced a position paper.

# Women's Constitution, Election, and Leadership Rights Coalition:

С

The Women's Constitution, Election, and Leadership coalition's focus is to demand the voice and representation of women in leadership spaces, including Parliament, Local Councils, Political Parties, and Public offices, both at local and national levels. Drafted different position papers for advocacy while planning a coalition convening to bring all members to the table for strategizing.



No. Of cross-member organizations members of Women's Constitution, Election, and Leadership coalition's



Scan here to read different position papers for advocacy



### **The Anti-Sextortion Campaign**

D

**Breaking the Silence on Sexual Corruption:** WFT-Trust has continued to fund the ongoing advocacy work on sexual corruption campaigns and engage with other coalition actors to make this campaign central. To that end, WFT-Trust has continued to fund WROs who are part of the Anti-Sexual Corruption Coalition which has led to.

01

#### **The Anti-Sextortion Coalition**

Continued to fund the ongoing advocacy work on sexual corruption campaign and engage with other coalition actors to make this campaign central.

The Anti-Sextortion Coalition broadened its membership base which started with 142 members and now has 166 member organizations and individual women and girl activists spread across the country.



142

02

No. of Anti-Sextortio

116

member organizations and individual women and girl activists spread across the country



Scan here to read sexual sextortion. & corruption

Building capacities, strengthening movement, and solidarity

Supported individual activists to participate in the learning and strategic platforms that influence local and national level advocacy particularly the current anti-sextortion campaign against the PCCB law which intends to criminalize the perpetrators as well as the victims of sextortion.



#### National level events

03

17 movement actors were supported to attend national level events including International Women's' Day organized by UN WOMEN in collaboration with the government, SHIVYAWATA in Arusha; The International Albinism Day which was commemorated in Ruvuma; and Anti- Corruption Day conducted in Arusha and Dodoma.

04

#### **Sextortion and Women Political Leadership Coalitions**

Two Coalitions (Sextortion and Women Political Leadership) through joint organizing and campaigning which is important given the intersectionality of the agenda, have helped ensure voices are amplified and relevant authorities are taking note and acting on some of the raised issues eg adding women as victims of GBV in the NPA-VAWC.

Through media campaign messages, reached a broader section of citizens eg school girls, members of community women entrepreneurs, and policy makers.



#### Changing narratives and public discourses around sextortion

Changing narratives and public discourses around sextortion (and attitude change), through media campaigns messages have reached a broader section of the citizens such as school children, especially girls, members of community at grassroots level, women entrepreneurs, and policy makers.

For example, 6 WROs with funding from WFT-Trust have programs at community level that are working to promote dialogues and organize women, girls, and other actors to build a better understanding of the gendered and exploitative nature of sextortion and on how to address it within their contexts. Examples include Sauti ya Jamii Kipunguni and TIWO who have cascaded the campaign to their wards. This is an important intervention because it enhances deeper understanding.





# No. of WROs have programs at community level



# Convenorship for feminist agenda articulation and strategizing:

E

The government, through the Ministry for Gender, revised the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children II(NPA-VAWC II) and added men as victims of gender-based violence; the coalition immediately issued a press release. It worked with the media to campaign against men being added as victims, with no research to back up the narrative.

The coalition also viewed the move as undermining the gains to address gender-based violence where women, girls, and children are the ones victimized the most. The coalition members used traditional and social media as well as meeting with decision-makers in Dodoma.

Those efforts slowed the motion, and the ministry is now reworking the NPA-VAWC II. Community-based grantees were also involved in the national efforts where they travelled to Dodoma to participate in the meeting and presented the voices from the community and girls, which helped in having the government rethink its strategy and bring the conversation back to the drawing board.

These achievements demonstrate the strength of movement and collective voices towards an agenda. WFT-T throughout all these efforts continues to provide thought leadership, supporting intersectional movement agenda, and diverse groups, voices, and geographical set up to ensure the movement brings in all experiences.



#### Women's events and Festivities:

F

WFT Trust continued to play an active role as a thought leader in the 2023 celebration collaborating with other organizations to bring together an even larger group of over 205 women, young women, people with disabilities, and others from different women's rights movement sectors.

New emerging issues have been brought into the light, for example having voices from barmaids and other marginalized nontraditional groups to the movement. Besides WFT-Trust's national-level IWD convenings, upcountry-based grantees utilized this space for networking and learning from each other, such as Simba Footprint Foundation in Kilimanjaro and 12 other NGOs, private sectors, government offices, and various women from the 21 wards of Moshi Municipality celebrated International Women's Day by organizing events that brought in more than 5000 women to address sexual abuse issues and reporting mechanisms.





"As a barmaid, sometimes we don't even know initiatives like these exist because no one thinks of us as women with issues like other women, we are kind of distant cousins of some sort. Seeing us and our voices come through with no discrimination is something we are happy and excited about."



### **WFT-Trust 15 years Celebration:**

G

The WFT-T celebrations took place in a context of hope and progress as the country's political landscape continues to be empowering and accommodating to the diverse voices of the civil society community, and political parties. Public participation in political debates and WROs' voices interrogating the discriminative patriarchal system, laws and practices are 3 indicators of a growing space for all actors to influence transformative change where gender equality is upheld. However, the pace is gradual as the country emerges from a period of restrictive laws and practices that deepened fear and silenced progressive voices.

The celebration offered the platform for more than 400 people attended the celebrations at the University of Dar es Salaam New Library Conference Hall representing WROs, WFT-T grantees, partners, CSOs, financial institutions, private companies, individuals from different regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, development partners and likeminded organizations from Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Ghana, and the Netherlands as well as coalitions and movement actors to reflect on the 15 years of Fund's journey and its role in resourcing local women heroes. Together the actors acknowledged progress, discussed lessons, and identified opportunities to expand their work as well as draw strategies for the next 50 years and beyond. The celebrations echoed women's voices and experiences in critical areas that needed urgent policy action. The event provided a forum for feminists to reinforce commitment towards strengthening the women's movement in the country. The event was opened by Prof. Penina Mlama on behalf of the WFT Board chair while the Guest of Honor was Theo Sowa.



The event's specific objectives were:

- Profile WFT-T's existence as a unique fund guided by feminist principles of grant-making and explore new opportunities to build and strengthen the Fund.
- Engage and promote a progressive dialogue with WFT-T partners, grantees, development agencies, women rights organizations (WROs), and private sector to seek ways to solicit ideas and support for WROs.
- Draw lessons from WROs and others' experiences in the journey of transformative feminist movement, especially in women's and girls' empowerment
- Strengthen and build a broader constituency and movement to inspire feminist consciousness and inspire other civic and non-civic actors to understand the role of feminist funds.



No. of Attendees during WFT-Trust 15 years Celebration:



# 15 Years of Empowering Local Women Sheroes



3,941,423

Social Media Reach

60,520

**Blogs Reach** 





16,574,107

Digital Impression



Reach

2,500

User Generated Content





12

Digital Media Mention 62,338

Sponsored Ads





Women Fund Tanzania Trust @WomenFund\_TZ - Feb\_24

"Despite bilateral institutions directing most of their funds in women's organizations, only 1% goes to support women's work, (AWID). Adoption of feminist policies such as FAP by bilateral institutions like Canada as promoted resourcing WROs to 7%.

- Ms. Theo Sowa, G.O.H.



Women Fund Tanzania Trust @WomenFund\_TZ - Feb 24

"It has truly been inspiring to see how the @Womenfund\_TZ has been able to grow from strength to strength ensuring women's human rights & voices are contributing in all of the policies that are important in Tanzania."

- Ms. Hodan Addou, UN Women — Country representative.



Women Fund Tanzania Trust ⊕WomenFund TZ - Feb 24

\*Ruzuku hapa nchini hazijawafikia bado wenawake. Ruzuku hizi zikija
nchini katika asasi za kirala bado ni ndogo. Na pesa hizo haziendi kwa
wanawake, hasa wanawake wa chini.\*

- Many Rusimbi, Mwanzilishi ⊕WomenFund 1Z

#Miakat5MfukowaWanawal



Women Fund Tanzania Trust @WomenFund\_TZ - Feb 24 ""
Milongoni mwa jitihada zinazofanywa na benki yetu ya CROB ili
kunikomboa mwanankwa ni pamoja na kubuan bidhaa na huduma
mbalimbali za kifedha maalumu kwa ajili ya wanawake, ikiwemo huduma
ya akiba na mikopo."
- Nuru Katafi, Mwakilishi wa Mkurugenzi Mkuu @CROBBlankPic



# **Outcome 4:**

Power structures and systems, as well as norms and beliefs, are shifted in favor of women's, girls, and children's rights

# Changing narratives through online engagement-Vavagaa curiosity:

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Changing narratives through online engagement: Vavagaa curiosity: The Vavagaa platform attempts to bring on board the expressions of women and men from all walks of life on how they experience and position themselves in the quest to dismantle patriarchy and intersecting forms of oppression (or otherwise).

The lived experiences of (mostly underprivileged) women and men and their struggles against slavery, colonialism, independence struggles, and contradictions of early and later years of independence, neo-colonialism, and currently neo-liberalism are yet to be told from their perspectives. Therefore, to leverage the power of digital media, SOMA has invested in the use of social media to connect with its key stakeholders and the wider community through hosting programs on its platform.

The Vavagaa has become a go-to space for hot debates that shape feminist discourses and promote free-thinking dialogues that not only demystify stereotypes but also challenge attitudes and disrupt discourses that objectify women and perpetuate a culture of male dominance in different spheres of life. The resultant spillover effect has been a critical mass of proponents who clash on any given subject and thus create learning, re-learning, and unlearning.

### Demere Kitunga -Soma

"Vavagaa, at its heart, is a feminist revolutionary platform that does not shy away from bringing to lightsensitive issues and experiences of women, girls, people with disability, and other non-traditional groups. We receive many messages from community members attending platforms both online and offline saying how the program is a breath of fresh air to feminist conversations in the country. For example, issues of sexuality and aging, rape, women's economic contribution, mental health, marriage, and religious institutions, and women's well-being from a raw feminist perspective are important"



### **Policy and Legal Frameworks:**



Scan here to read papers for advocacy

To ensure effective influencing of the legal framework and policies, movement actors have continued to use platforms and spaces within the movement-led coalitions to conduct policy analysis develop position papers and shared with respective stakeholders for advocacy purposes.

These include a constitutional reform review highlighting key issues as well as emerging issues of importance for women, girls, and other groups; a position paper and press release to influence public discourse on the miss conception of the inclusion of "MEN" as the target group in the NPA-VAWC phase II, as a result of the collective voicing, thus the government finally removed that proposal from the table. On the other hand, anti-sextortion developed a position paper to influence proposed amendments of section 25 (2) which criminalize the perpetrator and victims of sextortion.

The coalition jointly issued a statement pushing the government to remove those specific provisions. In addition, the advocacy for the extension of maternal leave has been very collaborative and has involved over 100 movement actors in the formation of the SRHR Coalition. Other coalitions such as Women's Constitution, Election, Political Participation and Leadership Coalition also took part in collaboration with other cross-movement actors to engage in the process of consultations and collective actions with different advocacy interventions around several key issues around women's rights and gender equality in the period under reporting.

During this reporting period at the national level advocacy, the coalitions continued with the initiative on collective organizing, strategizing and actively engaging in public campaigns, advocacy meetings, documentation of position papers and disseminations of communique to address systems, structures and legal framework that perpetuates VAWC in Tanzania.



# Campaign against the Law of Marriage Act of 1971:

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Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN), for example, teamed up with other sisters from the feminist movement to advocate for marriage law reforms. The platform came up with position papers that were used during media press conferences and social media campaigns to gain traction and gather support from all citizens.

One of the key achievements of the campaign was the heat it created, leading to religious leaders coming up with a statement to support the existing law of marriage that allows girls as young as 14 to get married with parental consent.

For feminist and movement actors, that heat was a sign the campaign was being taken seriously. With new trends of events by the government and its silence on the review process and the bill to be tabled during the parliamentary session of October, the coalition has continued to push for the bill to be tabled, pushing back against narratives that support the current law, and ensuring girls stories and experiences are shared frequently and consistently. The current social media hashtag #nizamuyawabunge aims at holding members of parliament accountable.

# #nizamuyawabunge



Wadau wa haki za wasichana leo tumekutana kujadili kuhusu mafanikio na changamoto tulizokutana nazo kupitia mradi wetu wa Kutomeza Ndoa za Utotoni. #NiZamuYaWabunge #NdoZaUtotoni



Photo: A twitter snapshot of #nizamuyawabunge campaign and workshops @Msichana Initiative

# LESSONS LEARNT



#### Community engagement and ownership:

Projects that actively involve communities in their design and implementation are more likely to be sustainable and have longlasting impacts. When communities feel a sense of ownership over a project, they are more motivated to actively participate, contribute their knowledge and resources, and take responsibility for its success.





#### **Engaging LGAs:**

Collaborating with LGAs can greatly enhance the reach and effectiveness of projects, especially when targeting specific groups such as women entrepreneurs. By working closely with LGAs, project implementers can tap into existing networks and resources, leverage their influence, and mobilize support from various stakeholders within the community.



#### Solidarity and safe spaces:

Building solidarity among individuals and providing safe spaces for dialogue and collaboration are crucial for fostering confidence and empowerment. When people feel supported and validated within a safe environment, they are more likely to express themselves, share their experiences, and actively participate in collective efforts toward social change.



#### Joint efforts and collective voice:

Joint efforts and collective voice: Working together as a united front makes it easier to hold the government accountable for addressing women's issues and implementing necessary changes. By developing joint strategies and amplifying their collective voice, activists can advocate for policy reforms, demand justice, and create a stronger impact than they would individually



# **ACTION TAKEN**



WFT-Trust in collaboration with global and regional women funds platforms, continues to work with platforms such as PROSPERA and Women Deliver to influence funding ideologies to "decolonize" funding. Through building cases for funding women's funds through empowering grants and by focusing on core funding instead of activity-based funding.

This approach will enhance WFs resilience initiatives as well. Another action is the training provided to WROs to enhance their strategic thinking with respect to financial resilience. One way of doing this is to start a reserve fund for short to medium term cash flow assurance and establish an endowment fund, which can help WROs diversify their sources of funding and income.

Furthermore, WFT-Trust continues to provide thought leadership in amplifying the need for WROs to start addressing resilience as a programming paradigm that needs to be addressed from the project planning stage. Also, through grant making, nurture the sustainability necessary for growth.



# FINANCIAL STATUS AND BUDGET



During the period of under-reporting, the WFT Trust has been focusing on strengthening its resilience through sustainability planning. One of the key aspects of this effort has been institutional capacity enhancement, which involves investing in systems and processes to improve productivity and efficiency.

Having well-defined terms and conditions is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the management of the fund. Furthermore, the report mentioned the operationalization of the WFT Trust's endowment fund which is still in process. An endowment fund is a long-term investment vehicle, where the principal amount is kept intact, and only the income or a small portion of the returns is used to support the organization's operations. By operationalizing this endowment fund, WFT Trust ensures a sustainable source of income for its operations in the long run.

Another critical aspect of WFT Trust's resilience-building strategy is the establishment of a robust risk management framework. This framework has been developed to identify and mitigate potential risks that could affect the organization's financial stability and overall operations. By implementing a comprehensive risk management system, the WFT Trust can better protect its assets and make informed decisions to safeguard the endowment fund and future investments.

Overall, these measures indicate that the WFT Trust is taking strategic steps to improve its financial management, risk mitigation, and overall resilience. By enhancing institutional capacity and implementing effective processes and systems, the organization is better equipped to fulfill its mission and serve its beneficiaries over the long term.









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