



The 2022 Annual Report





TANZANIA HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS COALITION (THRDC)

The 2022 Annual Report

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022



Prepared By The THRDC Secretariat

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS | iv |
| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY..... | v |

Chapter One 1

| | |
|---|---|
| 1.0. INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1.1 Vision, Mission, and Values..... | 1 |
| 1.2 Goal and Outcomes..... | 2 |
| 1.3 Areas of operation..... | 2 |
| 1.4 THRDC MEMBERSHIP ZONATION | 3 |
| 1.5 THRDC MEMBERSHIP THEMATIC AREAS | 4 |

Chapter Two 5

| | |
|--|----|
| 2.0. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES AND MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022 | 5 |
| 2.1. MEMBERS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT | 5 |
| 2.1.1 Widened Membership base | 5 |
| 2.1.2. Strengthened and Institutionalized Zonal Coordinating Units..... | 6 |
| 2.1.3. Technical support to human rights organizations through physical visitation and member organizational capacity assessment and development. | 7 |
| 2.1.4. Amplified Members’ works and visibility..... | 8 |
| 2.1.5. Members’ satisfaction | 9 |
| 2.1.6. The 11 th Members Annual General Meeting held | 9 |
| 2.1.7. Challenges encountered under Members and Public engagement result area | 10 |
| 2.1.8. Lessons learned and adaptive measures..... | 10 |
| 2.1.9. Selected Stakeholders Testimonies | 10 |
| 2.2. PROTECTION AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM | 11 |
| 2.2.1. Intermediate Outcome 2.1. Protection Engagement, Advocacy and Research..... | 11 |
| 2.2.1.1 Research and publications as a Powerful Tool for advocacy..... | 12 |
| 2.2.1.2 Strategic Engagement for Recognition of HRDs, reforms, enactment of laws, frameworks, plans and policies related to HRDs..... | 17 |
| 2.2.1.3 Improved Policy Engagement and Advocacy at Regional and International human rights protection mechanism | 22 |
| 2.2.1.4 Sensitization of HRDs through open lectures at higher learning institutions, professional meetings such as TLS’ AGM,CLE, International human rights day. | 27 |
| 2.2.1.5 Participating in human rights exhibitions and awareness | 30 |
| 2.2.1.6 Recognition of Human Rights Defenders’ Work in Human Rights Protection and National Development Plans..... | 31 |
| 2.2.1.7 Running an Online Television (TV) ‘Watetezi TV/ Media..... | 31 |
| 2.2.1.8 Overall Achievements..... | 34 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 2.2.2. Intermediate Outcome 2.2: Protection Planning and Risk Management..... | 36 |
| 2.2.2.1 Orientation Seminar for New THRDC Members | 36 |
| 2.2.2.2 Sensitization of HRDs through open lectures at higher learning institutions | 36 |
| 2.2.3 Workshop with Members of the Judiciary (Judges) on Handling Public Interest Cases ... | 37 |
| 2.2.2.4 Empowerment session to Law Enforcement Officers on Handling of Human Rights, Gender Based Violence and Child Abuse Cases | 37 |
| 2.2.2.5 CSO Training on Best Practices for Widening Civic Space in Zanzibar | 38 |
| 2.2.2.6 Annual Retreat for Magistrates and Judges in Zanzibar | 38 |
| 2.2.2.7 Journalists’ Training on reporting human rights violations with special focus on proceedings..... | 39 |
| 2.2.2.8 Developing a Training Manual for the implementation of the Marrakesh Declaration on Women HRDs..... | 39 |
| 2.2.2.9 Overall Achievements | 39 |
| 2.2.2.10 Lessons learnt and adaptive measures | 40 |
| 2.2.3. Intermediate Outcome 2.3: Litigation, Emergency Support and Rescue..... | 41 |
| 1.2.3.1. Enhancing Protection of HRDs through Emergency Support | 42 |
| 1.2.3.2. Enhancing Protection of HRDs through Legal Assistance | 42 |
| 1.2.3.3. Strengthening intervention through documentation of incidents, Bills analysis and conducting fact finding missions..... | 49 |
| 2.2.3.4 Overall Achievements | 50 |
| 2.2.3.5 Overall Challenges..... | 51 |
| 2.2.3.6 Lessons Learnt and Way Forward..... | 51 |
| 2.3. COALITION BUILDING AND SUSTAINABILITY..... | 52 |
| 2.3.1 Interventions conducted under this Result Area | 52 |
| 2.3.2. Enhancement of Office working environment facilities | 59 |
| 2.3.3. THRDC Governance..... | 60 |
| 2.3.4. Monitoring and Evaluation | 60 |
| 2.3.5. Documented Achievements | 61 |
| 2.3.6. Challenges related to THRDC sustainability | 62 |
| 2.3.7. Way-forward | 62 |

Chapter Three 63

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 3.0. ANALYSIS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH PLANNED ACTIVITIES/ RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED..... | 63 |
|--|-----------|

Chapter Four 64

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 4.0. RISK, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATION | 64 |
| 4.0. RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2022 COALITION’S INTERVENTIONS..... | 64 |
| 4.2. LESSONS LEARNT..... | 64 |
| 4.3. RECOMMENDATIONS..... | 65 |

List of Abbreviations



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| AGM | Annual General Meeting |
| ANGOZA | Association of NGOs of Zanzibar |
| BRELA | Business Registration and Licensing Agency |
| EAC | East Africa Community |
| CSO | Civil Societies Organization |
| HRD | Human Rights Defenders |
| HRNGO's | Human Rights Non- Governmental Organization |
| NaCoNGO | National Council for Non-Governmental Organizations |
| SHTZ | Tanzania Peace and Legal Aid Justice |
| PO-RALGA | President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government Authority |
| PLAJC | Tanzania Peace, Legal Aid and Justice Centre |
| PEMCO | Pemba Environment and Malaria Control Organization |
| SP | Strategic Plan |
| MTWANGONET | Mtwara NGO Network |
| ICNL | International Centre for Not- for -Profit Law |
| UPR | Universal Periodic Review |
| SADC | Southern Africa Development Community |
| THRLWG | Tanzania Human Rights Lawyers Working Group |
| THRDC | Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition |
| UDHR | Universal Declaration of Human Rights |
| CHRAGG | Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance |
| MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |

Executive Summary

This report accommodates key interventions, achievements, challenges, and lessons learnt during the 2022 operational year. This is the last year of implementing the five years (2018-2022) Strategic Plan which was adopted in 2018. The report is divided into four main parts; Chapter one narrates the introductory part, chapter two sheds light on all programmatic and operational interventions, chapter three analyses the implemented interventions as compared to the planned ones and lastly chapter four covers risks, recommendations and lessons learnt. The Coalition programs are categorized into three main Outcome Areas which are Members Affairs, Protection and Security Management, Institutional Building and Sustainability. All Outcome Areas have been narrated in chapter two within this report.

Under the **Members Affairs outcome**, THRDC successfully broadened its membership base by adding 46 new members from 9 zones which has a significant impact in promoting human rights in the respective zones and largely at the national level. To support its members THRDC visited 50 member organizations from 3 zones and equipped them with various technical skills on organizational management and re-igniting their human rights protection and promotion spirit. Furthermore, 80 members from different zones were empowered on various issues concerning their operations, 21 members were supported on organizational management especially in strategic plan development. In order to ensuring members are actively assuming their roles, the Coalition provided financial and material support to its 48 members. Also, four members had been supported to engage in media programs, thus 2 newsletters were developed and circulated aiming to increase members visibility. In order to increase members confidence while performing their roles, 7 members who were at risk, received emergency support facilities from the Coalition.

For the **outcome two of Protection and Security Management** THRDC continued to engage with the various partners including parliament, judiciary, the government, and other state apparatus with the aim of amplifying the recognition of HRDs, enactment and reforms of laws, frameworks, plans, and policies related to HRDs. THRDC has particularly conducted 4 engagements at the presidential level, 20 engagements with the senior government officials, 6 regional engagements and 5 global engagements. Also, THRDC signed 4 memoranda of understanding with various state departments and organs and engaged with 5 special representatives and rapporteurs. At the regional global level, THRDC engaged with UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

Among the notable impact of these engagements includes the adoption of the 9 recommendations by the ACHPR for the United Republic of Tanzania on the how to curb the alarming trend of human rights violations in Tanzania especially the on-going violations of HR in Loliondo and Ngorongoro. Others are the release of Maasai leaders and other Human Rights Defenders charged with murder in Arusha, the process of establishing a standalone NGOs regulatory unit which will give more mandate and power to the unit and the adoption of the NGOs information system improvement recommendation by the responsible ministry.

Furthermore, through the research and advocacy THRDC released 20 press statements, developed 15 publications, conducted 30 media programs, 4 fact finding missions and attended 50 meetings both at local and international levels. Lastly, as part of its advocacy programs, the Coalition continued to maintain Watetezi TV as an online media addressing and publicizing programs and situations that are related to human rights and specific work done by Human Rights to convey relevant message to government authorities, human rights stakeholders, and the public.

Under the empowerment program, THRDC successfully empowered 878 Human Rights Defenders both institutions and individuals on the Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar at various levels and capacities with the aim to empower them on key issues pertaining their roles and mandates in protecting human rights and HRDs working environments. THRDC has specifically reached 195 Civil Society, 156 Law Enforcement Officials (prosecutors and police officers), 33 Judiciary Actors (Judges, magistrates, and other officers), 44 Journalists and 450 University Students.

Under these empowerment programs some key achievements have been made whereas some HRDs attested to have built fences, installed CCTV cameras and others employed security guards for their offices. Others confirmed to have improved their ability to follow up and assist victims of GBV. On digital security, some are now using stronger passwords for their devices and have opted for more secure communication channels. Under the compliance angle, on taxation laws some have been able to apply for tax exemption for non-profits whereas others now pay their taxes timely as required as well as, submits their annual returns on time etc.

Lastly, under litigation, emergency support and rescue program THRDC reached a total of 248 human rights defenders at various levels and capacity. The HRDs reached includes 143 on legal representation, 46 on relocation, 31 on medical support, 8 on family support, 1 office relocation and 19 referral assistance. Also, in collaboration with other actors THRDC instituted 19 strategic cases before the court. The support which is being regularly provided to HRDs contributed to increased safety to the victims of rights violations and confidence to HRDs knowing they are protected.

Finally, under the **outcome three** in 2022, THRDC conducted the evaluation of ten (10) years of existence which highlighted substantial development milestones for the Coalition since its inception. Among others THRDC has increased its membership base from 14 to 250 members, increased Coalition's works recognition by the public and the authorities, increased HRDs capacity on risk assessment and security management. Also, the study revealed the significant increase of the Coalition's fundraising capacity, staff retention, Governance and Coalition management at large. Furthermore, THRDC developed a (2023-2027) Strategic Plan as road map for the Coalition's direction for the coming five years. The new SP has capitalized on reclaiming the HRDs civic space. Also, donors/development partners reaffirmed their existing commitments to support the Coalition. THRDC secured new funding from seven new donors, a 133% increase from the previous year. THRDC has been able to fund 89% of its annual budget, which is 10% higher than the 2021 budget.

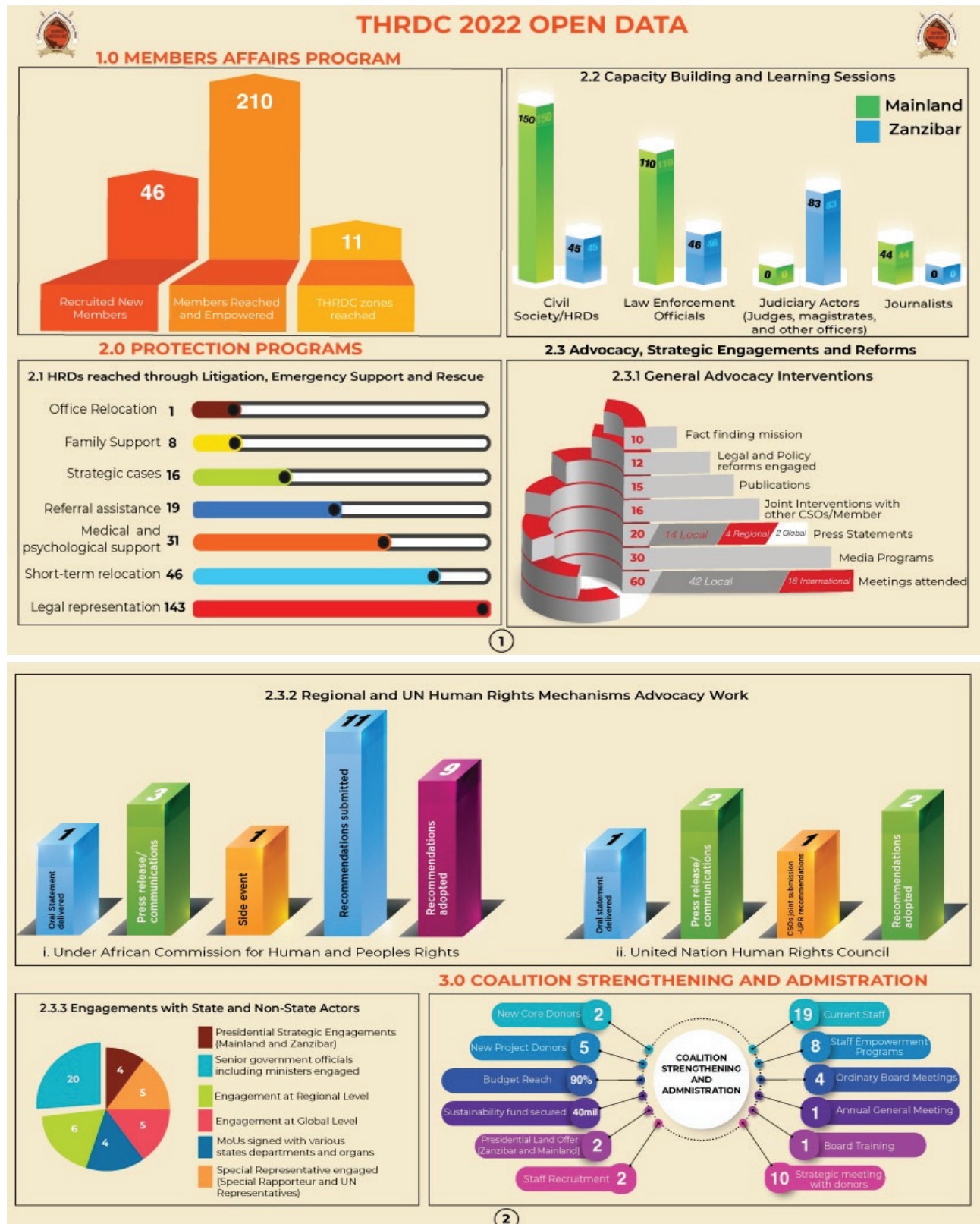
THRDC continued to maintain and enhance the highest standards of transparency and accountability and ensure value for money in all organizational expenditures. The Coalition's governing Board continued to provide oversight of various governance and advisory matters.

Despite the above achievements THRDC encountered various challenges both administratively and programmatically. Among others include the insufficient resources both for the Coalition and its members which hindered the implementation of some planned activities, and the existence of suppressive laws i.e., Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act (BRADEA), malicious arrest and prosecution are still the challenge for the HRDs work. Also, poor communication within the region has contributed to the increased duplication of HRDs support by more than one actor, this reduces the number of HRDs supported since resources are directed to one HRD by more than one supporter.

Having noticed these challenges above, the Coalition is looking forward to strengthening HRD referral mechanisms especially on the aspect of communication and verification of HRDs' requests for support. THRDC will continue to collaborate with international and regional protection partners in responding to HRDs' needs, timely and effectively provision of the emergency support and rescue of HRDs at risk. Setting up measures to perfect the reporting of incidents of violations by members /

HRDs so that prompt measures can be taken to prevent further violation. Also, more resources need to mobilize more fund for legal assistance and short-term relocation for HRDs at risk. Lastly THRDC will broaden its engagements with key stakeholders including CSOs actors, state departments, parliamentarians to table the key laws and policies affecting the HRDs operations for improvements and amendments.

Summary of 2022 THRDC's Performance



Chapter One

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition is a non-governmental, non-partisan human rights organization registered under the Non-Governmental Act of 2002. THRDC is a Human Rights Defenders umbrella organization with a total of 250 member organizations from both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. Its membership and representation in terms of operations is spread through designated zonal coordinating units all over the United Republic of Tanzania (Mainland).

THRDC development philosophy is built on strengthening the synergy between rights-holders (demand side) and duty-bearers (supply side); directing most of the programs to grassroots levels; and empowering THRDC's members to take active roles of addressing HRDs' issues in their constituencies. Other areas of emphasis include sensitizing the general public in order to create a critical mass for use as a survival strategy and to sustain the HRDs' initiatives within the community; increased engagement with all forms of media; and widening the scope of international advocacy. The THRDC's core function is protection of HRDs to enable them living and operating in favorable environments in Tanzania.

1.1 Vision, Mission, and Values

THRDC Vision is to see free and secured environments for the Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania. THRDC's mission statement is "... strives to maximize and sustain the empowerment, protection, respect and recognition of HRDs in Tanzania through community mobilization and sensitization; advocacy; capacity building; protection; and connecting defenders from grassroots levels to relevant national, regional and international bodies.

THRDC work during the year 2022 was guided by the organization's values:

- i. Promote deep respect and empathy for defenders.
- ii. Act in a very responsive, rapid, flexible manner
- iii. Result oriented organization with tangible impact.
- iv. Act with independence, creativity, impartiality, and integrity
- v. Perform with dedication, professionalism, transparency, and accountability.
- vi. Develop participative and cooperative relations.
- vii. Develop a continued learning environment for defenders.
- viii. Diversity, representation, and inclusion

The realization of THRDC's vision and mission is dependent on strengthened synergy between right holders and duty bearers, THRDC's members capacity to take active role in addressing HRDs' issues in their respective constituencies and the creation of critical mass both as a survival and sustainability

strategy of HRD initiatives at community levels. In this regard, capacity strengthening of THRDC members, creating conducive environment for constructive dialogues between right holders and duty bearers at all levels was considered important during the reporting period

1.2 Goal and Outcomes

THRDC has continued to distinguish itself as an active human rights defender cum right based organization in Tanzania and beyond by maximizing and sustaining the empowerment, protection, respect and recognition of HRDs in Tanzania through community mobilization and sensitization; advocacy; capacity building; protection; and connecting defenders from grassroots levels to relevant national, regional and international bodies. All interventions undertaken during the year were meant to contribute to the attainment of the organization's objectives which are: -

- ✓ To build the capacity of HRDs in security and protection management.
- ✓ To enhance the security and protection of HRDs in Tanzania.
- ✓ To advocate for the recognition of HRDs and the work that they do in Tanzania.

The overall goal of THRDC work during the year was to contribute towards improving civic space and security of human rights defenders in Tanzania, in accordance with the 1998 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. The Coalition work during the year was meant to reduce risks that Human Rights Defenders face as they promote and protect human rights. The realization of this goal is subject to the accomplishment of the following outcomes.

- i. THRDC's Members and the public are mobilized and effectively address HRDs and human rights protection issues- **MEMBERS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**
- ii. Effective engagement of HRDs with Stakeholders on promoting and protecting HRDs rights through evidence-based advocacy, equip them with tools to manage and mitigate their risks and accord them with legal and emergency supports – **PROTECTION PROGRAMS**. The program constitutes three sub programs which *are protection engagement, advocacy, and research; protection plan and risk management; and litigation, emergency support and rescue.*
- iii. Performance and sustainability of THRDC enhanced- **INSTITUTIONAL BUILDING**

1.3 Areas of operation

In translating its mission, objective and goal, the Coalition clearly identified three outcome areas and developed a framework which is mainstreamed in main programs to guide the daily implementation of activities for the whole period of five years of its Strategic Plan.

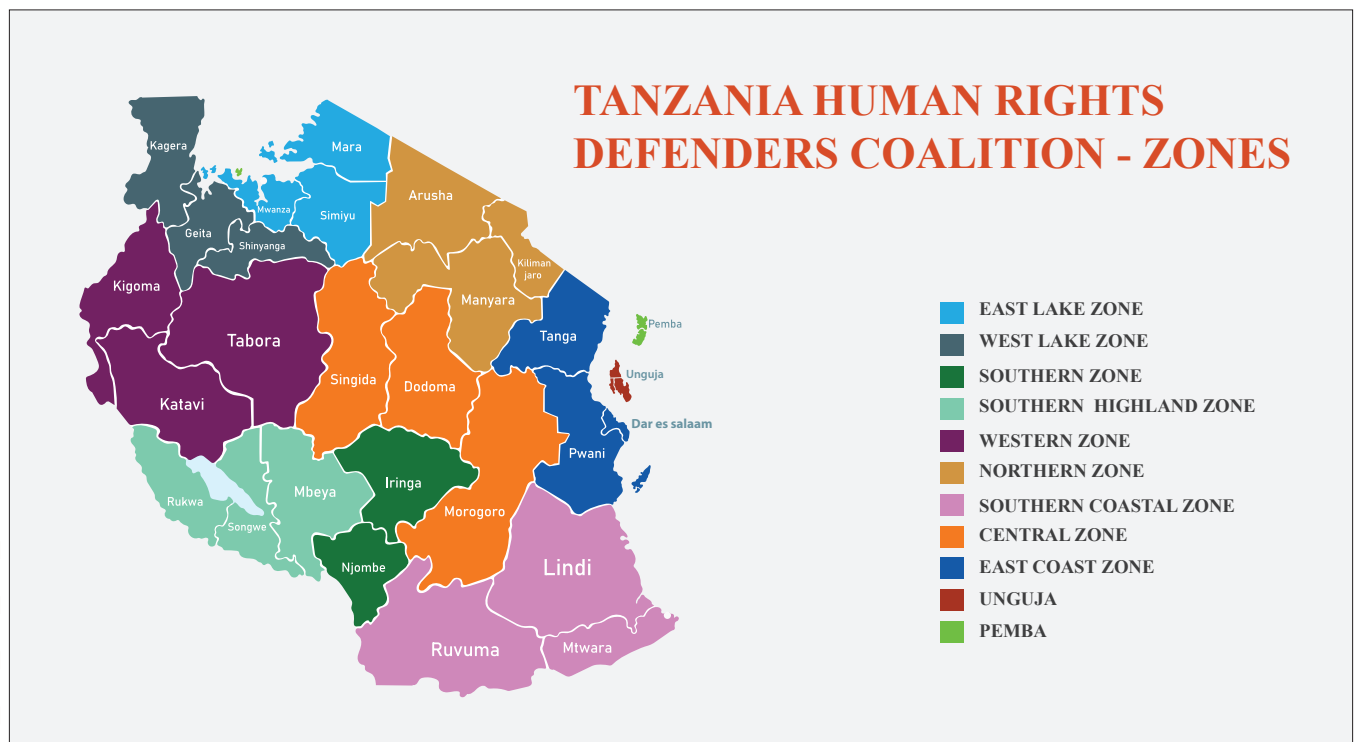
Figure 1. The Coalition’s Programs Operational Framework



1.4 THRDC MEMBERSHIP ZONATION

The Coalition’s membership distribution has been classified in eleven (11) zones covering both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. The Zones includes Lake Zone, Western Zone, East Lake Zone, Southern Highland Zone and Southern Zone. Others includes East Coast Zone, Central Zone, Northern Zone, Western Lake Zone, Unguja Zone and Pemba Zone.

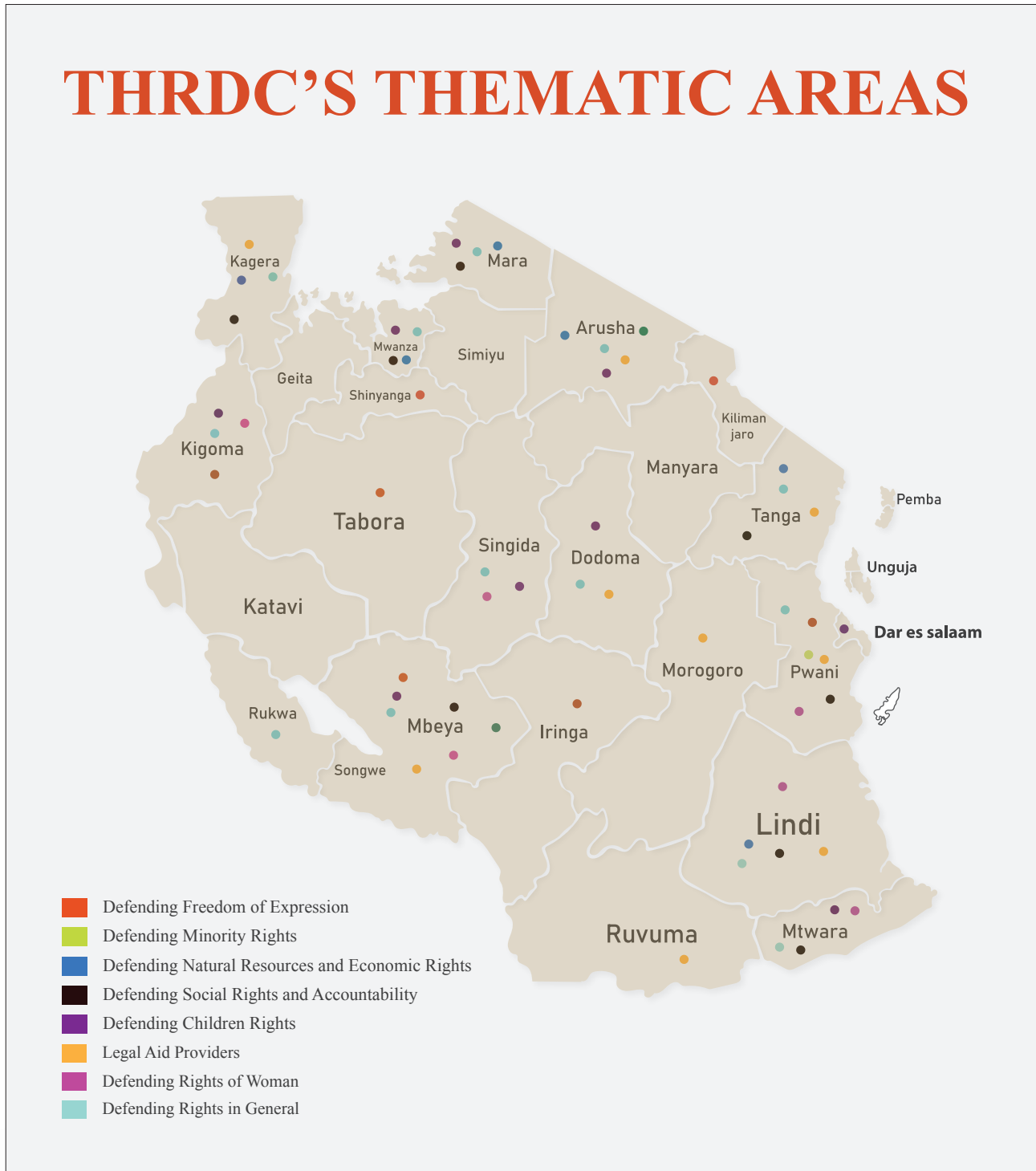
Figure 2. Zonal Coordinating Units Allocation in Tanzania



1.5 THRDC MEMBERSHIP THEMATIC AREAS

The THRDC's membership has been grouped into 9 thematic areas which includes Organizations Defending Women Rights; Defending Pastoralists Rights; Defending Natural Resources and Economic Rights; and Organizations Defending Minority Rights. Others include Organizations Defending Freedom of Expression and media freedom; Defending Political Rights and Human Rights in General; Legal Aid Providers and Organizations Defending Social Rights and Accountability and lastly organizations defending Children Rights.

Figure 3. Map on the Members' thematic areas distribution across the Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar



Chapter Two

2.0. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES AND MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2022

This section presents an overview of THRDC progress in implementing planned activities of the year 2022 which marks the end of Strategic Plan (2018- 2022). Recorded accomplishments contribute to the growth of civic space and the improvement of HRDs' security and working environments.

2.1. MEMBERS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

This outcome ensures a strong membership-based structure which is fundamental for the Coalition's ability to ensure an enabling and safe environment for HRDs to operate in Tanzania. This result area aims to ensure member issues are well addressed including their institutional capacity building and their security through public engagement and sensitization through media programs on HRDs rights and roles; ensure the general public awareness on HRDs rights and roles; as well as institutionalization of the Zonal Coordinating Units as a means of strengthening the Coalition's capacity at the grass root level.

Hereunder are the details of accomplishments and activities implemented under this result area:

Key accomplishments recorded under membership affairs and public engagements in 2022:

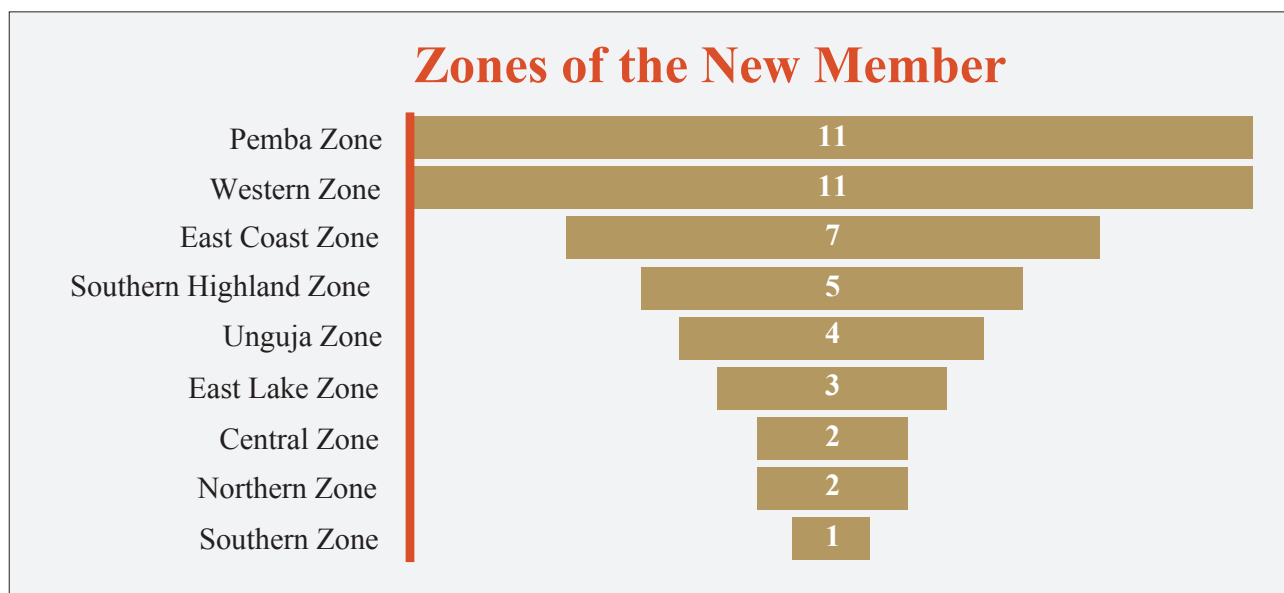
- THRDC membership increased by 21.5%
- 80 members were reached through capacity building sessions supervised by the Coalition,
- 21 members were reached through the organization capacity assessment and development,
- 50 members were physically visited by the secretariat for onsite support.
- 48 members were given financial support for their interventions.
- 4 members were reached through media engagements activities support, and
- 7 reached through emergency support.

2.1.1 Widened Membership base

THRDC targets to have a wider reach to the public and the community through its members. This is achieved through widening the membership base to accommodate active human rights NGOs in Tanzania. For the year 2022, THRDC recorded 21.5% increase of active registered members. This followed the successfully enrollment of 46 new member organizations to make a total of 260 active members. This is a great success for the Coalition, bearing the fact that THRDC started with only 14 members.

The graph below shows the number of new member organizations that joined the Coalition and their respective zones.

Figure 4: Number of enrolled members and their respective zones



Source: THRDC Members data base

A widened THRDC member base is coupled with a well updated, comprehensive, formalized, and digitized members database through *Watetezi Database* which has fortified an ease linkage between the members and the secretariat.

2.1.2. Strengthened and Institutionalized Zonal Coordinating Units

For the effective human rights promotion and protection at the grass-root, strong and well-coordinated zonal units is vital. In doing so, to ensure effective coordination at Zonal level, THRDC conducted 4 zonal meetings in the year 2022 aiming to identify key achievements, operational challenges and deliberate on the way-forward towards ensuring the effective and sustainable human rights protection at the grassroots level. Through these meetings, the Coalition strengthened 4 zones and obtained 3 strong new member organizations. The meetings also supported the Coalition to understand the situation of human rights at zonal level. The table below shows the zones that the meetings were conducted and the number of participants

| S/NO | NAME OF ZONE | NO. OF PARTICIPANTS |
|------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | West Lake Zone | 14 |
| 2 | Pemba Zone | 19 |
| 3 | Unguja and Pemba Zone | 43 |
| 4 | Western Zone | 16 |

Table 1: A table displaying the no. of participants that attended zonal meeting on each zone

Strengthened zonal coordinating unit has fortified pro activeness of members in the zones and reduced fear within the members. The following evidence demonstrated strengthened zonal capacity in addressing issues pertaining to human rights protection:

- The Western zonal coordinating unit who mobilized its members and released a press statement on the unlawful killing of six people in Kigoma;
- Northern zone members released a statement on the ongoing human rights violations in Loliondo (eviction); Therefore, this has cultivated the built common motive of defending human rights.
- Western Zone released a press statement on the extreme violations of human rights in the region.
- The Southern Coastal Zone witnessed the ongoing killings of women and children in Mtwara Region and therefore, took an initiative to reach the law enforcers in the region and bring into attention about human rights in the region. In line with this, the Coalition organized the training to empower law enforcers (Police and the DPP officers) on the respect of human rights while executing their daily mandates.



Picture 1: A group photo of the DHWYT staff (Southern Coastal ZCU) with the Mtwara RPC after an engagement meeting to strategize on how to limit the human rights violations in Mtwara.

2.1.3. Technical support to human rights organizations through physical visitation and member organizational capacity assessment and development.

The Coalition has reached over 80% of the member organizations through several support (technical, financial, and even emergency support). Through these reaches, organizational capacity was developed through development of strategic plans that the members are currently using for fundraising and guiding their operations. The physical visitation has increased THRDC's visibility and widened its base by obtaining 46 new members. Assistance to our members in conducting their activities has also improved members working environment. Through the conducted media programs, general public increased awareness on human rights issues.

In the apex of technical support through members visitations, all visited member organizations have done great in volunteerism on defending human rights in the areas of their focus, despite the several challenges that they face. Members highly face monetary and capacity challenges, forcing them to work on volunteering bases and with low capacity. Limited society knowledge on human rights is also a great challenge in the regions. However, majority of visited members this year are working closely with the authorities, local government, the court, and the social welfare department. For example, Kigoma Paralegal Centre in the Western zone was offered an office space at the high court building in Kigoma, to provide legal aid support.



Picture 2: A group photo of THRDC secretariat with management team of the southern highland zonal coordinating unit, Primary Paralegal Justice.

2.1.4. Amplified Members' works and visibility.

2022 has been quite an engaging year for our members. In upholding and publicizing members' works, THRDC used several advocacy tools such as social media platforms and publishing periodic members newsletter. In the year 2022, members affairs desk has continued to use social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Website) to leverage members activities with the aim of amplifying their work and increase their visibility. The Coalition published two newsletters. THRDC members work were made known to more than 2 million people(reaches) through the social media platforms. This eventually increased members visibility. For instance, in year 2022, there has been a total of 96 Instagram posts on members activities. This is a great increase compared to last year that has had only 23 Instagram posts.

During the reporting period members' interventions were well communicated, and human right issues widely communicated to the public through the 4 media programs that were conducted by the members at regional and national level, through community radios, online channels, and television. Some of the members who engaged in media programs included Paralegal Primary Justice (PPJ) who conducted on radio program in Mbeya – Kyela, Door of Hope to Women and Youth Tanzania (DHWYT) in Mtwara who had a TV program, Western Zone Members (Kigoma Region) conducted two local radio programs jointly through Sibuka FM and Radio Kwizera.

2.1.5. Members' satisfaction

In the year 2022, the Coalition through membership desk did a survey to establish the level of members satisfaction and value added by being a member of a Coalition. A total of 201 members responded to the shared survey. The survey showed that 199 out of 201 respondents which is 99% of the respondents demonstrated understanding of their responsibilities as members, and the expected support from the Coalition. This marked a huge milestone on the level of understanding of the members on their membership status and benefits. The survey further showed that 95% of the respondent are satisfied with the services and benefits they are enjoying by being members of the coalition. This indicates a 10% increase as compared to the previous year. The seemingly high response rate and increased satisfaction level is due to physical visitation to our members that has strengthened the relationship, digitization of the communication between members and secretariat, and institutionalization of the zonal coordinating units, and capacitating their coordination skills.

Verbatim 1:

“My organization is now internationally known, all thanks to THRDC. I am proud to be a member, and the secretariat assisted us on capacity building and even organizational development. I am very satisfied and proud.” Survey Respondent

2.1.6. The 11th Members Annual General Meeting held

For the year 2022, the Coalition coordinated and conducted its 11th members' annual general meeting. The meeting was attended by a total of 170 members (65% of active members) (135 physically attendees and 35 online attendees). The meeting was chaired by the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Coalition as per the constitutional requirement. During the meeting, members discussed several matters related to their membership and the Coalition in general, including the coming five years journey of THRDC (Strategic Plan 2023-2027). Additionally, the members invited two special guests who were the Defend Defenders and the Chairperson of the National Council of NGOs (NaCoNGO). The two invited guests inspired and encouraged members on the noble roles of HRD and the need to comply to the rules and laws of the land while running the affairs of their organizations. Through this meeting, the members' confidence with the coalition was strengthened as it was seen that all the affairs (including financial affairs) are successfully handled by the secretariat. Through the invited guests, the members were able to make the partners aware of the work that they do as members, especially the ones located at the grass-root level.



Picture 3: A photo of members flaunting the THRDC's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan during the 11th AGM.


2.1.7. Challenges encountered under Members and Public engagement result area


- i. Monetary constraint has caused a limited completion of some activities planned under this output. For Instance, the Coalition has 11 zones, and it planned to conduct at least one meeting in each zone for the members to discuss on the growth and progress of their organizations. However, due to limited availability of funds, only 4 zonal meetings were conducted.
- ii. Limited operational and organizational capacity facing member organizations has caused a barrier to the members' ability to mobilize funds, maintain the funds, and pay their annual fees on time, also led to low activeness in advocating for HRD.


2.1.8. Lessons learned and adaptive measures

- i. Members Affairs Desk will continue to strengthen and institutionalize members and their ZCU, positioning all units into capacity of serving and coordinating respective THRDC members in the region.
- ii. The Coalition will continue to advocate the works of our members through website, social media platforms, newsletters, and other publications, and through exhibitions.
- iii. Members Affairs Desk will develop and adapt a systematic and timely method of collecting information from our members on the situation of human rights at regional and zonal level. This information will assist the compilation of an annual situation report of human rights in Tanzania.
- iv. Members Affairs Desk will put more efforts in raising members awareness on human rights issues.

2.1.9. Selected Stakeholders Testimonies

 *“We highly acknowledge THRDC for capacitating us in different issues as their members. Through THRDC, we are able to understand the concept of human rights defender in a broader picture, we understood on the ways of approaching the community and educating about human rights. However, Mbeya Women humbly requests THRDC to capacitate us on legal issues. We have little legal knowledge”* **Selina Lyapinda, Executive Director of Mbeya Women**

 *“...We congratulate the efforts initiated by the membership desk on constantly doing a follow-up on our progress as members, and assisting us to solve the challenges we face. We feel highly appreciated and proud to be members”* **Sylvester Kakinda, Executive Director of Umoja wa Vikundi vya Vijana vya Uzalishaji Mali na Uelimishaji Rika Magu (UVUUMA)**

 *“Through being a member of the Coalition, we are now having our organization strategic plan which shows the roadmap of our organization. The strategic plan has helped us during fundraising.”* **Miriam Chakwawa, Executive Director from RUWODI**



“PPJ as a zonal coordinating unit is proud to widen the base of membership in the region. We were elected as zonal coordinating unit when this zone had only 4 member organizations. Now 2022, this zone has 15 members. It is evident that we have done a great job. We are looking forward to widening more”. **Gabriel John, Executive Director PPJ, THRDC Southern Highland Zonal Coordinator.**



“The publications we receive from THRDC main office are very useful to us. However, we request the Coalition to consider disseminating Swahili-language publications so that they can reach more people. Most beneficiaries are average people with minimum education and do not understand English language, but desire to learn about human rights” **Said Madudu, Director of TALEKACE.**



“NaCoNGO congratulates the Coalition for having members, especially at the grassroots level. THRDC is a big example of what a Network and a Coalition is, since it is very close to its members, and it targets on the growth of its members rather than its own. Congratulation.” **Dr. Lilian Badi, Chairperson of the National Council of NGOs (NaCoNGO).**

2.2. PROTECTION AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

This outcome strives to ensure the HRDs are effectively engaged with stakeholders in promoting and protecting HRDs rights through evidence-based advocacy equipping them with tools to manage and mitigate their risks and accord them with legal and emergency supports. This program constitutes three intermediate outcomes which *are protection engagement, advocacy, and research; protection plan and risk management; and litigation, emergency support and rescue.*

2.2.1. Intermediate Outcome 2.1. Protection Engagement, Advocacy and Research

In a year 2022, THRDC continued to maintain its preventive protection mechanism through Advocacy, Engagement and Research’ aiming to improve acceptance and recognition of HRDs through engagements with National, Regional and International HRDs Stakeholder.

THRDC engaged at national, regional, and international levels to influence HRDs agenda and ensure that, national Human Rights systems, frameworks, and plans on human rights and HRDs are effectively established, reformed and being implemented in accordance with Regional and International standards for a better working environment for Human Rights Defenders across the country.

These were achieved through engagement with the parliament, judiciary, the government, and other state apparatus for recognition of HRDs, reforms, enactment of laws, frameworks, plans, and policies related to HRDs. At global and regional level, THRDC engaged with UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process and the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR). Furthermore, THRDC has used research and publication as advocacy tools for a better working environment of HRDs.

As part of advocacy programs, the Coalition continued to maintain Watetezi TV as an online media addressing and publicizing programs and situations that are related to human rights and specific work done by Human Rights to convey relevant message to government authorities, human rights stakeholders, and the public.

Recorded accomplishments under Protection Engagement, Advocacy and Research were attained through the implementation of interventions described below:

2.2.1.1 Research and publications as a Powerful Tool for advocacy

In a year 2022, THRDC produced 4 major publications (reports) and two human rights articles as tools for advocacy to influence policy and legal reforms, and improvement of HRDs working environment. These includes THRDC's 10 years Evaluation Report; The 2021 Tanzania HRDs Situational Report; THRDC Progressive Report, Zanzibar Judicial Needs Assessment Report; and Report on Effectiveness, Challenges and Efficiency of the NGOs Information Management System.

i. Needs Assessment Report: Holistic Assessment of the Judiciary of Zanzibar

THRDC in collaboration with the Judiciary of Zanzibar launched *Needs Assessment Report: Holistic Assessment of the Judiciary of Zanzibar*. The report was launched by the President and Chairperson of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar H.E Dr. Hussein Mwinyi. The assessment was undertaken by THRDC in collaboration with the Judiciary of Zanzibar to identify gaps and key areas that needs improvement as part of the reforms in the Judiciary in Zanzibar. The assessment focused on key areas that will be considered for the possible reforms including Case management system, the use of Information Technology in justice delivery, research, and monitoring to ensure that the Judiciary is able to issue inter alia law reports and other publications. The assessment report identified gaps in the Judiciary management system of Zanzibar and come up with the strategic reforms recommendations that will be used to improve justice delivery and access to justice in Zanzibar.



Picture 4. The President of Zanzibar and Chairperson of Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi (in the middle) holds a copy of the Judiciary Needs Assessment Report shortly after its launching on his right are the Chief Justice of Zanzibar and THRDC National Coordinator.



Picture 5. The President of Zanzibar and Chairperson of Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi (in the middle) holds the Judiciary Needs Assessment Report shortly after launching it. Other special guests at the high table includes Hon. Hamis Ramadhani Abdallah, Chief Justice of Zanzibar; the Minister of Constitutional and Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance, Hon. Haroun Ali Suleiman; Urban West Regional Commissioner Hon. Idrissa Kitwana Mustafa; THRDC Board Chair Hon. Rtd. Judge Joaquine De Mello; The President of African Court Lady Justice Imani Aboud; THRDC National Coordinator Advocate Onesmo Olungurumwa; and THRDC Zanzibar Coordinator Mr. Abdalla Abeid.

The Judiciary of Zanzibar has adopted recommendations of the Needs assessment and is currently in the process of developing a five year strategic plan for structural reforms as recommended in the Needs Assessment Report. The launching of the Needs Assessment Report emphasized strong relationship between HRDs and the government through building defenders-friendly alliances and adopting concrete measures to promote and protect human rights in the isles including area of access to justice. The Coalition is witnessing a number of coordination efforts by a range of informed policymakers and implementing partners towards structural and operational reforms.



Picture 6. On 5 December, Mr. Marcel Akpovo, Regional Representative and Director of the Office of the UNOHCHR East African Regional Office and Representative to the African Union met Hon. Chief Justice of Zanzibar, Hon. Khamis Ramadhan Abdalla and other senior judicial officials and discussed opportunities for collaboration including OHCHR'S technical support for the development of the 5- year Strategic plan and 10-year Reform Plan of the Judiciary; technical support for reforms in the case management system (case flow management). The key take aways from the meeting were the recommendations from Zanzibar Judicial Needs Assessment.

Verbatim 2

“We will make use of this report to prepare a five-year Strategic Plan for the Judiciary which will be the right compass for the improvement of Zanzibar’s Judiciary. This report contains some issues which will be prioritized, moreover, there are certain issues whose implementation will be delayed due to financial constraints, but the overall aim is to forge ahead with them all to bring better services to the people”
Said Zanzibar ‘Chief Justice Khamis Ramadhan Abdalla.

The adoption of Zanzibar Judiciary Needs Assessment Report 2022 for Improved Access to Justice was among the notable achievements recorded during the year. The report was launched by the President of Zanzibar, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi. The report identifies institutional capacity gaps and recommends for further reforms to improve its efficiency in justice dispensation and eventually the respect of human rights in Zanzibar. This is an inspiration to key stakeholders to take responsive measures towards reforming the Judiciary Zanzibar for improved access to justice in the isles.

On the other hand, The African Court representative echoed THRDC efforts of putting together the Needs Assessment report and emphasized on the need to respect of Human Rights and Rule of law as integral aspects of democracy.

Verbatim 3

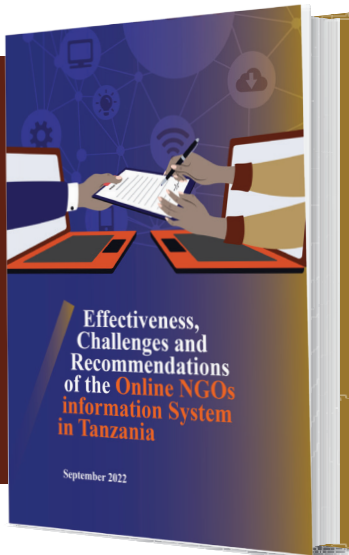
“The needs assessment report launched today serves as incredibly tool towards decision making, resource allocation and ultimately reaching to programmatic goal to improve access to justice in Zanzibar. Access to justice and rule of law are important in democratic governance. The primary responsibility of protecting these values lies to the court. The judiciary as an independent pillar should collaborate with the government and other stakeholders including the civil society organizations”.

ii. Effectiveness, Challenges and Efficiency of the NGOs Information Management System in Tanzania

THRDC conducted a survey to examine the effectiveness and efficiency of the NGOs Information System in enhancing freedom of association and development of NGOs Sector in Tanzania Mainland. The survey involved collection and analysis of data from NGOs and other stakeholders with the view to effect change, improvement, and necessary reforms on the NGO Information System (NIS).

The study revealed that, the system is user-friendly, fast, and inefficient and simplify transfer of information. Despite these progressive developments, majority of NGOs are complaining that the NGOs information system is not effective in responding to some of the key concerns during the process and recommended for reforms and improvement of the system.

The report recommended separation of the operationalization of the Office of NGO Registrar as an independence entity for its effective operation. This recommendation was presented to the Prime Minister Hon. Kassim Majaliwa during the 2022 NGO Forum. The government is currently in the process of establishing the Office of NGO Registrar as an independent entity. This will increase its efficiency, executing the establishment mandate, operationalization of the office and create a friendly reporting system for NGO in Tanzania.



Operationalization of the Office of the Registrar of NGOs as an Independent Organ

In November 2022, The ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Group formed a Task Force responsible for preparation of a Consultation Paper on operationalization of the Office of the Registrar of NGOs as an independent organ under NGOs Coordination Board.

Upon consultation of other stakeholders, it has been advised include NaCoNGO Representatives for NGO representation.



Picture 7. Honorable Mwantumu Mwahiza, NGOs Board Chair at the middle cutting a ribbon to launch the Report on the Effectiveness, Challenges and Recommendations of the NGOs Information Management System on 2nd October 2022 at Morena Hotel Dodoma.

iii. Launching of the 10 years of Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) Evaluation Report

In May 2022 THRDC launched its 10 years of operations evaluation report. The report, launched by The President of United Republic of Tanzania H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan, depicted the Coalition's development, achievements, challenges, and lessons learnt from its inception in 2012 to 2022. Also, the report provided the prospective direction and recommendations for the Coalition's future development (the 2023-2027 SP). The execution of THRDC 10th years of operation its plans was systematized by the two programs of 2013-2017 and 2018-2022 phases. The first phase was more on institutional building and stabilization plus mobilization and empowerment of members, while the second one ventured to scale up external operations of the Coalition. The report shows that, during the second phase, the working environments of HRDs were assessed to be 'quite challenging' owing to the perceived shrinking of civic space and the outbreak of COVID-19.

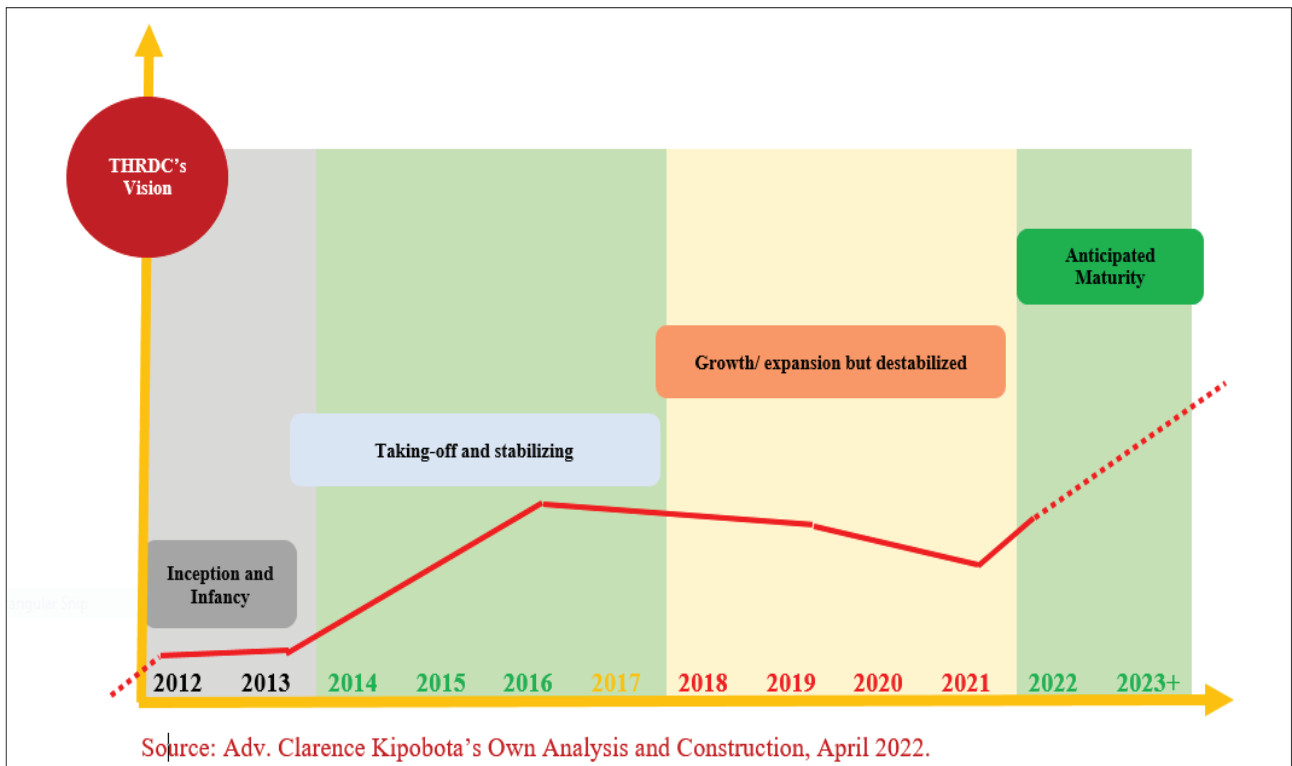


Figure 5. The graphical depiction of the Coalition's journey since its establishment (2012 - 2022)

iv. Situational Report of Human Rights Defenders and Civic Space in Tanzania, 2021.

THRDC has been publishing Situation Report on Human Rights Defenders for the past ten years. In 2022, THRDC published the 9th report detailing the situation of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) and Civic Space in Tanzania launched by the President of United Republic of Tanzania on the 13th of May 2022. The report examined laws and policies which provide for the recognition and protection of HRDs at the national, regional, and international level; strategic cases, cases against HRDs and documents various incidents on violations committed against HRDs. The reports went further to analyze the situation of civic space and CSOs in Tanzania based on the various indicators.



Picture 8. H.E Samia Suluhu cutting a ribbon to launch the report of 10 years of Coalition's operations and the 2021 Situational Report on HRDs and Civic Space in Tanzania.

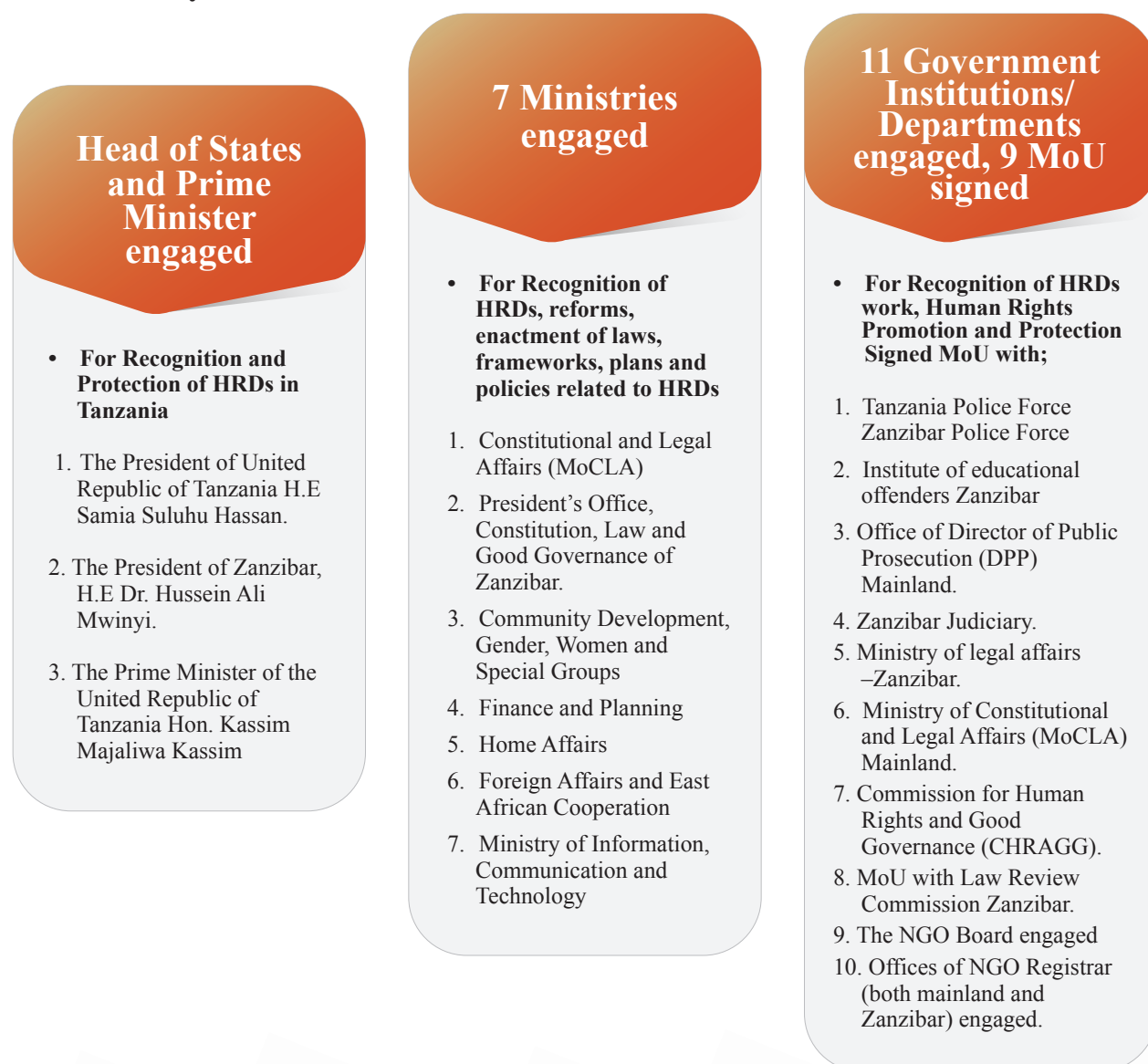
2.2.1.2 Strategic Engagement for Recognition of HRDs, reforms, enactment of laws, frameworks, plans and policies related to HRDs

i. Effectively engaged with Government Organs on issues affecting CSOs participation in supporting and complementing National Development Plans.

THRDC sustained its engagement with government apparatus to strengthen policy influence and advocacy engagements at all levels for HRDs' safety. Three top government officials such as the President of United Republic of Tanzania; President of Zanzibar and The Prime Minister were engaged to reinforce dialogue aimed at identifying avenues for recognition and protection of HRDs in the country; collaboration in implementation of national development plans to influence positive changes; and Human Rights promotion and Protection Generally.

Furthermore, 7 ministries; 11 government institutions/departments were engaged for recognition of HRDs, reforms, enactment of laws, frameworks, plans, and policies related to human rights promotion and protection. 9 Memorandum of Understanding have been signed to foster collaboration in human rights promotion and protection.

Figure 6 Summary of Government Officials/Institutions/Departments engaged by THRDC in a year 2022.



The Coalition has secured government willingness to foster meaningful collaborations with the CSOs in future to develop a strong public/ CSOS partnership policy and legal reforms that will eventually contribute to the national development. This has been evidenced by the currently increased working relation with the Government for instance collaboration in 2022 NGO forum, the launching of Judicial Needs Assessment, 9 Memorandum of Understanding signed to collaborate in protection of human rights in the country.

The government both on Tanzania mainland and in Zanzibar has committed to reform laws and regulation in line with CSOs needs to foster an enabling environment for the CSOs sector to operate and contribute to national development. This grounds the scale up of THRDC next five years of the 3rd strategic plan (2023-2027) aiming at improving the working environment Civil Society through widening civic space and strengthened CSO sector.

Another achievement noted during the year is government commitment to support local Grassroots NGO in Tanzania. The government through the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups has committed to strengthen Grassroots NGO through the office of NGO registrar.

- i. The Tanzania Revenues Authority has committed to collaborate with other stakeholders to conduct of research to determine the best way to tax NGOs.
- ii. The Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Special Groups, has adopted 10 deliberative resolutions to resolve challenges affecting local NGO on financial sustainability.
- iii. Adoption of the recommendations of NIS report
- iv. The government is in the process of separating the operation of the Office of NGO registrar as an independent entity to strengthen and improve its operation.

ii. *Advocacy and Engagement over Loliondo Maasai's Eviction Order.*

On 11th January 2022, the Arusha Regional Commissioner issued a verbal eviction order to the citizens residing in Loliondo and Sale Divisions that *1,500 square kilometers shall be alienated for conservation and trophy hunting for national interest.* Both the Maasai local leaders and human rights defenders stood against the eviction order on the grounds that, the area is their homeland, registered villages and demanded proper consultations on the national interest.

The statement by the Regional Commissioner triggered public outcry and discussion about the long-term land crisis in Ngorongoro District. HRDs so far, organized the Maasai to put up a spirited fight against the restrictions and the plans for evictions.

From that moment, HRDs continued to face risks and threats in Loliondo and Ngorongoro because of defending the indigenous rights. HRDs have been barred from conducting public meetings in Ngorongoro; Social services have been cut off in Loliondo and Ngorongoro divisions; Development projects have stopped being implemented in Loliondo and Ngorongoro.

THRDC convened two meetings with 60 local HRDs, local and traditional leaders to deliberate solution to the ongoing violations in Loliondo and Ngorongoro. The two meetings formed a committee to develop recommendations on the solution regarding land dispute. With support of THRDC, the committee, ran the process of collecting people's opinion and developed a report which was validated in March 2022.

THRDC supported and coordinated engagement meetings with state apparatus and government official to present the report and discuss possible solutions to the Loliondo and Ngorongoro Land Dispute. THRDC coordinated and supported an audience with the Prime Minister Hon. Kassim Majaliwa on April 6, 2022, whereby the report was submitted.



Picture 9. A group photo of Ngorongoro HRDs and residents with the Hon. Prime Minister after the meeting in Dodoma on 25th May 2022.

THRDC continued to advocate mutual agreement between the Maasai people of Loliondo and Ngorongoro and the government. It was under coordination of THRDC, the voices of Indigenous rights HRDs’ were heard. Also, during this difficult time, local media was not reporting the incidences of Ngorongoro except Watetezi TV which is under THRDC. Reporting of incidences of human rights violations in Loliondo triggered collective voices from the international community and other HRDs condemning serious right violations against Maasi people of Loliondo and Ngorongoro.

iii. Reflection on legal compliance and Financial Accountability for Grassroot NGOs in Tanzania.

THRDC in collaboration with the Office of Non-Governmental Organization’s Registrar and National Council of NGOs (NaCoNGO) conducted a reflection meeting on legal compliance and accountability to about 150 CSOs directors from across the country. This meeting was conducted along with the Annual NGO Forum as a side event, one day before the commencement of the NGO Forum on the 2nd of October 2022 at the Morena Hotel in Dodoma.



Picture 10. A group photo of participants of the meeting on “Financial accountability and sustainability of NGOs” on 2nd October 2022 at Morena Hotel Dodoma.

The event was an opportunity to discuss financial challenges and spaces for sustainability of local NGOs in Tanzania. The Coalition in collaboration with the Office of NGO has utilized this opportunity to launch the Report on the Effectiveness, Challenges and Recommendations of the NGOs Information Management System.

The CSOs Directors reflection meeting finally made the following resolutions:

- a) There should be a meeting with donors and government representatives to discuss challenges and recommendations on Financial Accountability and Sustainability of NGOs in Tanzania
- b) Experienced NGOs and INGOs should build capacity of grass-root NGOs on resource mobilization.
- c) NGOs should continue to provide transparent/accurate information to regulators and cooperate in analyzing the information for better planning.
- d) A dashboard for presenting funding information should be developed.
- e) There should be a score card for determining internal NGO fund management capacity
- f) There should be deeper research to determine the best ways to tax NGOs.
- g) NGOs should increase engagement with lawmakers on taxation challenges.
- h) International NGOs should normalize partnering with local NGOs in their program's implementation
- i) There should be a quota system in funding of local NGOs
- j) NGOs should look at possible funding opportunities from the internal private sector.

The government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups has adopted these 10 resolutions and currently, the government is in the process of separating the operationalization of the Office of NGO as independent entity for effective provision of services to NGOs in Tanzania.

iv. *Engagement with Institute of education for Offenders (Prison) in Zanzibar*

In 2022, THRDC engaged with the Zanzibar's Institute of Education for Offenders (ZIEO) (Prison) to conduct prison visitation and collection of opinion for developing a complaint guideline for prisoners. THRDC teamed up with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG); Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP); Zanzibar Law Society (ZLS); Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA); Zanzibar Children Right Forum (ZCRF); Attorney General Office (AG) and the High Court of Zanzibar as human rights stakeholders and duty bearers to visit and collect opinions for improving places of detentions.

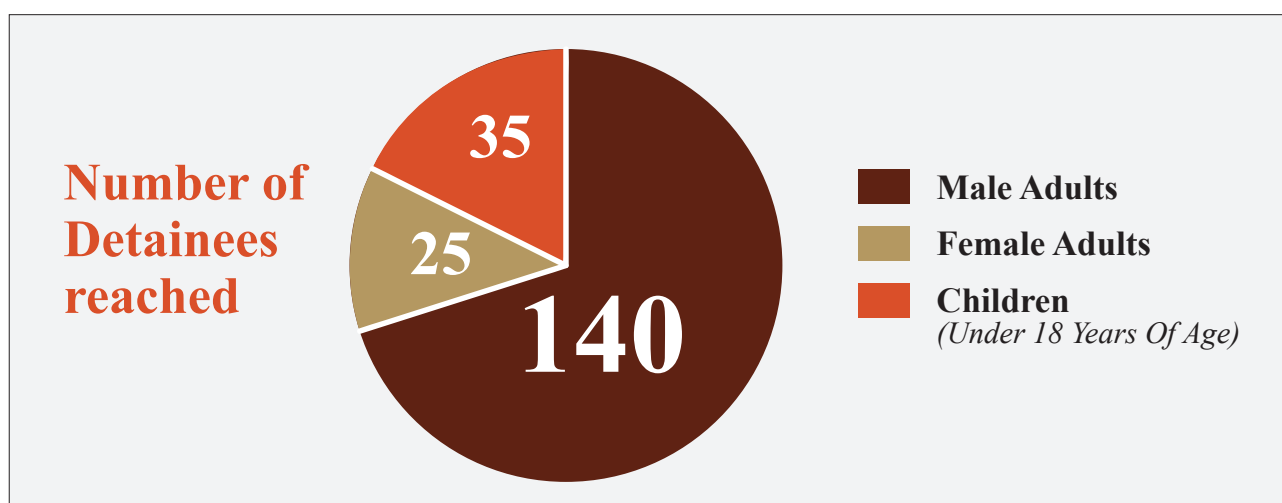


Figure 7. The team visited 4 prisons also known as *Institute of Education for Offenders*. A total of 200 detainees and prisoners were reached, 25(17%) adult women; 35 (18%) children and 140(70%) male adults (70%) were reached.

The team also collected opinions from 50 Non-Governmental Organizations that defends human rights in Unguja and Pemba aiming to get their suggestions.

A complaint guideline for prisoners was completed in November 2022 and handled over to the authority of Zanzibar Correctional Facilities for administrative procedures. The guideline will be used as one of the tools for monitoring human rights situation in places of detentions.

v. ***Legal Reforms for Enhanced Justice and Efficiency of HRDs***

In 2022, THRDC continued to influence legal reforms as an essential advocacy strategy for achieving several specific targets in human rights promotion and protection. Law reform is used to further accountability by ensuring that there is an enabling legal framework and environment for people to hold their governments accountable for progress; inclusion of civil society in public policy decision-making and access to judicial and other mechanisms to hold governments accountable. THRDC participated in 4 legal reform process of analyzing laws, advocating, and carrying out changes in a legal system with the aim of enhancing justice or efficiency as detailed below.

a) *Anti-Gender Based Violence (GBV) Bill, 2022*

From 13th - 15th July 2022 took part in the finalization of the proposed Anti GBV bill and the Code of Conduct for Family Law Practitioners as part of enhancing access to justice and promoting women rights. The proposed bill was submitted to the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs and the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special group for further action towards adoption.

b) *Zanzibar Education Act*

November 24, 2022, THRDC - Zanzibar in collaboration with Zanzibar Law Reform Commission convened a session to review the Education Law in Zanzibar. The meeting as participated by more than 50 stakeholders from Government Ministries, the Law Reform Commission, Civil Society Actors and Private Sector and came up with recommendations for a comprehensive education system in Zanzibar. The current Education Act and Education Policy were analyzed in relation to the needs and current context for a comprehensive and diverse protection mechanism for protection of right to education. These recommendations were adopted by the Law Reform Commission for further action towards enacting a new Law.

c) *Analysis of the Data Protection Bill*

On 31st August 2022, the government of Tanzania published the Data Protection Bill of 2022 in which THRDC had been advocating for its enactment since 2014. THRDC analyzed the Bill and presented recommendations before the Parliamentary Committee on 19th October 2022 in Dodoma. On 27th November 2022 the Bill was signed into law by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania. The law stipulates for protection of personal data however, some of recommendations were not considered during enactment of the law.

d) *Political and Electoral Laws*

THRDC as party of USHIRIKI TANZANIA program analyzed Political and Electoral reforms towards enhancing inclusion and political participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities in Tanzania. These analyses were submitted to various political and electoral stakeholders including the Office of Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP), the National Election Commission (NEC), the Office of the Prime Minister, political parties, and civil society.

Recommendations Accepted by the Presidential Task Force for Multiparty Democracy May 2022.

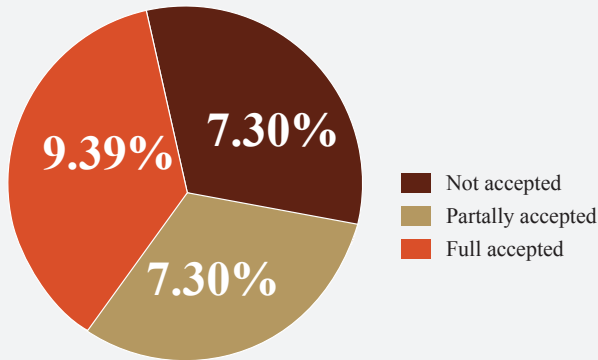


Figure 8. The same recommendations were submitted to the Presidential Task Force for Multiparty Democracy (May 2022), which highlighted key recommendations on political and electoral reforms. Subsequently, 9 recommendations were fully adopted, 7 recommendations were partially adopted and 7 were not adopted at all. 13 of the recommendations either adopted fully or partially relate to enhancing inclusion of marginalized groups in particular Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). In 2023, THRDC will continue monitoring the implementation of accepted recommendations and advocacy towards acceptance of more recommendations to enhance diversity in electoral processes.

2.2.1.3 Improved Policy Engagement and Advocacy at Regional and International human rights protection mechanism

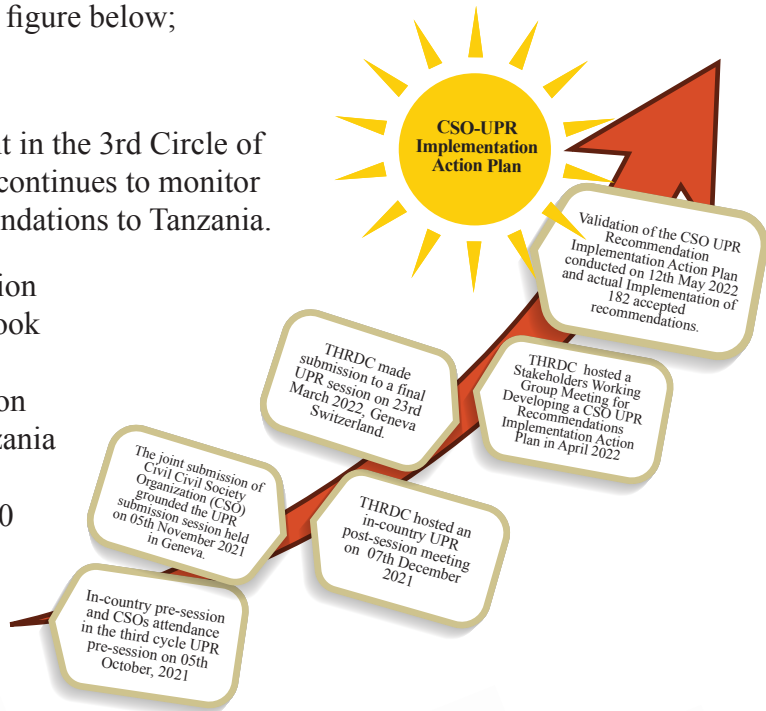
In 2022, THRDC sustained its engagement at regional and international levels to influence the global agenda for HRDs, primarily at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR). The major objective for these interventions is to strengthen policy influence and advocacy engagements at the global, African, sub regional, and national levels for HRDs’ safety.

i. Sustaining Universal Periodic Review Monitoring and Implementation.

THRDC sustained its engagement with the United Nation Human Rights Council (UNHRC) through Universal Periodical Review (UPR). This is a State-driven process which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States to address human rights violations. In 2022, THRDC continued to monitor the outcome of the 3rd Circle of UPR the implementation progress of recommendations as illustrated in the figure below;

Figure 9: depicts THRDC engagement in the 3rd Circle of Universal Periodic Review. THRDC continues to monitor the implementation of UPR recommendations to Tanzania.

On March 23, 2022, a final UPR session on the United Republic of Tanzania took place in Geneva Switzerland. At the session, Tanzania gave its final position regarding the recommendations. Tanzania increased the number of accepted recommendations from 108 to 187 (20 being partially accepted) out of 256 recommendations.



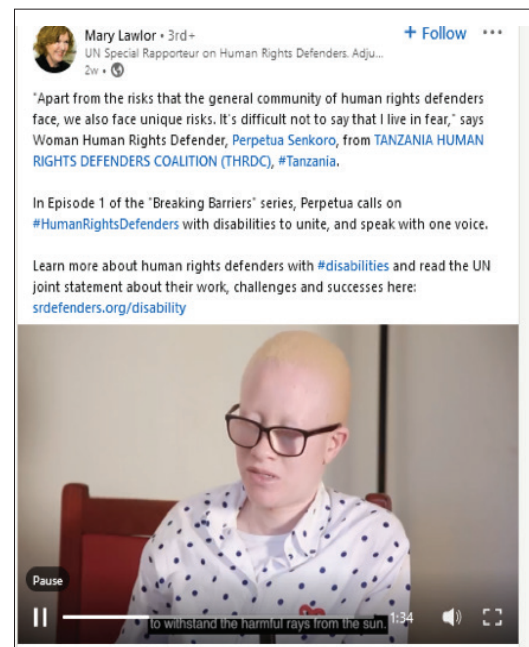


Picture 11. THRDC National Coordinator Advocate Onesmo Olungurumwa (third from left) with the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs Hon. George Simbachawene, Ambassador Hoyce Temu-Permanent Representative, Tanzania Mission to the UN in Geneva with other delegates’ during the final UPR session on the United Republic of Tanzania in March 2022. THRDC made Joint Statement delivered by THRDC and Defend Defenders.

ii. Global Campaign for Human Rights Defenders with Disability by UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders

THRDC participated in a global campaign by Mary Lawlor, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders to highlight and address specific additional risks and challenges faced by human rights defenders with disabilities and build a series of guidelines for their better inclusion into civil society, at Government consultations, and other arenas.

Ms. Perpetua Senkoro; THRDC focal person in Disability Rights contributed to “Breaking Barriers” a series initiated to have open and honest discussion about disability rights. THRDC calls HRDs with disability to unite and speak with one voice, embrace themselves with their challenges, finding the right tools to learn to use them as a source of strength and power.



iii. African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR)

Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) participated in the NGOs Forum and sessions of the 73rd Ordinary Session of African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPRs) held on 17th and 25th October 2022 in Banjul, The Gambia.



Pictures 12. Solicitor General of the Gambia Mr. Husainou Thomas and H.E Commissioner Remy Ngoy Lumbu, Chairperson, African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR) in the middle with other delegates of the 73rd NGO Forum at the Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara International Conference Center Banjul on 17th October 2022.

THRDC delivered 1 statement on HRDs situation in Tanzania; 1 Press release on Situation of Human Rights in Tanzania and ongoing violations of HR in Loliondo and Ngorongoro; Submitted 11 recommendations to the African commission in which 9 recommendations were adopted. Moreover, THRDC in collaboration with American Bar Association convened a side event on Freedom of Expression and Civic Space in East Africa: (Emerging Trends and Patterns in Uganda and Tanzania”).

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY NGO FORUM OF THE 73rd SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES RIGHTS FOR THE REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

1. Initiate prompt, impartial, and effective investigations into the alleged human rights violations in Ngorongoro and Loliondo and ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable and subjected to appropriate sanctions.
2. To urge the Government of Tanzania, to invite the African Commission and UN Special Mandates to undertake a special mission to the United Republic of Tanzania specifically in relation to human rights violations in Ngorongoro/Loliondo
3. To reinstate the reservation under Article 34(6) Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights to allow citizens of Tanzania and HRDs to access the African Court situated in their country
4. Urge the government of Tanzania to amend and laws curtailing freedom of assembly including the Constitutional provisions related to election and election laws and establish an independent electoral commission before the next general election. This establishment should take concerns of citizens, CSOs and other key stakeholders in the independent electoral management bodies
5. The African commission to urge the government of Tanzania to allow political rallies to all political parties including opposition parties, public meetings and protest guaranteeing the freedom of assembly without coercions.
6. The government of Tanzania to conduct wider community consultation for the purpose of inviting human rights-based approaches on any government plan to protect conservation areas.
7. The Commission urges the government of Tanzania to take measures to eliminate discrimination and violence against women and children including child marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Child Molestations and violence against children generally. The Commission urge the government to use The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as guidelines in making an effective strategy to prevent and eliminate violence against women and children.

THRDC and its affiliate organization commends initiatives of the Government of Tanzania to implement these resolutions especially resolution no 2. *“The African commission to urges the government of Tanzania to take measures to release the Maasai leaders and other Human Rights Defenders charged with murder of the Police officer in Arusha as they have been held under detention for more than three months now without the investigation being completed”*

The government through the Office of Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) dropped the Maasai leaders’ case on 22 November 2022 as recommended under ACHPR resolution 2. THRDC will continue to follow up the implementation of the remaining 8 resolution and recommendations to the government of Tanzania.

Resolution No 2.

“The African commission urges the government of Tanzania to take measures to release the Maasai leaders and other Human Rights Defenders charged with murder of the Police officer in Arusha as they have been held under detention for more than three months now without the investigation being completed

iv. High Level Regional and International Meetings

THRDC participated in “Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders SUMMIT Biannual General Assembly” held in Lusaka Zambia from 28th to 30th November 2022. The summit was aimed at discussing the ongoing human rights challenges and the need to strengthen institutions that are meant to defend democracies at both domestic and regional level.

The theme of the summit was *“A Journey to Sustainability: Protecting Civic Space through Strengthening Institutions for and Networks of Environmental and Human Rights Defenders in Southern Africa.”* From THRDC, the National Coordinator Advocate Onesmo Olungurumwa participated in a panel of discussion speaking on *“Building Institutions to Protect Human Rights Defenders and Civic Space”*



Picture 13. Southern Africa Human Rights Defenders SUMMIT Biannual General Assembly

Civil society is instrumental in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals seeking to promote peaceful and inclusive societies by, inter alia, developing effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels; ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making; and ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms.

v. *Dublin Platform for Human Rights Defenders*

THRDC participated in Dublin Platform for Human Rights Defenders **from 26th - 28th October 2022**. THRDC was able to meet with UN special rapporteur on human rights Defenders Mary Lawlor, Frontline Defenders Executive Director Mr. Andrew Andreson and other human rights defenders. The platform was an opportunity to share strategies for advocacy and protection, build solidarity with colleagues around the world, and network with high-level decision makers from governmental and intergovernmental bodies.



Picture 14. From left is the THRDC's National Coordinator Mr. Onesmo Olungurumwa with UN special rapporteur on human rights Defenders Mary Lawlor and the Frontline Defenders Executive Director Mr. Andrew Andreson during the Dublin Platform.

vi. *Open Government Partnership (OGP 2022) Meeting in Marrakesh*

THRDC attended the Open Government Partnership (OGP2022) African and Middle East Regional Meeting in Marrakesh, Morocco from 1st to 3rd November 2022. The platform provided an opportunity to share information and provide mutual advice on using the OGP process to promote civic space reforms. Other participants including delegates from States, CSOs and Members of the Parliaments.

The meeting provided an outstanding opportunity to meet with other civil society and government leaders from the regions, and to participate in sessions addressing a broad array of open government topics, from civic participation, anti-corruption to digital innovation. In particular, the meeting was an excellent forum to push for Tanzania's re-engagement in the OGP process, advance civic space and access to Justice reforms.

Tanzania Joined OGP in 2011 and withdrew in 2017 after remarkable achievements in all five areas of OGP focus. Tanzania stands on the right direction to meet the rejoining criteria given the ongoing legal reforms and the political will of President Samia to reposition Tanzania back to key regional and international engagements

On 10th December 2022, THRDC submitted an open letter to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, **Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan** on Open Government Partnership (OGP). Tanzania joined OGP in 2011 and withdraw in 2017. In their letter, Human Rights Organization are advising the Government of Tanzania to rejoin OGP as a platform to secure concrete commitments from national and sub-national governments to promote open government, empower citizens, fight corruption, improve public service delivery, Government responsiveness, building greater trust and the culture of human rights.

2.2.1.4 Sensitization of HRDs through open lectures at higher learning institutions, professional meetings such as TLS' AGM,CLE, International human rights day.

The Coalition continued to sensitize HRDS, professional meetings and International human right days.

i. Commemoration of THRDC 10th anniversary and the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Day

On 13th May 2022, THRDC commemorated its 10th years of operation which went together with Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Day. The activity became memorable with the attendance of honorable Samia Suluhu Hassan, the president of the United Republic of Tanzania. This was the first time for a President to attends a HRD event. Through her attendance it marked a positive relationship between HRDs and the current regime.

The event was attended by 400 HRDs, the regional commissioner of Dar es salaam, retired judges, human rights organizations, judicial officers, National human rights institutions, lawyers, academicians, development partners, journalists, members of private sectors and experts of human rights.



Picture 15 The President of the United Republic of Tanzania H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan with the Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs Hon. Dr. Damas Ndumbaro, Chairperson of the THRDC Board of Directors Retired Judge Joaquine De Mello along with Secretariat of THRDC immediately after her speech on May 13, 2022.

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania acknowledged and appreciated the work of THRDC. She also insisted and used the platform to remind all CSOs to ensure that they take heed of the Tanzanian context in terms of embracing traditional customs and culture as they promote and protect human rights. The President reminded CSOs and especially THRDC to create public awareness on the Constitution to enable citizens to understand their rights and responsibilities.

ii. Public lectures for a comprehensive human rights knowledge

THRDC in Collaboration with American Bar of Association conducted two public lectures one at the University of Iringa and the second in Zanzibar State University reaching to about 500 university students. The lecture helped imparting practical and legal skills to students on the use of online platforms and social media in enhancing freedom of expression in Tanzania. THRDC continues to advocate for a comprehensive education in human rights because it provides knowledge about human rights and the mechanisms that protect them, but also imparts the skills needed to promote, defend, and apply human rights in daily life.

iii. 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign

THRDC values diversity and inclusion in defending human rights. THRDC collaborated with other human rights activists to carry out 16 Days of Activism campaign from 25th November, (*the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women*) running through International Human Rights Day on 10 December. THRDC convened a total of 10 (6 in Unguja and 4 in Pemba) campaigns against GBV reaching about 40 human rights organizations working in Zanzibar and about 12000 people in isles.

Additionally, THRDC in collaboration with DefendDefenders, MKUKI Coalition and WILDAF convened the closing event of 16 Days of Activism against GBV the campaign was concluded on the 10th December 2022 by Dr. Dorothy Gwajima, The Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups creating avenues for reinforcing dialogues on civic Space and Inclusion; Activism against Gender Based Violence.



Picture 16. THRDC Zanzibar Program Officer, Ms. Shadida Ally with other THRDC Members during the public dialogues on Gender Based Violence as part of 16 Days of Activism against GBV. THRDC collaborated with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) to convene a total of 10 meetings, 6 in Unguja and 4 in Pemba

Picture 17. On 10th December, **Hon. Dorothy Gwajima**, Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups officiated the closing of 16 Days of activism against Gender Based Violence by receiving the Caravan bus which travelled across the country campaigning against Gender Based Violence. The Caravan route was Coordinated by MKUKI Coalition and steered by Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF).



Dr. Gwajima calls the government and other stakeholders to take action to stop violence against women and show their solidarity in the following.

- a. Increase long-term funding and support for women's rights organizations working on effective solutions to prevent violence against women.
- b. Oppose the retreat of women's rights, raise the voices of human rights defenders and women's movements who defend women's rights in their diversity and encourage more actors to join the movement to end violence against women and girls around the world.
- c. To promote the leadership and participation of women and girls in political positions, policy making, and decisions from international to local levels, including development processes.
- d. Strengthen protection mechanisms to prevent and eliminate violence, harassment, threats, and discrimination against human rights defenders.

v. CLAIMING SPACES: Tactical Tools for Human Rights Defenders

In commemoration of International Human Rights Defenders Day and International Human Rights Day, Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) in partnership with DefendDefenders (East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project) convened the twelfth edition of *Claiming Spaces: Tactical Tools for Human Rights Defenders* in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.



This was a one-week workshop for human rights defenders (HRDs) from 7-10 December 2022 designed to develop HRDs' capacity on monitoring, documentation, and reporting of human rights violations and mobilizing resources for Human Rights Defender's work. Participants shared experience on joint actions and solidarity networks and explore new and emerging technologies that can be used to advance human rights and mobilize communities for human rights promotion and protection and on 10th of December the workshop was concluded with celebration of International Human Rights Day.

The celebration of International Human Rights Day went together with closing of 16 Days of Activism against GBV officiated by Dr. Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups. The celebration came up with five call to improve human rights situation in the country as follows.

- a. Increase long-term funding and support for women's rights organizations working on effective solutions to prevent and prevent violence against women.

- b. Oppose the retreat of women’s rights, raise the voices of human rights defenders and women’s movements who defend women’s rights in their diversity and encourage more actors to join the movement to end violence against women and girls around the world.
- c. To promote the leadership and participation of women and girls in political positions, policy making, and decisions from international to local levels, including development processes.
- d. Strengthen protection mechanisms to prevent and eliminate violence, harassment, threats, and discrimination against human rights defenders.
- e. Respecting of HRDs work in the country and urge all those who threatens HRDs to stop. She principally ensured HRDs fully government protection against threats or security challenges during their operations.

2.2.1.5 Participating in human rights exhibitions and awareness

In a year 2022, THRDC participated and supported 7 Human Rights exhibitions. It is the Coalition’s culture to support its members and other HRDs in need to participate in exhibition with the aim of increasing awareness on human right issues. These exhibition offers opportunities to engage with multi-sectoral actors for the purpose of enhancing partnership in human rights protection and in the interest of steering forward the national development agenda. Exhibitions are perfect platforms for THRDC/ HRDs to display its activities as well as a great opportunity to interact with hundreds of CSOs, the public and private sectors. These platforms also offer an opportunity for in-depth discussions on CSO’s work, share experiences, and see how CSOs can strategically collaborate with citizens, government, donors, and the private sector.

The following exhibitions were supported and attended.

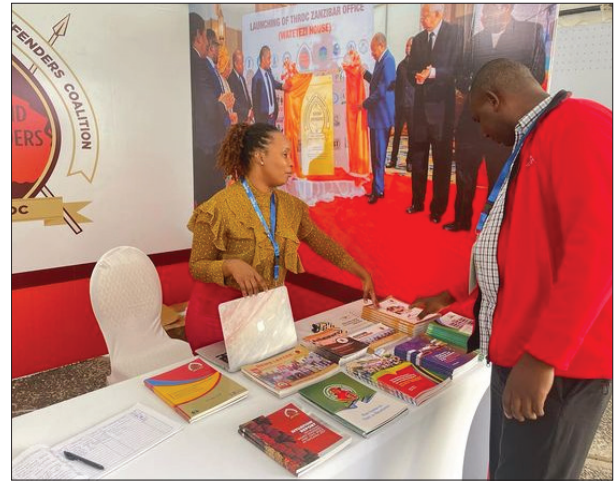
- a. Zanzibar Annual NGOs Forum (ZANGOF) 2022; 12th to 14th March
- b. The African Child Day; 16th June 2022
- c. The Annual NGO Forum; 2022 -2nd and 3rd October
- d. Tanzania Civil Society Organizations (CSOs’ week); 25th to 28th October 2022
- e. Human Right and Good Governance exhibitions; 10th to 15th September 2022
- f. Law Week Zanzibar; 24/01/2022 to 01/02/2022
- g. Law Week Tanzania mainland; 24/01/2022 to 01/02/2022



Picture 18. A photo of THRDC officer Advocate Nuru Maro presenting before H.E. Dr. Hussein Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar and First lady Maryam H. Mwinyi when visited THRDC exhibition booth during ZANGOF 2022



Picture 19. Children from various Primary and Secondary Schools chatting about children rights with THRDC's Advocacy Officer Advocate Nuru Maro during the African Child Day's exhibition. Children were able to learn about right to health, education, family life, play and recreation, adequate standard of living and right to be protected from abuse and harm. Also, children learned and discussed about their developmental and age-appropriate needs that change over time as a child grows up including the need of sanitary pads supply



Picture 20. Ms. Melba Sandi from THRDC presenting the Coalition's work to participants during the CSO week in October 2022.

2.2.1.6 Recognition of Human Rights Defenders' Work in Human Rights Protection and National Development Plans.

Both the President of United Republic of Tanzania and Zanzibar have recognized great contribution of human rights defenders to national development.

“You have earned trust from the government, no wonder you have grown to this level. There is no institution that doesn't want human rights. We are very pleased to have people who can support us in protecting human rights. You still have so much to do, organize yourself, the government is there to support you,” **H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.**

“You have been important partners in fighting gender-based violence, sexual harassment, children molestation and humiliation here in Zanzibar. The government is very satisfied with your efforts. We will continue to collaborate with various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to address existing and emerging challenges in achieving our development plans”. **H.E, Dr. Hussein Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar**

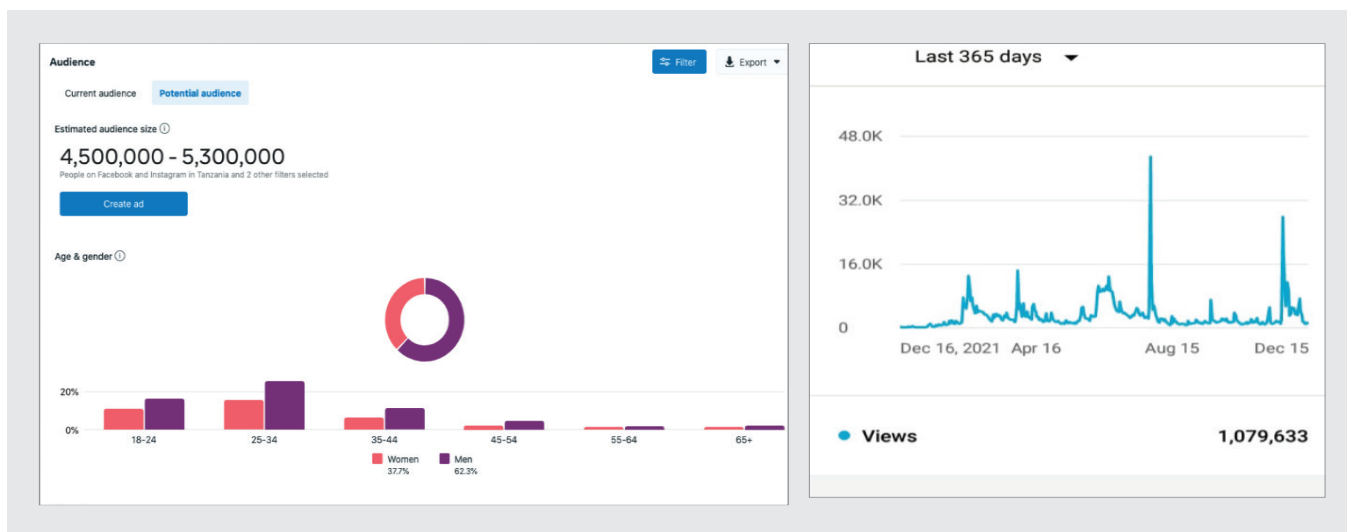
2.2.1.7 Running an Online Television (TV) 'Watetezi TV/ Media.

WATETEZI TV is an online media platform established in September 2018 by the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) to address and publicize programs and situations related to human rights and the specific work done by Human Rights Defenders. It operates on YouTube (WATETEZI TV), Instagram, Facebook, and twitter with username @Watetezi TV also in 2021 initiated a Watetezi TV *website* <https://watetezi.co.tz> to air and share human rights contents online.

This annual report reflects Watetezi TV being an online television and considers a massive shift of audience from traditional media to online media. Watetezi TV successfully achieved the following.

i. Watetezi TV Audience

For the year 2022, Watetezi TV increased its audience number to 5,300,000 by December with 1,079,633 views on YouTube Channel compared to 2021 where the channel had only 400,146 views. This makes a difference of 679,487 and an increase of views by 63% in YouTube account.



The posting of unique human rights stories has attracted more viewers because some of its contents are not aired by other media in Tanzania for example the Loliondo saga which erupted in the end of 2021. Most of media houses in Tanzania were muffled to report on that issue but Watetezi TV stood firm and report human rights violations happening in Ngorongoro, despite this achievement there is a need to put on more efforts in 2023.

ii. Unveiled human rights violations through investigative journalism;

In 2022 Watetezi TV managed to conduct investigative journalism and fact-finding missions (**15 documentaries and 4 fact findings**) aimed to document human rights violations in Tanzania and accountability issues. The following were conducted;

a. The story on Gender Based Violence report

In 2022 Watetezi TV reported gender issues and marginalized communities' stories. For example, recently Watetezi reported a story about a girl who was beaten by District Commissioner, which attracted a positive reaction from Women and children welfare activists demanding actions to be taken against the District Commissioner for assaulting a girl child. Also, the media produced documentaries to challenge traditions, patriarchal systems that oppress women in Tanzania. For example, a documentary of women who are forced to marry the deceased in Mara region. In ensuring gender inclusivity Watetezi TV managed to ensure that women voice is being heard in our documentaries and interviews.

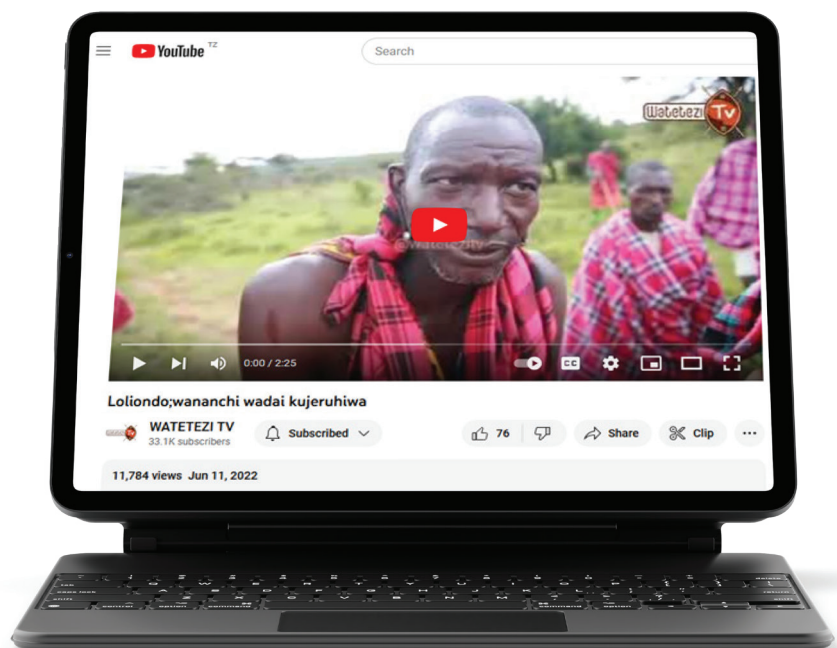
b. Trial Observation and Monitoring of cases

Watetezi TV remained firm to report on trial observation report on the case of Freeman Mbowe, the Chairman of the main opposition political party in Tanzania; Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA). This case attracted public attention due to oppression of political party leaders in Tanzania. The trial observation report encompassed the arrest, detention, institution of charges, conduct of the committal and High Court proceedings in economic case number 16 of 2021 (originating from Kisutu): **Republic Versus Halfan Bwire Hassan, Adam Hassan Kasekwa @Adamo, Mohamed Abdillahi Ling'wenya and Freeman Aikael Mbowe**. The accused in this case were charged for terrorism.

Trial observation and reporting attracted public attention and international community to follow up on the case pushing for the government to release them and stop oppression and malicious prosecution against opposition party leaders.

c. Loliondo Saga

Watetezi TV reported the Loliondo conflict without any hesitation since its re-emergence in November 2021. In 2022, conducted three fact finding missions in Loliondo documenting human rights violations in Loliondo. In June 2022 Watetezi TV journalist witnessed 9 people who were injured after being shot by police officers while resisting the demarcation process.



Through this documentary, aired on Watetezi TV gave a light of what happened on the scene, as the government claimed that the pictures that were circulating in social media.

In June 2022, Watetezi TV produced a documentary of a young man in Arusha who lost his life in police custody. According to the victim's wife account, her husband was taken by people who introduced themselves as police officers later they received a call from police station informing her that her husband is seriously ill, during autopsy they found that the neck had been fractured, he had wounds all over his body and his nails were pulled out. After the publication of the story, it rose discussion on social media as most of our followers asked police officers to stop violating human rights and those police officers murdered him should be accountable for their acts. Generally, in 2022 THRDC witnessed the rising credibility of Watetezi TV from the public and HROs as evidenced by several requests from its audience who requested for coverage and live coverage of their stories and events respectively.

2.2.1.8 Overall Achievements

2.2.1.8.1 The government committed to support local Grassroots NGO in Tanzania.

The government through the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups has committed to strengthen Grassroots NGO through the office of NGO registrar.

- i. The Tanzania Revenues Authority has committed to collaborate with other stakeholders in conducting research to determine the best way to tax NGOs.
- ii. The ministry of Community Development, Gender, has adopted 10 deliberative resolutions to resolve challenges affecting local NGO on financial sustainability.
- iii. Adoption of the recommendations of NGOs Information System report

2.2.1.8.2 Separation of the Office of the NGO Registrar as an independent entity

The evaluation report of the effectiveness of the NIS reporting system recommended the separation of the operationalization of The Office of NGO Registrar as an independence entity for effective operation. This recommendation was presented to the Prime Minister Hon. Kassim Majaliwa during the 2022 NGO Forum. The government is currently in the process of establishing the Office of NGO Registrar as an independent entity. This will improve the operationalization and the establishment functions of the Office of NGOs Registrar in Tanzania.

2.2.1.8.3 Adoption of Zanzibar Judiciary Needs Assessment Report for Improved Access to Justice

The President of Zanzibar, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi launched Zanzibar Judiciary Needs Assessment Report 2022. The report identifies institutional capacity gaps and recommends for further reforms to improve its efficiency in justice dispensation and eventually the respect of human rights in Zanzibar. This is an inspiration to key stakeholders to take responsive measures towards reforming the Judiciary of Zanzibar for improved access to justice in the isles.

“We will make use of this report to prepare a five-year Strategic Plan for the Judiciary which will be the right compass for the improvement of Zanzibar’s Judiciary. This report contains some issues which will be prioritized, moreover, there are certain issues whose implementation will be delayed due to financial constraints, but the overall aim is to forge ahead with them all to bring better services to the people” Said Zanzibar’s Chief Justice Khamis Ramadhan Abdalla.

2.2.1.8.4 Recognition of Human Rights Defenders’ Work in Human Rights Protection and National Development Plans.

Both the President of United Republic of Tanzania and Zanzibar have recognized great contribution of human rights defenders to national development.

“You have earned trust from the government, no wonder you have grown to this level. There is no institution that doesn’t want human rights. We are very pleased to have people who can support us in protecting human rights. You still have so much to do, organize yourself, the government is there to support you,” H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

“You have been important partners in fighting gender-based violence, sexual harassment, children molestation and humiliation here in Zanzibar. The government is very satisfied with your efforts. We will continue to collaborate with various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to address existing and emerging challenges in achieving our development plans”. H.E, Dr. Hussein Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar.

2.2.1.8.5 The African Court emphasizes on respect of Human Rights and Rule of law as integral aspects of democracy.

*“The needs assessment report launched today serves as **an incredible** tool towards decision making, resource allocation and ultimately reaching to programmatic goal to improve access to justice in Zanzibar. Access to justice and rule of law are important in democratic governance.*

The primary responsibility of protecting these values lies to the court. The judiciary as an independent pillar should collaborate with the government and other stakeholders including the civil society organizations”.

2.2.1.8.6 Release of Maasai Leaders and other Human Rights Defenders charge with Murder in Arusha

The government through the Office of Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) dropped the Maasai leaders’ case on 22 November 2022 as recommended under ACHPR resolution two. THRDC will continue to follow up the implementation of the remaining 8 resolution and recommendations to the government of Tanzania.

Resolution no 2.

“The African commission urges the government of Tanzania to take measures to release the Maasai leaders and other Human Rights Defenders charged with murder of the Police officer in Arusha as they have been held under detention for more than three months now without the investigation being completed”

2.2.1.8.7 Increased credibility of Watetezi TV from the public

Watetezi TV for the year 2022 has been receiving several requests from its audience who needs their stories to be covered as well as other HROs who requested for Live coverage of their events

2.2.1.9 Best Practices and Lessons Learned

The best practices which could be of a lesson to other grantees.

- i. With the current legal and practical challenges affecting the space of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), organizations should continue to engage Government Ministries, and government departments as part of advocacy strategies. The affirmation of the new President, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, there is an avenue for CSOs to engage with the government for reforms.
- ii. Previous the Government was reluctant to collaborate with CSOs especially human rights organizations were labeled as opponent of the government through various strategic engagement meetings coordinated by THRDC in collaborations with other CSOs organizations, recently the government positively recognizing CSOs contribution to national development and currently, the government is engaging with CSOs including human rights organization in national development plans, decision making processes i.e. law making and budget. For example, THRDC engage with the Parliament, Judiciary, Ministries, Human Rights Institution, and other state apparatus for recognition of HRDs, reform and enactment of laws, frameworks, plans, and policies related to HRDs.

2.2.2. Intermediate Outcome 2.2: Protection Planning and Risk Management

This program entails to empower HRDs on protection and risk management in their working environment. This has been actualized through training sessions, round table discussions, dialogues, and seminars on physical and digital security management, monitoring, and compliance to regulatory laws, as well as documenting, and reporting human rights violations. To further promote HRDs protection, the Coalition also empowers lawyers and judicial officers on public interest litigation and adopting a human rights approach to adjudication. This enhances HRDs capacity and confidence in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Under this program in 2022 THRDC reached a total of 878 Human Rights Defenders both institutions and individuals on Mainland Tanzania and in Zanzibar at various levels and capacities aiming to empower them on key issues pertaining their roles and mandates in protecting human rights and HRDs working environments. In particular THRDC reached 195 Civil Society, 156 Law Enforcement Officials (prosecutors and police officers), 33 Judiciary Actors (Judges, magistrates, and other officers), 44 Journalists and 450 University Students.

Hereunder are interventions undertaken by THRDC to promote HRDs protection and risk management:

2.2.2.1 Orientation Seminar for New THRDC Members

THRDC conducted a two-day induction and orientation seminar to new Coalition members. The seminar increased participants knowledge on physical and digital security, and on compliance to NGO regulatory laws. Participants also gained understanding of the Coalition's policy frameworks. A total of 29 (9 women and 20 men) new members participated from different zones.



Picture 21. Participants during the orientation session to new THRDC members

2.2.2.2 Sensitization of HRDs through open lectures at higher learning institutions

THRDC collaborated with the American Bar Association facilitated two (2) public lectures on the role of universities in promoting civic empowerment with focus on the right to freedom of expression at the University of Iringa and at the State University of Zanzibar respectively.

The lectures improved students' understanding on the right to freedom of expression in addressing important issues in the country. The lectures also provided university students with a platform for knowledge sharing and discussion of emerging issues including exceptions and limitations in exercising freedom of expression online, as well as challenges and prospects.



Picture 22: Hon. Justice Mambi (left), and Mr. Michael Baruti (Journalist-right) during a Public Lecture at the Iringa University

2.2.2.3 Workshop with Members of the Judiciary (Judges) on Handling Public Interest Cases

THRDC collaborated with the Judiciary of Zanzibar to empower Judges and Magistrates on handling the public interest cases. In the session, the Coalition facilitated the topic “justice through a gender lens”. The session discussed adjudication of GBV and child abuse cases in Zanzibar. It therefore increased Judges knowledge on best practices in adjudicating such cases in effort to promote women and child rights in Zanzibar. This session brought together 50 (28 men and 22 women) senior judicial officers including Judges of the High Court of Zanzibar and Magistrates.

2.2.2.4 Empowerment session to Law Enforcement Officers on Handling of Human Rights, Gender Based Violence and Child Abuse Cases

THRDC hosted training sessions for law enforcers including police and representatives of the office of the director of public prosecution. In the sessions, participants discussed the situation of cases of gender-based violence and violence against children (GBV and VAC). They looked at constraints faced during investigation of cases of GBV and VAC as most are often left to police gender desks. It was recommended that all relevant law enforcement departments should collaborate in handling these cases. Collaboration between law enforcers and civil society was also seen to be vital to enable the law enforcers to adequately be informed by the community and other stakeholders for investigation and prosecution of perpetrators. Participants also acknowledged an existing need for training of law enforcement organs to improve their efficiency and ability to address GBV and VAC cases. The training sessions brought together 3 groups of law enforcement officials from the Southern Coastal Zone (Mtwara, Lindi, and Ruvuma); Eastern Coastal Zone (Dar es salaam, Pwani and Tanga); and Zanzibar (Pemba, and Unguja). A total of 156 (115 men and 41 women) law enforcement officials were trained.



Mtwara Training



Dar es salaam Training



Zanzibar Training

Picture 23. Participants during the different sessions in Mtwara, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar.

2.2.2 5 CSO Training on Best Practices for Widening Civic Space in Zanzibar

THRDC conducted a two-day training session for 45 CSOs representatives in Zanzibar as part of the efforts to expand civic space for them to operate sustainably in Zanzibar. An action plan was created after participants identified four priority areas of advocacy and developed an action plan for widening civic space in Zanzibar. The priority areas were on freedom of assembly, freedom of expression, right to participation and non-discrimination, and joint actions.

Following the training session, a meeting was held in May to chat how to rollout developed action plan. The meeting appointed a lead organization for each priority area under general oversight by the Coalition. It was also agreed that each organization would appoint a focal person for civic space matters.



Picture 24. Training participants during the follow-up Meeting

2.2.2.6 Annual Retreat for Magistrates and Judges in Zanzibar

THRDC collaborated with the American Bar Association (ABA) and the International Center for Non-Profit Law (ICNL) to host a two-day judicial officer's seminar in Unguja Zanzibar. From the workshop, participants gained knowledge on the international and regional legal framework and best practices underpinning the right to freedom of expression, and digital rights. It also explored emerging trends and jurisprudence on electronic evidence.

The seminar brought together officials from the judiciary of Zanzibar, the office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), the office of the Commissioner of Police, and the Zanzibar Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA). A total of 33 participants (12 women, and 21 men) participated.



Picture 25. Participants of the Retreat together with the Hon. Chief Justice of Zanzibar (third from the left) and Ms. Ismene Zarifis, ABA senior technical advisor for the African region (2nd from left) in a group photo

2.2.2.7 Journalists' Training on reporting human rights violations with special focus on Court proceedings

THRDC conducted a training for journalists, bloggers, and editors on compliance with regulatory laws and reporting human rights issues with special focus upon reporting on court proceedings. From the training, participants were sensitized on increasing their interest in reporting human rights violations especially stories calling for government action. Participants also increased understanding on how to report on court proceedings without infringing upon judicial autonomy. A total of 44 journalists (31men and 13women) from Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar participated.



Picture 26. Participants during a training session in Morogoro

2.2.2.8 Developing a Training Manual for the implementation of the Marrakesh Declaration on Women HRDs

The Coalition developed a training manual for the implementation of the Marrakesh Declaration. The manual will direct training officials from the government and the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance to build their understanding on the Marrakesh Declaration. This is to influence implementation of the Declaration for the welfare of human rights defenders particularly women in Tanzania. The manual will be used as an advocacy tool towards domestication of the declaration in Tanzania.

2.2.2.9 Overall Achievements

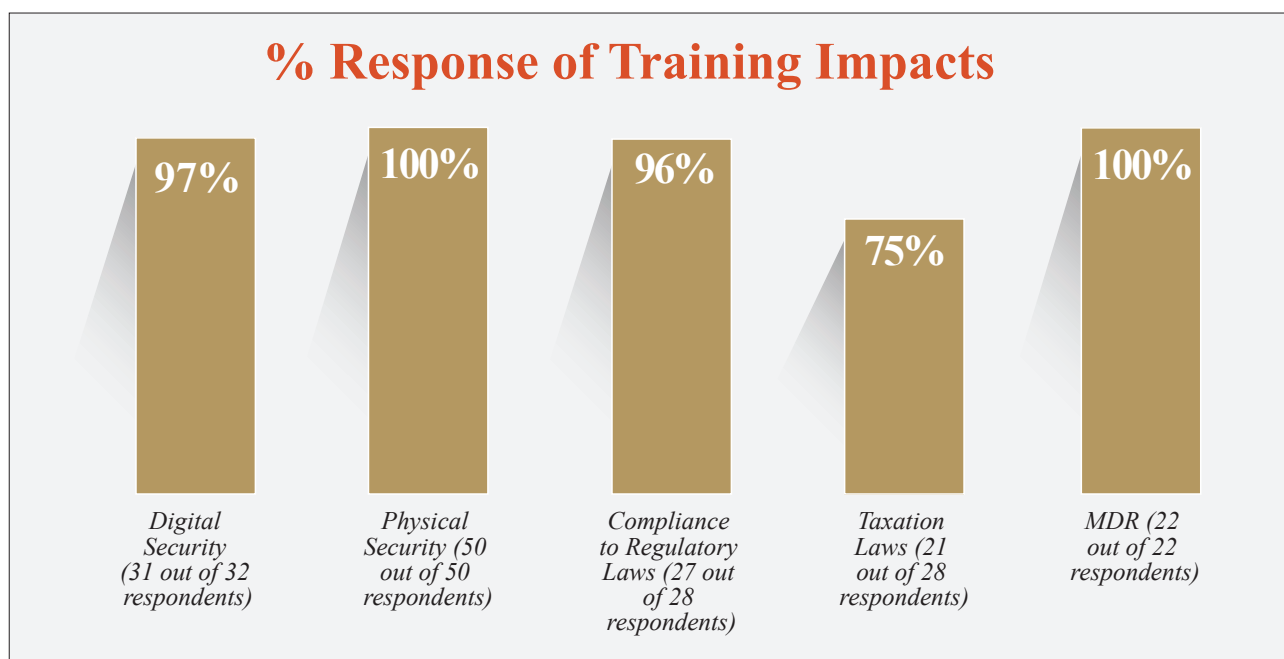
2.2.2.9.1 THRDC successful reached a total of 878 Human Rights Defenders both institutions and individuals in Mainland and Zanzibar.

Table 2: Summary of HRD and Organizations reached with Protection Planning and Risk Management interventions

| | | MAINLAND | | ZANZIBAR | | TOTAL |
|---|---|-------------------|----------|------------------|----------|-------|
| 1 | Civil Society | 150 organizations | | 45 organizations | | 195 |
| 2 | Law Enforcement Officials (prosecutors and police officers) | 79 men | 31 women | 36 men | 10 women | 156 |
| 3 | Judiciary Actors (Judges, magistrates, and other officers) | 0 | 0 | 21 men | 12 women | 33 |
| 4 | Journalists | 31 men | 13 women | 0 | 0 | 44 |
| 5 | University Students | 300 | | 150 | | 450 |

2.2.2.9.2 Application of the empowerment knowledge by HRDs as a means of improving working environment.

HRDs trained on physical security, and monitoring, documenting, and reporting human rights violations (MDR) were positively impacted by the training sessions as evidenced by responses from the November 2022 online survey. On physical security, some respondents attested to have built fences, others installed CCTV cameras and others employed security guards for their offices. On MDR, some became better at following up and assisting victims of GBV cases. On digital security, some are now using stronger passwords for their devices and have opted for communication channels which are more secure. Meanwhile, on taxation laws some have been able to apply for tax exemption for non-profits whereas others now pay their taxes on time as required. Many have attested to have improved their understanding of laws regulating NGO activities.



2.2.2.10 Lessons learnt and adaptive measures

- i. There is great demand for capacity building for Zanzibar HRDs and organizations. This will be considered in the coming activity planning.
- ii. There is great need of resource mobilization and management training. This should also be addressed in the coming year.
- iii. Knowledge on digital security, compliance to regulatory laws, and monitoring, documentation and reporting human rights violations is still much needed among HRDs. The coalition should conduct more of these training and continue to make follow up on their impact.

2.2.2.11 Successes recorded in 2022

- i. “Security management training have capacitated us with confidence and knowledge to stand firm as human rights defenders. Through tax compliance training, we now know which taxes to pay, and when to pay them. We would have continued to face compliance difficulties if it wasn’t for the capacity building from THRDC”. Representative from Kigoma Women Development (KIWOODE), Kigoma

- ii. *“We highly acknowledge THRDC for capacitating us in different issues as their members. Through THRDC, we can understand the concept human rights defender in a broader picture, we understand community engagement, and education methods. We request THRDC to capacitate us on legal compliance because we have little legal knowledge”*. **Selina Lyapinda, Executive Director of Mbeya Women Organization (MWO), Mbeya**
- iii. *“At least we now know about the laws concerning human rights defenders, even if it is just to a small extent”*. **Rashid Mwinyi, Pamoja Youth Initiative (PYI), Zanzibar**
- iv. *“Monitoring, documenting and reporting human rights violations trainings has enabled us to assist parents who initially abandoned their children to take them back to school”*. **Representative from Tanzania Home Economic Association (TAHEA), Kagera**
- v. *“We are now paying taxes, and we have written a letter requesting for tax exemption because we do not make profit”*. **Gabriel Mwita, GEITASAMO Paralegal Organization, Serengeti.**

2.2.3. Intermediate Outcome 2.3: Litigation, Emergency Support and Rescue.

Litigation, emergency support and rescue is one of the three programs under the protection and security management programs. The focus of this program is the provision of legal assistance/representation, emergency support and rescue to human rights defenders at risk. This intermediate result area strives to ensure the emergency protection fund is mobilized and being used to support HRDs emergency services; legal aid services are provided to HRDs in need; documentation of HRDs’ rights violations and conducting fact finding missions.

The year 2022 is unique in terms of workload and emergency support provided to HRDs at risk compared to the last year. There has been a drastic increase in terms of number of HRDs supported in 2022 compared to 2021. A total of 264 HRDs were supported with legal assistance, relocation, medical, family support and other emergency support compared to 78 supports for the year 2021. The escalation has been partly contributed by the land conflict saga whereby the HRDs’ defending indigenous land rights in Ngorongoro district, Arusha region were at stake as a result of their activeness in protecting the rights of the indigenous people within the locality. Through its assessment, THRDC established that all the HRDs supported were able to continue with their human rights work as a result of receiving protection support from the coalition.

Also, fact finding missions were conducted on pressing issues facing HRDs or the minorities. For example, in 2022 fact finding missions were conducted in Shinyanga region where a HRD was alleged to be shot by the Police to death, in Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions on the violation of pastoralists and indigenous rights in relation to their ancestral land and confiscation of their livestock by the state machineries.

Table 3. Number of HRDs received supports from THRDC in 2022

| Services Offered | 2022 |
|---|------------|
| Legal representation | 143 |
| Short-term relocation | 46 |
| Medical support and psychological support | 31 |
| Strategic cases | 16 |
| Family Support | 8 |
| School Support | - |
| Office Relocation | 1 |
| Referral assistance | 19 |
| Total | 264 |

The following interventions were conducted by THRDC in attempt to accomplish targets set under this result area.

2.2.3.1. Enhancing Protection of HRDs through Emergency Support

Emergency protection support in terms of relocation was provided to 46 HRDs (8 women, 38 men), medical support to 7 HRDs (2 women, 5 men), psycho-social support to 25 (3 female, 22 men) office relocation for 1 human rights organization, and 8 HRDs' families were provided with humanitarian support. Further, 19 HRDs were provided with emergency referral assistance to external sister organizations promoting and protecting HRDs' rights.

Most of the HRDs relocated were the victims of the eviction process in Loliondo, Sale and Ngorongoro divisions in Arusha region. The process was conducted in June 2022 after the Regional Commissioner for Arusha had issued a vacation notice of the Maasai who were residing in Loliondo, Sale and Ngorongoro divisions. The notice was issued on 11th January 2022 without consultations with the Maasai or their leaders.

Due to lack of effective consultations, the community did not gently surrender their land instead they demanded for consultations, formed different committees, and made efforts to prepare reports and submitted to the Prime Minister on how best to resolve the land conflict in Ngorongoro district. All their efforts were not taken much into consideration by the government and instead the government deployed Police officers who demarcated the land in Loliondo by erecting beacons.

During the erection of beacons, people who were against it were beaten, arrested, charged in court, tortured, denied Police forms for medical treatment hence over 2000 people crossed border to neighbouring countries for medical treatment and for fearing persecution by the state machineries in the country.

2.2.3.2. Enhancing Protection of HRDs through Legal Assistance

i. Legal Representation

A total of 143 HRDs at risk (12 women, 131 men) received direct legal support from THRDC and 89 HRDs amongst them were released by the court after the prosecution withdrawing the case against them. A total of 9 immigration cases against 62 HRDs was handled by two human rights advocates under the support of THRDC and its member organizations in Arusha region which are Pastoral Women's Council (PWC), Pingos Forum and Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT)

All the 9 immigration cases were dismissed by the District Court of Ngorongoro on 17th November 2022 after the failure of the prosecution to bring witnesses in court to prove the case. All the 9 cases were instituted after the Maasai residents of Loliondo division were arrested in June and July 2022 during the demarcation process of the village land covering 1,500 square kilometers in Loliondo and Sale divisions. All the 62 people were arrested and charged for unlawful presence within the United Republic of Tanzania contrary to Section 45(1)(i) & (2) of the Immigration Act. The said provision of the law prohibits illegal residence by non-citizens within the United Republic of Tanzania.

The cases were dismissed by the court under Section 225(5) of the Criminal Procedure Act because the prosecution side failed to bring witnesses for proving the case in court. Legally, since it was the prosecution who instituted those cases, it was her duty to prove all the cases in court beyond reasonable doubt.

Moreover, on 22nd November 2022 the Resident Magistrates' Court of Arusha acquitted 24 Loliondo leaders and land rights defenders who had been charged with murder and conspiracy to murder in preliminary inquiry no 11 of 2022. The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) withdrew such a case as he was no longer interested with prosecuting the case hence prayed for all the accused persons to be released under section 91 of the Criminal Procedure Act. The DPP has the legal power under the said provision of the law to withdraw any case against any accused person by entering a *nolle prosequi*, that he has no interest to further prosecute the case.

The court released them accordingly and they were all set free. Generally, in that preliminary inquiry case a total of 27 people were charged whilst 3 of them were released on 28th July 2022 after the DPP entering a *nolle prosequi*. After their release, THRDC engaged a psychosocial expert to provide counselling services. The counselling training was very important because they stayed in prison for more than five months and most of them it was their first time to be arrested, detained, psychologically tortured, and charged for an offence of murder which they did not commit, hence in one way or another, they were psychologically affected. Currently, cases against 54 HRDs are ongoing before different courts in Tanzania.



Picture 27:
Local leaders and Maasai HRDs in court attending the murder case charged with in Preliminary Inquiry No 11 of 2022

ii. Strategic Cases supported

In 2022, a total of 16 strategic cases (9 new, and 7 ongoing strategic cases) have been supported on area of independence of the judiciary, legality of enacted Laws and Regulations, freedom of expression, etc. Only two cases have been completed. The first case was challenging annulment of marriage by the court on the ground of epilepsy, and the second was challenging the government attempt to grab land in Loliondo in 2016 and 2017 where people were tortured still however, the court held that the witnesses' testimony contradicted each other and was generally insufficient. Below is brief illustration of the strategic cases

- i. **Paul Emmanuel Kilasa Kisabo Versus Attorney General [Miscellaneous Civil Cause No 09 of 2022]**, challenging the powers vested in the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, under Article 118 (2) (c) of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, 1977, to remove the Chief Justice from his position. The case is scheduled for judgment on 10th February 2023.
- ii. **Peter Michael Madeleka Vs Attorney General of the United Republic of Tanzania [Reference No 31 of 2022]** challenging the practicability of section 16 of the Cybercrimes

Act which prohibits publication of false information. Such a prohibition limits freedom of expression but also does not meet threshold of the limitation test under international human rights law which are legality, legitimacy, and proportionality test. The case is pending for a scheduling conference before the East African Court of Justice.

- iii. **Grace Naimadu Ngorisha Versus Minister of Natural Resources and the Attorney General of Tanzania.** challenging the illegal and un-procedural promulgation of Government Notice No.421 of 2022 titled the Wildlife Conservation (Pololeti Game Controlled Area) (Declaration) Order, published on 17th day of June 2022.

The Declaration has the effect of dispossessing about 7,000 Maasai People in Loliondo who are described as indigenous people, of their ancestral Land and forcefully relocating them to an area which is incompatible with their culture, lifestyle, tradition, cultural, social, and religious activities. The case is pending for a scheduling conference before the East African Court of Justice.

- iv. **Onesmo Olengurumwa Versus the Attorney General of Tanzania [Civil Appeal No 134 of 2022, originating from Miscellaneous Civil Cause no 15 of 2020 and no 9 of 2021],** challenging Section 4 (2) (3) (4) (5) of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act, Cap 3 R.E 2019 which abolished public interest litigation in Tanzania. The sections require one to prove how an action complained of *“has affected that person personally for his case to be admitted by the High Court”*. On the other hand, the provisions confer sovereign immunity on heads of the Executive, Legislature, and the Judiciary from being sued in their own capacity instead the Attorney General to be sued on behalf. These amendments technically barred NGOs and HRDs from instituting strategic cases before courts.

- ◆ The provisions were firstly challenged in Misc. civil case no 15 of 2020 in August 2020. On 17th December 2020, the case was struck out with costs. This increased fear among HRDs worrying instituting strategic cases because costs are not awardable in public interest cases. The case was refiled as Misc. civil cause no 09 of 2021 in March 2021. It was heard on merit and on 15th February 2022 the High Court held that Section 4 (2) (3) (4) (5) of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act, Cap 3 R.E 2019 is proper and in line with article 26(2) and 30(3) of the Constitution of United Republic of Tanzania, 1977.
- ◆ Tirelessly, human rights attorneys prepared the pleadings and lodged the appeal in the Court of Appeal of Tanzania against the judgment of the High Court. To date the case is pending for hearing in the Court of Appeal of Tanzania.

- v. **Tanzania Epilepsy Organization Versus the Attorney General of Tanzania [Miscellaneous Civil Cause No 05 of 2022]** challenging Section 39(a)(ii) of the Law of Marriage Act [Cap 29 R.E. 2019]. The section provides that a spouse may petition for annulment of marriage if at the time of marriage, the other spouse was subject to epilepsy or recurrent attacks of epilepsy. It was the position of the petitioner that such a provision of the Law discriminates persons with epilepsy to sustain a marriage and propagates stigma based on his or her medical or social condition of epilepsy.

- ◆ The Attorney General in his reply raised an objection to the effect that Tanzania Epilepsy Organization had no locus standi/legal capacity to institute the case because it is not personally affected by the complained provision of the law as it cannot marry or engage in a marriage.

- ◆ Basically, the objection is an outcome of the amendments to Section 4 (2) (3) (4) (5) of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act which are still being challenged in court. The High Court (Moshi J) held that Tanzania Epilepsy Organization cannot be personally affected by section 39 (a) (ii) of the Law of Marriage Act, cap. 29 R.E.2019 because it is incapable of contracting a marriage.

vi. Mary Barnaba Mushi Versus the Attorney General [Miscellaneous Civil Cause No 14 of 2022], challenging the act of the government's consultations soliciting for people's opinion on the minimum age of marriage contrary to the directives of the Court of Appeal of Tanzania in the case of **Attorney General versus Rebecca Gyumi [2019] TZCA 348**

The aforesaid decision of the Court of Appeal of Tanzania confirmed the position of the High Court:-that the minimum age of marriage of a girl child is 18 years, the provisions of the Law of Marriage Act providing for a lower minimum age of marriage are unconstitutional and that the two un-amended unconstitutional sections of the Law of Marriage Act were no longer part of the laws of Tanzania, following lapse of one year moratorium for their amendment on as at 07.06. 2017.

- ◆ That to date the aforesaid decision of the Court of Appeal of Tanzania remains unimplemented and the unconstitutional section 13 and 17 still form part of the statute books and are currently included in the 2019 Revised Edition of the Laws.
- ◆ That on 28.09.2022, the Government through the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs issued a press release to announce commencement of nationwide consultations to solicit people's opinion on the minimum age of marriage on the ground that there exists confusion as to the minimum age of marriage brought about by the decision of the High Court of Tanzania in *Rebeca Z. Gyumi versus Attorney General, Misc. Civil Cause 5 of 2016 [2016] TZHC 2023*.
- ◆ That the ongoing proposed consultation by the Government undermines the position and status of the Judiciary of Tanzania as the sole and final interpreter of the Constitution and Laws of Tanzania.

vii. Charles Lutobisha Kasema and 3 Others [Miscellaneous Application No 47 of 2022], challenging the order of the Songwe District Commissioner issued on 13th and 21st November 2022. The district commissioner issued unwritten notice against residents of Gua, Ngwala, Kapalala, and Itizilo village's respectively in Songwe District to leave and vacate from their respective homeland or residential areas within between 4 and 7 days, in default he said that they would be forced to leave uncompensated under special operation involves Police Task Force.

- ◆ He issued such an order claiming that such villages are within the National Reserved Land really. Such an order causes injures to the villagers by placing them in a sudden plight of homelessness with devastating effects ranging from social psychological to economic consequence's they are succumbed to so far.
- ◆ Being aggrieved with the said superfluous order, the villagers requested for legal support from THRDC. THRDC engaged a human rights advocate, and the case is currently pending at the High Court of Tanzania in Mbeya.

viii. **Ololosokwan Village Council & Three Others Versus Attorney General of Tanzania [Reference No 10 of 2017]**. It was instituted on 21st September 2017 after several disputes regarding the ownership and usage of a portion of the Applicants' land that borders the Serengeti National Park (SNP) to the west. In mid-August 2017, officials and officers from the Government of Tanzania, accompanied by staff of Otterlo Business Corporation (OBC) began violently evicting Maasai communities from 1,500 square kilometres of their own land in Loliondo, after issuing diversionary formal letters to the Applicants ordering them to remove their cattle and bomas "from the Serengeti National Park."

- ◆ The Applicants resolved to take legal action against the Attorney General at the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) under the legal guidance of Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU). The filing of the case was one of the first steps of many initiatives later leading to the filing of a request for Provisional Measures (Interim Orders) which successfully led to the Court ordering the Tanzanian government to stop all their activities, until the final judgement.
- ◆ On its part, actions by the Tanzanian government included intimidation and physical assault meted out to community members and their livestock which inflicted serious bodily harm and even caused death to others. The on-going government's intimidation on forced evictions in Loliondo led the community to file an Application for Contempt of Court at the EACJ on the failure by the government to adhere to the Provisional Measures (Interim Orders) that had been issued by the Court. Unfortunately this application has not yet been scheduled by the court for Hearing to implicate government officials for contempt of the Court.
- ◆ On the judgment day, 30th September 2022 journalists were banned from live streaming the delivery of the verdict, to the amazement of lawyers, individuals, HRDs, regional and the international community.
- ◆ The judgment was delivered in favor of the Attorney General of Tanzania where the Court held that the witnesses' testimonies contradicted each other and were generally not convincing. The Maasai communities were dissatisfied and disappointed by the Judgment. They felt that the Court disregarded the compelling multitude of oral and Affidavit evidence tendered by the villagers.
- ◆ The Court also side-stepped the incontrovertible evidence of their expert witness, a respected and accomplished Geo-Spatial Expert, on the mere basis that he was a Kenyan and had not sought a work permit to undertake surveys in Tanzania, which is not true. As such, the Maasai communities instructed PALU to immediately lodge an Appeal at the Appellate Division of the Court, which was done accordingly. The appeal is pending before the court.

ix. **Onesmo Olengurumwa Vs the Attorney General [Civil Appeal No 165 of 2021 originating from Miscellaneous Civil Cause No. 36 of 2019]**, challenging the conduct of committal proceedings. Committal proceedings is a situation where a suspect is arrested, detained, and charged with unbailable offence before the committal court, a court without jurisdiction of hearing such a case on merit. Negatively, the investigations of such cases normally take too long. The cases are usually adjourned because of incomplete investigation.

- ◆ To curb the committal process, Mr. Olengurumwa petitioned on 16th December 2019 before the High Court of Tanzania in Dar es Salaam challenging the committal proceedings because it subjects the accused person to a punishment before sentence, negates the right to fair trial and it amounts to the delay of justice.
 - ◆ The case is challenging sections 178, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247 248, 249, 250,256, 257, 258 and 259 of the Criminal Procedure Act which permits committal proceedings to be conducted. Such sections contravene the Constitution, violates the fundamental rights and freedoms of the people, suppresses the rule of law, the due process of the law and encourages abuse of power by the authority.
 - ◆ On 21st October 2020, the High Court of Tanzania dismissed the case on the ground of being *res-judicata* with the case of Zephrine Galeba v. Honorable Attorney General [Miscellaneous Civil Application No 21 of 2013]. Being aggrieved, Mr. Onesmo lodged an appeal before the Court of Appeal of Tanzania in April 2021. To date the case has not yet been scheduled for hearing.
- x. **Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) versus the United Republic of Tanzania [Application No 039 of 2020]**, instituted on 18th November 2020 challenging section 148(5) of the Criminal Procedure Act. This was after the Court of Appeal of Tanzania declaring that section 148(5) of the Act is in compliance with the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, through a Criminal Appeal No 175 of 2020 [Attorney General versus Dickson Sanga]
- ◆ Section 148(5) contains a list of unbailable offences such as murder, economic offences etc. Section 148(5) violates provisions of the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights (Charter), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, 1977. Pleadings were completed and to date, the case is pending for judgement.
- xi. **Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) versus the Attorney General**, instituted in August 2020 challenging the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Contents) Regulations of 2020. The Regulations bars publication of prohibited contents listed under its Third Schedule, also requires for registration and subscription fees for online media. It indeed curtails freedom of expression by imposing restrictions to online platforms among others. The case is pending for a scheduling conference at EACJ.
- xii. **Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU), Tanganyika Law Society (TLS), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), and Centre for Strategic Litigation (CSL) versus the Attorney General of the United Republic of Tanzania [Reference No 25 of 2020]**, instituted on 14th August 2020 challenging Section 4 (2) (3) (4) (5) of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act, Cap 3 R.E 2019 which abolished public interest litigation in Tanzania. The sections require one to prove how an action complained of *“has affected that person personally for his case to be admitted by the High Court”*. The provisions technically bars NGOs and HRDs from instituting strategic cases before national courts.

- ◆ Section 4 of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act contain a blatant violation of Articles 6(d), 7(2) and 8(1) (c) of the Treaty for establishment of the East African Community; Articles 2, 3(1) and 7 of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* and all other international agreements to which the United Republic of Tanzania is a party to. The case is pending for a scheduling conference at EACJ

xiii. Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC), Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU), Tanganyika Law Society (TLS), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), and Centre for Strategic Litigation (CSL) versus the Attorney General of the United Republic of Tanzania [Reference No 27 of 2020], instituted on 17th August 2020 challenging the Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) Act of 2020. The Act amended thirteen (13) laws. Among the amendments is, an amendment to Section 4 of the Basic Rights and Duties Enforcement Act which abolished Public Interest Litigation unless a person shows how he has been personally affected.

- ◆ Moreover, the amendments within the Act conferred sovereign immunity on heads of the Executive, Legislature, and the Judiciary from being sued in their own capacity instead the Attorney General to be sued on behalf. Therefore, the Act violates Articles 6(d), 7(2) and 8(1)(c) of the Treaty. Specifically, Sections 33, 35, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43, 45, 46, 48 and 49 of the Act violate the fundamental and operational principles codified in Articles 6(d) and 7(2) of the Treaty and Articles 3(1) and 7 of the African Charter.
- ◆ The Reference is premised on the failure by the United Republic of Tanzania through the acts of its agents to abide by its commitments under the EAC Treaty, the fundamental and operational principles of the EAC Treaty, specifically the principles of the rule of law, good governance, equality before the law and protection of the human rights. The case is pending for a scheduling conference at EACJ.

xiv. Francis Muhingira Garatwa, Baraka Mwago and Allan Bujo Mwakatumbula Versus the Attorney General (Consolidated Miscellaneous Civil Cause No. 4 of 2018 and Miscellaneous Civil Cause No. 8 of 2018), instituted in 2018 before the High Court of Tanzania seeking the court to declare the constitutionality of Sections 43, 44, 45 and 46 of the Police Force and Auxiliary Services Act (Cap 322 R.E 2002) and Section 11 (2), (4), (6) and (7) of the Political Parties Act (Cap 258 R.E 2002) for offending Articles; 13(6) (a), 18, 20(1), 21 and 29 of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania.

- ◆ The stated provisions under the Police Force Auxiliary Services Act requires that for any person wishing to hold a public rally or procession must give notice of not less than 48 hours to the Officer Commanding District (OCD) of that respective area where the public rally or procession is scheduled to take place, for purposes of providing security.
- ◆ The spirit of the law might be very good, but its practice has never been realistic. Those provisions have been highly misused by the Police, which routinely prohibit people from holding public rallies or procession especially opposition political parties. Meanwhile the provision of the Political Parties Act requires all Political Parties to notify the Police before they hold public meetings.
- ◆ On 18th March 2020, the High Court of Tanzania delivered its judgment by declaring that such provisions are constitutional and hence they cannot be expunged from the statute book. Mr. Garatwa and his colleague being aggrieved filed an appeal before the Court of Appeal of Tanzania. To date, the appeal is pending before the Court of Appeal for scheduling a hearing date.

xv. **Joseph Osmund Mbilinyi & Peter Simon Msigwa Versus Commissioner General of Tanzania Prisons & Attorney General**, instituted in 2021 challenging the Prisons Act [Cap 58 R.E 2002] and the Prisons (Prison Offences) Regulations No 13 of 1968. The Petitioners are challenging the practice of the Tanzania Prison Services subjecting prisoners to mandatory HIV testing upon admission in prison without consent of the prisoners, medical examination results are issued in front of all the prisoners disregarding the right to privacy of prisoners.

- ◆ The practice of limiting the number of times for a prisoner to use latrine facilities, the practice of forcing the prisoner to take off all the clothes and remain naked in front of all the prisoners during search, giving prisoners only one pair of clothes, forcing them to remain naked when the only pair of clothes is being washed, the practice of overcrowding prisoners in a cell beyond its capacity, the practice of not providing adequate separate bedding/sleeping equipment, the practice of providing diet scale below the prescribed diet scale and the practice of subjecting prisoners to hard labour without payment. Hearing of the case has been completed and it is currently pending for judgement on 19th December 2022.

xvi. **Tito Elia Magoti and John Boniface Tulla versus the National Electoral Commission, Attorney General, Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance and the Tanzania Prison Service** [Miscellaneous Civil Cause No 3 of 2022], challenging the denial of the right to vote for the remanded persons awaiting trial. The petitioners were remanded in prison during the 2020 General Election. However, while waiting for the trial, their constitutional right to vote was denied.

- ◆ The National Electoral Commission (NEC) is specifically mandated under Article 5(1) of the Constitution to ensure that every citizen aged 18 years and above is granted the right to vote in an election in subject only to the constitutional restrictions under Article 5(2). However, Section 11(1)(c) of the National Elections Act disqualifies persons sentenced to death and persons serving a court issued sentence with imprisonment period of six [6] months and above, from registering as voters and or if already registered from voting in a General Election.
- ◆ During the 2020 General Election, NEC did not promulgate procedures and guidelines to moderate the registration of people awaiting trial in remand prisons as voters as well as procedures to govern modalities of voting for people awaiting trial in remand prisons on Election Day. There is no legal restriction nor disqualification for citizens of Tanzania who are on remand prison awaiting trial to be registered as voters and exercise their rights to vote. Hence the petitioners were personally affected.

2.2.3.3. Strengthening intervention through documentation of incidents, Bills analysis and conducting fact finding missions

i. Fact finding missions

Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) supported four (4) fact finding missions in 2022. The first attempt was made in February under the coordination of THRDC in collaboration with 20 religious Leaders and human rights organizations. The mission aimed to conduct physical visit in Loliondo and Ngorongoro divisions, conduct meetings with the local people and different government departments or authorities in Ngorongoro district, collecting and gathering information from the ground on the land grabbing and forceful eviction of the Maasai from Ngorongoro district. The fact-finding mission was planned to be conducted after the Arusha Regional Commissioner had issued a vacation notice of the Maasai who were residing in Loliondo, Sale and Ngorongoro divisions. The notice was issued on 11th January 2022, without consulting the Maasai nor their leaders.

However, the mission was unsuccessfully conducted because after arriving in Arusha region on the way to Loliondo, the Arusha Regional Commissioner demanded for a written permit from the Prime Ministers' office authorizing the fact-finding mission to be conducted. The mission was unsuccessful since the permit was not issued. THRDC has further planned to conduct another fact-finding mission in early 2023 in collaboration with the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance in collaboration with THRDC members and other suitable organizations.

Due to lack of effective consultations, the Maasai did not want to easily surrender their land instead they demanded for consultations, organized morning prayers, villagers' meetings, formed different committees, and made efforts to prepare reports and submitted to the Prime Minister on how best to resolve the land conflict in Ngorongoro district. All their efforts had been ignored, instead the government deployed Police officers who demarcated the land area covering 1,500 square kilometers in Loliondo and Sale divisions by erecting beacons.

During the exercise to erect the beacons, local people who opposed it were brutally assaulted by the police, arrested, charged in court, tortured, denied Police clearance forms to seek medical attention, forcing more than 2000 villagers to flee to neighbouring countries desperately seeking medical treatment. They were fearing persecution by the country's state machinery.

Immediately after the demarcation process, four (4) HRDs supported by THRDC conducted the fact-finding mission in Ngorongoro district to examine alleged rights violation against the Maasai and HRDs' rights which occurred during the demarcation process. The mission found that individuals who had been tortured during the demarcation process were denied Police forms number 3 allowing them to seek medical treatment for the injuries they had sustained as a result they fled the country.

A similar fact-finding mission was conducted in Kilimanjaro region in the wake of a massive campaign to seize livestock from pastoralists in the region. The mission revealed that the livestock were illegally seized by the government actors. THRDC intervened by consulting relevant authorities and the seized livestock were released unconditionally.

Lastly the fact-finding missions found that, a HRD was gunned down by a Police officer in Shinyanga region. A member of the THRDC coalition operating in Shinyanga conducted the the fact-finding mission which indeed revealed that HRD was killed by the Police officers and sadly the hospital's post-mortem findings were not disclosed to the family members, nor to the legal representative of the deceased. THRDC engaged a human rights advocate who critically examined the matter and found that according to the post-mortem report, the deceased was shot to death by a heavy object. The deceased was buried at his home village in Shinyanga Region.

2.2.3.4 Overall Achievements

- i. The Coalition successfully supported 264 HRDs who were at risk. Through this support HRDs confidence and security has significantly increased.
- ii. Through the fact-finding missions conducted to reveal the truth about the HRDs rights violations, THRDC evidently revealed the cases. Building on the evidence, other local and international platforms have used the data to advocate for change and actions i.e., the Ngorongoro land eviction saga.
- iii. For the relocation support offered to HRDs, no further risks were experienced by the HRDs during and after the lapse of relocation period.
- iv. Health condition for HRDs supported with medical treatment improved and resumed their role of defending human rights.
- v. The human rights organization supported with house rent in Loliondo has continued with its operation of promoting and protecting human rights in the country.

2.2.3.5 Overall Challenges

- i. Shortage of funding-leading to seeking external assistance due to high costs of HRDs and HRDs family relocation demand.
- ii. Double relocation support to some unfaithful HRDs because of lack of communications amongst the organizations providing relocation support to HRDs especially the regional organizations. Some regional or external organizations do not conduct due diligence to verify the funding requests presented to the coalition to support HRDs.
- iii. Interference by some partners demanding or ordering certain HRDs to be supported without genuine reasons to justify the support they seek. Some HRDs communicate directly with donors who instruct the coalition to release the said support to such HRDs.
- iv. Some people seek protection support without being at risk. This was quite evident during the relocation support requests for HRDs who protect the rights of pastoralists and indigenous people in Ngorongoro.
- v. Arrest, detention, and unfair charges against HRDs without enough evidence or when investigations are not completed. For example, the murder case involving leaders from Loliondo. Moreover, in some cases Police officers do not accord much cooperation the Advocates following up cases involving arrests and subsequent detention of HRDs in Police custody.
- vi. Harassment and or denial of legal representatives to see their clients detained in prisons. The lawyers who represented HRDs in the murder case involving Maasai leaders in Loliondo were repeatedly harassed and denied access to see their clients detained at Kisongo prison in Arusha.
- vii. Justice has been delayed to some cases against HRDs as the investigation take too long to be completed and if not completed, the republic tends to rescind the cases.
- viii. Delayed medical treatment to HRDs and detainees in prisons because of shortage of doctors and facilities. For example, the Maasai leaders in Loliondo who had been charged with murder in Arusha, repeatedly complained after being denied medical treatment even after reporting to the prison authorities.
- ix. Presence of many restrictive laws. There is dire need of having strategic cases and engagement meetings with law makers and public officials as an advocacy tool to ensure that such restrictive laws are amended.

2.2.3.6 Lessons Learnt and Way Forward

- i. Referral mechanism for supporting HRDs at risk needs to be more strengthened especially on the aspect of communication and verification of HRDs' requests for support. THRDC will continue to collaborate with international and regional protection partners in responding to HRDs' needs.
- ii. THRDC will continue to be steadfast in providing emergency support and rescue of HRDs at risk.
- iii. THRDC will institute measures to perfect the reporting of incidents of violations by members so that prompt measures can be taken to prevent further violation and protect HRDs at risk in membership zones.
- iv. There is a need to mobilize special funds to cater for legal assistance and short-term relocation for HRDs at risk.
- v. THRDC will sustain its good relationship with donors and will accordingly be discussing best ways of handling HRDs requests even if the requests have been sent directly to the donors by such a HRD.
- vi. With the current legal and practical challenges affecting the space of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), organizations should continue to engage Government Ministries, and government departments as part of advocacy strategies. The affirmation of the new President, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, there is an avenue for CSOs to engage with the government for reforms.

2.3. COALITION BUILDING AND SUSTAINABILITY

This outcome is designed to ensure the sustainability and performance of the Coalition. This area ensures enough resources are mobilized through establishing good relationship with development partners and financial proposals development, enough and skilled staff are maintained and recruited, working facilities are procured and the governing board is effectively advising and provide the strategic direction for the Coalition. Furthermore, this result area ensures the management is acting as it is provided in the organizational manual and plans, as well as the systems for tracking the implementation and performance of the program, are well established and operational. Lastly, this outcome ensures the Coalitions resources are utilized in accordance with the provided legal procedures including financial expenditure, assets and personnel time.

In 2022, THRDC demonstrated a high-performance level following well-organized institutional systems. Both internal and external institution development achievements have been apparent and reflected in the evaluation of the THRDC ten years of operation milestone and in the completed five (5) years of the Strategic Plan (2018-2022).

As this year marks the end of the (2018-2022) Strategic Plan, the Coalition has managed to maximize the deliverance of its services under this outcome. Furthermore, THRDC evaluated ten (10) years of the Coalition operations and developed a (2023-2027) Strategic Plan. Positive results have emerged from the (2018-2022) Strategic Plan implemented activities, and the strategies geared towards promoting organization sustainability have proven robust. In 2022, THRDC donors/development partners reaffirmed their existing commitments to support the Coalition. THRDC secured new funding from seven new donors, a 133% increase from the previous year. THRDC has been able to fund 89% of its annual budget, which is 10% higher than the 2021 budget.

THRDC continues to maintain and enhance the highest standards of transparency and accountability and ensure value for money in all organizational expenditures. The Coalition's governing Board continues to provide oversight of various governance and advisory matters.

2.3.1 Interventions conducted under this Result Area

2.3.1.1. Resource Mobilization

i. Fundraising: *The pillar for organization sustainability*

In 2022, THRDC secured new funding contracts from seven new donors: two core donors to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan: Save The Children and Ford Foundation, and the five project donors: International Centre for Not-For Profit Law (ICNL), Defend Defenders, Southern Defenders, FLD- Emergency Fund and PACT Tanzania.

When considering both old and new (all) donors, a total of 13 donors supported THRDC in the year 2022, six of them being retained from last year. Of these, four are core donors: KBFUS, Ford Foundation, Save The Children, and FLD -Core, the remaining are project-based donors: OSIEA, FCS, ABA, PIK, The Netherlands Embassy, PACT Tanzania, Defend Defenders, Southern Defenders, FLD -Emergency Fund, and ICNL.

Furthermore, THRDC has retained seven donors from last year and requested some of them to increase their support and allow for grant extensions most of whom accepted the THRDC requests. From these supports, THRDC has been able to fund 89% of its annual budget, which is 10% higher than the 2021 budget.

Table 4. The List of the donors supported the Coalition for the year 2022.

| Donor's name/ Source of funds. | Type of support/Purpose and objective | Contract's start date | Contract's end date |
|---|--|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Save The Children | Core Support on THRDC's Implementation of Strategic Plan | September 2022 | October 2026 |
| Ford Foundation | Core Support on THRDC's Implementation of Strategic Plan | August 2022 | August 2027 |
| KBFUS | Core Support on THRDC's Implementation of Strategic Plan | November 2021 | October 2024 |
| FLD | Core support on THRDC's Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2022 | June 2021 | December 2022 |
| | Supporting Human Rights Defenders at risks | August 2022 | December 2022 |
| American Bar Association | Promote East Africa's legal system reforms, especially in Uganda and Tanzania | January 2020 | March 2023 |
| Embassy of Netherland | Support the protection of Human Rights Defenders at risks. | July 2020 | December 2022 |
| Foundation for Civil Society | Improving Civic Space, Protection and Security of Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania | March 2019 | October 2022 |
| OSIEA | Security Management and Protection For Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania. | August 2019 | May 2022 |
| | Security management and protection for Human Rights Defenders during the 2020 General Elections | May 2020 | October 2022 |
| Protection International of Kenya (PIK) | Improve collaboration between Civil Society Organizations and Governments Authorities to foster their respective mandates. | February 2020 | May 2022 |
| | Supporting Human Rights Defenders at risks | August 2022 | December 2022 |
| PACT Tanzania (DDA) | 1. Fact-finding Mission in Loliondo | May 2022 | July 2022 |
| | 2.Supporting Commemorations of Defenders Day | May 2022 | June 2022 |
| ICNL | 1. Supporting HRDs through enhancing reporting of HR issues and handling HR cases i.e., training Journalist and Judges | February 2022 | January 2023 |
| | 2.Supporting HRDs on access to International HR mechanisms and UPR | February 2022 | June 2022 |
| Defend Defenders | Supporting Human Rights Defenders at risks | April 2022 | May 2022 |
| Southern Defenders | Supporting Human Rights Defenders at risks | May 2022 | December 2022 |

2.3.1.5. Income and Expenditures 2022.

i. Income

The total Coalition's income for the year 2022 was TZS 3,591,016,946. From this amount, TZS 3,573,636,896 was donor's receipts, TZS15,980,050 was the total members' subscription fees, and TZS 1,400,000 other incomes

Table 5. Income for the year 2022

| Outcome | Amount in TZS |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Opening Balance | 749,939,341 |
| PIK | 155,859,180 |
| FCS | 757,137,696 |
| OSIEA | 183,587,220 |
| ICNL | 77,325,402 |
| Members Fee | 15,980,050 |
| Southern Defenders | 11,465,000 |
| KBFUS | 671,902,325 |
| Frontline Defenders (FLD) | 233,792,229 |
| American Bar Association (ABA) | 65,889,340 |
| DDA | 68,920,000 |
| DEFEND DEFENDERS | 43,568,000 |
| Save The Children | 92,880,000 |
| Ford Foundation | 461,371,163 |
| OTHER INCOME | 1,400,000 |
| Total | 3,591,016,946 |

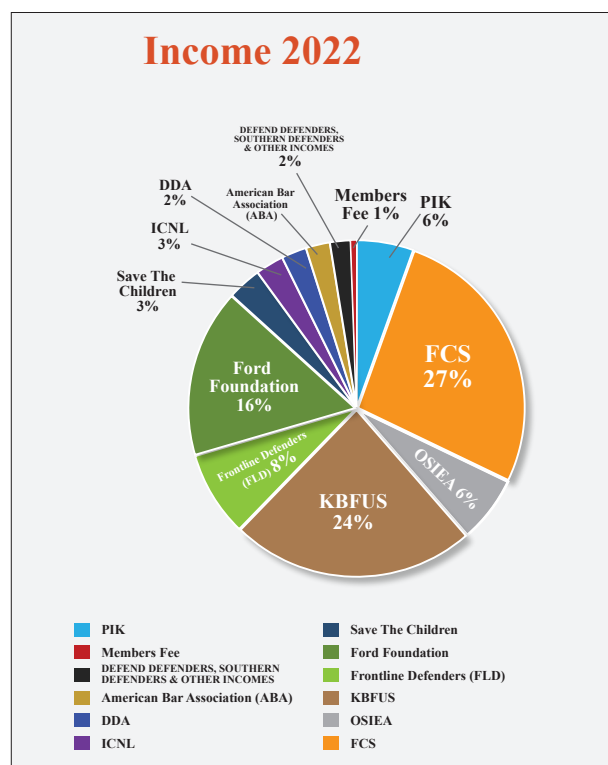


Figure 10. Graphical presentation of the of the 2022 income from donors and members.

ii. Expenditure

For 2022, the total THRDC expenditures amounted to TZS 2,265,072,619. The distribution of these expenditures is illustrated in the table.

Table 6 THRDC's Outcomes expenditures for the year 2022

| Outcome | Amount in TZS |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Members Affairs | 180,476,929 |
| Protection | 1,498,380,868 |
| Institutional Building | 586,214,822 |
| Total | 2,265,072,619 |

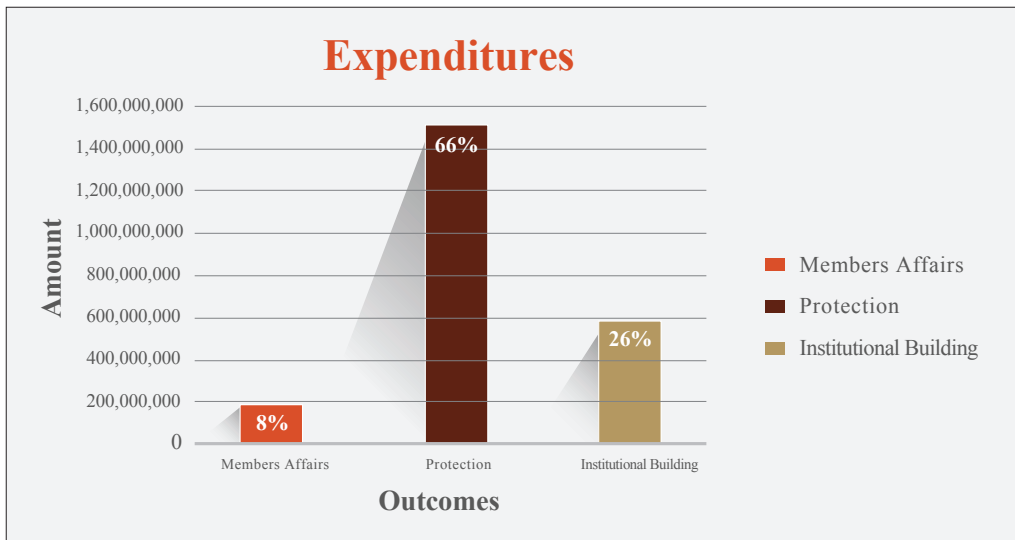


Figure 11.
THRDC's
Outcomes
expenditures
for the year
2022

2.3.1.6. Progress towards THRDC's Sustainability

i. Watetezi House: Steady navigation to sustainable Coalition

THRDC continued to strategize on alternative funding sources to ensure its sustainability. More efforts have been dedicated towards fundraising for the Watetezi House development to be used as a center for HRDs and, simultaneously, as a source of Income for THRDC. For the year 2022, THRDC collected about TZS 40 million increasing the total sustainability fund to 90mil. through development fund contributions. Towards materializing this development the President of the United Republic of Tanzania offered the Coalition one plot in Dodoma. In addition to this option, THRDC continues exploring alternative avenues of acquiring a building if possible and has a harmonized approach to be taken.

2.3.1.7. Fostering relationships with Development Partners

THRDC continue to maintain a good relationship with its Partners by ensuring accountability to donors, compliance with their requirements, and keeping them updated on the Coalition activities. THRDC hosted/and attended several physical and virtual meetings with development partners.¹ The Coalition used these meetings to share its strategic direction and leverage them to strengthen relationships with both current and past donors.

Picture 28: To the right is a group photo of Sweden Ambassador Hon. Anders Sjoberg and his assistant Ms. Sandra Diesel (Deputy Ambassador and Development and Cooperation Officer) and Ms. Nivin Yosef Anderson the then first secretary of democratic governance and human rights with the representative of THRDC secretariat, after the Meeting conducted on 27th January 2022, at THRDC Offices Mikocheni.



¹ To mention a few, THRDC hosted a meeting with EU Ambassador on 17th January 2022, with SDC on 27th January 2022 and 8th September 2022, with USAID representatives on 1st March 2022, and with Save the Children on 25th March 2022. In addition, it hosted a courtesy call with the UN resident coordinator on 22nd September 2022. On 25th May 2022, the Secretariat conducted a virtual Annual Review Meeting with THRDC partners. On the 27th of May, a roundtable discussion on democracy, human rights, and media freedom was held at the High Commission of Canada with ambassador H.E. Ms. Pamela O'Donnell. Furthermore, THRDC attended a meeting with ABA Partners Consortium Meeting on 2nd February 2022.

Picture 29: To the right is a group photo of THRDC representatives after a round table discussion on democracy, human rights, and media freedom held at the High Commission of Canada with ambassador H.E. Ms. Pamela O'Donnell the THRDC's members with the High Commissioner of High Commission of Canada in Tanzania H.E Pamela O' Donnel On the 27th of May



Picture 30: To the right is a photo of THRDC representatives with European Union Ambassador, Hon. Manfredo Fanti meeting at THRDC Offices Mikocheni on 17th January 2022.

2.3.1.8. Improving financial Management system: a backbone for THRDC credibility

Non-Government Organizations operating in Tanzania are required to comply with various law and guidelines governing the sector which includes tax laws and reporting standards to mention a few. THRDC continued to ensure full compliance with relevant laws and regulations. The Coalition received unqualified auditor's opinion for the year 2021. THRDC has also continued to comply with legislative laws, including NGOs laws, by submitting and publishing signed funding contracts and annual reports to the Registrar of NGOs and timely filling returns to Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA). The compliance credibility gave a clear demonstration of the Coalition's dedication to the highest standards of financial probity and continues to be a good example in financial management and compliance to other CSOs.

Furthermore, THRDC reviewed its financial policies to accommodate relevant legislative amendments in the financial management laws and adapt to organization best practices. The review aimed to reflect changes in the financial regulatory laws to better reflects the current operating environment and the Coalition's growth and expansion. Among the policies reviewed and incorporated in the financial manual are the scheme of services, indirect-costs policy, foreign exchange policy, and resource mobilization policy. These policies act as internal controls guidelines to ensure effective and efficient human resource management and proper financial management.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, GENDER, WOMEN AND
SPECIAL GROUP

Tel: +255 (26) 2963341/2963346
Fax +255 (26) 29634348
Email: ps@jamii.go.tz
Website: www.jamii.go.tz



Government City,
Mtumba Area,
Afya Road,
P.O. Box 573,
40478 DODOMA

In reply please quote:

Ref.No. EF.168/196/01/2

30thSeptember, 2022

National Coordinator,
THRDC,
P.O.Box 105926,
DAR ES SALAAM.

Re: APPROVAL OF FUNDING CONTRACT/AGREEMENT

Pursuant to the provision of regulation 13(b) of The Non-Governmental Organizations Act (Amendment) Regulations, Government Notice No.609 of 2018, I hereby, approve the Funding Contract/Agreement entered between your Organization and **Ford Foundation** on 20th day of September, 2022 for provision of **\$520,000** for the purposes of **“Supporting the implementation of the THRDC’s strategic plan 2018-2022/2023-2027”**.

2. Kindly be informed that such fund is subjected to auditing pursuant to the provision of section 29 (1) (b) of the NGOs Act, No.24 of 2002 (as amended).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mussa Sang'anya'.

Mussa Sang'anya

For: REGISTRAR OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Picture 31. The approval letters sent by the NGO Registrar as evidence of approval of the funding contracts submitted during the year 2022

2.3.1.9. Recruitment, retention, and motivation of staff

THRDC requires a strong team with relevant competencies and skills to achieve its goals. Evidence suggests that employees who are motivated, capacitated, and have their well-being taken care of work more effectively and efficiently compared to those who are not. The Coalition, therefore, continues to ensure a conducive working environment and abide by relevant internal procedures and labor laws to achieve its goals. Further details regarding recruitment, retention, and staff motivation are provided below.

i. Recruitment and Retention of Staff: getting the best people, and retaining them for a great deal to productivity

Up to the end of 2022, THRDC had a team of 19 fully employed staff with an almost 50/50 gender split; ten women and nine men. During the year, two staff were recruited, employment contracts for two staff ended, and three employees resigned. The Contract with the former two employees ended during the year. Due to financial constraints, THRDC was unable to extend their contracts. The latter three employees resigned after securing job positions in another organization. The current staff retention rate stands at about 86%, down from 90% last year—a slight drop, but still a high rate. The Coalition will continue to maintain a conducive working environment and improve retention strategies. Offering career growth opportunities is among the strategies being considered to improve staff motivation. In addition, THRDC continues to focus on policy development to promote motivation, learning, training, and development to maximize retention rates and, eventually, achieve a 100% retention rate.

ii. Internal and external capacity building to staff: nurturing a creative environment and helping staff to find a way to innovate.

THRDC organized several capacity-building sessions for staff to develop and strengthen their knowledge and skills to improve their performance in a fast-changing working environment. Eight formal training sessions were held during the year. The training covered several areas: two all-staff training sessions; one focused on capacity-building on financial management, compliance, and project management. And the second on constructive and meaningful engagement with Development Partners. The remaining six training sessions were provided to individual staff and covered diverse topics.²



Picture 32. To the right is a group photo of THRDC Officers (Capacity Building Officer, Ms Perpetua Senkoro and Advocacy officer Ms. Nuru Maro) with other participants of advocacy training from seven countries of the East and Horn of Africa held 18th - 22nd July 2022 in Kampala

² The IT Officer attended training organized by DefendDefenders in Kampala for Training Of Trainers (ToT) for human rights defenders from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Burundi, and Rwanda. The ToT aimed at creating a pool of trainers for digital and physical security across the region. THRDC's Advocacy and Capacity Building officers attended the training of trainers in advocacy for HRDs from the East and Horn of Africa in Kampala, Uganda. The session had the objective of providing participants with advocacy tools and knowledge regarding the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) to equip other HRDs, including civil society organizations, with knowledge of the UPR process. The Institutional building and sustainability officer attended a session organized by Tanzania's National Board of Accountancy and Auditors (NBAA). The training aimed to equip accountants and auditors on general budgetary changes affecting tax issues and prospective improvements to E-filing, among other tax issues. Overall, the training aimed to capacitate the participants on tax knowledge and financial compliance. Programs Manager Mr. Remmy Lema and Advocacy Officer, Ms. Nuru Maro participated a workshop gender integration 29th and 30th November 2022. The workshop was organized and coordinated by Head of Cooperation - embassy of Sweden



Picture 33: To the right is a group photo on the workshop for gender integration organized and coordinated by Head of Cooperation - Embassy of Sweden. From THRDC, Programs Manager Mr. Remy Lema and Advocacy Officer participated to the training. The training was conducted on 29th and 30th November 2022.

Picture 34: To the right is a photo of THRDC staff during training on constructive and meaningful engagement with Development Partners at THRDC Offices Mikocheni on 14th December 2022.



iii. Staff Motivation Packages: keep the team energized and motivated

THRDC reviewed the Human Resources manual and amended the employee welfare sections therein. Changes were made to the scheme of service, including upward adjustment of salary grades/amounts and inclusion of more staff incentives. These changes were made to better align THRDC guidelines with regulatory laws, the operating environment, and Coalition growth. THRDC is also in the process of reviewing the staff safety and security policy and procedures to ensure the safety of employees.

Further, a staff and board members reflection dinner took place at the end of 2022 to reflect on the year's progress, challenges, and achievements.

2.3.1. Enhancement of Office working environment facilities

2.3.1.1. Purchase and efficient use of office facilities

The Coalition continues to provide an enabling environment for its employees. Offices in Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar have been well maintained, with necessary maintenance to create a conducive and productive work environment. THRDC also ensured media-section staff access to modern laptops and mobile data to support their work. Furthermore, the Coalition procured a number of assets this year, including one set of office furniture's, three laptops, and two printers to improve working efficiency and productivity. The organization disposed of 12 assets in accordance with its policies.

2.3.2. THRDC Governance

A strong and well-functioning board is the foundation of the Coalition and its activities. THRDC Board consists of nine members who are well diversified in terms of the thematic groups, including those working in women's rights, pastoralists rights and journalism with a fair gender split of (2/3 male, 1/3 female) and diverse professional backgrounds, including a retired Judge of the High Court of Tanzania. The Coalition's governing board has continued to provide effective strategic directions, advice and oversight to the Coalition. Board members attended all board meetings scheduled throughout the year (i.e., every quarter). They reviewed and approved Coalition work plans, budgets, narrative and financial reports, organization policies, and Strategic Plans.

The Board meets not only quarterly but also receives capacity-building training in different areas to sharpen their capacity for oversight responsibility. For this year, BOD had two capacity-building sessions: one on digital and physical security and the other on mental health. The sessions enhanced their understanding of security management and their well-being. Furthermore, THRDC conducted a Board evaluation assessment and the Coalition BOD was evaluated on their performance, board meeting attendance, management, and procedures, and on individual board member assessment. The evaluation scores were excellent, and this shows that the Coalition BOD is effectively and efficiently performing towards providing oversight to the Coalition.

2.3.3. Monitoring and Evaluation

2.3.3.1. 10th Year Evaluation of THRDC: A decade for promoting and defending HRDs and Civic Space

In 2022, THRDC conducted an evaluation of ten years of the Coalition operations. The evaluation process aimed at providing an independent objective and systematic assessment to inform THRDC, Development Partners, HRDs, members, and other stakeholders about the performance of THRDC. The report provided the achievements and challenges faced during the ten years of THRDC operation. Among the key achievements are the following: THRDC has successfully expanded the concept of HRD is now understood by state officials and the general public; it successfully sustained its funding donors from one year to the next, with no records of donor query or dropping out because of financial embezzlement; expansion of THRDC membership base from 14 in 2012 to 202 in 2022; increased engagement capacity with various actors and government ministries: Ministry of Constitutional and legal affairs, TRA, Registrar of NGOs, and Judiciary; establishment of resource Center and WATETEZI TV Media.

Among the key recommendations made include enabling and ensuring THRDC Zanzibar grows independently by having its own SP but intertwined with that of THRDC. Furthermore, THRDC should improve monitoring and evaluation frameworks and carefully reconsider the operationalization of ZCUs, especially regarding legal liabilities and reputation. Generally, the ten-year evaluation informed program structure, implementation, and improvement in the forthcoming Strategic Plan (2023-2027).



Picture 35. To the Rights above, The President of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Samia Suluhu Hassan cutting the tape to Launch the 10 years report of THRDC

2.3.3.2. *Development of 2023-2027 Strategic Plan: Growing a Robust and Sustainable Coalition*

THRDC developed a five-year Strategic Plan (2023-2027) that guides the organization's programs and institutional set up for the next five years. The new SP (2023-2027) builds up from the immediate SP (2018-2022). It capitalizes on some lessons and recommendations from the ten-year evaluation of THRDC operations conducted between January and April 2022. The new SP directs the Coalition to operate within its core functions of ensuring security and protection (including the emergence and other responses aspects), the resilience of members and coalition building, and advanced institutional development.³ Also, the new Strategic Plan will serve as a fundraising tool for the organization.



Picture 36: Group photos Of THRDC's event on Launching of the 3rd Strategic Plan 2023-2027 on 22nd November 2022.

2.3.3.3. *Conducted Organization Capacity Assessment (OCA): Paving a way forward for organization improvement*

In early November, the THRDC secretariat held an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) workshop—a holistic and systematic organization assessment.⁴ The results of this assessment serve to identify organizational strengths and weaknesses as a starting point for developing an Organizational Capacity Development (OCD) Framework under the SIDA CSO 2022-2026 (MKUA) Programme. During the assessment, gaps and areas of improvement were identified. The call was then made to improve human resources, safeguarding policies for children, adults, gender, and non-discrimination; having a secured digitalized archiving system; development of M&E guidelines and tools; and operationalization of the M&E system.

2.3.4. Documented Achievements

- i) THRDC has succeeded in getting seven new donors. Two are core donors, and four are project donors. Former donors, such as the ABA, have also extended their support up to next year. Funding offered by new donors will enable the Coalition to operationalize the new SP.
- ii) THRDC, through its Resource Mobilization Strategy, has been able to raise funds for sustainability purposes, that is, to support the building/purchase of the WATETEZI house. During this year, THRDC raised a total of 40mil, increasing the total sustainability fund to 90mil.

³ The new SP aims to ensure: i) Stronger and proactiveness (vibrancy) of THRDC's members. ii) Tightening protection mechanisms of HRDs iii) fast, flexible and effective emergency response systems iv) Improvement of access to remedy v) More working relationship with wider range of stakeholders e.g., decision makers. Vi) Grounding the operations at grassroots. Vii) Lessening the barriers e.g. adopt more advocacy approaches especially engagement and system strengthening of State's machineries of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar viii) Effective operationalization of ZCUs e.g. recruitment of specific coordinators. Ix) Improvement of monitoring and research components. x) Grant making scheme for HRDs which is independent but affiliated to THRDC. xi) Watetezi House as source of income/ investment strategy. Xi) Stronger advocacy components with clear indicators of successes e.g., domestication of all key human rights instruments and enforcement of the same; and support an implementation of international obligations such as UPR processes. Xii) Develop well-coordinated legal reforms initiatives jointly with state departments both in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. Xiii) Improving THRDC and HRDs financial resilient and sustainability: Among others by learning other non-conventional ways of raising HRDs resources such as engaging in investment activities, searching, and building local philanthropic in the field of human rights etc.

⁴ The assessment cuts across Governance and Structure, Culture and Inclusion, Management, Finance, HR, Implementation and quality, Participation, Network and Communication, Influence, and Legitimacy.

- iii) The ten years evaluation of the Coalition enabled the organization to position itself in terms of performance and identify areas for improvement. The evaluation also contributed to a large extent to providing direction for the newly developed SP.
- iv) THRDC has succeeded in developing the new Strategic Plan (2023-2027), which provides a road-map and direction for the next five years of the Coalition
- v) THRDC has succeeded in reviewing organization manuals (policies) to cope with the current environment and compliance.
- vi) The Organization Capacity Assessment (OCA) enabled the Coalition to identify gaps for improvements in different operational areas, including programs, finance, human resources, communication, and resource mobilization.

2.3.5. Challenges related to THRDC sustainability

- i) Limited financial resources: Most donor contracts ended in the middle of 2022. Consequently, some activities stalled forcing the organization to lay off some employees due to a lack of sufficient resources to support staff salaries and other benefits.
- ii) THRDC still has few diverse funding sources to meet its funding needs independently (apart from donor funding) as well as reliable contingency funds for the Coalition's sustainability. This has resulted in, among other challenges, a delay in the completion of the WATETEZI House building than previously expected/planned.
- iii) There is no well-defined mechanism for monitoring Strategic Goals and objectives, that is, clear M&E tools and operationalization of the M&E system. This causes difficulties in tracking project results and outcomes.
- iv) Lack of some policies and guidelines that ensure inclusivity of all groups on the programs implementations of the Coalition works. These include; Child-protection, gender, diversity and non-discrimination, and environmental protection policies. A well-established organization such as THRDC needs such policies/guidelines to enable it to work with different Partners and thematic groups and to ensure inclusivity in its operations
- v) Staff turnover may affect the organization's performance as the remaining staff's workload increases, affecting their efficiency.

2.3.6. Way-forward

- i) THRDC will update and implement a resource mobilization strategy by highlighting alternative funding sources i.e., private Partners and ensuring reliable contingency funds.
- ii) The organization will continue emphasizing improving staff motivation packages and benefits to retain staff and enhance their working energy level, commitment, and creativity. The organization will provide them with different organizational and professional training, including orientation of new staff, efficient and sufficient working facilities, and good salary packages whenever their performance proves outstanding and resources permit.
- iii) THRDC will ensure the operationalization of the M&E system, tools, and guidelines. THRDC staff (program officers) should be trained to monitor and track project results to increase their performance and accountability to the project executors.
- iv) THRDC will update/develop and implement several guidelines/systematic policies to ensure the inclusivity of all groups in its interventions, including child protection policy, gender policy, the guideline for diversity and non-discrimination, and environmental policies.
- v) Work and monitor the recommendations made from ten years' evaluation report and OCA action plan.

Chapter Three

3.0. ANALYSIS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH PLANNED ACTIVITIES/ RESULTS WERE ACHIEVED.

In year 2022 THRDC implemented 90% of its planned activities which is almost equivalent to the amount of funds raised in financial year. e.i 89% of its projected budget. Among other reasons for not achieving the 100% of the planned activities implementation was mainly the shortage of funds to implement some of the activities.

The Coalition planned to holistically implement activities from all three outcome areas envisioning that will contribute to the increased HRDs operational space. The areas work to ensure members are mobilized to effectively promote and protect HRDs rights and human rights at large, ensures HRDs are empowered to protect themselves, engage to secure that their roles and rights are recognized and HRDs are accorded with protection support including litigation, emergency support and rescue. Lastly, the Coalition performance and sustainability is ensured. Activities were relatively implemented from all three key result areas which have contributed to this achievement. The 10% of the 2022 projected activities were not implemented. Aiming to ensure the pending activities are implemented, THRDC has revised the plan and most of the relevant activities have been re-planned for the year 2023. The pending activities includes those which required joint implementation with the authorities including the fact-finding mission in Ngorongoro.

The interventions implemented for the year 2022 has contributed to the realization of key successes for the year. Under the year 2022 THRDC succeeded to document some significant results of its interventions including increased members/HRD engagement in advocacy programs including radio programs, international human rights mechanisms including UPR which contributed to the increased recommendations acceptance (108 to 187), increased Coalition's visibility and recognition by the state machineries through engagements including the President's Office in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar; Prime Minister's Office; Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs and Zanzibar Judiciary in the systems efficiency assessment. Adoption of the Zanzibar Judiciary need assessment recommendations report and the initial implementation of the same was also a success.

Also, the initial processes of establishing a standalone NGOs registrar's offices are among the immediate results of the constructive engagements with the government, entering into agreement to work together with 9 governmental apparatuses also signifies the recognition of the Coalition's roles. Furthermore, in 2022 THRDC empowered 450 HRDs on various issues pertaining the working environment safety. THRDC succeeded to support 264 HRDs on various matters concerning their security including legal support, medical and relocation support for HRDs in need, and fact-finding missions. Finally, the Coalition succeed to fundraise more than 40 million for its sustainability (for establishing the Watetezi House), maintained its positive image to partners and donors, and retaining the personnel for the Coalitions performance.

Chapter Four

4.0. RISK, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATION

4.1. RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2022 COALITION'S INTERVENTIONS.

- i. Restrictive environment for HRDs/members to full participate in protecting and promoting human rights. This includes the existence of the restrictive laws such as BRADEA etc.
- ii. Misconception of the HRDs roles by various duty bearers and the government. HRDs organizations are by mistake being considered to have the political motives, according to the law NGOs are strictly forbidden to engage in political activities. This may lead to malicious de-registration of HRDs organizations which will eventually reduce the effort toward ensuring human rights are accorded as provided by the law.
- iii. The financial challenges are also posing a big risk. HRDs protection requires strong and comprehensive mechanisms, and enough resources, shortage of funds led to insufficient support to HRDs who were in need. This can also impair the efficiency of work of the Coalition and other HRDs organizations.
- iv. The Contravening perceptions and efforts between HRDs/ CSOs and the Governments. This has led to CSO's perceived as they are against the Government efforts which have impaired the working relations and the support from the Government.

4.2 LESSONS LEARNT.


- i. THRDC and other likeminded organizations are required to increase the level of engagement with the government actors to understand what we are doing, so that we can get more support from the government. The government need to understand who the human rights defender is, their roles and rights.
- ii. Under the current political regime, new and strategic mechanisms are required to ensure the manifested flexibility to engage between HRDs and the Government is effectively used to call for the amendment of the laws and policies suppressing the HRDs working environment.
- iii. More security management and risk assessment empowerment session are required for HRDs.
- iv. Human rights lawyers' pool has reduced the operational costs and increased promptness in addressing HRDs cases hence improved security.
- v. Double relocation support to some unfaithful HRDs because of lack of communications amongst the organizations providing relocation support to HRDs especially the regional organizations. Some regional or external organizations do not dig deep or verify to the Coalition on HRDs' requests from Tanzania.

- vi. Arrest, detention, and instituting charges against HRDs without having enough evidence or without investigation being completed for example the murder case involving leaders from Loliondo. Alongside with this, some of the Police officers do not cooperate with Advocates making follow up of arrested and detained HRDs in Police custody.

4.3 RECOMMENDATIONS.

- i. Referral mechanism for supporting HRDs at risk needs to be more strengthened especially on the aspect of communication and verification of HRDs' requests for support. THRDC will continue collaborating with international and regional protection partners in responding to HRDs' needs.
- ii. THRDC will continue with a speedy provision of the emergency support and rescue of HRDs at risk.
- iii. THRDC will set up measures to perfect the reporting of incidents of violations by members so that prompt measures can be taken to prevent further violation and protect HRDs at risk in membership zones.
- iv. There is a need to mobilize more funds for legal assistance and short-term relocation for HRDs at risk.
- v. THRDC will upscale its engagements with key stakeholders including CSOs actors, state departments, parliamentarians to table the key laws and policies affecting the HRDs operations for amendments.
- vi. As the key goal of THRDC to ensure HRDs working environment is secured, the Coalition is calling for the Government to promulgate laws and regulations that will protect HRDs rights and safety while assuming their roles.
- vii. The CSO/NGO sector in Tanzania should improve their advocacy and engagement mechanisms to ensure they are well understood by the Government and other sectors.

 Mikocheni B, Eyasi Road, P.o.box 105926,
Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

 +255 769 642208

 info@thrdc.or.tz

 www.thrdc.or.tz

Like us on



TANZANIA HUMAN
RIGHTS DEFENDERS
COALITION

Follow us on



[@thrdcoalition](https://twitter.com/thrdcoalition)

Follow us on



[@thrdcoalition](https://www.instagram.com/thrdcoalition)