



Mlinzi wa Haki Newsletter January - March 2021





From the Executive Director's Desk

Dear Esteemed Readers,

Greetings from the Legal and Human Right Centre (LHRC)

With the support of our devoted staff and our development partners, including the Embassies of Sweden, Norway, Finland, Ireland, Ford Foundation and Wellspring Philanthropist Fund. LHRC is delighted to welcome you to our first (January to March) 2021 Mlinzi wa Haki newsletter.

At LHRC, we work tirelessly on the mission of empowering the people of Tanzania by promoting, reinforcing and safeguarding human rights and good governance in the country.

Since the beginning of 2021, we have been successful in executing various activities that aimed at cultivating our six-year strategy plans for 2019-2025. This includes improved legal and constitutional reforms, civic space, rule of law and improved social-economic and environmental justice.

Again, LHRC is proud of being able to strengthen the legal and policy framework controlling special rights of women, children, and people with disabilities, as well as to improve the LHRC's effectiveness in carrying out its mandate.

Furthermore, we were delighted and honored to get an award from the Tanzania Digital Awards (TDA) 2020, as the best Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in the use of social media. I was personally awarded the best female social media NGO leader of the year. I had no idea I'd be selected for this honor, it came as a great surprise to me. Thank you all, I will do my best to maintain this honor.

I encourage you all to read and share the Mlinzi wa Haki Newsletter

Regards,
Adv. Anna Aloyce Henga
LHRC Executive Director



REPOSITIONING

A roadmap to enriching our mandate

How would you describe the months of January to March 2021, did things you planned turn out the way you had hoped?

We'd most likely say no, we all were affected by the third wave of Covid-19, even though the effects differed from one person to the other. At LHRC, we could not shake off to implement our 2021 annual plan. We were challenging ourselves to innovate the most relevant solutions at that time. We had never been so bonded as we were then, members, board of directors, management and volunteers were all working towards improving the effectiveness of LHRC in delivering its mandate.

As the organization cherishes the concept of financial sustainability, we kicked off 2021 by conducting two board and risk audit committee meetings to discuss internal audit plan for 2021, internal audit report for the last quarter of 2020, and audit report and financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2020.

The insights discovered in high level organization meetings led us to equip our team with relevant right skills on monitoring, evaluation and learning for the purposes of increasing timely decision making. Since that training we have witnessed tremendous positive changes. Through our integrated monitoring, evaluation and learning digital system team, members have been able to quantify their key performance indicators (KPIs).

Our ICT department has played a great role in innovating the cloud computing technologies which increased the productivity and collaborative environment among our team members across the country. In understanding the future of work, LHRC-management dedicated \$9,841 for fast and reliable internet from January to March 2021.

LHRC believes that effective resource mobilization starts with the right strategy. That's why we are working with East & Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) to formulate the LHRC-Resources mobilization Strategy.



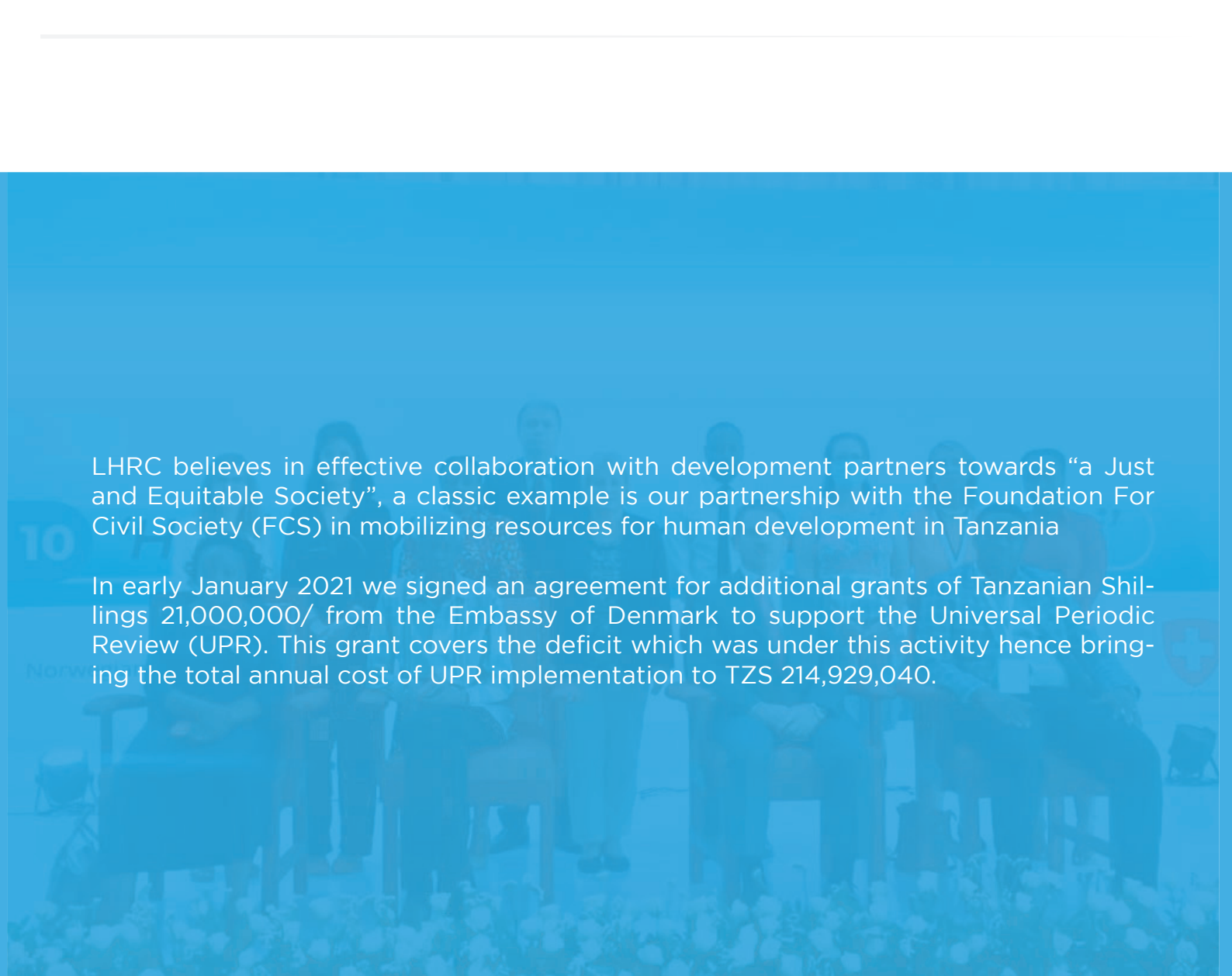
TSH 8,638,715,516
equivalent of USD 3,755,063

From six development partners



EMBASSY OF FINLAND





LHRC believes in effective collaboration with development partners towards “a Just and Equitable Society”, a classic example is our partnership with the Foundation For Civil Society (FCS) in mobilizing resources for human development in Tanzania

In early January 2021 we signed an agreement for additional grants of Tanzanian Shillings 21,000,000/ from the Embassy of Denmark to support the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). This grant covers the deficit which was under this activity hence bringing the total annual cost of UPR implementation to TZS 214,929,040.

As the world witnessed dramatic changes in economic, social and political spheres, our recent repositioning has been an exciting opportunity to discover our untapped potential in empowering the public to promote, reinforce, and safeguard human rights and good governance in Tanzania through legal, civic education and information; sound legal research and advice; monitoring and follow-up of human rights violations; and advocacy for reforms of policies, laws, and practices in conformity with international human rights standards

Reaching one person at a time

Imagine a society where everyone is equal before the law, equal in education opportunities, equal in economic, social, and political opportunities. In order to establish a society of such a kind, it is vital that the public is made aware of the existence and practice of human rights.

Empowering individuals with human rights awareness is not a new strategy for the realization of justice but it's one amongst the numerous ways justice can be upheld for the sustainability of an equitable and just society. We as the Legal Human Rights Center (LHRC) have always worked towards this goal as a means of fostering our organizations' vision.

School-aged children, adolescents, and youths make up one-third of Tanzania's population, and they are our country's future. We are convinced that by providing this generation with basic human rights knowledge, they will work to form a better future for the society we foresee.

LHRC succeeded in introducing a total of 239 human rights clubs at primary, secondary, and higher learning institutions around the country. Since then, LHRC has enrolled more than 6,240 human rights club members, who serve as the positive agents of raising the next generation of human rights defenders.

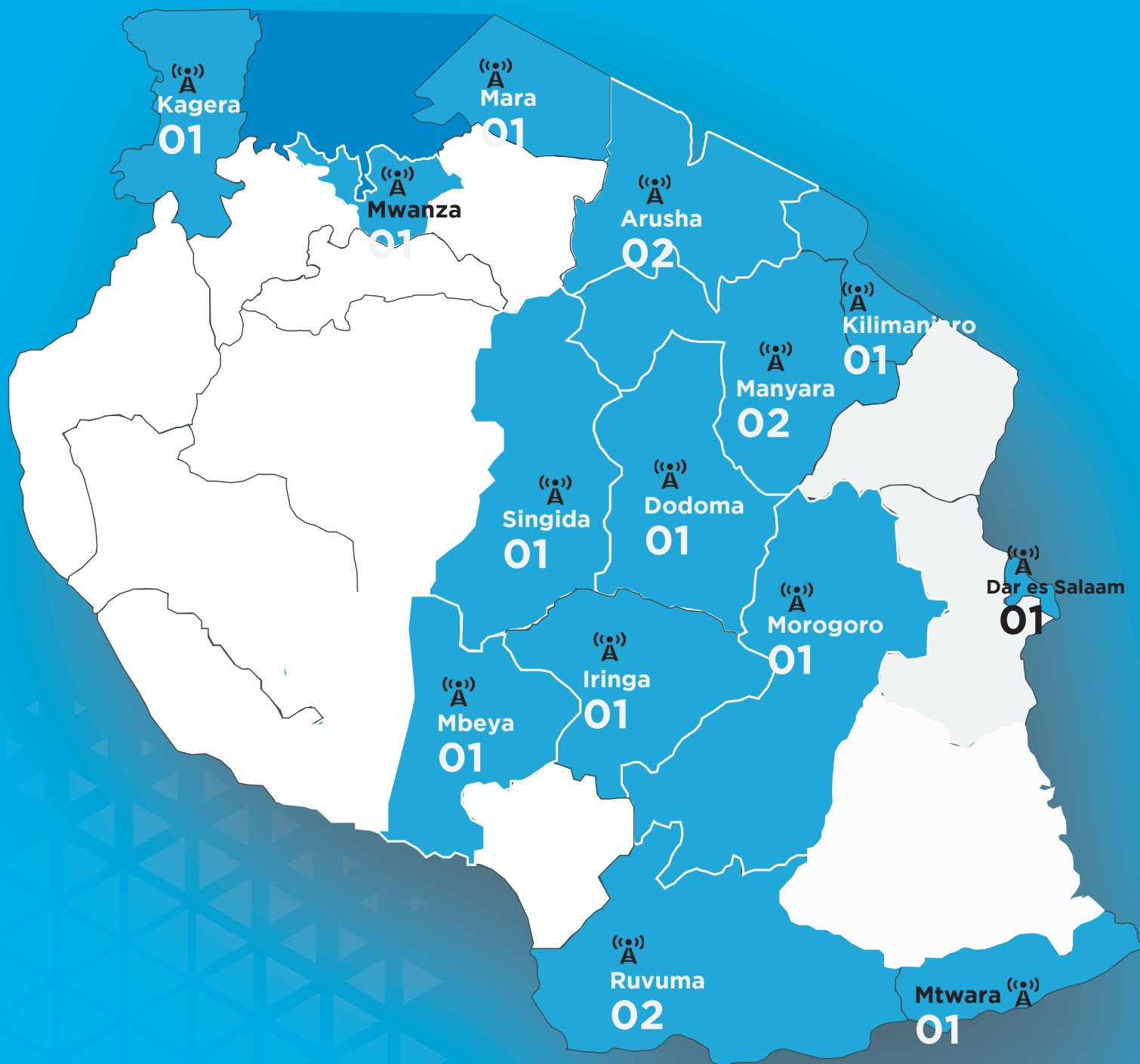


Patrons and matrons of Mwanza's human rights clubs while attending a training session. The training took place in February 2021 at Gold Crest in Mwanza.

Reaching out to the younger generation should go hand in hand with empowering their parents and guardians. The use of Mainstream Tv stations, social media, Haki TV, and 20 community radio stations has allowed more than 30 million people to be reached, resulting in increased community participation in the promotion of human rights. The public media engagement centered around gender equality, business and human rights, college loans, Covid-19 measures, judiciary, marriage law, good governance, regulatory policies, and constitution.

We strongly believe everyone should be reached and everyone is a key stakeholder for building a "just and equitable society." It begins with you. Join our online discussion through our hashtag #SimamiaHaki and let's build the society we want to see.

The voices of Community Radios working with LHRC in Tanzania



The Voices of Community Radio

The Legal and Human Rights Center has managed to engage with several paralegals in reaching the public via community radios across the country. We have successfully **reached out to 20 radio stations** gaining a sum **total of 30 million listeners across these communities**. This has in turn risen community involvement in the promotion of human right

ENVISIONING

A just and Equitable Society

We at the Legal and Human Right Center (LHRC) have placed advocacy programs at the heart of our history and future for more than a decade now. In this regard, from January to March 2021, we had the honor of completing three major advocacy programs.

LHRC first intensified its advocacy initiatives, improved legal frameworks, policies, and practices to be human rights sensitive

by issuing press statements and letters to the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) on the 14th of January 2021. The press statement called on HESLB to consider public outcry on issues relating to the calculation of monthly deduction 15%, Value Retention Fee (VRF) 6%, and Penalties of 10%.

Our initiative hasn't gone unnoticed since HESLB on the 12th of February reacted with public dialogue and on top of that Tanzania government through Deputy Minister of Education Hon. Omari Kipanga showed the direct commitment of the government to review the HESLB loans' repayment system.

We also had the pleasure of collaborating with Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) once again, this time on topics of advocacy relating to insurance and mass education campaigns. TIRA, on the other hand, briefed our legal officers on its mandates and the rules that regulate the sector on March 5, 2021.

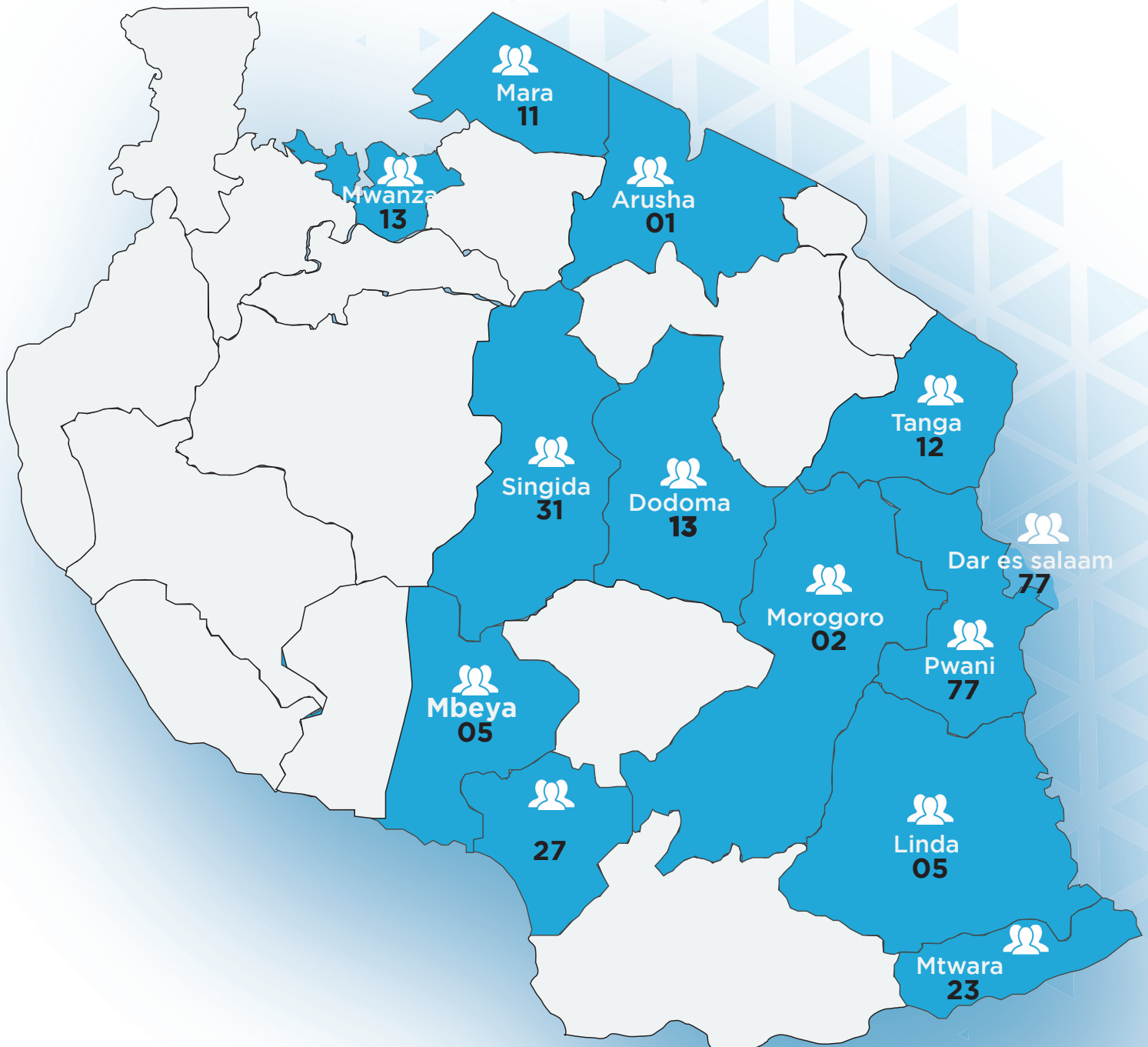
However, LHRC from a different perspective increased collaboration with like-minded organizations and international human rights mechanisms to advocate for the application of international and regional procedures by the government's implementation of international and regional mechanisms.

To accomplish this, LHRC successfully drafted a Stakeholders Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report on the 16th of February 2021 in Morogoro, which was attended by 120 non-governmental organizations, student human rights clubs, and government representatives from the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs.



More than 120 leaders of non-governmental organizations gathered in Morogoro on 16 February 2021, to discuss the Preliminary Report on Tanzania's Human Rights Implementation Report for the last five years. LHRC, in partnership with Save the Children Tanzania and THRDC, hosted this meeting.

Map shows LHRC Human Rights Clubs in Tanzania



Human Right Clubs

The Legal and Human Rights Center has succeeded in **establishing 239 human rights clubs** at primary, secondary, and higher learning institutions across the country. Since then, **we have enrolled over 6,240 human rights activist** club members who act as positive agents in the development of the next generation of human rights defenders



The UPR meeting was graced by Hon. Amon Mpanju, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Ministry.

Nevertheless, on 25th February 2021, we had a virtual meeting with diplomats that aimed at sharing a general observation of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on the UPR recommendations of 2016 addressed to the United Republic of Tanzania. On March 24, 2021, we successfully submitted the Stakeholders' Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report to the United Nations Human Rights Council through its secretariat, the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR). The joint report was submitted on behalf of other 228 organizations through our special profile

Furthermore, LHRC succeeded in increasing access to justice for indigent persons through legal knowledge, advice, and support or litigation, since access to justice is a fundamental component of rule of law. LHRC ensures that there is a redress for violation of human rights. Our major focus under this has been in ensuring underprivileged persons are facilitated with free legal support through our legal aid clinics at Kinondoni, Dodoma, and Arusha.

LHRC supported 3,216 clients



1998 male clients



1218 female clients

This is an equivalent of 64% of the quarter target.
Legal aid beneficiaries (**women 38% & men 62%**)
An increase by 50% from last year annual data

Since human rights monitoring was not an option for improving responses to human rights breaches, LHRC held a three-day training program for the new 20 human rights monitors, 11 male and 9 female. Participants were educated on human rights concerns in general, the monitor code of ethics, and how to report human rights violations through the Haki Kiganjani method

LHRC staff worked very collaboratively over the past three months of January, February, and March to ensure the organization reached its peak performance in advocacy, legal aid service, and human rights monitoring desk. However, LHRC will continue to support these programs in order to reach the majority of the country from various angles.

LHRC Human Rights Monitoring Desk

Documented **453**

human rights violation incidents

Equivalent to 45% of the annual target.

92% Reported by Human Rights Monitors

6% Reported by Haki Kiganjani system

2% Individuals who visited the LHRC office

The Enablers of Change



The Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC) works around the clock to improve corporate compliance and accountability, which is one of our strategic goals. Economic and social rights are necessary for the preservation of human dignity.

Our priority under this strategic goal is to enable rights holders to understand and protect their rights, as well as to influence legal and policy reforms aimed at strengthening human rights compliance, accountability, and justice. To do so, on March 5, 2021, LHRC held a series of meetings with trade union officers from various unions operating here in Tanzania.

The meeting's primary goal was to improve trade unions' understanding on the legal framework governing human rights both from the international and national level, the state's duty to protect the right to work and corporations' responsibility to respect the right to work as stipulated by several national laws.

However, LHRC during the meetings, went one step further and came up with several resolutions that were met, including the need to stimulate a discussion at the national level about employment in the country as well as encouraging a joint campaign with trade unions and the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) on collective bargaining.

In collaboration with trade unions and Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), a high-level strategic engagement/lobbying should be conducted to persuade the government through the Ministry of Labour to revise the wage order of 2013 and a joint forum to discuss the situation of labour rights in the country.

LHRC also trained its 32 staff members in order to empower advocates to improve staff knowledge and skills in adjudicating corporate cases for victims of corporate violations. This will improve access to justice, lower barriers to accessing remedies, and assist victims of business-related human rights violations in having their rights recognized.

Advocacy

The cornerstone for human development

Over the years, the Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC) has been at the forefront of championing women's and children's rights. To that end, we have continued with our campaign "Aminia Usawa," which has recently been succeeding with flying colours, reaching over **12,000 people** on social media, mostly Instagram and Twitter.

The first commemoration was the education day which was honored with a poster that emphasized issues concerning the right to education, particularly for girls. The poster went viral on social media and received positive engagement from the public



Again, LHRC joined in the anti-FGM Coalition, this time in partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The coalition had only one business which was to declare zero tolerance for FGM practices, this time with a poster and an online display, the campaign succeeded to reach a total of 1,000,461 individuals worldwide.

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On the 11th of February, LHRC commemorated the international day of girls and women in science which was marked with a poster that was shared by 109 individuals on Twitter and Instagram.

On the other hand, LHRC celebrated Women's Day by organizing an LHRC women conference that empowered LHRC women on leadership and work-life balance, partnering in a rising women project with Mwananchi Communications Limited (MCL), and the launching of a #SHELEADING Campaign from women leadership at LHRC.

Nonetheless, as part of our efforts to increase gender mainstreaming, we provided gender training to LHRC staff from 3rd to 27th March 2021, beginning with Kinondoni staff, Supporting staff, Administration staff, Program staff, senior management team, and Arusha and Dodoma staff.

The overall goal of these training sessions was to provide participants with the necessary information, abilities, and values to contribute to the effective practices, design, and implementation of gender-mainstreaming strategies in their field, organization, institution, or beneficiary level.

In response to the overwhelming effects of the four previous campaigns and the impact of LHRC staff training, LHRC assures the general public that this is just the beginning and that we will continue to honor and support advocacy programs of this kind, because they not only define the organization but also lay the groundwork for the Tanzania that we all desire.

Our Organization's strength is PEOPLE

Our recent programs demonstrate that our communities can provide answers to human rights issues. Our role is to motivate and support community members to have a broader understanding of human rights. In the first three months of 2021, we have supported a total of 3,216 community members on legal aid, which is an equivalent of 64% of the quarter's goal.



Through our interaction with community members from different backgrounds and political orientations, we have learned through our differences that we can discover alternative solutions to critical challenges of our time. That's why we are collaborating with the Commissioner of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDEC) by establishing a task force with the social welfare department on strengthening systems that work on child justice.

Apart from working with community members, our dedicated legal aid team has been on the frontline to make sure that everyone in need of legal assistance is getting the best timely services. Classic example of fruitful results and impact of our works are

01

The judgment in favor of our client in the case of Republic vs. John Lusingu, Criminal case No. 292/2018 who was charged with two counts, namely using a domain which was not registered in Tanzania, contrary to different sections. The accused was acquitted in all counts by Dar es salaam Resident Magistrate Court on 28th February 2021 delivered by Hon. Mwaikambo RM as quoted from the last paragraph of the judgment

"From the foregoing, this court is satisfied that the prosecution side failed to prove its case beyond reasonable doubts and proceeded to acquit the accused person for insufficient evidence to convict. Order accordingly"

02

On 4th March 2021, we received another positive ruling on the case of Republic vs. Ibrahim Godfrey Mlele, Criminal case No. 42 /2020 who was charged before Njombe Resident Magistrate Court at Njombe for provision of online content without licenses contrary to Regulation 14(1) and 18 of the repealed Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulation, 2018 in Criminal Case No. 42 of 2020. This has been dismissed and the accused person was discharged because the prosecution side failed to prosecute their case by bringing witnesses. The ruling was delivered by Hon. F.E Ng'hwelo RM as quoted from the last paragraph of the ruling

"Since the last order on 5th November 2020, there was no witness in attendance without further justification. In my opinion, the prosecution has lost interest, in this case, to prosecute the accused and since the case has not been heard in merit the pray by Mr. Mwakasege to acquit the accused cannot be sustained and therefore I hereby dismiss the charge under Section 255 (5) of the Criminal Procedure Act and discharge the accused person accordingly."

Those fruitful results are the outcomes of passionate individuals and friend organizations who dedicated their resources to LHRC programs. We call them "Game Changers" and together we are creating IMPACT.

Every picture tells a story





More than 120 leaders of non-governmental organizations gathered in Morogoro on 16 February 2021, to discuss the Preliminary Report on Tanzania's Human Rights Implementation Report for the last five years. LHRC, in partnership with Save the Children Tanzania and THRDC, hosted this meeting.

Tito and Theodory are freed after one year of detention. The two were arrested in Dec 2019 and charged with three economic crimes including money laundering. Their case was postponed 26 times before entering into the plea bargaining on 5th January 2021. Tito Magoti and Theodory Giyani agreed to pay TZS 17,000,000 for their release.



In March 2021, LHRC women participated in a leadership mentoring workshop. The SHELEADING LHRC initiative includes a mentorship program.

Patrons and matrons of Mwanza's human rights clubs while attending a training session. The training took place in February 2021 at Gold Crest in Mwanza.





Enold (second left) with his co-workers at Singida Paralegal centre offices. Enold is a 28-year-old young man who pioneered the establishment of a human rights club at the University of Dar es Salaam College of Education (DUCE) in May 2016. Under the mentorship of LHRC, the human rights club members, including Enold, enhanced their skills and knowledge of legal and human rights issues. By 2017, the club had 1,500 members.

After finishing his University studies, Enold went back to his home village in Singida Region, where he established an organization called Gender Development Focus (GDF) in August 2019. The organization seeks to advance women's rights. In 2020, he established a paralegal unit to enhance access to justice in the region and assisted another paralegal unit to register under the Legal Aid Act of 2017. His paralegal unit is called Wasaidizi wa Kisheria Singida and it has been fully registered.



During the commemoration of the law week in January 2021 in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, and Arusha, we displayed our services, distributed self-help legal aid handbooks, and gave legal aid support to the general public.



Toa Taarifa za Ukiukwaji Haki kupitia Simu Yako



Tuma SMS kwenda **0699 695 486**



Pakua **#HakiKiganjani App**
katika simu ya Android



Tumia wavuti **hakikiganjani.humanrights.or.tz**

Usipotezee, Toa Taarifa Sasa



@humanrightstz



Haki TV

Kwa Jamii yenye Haki na Usawa



Our Development Partners



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FORD
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EMBASSY OF SWEDEN





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