

WOMEN ACTION TOWARDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (WATED)

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT OF WATED 2016 -2017



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1. INTRODUCTION

Women Action Towards Entrepreneurship Development (WATED) is a Non-Governmental Organization registered under the Non-Government Organization Act, 2002 with Registration number 00NGO/00006546 with aiming at building, enhancing, improving and strengthening Women Entrepreneurship economic empowerment groups, to act on and train women on issues of economic empowerment and leadership and raising awareness on Legal, health and self-employment to the general public. This organization was founded by seven women of different professions and registered in September 05th 2013.

WATED was launched on 24th September 2013 by Honourable Sophia Simba Minister for Gender Children and Development. Understanding the scope and responsibilities of WATED, Legal Advocacy and where need be representation is one of key Mandate of the organization.

On the year under review Women Action Towards Economic Development (WATED) implemented various activities. In the activities which were conducted by organization, some involved support from developing partners and others were implemented through networking with other Civil Society. Among organizations that WATED work with under year on review includes Tanzania Human Rights Defenders, Human Rights and Business in Tanzania, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner and Tanzania Girl Guides Association

It is in this report the summary of activities which were conducted under period of review will be highlighted.

Our appreciations go to all our partners who made these activities to become a reality. We appreciate all contributions which were made to our organisation both financially and in kind.

2. THE PROFESSIONAL AND STUDENTS FORUM ON GIRLS' RIGHTS

Women Action Towards Entrepreneurship Development (WATED) is a Non-Governmental Organization in Tanzania. It was registered on September 5th, 2013 under the Non-Governmental Organizations Act, 2002. Its goal is to build, enhance, improve and strengthen Women Entrepreneurship economic empowerment groups through training on leadership, raising awareness on legal, health as well as self-employment to the public. Its founders are seven women with different profession backgrounds such as law and medicines just to mention a few.

It is in line with its mission and vision that on May 06th 2016, WATED conducted a one-day discussion forum, bringing together professionals and students from 22 schools in Dar es Salaam Tanzania. The discussion focused on girls' rights, where various inspirational speakers from different professionals such as ICT, medicine, art and law made presentations amid inspirational stories. The session brought together students, female and a few males as well as few teachers.

Among the issues highlighted were women's rights as enshrined in the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) where Tanzania as one of the signatories is required to adhere to its commitment. Girls' rights according to these international instruments must be respected, promoted and protected. Girls' rights guaranteed are the right to survival, development, protection and participation.



Cross section of students follows up on discussions as they were presented by Professionals during the session

3. REPORT ON THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE RULE OF LAW

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are seven women with different professional backgrounds, including as law and medicines.

It is in line with its mission and vision that on May 11th 2016, WATED conducted a one- day forum for lawyers to look upon how the role of partnership for development from different stakeholders can influence the development agenda. Among issues of focus was the rule of law, the role of lawyers in achieving SDG number 16, tax issues as well as land resources. The session brought together legal experts from different organizations in the country.



Ms Chitrlekha Massey former Human Rights Adviser at UN – Tanzania sharing her experiences on SDGs and the role of Lawyers

Trainings in both regions was conducted from total number of three days, which after the trainings participants were required to empower four women in their localities for the period of three months of which after that another training whereas women will bring in other fellow women to share their experiences and inquire more clarification on areas which they will still be facing difficulties; and the last segment of the training will be round discussion in form of monitoring and evaluation between the first group of 40 women in both districts with other women whom benefited from the program.

Some of the issues of discussion were the role of Rule of law to sustainable development which requires much commitment, expertise with less or little adherence to the rule of law. Participants were also in agreement that rule of law very essential to maintain a just and peaceful society. Lack of it is tantamount

to corruption, inequality. Rule of law is not bureaucracy nor is it a setback but rather a foundation and pinnacle of mechanism, a system which creates an orderly society. Rule of law is equality to the law, and creates a relationship between citizens and the government. Rule of law brings certainty and predictability. Without it, there is no peace.



Prof D'Zouza exchanging ideas with Facilitators and Ms Matui after the Round Table discussions with Lawyers on SDGs Goal 16

4. Multi-Sectoral Approach to Domestication and implementation of Article 14(2)(c) of the AU Women's Right protocol :Enforcing Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

One of our role as an organisation to raise awareness on women's and girls' rights on both legal and health rights, WATED has a bigger role in not just raising the awareness but also on trying to understand both the MSA and the society we are going to approach and do the needful. 'Change starts with us'; hence we are supposed to be one of the ambassadors in making the changes.

Among the 5 Countries namely, Zambia, Cape Verde, Mozambique South Africa and Ethiopia that have adopted the MSA laws and have started implementation are doing well in avoiding the unsafe abortions that may lead to the loss of the mother as well. In addition to that, some of laws in Tanzania have some approach in the SMA but are not implemented and some of the hindering factors of the laws to be approached and to be implemented is because of our cultures, religion believes and our mind set as a whole hence if these things could be sorted out

Tanzania would be among the African countries who adopted the MSA and reduction in the magnitude and consequences of unsafe abortions in the country.

Resolved all stakeholders, civil societies, SMEs and the responsible ministries work together and if all can be in the same view it will be easier for the laws to be approached and implemented.

5. WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER WORKSHOP 21ST APRIL 2017

Following a workshop which was held in Zanzibar from 28th to 04th March 2017, sponsored and facilitated by UN East Africa Offices, we Women Action Towards Economic Development through support of UNECA is organizing a a day workshop to Women Human Rights Organisations. The Office of Human Rights in East Africa has a Gender Mandate and among the activities conducted is capacity building for Women Human Rights Defenders in the EA region. The Workshop will be for sharing the information and forging a way forward as we are heading towards the Human Rights Defenders Day.

Facilitators to the workshop will share their experiences from Zanzibar Workshop but also expanding on the roles of Women Human Rights Defenders particularly on their roles as Women Human Rights Organisation.

As part of a long-term agenda, we believe this initiative will provide space for building knowledge and skills, opportunities for networking, solidarity, and help foster creativity among civil society actors—rural and urban--to improve how we can effect positive social and economic change on Women Rights work.



Cross section of participants on Women Human Rights Defender with Guest of Honour Hon Commissioner Salma Hassan of CHRGG Meeting which was supported by the office of OHCHR Africa office

6. National Women Rights Forum (JOSEPHINE PICTURES)

Women Action Towards Economic Development together with like minded organizations under the auspices of Legal Services Facility organised a women’s rights forum which was held on 28th November 2026. The objective of the forum was to bring all stakeholders on women’s rights to come together to discuss women’s rights issues in the country.

The theme for the event was be National Forum on Women’s Legal and Economic Empowerment: *Current strategies and its impact to women’s development*. The slogan of the event is *Jitambue! Jiamini Simamia Haki Yako*. The event was graced by various activities to include a press conference, paper presentation on different topics, testimonies, Radio and TV program before/after the event. Two hundred participants will be attending the forum, from Dar es Salaam, upcountry regions and Zanzibar.

7. THE WORKSHOP ON BUILDING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS UNPAID CAREWORK FOR WOMEN IN TANZANIA

Executive Director and Legal Adviser at WATED were privileged to attend a three days workshop which was coordinated by Tanzania Gender Networking Program (TGNP Mtandao) and Oxfam in Tanzania which focused on “Building Strategies to Address Unpaid care work for Women inTanzania”. The workshop is a feminist space to unpack the issue of unpaid care work in relation to women’s rights and empowerment in Tanzania and develop effective strategies to address what is heavy and unequal while positively contribute to the discussion around increasing investments in care- related services and infrastructure. Objectives of the workshop were ,Convene and build momentum around tackling care as a women’s rights and human rights issue in policy; Sensitization on making unpaid care work visible (through participatory research and influencing) and using effective messaging to promote action; and, Develop strategies to tackle heavy and unequal care work in Tanzania including in economic policy and budgeting, public communication and media, national research and surveys and women’s empowerment programs led by government and development actors.

WATED has been selected to join OXFAM and TGNP to form a task force team which will work on the un paid work recommendations from participants and present them to Ministry of Gender.



A cross section of participants from NGOs who attended a three days workshop on un paid care work which was coordinated by OXFAM

8. RE THINK AND RE CONNECT WORKSHOP.

WATED Executive Director participated on workshop which was organized by Women in Law and Development in Africa - WiLDAF in collaboration with the GBV Prevention Network and coordinated by Raising Voices in Uganda. The two days discussion on VAW focused on analyzing the issue of violence against women from its root causes, structural causes, the magnitude, evidence of what works to prevent it and preservation strategies for staff which included self-care. The R &R workshop engaged participants at an intellectual (mind), body, and soul level.

9. NGO WORKSHOP OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRY

Chairperson and Legal Secretary to WATED attended a workshop which was coordinated by Oxfam has specifically to civil society organisations to come together and share their understanding of gender and extractive in the Tanzania context and plan for the ways in which they can engage.

WATED is gearing towards empowerment of women working on the sector of EI, hence the workshop gave an insight on extractive industry issues or/and *gender and forged a collaborative role with OXFAM and other NGOs to bring about more inclusivity of gender into EI industry.*

10. 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

WATED Legal Intern together with other organization which were under the auspices of the WiLDAF (T) in collaboration with MKUKI coalition participated on the 16 Days Campaign which is a global campaign to end gender violence, campaign started from the 25th November as the International Day against Violence against Women and reaches its climax on 10th December which is the International day for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The

16 Days Campaign International Theme is ***OPEN UP! SAY NO TO GENDER BASED VIOLENCE: SAFE EDUCATION FOR ALL***. The campaign was conducted in five zones under the coordination of WiLDAF.



WATED team painting orange during the commemoration of 16 days of activism

11. OTHER COLLABORATIONS AND NETWORKS

WATED is gearing towards establishing dispute resolution on land to women in rural and peripheral settings of the Country. This initiative is collectively conducted with RESOLUTIONS Experts and COSTECH. The solution will be both digital and also by forming clubs and trainers thru paralegals in the rural setting to resolve land disputes amicable.

WATED participates on Human Rights Defenders Annual event, which this year to learn from different participants across country and government officials together with developing partners on issues of human rights and sustainability of human rights defenders and CSOs engagements whilst complimenting Governments efforts.

WATED also featured on the AWID page in respect to our contribution to land rights for women; WATED story was featured during CSW 61 you can read whole story here <https://www.awid.org/profiles/land-common-good-economic-development>

WATED part pated on various Annual Meeting on Accountability and Transparency in relation to issues of Natural Resource which was held in Pretoria South Africa. As a member of ACCA Coalition, we are focusing FPIC (Fair, Prior, Informed Consent).

The year under review has set WATED towards coordination of UPR recommendation to WOMEN thematic groups, and we are ongoing discussions with stakeholders to see how we

can use Human Rights Education to NGOs and Government to spear head the UPR recommendation.

On a very unique and expectation way, we are proud to write our participation to air CSOs concern in respect to Girls Rights Education. We have joined efforts with 25 NGOs to issue a Press Statement to plead with government decisions of not allowing girls who get pregnant to continue with education. We are hopefully; the Government will hear our plea and reconsider the position.

VOLUNTARY COURSE

WATED is a voluntary based organization, hence we are continuing to work with volunteers who represent us in meetings and also collecting information which is used for our research work, networking and advocacy.

Partnerships is core of our work and we trust in experts, experiences and commitment to reach more and to advocate for changes in communities.

Below in the picture gallery WATED team participation and engaged in various activities



WATED in listing with the other CSOs participated on 16Days of Activism in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



WATED Legal Secretary with other participants in group photo with Elena Ippoliti IN CHARGE OF Methodology, Education and Training Section DESIB/RRDD AT the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Right During Human Right Education Training



Networking with participants from USA and Vietnam during Human Rights Training in Montreal Canada



Celebrating achievements of our Own Vice Chairperson during for graduating as Havard Medical Clinical Fellow (MARYAM HELP!)



WATED Legal Secretary with CSO Directors on Annual KEPA meeting which is yearly celebrated and funded by Finnish Embassy under KEPA NGO



Umbrella at Dar es Salaam Vice Chairperson Networking with CSO Directors during Women Defenders Workshop at Dar es Salaam



*Networking with Women Human Rights Defenders
Directors during Defenders Day in Dar es Salaam*