



EU ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY IN TANZANIA



INTRODUCTION

Why is an empowered civil society a crucial component of any democratic system? An active civil society represents and supports pluralism and helps to develop and monitor policies for sustainable development and inclusive growth. Civil society actors are also important players when it comes to fostering peace and reconciliation. By articulating the concerns of citizens, they are active in the public arena, taking part in initiatives to support participatory democracy. They embody a growing demand for transparent and accountable governance.



The European Union supports civil society in Europe and in many countries worldwide. Over the period between 2014 and 2020, the EU together with its Member States is funding civil society initiatives with EUR 1.907 billion worldwide.

The EU defines civil society organisations (CSOs) as non-state, not-for-profit, non-partisan and non-violent organisations that are active in political, cultural, social or economic areas. These can be community-based organisations, gender and LGBTI organisations, cooperatives, professional associations, and non-profit media.

LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL CONTEXT FOR CSOs IN TANZANIA

The National Policy on NGOs of 2001 and the **NGO Act** of 2002 marked the commitment of the government to:

- harmonise the legislative framework,
- decentralise the registration process, and
- facilitate NGO operations.

The act allows non-partisan organisations that serve the public interest and are “providing for and improving the standard of living or eradication of poverty of a given group of people or the public at large.” However, the Act did not reverse other laws. It extended the diversity of statutes with which non-profit organisations can register, and increased the layers of legislation. The NGO Act does not cover trade unions, social clubs, political parties, religious organisations or community-based organisations. The NGO Act of 2002 also established the National Council of NGOs (NACONGO) as an umbrella organisation for NGOs.

In **Zanzibar**, following the **Non-Governmental Policy** of 2012, NGOs are registered under the Society Act No 6 of 1995 at the Office of the Registrar General.



CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN TANZANIA

In Tanzania, CSOs play an active role that can be traced back to the period before independence. The current civil society reflects governance changes which have taken place in Tanzania since the mid-1980s. In the 1980s and 1990s most of the NGOs registered in mainland Tanzania worked in the areas of human rights, environmental conservation, gender equality and women's empowerment.

CSOs in Tanzania are active players, especially in uniting communities to carry out social and economic activities for the poor, mainly in the areas of education and healthcare, water supply, legal services, and micro-finance. Tanzania's civil society movement has the potential to play an even more significant role in national policy processes.

Over 3000 CSOs are registered in mainland Tanzania and 1000 in Zanzibar. However, there are many more unregistered CSOs working mostly at community level.

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Since 2012, the EU has contributed over EUR 7 million to organisations that specifically address gender equality and women empowerment. These initiatives promote most notably:

The fight against all forms of gender-based violence

Equal access to land rights

Social and economic rights

Training and employment opportunities

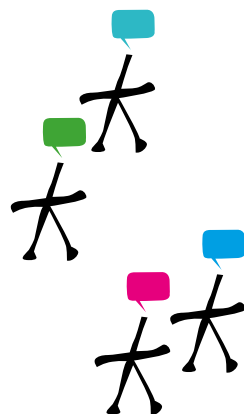
Sexual and reproductive health & rights and services, particularly for young people





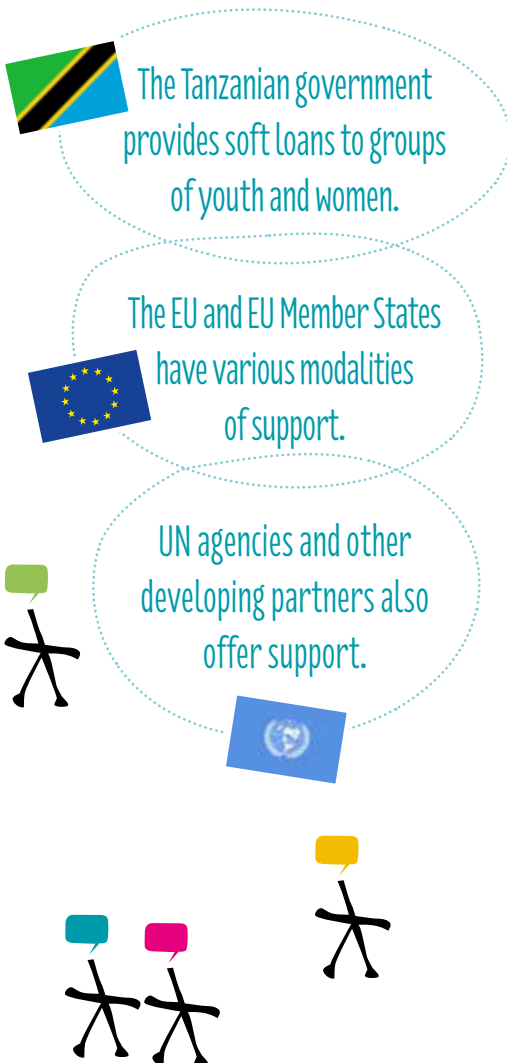
HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN TANZANIA

The EU is strongly committed to the promotion and protection of human rights in its work with partner countries. In Tanzania, human rights priorities are defined together with local civil society. In 2013, the EU Delegation to Tanzania organised a call for proposals to support civil society action against harmful traditional practices, notably child marriage, female genital mutilation, and “witchcraft”-related killings. EUR 300 000 were granted to the NGO “HelpAge” for the project “Promoting and Protecting Older Women’s Rights in Tanzania”.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

There are various funding opportunities for CSOs in Tanzania:



The Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children provides one example of funding by the Tanzanian government, with its support for specific capacity building interventions aimed at CSOs registered under this Ministry.

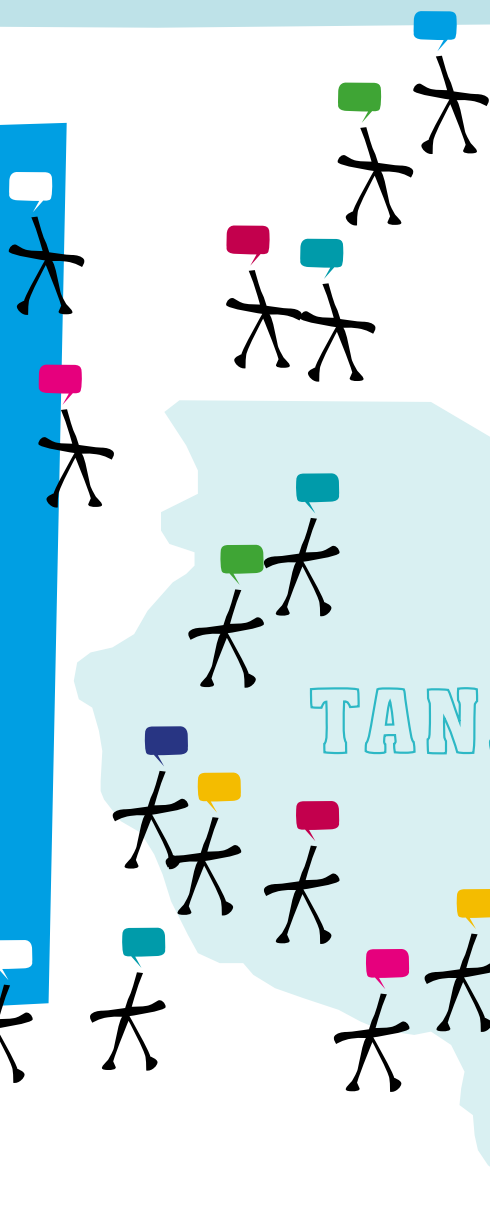
Some CSOs are self-financing with income from membership fees as their biggest source of funding. Professional Associations and Unions depend on domestic funding to the extent of 87 %, the Religion sub sector as well as the Culture and Recreation sub sectors both depend on domestic revenue to the extent of 62 %.

The following two thematic programmes are being implemented in Tanzania through grants to CSOs:

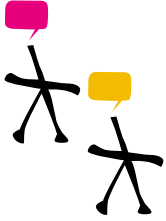
- Under the thematic programme on **“Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities” (CSO-LA) for 2014-2020**, actions at country level are at the core. Grants awarded under the programme focus on governance and accountability through policy-making involving civil society.
- The **“European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights” (EIDHR)** currently contributes to the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups including women in Tanzania. Actions supported include the fight against gender-based violence and child marriage or against “witchcraft”-related killings.

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Bolstering private sector performance and improving job creation is vital in achieving shared prosperity and eradicating extreme poverty in Tanzania. Helping Tanzanians obtain a secure and decent living is the most direct and sustainable way to improve the lives of the 12 million people (28% of the population) currently living below the poverty line. For this purpose, the EUBG was launched in 2015 to provide opportunities for information exchange and to facilitate advocacy. The EUBG aspires to be a frank and reliable partner for engagement with the government but also the Tanzanian private sector. Currently, around EUR 100 million are earmarked to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through these agreements.



THE CIVIL SOCIETY ROADMAP PROCESS IN TANZANIA



In 2014, the EU launched the “*EU Country Roadmaps for Engagement with Civil Society*”. Within this context, the needs and priorities of civil society organisations, development partners, in particular EU Member States, as well as the government were assessed. The process was successfully concluded in August 2014 with a Roadmap and Action plan. The Roadmap now provides a strategic framework for EU engagement with civil society in Tanzania. Its aim is to progressively promote a better dialogue between the EU Delegation, Member States and civil society. The Roadmap covers the period 2014-2017 and will be updated each year, or when major changes which impact on civil society occur.

The Roadmap sets **three main priorities**:

ENHANCE efforts to promote a conducive environment for CSOs

PROMOTE a meaningful and structured participation of CSOs in domestic policies, in EU programming cycles and in international processes

TRAIN local CSOs to perform their roles as independent development actors more effectively

HOW THE EU SUPPORTS CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN TANZANIA

Civil society has always been a major focus of attention and recipient of EU aid in Tanzania. The EU Delegation interacts regularly with a variety of civil society actors.

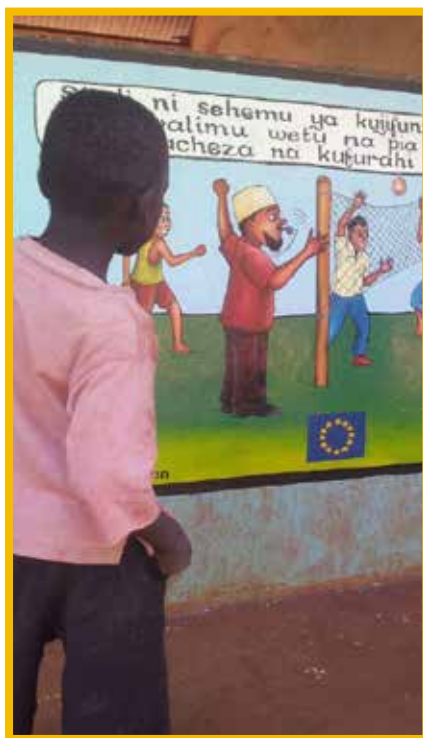
Various initiatives have been undertaken by the EU to support CSOs, for example:

by promoting dialogue with the government,

by providing direct support to civil society actors, and

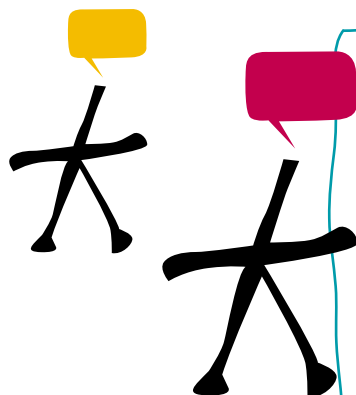
by promoting an open dialogue with civil society.

EUR 3 million will be made available to promote private sector employment and economic development. This programme supports civil society organisations, in particular business associations, organisations promoting business and employment, and growing stakeholders in development.



ZANZASP – SUPPORTING CIVIL SOCIETY IN ZANZIBAR

In Zanzibar, the EU is implementing the **“Zanzibar Non-State Actors Support Programme” (ZANSASP)**. EUR 3 million have been committed over the period 2015-2018 to strengthen democratisation and good governance, through capacity building and support to Zanzibar’s civil society initiatives on issues such as accountability, participatory development and policy advocacy. The ZANSASP programme management unit has been operational in Zanzibar since the end of 2015.



THE ENGAGEMENT OF EU MEMBER STATES IN TANZANIA



Belgium supports organisations of family farmers, pastoralists and small scale entrepreneurs. The financing agreement with Belgium, stipulates the importance of building and strengthening local partnerships. Longstanding working relations with Tanzanian NGO's, umbrella organisations and member based organisations are an effective way of responding to stakeholders' needs and objectives.



Denmark provides a wide range of support through grant mechanisms such as the "Legal Services Facility" and the "Foundation for Civil Society", who in turn provide grants to a wide array of civil society organisations. Core and project support are also provided to individual CSOs working in the areas of gender, sexual and reproductive health & rights, social accountability, democracy and respect for human rights.



Finland supports civil society in various ways: through cooperation between Finnish and Tanzanian CSOs, both via direct funding and by connecting CSOs with bilateral programmes. Special emphasis is given to initiatives on good governance, human rights, sustainable management of natural resources as well as on inclusive green economy.



France provides small grant opportunities to NGOs to support events such as training, workshops and conferences. The French cooperation works more specifically with partners in the areas of environment and protection of the most vulnerable populations.



Germany is involved in health service delivery, in advocacy for quality health services and in governing processes such as planning and budgeting.



Ireland supports civil society partners in health, nutrition, agriculture and governance,

helping them to enhance and pilot initiatives which should improve service delivery at district level in particular in terms of transparency and accountability. CSOs are supported so that they can gather evidence of what works in order to campaign for change with decision makers.



Italy supports CSOs in terms of knowledge, expertise, and the ability to reach out to partners at ground level and in fragile contexts. For example, the Italian NGO CEFA in partnership with the Tanzanian Njombe Dairy Farmers Association implemented a project to support effective milk processing by local herders by constructing a milk factory and three collection centres to provide the local dairy farmers with a safe and stable market.



The **Netherlands** supports (inter)national CSOs in Tanzania mainly through central grants. These support CSOs lobby and advocacy to promote sustainable and inclusive land use, sexual and reproductive health & rights, women's leadership and economic participation and freedom of expression. Much emphasis is given to stakeholders dialogue & accountability.



Spain has a strategic plan for engagement with local think tanks that is updated every year thereby putting local CSOs in contact with their Spanish counterparts as a means to strengthen the civil society's fabric and to foster cooperation.



Sweden's main focus is on strengthening civil society partners to contribute to more effective networking, watchdog and advocacy functions in society, in areas such as gender equality, child rights and protection, land rights, accountability and citizen's voice, media/freedom of information, and quality of education.



The **UK** provides a wide range of support through umbrella programmes such as the "Accountability in Tanzania Programme", "Foundation for Civil Society", "Tanzania Media Fund" and "Twaweza".

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

The **Civil Society Roadmap** document can be found on the website of Capacity4Dev:

<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/public-governance-civilsociety/document/tanzania-roadmap-engagement-civil-society>

Funding opportunities for CSOs are often published as calls for proposals. The calls are public and available on the website of the European Commission Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index_en.htm

The Foundation for Civil Society offers information on CSOs in Tanzania and a comprehensive list of funding opportunities for CSOs in Tanzania:

<http://www.thefoundation.or.tz/index.php/en/>

Tanzania National Board of NGOs:

<http://www.tnnc.go.tz>

Information on procedures for **registering an NGO** in Tanzania can be found here:

<http://www.tanzaniagateway.org/civilsociety/proceduresenglish.asp>

Information on the **legal framework for CSOs and NGOs** in **Zanzibar** can be found here:

<http://www.iccsl.org/pubs/ZanzibarNGOPolicy.pdf>



THE EUROPEAN UNION IN TANZANIA

The European Union (EU) comprises 28 Member States. The EU Delegation to Tanzania and to the East African Community represents the EU and promotes its values and policies in Tanzania and in the sub-region. The Delegation also manages various development cooperation programmes which contribute to reducing poverty and promoting decent living conditions in Tanzania.

Sustainable Development focusing on poor and vulnerable people – in line with Tanzania's own national strategies – is at the core of the cooperation between Tanzania and the EU. The European Union facilitates trade and investment, good governance and respect for human rights, democracy, peace and security.

More information on the work of the European Union in Tanzania can be found here:



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<http://www.eeas.europa.eu/tanzania/>



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