

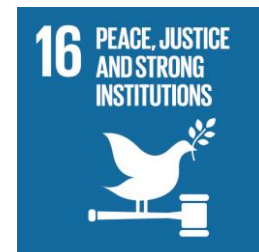
# Strengthening Civil Society voice and State Responsiveness and Accountability to Protect Older Women and Men from all forms of violence

Countering harmful practices

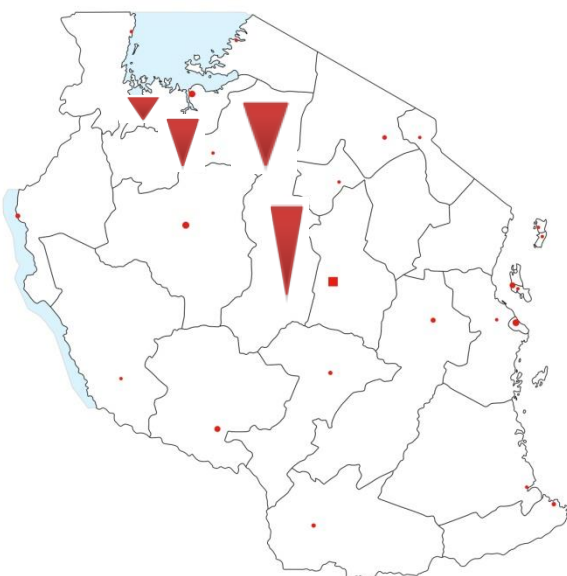


March 2019

In partnership with the European Union



The project seeks to contribute to the reduction of all forms of discrimination, violence and abuse including harmful traditional practices towards women of all ages taking place across the country especially in Mwanza, Shinyanga, Geita and Tabora regions.



## Key Information

Sector: Human Rights

Lead Partner: HelpAge International

Other Partners: MAPERECE, TAWLAE

Budget : EUR 561,946 (EU contribution 505,751.57)

Duration : April 2017 – March 2019

In Tanzania acts of violence, abuse and discrimination particularly against older people and people with Albinism are widespread. A number of adverse traditional practices including witchcraft beliefs contribute to this state of affairs. The project on *Strengthening Civil Society voice and State Responsiveness and Accountability to Protect Older Women and Men from all forms of violence*; is a two years project (April 2017 to March 2019) has contributed immensely in creating awareness and promotion of the right of older women and men, strengthening legal support systems including the police force, judiciary and other government system structure to respond, uphold and protect older people and people with albinism from violence and abuse linked to witchcraft beliefs and traditional harmful practices. The project strongly works with communities in Four districts of Chato in Geita Region; Misungwi in Mwanza region; Nzega in Tabora region and Kishapu in Shinyanga region. The districts were selected in consultation with the region and government authorities based on the reported cases of violence and killings linked to witchcraft beliefs. At the national level, the 2014 -2016 police report ranked the four regions with the highest killing records associated to witchcraft beliefs mostly targeting older persons; The killing records shows; Tabora 97 (66f,31m), Shinyanga 37 (23f,14m), Mwanza 33(18f,5m), Geita 27. This evidenced the reason why the regions were selected for this project. In 2016 379 (261f,118m) older people were killed due to witchcraft accusations. For 2018 two years later the number has reduced to 135 (94f, 41m).



Older People posing in a group photo with Minister for Home Affairs (centre) Hon. Kangi Lugola, Permanent Secretary MHCED, Dr. John Jingu, HelpAge Country Director Mr. Smart Daniel and Police Force officials in one of the stakeholders meeting took place in Dodoma in January 2019.

## Project Details

HelpAge International in partnership with two local organisations of MAPEECE and TAWLAE have been delivering this project for the two year's period from April 2017 to March 2019. The project on strengthening the role and participation of Civil Society, community groups and government bodies to prevent and address discrimination, violence and abuse due to witchcraft accusations against older men and women and people with albinism has contributed largely to the promotion of rights of older people and People with albinism.

The project worked with multiple community groups from family, village, ward, district and at national level. A number of methodologies were employed to include awareness session, capacity building and training sessions, coaching and technical consultations at different levels.

At family and community levels the project established family mentors' carders who acted as family and community change agents in issues related to cultural beliefs and traditions. At ward and district level the project worked with government legal and administrative structures such as police, magistrate, social welfare, and district commissioner to understand challenges associated to untimely response to issues related to violence and abuse targeting vulnerable groups in particular older people and people with albinism.

At the national level the project works with Ministry of Health Community Development Elderly and Children (MHCDEC), Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), President Office -Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Director of Public Prosecutor (DPP) and Inspector General of Police Office. The project has organized a number of national level stakeholders' workshop to deliberate on the challenge and opportunities in addressing the violence and killing to older people and PWAs.

As the result of these workshop, the government developed a three year's national strategy to Eradicate killing of older people. The strategy was launched by His excellence the Prime Minister, Hon. Kassim Majaliwa in January 2019

## Project Results

The projects have empowered over 234(98f,136m), community leaders; 240 (168f,72m) Family mentors; 358 (178f,180m); community paralegals 127(34f, 93m) police and judicial officers and 128 (89m, 39f) government administrative leaders from ward, district to national level.

As of December 2018, the project has already accomplished the following objectives;

- Trained and improved understanding of 400 community leaders and 15,000 community members, on rights of older people and PWAs so they can challenge community prejudices.
- Trained 240 community paralegals, 60 media personnel's and 48 women activists to support and advocate for the rights of older men and women.
- Engaged senior Government officials to include the Prime Minister, Ministers and Permanent Secretaries for Health, Home Affairs, PO-RALG, Prime Minister's Office Social Protection. As well engaged with Parliamentarians, CSO's platforms on human rights, gender and People with Disability.
- The project has facilitated a number of policy reform process to include the development of National Strategy to Eradicate Killing of Older People, Review of the National Ageing Policy and the going reform on Social protection that recognizes the support for vulnerable groups including older people.
- Oriented 16 CSOs (10 local and 6 national) to successfully mainstream ageing issues in their programmes.
- In the project implementing districts violence and killing to older people and people with albinism has reduced by 60 -80 percent from 2014 to December 2018



## Contact(s)

1. Mr. Smart Daniel – Country Director, HelpAge International, P.O Box 9846 Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania; [smart.daniel@helpage.org](mailto:smart.daniel@helpage.org) +255 784 727 327
2. Mr. Joseph Mbasha - Program Manager, HelpAge International, P. O Box 9846 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; [joseph.mbasha@helpage.org](mailto:joseph.mbasha@helpage.org) +255 784 883 539
3. Ms. Eliaseny Nnko – Coordinator, TAWALAE, P.O Box 797 Shinyanga, Tanzania; +255 754 572 677 [shinyangatawlae@yahoo.com](mailto:shinyangatawlae@yahoo.com)
4. Mr. Joseph Mandago – Chairperson, MAPEECE, P.O Box 333 Magu-Mwanza, Tanzania; +255 688 082 121 [maperece@hotmail.com](mailto:maperece@hotmail.com)

