



CHILDREN'S DIGNITY FORUM (CDF)

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ARASA	AIDS & Rights Alliance for Sothern Africa
CDF	Children’s Dignity Forum
CSO’s	Civil Society Organizations
EAGT	Evangelistic Assemblies of God Tanzania
ESRF	Economic and Social Research Foundation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FORWARD	Foundation for Women’s Health Research and Development
LHRC	Legal and Human Right Centre
NGO’s	Non -Governmental Organizations
RPC	Regional Police Commander
SACHITA	Save Children of Tanzania
TECMN	Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network
UNFPA	United Nation Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund

Introduction

About Us

Children's Dignity Forum (CDF) 2014 annual report covers activities done from January - December 2014. The report describes the activity progress, outputs, challenges encountered during the activities implementation, lesson learned and recommendations. In 2015 CDF has continued to promote, respect and observe children's rights and in doing so it has managed to strengthen its campaign against child marriage, FGM and advocate for children's rights in Tanzania.

What We Do

We work with local and international partners in eradicating Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Child Marriage in Mwanza and Mara region in Tanzania. We strengthen the rights and protection of children, particularly girls affected by FGM and child marriage, and those at risk of FGM and child marriage.

How We Do It

We conduct capacity building and empowerment trainings, policy advocacy, use media communication, as well as mobilize resources, research, documentation and publication and provide service provisions to the girls clubs and networks.

Where We Do It

We work all over Tanzania with specific projects in Mwanza and Mara regions. We work with the central & local government authorities, civil society's organizations, community, religious & traditional leaders in creating a just, sustainable development for child mothers, child widows, and girls at risk of FGM and child marriage in Tanzania

1.0 Research, Documentations & Publications

Enhancing child participation in Tanzania by Conduct child participation study

Child participation situational analysis conducted in Mbeya, Iringa and Njombe with the aim of screening all child participation structures in the six selected Districts (e.g. type of structures, mandate, support needed and linkages with the JCURT) to inform policy makers and future programming.

Output: Draft report on the child participation situational analysis in Mbeya, Iringa and Njombe.

Way forward: Finalising the report with the profiled existing child participation structures mandates and support needed to improve the structure in the six selected Districts of Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa.

Development, production and distribution of Brochures, T-shirts, booklets and identity cards

During the advocacy campaign, 1,520 IEC materials were distributed (200 T-shirts, 120 booklets, 150 fliers and 700 brochures). The materials carried different advocacy messages on ending FGM, child marriages and teenagers' pregnancies as well as access to SRHR and services.

Progress: Over 1,520 IEC materials were produced and disseminated aiming at creating awareness and promoting girls and women's rights and inspiring behavioral change.

Lesson learnt: IEC materials take the message fast to different sections of the community in a short time. There were positive feedback from the previously distributed IEC materials that some community members managed to access services through the directives given in the police and gender desk brochures that were produced by CDF.

Challenges: The IEC materials developed and distributed were not enough due to budget constraints.

Recommendation: More IEC materials with FGM, child marriage, teenager pregnancies and SRHR messages should be produced and distributed widely to ensure the entire community is aware of the issues.

Child Marriage Documentary

CDF in collaboration with the Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) produced a child marriage documentary for the purposes of raising awareness of the situation on the ground and spark attention for support in ending child marriages.

Progress: The documentary was first aired in a program called World Today watched by more than 3 millions Koreans and the rest of the world to raise awareness and as an effort in lobbying for the world support on abandoning Child Marriages.

Lesson Learnt: The media increased the visibility of the CDF as well as for its mission and vision. Following the documentary CDF has been consulted on various initiatives on ending child marriages as well visited by two organizations International Child Care and WellSpring Advisors seeking partnership on ending child marriages.

2.0 Capacity Building & Outreach

Training on SRHR and services, linking girls and boys with access to contraceptives- conducted in partnership with UMATI

75 Girls who are in and out of school were trained for three 3 days on SRHR and services, linking girls and boys with access to contraceptives in Rorya, Musoma Rural and Tarime. The first training was conducted in Musoma District where 45 girls attended, the second training was conducted in Tarime where 30 girls attended.

The training aimed at capacity development of the girls and peer educators on SRHR and services. The trainees are expected to engage their peers and support them in accessing sexual and reproductive health services. The training covered the following topics:

- Key SRHR and services definitions and concepts
- Confidence building
- Referral systems for SRHR violations
- Problem associated with sexual reproductive health rights & services.
- Outreach skills for addressing SRHR violations and issues related to services.
- Gender, family planning and life skills.



Outputs: A total number of 75 girls were trained on SRHR and services, after the training girls prepared a plan of action outlining how they will carry out SRHR activities in their in their communities.

Lesson Learnt: There is huge demand on knowledge, skills and awareness on SRHR and services. This clearly proved with the increasing number of reported cases on unsafe abortion, girls drop out from school due to teenager pregnancy and child marriages.

Challenges: SRHR and services are still new to many of the community members and hence pose challenges for the girls to access and use the services.

Way forward: Intensive advocacy on the benefits of the SRHR awareness and services must be initiated in the project areas.

Sensitization Workshops with teachers and parents on children rights, sexual and reproductive health rights and HIV issues among young people

20 participants (parents, teachers, traditional leaders, excisors and police), from Musoma rural, Tarime and Rorya were trained on child rights, SRHR, FGM and HIV transmission, prevention and treatment among young people. This was done purposely to gain support in advocating for girls SRH and rights in Mara region.



Output: 20 Teachers, parents, traditional leaders and police sensitized on the importance of being aware of issues affecting youth in the area of SRHR, human rights and HIV.

Lesson learnt: Parents, teachers, police and traditional leaders are key actors in the promotion of children rights, without their full participation and acceptance it very challenging realizing the rights of girls particularly the SRHR.

Challenges: Limited number of key actors to attend training due to inadequate budget

Way forward: More parents and teachers engagement is important for promoting SRHR of the young girls.

Advocacy and Managerial training; strengthening the capacity of the girls clubs and networks in Rorya, Tarime and Musoma

3 girls' networks and 14 girls clubs were trained in advocacy skills and management of the girls clubs and networks.

Outputs: 30 girls in 14 girls clubs and 3 networks in Musoma, Tarime and Rorya trained on managerial and advocacy skills, sexual and Reproductive Health rights and services, maternal and new born health, prevention of pregnancies, sexual transmitted infections, sexuality and sexual health in line with Gender Based Violence (GBV), FGM and Child Marriage and on how to report the same in the radio stations and television.

Lesson learnt:

- Radio and television programs that were aired by Star Television and Radio free Africa increased the visibility of the girls networks and clubs and their work in regions. Clubs and network members received a number of calls from the girls and young women who wants to join them.
- The management training led to clubs and network elections but mostly important changing of the structures and leadership in clubs and network for more efficient and effective way of serving the club and network members.

Challenges: Inadequate resources to support girl's media campaigns

Way Forward: Safety and protection trainings are required for the girls who are conducting house to house and media campaigns.

Girls camp mandatory - mentorship training, laws and paralegal skills.

A total of 30 girls from Tarime, Rorya and Musoma attended girl's camp in this April. During the camping the girls were trained on the following issues: childhood education, parenting skills, food and nutrition, laws and policies on girls rights, duties and responsibilities of gender desks towards children and women protection, how to report FGM, child marriage and GBV cases, paralegal skills, legal aid, sexual and reproductive health and services and life skills.

Progress: A total of 30 girls attended training of trainers and equipped with knowledge and skills on child and women's rights

Lesson Learnt: Girl's camp and training of trainers has brought changes in the lives of girls and young women in the three districts; there has been an increase in reported cases on GBV and other girl's rights violations championed by the girls clubs and networks.

Challenges: Inadequate support and capacity of the the local authorities in promoting the rights of girls pose a challenge to the girls in getting support and accessing services from the government systems.

Recommendation: Sensitization trainings and strengthening of the Child Protection Team and systems are needed to address the growing demands of the girls in accessing legal, SRHR services and psychosocial services.

Monthly Provision on the running of the girls clubs and networks

The monthly provision for the running of the girls clubs and networks were provided to support the implementations of lessons learned from the refresher trainings on leadership and vocational training with objectives of strengthening income generating activities, linking girls with the Local Government Authority support and making sure that girls have disposable income and livelihood options.

Progress: Two girls' networks, Tunaweza in Tarime and Sister to Sister in Musoma and Sirari girls club managed to scale up their business by purchasing necessary materials for their business. Tunaweza and Sister to Sister networks facilitated to purchase over lock sewing machines, crockeries, producing door marts, selling second hand clothes, fabric materials, shining boards and repair their old machines and business center equipment while Sirari girls club purchased food necessities and restaurant equipment's.

Lesson learnt: Girls business has been growing very fast with 16 of them managing to establish personal business out of the group business.

Challenge: Inadequate documentation and record keeping of the clubs and network business posed a challenge on sustainability. Income poverty at household level is a serious challenge to the girls business, when there is a serious need of money at the family , girls tend to use business money to carter for their family needs instead of working towards revolving the funds to assist other girls in need.

Recommendation: Record keeping and financial management training is recommended for the girls which among other things will enable them to keep good records, manage finances effectively and create a culture of saving.

Running Cost of Girls Clubs and Networks

Girls' clubs and networks were provided with funds to suport house to house campaigns, normally conducted on each month as agreed on girls action plans on the campaign to end child mariage and FGM.

Progress: Three girls' networks and six girls' clubs successfully conducted house to house campaign reaching more than 1500+ girls. The clubs and networks are Umoja Girls Club, Tunaweza Nertwork, Tuamke Girls Network, Upendo Club,

Koryo Girls Club, Jitegemee Girls Club, Sister to Sister Girls Club, Rebu Girls Club and Kukirango Girls Club.

Lesson Learnt: The house to house campaign proved to be significantly helpful and supportive to the girls whose rights were violated and they didn't know the platform to report. Girls visiting different households have played a key role in reporting the violations of girls rights to the responsible authorities.

Challenges: Few girls have undertaken the protection duties and responsibilities that endanger their lives.

Recommendation: Provision of child protection education and awareness to the girls is very important. Efforts towards establishing the child protection system in Tarime is underway with the support from UNICEF Tanzania.

Capacity building training on child participation and how to establish and run children councils

Trainings of trainers on how to establish and run children's councils were conducted to local governmental officials in Mbeya (Mbeya rural and Mbarali districts), Iringa (Iringa rural and Mufindi districts) and Njombe (Njombe rural and Makete districts) regions.



Progress: Capacity building of the 60 local government officials, 60 representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations in the 6 selected districts on child participation and on how to establish and run children councils. Capacity building trainings on how to establish, coordinate, strengthening and facilitating children councils conducted to 60 CSO's representatives and 66 LGA's officials

Lesson learnt: Personal commitment of some of the LGA officials promising the positive results i.e Mbarali and Iringa Rural. Teachers could support more child participation work comparing to Ward Executive Officer and Community Development Officer's.

Challenges: Inadequate training and facilitation materials comparing to the demands of the same, only few copies of the child participation toolkit, guidelines for the establishment of the Children councils and the constitution of the JCURT were available to trainees. To resolve this, a number of important tools were photocopied to cover the existed demands.

Recommendations: Child participation materials have to be printed and disseminated to the local authorities with the orientation to the responsible officers who will be using the materials. The materials referred here include: National Child Participation Toolkit – Swahili Version, Guidelines for the establishment of children councils at all levels, simplified copies of the Law of the Child Act 2009, Convention on the Rights of a Child and Africa Charter on the Welfare and Rights of a Child. It is further recommended that a child friendly version simple book on child participation right must be produced covers a child rights to participate, children councils elections, importance of children councils and its functions.

Exchange visit study is very important for the LGA’s officials from the newly established councils to visit other part of the country where there are well established children councils for the learning purposes.

Convene meetings, conduct elections and establish children councils in Mbeya, Iringa and Njombe Regions.

Meetings were convened, elections were conducted at village, wards and district levels and junior councils established in the selected districts and wards.

Progress: Junior Councils in the selected 18 wards, in the 6 districts in 3 regions established; leadership mechanism in place and capacities of members on management strengthened. Children convened in 95 villages to elect members of the children councils at the village levels and in 18 wards to elect members of the 18 wards children councils.

Challenges:

1. Lack of participation for children with special needs and children outside school where the election process of the children councils was conducted. Special measures were taken by ward executive officers and ward education officers in Mbarali and Mufindi to make sure that all children participated in the election and exercise the right to vote and being voted to the councils.
2. Insufficient community awareness on children rights- Few parents resisted to give permission to their children to participate in election. Child labour prevalence in farms and homes makes it difficult for children to get permission to participate in children meetings.
3. Lack of awareness on children rights among children; In order to resolve this, the first session with the children councils were to introduce child rights and responsibilities, laws and policies governing children rights

and international conventions on the rights of a child.

Recommendations:

1. Community mobilization and engagement to address cultural sensitivity- the use of role models in the community to promote child participation from the family settings to the community settings i.e strong advocacy through campaigns and public meeting is needed on the importance of child participation.
2. Strengthening children councils through regularly capacity development and link the councils with the existing child protection structures as well as other initiatives that supports children development in the districts.

Photo Voice Training

Photo voice training was conducted on 2nd – 5th October, 2014. Photo Voice assist girls to identify, represent, and enhance communities through a specific photographic technique. Photo Voice is the knowledge production tool which enabled girls to record and reflect communities’ strengths, project achievements and express their concerns.

CDF in collaboration with FORWARD-UK, used photo voice as a tool to evaluate the project “*Mobilizing Action to Safeguard Rights of Girls in Tanzania*” which addressed child marriage and FGM in Mara. 50 girls from Umoja, Tunaweza , Rorya and Upendo Girls in Tarime and Rorya Districts were trained on the photo voice applications.

Output:

- 50 girls trained on how to use photo voice in projects evaluation.
- Girls enhanced with knowledge on self-expression.
- Girls increased understanding on their environment and background.
- Participants increased knowledge on photo graphics technology.

Lesson learnt:

- Photo voice is an innovative tool for Evaluation and reporting project achievement.
- Girls managed to describe their success easily by using photos.
- Photo voice technics facilitate discussion and meaningful interactions among girls participated
- Photo voice assisted project evaluators to easily document the project achievement and understand the communities’ realities.

Challenges: Whether condition affects girl's movements to the field site. Training was conducted during rainy season in Mara region.

Tarime schools sensitization trainings on Child Rights, FGM and Child Marriage:

The training was conducted on 3rd - 7th October, 2014 in four Wards of Tarime District: Bumera, Sirari, Susuni and Mwema wards. A total of 384 (127 secondary and 264 Primary Schools Students) were trained and 8 clubs were formed in the trained schools. 6 being primary schools Sirari, Kikomori, Kiongera, Turget, Kitenga and Nyairamo Primary School and 2 secondary schools Sirari and Mwema Secondary Schools.



Output:

- 384 students trained on Child Rights, FGM and Child Marriage consequences.
- Schools clubs members increased understanding on child rights, FGM, and child marriage.
- Schools clubs members increased understanding on short and long term consequences child rights violations, FGM and Child Marriage.

Lesson Learnt:

- School Club members are energetic and have passion to learn more and share with others on Children Rights, FGM and Child Marriage.
- Raising awareness through school increases promotion of girl's empowerment.
- School trainings enhancing boy's participation in the promotion of girl's rights.

Challenges: In some of the schools teachers demanded payment as a condition to allow facilitators to interact with students.

Training on Girls Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Services (SRHR). The training on SRHR and Services for girls was conducted on 8th and 9th October in Tarime District. Participants attended the training were the newly girls joined girls clubs and networks. The training comprised of Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and HIV/AIDS, Human rights, Child Rights, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Consequence of Child marriage and FGM, Life skills, Leadership skills, Project design and how to establish and manage girls clubs. The beneficiaries were from Manga, Rorya, Tunaweza, Umoja, and Upendo Girls Network

Output:

- 37 girls were equipped with the knowledge and awareness on sexuality education.
- Action plan on how girls are going to disseminate the acquired knowledge were developed.

Lesson Learnt: Girls are eager and interested to learn and spreading the knowledge other girls in the community.

Launching of Ending Child Marriage Campaign in Mara

CDF in collaboration with Graca Machel Trust, Tarime District Council, Tarime Town Council, Police Tarime/Rorya Special Zone, Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network, Child Help Line supported by UNFPA launched the campaign to End Child Marriage in Mara region on 11th October, 2014.

The campaign was launched by the Minister of Community Development Gender and Children, Ms. Sophia Simba at Tarafa Stadium in Sirari. The campaign was attended by all the key stakeholders in Mara Region; Tarime and Butiama District Commissioners, Minister of Labour and Youth Development, Director of Children Department from the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children, representatives from Tanzania Breweries and Plan International, Civil Society Organizations, health providers, teachers, Village executive officers, ward executive officers, Ward Education Officer, Legal Officers, religious leaders, traditional leaders, media, men, women, students, girls and boys.

Output: 1000+ people participated in the campaign and had an opportunity to hear the commitment of multi sectoral initiatives on ending child marriage and FGM.

Lesson Learnt:

- The launch offered an opportunity for networking and strengthening collaborations among stakeholders advocating for the rights of girls in Mara.
- Provide an opportunity for engagement with traditional and religious leaders to end FGM which resulted to child marriage and consequently school drop outs of girls.
- The multi sectorial approach on the campaign brought a serious pressure to perpetrators of girl's rights in Tarime, District.



Challenges: Partners view each other as competitors instead of collaborators. And demands of payment from the key partners.

Consultation meeting with the traditional leaders and Tarime District Officials:

In October 2014, CDF under the support of UNFPA, managed to have three consecutive consultation meetings with the traditional leaders who are the key players with regards to FGM. The consultation meetings resulted to the formation of the committee on abandoning FGM and child marriage in Tarime District. The committee is chaired by the District Commissioner and comprised of; Deputy Chair who is the, Regional Police Commissioner, Social welfare officers, CDF as secretary and traditional leaders from the 13 Kurya clans.

The main role of this committee was to influence their communities to abandon FGM and Child Marriage and protect girls running away from marriage and FGM.

Output:

- The committee succeeded to reach all the Kurya clans and managed to influence two clans to stop FGM and Child Marriage in 2014, the Timbaru and Nyabasi clans decided and agreed to smear flour instead of cutting girls as an alternative rites of passage from childhood to adulthood. Hence the committee managed to protect hundreds of girls from being mutilated and forced into marriages.

- Another success is that, it was the first time for the Kurya traditional leaders to stand in public and talk about abandoning FGM and Child marriage an issue which was very sensitive to discuss in public.

Challenges:

- The challenges still remain that, most of the Kurya leaders failed to declare the ending of FGM for the fear of the community's repercussion. Most of the community members are still embracing FGM as a rites of passage.
- Political and public will still a challenge on the abandonment of the FGM and Child Marriages

Lesson learnt:

- Intensive community mobilization and sensitization campaign could yield the positive result of abandonment of FGM and Child Marriages. Communities and Traditional leaders are now divided on whether to continue with FGM or abandoned the outdated practices.

Commemoration of International Day of a Girl Child

In October, 2014 CDF in collaboration with UNFPA, Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network, Tarime District Commissioner, Tarime District Council and Police, commemorated the International Day of a Girl Child which involved high level representatives from the Government, religious institutions, civil society organizations, community leaders, parents and children both boys and girls.



Output: 1000+ people participated in the commemoration of the day. The day offered an opportunity to call for action to end violence against girls as a result of this activity Government (RPC and District Commissioner) committed to arrest those who will violate girl's rights by forcing them into marriage, FGM and impregnate

them. This was very strong statement from the government at local level since we started our work on ending FGM eight years ago.

Lesson Learnt:

- The communities feared the government actions as they agreed to stop FGM on the day.

Challenges:

- Lack of commitment from political leaders. The government is promising too much and no adequate actions to arrest the violators of girls' rights. Hundreds of girls were forcefully undergone FGM after the government issued commitment to arrest those who will cut girls.
- Lack of commitment from the Government Official i.e Police, FGM celebrations were taking place in a public place but no actions were taken against perpetrators.
- Traditional leaders, though in a representative manner made a declaration in front of the Tarime District Authority to end FGM in the Kuria tribe, some of them were not able/ready to express their stand during denouncing of FGM practices because of fear of community members repercussions. It was only two traditional leaders who were able to stand in public and stop FGM.

Dialogue meeting to build partnership with Sexual Reproductive Health service providers.

The dialogue was held in Tarime on 12th December with the purpose of facilitating easy access to the Sexual and Reproductive Health Services to the girls supported by CDF. The dialogue aimed at making access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Service friendly and easier accessible to girls, addressing cultural sensitivity of the services and engaging parents to support their girls to use the service.

The dialogue covered the following topics: Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Services concepts in Tanzanian context, Definition of Reproductive Health and Sexual health, Rationale for Sexual Reproductive Health Services for youth, Priority components of Reproductive Health in Tanzania, Reproductive Health Rights, National policy for Family planning service provision and training, Rumors and misconceptions pertaining Sexual and Reproductive Health, Challenges encountered by health service providers in providing friendly Services, Challenges faced by young people in accessing SRH services, way forward and what to be done within Mara region health providers to improve Youth SRH friendly

Output: The activity were attended by 45 health providers from Tarime, Rorya and Musoma Districts who were equipped with the new knowledge on Youth Sexual Reproductive Health friendly services and how to improve the services within their respective health facilities.

Lesson Learnt: Most of the service providers' work are not adhering to the WHO International Guideline on service provision as well as the National guideline on the same. Health service providers depend on the command from their in charge even in the issues which are under their mandate.

Challenges

- Negative attitudes of health service providers.
- Unfriendly structure with limited resources and space
- Inadequate knowledge and skills to work with youth among health providers

3.0 Lobbying & Advocacy

Strengthening the function of the resource center by equipping the resource center with reading and advocacy material as well as advertising the resource center to the Mara region communities (Rorya, Tarime and Musoma Districts) through radio programs, newspaper and television

Outputs

- 585 advocacy materials produced (T-shirts, stickers, booklets, pamphlets, ID's, and brochures on Child marriage, teenage pregnancies, SRHR and FGM. 1,314, of reading materials from UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, TAMWA, LHRC, UMATI, GOVERNMENT OF TANAZANIA, PLAN INTERNATIONAL, SAVE THE CHILDREN, KULEANA AND UTU MWANAMKE supplied to the resource center for the Mara communities.
- Active functioning resource center equipped with the reading materials.

Lesson learnt:

- The availability of materials and accessibility of the resource center increased the number of visitors who are visiting the resource center for reading and seeking of advice.
- Active resource center increased the visibility of CDF and partner's works as well as girls clubs and network works in Mara region.

Challenges:

- The resource centre has a small studying space which is not enough for the community members to study and access materials comfortably.
- Though the resource centre is equipped with different reading materials still many people do not have the habit of reading.
- Establishment of Tarime Town Council which has a shortage of offices, lead to the two rooms which were used for the public to be taken off the resource centre.

Way forward:

- There is a need to establish a large one stop centre in Tarime that would act as a resource centre as well as provide other needed services such as legal aid and psychosocial services.
- Media advocacy to increase its visibility and call for the community to utilize the

resource centre.

Media advocacy through radio, television and newspaper on the work of girls clubs and network in Mara region

Girls clubs and networks managed to prepare and air 3 radio and 2 television programs on what clubs and networks are doing on the rights of the girls.

Output: Girls managed to share the progress made in the mobilization action to safeguard the rights of the girl's project.

Lesson learnt: The radio and television programs increased recognition of 2 girls' networks and 14 girls clubs as critical players in championing girl's rights and fighting against child marriage and FGM in Mara region.

Challenges: Budget constraints for girls to conduct regular media campaigns

Way forward: More trainings are needed to the girls on how to prepare radio and television programs and how to present themselves in the media.

Children's Dignity Forum has enhanced organizational capacity and visibility

CDF is being recognised as a critical player in shaping the agenda on child marriage, FGM and girls' rights in Tanzania. CDF has signed two memorandum of understanding aiming at promotion and protection of girls' rights. CDF has signed a memorandum of understanding with UNFPA and Graca Machel Trust aiming at making "Mara region Child Marriage Free Zone" and another memorandum of understanding with Sonke Gender Justice Network and Men Engage Africa with the aim of engaging men in promotion of girls' rights. CDF work was reported 15 times in newspapers, 18 times in different radio programmes and 8 times in television programmes from January- March 2014.

Advocacy and awareness raising campaign: Community mobilization and dialogue

A total of 16 girls clubs and 3 girls networks under the support of CDF and Tarime Mindset conducted campaign on the consequences of child marriage, FGM and teenager pregnancy at Serengeti Stadium in Tarime town reaching out more than 1,000 people. The campaign included matching of more than 1000 primary and secondary students in Tarime streets carried different messages "*Acha ukeketaji kwa ajili ya maendeleo yangu*" *ELIMIKA! Acha ukeketaji na ndoa za utotoni*" and *Ukeketaji na Ndoa za Utotoni ni Majanga- Niache nisome!*

The District Commissioner received the matching and officiated the campaign including giving the speech. A medical doctor initiated discussions on the consequences of FGM, child marriage and teenager pregnancy. Girl's networks and clubs performed different drama and role plays on FGM, Child marriage and teen's pregnancies. The Regional Police Commander explained the duties and responsibilities of the Gender Desk and how

to report FGM, GBV and child marriage related cases to the police. The chairperson and secretary of the Tarime traditional leaders also gave a speech on the importance of keeping girls in schools and not to marry them off while they are still in school.

Progress: More than 1,000 community members participated in the matching and campaigns were able to acquire knowledge on the consequences of the FGM, child marriage and teenager pregnancy and the actions that should be taken by the police gender desk when GBV cases are reported.

Lesson Learnt: Participation of different stakeholders in the matching and campaigns cemented the relationship between different stakeholders towards eradicating GBV in Rorya, Tarime and Musoma rural.

Challenges: Inadequate male youth engagement in the campaigns and matching posed a challenge at the campaign site "Serengeti Stadium". The youth male threatened to disrupt the campaign for the reasons that it was done in the football stadium and there were fearing that the girls and students will litter the stadium.

Recommendation: Male and youth engagement is very important for the successful campaigns in the future.

Launching of Ending Child Marriage Campaign at the National Level:

CDF in collaboration with the members of the Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN) and the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Children (MCDGC) under UNFPA and Graca Machel Trust support launched the National Ending Child Marriage Campaign on 26th August 2014. The campaign was launched by Her Excellency Graca Machel at Mwalimu Nyerere International Convention Centre. The launching was attended by influential people and key stakeholders such as former President Benjamin William Mkapa, Minister Sophia Simba, Former Prime Minister Joseph Sinde Warioba, Regional Commissioners, District Commissioners, Religious and Traditional leaders.

The campaign termed 'Child Marriage Free Zone' aimed to strengthen national dynamics for ending child Marriage and ensuring realization of girl's rights in Tanzania.

Progress: A total of 750+ people attended the campaign launch and Her Excellency Graca Machel sent a text message to 7500+ people urging them to abandon child marriage and support the campaign on ending child marriage.

Lesson Learnt: Multi sectorial approach on ending child marriage increased the visibility of the problem and commitment of other sectors in addressing the problem. Partnership and collaboration with the United Nations agencies have contributed to the some extent the political will of the government to address the problem.

Challenges: Poor coordination of the campaign, implementing partners viewed each other as competitors instead of collaborators with one objective on ending child marriages.

Recommendation: There is need to organize and call implementing partners meeting to address the challenges emerged on the implementation of the campaign.

National Forum for Ending FGM:

CDF in collaboration with the Ministry of Community, Development Gender and Children (MCDGC) under the support of United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) organized the National Forum for Ending Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) which took place at Kunduchi Beach Hotel on 26th- 27th, June, 2014.

Progress: The forum was attended by participants from the regions with high prevalence rate of FGM as indicated by (TDHS, 2010) Mara, Manyara, Dodoma, Singida and Arusha. Participants came together with the aim of sharing experience, lesson learnt and come up with agreed action plan to end FGM.

A number Presentations were made on enforcement of FGM laws, grassroot level commitment on ending FGM, media campaigns, Intergration of the FGM into health services and the existing partnerships with religious, traditional leaders and other institutions on ending FGM. The forum came out with National Action Plan on Ending FGM. Furthermore, the forum resulted to the increased local level commitment to end FGM, strengthened collaboration with partners on ending FGM and increased knowledge on the role of religious leaders on ending FGM.

Lessorn Learnt: The impoertance of engaging traditional and religious leaders on the campaigns to end FGM was realised and included in the developed National Action Plan on Ending FGM.

Challenge: There are no resource and political commitment roll over the National Action Plan on Ending FGM

Recommendation: Advocacy and lobbying is highly needed to influence the government to cement its commitment towards eradicating FGM.

4.0 Networking & Partnership Meetings

Advisory board meeting quarterly- Partnership

Project advisory board convened to discuss achievements, lessons learnt, and challenges and provided recommendations that will inform programming of future projects.

Progress: 18 members of the advisory board managed to meet and produced a concrete plan with suggestions on the way forward after the completion of the project.

Lesson Learnt: The project advisory board members provided a platform where key stakeholders; government, CSOs, traditional leaders, interfaith organization meet to discuss key issues and create synergy of efforts by sharing information and improving overall efforts to end FGM and child marriages.

Recommendation: For the effectiveness and efficiency of the project, the existing project advisory board should be continued to be consulted with regards to the project implementation.

Documentation and sharing of the best practices and lessons learnt through policy briefs and reports

Progress: A total of 22 project lessons learnt have been documented and shared with stakeholders and advisory board members.

Children's Dignity Forum has enhanced organizational capacity and visibility

CDF is being recognised as a critical player in shaping the agenda on promoting girls rights including SRHR through eradicating child marriage and FGM in Tanzania. CDF in collaboration with the United Kingdom High Commission in Tanzania prepared a special event "Time to Act" the End of Sexual Violence against Women and Girls.

Officers from the European Union in Tanzania visited CDF in March 2014 after getting recommendations from other development partners to discuss and learn more on issues related to FGM and child marriage in Tanzania as they were developing a call for proposal around those issues. This also indicates that CDF's work is acknowledge and appreciated by many including the development partners.

CDF work was reported 22 times in newspapers, 12 times in different radio programmes and 6 times in television programmes between March and June 2014.

TECMN Meeting with Graca Machel:

CDF facilitated the meeting between Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network (TECMN) and Her Excellency Graca Machel. The meeting was held at KIWOHEDE Bunju Centre as Mrs Machel wanted to meet with the girls in the nearby centres. The meeting aimed at strengthening the collaboration between TECMN and Graca Machel Trust.

Progress: The meeting was attended by 35 members of the Tanzania Ending Child Marriage Network and resulted to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between CDF as the secretariat of the TECMN , Graca Machel Trust and UNFPA.

Peer Research: Participatory Ethnographic Evaluation research (PEER) was conducted exploring the impact of the three years project “Mobilizing Action to Safeguard Rights of Girls in Tanzania”.

Progress: 32 girls and 16 community members participated in the PEER research and managed to share the impact of the three years project in their communities.

Lessons Learnt: PEER research is a powerful tool in getting the information from hard research group and sensitive communities. Community engagement increased the ownership of the project. The project impact are expected to last for long time as already their replication of the project results in different parts of the Mara region.

5.0 Monitoring & Evaluation

Comic Relief Evaluation:

Comic Relief conducted an Independent Evaluation on the three years project “Mobilizing Action to Safeguard the Rights of Girls in Tanzania” on 13th- 20th August 2014. The project was implemented by FORWARD UK, CDF and UMATI in Tarime, Musoma and Rorya Districts.

Progress: Overall the project has successfully achieved all the expected deliverables/outputs and outcomes both qualitatively and quantitatively. Significant impact has been made on the lives of girls and young women, the project implementing organizations as well as the community at large and there is adequate ground for sustaining the changes made by the project.

Lesson learnt: A number of lessons learnt were documented from the project at different levels such as at Individual level for the target Group, at Organisational Level and at Institutional level for institutions that have participated in the Project

Feedback meetings on awareness raising sessions to end FGM

Reflection and feedback meetings were held in Tarime on 19.12.2014 with the aim of sharing the results of the continuous awareness raising campaigns on ending FGM in Tarime District conducted by the 13 traditional leaders of the 13 Kurya clans. The meetings attended by 81 participants including Tarime District Commissioner, Tarime District Administrative Officer and Police Force-Tarime Rorya Special Zone.

The meeting received the report from the special committee on ending FGM, the report covers the purpose of the committee, what was done, achievement, lesson learnt, challenges and recommendations.



Output: The committee managed to come up with the details challenges and recommendations on ending FGM in the region.

Challenges: Inadequate financial resources to support other influential members in the community to raise awareness on denouncing FGM and child marriage. Resource does not come on time when needed to address emanated field challenges

Lesson Learnt: Some few Traditional leaders showed their genuine support to end FGM in their Communities.

Monitoring and Evaluation and Program management Training.

The training was conducted to CDF staff with the purpose of strengthening staff capacities on the effective and efficient projects monitoring and evaluation. The training equipped CDF staff with understanding of the management techniques and key program management tools used in project implementations. Few important topics were selected i.e Perform a project needs assessment and write goals, requirements, and deliverables, Key project documents, including the statement of work, project planning and worksheet, Build a project schedule by estimating time, costs, and resources and Understand and use the work breakdown structure, Create project planning documents, such as schedule, risk management plan, and communication plan, Establish and use of baselines, Monitor and maintain the project and Perform basic management tasks, including leading status meetings and ensuring all documents are complete at the end of the project

Output: 12 CDF staff were equipped with the new knowledge on program management, implementation and delivery.

Lesson Learnt: Staff trainings needs adequate time, resources and proper plans. The training conducted when staff were occupied with some other deadlines.

Challenges: Inadequate budget to support training to be conducted out of office to avoid office interference.

Children Council Members participation in the Children’s Agenda Quarterly Meeting:

CDF facilitated the participation of the United Republic of Tanzania Junior Councils (JCURT) members to the Quarterly children’s Agenda meeting on October 30th. The meeting were held at UNICEF offices. JCURT members managed to share the status of Violence against Children (VAC) and Child Survival from their respective areas and their position in the upcoming national general election 2015.

Output: 30 JCURT members from Njombe, Makete, Mbeya, Mbarali, Iringa and Mufindi managed to share information on the VAC and Child Survival status of the respective districts.

Lesson Learnt: Children can speak on their challenges if empowered and given opportunity. Children from Iringa, Mbeya and Njombe managed to represent their fellows on the challenges facing children in the six districts.

Challenges: English language pose a serious challenge for children to contribute in other topics that were discussed in the meeting.

Networking and partnership- Meetings and workshops

CDF recognized as an organization with adequate capacity in addressing Child Marriages, Female Genital Mutilation and enhancing girl’s rights, with this regards, CDF is frequently invited and approached by many organizations and institutions for partnership and experience sharing.

In the period January – December 2014, CDF participated in different meetings, workshops, discussions and training at National, Regional and International level on child rights issues. Among the few worthy to be mentioned are:

No.	Month	Place	Issue
1.	January	UNICEF	Children’s Agenda Annual Review
2.	February	LHRC	Ant -FGM coalition
3.	March	REPOA	Children Research
4.	March	REPOA	Annual Research Workshop
5.	March	UNICEF	PCA meetings
6.	February	ESRF-/POPC/ UNDP	THDR
7.	March	PANOS	VAC
8.	March	EUROPEAN UNION	Gender mainstreaming in programs and projects
9.	March	LHRC	ANT- FGM meeting

10.	March	PLAN INTERNATIONAL	Partnership with CDF
11.	March	PLAN INTERNATIONAL	EU Partnership
12.	March	UNICEF	Children Agenda Quarter meeting
13.	March	UNICEF	Reporting Guideline
14.	March	MEWATA,WLAC,TA MWA & WILDAF	Women's and Girls Rights
15.	June	UNFPA	National Forum to End FGM
16.	May	European Union	Gender Mainstreaming in Projects
17.	June	British High Commission	Violence against Women
18.	May	Plan International	Child Marriage and FGM.
19.	April	ARASA	HIV/ AIDS
20.	May	UNICEF	Children's Agenda
21.	May	SIDA	Building Partnership
22.	May	UNICEF	Violence against Children
23.	April	PSFU	Men Engagement
24.	June	MCDGC	Partnership with CDF
25.	April	Care International	Girls Empowerment
26.	June	Ghent University	Human Rights of Girls
27.	2nd July	TACAIDS	Impact mitigation Technical Working Committee
28.	17th July	CHESO	International Criminal Justice Day
29.	19th-22nd July	UNICEF/UK Government	Girls Summit: Building International support for social and national efforts to end FGM and Early Child and forced marriage
30.	11th August	UNICEF	Feedback meeting on Baseline Survey and Capacity Building for LGAs and CSOs and establishment of Junior Councils.
31.	11th August	Wanawake na Katiba (WFT)	Technical Planning meeting, Big bang trip in Dodoma
32.	14th August	UNICEF	Children's' Agenda Mid-term review on 2014 work plan
33.	16th August	Tanzania Education Development and Research Organization	Launching event for TEDRO Research Project
34.	18th August	Ministry of Finance	Social Protection Programme Management Committee Meeting
35.	21st August	UNDP/ESRF	Tanzania Human Development Report Working Group

36.	22nd August	WILDAF	16 days of activism
37.	22nd August	Plan International	Review of the current partnerships
38.	23rd August	UNICEF	Girls Empowerment Forum in relation to preventing violence against children in Tanzania
39.	28th August	Plan International	Girls Empowerment Project
40.	31st August – 1st September	Big Bang	Gender Responsive Constitution
41.	2nd -4th September	Plan International	Planning meeting and overview of European Commission proposal
42.	11th September	UNDP/President Office, Planning Commission and ESRF	National Conference on “Unleashing Growth Potential in Tanzania: Economic Transformation for Human Development
43.	15th – 16th September	SONKE Gender Justice	Men Engage Planning Meeting
44.	2-3 October	The African Child Policy Forum	Child Participation Validation Workshop.
45.	23rd October	Swedish Embassy, RFSU and AMREF Africa	National Dissemination and Advocacy on SRHR and Gender.
46.	27th, October	ESRF	National Dissemination Workshop: OWG-Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s).
47.	4th, November	World Bank	Review and update of the World Bank’s Environmental and Social Framework phase 2.
48.	20th November	European Union, Save the Children, Plan International and UNICEF	Review of National achievements for Children in Tanzania: Let’s talk of their rights.
50.	25, November	WILDAF	Launching of 16 Days of Activism against GBV.
51.	25, November	UNFPA	Launch ceremony of 2014 state of World population Report.
52.	27th November	UNICEF	Consultation on Child Protection System: Case study of Tanzania.
53.	29th, November	WFT, Coalition against Sextortion	Break the silence: Sextortion Humiliates and kills.
54.	3rd, December	TGNP-Mtandao	Public Forum to commemorate 16 Days against GBV.

6.0 Finance & Administration

Securing Funds

The management continues to strengthen the CDF capacity in monitoring and maintaining records of income and expenditure as well as fundraising for the activities to be implemented. The management monitored and ensured the proper utilization of the project funds as well as maintenance of the proper records of income and expenditure.

Fundraising

The management undertook fundraising initiatives including submission of the proposal to the Sigrid Rousing Trust, Foundation for Civil Society, DFID, European Union, UNFPA, and UNICEF.

Way Forward

Efforts are underway seeking funds from other potential funders to fund the ending child marriage campaign in Tanzania, as well as other activities CDF is doing to end child marriage and FGM.