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GENDER AND YOUTH

TANZANIA

By 2025, Tanzania's population will increase by 10 million, with youth comprising 75% of the population (defined in East Africa as 0-35 years). Today, half of Tanzania's population is female. Despite these numbers, women and youth are among the most marginalized and underutilized Tanzanian citizens. As a result, the Tanzanian government has created policies and strategies that seek to advance female empowerment, gender equality and youth inclusion. For example, the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children works to ensure that the gender perspective is mainstreamed into all policies, programs and strategies. USAID Youth focused activities contribute to youth inclusion and empowerment by supporting entrepreneurship, sexual and reproductive health, as well as opportunities for youth development opportunities in the regions across Tanzania.

Despite these efforts, gender inequities and lack of youth inclusion persist in Tanzania. USAID works to enable gender equality and empower women and youth, as the two groups play a key role in the progress and growth of Tanzania. With greater access to and control over resources, opportunities, and decision-making power, Tanzanian women and youth can sustainably reduce extreme poverty, build healthy communities, and promote inclusive growth.

USAID Tanzania's gender and youth efforts serve the critical unifying role of integrating gender equality, women's empowerment, and youth inclusion across a broad range of activities. Such efforts focus on strengthening conditions that facilitate inclusion and contributions of women and youth on a national level. Our activities also promote women's equality and youth inclusion at the local government and community levels, and ensure Tanzanian women and youth are healthier, better educated, and more productive.

GENDER AND YOUTH OVERVIEW

MAJOR PARTNERS

- Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children
- Ministry of Education and Vocational Training
- Tanzania Commission for AIDS
- Tanzania Social Action Fund
- National Medical Research Institute – Mwanza
- Women in Law and Development Africa
- Tanzania Women’s Media Association (TAMWA)
- Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA)
- UN Women
- UNAIDS
- UNICEF
- Africare
- DAI
- fhi360
- World Education/Bantwana Initiative
- PACT, Inc.
- EngenderHealth
- Jhpiego

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Nationwide

CONTACT

Shamsa Suleiman – ssuleiman@usaid.gov

CHALLENGES

The Government of Tanzania has adopted policies that advance gender equality and youth inclusion. However, the legal and regulatory framework and sector-specific policies of government ministries and independent departments have yet to be aligned. Furthermore, amending the Age of Marriage Act, to increase the minimum age for females to marry to 18 years, remains a critical point of action. There is also a need for well-trained parliamentarians, policy analysts, researchers, and civil society organizations in order to ensure successful female and youth-positive legal reforms and policies.

IMPACT

USAID integrates gender equality, women’s empowerment, and youth inclusion across all activities. Our approach enables public policy dialogue and advocacy in support of gender and youth-positive policies and services in the following ways:

- Developed in accordance with the 2007 Tanzanian National Youth Development Policy and Development Vision 2025, the Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth activity supports agribusiness-focused youth development opportunities in the regions of Iringa, Mbeya and Zanzibar.
- USAID launched the Waache Wasome (“Let them Learn”) project in 2017, which empowers out-of-school girls to create and achieve goals for their future and address the social norms and economic barriers that constrain their ability to remain and excel in school.
- Through the Women’s Leadership and Political Participation Project, USAID increases female

participation in political parties and electoral processes. Over 1,200 women, youth, and people with disabilities in civic leadership are trained, 713 of which ran for office and 72 of which were nominated as candidates in 2015.

- The Enabling Growth through Investment and Enterprise Program is a four-year USAID-funded Feed the Future activity that facilitates the review and reform of the regulatory, informational, and financial channels. The program supports business growth and investment in the southern agricultural regions of Mbeya, Morogoro and Iringa, as well as Zanzibar.