CHAGUO LANGU
HAKI YANGU
2022-2023 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
“I saw a lot of people hurt by gender-based violence (GBV). But thanks to the Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu programme, I learned I don’t have to just accept it. They taught me how to speak up and protect myself and others from GBV. Now, I want to make our community safer and fairer for everyone by sharing this knowledge with other girls.”

Hamida Aboubakar, Unguja
**Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu**

‘My Rights My Choices’ Programme

Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu ‘My Rights My Choices’ is a three-and-a-half-year programme (2021-2025) funded by the Government of Finland and implemented by UNFPA, the United Nations Sexual And Reproductive Health Agency together with various partners both in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The programme aims to contribute to the realization of rights and choices of women and girls, particularly those with disabilities, to enjoy a life free from gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices, particularly child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), through a multi-sectoral and multi-level prevention and response approach.

**Programme Beneficiaries**

**Direct Beneficiaries:**
Adolescent girls and young women, particularly women and girls with disabilities living in Shinyanga (Kishapu and Kahama districts), Mara (Tarime and Butiama districts) and Zanzibar (Urban district in Unguja and Chake Chake districts in South Pemba) who are vulnerable to or survivors of GBV, FGM and child marriage.

**Indirect Beneficiaries:**
Affected families, targeted communities and government institutions whose capacities will be strengthened to prevent and respond to GBV, FGM, and child marriage and to uphold the rights of women and girls, particularly women and girls with disabilities (WGWDs).

**Programme Areas**

**National Level**
Mainland Tanzania
Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba)

**Regional Level:**
**Mara:** Butiama and Tarime
**Shinyanga:** Kishapu and Kahama
**Urban/West Unguja:** Urban South
**Pemba:** Chake Chake
Before the Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu programme, I thought I had no choice—I was supposed to get married. But then, everything changed. The programme showed me my rights and a new way forward. Instead of accepting an early marriage, I decided to chase my dreams. Now, I feel strong enough to create my own future and fulfill my dreams.

Adela Donasia, Shinyanga
Provided technical support to the development of the National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA-VAWCs) to be finalised in 2024 for Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Supported the finalization and validation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) national shadow report in Mainland and Zanzibar.

Convened three cross-border Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) meetings and developed actions to end cross-border FGM in Mainland Tanzania.

Strengthened the institutional, governance, leadership and advocacy capacity of Organizations for Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) to raise awareness and advocate the rights and requirements of persons with disabilities in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

A stand-alone gender-responsive and rights-based Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) guideline for Mainland Tanzania is in progress.

Supported participation of Persons With Disabilities to attend the public consultation meetings for the Law of Marriage Act conducted by the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs (MOCLA) in Mainland Tanzania.

A stand-alone SRHR and GBV guideline will be finalized and disseminated.

Follow up the implementation of the cross-border FGM agreed actions and strengthening of OPDs institutional capacities.

NEXT STEP:
CLHY programme continues to support the finalization of the NPA-VAWCs both in Mainland and Zanzibar.
“I’ve been trained alongside 125 other paralegals on how to better provide legal education to women and girls. In the past year, we have assisted many women in understanding their rights and getting the help they need. As paralegals, we are here to make sure every woman knows her rights and can stand up for herself.”

Rose Kijogo, Shinyanga
Oriented 93 tutors (35F/58M) from public nursing and midwifery training schools about the revised nursing and midwifery National Technical Awards (NTA) curriculum levels 4, 5 and 6 which integrate GBV and FGM.

Trained 178 (73F/105M) healthcare workers on revised GBV/VAC job aid in Mainland Tanzania.

Revised One Stop Center (OSC) Standard Operating Procedure in Zanzibar.

Construction of two One Stop Centres in Kishapu and Tarime in Mainland Tanzania is in its final stage and to be completed in 2024.

Zanzibar One Stop Centre (OSC) functionality assessment to be completed in 2024.

Trained 51 (39F/12M) Community Development Officers, 25 (8F/17M) Wards Executive Officers and 14 Social Welfare Officers in Mainland Tanzania on conducting effective community dialogue by utilizing the National Community Dialogue guideline.

Simplification of the legal aid material on the rights of women and girls including those with disabilities in Mainland Tanzania is ongoing and to be completed in 2024.

Established the SMS service to 116 National Child Helpline (NCH) to make the service disability-inclusive.

Trained 126 (72F/54M) paralegals in Mainland Tanzania to provide legal education on the rights of women and girls, including those with disabilities.

Established the SMS service to 116 National Child Helpline (NCH) to make the service disability-inclusive.

Next Step:
All guidelines will be finalised and disseminated to promote multi-sectoral and quality service provision to survivors and those at risk to GBV, CM and FGM while continuing to advocate for the sustainability of the institutions (equipment, human resources, PWD inclusive infrastructure) and quality service provision.
“ATFGM Masanga kept me safe from FGM and allowed me to continue learning while I stayed at the shelter. With 543 other girls, we helped each other. Instead of going through FGM, we did an Alternative Rites of Passage, which is safer. Now, I can follow my dreams because they supported me.”

Getrude Bhoke, Mara
Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) received life-skills training in Mainland Tanzania.

Established 58 life-skills girls clubs for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) for peer support and mentorship from 40 trained peers (26 matrons, 14 patrons) in Mainland Tanzania.

Sponsored 283 (17 with disabilities) AGYW to receive vocational and entrepreneurship training in Mainland Tanzania.

Provided start-up equipment to 29 economic clubs for 263 AGYW who graduated from Mainland Tanzania VETA Colleges in 2023 to start their community-based livelihood initiatives.

543 (14 with disabilities) AGYW were rescued from FGM and provided shelter in Masanga, Mainland Tanzania and underwent Alternative Rites of Passage (ARP) training.

**Next Step:**
Continue to empower out-of-school and those in school AGYW of their rights, through life-skills training, access to vocational education, shelter for those escaping FGM and encouraging peer support and continuing mentorship.
“Because of the Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu Programme and the help from our faith leaders, I feel safer now. They listened to me and helped me to find the courage to speak up. With their support, I’m learning to be strong again and believe in a future without violence.”

Asha Ramadhani, Zanzibar
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY STRUCTURES TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE WOMEN AND GIRLS RIGHTS, INCLUDING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

 Reached 146,415 (63,347F/70,889M/12,179B) including 850 PWDs (302F/456M/92B) community members through faith leaders, men and boys’ (M&B) engagement, intergenerational dialogues and knowledge centres in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

792 faith leaders (285F/507M) were trained with Christian and Muslim pocketbooks in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Disability-inclusive GBV prevention guideline for faith leaders was developed. The guideline is utilized by 421 district faith leaders and GBV action groups across Zanzibar in all 11 districts.

Conducted intergenerational Training Of Trainers (ToT) to 1,571 (749F/822M) including 166 PWDs (90F/76M) to facilitate intergeneratational dialogues in the communities across all the CLHY programme regions in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar

Trained 30 journalists (12F/18M) on GBV, child marriage, and FGM reporting. Broadcasted 52 radio in Mara, Shinyanga and Zanzibar, reaching 5.5 million listeners (4.7 million in Mainland Tanzania and 800,000 in Zanzibar).

Reached 170,905 (85,597F/85,308M) people and children, including 1,113 (537F/576M) children with disabilities with GBV, FGM and child marriage Information Education Communication (IEC) materials through school outreach sessions, dissemination workshops and school bonanzas in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

Developed and screened an educational video documentary on the negative consequences of FGM in ten wards in Tarime district, reaching 1,400 community members in Mainland Tanzania.

NEXT STEP:
Continue awareness-raising to the community through different channels on the rights of women and girls, particularly those with disabilities, for effective and transformative social behaviour change.
“Before Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu, I felt invisible, like my disability made me less deserving of respect and safety. But now, I see myself as strong and capable. This project taught me that disability doesn’t define my worth, and that I deserve to live free from violence and harmful traditions. With their support, I’ve found my voice and the courage to demand my rights.”

Anastazia Gerald, Kahama
The PWDs Management Information Database System (PD-MIS) development started in 2022. The PD-MIS is a database with data on persons with disabilities, including GBV, child marriage, FGM and other types of disability-based violence in Shinyanga and Mara regions.

The database was pilot-tested in Kahama and Butiama districts to evaluate the system’s accessibility, functionalities and performance by end users before it is fully deployed.

The development of a user manual for PD-MIS has been completed.

Social welfare officers from 184 district councils from Mainland Tanzania were oriented to the PD-MIS during the annual technical meeting for SWOs.

PD-MIS user acceptance session was conducted to provide an opportunity to contribute to the development of a more inclusive PD-MIS.

PD-MIS launched in Dodoma in commemoration of the 2023 International PWDs day.

Next Step:
To ensure the PD-MIS functions in the four districts in Mara and Shinyanga. Once proven successful, scale up the disability data to 20 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in the next three years in Mainland Tanzania.
“Thanks to Chaguo Langu Haki Yangu, I’ve learned so much. I know about things like gender-based violence, female genital mutilation, and child marriage. Now, I understand my rights and how to stand up for myself and others. With this support, I’m determined to make a difference and create a world where everyone feels safe and free.”

Devotha Richard, Tarime, Mara
**BEST PRACTICES FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE WITH RESPECT TO ENDING GBV, CHILD MARRIAGE AND FGM**

- Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development. Effectively operationalize the NPA-VAWCs once finalized and develop regional versions with contextual factors considered.

- Long-term, all year around and consistent investment in multi-sectoral and holistic approach is needed.

- Empower adolescent girls and young women through life-skills, vocational and entrepreneurship training and mentorship to know their rights and support them to either establish income-generating activities or gain decent employment to reduce their vulnerability to various forms of discrimination including child marriage, FGM and GBV.

- Establish and maintain well coordinated, survivor-centered and evidence-based prevention and response services (with the needed equipment, transport and trained human resources, accessible to PWDs) to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice, and there is improved quality of services to at-risk and survivors of GBV, CM and FGM to encourage them to seek justice.

- Engagement of PWDs/OPDs in policy consultations and decision-making is important to ensure inclusive development and fulfillment of their rights and requirements, align with the slogan "Nothing About Us Without Us".

- Strengthen the availability and accessibility of quality routine data disaggregated by sex, age, location, and disability in the areas of GBV and SRH from grassroots (villages) to higher levels (Ministries, Departments and Agencies) to inform evidence-based planning and decision-making to end GBV, child marriage and FGM.

- The roll-out of the PD-MIS needs to continue to ensure data availability for advocacy, planning, and execution to meet the needs of PWDs from the grassroots and national levels.
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