



USAID
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DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE

TANZANIA

The Government of Tanzania has made a commitment, both to its people and to the international community, to improve democratic governance. USAID programming in democracy, human rights and governance builds on previous work that promotes civic and political space, bolsters freedom of expression, improves the advocacy and communication capabilities of local organizations, promotes transparent and accountable systems free from corruption, and strengthens human rights among vulnerable populations.

DRG OVERVIEW

FUNDING LEVEL

\$6 million in FY 2022

MAJOR PARTNERS

Freedom House/PACT

The Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening

FHI 360/Internews

Tanzania Women's Lawyer Association

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Iringa, Kigoma, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Mbeya, Mtwara, Tanga, Mwanza, Njombe, and Zanzibar; as well as support to political processes at the national level.

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These activities aim to achieve four sub-purposes: 1) improving the ability of targeted media and civil society organizations (CSOs) to provide more accurate and impartial information; 2) strengthening partner CSO capacities in targeted issue areas; 3) promoting inclusive civic participation and the empowerment of women and youth; and 4) improving citizen participation and oversight of elections and political processes. Additionally, USAID activities promote greater participation in and transparency of electoral processes.

Together, these efforts encourage citizen engagement while increasing public awareness of the roles, responsibilities, and actions of government. Furthermore, these activities advance partnerships with USAID efforts across sectors based on complementary skills and resources, common objectives, and geographic focus to maximize impact. This integrated approach is further strengthened by cross-sectoral collaboration to improve gender equality and empower women and youth.

CHALLENGES

Tanzania is exploring key reforms to address democracy, rights, and governance challenges. Media and non-governmental organizations face a complicated regulatory environment; however, there have been repeated commitments to implement reforms. In January 2023,

President Samia Suluhu Hassan lifted the ban on political party rallies and other reforms may materialize in advance of planned elections in 2024 and 2025. Youth are at the intersection of many of these challenges and are vital actors in Tanzania's development.. Challenges include:

- Uncertain legal frameworks and abuse of state authority impacting civil society, political parties, and media.
- Restrictions, censorship, and limited access to information, online activities, and freedom of expression.
- Infringements of rights, particularly for women and marginalized populations.

IMPACT

- CSO partners advanced rights issues, including strategic litigation, productive engagement of government decision-makers, and participation in public consultation processes.
- Supported the Presidential Task Force of Multiparty democracy in the Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.
- Increased capacity of local organizations in election observation. Two local organizations observed the 2020 general elections.
- Contributions to the amendment of the Statistics Act of 2015 to include the rights to challenge statistics and to publish and disseminate findings.
- Capacity of over 1,000 journalists developed on the production of impartial, high-quality radio programs, website design and social media. Over 181 media outlets supported (105 radio stations, 22 newspapers, 36 television outlets, and 18 online media outlets) in the Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. Fourteen journalists successfully bailed, freed and/or their cases won.
- Leadership structures and women and youth units within both ruling and opposition parties have committed to improving governance and increasing the diversity of candidates and party decision-makers.
- A partnership with the Tanzania Women's Lawyers Association empowered women and youth and bolstered leadership in areas related to access to justice, economic participation, and community decision-making.