



**2023**ANNUAL SUMMARY

**REPORT** 

Consolidating partnerships to build legally-empowered communities

# Our Footprint



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# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear stakeholders,

As we reflect on the past year, I am delighted to share that the Legal Services Facility (LSF) has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to enhancing access to justice across Tanzania. Despite the global economic challenges and dynamic local contexts, 2023 was a year marked by substantial progress and impactful achievements, underlining our resilience and adaptability.

Our efforts this past year were significantly bolstered by collaborative engagements with our donors, government partners, and the dedicated network of over 4,000 paralegals and 200 legal aid organisations. These relationships are the cornerstone of our success, and enable us to extend our reach and deepen our impact.

In 2023, we successfully navigated through an evolving landscape, achieving a commendable 96% success rate in programme implementation despite operating with limited resources. Our programmes have empowered communities, particularly women and girls, to assert their rights and improve their lives through legal aid and education. The Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign and our gender transformative initiatives have been particularly pivotal, reaching millions and resolving hundreds of legal disputes across the nation.

**Key Development:** A crucial focus of our strategy this year has been to leverage new and existing partnerships to amplify our impact. Our engagement with the private sector, international organizations, and local communities has opened new avenues for resource mobilization and shared knowledge, ensuring that our initiatives are more effective and far-reaching.

As we look ahead to 2024, we are excited to continue this momentum with renewed focus and commitment. The finalisation of the new contract with Enabel, the development agency of the federal government of Belgium, promises a year dedicated to gender transformative initiatives, substantially backed by the European Union. We are also set to roll out pilot projects aimed at building conducive environments for legal aid services, particularly in addressing gender-based violence.

Our partnership strategy also remains robust as we prepare to sign a memorandum of understanding with The National Council of Non-Governmental Organisations (NACONGO), which will enhance our collaborative efforts in fundraising, resource allocation, and sector strengthening. This strategic alliance is expected to foster greater sustainability and innovation in legal aid provision across Tanzania.

I am inspired by the dedication of our team and the resilience of the communities we serve. Your continued support as partners, donors, and advocates is invaluable as we strive to ensure that every Tanzanian has access to justice, thereby fostering a just, equitable society.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our mission. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of millions, one legal aid service at a time.

Warm regards,

Lulu Ng'wanakilala Executive Director

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Our Access to Justice programme continued to guarantee access to legal aid services to thousands of women, men and children across the country, utilizing various initiatives and opportunities to ensure ordinary Tanzanians are able to enjoy their inherent rights with minimum impediment.

#### Comprehensively,

Programme implementation went achieved the following important results



#### Increased Citizens' awareness of their rights

through regular active engagement of paralegals and at the national level through the Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign



#### 10 million +

Legal education reach





59% of whom were women



Legal aid clients



61% of whom were women







49% of all paralegals across the country

Furthermore, our women empowerment programme has seen significant benefits among participants. Women engaged in entrepreneurial activities in Lindi have also witnessed their income spectrums transform and enable them to begin earning more from their seaweed farming endeavours as a result of receiving skills training under the guardianship of the regional association of NGOs with support from LSF.

Other women in Maasai communities in Arusha have been provided with an improved environment within which they are now better placed to pursue their rights and strengthen their roles in traditional communities that have historically sidelined them. The fact that LSF's deliberate efforts to uplift these women both socially and economically make significant contributions to the welfare of these women, their families and wider Maasai society

speaks practically to our objective of empowering women economically and build stronger, cohesive communities.

Women pursuing agriculture in Manyara have also been beneficiaries of our support allowing them to increase yields and therefore register improved revenues, in addition to gaining a deeper understanding of human rights, a vital aspect that empowers them to undertake their occupations more pragmatically and be able to address any rights-related circumstances that they previously found impossible to contend with.

There have also been other notable engagements that benefited from LSF's involvement in menstrual health and hygiene, enabling girls to have access to sanitary pads, thus improving their school attendance rates and reducing dropout rates. As a result of this partnership, they also enjoy improved, cleaner, and more user-friendly sanitary amenities



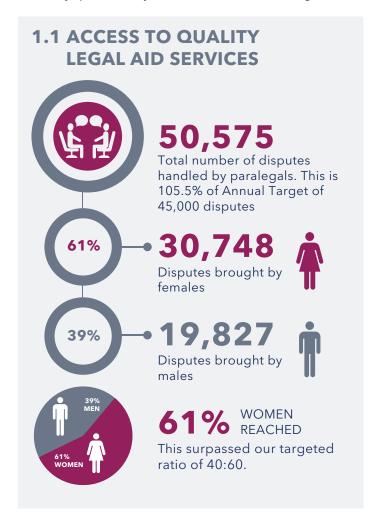
We also pursued our institutional and sectoral sustainability agenda in this year. In programme led discussions on legal aid sector sustainability proposing, for instance, establishing a legal aid coalition to advocate for pertinent sector issues including funding contributing to the existing legal aid fund in Zanzibar.

Strengthening innovative approaches in legal aid provision with paralegals will potentially function to sustain the sector. The alternative dispute resolution pilot project in Kilimanjaro is pointing towards strengthened community level initiatives to address disputes with minimum material and social costs.

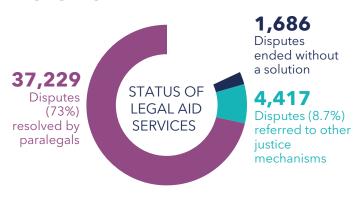
The programme has pursued resource mobilisation to enable us to continue to provide opportunities for readily accessible legal aid. Donor, private sector and partnerships engagements continue to open leads for near future resources acquisition.

#### **PROGRAM RESULTS**

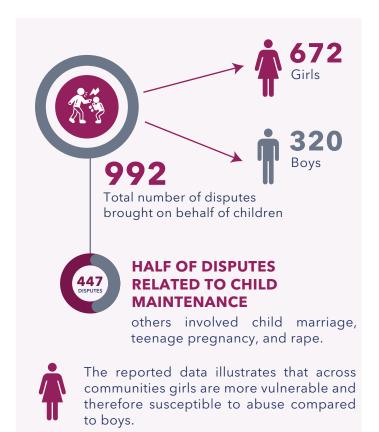
Program interventions achieved profound change, highlighting the program's ability to transform the lives of ordinary people in communities around the country, particularly vulnerable women and girls.



# INCREASED RESOLVED DISPUTES



This made a significant achievement against the target of 10%.



During reporting year, LSF innovatively piloted an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) project in Kilimanjaro designed to explore the effectiveness of these mechanisms in facilitating resolution of conflicts through reconciliation, mediation, and negotiation. ADR is an amiable conflict resolution process that potentially saves time and costs, is acceptable under local traditions and customs, maintains social cohesion, deters future conflicts, and reduces exposure to corruption. The pilot project enhanced the competence of paralegals, and formal and informal leaders to resolve disputes within their communities, enabling them to attend to 865 disputes, 94% of which were successfully resolved.

One such dispute was the matrimonial case of a married couple that had separated for 20 years but through collaborative efforts of local elders and the Lower Arusha ward tribunal was able to reconcile their differences and strive towards rebuilding a harmonious marital relationship that had essentially died. Today the couple has restored its family oneness along with their children.

# THE TOP FOUR DISPUTES REPORTED Marital Disputes 22% Child Maintenance 15% Civil Disputes 1994

# TABLE 1: LEGAL AID DISPUTE STATUS JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2023

| No | Type of<br>Disputes/Dispu<br>tes | RESOLVED<br>DISPUTES |        | ONGOING<br>DISPUTES |        | REFERRED<br>DISPUTES |        | ENDED WITHOUT<br>SOLUTION |        | TOTAL CHILDREN<br>UNDER 18 |        | TOTAL |        | %     |       |
|----|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|----------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
|    |                                  | Male                 | Female | Male                | Female | Male                 | Female | Male                      | Female | Male                       | Female | Male  | Female | Total |       |
| 1  | Land disputes                    | 4428                 | 3283   | 887                 | 677    | 577                  | 443    | 169                       | 190    | 17                         | 11     | 6061  | 4593   | 10654 | 0.211 |
| 2  | Inheritance                      | 601                  | 817    | 209                 | 331    | 147                  | 191    | 33                        | 73     | 13                         | 19     | 990   | 1412   | 2402  | 0.047 |
| 3  | Marriage<br>disputes             | 2442                 | 6052   | 365                 | 834    | 276                  | 547    | 77                        | 281    | 9                          | 30     | 3160  | 7714   | 10874 | 0.215 |
| 4  | Child<br>maintenance             | 1163                 | 4609   | 194                 | 747    | 88                   | 410    | 31                        | 121    | 147                        | 300    | 1476  | 5887   | 7363  | 0.146 |
| 5  | Civil disputes                   | 4360                 | 3692   | 541                 | 494    | 276                  | 264    | 59                        | 112    | 5                          | 23     | 5236  | 4562   | 9798  | 0.194 |
| 6  | Criminal disputes                | 1015                 | 883    | 210                 | 178    | 215                  | 225    | 39                        | 39     | 24                         | 23     | 1479  | 1325   | 2804  | 0.055 |
| 7  | Labor<br>disputes                | 427                  | 444    | 167                 | 768    | 45                   | 48     | 20                        | 33     | 8                          | 10     | 659   | 1293   | 1952  | 0.039 |
| 8  | Abuse                            | 407                  | 949    | 71                  | 148    | 67                   | 180    | 16                        | 44     | 54                         | 75     | 561   | 1321   | 1882  | 0.037 |
| 9  | Violence<br>against<br>women     | 0                    | 1065   | 0                   | 206    | 0                    | 185    | 0                         | 78     | 0                          | 22     | 0     | 1534   | 1534  | 0.030 |
| 10 | Rape                             | 0                    | 68     | 0                   | 74     | 0                    | 70     | 0                         | 38     | 0                          | 48     | 0     | 250    | 250   | 0.005 |
| 11 | Defilement                       | 11                   | 5      | 18                  | 16     | 22                   | 4      | 5                         | 1      | 36                         | 9      | 56    | 26     | 82    | 0.002 |
| 12 | FGM                              | 0                    | 2      | 0                   | 0      | 0                    | 6      | 0                         | 0      | 0                          | 6      | 0     | 8      | 8     | 0.001 |
| 13 | Sex servitude                    | 4                    | 20     | 2                   | 4      | 0                    | 1      | 1                         | 0      | 0                          | 0      | 7     | 25     | 32    | 0.001 |
| 14 | Indecent<br>assault              | 86                   | 228    | 21                  | 44     | 22                   | 35     | 8                         | 14     | 1                          | 7      | 137   | 321    | 458   | 0.009 |
| 15 | Human<br>trafficking             | 0                    | 0      | 0                   | 0      | 0                    | 0      | 0                         | 0      | 0                          | 0      | 0     | 0      | 0     | -     |
| 16 | Teenage<br>pregnancy             | 0                    | 110    | 0                   | 23     | 0                    | 50     | 0                         | 199    | 0                          | 69     | 0     | 382    | 382   | 0.008 |
| 17 | Child<br>marriage                | 3                    | 55     | 0                   | 14     | 2                    | 21     | 0                         | 5      | 6                          | 20     | 5     | 95     | 100   | 0.002 |
|    | Sub total                        | 14947                | 22282  | 2685                | 4558   | 1737                 | 2680   | 458                       | 1228   | 320                        | 672    | 19827 | 30748  | 50575 | 100%  |
|    | Grand total                      | 37229                |        | 7243                |        | 4417                 |        | 1686                      |        | 992                        |        |       |        |       |       |





# PROTECTING WOMEN AND GIRLS AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE THROUGH LEGAL AID

**YEAR 2023** 

10,553

(Which is 20.8% Of disputes reported, were **Gender Based Violence GBV**)

Out of these cases;

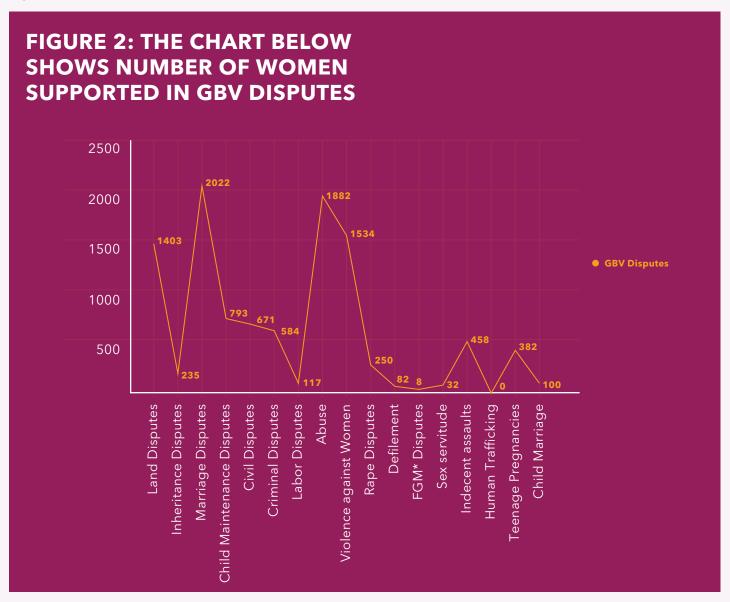
7,820



72% Were reported by women

Implying that women and girls are the niche overwhelmingly affected by GBV.

The prevalence of other forms of GBV was reported by paralegals and legal aid providers as indicated in Figure 2.



#### 1.2 COMMUNITY LEGAL EMPOWERMENT

LSF, in partnership with paralegals, conducts legal education with the aim of imparting legal knowledge and awareness to women, girls, and other marginalised groups in communities. During the reporting period, paralegals delivered legal

awareness activities through public meetings, visits to social and economic groups, and utilising various media platforms such as radio, TV, the print press and social media.



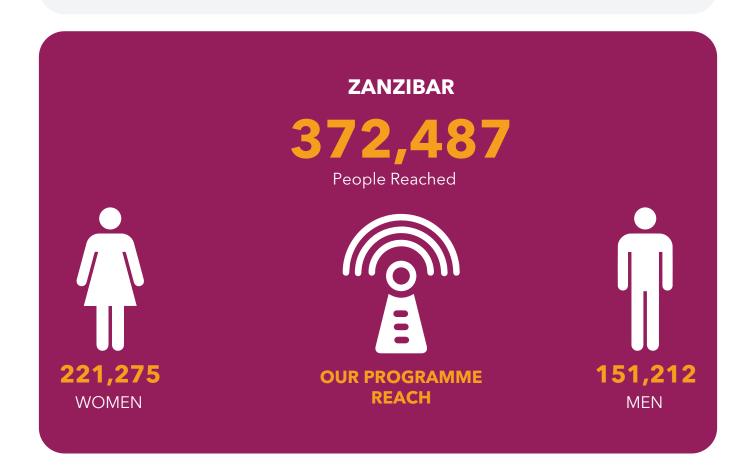
10,287,419

People Reached

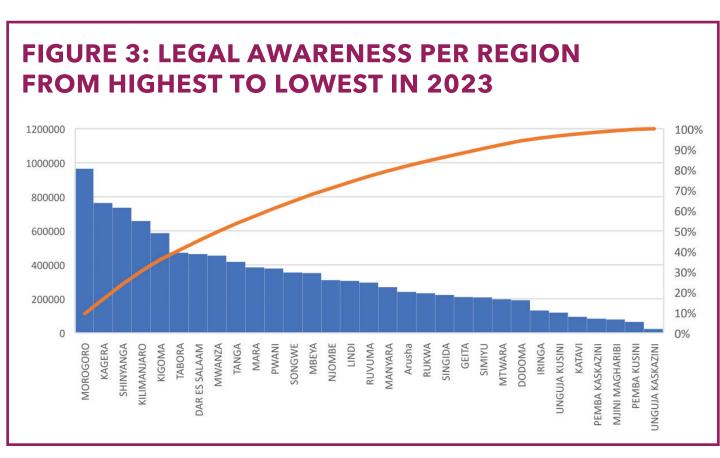








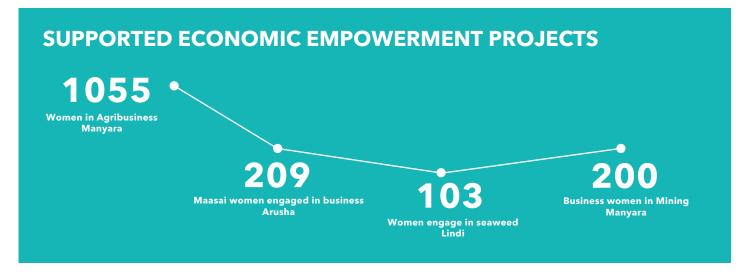




# ADDRESSING GENDER INEQUALITIES THROUGH ECONOMIC JUSTICE PROJECTS

On an equally vital dimension, our programme is also constructed to address gender inequalities and systemic limitation to women's economic justice and inclusion. LSF supported women so that they could

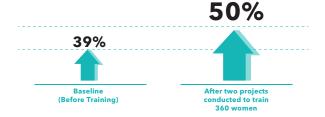
practically engage in high value agribusiness and other business endeavours in communities where mining activities take place. In some instances, women received start-up capital.



#### BABATI, MANYARA: WOMEN'S AGRIBUSINESS SKILLS FOR INCREASED OUTPUT AND REVENUE IMPROVED

We supported two projects under which 360 women from local village savings and loans associations (VSLA) and village community banks (VICOBA) were trained in agribusiness specifically agro-product value addition and market linkage as well as economic rights awareness with emphasis on land ownership and inheritance rights.

#### **Women's Access to Agricultural Assets**



"To a great extent, decisions related to sales and use of resources derived from agricultural products were made by men; however, after these interventions women now make household economy decisions alongside men", **Scholastica Yasenti, Halla village.** 

#### MERERANI, MANYARA: WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS' RIGHTS MINING ZONE GUARANTEED

Through a partnership with Community Support Initiative (CSP) which is based in Babati, we implemented the Uchumi Imara kwa Mwanamke project with the primary objective of building a dignified business environment for women and reducing gender-based violence in the Marerani mining zone. The project realised the following outcomes:



**Improved security checks:** Gender-sensitive checks are now in place, permitting women to be inspected by female guards only thus ensuring their privacy and dignity unlike before.



**Revival of a defunct police station:** Successful advocacy led to the reopening of a police station inside the mining zone guaranteeing 24-hour service and enhanced security, and a paralegal sub-unit was established to provide legal aid support.



Addressing exit permit issue: A permit dispute was resolved allowing vending women to return home with their surplus or unsold goods which they previously couldn't do thus improving convenience and operational efficiency.



**Reduction in social service costs:** Negotiated reductions in lavatory service and bodaboda transportation costs within the mining zone, resulting in increased retention of women in economic activities.



**Diversification of businesses:** Approximately 90% of trained women entrepreneurs initiated diversified businesses such as maize cultivation, catering, and pig breeding consequently enhancing economic resilience and sustainability.



Advocacy for government loans: Successful advocacy efforts resulted in securing of government loans by youth, women, and disabled individuals' groups, enabling them to expand their businesses and contribute to economic growth.



**Expansion of business opportunities:** Advocacy efforts led to the authorization of additional companies to conduct business in sorting sand thus broadening women's economic opportunities and ensuring a minimum daily income of TZS15,000 per woman.



# LINDI: SEAWEED BECOMES A CATALYST FOR WOMEN'S INCOME RISES

We partnered with the Lindi Association of Non-governmental Organisations (LANGO) to support a women's seaweed and cucumber farming initiative which is complemented by advocacy efforts to improve crop quality and secure better prices at the market. Our support accomplished the following results:



An increase in the price of seaweed from TZS500 to TZS2,000 per kg



Improved production of seaweed from 3,535kg to 8,846kg



The sale of raw seaweed has enabled women to earn a total of TZS13,267,500



Women have generated income of TZS6,352,000 from selling liquid soap, bar soap and petroleum skin jelly



# ARUSHA: ADDRESSING ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES ON PASTORALIST WOMEN

We directly implemented the Wanawake Tunaweza project to empower women socially and economically by addressing gender-based violence, social exclusion and economic isolation. The project supported 11 women's groups and trained 209 of their members in Kimokuwa Ward, also trained 20 traditional leaders, and pre-identified 7 male champions who advocate for women's rights. Notable changes brought by the project include:



Provision of TZS2 million in start-up capital for each of the 11 groups



A skilled tailor for each group trained in making reusable sanitary pads



Construction of 2 dormitories for 240 girls at Lekule and Namanga secondary schools



Adoption of business manual to support similar projects in Uganda



Over 1,200 people reached by traditional leaders, male champions and paralegals with human rights and women's economic empowerment education



LSF, in collaboration with North South Corporation Luxembourg, facilitated economic empowerment for women in the Maasai community by providing start-up capital to 11 women's groups and offering a set of entrepreneurship training aimed at transforming their lives economically.

## DAR ES SALAAM: THE HER BUSINESS, HER FUTURE PROJECT

LSF, in collaboration with She Found, a Dar es Salaam-based organisation, successfully trained 30 female entrepreneurs in the city in business growth, financial management, and digital tools. These women have been connected to various networks of industry experts who will continue to serve as their mentors and advisors throughout their business journey, and in doing so enable the women's economic sustainability. Additionally, they have been linked to a community that facilitates market access, peer-to-peer support, and provides regular information updates.

# DAR ES SALAAM: PROMOTING WOMEN'S AND YOUTH'S ACCESS TO FINANCE, SUPPORT, KNOWLEDGE, AND INFORMATION

Through Sheria Kiganjani we enhanced sustainable women and youth economic empowerment. This intervention bridged the gap between legal awareness and formalisation of businesses, enhanced access to financial opportunities for women- and youth-owned businesses in Dar es Salaam Region. Digital Biashara utilized digital tools as a pathway to raise awareness on business formalisation by using a short code facility. With

455,174

People Reached (80% Youth)

through awareness raising, as well as online and in-person legal consultation on business formalisation.





DIGITAL BIASHARA, THE SHERIA KIGANJANI INITIATIVE

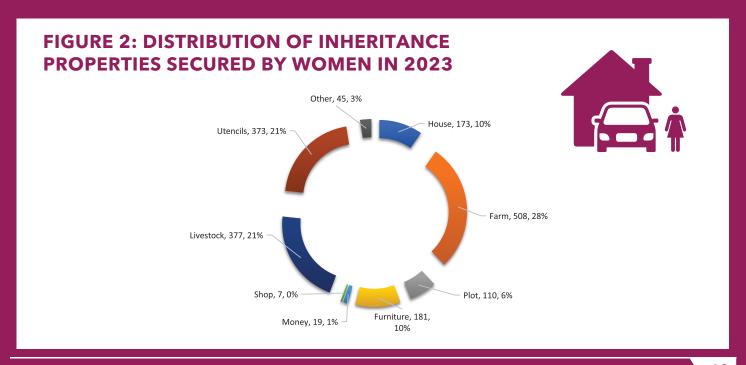


## INCREASED WOMEN'S ACCESS, OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVER PROPERTIES FOR WOMEN

Increasingly, women are now gaining direct access to and ownership of properties through legal aid services. During this reporting period, the project registered 2,402 inheritance disputes, of which 59% were resolved, resulting in 817 women gaining access to land, houses, farms, and other properties. Women secured a total of 1,793 assets of various types, including land ranging from 1 to 20 acres, which holds significant economic and personal value for them. The highest claimed inheritance land value was reported by a client in Kibondo District, Kigoma at TZS5 million.



Interventions by paralegals also aided a woman in Musoma to reclaim 17 acres of farmland worth TZS 10 million from her late husband's siblings. During the 2023 farming season, she cultivated 6 acres of the land and successfully harvested 40 sacks of maize, providing substantial food and monetary-derived benefits to her family, especially her children whom she raises on her own.



#### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

We recognise the fact that climate change is a cross-cutting issue in our programme, spawning various initiatives. In 2023, We worked in tandem with our partners to deliver environmental awareness education to a total of 247,772 people in communities around the country through a variety of initiatives. In Longido District, Arusha, a tree planting campaign with the district government at Lekule and Namanga secondary schools resulted in 600 trees being planted to mitigate climate change effects. Severe climate conditions compel

local communities, especially women and children, to endure long walks for water and livestock grazing, impacting children's school attendance, particularly girls, who face numerous risks in such circumstance. Likewise, the seaweeds project in Lindi which we support safeguards the marine environment, boosting yields and marine products. The project trained 60 seaweed growers in climate change adaptation, reshaping their approach to sustainable utilization of marine resources.



247,772

Total number of people provided with environmental awareness around the country



600

Total number of trees planted in Longido District, Arusha to mitigate climate change effects



60

Total number of Seaweed Growers Trained in climate change adaptation, reshaping their approach to sustainable utilization of marine resources.

## 1.3 CREATING ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

LSF employed multi-pronged approaches to improve the enabling environment for access to justice. We engaged with key decision makers at the local and national levels to reshape institutional changes in the justice sector for both the mainland and Zanzibar. We invested more resources on robust media engagement, strategic awareness campaigns, and coalition building with the wider CSO sector. These actions have started recording emerging results.

#### **EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE c**

This campaign was launched by the prime minister in Dodoma, and as a co-chair LSF participated actively by supporting paralegals to provide legal aid and education to thousands of people who attended the inauguration. At the national level the campaign has already been conducted in Dodoma, Manyara, Ruvuma, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions.

# In the 6 regions reached









People Reached including 7,166 remand prisoners

Positive results from the campaign have already been registered, for instance in Shinyanga within the auspices of the campaign the Regional Commissioner stopped the wedding of a teenage girl whose parents opted to marry her off instead of enrolling her in high school, having passed her secondary education examinations.

The outcomes of our legal empowerment approach have increased ordinary peoples' access to justice both socially and economically by helping to resolve legal problems amicably. During monitoring field visits local leaders, the police, courts and local government authorities confirmed that the presence of the Access to Justice programme helps to alleviate petty disputes that frequently land on their desks thus freeing up time and resources to engage in other equally important concerns.

# GOVERNMENT WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER SUSTAINABLE LEGAL AID FUNDING MECHANISMS

Through the Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign, the government opened up consultations and dialogue opportunities with legal aid stakeholders on sustainable legal aid funding mechanisms. These dialogues continued in December 2023 when LSF held a successful consultative meeting with the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs to discuss convening sector actors.

LSF engaged with the Parliamentary Budget Committee to advocate for setting up funding to support legal aid services in the country. The committee received evidence and pledged to challenge the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs to commit budgetary support to paralegals from the 2024/25 financial year. In addition, the committee also advised LSF to seek other parliamentary committee avenues, particularly the Local Government Affairs Committee and the Local Authorities Accounts Committee.

In Zanzibar, long-term recommendations from LSF were included in the draft Legal Aid Policy. The submissions were also taken on board in the ongoing law review agenda by the Law Reform Commission. This was one of the agendas in 2022 during the legal aid forum. A permanent legal aid budget working group with the purpose of coordinating legal aid budget analysis, and monitoring and advocacy by all stakeholders in a collaborative manner has also been formed.

#### FOSTERING COLLABORATION BETWEEN LGAS AND PARALEGALS THROUGH THE MAMA SAMIA LEGAL AID CAMPAIGN

This campaign has been instrumental in fostering collaboration between local governments at all levels and paralegals. Local government authorities (LGAs) now recognize the crucial role paralegals play in addressing community issues, and this collaborative approach is essential for the long-term sustainability of the legal aid sector. During a briefing on the progress of the campaign between the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs and LSF's secretariat in October 2023, the ministry testified that LGAs where the campaign had been launched appreciated collaborations and assistance from paralegals in the provision of legal aid and legal awareness in their communities. Local leaders at the grassroots level have also attested that the programme's efforts significantly reduce their workload.

# IMPROVED COLLABORATION FOR COORDINATION AND COMPLIANCE IN THE NGO SECTOR

We initiated conversations with NACONGO aiming to improve sector coordination and enhance the legal and policy environment for NGOs in the country. An improved NGOs policy framework will instate a conducive environment for legal aid providers since they are registered and operate as NGOs.

# THE ZANZIBAR LAW REVIEW COMMISSION'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE LEGAL AID ACT 2018

The Law Review Commission (LRC) of Zanzibar in consultation with sector stakeholders proposed amendments to the Legal Aid Act 2018. Some key proposals included the establishment of a legal aid fund; recognition and regulation of university-based legal aid clinics; expanding the scope of offenses to be covered by legal aid, and provision of legal aid services; and a legal aid desk at all police stations. LSF and other actors have contributed significantly to this development including submitting written inputs and participating in engagement sessions. Our primary agenda stipulating specific provisions of the legal aid fund; the source of the fund, its legal mandate, management, use and accessibility was taken on board. By the end of 2023 LRC's proposals were at the approval stage by the management of the Ministry of Justice. The proposals are expected to be discussed in three higher policy organs, the Inter-Ministerial Technical Committee (IMTC), the Revolutionary Council, and lastly a draft amendment bill will be presented to the House of Representatives.



The government is increasingly recognizing LSF and paralegals work throughout this campaign "We thank LSF for the unique strength of recruiting, training and supporting Paralegals with the intention of offering a unique service to our community in tanzania and ensuring access to justice is attained particularly to women and Children" A government Official

# STRENGTHENED VAWG PLANS THROUGH DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF THE NPA-VAWC(II)

Another notable positive move by the government was the strengthened National Plan on Violence Against Women and Children. This reporting year the government through the Ministry of Community Development Gender and Special Groups called for the validation of the developed Second National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children (NPA-VAWCII). Compared to the phased out plan, this second blueprint has strengthened mechanisms for addressing increasing rates of violence against women and children in the country, and includes the aspects of coordination, monitoring and evaluation which did not work well in the previous plan. Since our Access to Justice programme implements all eight thematic provisions of the plan, LSF was involved in the conception of the plan from the evaluation of the initial strategy, the inception stage of the second plan, as well as its development and validation sessions. The report will be launched this year.

## ENGAGEMENTS TO IMPROVE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The reporting period noted a positive move towards improving the criminal justice system in the country. In the first quarter of our programme we were invited by the Criminal Justice Reform Committee to submit our recommendations on the reform of the criminal justice system and institutions. By the second quarter, the committee had submitted its summary report to the president. To a great extent, various recommendations touching on the right to fair trial, stringent and tough bail conditions, transformation of the Tanzania Police Force into a police service, and provision of legal aid and psychological support to prisoners were reflected in the report.

## PROMOTION OF GIRL'S SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH RIGHTS

LSF addresses social challenges facing girls, particularly relating to truancy, dropping out, and insecurity due to rape, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, and other forms of gender-based violence (GBV). In 2023, we forged a partnership with Smile for Community, an organisation focused on girls' hygiene, by way of the Haki ya Afya ya Uzazi project, and this collaboration effectively contributed to improved girls' school attendance. The project realised improvements to girls' menstrual hygiene and sanitation infrastructure in rural Mtwara by providing reusable sanitary pads. A total of 300 in-school-selected girls were provided with free reusable sanitary pads and additionally, the project reached 3,000 school girls and other people in communities with sexual and reproductive health rights knowledge to protect girls in and around Nanyamba, Ndumbwe, and Nyundo primary and secondary schools against early marriage and pregnancy. The project's primary beneficiaries were girls from poor families, girl-headed households, and girls living with grandparents or other guardians.

"We used to miss classes during our menstrual periods due to lack of proper sanitary pads, but the project has assured us to be comfortable at school and attend classes," said a form-three girl student at Nanyamba secondary school, Mtwara DC.

Furthermore, we worked with Smile for Community to rally more than 500 participants for a marathon in Dar-es-Salaam. Funds raised from this marathon were used to construct six new lavatories at Chawi Secondary School consequently allowing 316 students (154 girls and 162 boys) to benefit from improved facilities, and renovate one at Nanyamba Secondary School. The renovations included essential upgrades such as a sewerage system, flushable toilets, washbasins, roofing, and the provision of clean running water enabling 676 students (394 girls and 282 boys) to use significantly enhanced sanitary amenities.





## 1.4 INSTITUTIONAL AND SECTOR SUSTAINABILITY

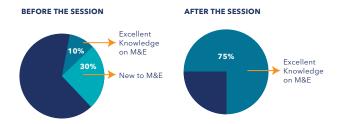
LSF continued to support implementing partners with capacity development interventions to ensure the maximum achievement of planned results.



Another important outcome was improvement of the quality of reported data by paralegals following a training on reporting systems, skills and procedures. The training was attended by 185 M&E persons from paralegal organizations (123 men and 62 women).



Zonal coordinators and mentors also attended the session. During the pre-test about 30% said they were new in the M&E field, with only 10% said to have excellent knowledge of M&E. In the end, those with excellent knowledge rose to 75%.



The completion of the Alternative Dispute (ADR) training manual by KWIECO in Kilimanjaro sets another key milestone for increasing more skills to actors on the ground. The contents of the manual were approved by Ministry and it is well aligned with the drafted manual from the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs.

**173** 





Trained actors in ADR Process by using KWIECO Manual

21





Local Government leaders trained, comprising of community development officers, police gender desk officers and social welfare officers



30
Clan and religious leaders Trained



15 MEN

35

Members of Reconciliation Boards trained





In 2023, LSF team and mentors conducted a number of technical visits to paralegal organisations. The technical field visits were conducted following gaps observed in implementing partners' reports and monitoring field visits.

# GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR STRENGTHENED PARALEGALS SERVICES



# 11 TRICYCLES (BAJAJ) GIVEN TO PARALEGAL ORGANIZATIONS

From The President of the of Zanzibar Dr Hussein Mwinyi during the commemoration of the legal aid week in 2023



OFFICE EQUIPMENTS
27MILION WORTH

INCLUDING LAPTOPS, PRINTERS & TABLETS

From The Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority (ZURA)

#### **GRANT MAKING**

Funds disbursements cover the contract period of specific grantees: **Amounts are in TZS** 

ADR I Commi Disburs

ADR Project
Committed 100 Million
Disbursed 100 Million

**Small Grant**Allocated 138 Million
Disbursed 138 Million

2

3

**Paralegals** 

Commitments: 2,574 Million Disbursed 2,501 Million 97% of Committed Funds

6.ZMOs

Commitment: 530 Mill Disbursed: 501 Million 97% of Commitment

4

5

**Thematic areas** 

Commitment: 278 Million Disbursement: 278 Million

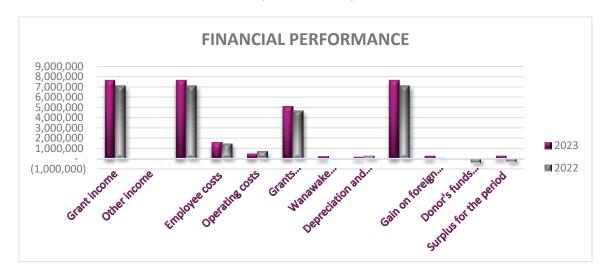
#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **BUSINESS OVERVIEW**

This Report of the Directors is submitted together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 which disclose the state of financial affairs

LSF manages a basket fund for the enhancement of access to justice in Tanzania Mainland and Tanzania Zanzibar. The Royal Danish Embassy and North-South Cooperation funded the Organization for the financial year ended 31 December 2023. LSF had one contributor to the BASKET fund (Royal Danish Embassy) which financed the access to justice program in Tanzania. To effectively deliver the program, LSF worked with several stakeholders including the government and other implementing partners. Also, for the financial year 2023, LSF started direct project implementation where one project titled WANAWAKE TUNAWEZA kicked off during the year. This project is funded by North-South Cooperation. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the improvement of the socio-economic well-being of women and girls in the Maasai communities of Tanzania.

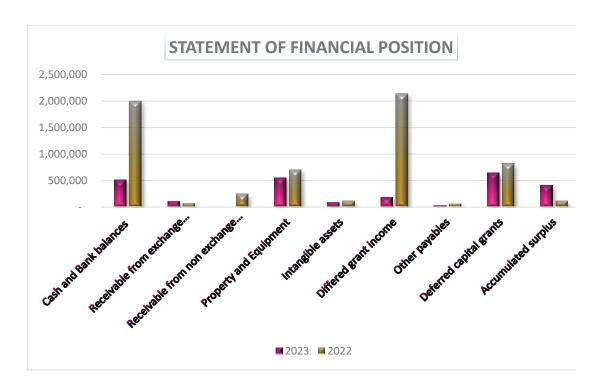


#### **BUSINESS OVERVIEW (Continued)**

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the LSF recorded a total revenue of TZS 7,664 million (2022: TZS 7,109 million), For the financial year 2023 Total revenue has increased by 8% compared to the financial year 2022. The increase has been brought about by the coming of the new donor (North-South Cooperation) and carried funds un-used budget in 2022.

LSF also recorded the total expenditures of TZS 7,648 million (2022: TZS 7,099 million). Total expenditures for the year 2023 increased by 8% equivalent to total revenue because revenue is matched with expenditures incurred to realize it. Therefore, the reasons mentioned for the revenue increase are the same as the expenditure increase.

For the year 2023, LSF recorded a net surplus of TZS 292 million (2022: Deficit TZS 340 million). In 2022 LSF liquidated donors' funds which accumulated from previous years while in 2023 she didn't. Also, in 2023 US Dollar depreciated much against the TZS making LSF enjoy an upside movement of exchange rate because she receives funds in US Dollars.



TZS 2,324 million, the downside movement by 73% resulted from the Organization ending the program with DANIDA where no fund was disbursed at the year-end. DANIDA program closeout led to no subgrantee contract to overlap the financial year 2024 which resulted into less balance of sub-grantees receivables.

During the year 2023, non-current assets decreased to TZS 650 million which is a 21% downside change because fewer assets were purchased in 2023 compared to 2022.

During the year current liability decreased to TZS 226 million being a 90% downside change due to a decrease in deferred revenue brought by the DANIDA program close-out also non-current liability decreased by 21 % as reflected in the non-current assets for the year.

#### Cash flow statement

During the year LSF reported a net cashflow of TZS 520 million (2022: TZS 1,998 million). A decrease in net cash flow has resulted from the non-confirmation of new funds for the year 2023. The cash balance as of 31 December 2023 represents the fund balance for the ongoing project (WANAWAKE TUNAWEZA), Organization funds accumulated from staff contributions towards sustainability and accumulated member's funds from previous years and funds balance from the program to be returned to the Royal Danish Embassy.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|  |       | 2023<br>TZS'000 | 2022<br>TZS'000 |
|--|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | Notes |                 |                 |
| Revenue from non-exchange transactions |       |                 |                 |
| Grant revenue                          | 7     | 7,648,225       | 7,098,980       |
| Other revenue                          | 8     | 15,855          | 9,772           |
| Total revenue                          |       | 7,664,080       | 7,108,752       |
| Expenses                               |       |                 |                 |
| Employee costs                         | 10    | 1,578,223       | 1,439,529       |
| Operating costs                        | 9     | 536,058         | 718,709         |
| Grants implementation costs            | 11    | 5,113,261       | 4,657,727       |
| Wanawake Tunaweza Project              | 12    | 235,975         | -               |
| Depreciation and amortization charge   |       | 184,708         | 283,015         |
| Total expenses                         |       | 7,648,225       | 7,098,980       |
| Other gains or (Loses)                 |       |                 |                 |
| Gain on foreign exchange transactions  | 13    | 275,912         | 82,777          |
| Donor's fund's liquidation             |       | -               | (432,643)       |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year         |       | 291,767         | (340,094)       |

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

|   |                 | 2023<br>TZS'000                                     | 2022<br>TZS'000   |
|---|-----------------|---|-------------------|
|   | Notes           | 123 000   | 123 000           |
| ASSETS  |                 |   |                   |
| Current Assets                                  |                 |   |                   |
| Cash and bank balances                          | 17              | 520,145   | 1,998,426         |
| Receivable from exchange transactions           | 15              | 113,707   | 74,635            |
| Receivable from non-exchange transactions       | 16              | 3,107   | 251,211           |
| -   |                 | 636,959   | 2,324,272         |
| Non-current assets                              |                 |   |                   |
| Property and equipment                          | 18              | 557,003   | 706,495           |
| Intangible assets                               | 14              | 93,371  | 120,049           |
| mangiore decete                                 |                 | 650,374   | 826,544           |
|   |                 |   |                   |
| TOTAL ASSETS                                    |                 | 1,287,333   | 3,150,816         |
| LIABILITIES                                     |                 |   |                   |
| Current liabilities                             |                 |   |                   |
| Deferred grant income                           | 21              | 187,290   | 2,141,539         |
| Trade and other payables                        | 19              | 38,246  | 63,077            |
|   |                 | 225,536   | 2,204,616         |
| Non-current liabilities                         |                 |   |                   |
| Deferred capital grants                         | 20              | 650,375   | 826,545           |
|   |                 |   |                   |
| Total liabilities                               |                 | 875,911   | 3,031,161         |
| NET ASSETS                                      |                 | 411,422   | 119,655           |
| Not assets removed the                          |                 |   |                   |
| Net assets represented by Accumulated surplus   |                 | 411,422   | 119,655           |
| Accumulated surplus                             |                 | 411,422   | 119,000           |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES                |                 | 1,287,333   | 3,150,816         |
|   |                 |   |                   |
| These financial statements were approved by the | e Board of Dire | ctors for issue on                                  | 2024 and          |
| were signed on its behalf by:                   |                 |   |                   |
|   |                 |   |                   |
| Ms. Josephine Njunwas<br>Director               |                 | Ms. Lulu Ng'wanakilala Secretary to the board and E | xecutive Director |

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|                               | ACCUMULATED<br>SURPLUS |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|                               | TZS'000                |
| Balance as at 01 January 2023 | 119,655                |
| Surplus for the year          | 291,767                |
| As at 31 December 2023        | 411,422                |
| Balance as at January 2022    | 459,749                |
| Deficit for the year          | (340,094)              |
| At 31 December 2022           | 119,655                |

#### CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|   | Notes | 2023<br>TZS'000                               | 2022<br>TZS'000 |
|---|-------|---|-----------------|
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES                        |       |   |                 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year              |       | 291,767                                       | (340,094)       |
| Adjustment for non-cash items:              |       |   |                 |
| Amortisation of capital grant               | 20    | (184,708)                                     | (283,015)       |
| Amortization of intangible asset            | 14    | 26,678  | 23,913          |
| Depreciation of property and equipment      |       | 158,030                                       | 259,102         |
| Foreign exchange gains                      | 13    | (275,912)                                     | (82,777)        |
|   |       | 15,855  | (422,871)       |
| Change in working capital items             |       | <u>,                                     </u> | , ,             |
| Decrease in accounts receivable             |       | 209,032                                       | 1,195,960       |
| (Decrease)/Increase in accounts payable     |       | (24,831)                                      | 30,225          |
| Decrease in deferred grant revenue          |       | (1,954,249)                                   | (2,848,762)     |
| Net cash flows used in operating activities |       | (1,754,193)                                   | (2,045,448)     |
| Investing activities                        |       |   |                 |
| Purchase of property and equipment          | 18    | (27,230)                                      | (438,935)       |
| Receipt of capital grant                    | 18    | 27,230  | 438,935         |
|   |       |   | •               |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents   |       | (1,754,193)                                   | (2,045,448)     |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January      |       | 1,998,426                                     | 3,961,097       |
| Foreign exchange differences                |       | 275,912                                       | 82,777          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December    | 17    | 520,145                                       | 1,998,426       |



SUCCESS STORY: PARALEGAL INITIATIVE BEARS FRUIT

#### PRIMARY SCHOOL EMERGES IN KILIMANJARO

Mkalama village is situated 36 kilometers east of Bomang'ombe, a small town in Hai District. The children in this village walked approximately fourteen (14) kilometers on foot to reach the nearby primary school every day.

Mr. Joseph Nzomo, a paralegal working in Hai DC and a resident of Mkalama village, initiated a campaign in 2013 to build a primary school in the village. He introduced the idea to the village leadership, and it was approved by a village general assembly, despite facing resistance from some of government officials. "The resistance was driven by political interests among those opposed to the movement," stated Mr. Paulo Gabriel and Mr. Loshilu Morris, the senior elders of the village

However, the elders in the village remained steadfast in their support of the idea, along with the paralegal and the village government, regarding their decision. Our paralegal, Mr. Nzomo, secured a donor, Mr. Theo Mzungu, a citizen from the Netherlands, who was willing to finance the project. "Our donor only required a commitment from the community to start by building the foundation, while he pledged to complete the remaining parts in full," stated Mr. John O. Msusi, the village chairperson.

"After the initial stages in 2016, three classes were constructed through the combined efforts of the community and the donor. Following this accomplishment, the government began allocating funds to the project as well. The school was completed

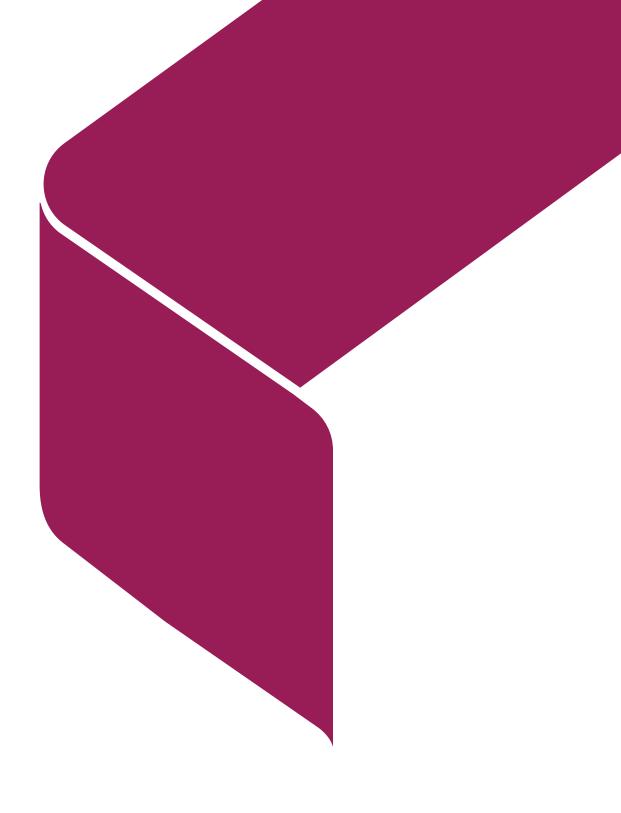
in 2019, with a total value of Tsh 148,380,000/=, of which community members contributed a total of Tshs 19,945,000/=. We welcomed our first batch of standard seven students in 2023," the village chairman happily announced. "Currently, Mkalama Primary School serves approximately 394 pupils. The school is equipped with three teachers' residences. One new house was fully funded by 50 million through government support under the BOOST project, while the old one costed Tsh 36,000,000/=, with community members contributing Tshs 3,000,000/=. Additionally, there is a dining hall, kitchen, and toilets."

"With this success, the community has now begun mobilizing resources from villagers to establish a secondary school, aiming to reduce the walking distance from twenty-four (24) to twelve (12) kilometers," said Miss Eveline Kavishe, the head of Mkalama School

Teachers' residential houses (old one in the left and the new one fully government funded in the right side)







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Basket fund partners of the Legal Services Facility are

