

# MHOLA ANNUAL REPORT - 2023/2024



Approved and signed by:

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WITH FUNDING FROM  
AUSTRIAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
COOPERATION



Katholische  
Frauenbewegung



Dreikönigsaktion  
Hilfswerk der Katholischen Jungschar

horizont 3000

VEREIN ZUR

ANITA FOUNDATION

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>BWF</b>	Better Way Foundation
<b>CSG</b>	Community social groups
<b>ECD</b>	Early Child development
<b>GoT</b>	Government of Tanzania
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
<b>h3000</b>	horizont 3000
<b>IEC</b>	Information Education and Communication
<b>IGA</b>	Income Generating Activities
<b>Kfb</b>	Katholische Frauen Bewegung
<b>DKA</b>	Dreikonigsaktion (Hilfswerk der Katholischen Jungschar)
<b>SP</b>	Strategic Plan
<b>MDCC</b>	MHOLA Day Care Centre
<b>MHOLA</b>	Mamas' Hope Organization for Legal Assistance
<b>TANLAP</b>	Tanzania Network for legal Aid Providers
<b>THF</b>	Threshold Foundation
<b>VICOBA</b>	Village Community Bank
<b>VSLA</b>	Village Savings and Loan Association
<b>PHC</b>	Primary Health Care
<b>PAYE</b>	Pay As You Earn
<b>WCF</b>	Workers' Composition fund
<b>VEO</b>	Village Executive Officer
<b>WEO</b>	Ward Executive Officer

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MHOLA sincerely appreciates timely support and guidance received from all officers of all departments of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, from village to the National level. We also acknowledge peace and harmony within Kagera region and countrywide which set a friendly working environment to encourage our development partners to continue supporting our interventions. Also we do acknowledge generosity of our esteemed friends and strategic partners to include Threshold Foundation (Schwelle), Austria Development Cooperation, kfb, DKA, and horizont3000 (Austria), Anita Foundation (Germany), EDI (Tanzania) and Media for accepting our cooperation in serving the needy.

Within a reporting period we offered our services to several individuals(Clients), customers, daycare students, and other community members. On the other hand, we worked in cooperation and support of other likeminded organizations. We appreciate them all for giving us an opportunity to achieve our vision. We promise to continue improving the quality of our services based on their recommendation and experience gained through serving them. We offer our availability wherever needed in the course of joining effort to protect the vulnerable people within a community. We call upon you all to assist us improving our services delivery system by providing their recommendations through our website [www.mhola.or.tz](http://www.mhola.or.tz) or any time we physically contact.

All the success stories secured within a reporting period was made possible by the unlimited cooperation between MHOLA Management and Organization members, Board members, individual staff, Paralegals, Volunteers, Interns and supporting staff who dedicated their time and professionalism to accomplish the targets. MHOLA embraces all the sacrifices and dedication of every individual and in return promises to cherish it for future progress and sustainability. As we begin a new year of implementation we remind ourselves to always act fairly and have mercy to all of our clients/customers (the needy) we contact in our daily routine.

Usually as we mark the end of one financial year that marks the new beginning. Now we have 2023/2024 as our upcoming financial year. We again invite you all to be part of our new plans as we move forward serving and supporting the needy. Kindly pass through our Annual plan and estimated budget for more understanding our future plans, available resources and deficit, and always feel welcomed to be part of achieving our dreams.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MHOLA financial year runs from October to September, therefore this report covers implementation update of October 2023- September 2024. Also note that for the period of 2019-2024 MHOLA has a Strategic Plan (SP) to guide our routine activities and programmes. The said SP has two major goals to accomplish, which are: - To improve the wellbeing for women and children in Kagera region and Improvement of MHOLA Organization structure. It also has four major objectives which are:(a) Enhancement of women and children to understand their basic fundamental rights, (b) Promote ECD in the remote area and increase household income, (c) Provision of Legal Aid and Counseling services, (d) Building institutional capacity.

The reporting period was the last year in implementing the said SP. Along with that, like in other previous years also accomplishing targets of 2024 was not easy due to scarcity of resources, however choice of approaches enabled achievements of some of the key targets and some were postponed to a future period. Policy dialogue, Football tournament commonly known as MHOLA MIA MIA Cup, Design, Produce and distribute IEC materials, Use of Online Legal Aid services and MHOLA Database system, Outreach session, capacity building sessions to special groups of people, Provision of legal aid services and Day care services, Joint work, Organization statutory meetings, Coordination meeting with decision makers, fundraising and resource mobilization are among the approaches used to achieve the target for 2024. The target group were to reach at least 62,500 (60% being women) community members, and 3600 (60% being women) individual people with legal related problems and offer day care services to 45day care students at MHOLA day care centre (30% children with special needs), Support women to engage on Better agriculture methods in order to increase productivity and raise income, Support women to participate into leadership position, especially those related with Land matter, Increase access to legal Aid services in remoteness areas and Improve MHOLA reporting system from paper work to online reporting (Digitization) to mention just few.

In order to achieve all the targets, the sum of **Tshs. 1,101,171,122.6** was require, at the end of the reporting period only **Tshs. 539,928,446 .57** was secured, as the result management opted to postpone implementation for some of the key activities planned to achieve the targets. Nevertheless, out of the few implemented activities some rewarding successful stories came out from few touched individuals and their positive feedback to the

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government, development partners and MHOLA staff stimulated desire to continue support MHOLA interventions. As such MHOLA received financial and technical support which simplified the implementation at some point.

MHOLA also noted progress of sustainability at community level. There increased number of women engaging on joint agro-business, self-esteem to vie for leadership position within a community, Increased demand of MHOLA Day Care services and enthusiasm of parents to cover the running costs, Male support to end discriminatory gender taboos. This progress has simplified MHOLA services to the community, since always the needy are many compared to the available resources. On the other hand, at National level we notice political will to promote gender equality. All that gave us strength to continue moving to achieve our goal.

Within a reporting period MHOLA continued to strengthen our monitoring and referral system setup among VEO, WEO, Land Tribunals, Police gender desk and District Authorities, Paralegals, CSGs, Religious leaders and MHOLA through quarterly coordination meeting, where members gathered and discussed successes and challenges facing smooth dispute resolution mechanism.

As we match for the 2023/2024 financial year, MHOLA looks forward to accomplish the postponed and new activities which are believed to be the gate pass for MHOLA sustainability. We also strategize to extend and improve the quality of our services for more people to enjoy them. MHOLA is confident in her committed and professional staff, Board members, esteemed Clients and good Friends; available and user friend infrastructures, Committed partners, peaceful working environment. Therefore, we call upon all to continue supporting our initiatives for the coming financial year 2024/2025 of which its budget is approximated at Tshs. 892,181,100- (USD 405,838.81) or (356,872.44 Euro) for effective implementation of all planned intervention (*For more elaboration see the attached Budget and Annual Plan*).

## 1.0. MHOLA BACKGROUND ON SERVING THE COMMUNITY

MHOLA's mission targets at combating of all forms of GBV mainly manifesting in the hard-to-reach areas through raising awareness on preventive measures for GBV and promotion of women and child rights. This is the continuous exercise of MHOLA since 2006 when it was established until the achievement of healthy society which is free from extreme poverty, gender violence and discrimination is reached.

MHOLA is among the organization providing community service in terms of Legal Aid services, psychosocial support to early child development services and address the extreme poverty challenge by increase household income through various strategies including income generating activities in Kagera region, Tanzania. Kagera region like any part of Tanzania and Africa in general faces Gender Based Violence (GBV) that reinforced gender inequality. Several studies conducted in Kagera since 2006, and among them conducted by MHOLA in Muleba District (2023) indicates that GBV mainly affect life of many women and girls due to societal norms and harmful practices that discriminate against them. Denial of right to own or enjoy access to matrimonial properties and other economic resources or lack of right to participate on decision making and political arena is among the common incidents happening in the Kagera region where MHOLA operates. The situations in question decreases woman's powers and confidence in the community economically and socially. The situation become worse for women and children in rural communities whereby they have limited access to information and institutions to protect their rights. This situation also makes them less potential and portrays them as a source of labour. For widows and orphans the experience become more difficulty since this group of people are most vulnerable in the society due to their reduced social protection based on traditional harmful practices. The government of Tanzania has domesticated numerous regional and international instruments which aims at protecting women and children rights, promote gender equality and women empowerment, such as convection on the elimination of all form against women (CEDAW), Convention of the right of children, 2030 sustainable development goals and Africa we want 2063 to mention just few. However, incidences of gender and sexual violence to women are still observed, mainly in rural and hard to reach area. According to DHS the decrease of physical violence declines sharply if only an increase of education to community members about GBV will be increased. Thus a reason MHOLA strive to raise awareness for gender equality, provision of legal aid services, support women and children in terms of education and activities to increase household income for women in order to make them stronger economically, thus reducing their vulnerability.

## 2.0 PLANS AND TARGERTS SET IN 2023/2024

The year 2024 was the last year in implementation of MHOLA SP (2019/2024). Therefore, all interventions within a specified period aimed at covering the gap not accomplished within previous four years which aimed at accomplishing the following :-

**Goals: -**

Improve protection and wellbeing of children and Women in Kagera region.

**Objectives: -**

1. Enhancement of women and children to understand basic fundamental rights
2. Increasing access to justices through provision of legal aid services including legal education
3. Promoting ECD by increasing household income to the remote areas especially vulnerable families
4. Building Institution capacity of MHOLA for smooth running of planned intervention

In each MHOLA financial year we design key activities and sub- activities depending on the availability of funds and supporting projects. Therefore, within a reporting period the following were plans and actual implementation to reach the targets.

**1. Objective: Enhancement of women and children to understand their basic fundamental rights**

**1.0 Planned and implemented activities in 2024 to achieve the objectives**

1.1 Conduct awareness raising to 62,500 (60% being women) community members on women and child rights

- 1.1.1 Conducted awareness raising activities to approximately 35,000 (22,750M, 12,250F) individuals through a football tournament, commonly known as MHOLA MIA MIA Cup which is always played yearly. It took place between 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2024 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2024. The selection of teams to participate begun at Ward level being supervised by the Culture arts and Sports Officer from Muleba District Council. The Wards involved were from Muleba District and two teams participated from Bukoba District. The competition matches were played at the Ward level and the quarter finalist matches played at Muleba District headquarters at Zimbihile Stadium. The theme of the league aired at all matches included awareness on the MHOLA Toll free for legal aid services and other MHOLA services offered to the community. Event facilitators involved MHOLA staff, Paralegals, Social Welfare, Community development officers and Media people.
- 1.1.2 Conducted 98 events of public awareness creation through 34 village meetings, 22 roundtable discussion with CSGS Members, 10 radio programmes covering **Kagera, Geita and Kigoma** regions and 32 Outreach session. The theme for the public meetings were related with Women Land rights, Legal Aid provision procedures and available legal aid institutions, Role of women on administration of Land under Tanzania Laws, Will and Administration of estates, Family property rights for married couples and Gender equality. About 28,720 people were reached (10,487F, 18,233M). The awareness creation was facilitated by MHOLA staff in collaboration with Paralegals.

- 1.1.3 Designed, produced and distributed 3,594 IEC Materials (4Office Posters, 5 Office Banners, 25 T-shirts), 120 Umbrellas, 2660Leaflets on Online Legal aid services and 900 Leaflets on GBV)

## **1.2Conduct capacity building training to 305 community members representatives.**

- 1.2.1 Seven Capacity building sessions and 2 coordination meeting was conducted reaching 302 Individuals 80 Women Leaders in the community, 72 Women involved in farming activities, 9(2F,7M) Paralegals, 85(58M, 27F) Members of Ward Land Tribunals from Muleba District, 16 (9F, 7M) MHOLA staff and 40 (16M, 24F). Topics covered included role of women on land Administration as per Tanzania Land Laws, Recommendable farming and storage methods and choice of crops as per nature of soil, family property rights for married couples, Leadership skills and criteria for leadership position for women at Village Council and central government, GBV and gender equality and lastly use of digital devices for legal aid provision and report generation.

## **1.3Support 50 women community social to engage on modern agriculture activities for more productivity**

With limited financial resources MHOLA managed to reach 90community social groups through representatives of 9 people from each groups in nine Wards of Muleba District along Victoria lakeshore. These representatives attended trainings of 3 days on best farming methods and food storage. The Training approaches involved theories and practical. After the training sessions 10 out of 90 groups (One from each ward) were supported with seeds, manure and pesticides to run their farms. On top of that, MHOLA provided a field visit of the farms along with the agriculture officers from the Muleba District Council for more guidance and technical advice.

**Description of achievement of Objective 1:** It is approximated that about 64,022 individuals (22,951F, 41,071M) were reached through the above mentioned activities. The total achievement of the target is 102.4% and 64.2% of all women targeted to be reached within a reporting period. The number of people reached does not matter much, but the gain attained out of the message offered to them toward understanding women and child rights as well as promoting and protecting them. Based on our monitoring and field visit and roundtable discussion with the community members at large we observe positive progress toward achieving the objective. Women are actively striving for their rights in dispute resolution institutions and men who participate in dispute resolutions are gradually promoting gender equality. On the other hand, we observed gradual change of mindset of women themselves participating on economic activities as well as their desire and confidence to participate into leadership position, hence reducing their vulnerability. Also based on our own experience of running our MHOLA daycare centre we also observe both male and female freely taking part on cost sharing of running the daycare for the children's wellbeing. All these are evidence of achievement which are partially resulting from MHOLA intervention.

## 2. **Objective: Increasing access to justices through provision of legal aid services including legal education**

**Activities planned** and implemented in 2024 to reach the objective (target was to reach 3600 individual clients (60% being women)

### **2.1 Conduct legal aid services to 3600 (60% being women) to include Advice and counseling, Drafting of legal documents, Court representation and case follow-ups**

We conducted physical legal aid services at our legal aid clinic centres (Muleba, Bukoba, Karagwe and Ngara) in Kagera, Tanzania and through Toll free services, whereby clients used to call for advice and counseling. The general services offered includes Legal advice and counseling, Court representation, Dispute reconciliation and mediation and Case follow-ups. The total number of people reached and served is 2,318 (1,208F, 1,110M) whereby at the end of the day 314 cases were resolved, 146 Referred to other institutions, 15 ended without solution and 1,843 are ongoing. Majority of cases received were Land (62%), Probate (13%) and Matrimonial (12%). Also majority of cases were reported from Muleba, Karagwe/ Kyerwa and Ngara. Bukoba received majority of cases at referral level to District Land and Housing Tribunal, High Court and Court of Appeal.

### **2.2 Conduct 8 outreach legal aid sessions**

Through the support of MHOLA staff 8 outreach session were conducted within Muleba District targeting male and women in CSG. Apart from address individual legal challenges facing individual clients received at the field, also the team used the platform to address gender related issues and harmful tradition practices. The Approach used was separating male and female and joining them depending with sensitivity of the topic to be addressed and targeted member group. It was observed that in some topics relating with Gender Based violence caused by traditional practices, women were not freely to air their views in front of men and even when Men separated with women came out with a positive response on how to address the gender challenges. About 467 (309M, 158F) individuals were reached through this activity.

### **2.3 Provision of Case related costs to 50% of all received Clients**

- 2.3.1 About 948 (41%) individual Clients received were supported with case related costs in terms of pleading drafting, Court representation and transport costs to attend court sessions and case follow-ups.
- 2.3.2 Payment of Court fees for 9 (0.3%) individual Clients. The costs include Court filing fees, Court brokers fee and stationaries costs.

### **2.4 Conduct 2 Coordination meeting with likeminded organization and members of Dispute Resolution Institutions**

One Coordination meeting sessions was conducted to 40 participants (24F, 16M). Participants involved were 27 Members of Ward Tribunal, 9 Paralegals, 2 Legal Aid providers, 1 Muleba District Solicitor, and 1 Chairperson of Muleba District Land and Housing Tribunal. The meeting was

conducted in September, 2024 at MHOLA conference facilities within Muleba Districts, the main agenda being sharing experience of the current situation on land dispute resolution after enactment of the new law which restricted the Members of Ward Tribunal from delivering judgement in Land dispute resolution rather to issue mediation certificate. It was the member's feedback that it has reduced the burden to Members of Ward Tribunals, however increased the workload to the District Land and Housing Tribunal, as the results the cases are taking too long to be determined due to lack of enough human resources. On the other hand, Members of Ward Tribunal requested repeatedly training sessions and orientation for new recruited members of the Ward as well as sharing of guiding notes to guide their daily routine. We also noted existence of major land disputes involving famers and pastoralist, civilians and the government authorities and fishers with farmers. For the fishers we noted unlike the first two groups which are caused by trespassing among themselves, for the fishers it is beyond their control due to Climate change whereby water bodies increase, hence reducing the lake shore and Fishers miss a place to stop from fishing activities, hence they are also forced to build the stopping huts into farmers' land.

## **2.5 Participate into commemoration of International and National days for women and children**

MHOLA joined with other stakeholders into celebration of events planned internationally, Regionally and Nationally as remembrance of women and child rights. These includes Women International Day, African child Day, World Elderly Day and 16 Days of activism. The activities for event includes contribution costs of the event and provision of legal aid services as well as legal education depending with the event theme.

**Description of achievement of the objective:** As noted above the estimated target was reaching 3600 individual clients (60% being women) for the year 2024. At the end 2,825 (1,390F, 1,435M) clients were served. This is only 79% achievement of the target and 49.2% achievement of women targeted to be reached. MHOLA managed as well to resolve the legal challenges/disputed for 460 individuals which is 20% of all cases received. We notice further that about 80% of cases remained unresolved at the end of the year. This means the general target remained unsuccessful, since the intention was to help people with legal dispute to resolve them. The delay is due to nature of the case and its complicity, also as noted above majority of received cases were related with Land cases, and currently we have new law which excluded Ward Tribunal from resolving Land cases, they are only required to conduct mediation, hence majority of cases are filled in District Land and Housing Tribunal, but these Tribunal have limited human resources, hence most cases undergo adjournment for long time. As such we propose our future approach to invest much on encouraging people to use alternative dispute resolution. Another plan for this objective was to extend MHOLA's services to most remoteness areas through the online legal aid services (Toll free system), we did not succeed much due to lack of system stabledness, we experienced frequent breakdown of the system and sometimes limited human resources in the office to receive the phone calls, as the result Clients lost the interest on the use of the system, hence opted to undergo a physical visit

to our clinics. Therefore, in the future we plan to improve our system and service modality to make the system meaningful to our Clients.

### **3. Objective: Promoting Early Child Development (ECD) by increasing household income to the remote areas especially vulnerable families**

**Activities planned** and implemented in 2024 to achieve the objective (target to register 80 children (30% being with special needs)

#### **3.1 Provision of ECD services to 80 children (30% with special needs)**

- 3.1.1 The total number of 40 children (27M, 13F) were registered at our MHOLA daycare centre. The Children are aged 3-5. Service offered were transports from home to centre and return, classroom exercise, language studies from local language (Kihaya) to Kiswahili and from Kishwahili to English, writing, reading and mathematics exercise depending with the child age, breakfast and lunch meals, Physical and playing exercise and bed resting. The children were picked at 7:30am to 4.00pm to allow their parents engage on other family chaos or economic activities.
- 3.1.2 Recruitment of 6 staff under the PHC department (4 Teachers, 1 Driver and 1cook to take care of the Daycare children.
- 3.1.3 Conducted 4 roundtable discussion with parents of children at MHOLA daycare centre on best ECD approaches and best method of running the Daycare centre at MHOLA.

#### **3.2 Continuation of Physio-therapy building construction at MHOLA compound**

Up to the end of the reporting period the building construction project was scaled up to the roofing of the whole building and leveling the floor, electricity and solar system wiring, plastering and installation of the window and doors. The contraction has gone to 85% of its target before start of its usage **(Please see the list of photos attached herewith for more elaboration).**

#### **3.3 Upgrading MHOLA daycare centre to pre-primary and Primary school**

The activity was not implemented due to the facts that the partner who promised to fund the project did not reimburse enough fund to cover the cost for construction of the infrastructure needed hence the process of soliciting funds from other source is ongoing.

#### **3.4 Engage on Agriculture and other IGA activities to increase the fundraising base to support the running costs for Daycare centre.**

About 10 acres of land was cultivated with Banana trees, Coffee trees, vegetables, fruits, cassava and maize to serve as source of food for children at MHOLA daycare centre and commercial purpose. On the other hand, we engaged on poultry farming whereby we produce egg and chicken for sale and food for children at the centre. The availability of solar system and water supported the agriculture throughout the year, and multiplied production since it was possible to proceed with agriculture activities throughout the year by irrigation during dry season. Also the available infrastructures like Conference halls, Hostels and Public

Addresser Systems equipment and tents continued to support the income generating for the daycare centre sustainability through hiring and offering services.

### **3.5 Support women empowerment policy through 50 CSGs**

- 3.5.1 Identified and trained 83 women farmers on best agriculture practices likely to support environment conservation, Climate change and multiply productivity.
- 3.5.2 Identified and supported 10 community social groups involved with agriculture activities with maize and beans seeds as well as pesticides and manure/fertilizers.

**Description of achievement of the objective:** MHOLA recommend the half achievement of the objective target. Within a reporting period we received a positive feedback from the parents and guardians regarding the services offered to their children. Parents and guardians shown appreciation and satisfaction on how MHOLA daycare has transformed their children. They were also cooperative in all the resolved issues through a quarterly parents' meetings. In case of shortcoming/challenges among the parents they were able to assist and support MHOLA to resolve it. Parents and guardians worked together to make the children wellbeing a priority. On the other hand, we failed to support children with disabilities due to lack of infrastructure, we still hope it will be made possible in the future period since our physio-therapy building is heading to final stages of its construction. Regarding upgrading MHOLA daycare to Pre-primary and Primary school also it was not implemented due to lack of infrastructures and introduction of new education policy in Tanzania which introduces a new curriculum, hence need of new preparation and setting. All in all, we are progressing well with ECD programme when comparing our current setting with previous years.

## **4. Objective: Building Institutional Capacity, Sustainability and Publicity of MHOLA activities**

Activities planned and implemented in 2024 to achieve the objective

### **4.1 Fundraising of Tshs 1,105,171,122.67 to support organization budget for the year 2023/2024**

MHOLA engaged on different income generating activities such as agriculture, Poultry, conference facilities, consultancy work and proposal writing. Out of the said activities the total sum of Tshs 539,928,446.57 was raised. This is 49% of the total estimation budget.

### **4.2 Plan, implement and share update reports to the government, development partners and community members**

At the beginning of the year MHOLA set annual implementation plan in consideration with the available programme and project activities as well as organization SP targets. Thereafter in consideration with the organization schedule, government and development requirement implementation reports and forecasting plans were prepared and submitted to the relevant bodies.

## **4.3 Payment of organization Bills, fees, statutory contributions and staff salaries/incentives**

Despite of shortage of funds the management strived to pay all organization fees, renewal of practicing certificates and all statutory contributions in order to be in good standing with the government. On the other hand, up to the end of reporting period all staff salaries/incentives or volunteer allowances had been paid off, unlike the previous years where we closed the years with unpaid bills. We acknowledge and appreciate all guidance and reminder received from officers of all government departments, it was smooth working with them within a reporting period.

## **4.4 Conduct 11 organization statutory meetings and capacity development for Organization members (1), Board members (4) and staff (2) and (4) Management**

Conducted 8 statutory meetings out of 11 planned, 3 Board meetings, 2 staff meeting and 4 Management meeting. Failure to accomplish the target was due to lack of financial resources to cover the meeting costs (Transport, accommodation and food) when physical meeting was necessary.

## **4.5 Office building, Maintenance and repair as well as payment of rent fee for the Ngara and Karagwe offices**

During the reporting period we processed well with the construction of Physio-therapy building as reported above. We also undertook office buildings maintenance and repair depending with defects and available funds. Some key renovations undertaken includes replacement of sewage system, water sink, window and doors and electricity and solar system. On the other hand, vehicles, Motor Cycles, Computers and Photocopy machines repair and services was undertaken. Also purchase of 11 mobile phones for data collection by paralegals. Lastly was the payment of rent fee for MHOLA branch offices of Ngara and Karagwe was effected timely. All these facilitated smooth implementation of the organization interventions

## **4.6 Conduct evaluation of MHOLA SP (2019/2024), Develop a new SP (2025/2023) and other MHOLA policies (Gender Policy, child safeguarding policy and Climate and environment protection Policy)**

- 4.6.1 No evaluation of MHOLA SP (2019/2024) was conducted and also Development of new SP. This is due to lack of fund to hire consultant and cover costs of staff and organization members to gather and discuss the same. Hence it has been postponed to a future period.
- 4.6.2 Regarding development of organization policies up to the reporting period first draft of Gender Policy and Child safeguarding Policy were ready awaiting for Board review. On the other hand, Financial and Procurement Policies and Board performance appraisal tools were developed though outside the target.

**Description of achievement of the objective:** The key target for this objective is to strengthen MHOLA sustainability and visibility for the community to understand its existence

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and continue utilizing the services. In terms of governance structures and performance all members and secretariat the organization is positively progressing. This is because the available team has enough opportunity to know the organization vision and mission and every member is incapacity to know the organization direction. Majority of organization program implementers have graduated the learning stage and they are on implementation stage. The available infrastructures and organization system keeps on improving some extent contribute to sustainability strategies of the Organization.

## 4.0 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE GOAL ACHIEVEMENT

MHOLA had one major goal to achieve within a reporting period, that is Improving protection and Wellbeing for women and children in Kagera. Despite of all the challenges listed above yet we are confidently sure that we have a positive feedback to report.

**Improve the protection and wellbeing for women and children.** MHOLA understands that achievement of the above goal depends on different stakeholders and government efforts and so we appreciate and recommend all stakeholders and government departments directly contributed. Several studies conducted in Tanzania, and Kagera, among them being gender analysis study conducted by MHOLA in 2023 along Victoria lake shore in Muleba Districts indicates that despite many promising government and non-government efforts to advance women empowerment, yet rate of GBV for women and children is high especially in rural areas. The recommendable solution for all that is to have multiple efforts from different level and more capacity building to enable women understand their rights. MHOLA has played a vital role contributing on combating economic violence against women in Muleba District particularly along Victoria lake shore wards. Women were empowered on modern agriculture and food storage skills, provided with seed, pesticides and manure and backstopping agriculture farming skills. Additionally, to that we empowered both male and female on gender equality, Women land rights and women and child rights through capacity building trainings, public meetings, radio sessions and distributed materials. We observed positive progress on women striving for the legal rights and for their born and deserted children. Also men were observed supporting the initiatives when involved in dispute resolution and community gatherings and discussion on gender related issue.

Therefore, we plan to continue investing on projects directly addressing women and child rights for their best interest and gender equality for all.

## 5.0 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

MHOLA's budget within this financial year was Tshs.1, 105,171,122.67 to accomplish the planned objectives. Support for budget was expected from our esteemed development partners, GoT, Community Members and MHOLA. At the end of reporting period only Tshs. 539,928,446.57 was fundraised, this is equivalent to 49% of the expectations from all above

targeted partners. The budget deficit highly affected our plans especially planned activities which its implementation depended on external sources of fund. The consequences of all that was underperformance of expected results. Above all MHOLA is still proud of all what has been achieved and looks forward for another future opportunity to accomplish unattended targets. MHOLA also do values and generously thank the support from Austria government (ADA, kfb, DKA and h3000) America (BWF), Germany (Threshold foundation and Anita Foundation), the Government of Tanzania, the Community members in Kagera region, mainly in Muleba District where majority of our activities were implemented. We acknowledge and appreciate the financial support, connection to other financial opportunities, Expertise, time and guidance. We invite you all in the next financial year to continue supporting us to achieve the planned goals.

## 6.0 SUCCESS STORIES

Despite financial challenges yet we have good stories to tell: -

1. **Increased capacity of women to understand and defend their legal rights and those of their children:** Based on testimonies of both male and female we received when we contact them, we are confidently sure that there is increased capacity of women standing and protecting their rights and for their children. Women in urban and semi urban towns are appearing in Courts of law to claim for their rights and also supporting their fellow women. We still have a gap in hard to reach areas where women lack access to information on the proper procedures to follow. Therefore, we call upon all stakeholders to continue investing in remoteness areas for the interest of women and children based there.
2. **Women empowerment economically, socially and politically.** The nature of women we have currently differs from the previous generation. The current women generation are self-driven into different income generating activities, there no longer waiting for their husband to provide for them basic needs for their families. On the other hand, they vie for political and community leadership position and deliver positively, hence increasing community trust and confidence on them. With this strategy women vulnerability will reduce making them powerful and strong, hence allowing them to utilize their potentials for their own good and community at large.
3. **Promotion of Early childhood development.** In the past a child was less valued in the community. Their rights were violated and purposely ignored but currently with the aid of stakeholders' efforts, MHOLA inclusive and government policies child rights are fairly treated. Within a project area, where MHOLA implemented the ECD project in the reporting period we received a fully support from government, parents/guardian and likeminded organization. Parents/ Guardians who were reluctant to contribute for their children food, uniforms etc are currently freely contributing. Both parents (Male and female) are closely following up their children's progress at school unlike in the past whereby the child issues where left for women.

## 7.0 LESSON LEARNED, CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 7.1 LESSON LEARNED

1. The use of sport and games like the MHOLA Mia Mia Cup tournament is still the active approach to reach more people within short time, for awareness creation. Therefore, it will be given priority in the future planning and currently women should be given priority as well.
2. There increase of incidents of criminal such as murder and suicide resulting from love affairs and family misunderstanding, on the other hand there are sexual gender based violence (SGBV) mainly targeting both boys and girls' children, hence more intervention more intervention are needed for peaceful community.
3. MHOLA is still the reliable referral organization to majority of Non-Government Organizations and government department in legal issues, hence we should keep improving the quality of services we offer to bond the trust we have in the general public.

### 7.2 CHALLENGES

1. Regarding visibility and publicity of MHOLA activities, we still have a challenge since with exception of provision of legal aid services which are offered countrywide and for Kagera region we have four Legal Aid clinics in our branch offices whereby the key activity for these branch offices is provision of legal aid, the rest of the services are provided geographically and within a very limited area. With limited funds very few people are reached compared with population of Kagera region which is approximated 2.9 Million as per 2022 census. More interventions and approaches are required to reach more people.
2. **Shortage of fund:-** This limited performance of targeted activities and visibility of the organization since the few secured resources covered a small area.
3. **Absence of user-friend and conducive infrastructures to serve children with special needs.** This is among the priority request from the community and based on its sensitivity we also take it as priority in our plan to serve children with special needs. It is unfortunate that majority of development plans exclude them due to complicity and costs to run their services. The conversion of one of our building which is on better stage could address the matter in question, we shall need more funding to finance the conversion stage and purchase of physiotherapy equipment, but sources of its income is yet not guaranteed.

## 8.0 OUR FUTURE PLANS AND STRATEGIES FOR 2024/2025

# MAMAS' HOPE ORGANIZATION FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE (MHOLA)

Our key goal for accomplishment remain to be **Improve the protection and wellbeing for women and children**. To achieve the target both MHOLA and community have role to play. MHOLA plans to improve her interventions in number of ways to include the following:

- (a) Improve and engage on new IGA to increase the base of income from internal sources. This includes utilizing the available land by engaging on agriculture activities, and properly utilize the available assets and infrastructures. On the other hand, maintain the available development partners while securing new ones.
- (b) Strengthening and sustaining digitalization legal aid systems for the purpose of increasing access to legal services especially to the hard-to-reach areas. On the other hand, engaging trained staff and paralegals on how best they can use the digitalization legal aid approach to support the community on legal aid awareness creation.
- (c) Finalization of Conversion of Physio-therapy building and purchase of physio-therapy equipment to set friendly environment for children with special needs(disabilities).
- (d) Encourage cost sharing approach with parents parents/care giver for MHOLA daycare center running costs of transportation and food. This will go along with setting environment of upgrading MHOLA day care center to pre-primary and primary school to enable children who graduate at MHOLA day care centre and fail to be enrolled in pre-primary and primary due to their special needs/disabilities.
- (e) Reach 3600 individual and 62,500 indirect people with intention to promote women and child rights

In order to achieve the above for the financial year 2024/2025 MHOLA will be required to raise the total sum of Tshs. 892,181,100/- (Euro 356,872 or usd 405,838.81) whereby we expect the source for income to be 85.74% from Partners/Donors/Friends, 15% from MHOLA Income Generating Activities, 0.26% from Community. MHOLA invite you all to join efforts for the Wellbeing for women and children in Kagera region and nearby regions development. The support can be addressed in terms of cash, materials and human resources.

## 9.0 RECOMMENDATION & CONCLUSION

MHOLA believes that the following areas can facilitate the organization to continue serving the vulnerable children and sustain its role of promoting ECD at the project area. These include Creating a conducive infrastructure to support the children with special needs, engaging to the income generation activities and Restructuring of MHOLA (staffing, Policies and upgrading Toll free legal services). But on the other hand, sustaining established approach of reaching people through digitalization system in order to increases access to legal aid service with less costs from beneficiaries hence increase

# MAMAS' HOPE ORGANIZATION FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE (MHOLA)

access to justices. There can only be achieved if we jointly (partners/Donors and MHOLA team) work together for same goal.

## 1.2 MHOLA: BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Mamas' Hope Organization for Legal Assistance, famously MHOLA is the Non- Governmental Legal Aid Organization based in Tanzania. It was first registered on **30th October, 2006** and granted certificate of registration number **14550** according to **The Societies (Application for Registration) Rules 1954 of the Tanzania laws**. In 2015 the organization complied with Non-Government Organization (NGO) registration requirements and was issued with registration number **00NGO/00008006** under the Tanzania Non-Government Act. Also the organization is registered by Ministry of Constitutions and Legal affairs (MOCLA) as legal aid provider with registration number **No. LAP-2019-0005**. The headquarters of the organization are located at Muleba District while owns branch offices in the districts of Karagwe, Ngara and Bukoba within Kagera region.

### Our Vision

Healthy society which is free from extreme poverty, gender violence and discrimination

### Our Mission

To empower the community through creating awareness on right and health related issues, provision of legal and psychosocial assistance to women and children who have no access to that right.

Integrity

Transparency

Teamwork

Professionalism

Confidentiality

Volunteerism

Accountability

Quality service

Our Core Values

### MHOLA GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

1. Annual General meeting
2. The Board (BM)
3. Executive Council
4. Secretariat

### BOARD MEMBERS

1. Adv. Laurian Vedastus- Chairperson
2. Dr Andrew Mushi (PHD)- Member
3. Madam Leoncia Kabakama - Member
4. Mosg.Fr. Dr Pius Rutechura (PHD)- Member
5. Bishop Jackson Mushendwa- Member
6. Madam Erenestina Mpinzile- Member
7. Madam Adelina Kabakama - Member

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SAULO P. MALAURI

### Organization departments

1. Administration and Finance department
2. Primary Health Care &Community based health Care department
4. Legal department
5. Monitoring and Evaluation department (Cross-cutting)

### Organization area of works

1. Legal aid services
2. Promotion Early Child development
3. Increasing Household Income

Statistics

**NUMBER OF CLIENTS ATTENDED  
2023/2024**





