



ACTION FOR JUSTICE IN SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT, 2021



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AJISO	Action for Justice in Society
UZIKWASA	Uzima Kwa Sanaa
VICOBA	Village Community Banks
PwDs	People with Disabilities
NPA-VAWC	National Plan of Action to end Violence Against Women and Children
VAWC	Violence Against Women and Children
VAC	Violence Against Children
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
FOLD	Facilitating for Organization Learning and Development
TGNP	Tanzania Gender Networking Programme
TLS	Tanganyika Law Society
KCMC	Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre
THPS	Tanzania Health Promotion Services
CHRAGG	Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance
TANLAP	Tanzania Network for Legal Aid Providers
KWIECO	Kilimanjaro Women Information Exchange and Consultancy Organization
WiLDAF	Women in Law and Development in Africa
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSTCDC	MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD



Dear Readers,

I'm more than happy to say a few words about the AJISO Annual Report for 2021. The mission of AJISO is to improve access to social justice for marginalized grassroots groups in rural areas, with a focus on women and children.

In 2021, AJISO was successful in raising community awareness about legal and human rights problems, resulting in fewer occurrences of violence against women and children in the Kilimanjaro districts of Rombo and Mwanga, Monduli Arusha, and Dodoma Urban.

Through Village Community Banking (VICOBA), AJISO changed the lives of women and People Living with Disabilities (PLWD). The economic strengths gained renewed lives of many disadvantaged groups who experienced positive transformations and appreciated their human value.

AJISO's excellent work would not have been possible without the support of all of our development partners, to whom we are eternally thankful. I'd like to thank Bread for the World, Moyo International, Pro Bono School Partnerships for One World, UZIKWASA, and the Foundation for Civil Society on behalf of AJISO for their outstanding support in putting all of the programs together.

Under the capable leadership of Mrs. Virginia Calist Silayo, the Executive Director, and with support from experienced and motivated staff, the organization has ever been experiencing positive growth reaching out to many broken hearts in the various communities.

The Board has frequently encouraged them to keep up and aim higher for the best for women and girls. The Board appreciates their work with expectations for increased financial support which will facilitate expansion to meet the needs of needier community members.

The accomplishments of AJISO in 2021 are reflected in this Annual Report. It is detailed enough to provide the necessary understanding of AJISO's work and the direction it intends to take in the future. Join us in the fight for equal justice for everyone.

A small image of a handwritten signature in black ink on a white rectangular background.

Melkiades Msimbe
Chairman of Board - AJISO

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



With lots of respect, I am humbled to share with you our 2021 Annual report which gives a glimpse of the work done in Kilimanjaro and Dar-es-salaam towards improved lives of disadvantaged community members. I hope you will be able to learn more about AJISO's contributions in the period that ended and the effects that influenced a changed lifestyle. Our mission: 'To promote Human rights, access to justice and socio-economic empowerment of women and children in Tanzania' guided our interventions towards expected outcomes.

My heartfelt appreciation to all our Development Partners to mention a few, the Bread for the World, Moyo International, Pro-Bono School Partnerships for One World, UZIKWASA, and the Foundation for Civil Society for their support and guidance offered ever since.

I feel very proud of the executive team which includes very dedicated and experienced staff, the paralegals who are community volunteers, and the Child Protection teams who worked hard despite the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic which contributed to serving 68,602(25,228M, 43,374F) community members with Legal and Human Rights education, preventive measures against Covid-19 and education about the effects of VAWC in Rombo, Mwanga, Monduli and Dodoma urban districts by the end of 2021. This was possible through public awareness-raising meetings, campaigns, and radio programs. Bravo to all.

The teams increased awareness of the mentioned topics through various approaches including meetings, seminars, public events, and radio programs with an estimated coverage of over 40,000 community members. The interventions have transformed women and children together with their families and the general communities around the project areas. Beneficiaries have rebuilt self-esteem and confidence to fight for their rights even before the courts of the law.

Last but not least I wish to acknowledge the synergy from other stakeholders whose collaborations were very essential for our achievements in 2021. Let us continue with the same spirit in 2021 for the sake of the disadvantaged communities. Together we can walk many miles in addressing the needs.

Please make a follow-up of our work by visiting our website www.ajiso.org and our social media pages **Ajiso Tanzania** via Facebook and Instagram.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Silayo'.

Virginia Calist Silayo
Executive Director

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY.

Action for Justice in Society (AJISO) is a Legal Aid Provision organization established in 1998 with the aim of promoting human rights and access to justice to women, children, and marginalized community members. AJISO empowers women and children to seek and access justice also, Advocates against Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

AJISO facilitates paralegals, NPA-VAWC Committees, and child rights clubs to deal with arising issues regarding violations of human rights, GBV, and VAC in the community. As a learning organization, AJISO realized that empowering women economically is a major factor in the journey to fight against GBV since VICOBA can also be used as a platform for empowering them with entrepreneurship skills, offer legal and human rights education and other demand-driven skills.



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote Human rights, access to justice, and socio-economic empowerment of women and children in Tanzania.



VISION

AJISO envisages a society that values, respects, and protects social justice for women.



OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

Our organization is governed by the following strategic themes:

01. Enhanced access to justice in the society
02. Strengthened legal reform, education, and advocacy on human rights
03. Improved socio-economic status of marginalized women and men
04. Contributed to environment protection in response to climate change
05. Strengthened organization capacity and sustainability
06. Promoted civic and voter education among community members.



CORE VALUES

01. Accountability
02. Transparency
03. Teamwork
04. Integrity
05. Equality
06. Professionalism

PROGRAMMES

1. Access to justice enhanced together with strengthening legal reform, education and human rights advocacy

For the year 2021 AJISO put more efforts into education by providing legal, Human Rights, and Gender-Based Violence education to the NPA-VAWC Committees, community, and institutions.

1.1. Establishing and strengthening child rights clubs

Although the fight against violence for women and children is a national goal in Tanzania, there are many deficits in the implementation of children's rights and child protection in different areas of our country including Rombo, Mwanga, and Monduli Districts where we are implementing our project. As a Human Rights and an Economic Empowerment organization in Tanzania, AJISO has a crucial role in advocating for issues of Human Rights to enhance the promotion and protection of citizens from violations of Human Rights especially children that are found in the project's schools.

1.2. Reflective training to paralegals

A total of 22(11m, 11f) paralegals were trained by facilitators from the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs (MOCLA). The topics were on different laws such as land law, legal aid Act, GBV, criminal law, civil procedures, Child Act, the law of probate, and succession of trust. These paralegals were trained as an additional workforce to the existing paralegals and to fill the gap from those who have passed away or retired. They all met the requirements set by the Ministry.

1.3. Teachers training

AJISO's experience in child protection matters has led to a realization that without training all the staff at school and board members there will still be an occurrence of violence against children at school. The aim of this training is to enable the teachers to have a deep reflection on how they conduct their daily activities as leaders and guardians of children in their schools and each to personally highlight the areas where they need to make changes as well as the new things that they need to adopt and practice for their own betterment, the schools and the community in general.

1.4. Training of National Plan of Action to end Violence against Women and Children committees (NPA-VAWC).

In the year 2021 AJISO continued to strengthen NPA-VAWC committees at the wards and districts levels where our projects are. Through the funding of Probono school partnerships for one world and UZIKWASA, we conducted Reflective training to 4 ward level NPA-VAWC committees, three at Rombo and 1 at Monduli (Kitirima, Kingachi, and Kirongo samanga Rombo district and Monduli mji mdogo) and 1 at district level (Rombo district). A reflective Approach is a new approach that the organization is applying together with the right-based approach to ensure that we attain the expected results.

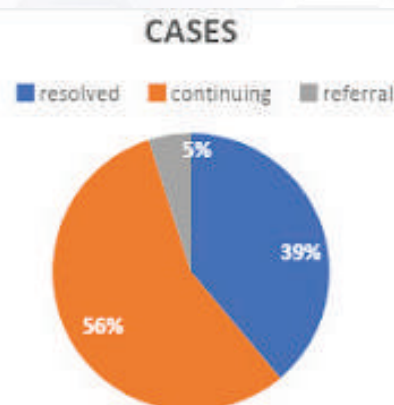
1.5. Provision of Legal Aid Services.

AJISO has progressed in Legal Aid Provision by creating a legal aid system, which monitors the progress of cases as our legal officers work on them. It also assesses the number of cases received and their status. This year AJISO’s legal officers and paralegals have managed to service 852(296M, 556F) who needed legal services in land, matrimony, child maintenance, labor, probate, GBV criminal and civil cases. A total of 68,602 (25,228M, 43,374F) clients were reached with legal and GBV education.

TABLE OF STATUS OF CASES FOR 2021;

TYPE OF CASE	TOTAL	COMPLETED	CONTINUING	REFERRED
LAND	125	43	75	7
PROBATE	72	7	62	3
MATRIMONIAL	96	44	44	8
CHILD MAINTENANCE	170	87	71	12
CIVIL	88	26	60	2
CRIMINAL	97	33	61	3
LABOR	61	1	58	2
GBV	143	90	48	5
TOTAL	852	331	479	42

The chart below shows the status in percentage;



2. The socio-economic status of marginalized women and men Improved.

In 2021 the organization conducted monitoring and supervision visits to the existing VICOBA groups in Rombo District to create an existing plan for phase two of the project funded by Bread for the world. And we started the implementation of phase three by identifying and training new ToTs(5f,5m) making a total of 20 ToTs in Rombo District tasked to formulate and train new economic empowerment groups in their areas. We also reviewed our training manual for establishing economic empowerment groups (VICOBA) Taking into account the new microfinance Act and guidelines.

3. Promoted civic and voter education among community members.

In the year 2020 AJISO was among the non-government Organizations with permits as election observers and provision of voters education in the community. Due to these in the year 2021, we conducted a follow-up of the situation after the election to see whether people are satisfied with the elected candidates or the election was unfair. We spoke with both candidates who won and those who lost in the election to get their opinions regarding the fairness of the election. The majority of the people were satisfied with the results and had high hopes for the elected candidates to bring changes to their constituents.

4. Strengthened organization capacity and sustainability

4.1. Facilitating Organization Learning and Development (FOLD) Training

Three of AJISO's staff through our partnership with an organization is known as UZIKWASA from Pangani Tanga participated in facilitators training issued by EASUN starting from July 2021 whereby they were capacitated to become facilitators of change and organization learning development through the use of Reflective approaches. This short course ended in November 2021 when the members attended the last module from 15th to 19th November 2021 and graduated thereafter.

This has continued to capacitate our members on the use of a reflective approach in bringing about change especially in fighting against GBV.



The pictures show some AJISO staff who graduated from FOLD (Facilitator of Organizational Learning and Development) training) together with other graduates.

4.2. Fundraising

AJISO as a growing organization needs funds to attain growth, especially of our work in the community and visibility within and outside the country. Realizing this, we search for funds from different development partners within and outside the country. We also encouraged the community members to pay back to the community by helping those in need, especially orphaned children and those who have been subjected to Gender-Based Violence from their social funds. At the organization level, we sent proposals requesting for funds as shown on the table below;

S/N	DONOR	NATURE OF PROPOSAL
1	Bread for the World	Requesting to continue for phase3
2	Women Trust Fund(WTF)	Requesting for the fund to empower women and girls
3	WE EFFECT	Requesting for funds to carry out the project on gender equality
4	UZIKWASA	Requesting for funds to continue with the project to curb GBV

4.3. Internship Program

Internship program in 2021 had about 13 interns (5 boys and 7 girls) who came from different places around the world being France, the U.S.A, South Korea, and Belgium. Among the 13 interns, 4 were able to learn physically and the 9 learned online. The internship program gave us room to learn more and share experiences with different people around the world where we work with the organization called World Unite. The program was done in two ways that others managed to visit our office and have a stay of 1-6 months. The online internship also had a program of 1-3 months.

Through our internship program, we were able to take them through our legal system in Tanzania, prepare documents, listen to clients, how to deal with child protection in school and out of school, and emphasize economic empowerment to women, men, and people living with disabilities. All this learning was provided not only by discussions others managed to visit field works for more learning. For the interns who were able to attend the field, areas were able to share their views, experience and ask questions for more learning.

5. Other Activities

5.1. LEGAL AID WEEK

AJISO as a member of the Regional Legal Aid Committee participated in the Legal Aid week by providing education to all seven districts of Kilimanjaro region together with Tanganyika Law Society, KWIECO, Gender desk, and Regional Prosecutor theme was "Sustainable improvement of Criminal justice, enhancing timely access to justice".

We provided law education at market places, via radio programs (Radio Shine FM), Dodoma Fm where 500,000 people were reached; women's platform and the content were based mainly on criminal justice just as the theme states.

Among the activities was the development of a simplified flier about criminal justice which was printed and distributed to all districts to increase awareness on issues pertaining to criminal justice.

Paralegals in Rombo participated by raising awareness to the community members using different gatherings like women groups, prayer gatherings, market places, and bodaboda stops and at their centers.



A picture of one of our paralegals holding a community gathering to promote public education on legal aid awareness during the commemoration of Legal Aid Week from March 1 to 2, 2021. Our paralegal was able to deliver this type of education throughout Kilimanjaro's seven districts.

5.2. PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES DAY

AJISO as one of the key stakeholders in the Rombo district dealing with the Rights of people with disabilities in the projects was invited by the Rombo district to participate in the planning for the celebration of the day for people living with disabilities which are held on 3rd December every year. For the Rombo district, the event was held on the 10th of December. They come up with the following plans to ensure the wellbeing of PWDs; Leaders representing people living with people with disabilities meet with the district commissioner to discuss the successes and how to address the challenges they are going through.

Governments continue to make adjustments to improve infrastructure to create an enabling environment for people with disabilities to access services more easily when they reach government and even private offices.

The government has promised to stay with the ward and village officers to develop clear strategies to enable him to access government services such as farms, expose children with disabilities to school, and some schools to have a conducive environment for the child to read well in the presence of inclusive education.

5.3. 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GBV

Sixteen Days of Activism against GBV is held from 25th Nov to 10th Dec each year where stakeholders participate using various approaches to raise awareness to the community. This year's theme states that” Ewe mwananchi komesha ukatili wa kijinsia Sasa”

AJISO in cooperation with Paralegals and NPA-VAWC Committees participates through the provision of education at public gathering places such as the markets to primary and secondary schools at Usseri and Tarakea division.

We also provide education on Gender-Based Violence through a Radio program using Banana Fm which has coverage to the whole Kilimanjaro region.

AJISO's staff provided education on Gender-Based Violence to pupils at Muungano and Jamhuri primary schools (Neighbor schools) to have awareness on how they can prevent such situations from occurring and what to do and where to report such incidents. Apart from that, we also established child protection clubs that will be capacitated so that they can keep on educating their fellow pupils, community and reporting cases concerning Gender-Based Violence.



On commemorating 16 days of Activism against GBV that is held from 25th Nov to 10th Dec each year, AJISO staff provided education on Gender-Based Violence to the community via radio programs at Kicheko FM in Mailisita Moshi and to pupils at Muungano and Jamhuri primary schools

5.4. AIDS DAY

AJISO participated in the AIDS day at Rombo, Mwanza, and Moshi Municipal where we worked together with district officials (social welfare officers, district medical officers, and community development officers), NPA-VAWC Committees, representatives from other NGOs like Tanzania Health promotion Services (THPS). The theme is “Zingatia usawa Tokomeza Ukimwi Tokomeza Magonjwa ya Mlipuko” (End inequalities, End AIDS)

At Rombo district we provided education to two secondary schools of Kilimanjaro Boys Boarding School which is a catholic school 70 boys were reached and Horombo girls a government school 100 girls were reached. The content was based on AIDS but we also educated them about GBV because it was within the 16days of Activism against GBV.

At Moshi Municipal we educated the community via radio Banana Fm. The message was on AIDS and GBV issues and how GBV leads to the spread of HIV/AIDS. We also participated in marching with banners to raise awareness among the community members. The data for those who have checked their health is 60695 (25,202M, 35,493F). Among those infected women are 840 and men are 570. In addition, regarding covid-19 only 12% of the population have been vaccinated.



On 1st December 2021, AIDS day, Advocate Fina Michael (AJISO Legal Officer) with other stakeholders provided education via a Radio program at Shantie FM in Moshi. On the right is the photo of people marching carrying banners with a message about HIV/AIDS.

On this day, community members participated by donating blood to help those in need at the hospitals in the district as seen in the photo below on the left. At the right, the district medical officer spoke to students from Kilimanjaro boys’ secondary school about HIV/AIDS.



5.5. Donation Program

Through AJISO's work in the community, there are arising issues regarding children from underprivileged families and orphans who are at risk of being subjected to violence against children. Realizing this, AJISO started a donation program whereby we sensitize our friends to contribute in the form of cash, and material things such as mattresses, uniforms, school facilities (books, bags, pens e.t.c) to help children in need.

We identified 7 project schools (Mramba Secondary School, Ngaleku Secondary School, Nanjara Secondary School, Kiraro primary school, Usseri primary, Mbomai Kati Primary School, and Tarakea Primary School).

A total number of 56 children were identified and provided with school facilities 14 being secondary school students and 42 primary school students, also reaching out to 98 girls with sanitary pads (86 secondary girls and 12 primary girls). There were about 4 children that were reached directly. To which a total amount of 2,944,000Tsh was spent.



47 members of JALI Watoto Clubs in Ubetu ,Kibaoni Primary School on the left , the uniforms received on the right.

6.0. NETWORKING

No	Name of Organization	Areas of collaboration
1	TGNP	A symposia to commemorate 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence
2	WILDAF	16 days of Activism against GBV
3	TANLAP	Legal Aid Provision
4	CHRAGG	Implementation of MoU on Human Rights Cases
5	TUSONGE	Human Rights project
6	SONGAMBELE	Marathon to raise funds for people living with disabilities.
7	KIWAKUKKI	Sensitize and raise awareness to the gender activists to start looking/dealing with gender issues on another eye by being feminist activist Annual General Meeting
8	MSTCDC	Uhuru Forum; Civic Space in Post Pandemic world
9	KWIECO	Discussion on emerging issues relating to gender equality as well as VAWC
10	MINISTRY OF CONSTITUTION AND LEGAL AFFAIRS	A workshop with the aim of discussing a roadmap for the introduction of the women justice forum in Tanzania
11	CAN TANZANIA	A signed MoU on implementation of a project on climate change

7.0. PROGRAMME IMPACT TO THE COMMUNITY

- i The project has empowered women economically and in turn, improved their living conditions through sustainable microfinance groups (VICOBA) where they acquire a cheap loan for investment in Agriculture and retail businesses and hence strengthening their voices within the household and improving livelihood.

- ii AJISO's GBV project was successful in promoting gender equality, providing access to justice, and reducing incidents of violence against women and children. A need for upscaling and strengthening the interventions was observed in all project sites.
- iii AJISO's interventions using the Reflective Approach have brought behavior change in the community regarding GBV since it touches their feelings making them realize how their actions are detrimental to their community and come up with solutions.
- iv Increased awareness of community members about legal and Human Rights matters and they now seek Legal assistance whenever they feel that their rights are violated.
- v Development and adoption of child protection policies in 6 schools (1 primary school, 5 secondary schools) have created a conducive environment for students and reduced VAC incidents at school.
- vi The sustainability of our projects in the community is ensured through methodologies and approaches we use such as the Reflective approach, using community-based trainers, involvement of government officials and paralegals.
- vii AJISO's interventions against GBV in the community have led the KCMC hospital to collaborate with us on their program to treat victims of GBV.

8.0. WAY FORWARD

- 1 To involve the religious leaders to obtain this Reflective approach as it is seen that still most cases are reported to them, and increase awareness to the community at large.
- 2 The Ward NPA-VAWC Committees are to be empowered to go to the village level and capacitate the Village NPA-VAWC committees so as to create a proper reporting and follow-up of the GBV cases from the grassroots.
- 3 To have reflective training for all heads of departments only as it is seen that they fail to appear in the Committees training due to their positions.
- 4 Strengthening the provision of legal aid services through the establishment of the Legal Aid Clinic.
- 5 Strengthening Organizational learning organization by adopting reflective and learning culture in the implementation of daily activities.



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