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EfG launches VAW project

Introduction

Equality for Growth (EfG) is a national based organization with a vision to create vibrant and economically empowered women in the informal sector. EfG was established in 2008 to benefit women all over Tanzania to eradicate poverty and work towards a market place free from any forms of gender barriers and forms of exploitation. ▶▶ *PAGE 2*



Picture: Guest of honour with other guests during launching VAW project (source EfG)

.....▶▶ INTRODUCTION

Currently EfG is implementing the Project known as “**Give Payment not Abuse**’ Protecting Informal Women Traders in Dar es Salaam from Violence against Women. This project focuses on seeing women traders at Ilala and Temeke Districts operating in a market environment that is free from sexual, verbal, physical and political violence and being respected as human beings and exercising their economic rights to the fullest.

The Objectives of the project are to increase traders awareness and knowledge on Violence against Women (VAW) and its impact on women in the market place, to influence markets to adopt a model market guideline for handling and tracking VAW in marketplaces in Tanzania, to enhance collaboration between law enforcers, market committees, municipal leaders and officials, and traders to effectively address

VAW happening in the markets and document and share the model’s approach to local government’s municipal officers and councils, as well as civil society organizations and media for scaling and replication. This project will change individual attitudes and behaviors toward VAW, ensure survivors access to justice, and support the development of local laws and budgets to address these issues.



Picture: women market traders conducting their business (source EfG)

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Baseline survey

On 21 – 25 January, 2015 conducted Baseline study on GBV and legal awareness in Temeke and Ilala Districts. The purpose of this baseline was to seek information on the incident rate of all forms of VAW in the marketplaces, impact of VAW on women's work and business knowledge of women rights among market traders, knowledge

and sensitivity to VAW and its impact on women, availability of survivor services, satisfaction of VAW survivors with services and responsiveness of market authorities. The total number of respondents was 224 market traders of which 162 female and 62 male were interviewed from 7 markets of Kisutu, Buguruni, Ferry, Mchikichini, Gezaulole, Tabata



Muslim and Temeke Strerio. The random sampling method of collecting data was used. The survey team applied both qualitative and quantitative survey methods to collect and analyze information. The tools used were survey questionnaires to market traders and key informants. In addition, the SPSS software was used to aid the quantitative data.

The survey findings show that out of 224 total respondents surveyed 96.77% do experience violence in the community, followed by violence in the work place (95.97%) and 90.32% violence in the public spaces.

While examining market traders understanding of VAW, the findings show that only 32.26% of the total respondents had knowledge on VAW. The rest some knowledge except they were not aware exactly which actions constituted violence

against women. When they were asked to mention the types of violence in the market place, the majority replied positive that there is VAW in the market. The study investigated further to find out what types of violence occur outside their places of work. Respondents mentioned the following: Women's oppression and humiliation, under age marriage of young girls, female genital mutilation, and women are excluded from decision-making, denying women basic rights such as education, abusive language, and sextortion, rape, and sodomy.

The survey found that 76.61 % of the market leaders find they don't have specific guidelines to regulate VAW cases. The other group of about 20.16% already have some guideline commitment, for instance to be banned from the business, to be suspended for a specific time, or to have a fine imposed. Among the persons consulted in this study 76.61% replied positive that

there is a need for guidelines to protect women against violence. Research revealed that 93.55% of the markets don't keep records of the victims of VAW. The survey also noted a trend that responses were almost the same at all markets visited.

Consultative and Project Launching

On 27th February, 2015 EfG organized and facilitated a one day consultative and project launching ceremony with Ilala and Temeke Municipal Officials, market traders, and other stakeholders in Lamada Hotel, Dar es Salaam. A total of 115 participants attended the event. The guest of honor was Honorable Dr. Pindi Chana, the Deputy Minister of Community Development, Gender and Children. She stated that the government recognizes all the efforts of EfG and greatly appreciates their contribution. The objective of the meeting was to introduce and share the details of the project, share

baseline study findings and solicit their support. Participants who attended the ceremony include councilors, representatives of embassies and international development agencies, police, NGOs, municipal officials, market leaders, women and men traders, paralegals and journalists.



Picture: participants during launching of VAW project – (source EfG)



Picture: Guest of honour with other guests during launching VAW project-(source EfG)

Train Paralegals on VAW, Legal and women's rights

On 23rd and 24th March, 2015, EfG conducted trainings on VAW, Legal and Women rights to 25

paralegals. In order to provide knowledge, mobilize support and action to prevent VAW in market places, and assist women survivors of VAW to access justice.



Picture: Paralegals during Training on VAW and human rights – (source EfG)

The trained Paralegals will effectively handle VAW cases, as well as manage the change process by conducting regular awareness and education sessions in markets. They will also mobilize support and action to prevent VAW in the market places and assist women survivors of VAW in accessing justice. In this case more VAW cases will be reported by women and handled more-efficiently.

Train Legal Community Supporters on VAW, Legal and women’s rights

EfG also organized and conducted a three day training workshop from 25th – 27th March, 2015 with Legal Community Supporters. 40 Legal Community Supporters were trained. The objective was to enable

participants to identify violence against women and its impact to the society, **understand their** role as LCS and create awareness on GBV as in the Sexual Offenses Act (SOSPA), Penal Code, and understand the circumstances of GBV occurrences and its corresponding punishment.



Picture: LCS during Training on VAW and human rights – (source EfG)

The trained Legal Community Supporters will handle VAW cases as well as manage the change process by conducting regular awareness and education sessions in markets. They will also mobilize support and action to prevent VAW in the marketplaces, and assist women survivors of VAW in accessing justice. In this case more VAW Cases will be reported by women and more efficiently handled. Legal Community Supporters' work will be supported by paralegals.

Capacity Building Workshop on Gender-based Violence for Paralegals, Legal Community Supporters, Municipal Officials, Leaders and Market Committee Members

On 11th to 13th May, 2015 EfG succeeded in conducting a three day capacity building session on gender-based violence for municipal officials, leaders and members of market committees in Temeke and Ilala Districts, held at Lamada Hotel in Dar es

Salaam. The topics discussed in this particular training were ways to combat and prevent Gender-based violence (GBV), sextortion, assistance for victims of GBV, Protection of Women's Rights under International Human Rights Instruments, and Gender-based Violence: its causes and effects. The objective of this training was to increase market traders' awareness and knowledge on VAW and its impact on women in the market places. **The workshop was facilitated by:**

- ♦ Ms Laetitia Petro
- ♦ Rtd. Judge Eusebia Munuo, former Justice of Appeal.



Picture: Participants follow closely as Ms.Petro clarifies a point during her presentation-(source EfG)

A total of 45 participants were trained. These participants came from different markets in Dar es Salaam, namely; Temeke Stereo, Geza Ulole, Mchikichini, Tabata Muslim, Kisutu, and Ferry. Among the participants there were also social welfare and Community Development Officials from the municipal councils.

Capacity Building Workshop for Law Enforcers and Paralegals on Handling of Gender-Based Violence Cases

EfG succeeded in giving empowered knowledge on VAW to law enforcers, police, paramilitary, and paralegals in a three days workshop at Lamada Hotel in Dar es Salaam. This was done on 22nd, 23rd and 24th of June, 2015 and was attended by 40 participants. A total of 40 participants were trained, 9 being male and 31 being female. These participants came from different markets in Dar es Salaam. Among the participants

were law enforcement officials from police, paramilitary, and representatives from courts.

The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Asha Komba from the Tanzania Women Judges Association (TAWJA). The topics discussed in the workshop were GBV, sextortion, its causes and effects and how to better handle GBV in different sectors.



Picture: Participants engaged in group discussion during the workshop-(Source EfG)

A total of 45 participants were trained.

Semi -Annual VAW Committee.

EfG also organized and conducted a one day semi-annual committee meeting which was held at Lamada Hotel in Dar es Salaam. The meeting brought together different social actors including Municipal Officers, Paralegals, LCSs, NGOs and CBOs. The aim of this meeting was to give and receive feedback from stake holders and prepare strategies for project implementation for the next six months of EfG planned activities. Through the Project Officer EfG presented the implemented activities as planned, key challenges and lessons learnt from project implementation.



In this meeting stake holders also gave feedback of what they have implemented in six months for the life of the project. Their feedback was based on what they implemented plus challenges faced and successes. The meeting also came up with the strategies on how the project can best be implemented.

WHAT TO WATCH

- ▶ Conduct GBV Awareness session in Ilala and Temeke Market
- ▶ Press Conference
- ▶ Conduct Hand Band Campaign
- ▶ Media Market visits and reporting on market issues.
- ▶ Media Campaign on Anti VAW

moved to Temeke Stereo market where she is settled now.



Picture: Ms. Johanitha Katunzi in her business at Temeke stereo Market-(Source EfG)

VOICE FROM THE FIELD

Johanitha Katunzi aged 40 years old, a Legal Community Supporter from Temeke Stereo market, a mother of three children, and a former leaver in 1994. She was born in Muleba district of Kagera region (Lake Zone region) of Tanzania. She has been in business for 13 years now as her first business site was at Gezaule market in Ilala district Dar es Salaam. She then engaged in mobile business around the country. In 2013 she

Her inspiration to serve women and community in general started when she received some training on preventing Gender Based Violence from WILDAF in 2012. This was through their project known as **Funguka “Speak Out”** and funded by Finland. Johanitha also faced some challenges as she failed to progress with higher education simply because she is a woman and thus was denied the chance to pursue her further studies while her two brothers were granted the opportunity to progress. She says that

‘after missing out the chance to progress with studies which she says was gender biased, it made her stand up to spearhead the rights of all women and girls so as to secure their right to education as human beings’.



Picture: Ms. Johanitha Katunzi while conducting a session for GBV awareness to a womens association at Temeke market- (Source EfG)

In 2015 Johanitha acquired skills and knowledge through Mpe Riziki Si Matusi Project ‘Give Payment not Abuse’ funded by UNWTF where she became a Legal Community Supporter. This project enabled her to reach women, girls and men who are business traders in Temeke Stereo market. She is now dealing with VAW incidences, raising their awareness on VAW and women’s

rights, and referring cases to victims and survivors of VAW.

She has now managed to reach 20 women and 10 men around the marketplace in Temeke Sterio with education awareness sessions on VAW, human rights, and womens rights. Also she has managed to assist 3 survivors’ cases. She also managed to refer 5 victims of VAW cases to market leaders and the police children and gender desk. She has been a major support for many victims and survivors of VAW in Temeke Sterio market.

Johanitha is now proposing the expansion of the project in other areas especially to the underserved communities because there are many women who are facing different forms of violence and they have nowhere to go to seek services, support and assistance.

Her vision is to see that all women, regardless of their social and economic background, are fully respected, are aware of their rights, and are free from all forms of violence.



Equality for Growth (EfG)



EQUALITY FOR GROWTH (EFG)
S.L.P 10618, DAR -ES-SALAAM, TANZANIA
SIMU:+255222863293
BARUA PEPE: equalityfor growth@gmail.com
TOVUTI: www.equalityforgrowth.org
KIMETAYARISHWA NA:
Equality for Growth (EfG)

