



Tanzania Leprosy Association

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1 NEEDS ASSESSMENT 1 OVERVIEW

The Voices from the Grassroots

Methods:

- Moderated Focus Group Discussions led by TLA team
- Community-based participatory surveys
- Key Informant Interviews

Reach Summary:

- Total reached: 87 people
 - 64 Key Informant Interviews (44% men and 56% women)
 - 23 in Focus Group Discussions (36% men and 64% women+)
- 28% from urban areas / 72% from rural villages

2 PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH RIGHTS FINDING

Key Results:

- 20% of Persons Affected by Leprosy respondents were not satisfied with their access to health services
- 44% of the Persons Affected by Leprosy respondents encountered barriers in accessing health care services in their areas.
- 27% of the Persons Affected by Leprosy respondents to have no access to Mental health services
- 86% of the Persons Affected by Leprosy-related stigma felt the need for mental health support in their lives as they strive with this disease, while the remaining 14% did not see the importance of such services.

3 HUMAN RIGHT AND DISCRIMINATION FINDINGS

Key Results:

- 89% of Persons Affected by Leprosy who participated in this assessment were aware of their rights to good health care services
- However their awareness levels varied as following
 - 36% had excellent level of awareness on their right to access good health care services
 - 44% had average level of awareness on their right to access good health care services
 - 14% had limited level of awareness on their right to access good health care services
- Although the awareness among Persons Affected by Leprosy is high, 47% felt those rights were often violated
- 35% of the respondents felt that their access were strained among women than in men mostly from stigma attached to their disabilities.

4 LESSONS AND SOLUTIONS

Lessons for the World

- Stigma attached to disabilities from Leprosy is still relative high in healthcare services.
- TLA is not yet well organized to conduct an effective anti-stigma campaign to address the above challenge.
- Due to long history of Leprosy in the world, government is slowly putting this pandemic into peripheries

Recommendations

- TLA needs to be assisted to transform into a functional NGOs which operates independently from their Executive Committee.
- Train TLA team on important aspects of organization development such as program management, M&E, Fundraising etc.

5 ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Methods used:

- Focus Group Discussions
 - With members of Executive Committee
 - With TLAs team of two people
 - With Persons Affected by Leprosy in Morogoro and Dodoma
- Structured interviews in the form of Key Informants Interviews
 - 16 sessions of individual interviews were conducted

Participants:

- 6 Executive Board members
- 28 Persons Affected by Leprosy
- 6 members from local NGOs including GRLA
- 1 advisor from a local consulting firm Change Associates
- International (CAI)

6 GAPS & OPPORTUNITIES

Key Findings:

- Despite of her long history TLA is still at infancy stage as an organization with weak institutional arrangements
- No strategic direction – funding determines their focus – No strategic plan to guide them as an organization
- TLA has poor financial resource base -
- Weak connection with grassroots due to weak resource base
- Confusing roles and responsibilities between the TLA team and the Executive Committee

Key Opportunities:

- Potential for growth into an organized and strong NGO coordinating Leprosy work in the country – Organizational Growth
- Lots of potentials for local fundraising opportunities - CSR
- Lots of potentials for national visibility especially by using social media in increasing their constituency of support in the country.
- There are unlimited opportunities to work in partnership with the government of Tanzania with a well established and organized TLA

7 CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS RECOMMENDATIONS

- Transform TLA from an association to and independent NGOs
- TLA is highly in need of skills in Strategic planning
- Confusing roles between the TLA team and Executive Committee needs to be addressed to allow institutional growth of TLA
- TLA team needs institutional development support e.g.
 - Program Management, performance management skills including M&E skills, fundraising knowledge etc.
- Exchange visits to Ethiopia could be an important shared learning opportunity for TLA

8 WHIST LIST BEFORE NEXT ILC

- Transform TLA from an association into and independent NGO
- Support TLA with a few paid staff for a few years to give TLA a good kick start
- Support TLA with organizational development skills
 - starting with an actionable strategic plan for at least 5 initial years
 - Program management
 - Performance management (Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning)
 - Fundraising skills
- Strengthen TLA's working relations with the ministry of Health on issues of Leprosy
- Increase national visibility of TLA to raise awareness and local opportunities for funding