



TANZANIA AIDS FORUM

Why Tanzania AIDS Forum was formed?

Tanzania Aids Forum [TAF] was formed in May 2006 to fill the gap of not having distinct and clear thematic coordination of non state actors in the country. Members were sought to be non state actors working on HIV&AIDS, health, gender and policy. It envisions enabling members to speak with one voice on HIV&AIDS, health and gender related policy in Tanzania. TAF was also formed to work against duplication of failed approaches, coordinate CSO's in the learning and sharing of information, building the capacity of CSO's and contributing to the National Multisectoral Strategic Framework on HIV&AIDS.



TAF believes in working in a manner that enables itself to be a channel that represents the voice of CSO's. Its focus will be on building the capacity of CSO's via the coordination and sharing of good practice and exchange of information.

The backbone of TAF's work is its constituency. The secretariat staff relies on members to determine the issues that need to be addressed and to report on relevant advocacy concerns – in national, regional and international levels.

Vision

To be a reputable national forum whose members' work is fully coordinated and can effectively engage with both government and development partners for meaningful development of effective and quality programs.

Mission

Through effective consultation and representation, TAF envisages to partner with Government and development partners to build the capacity of CSO's which in turn engages in national decision making and implementation of quality HIV programs

Values

For TAF to be effective and credible, it hopes:

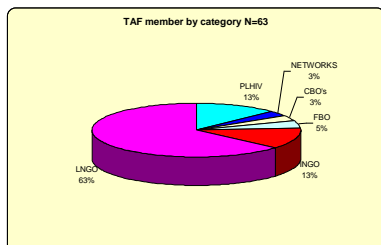
- To ensure effective representation
- To be open in sharing and learning from experience
- To be accountable and encouraging others to be accountable as well
- To be transparent and optimal in service delivery

Why become a member of TAF?

Are you a CSO which believes in working with others, believes in sharing learning and experiences from others and believes in building a collective voice and actions with the intention of improving the quality of programs and making policy work?. If yes, then you should be a member of TAF!

Who can be a member of TAF?

Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) both local and international, Networks (PLHIV, Gender, Youth) with the above interests. Aspiring members should be undertaking or facilitating HIV&AIDS or health related work, and/or doing policy advocacy work. Currently TAF has 63 CSO members.



What are the types of membership?

There are three categories of membership with the following description:

Full membership:

- Granted to umbrella organizations and national organizations¹.
- Have voting rights and rights to be voted for.
- Has to submit along side their application the list of their members (if network) before approval of membership.
- Has to pay an annual subscription fee of TZS 200,000 until when it may be revised.

Associate member:

- These are organizations smaller in scope or covering less than a region.
- Pay annual fee of TZS. 50,000 until when it will be reviewed.
- Has the right to participate in all forum activities except voting.

Honorary member:

- Granted to non-public institutions or individuals who have been supporting the forum and such support is recognized to be unconditional.
- The membership will be for a period of two years and renewed by the general assembly if the respective institution is still interested in the business of the forum.
- Provide a neutral role during voting.
- Run the election of the board of directors.

Where are the current members?

TAF members are currently in eleven regions of Tanzania. More members however are in Dar es Salaam than other regions. The implementation of TAF strategy on decentralization will immeasurably improve the coverage.

What are the results to date?

The Forum has done a number of activities in advocacy at national and international levels in making sure that goals and objectives are reached these includes:-

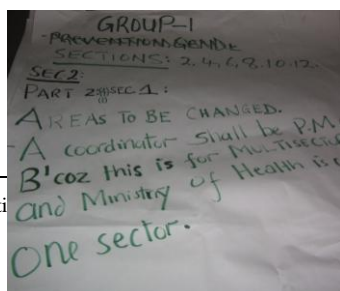
1. Facilitating learning and sharing knowledge, lessons and experience among members at community, national and international levels

- During the Annual General Assembly (AGM) brings together all members, development partners and stakeholders to share information, experience and lessons.
- These year a number of sessions were held, members had opportunities to Learning different approaches for mainstreaming HIV and AIDS, Gender, budget tracking etc. including the dissemination of research results.



2008 annual general assembly and selection of chair and board members

2. Facilitating high-level engagement in policy and legal process related to social, cultural and economic issues



- TAF mobilises a number of consultative meetings, these meetings include:
 - Coordinated the development of a technical paper on the review processes of National Strategic Framework 2008-2012, the inputs were submitted to TACAIDS as

¹ National CSO operating on a region or more as per TAF proposal for establishment

well as participating in the launching of the new NMSF 2008 – 2012 in Dodoma.

- TAF coordinated the input from over seventy CSOs (70) into the AIDS Bill, which has now been passed into law. The technical paper used was developed by TAF members and compiled by TAF secretariat which was later parliamentary HIV and AIDS committee during the public hearing and it was used as a resource by other actors including TACAIDS, Parliamentary Hearing and Foundation For Civil Society to mention a few.
- Technical input on condom programming, during the assessment and presentation of condom monitoring and evaluation reports. The research was done by TACAIDS in Dar es Salaam;
- On the platform of the “Commonwealth people’s forum”, TAF represented the CSOs, where a number of concurrent sessions were held including health, human rights, HIV, and leadership for transformation. The theme was “*Realizing Peoples Potential*”. The forum addressed the need for CSOs to network and advocate with one voice. This forum was an advocacy effort and was initiated to ensure the voices of CSOs were heard.
- TAF managed to joins advocacy campaigns with international communities by holding a candle light Memorial Day, which was held at the TGNP grounds, served as a significant event that puts the advocacy for equal opportunities among PLHIV living in rural Tanzania into the scene. That effort hoped to bring free treatment to opportunistic diseases among PLHIV. The event. Honourable Lucy Nkya from the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children opened the day.
- TAF is a member of Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS Service Organisation (EANNASO) which is the regional network of CSOs fighting HIV and AIDS in Eastern Africa, and set to reach the global stage on behalf of its members, build capacity, technical support and guidelines on member networking , the forum was involved in mobilization of resources , advocating for space for CSOs, universal assess monitoring and Advocacy
- With support from UN, TAF had developed a three years strategic plan from 2009 – 2011 and website.
- TAF has also been active in following up the Tanzania HIV and AIDS budget, advocating for proper budget allocation, and analysis of the budget as well as tracking of the budget expenditure as a way of holding the government accountable and implementation of Joint Assistance Strategy for Tanzania (JAST)

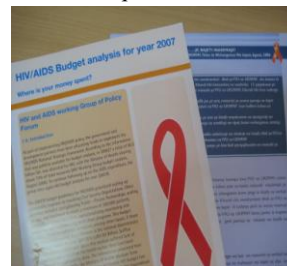
This includes:

- As part of the effort in making policy work and deepening democracy and accountability. TAF managed to undertake an analysis of the progress of HIV infection, and trend of funding in the country. A presentation was given to the members of parliament. (HIV and AIDS committee) The discussions focused on HIV Funding, Provision of Services, as well as issues on prevention, analysis done Action aid, Human Development Trust (HDT), Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) and CONCERN worldwide, and HIV working group.



Strengthening of relationship between parliament and Civil society organizations

- Money flows and policy priorities should be monitored at all points of the expenditure chain. In honoring the responsibilities of the CSOs, TAF and the working group of the policy forum, most of whom are TAF members, continued following up on the HIV and AID's expenditure and budget analysis that were done in 2006 and 2007.



3. Capacity building to members

Capacity building takes several forms, and determined from time to time. It may however, take the form of linking member organizations with funding opportunities, organizational development, HIV&AIDS programming, advocacy, information on action research, Training etc. Through the Secretariat, the forum links members with institutions undertaking capacity building these include institution like Tanzania Gender Networking Programme and Research on Poverty Alleviation which provided training to members on Public Budget Tracking and expenditure, Gender, and gender budgeting.

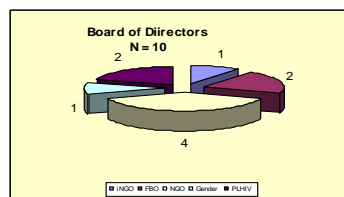
4. Provide a conducive atmosphere that will facilitate appropriate coordination and linkage among CSOs

In the process of enhancing networking and coordination of CSOs working in the area of HIV&AIDS to have a strong one voice, TAF organized a meeting with a number of CSOs to agree on engagements which include:

- Recently, the government has been working in collaboration with several stakeholders to operationalise the new dialogue structure with HIV and AIDS as being one of the thematic areas in organizing its working structures. During this dialogue, new committees were established in line with the NMSF 2008 – 2010, CSOs representation is needed, therefore TAF organised a meeting to bring together CSOs and agree on effective models for CSO engagement in the new dialogue structure including selection of representatives
- Coordinated and mobilized a selection of TNCM NGO representatives, whereby TAF has two representatives and two alternates from HDT and TAWG working closely with TANGO, TACOSODE, and TYC to coordinate and provide an enabling environment for CSOs participation and engagement.

TAF LEADERSHIP

Tanzania AIDS Forum usually holds a yearly general assembly, which is the overall decision maker. The AGM appoints the board of directors every two years and they are entitled to hold a position for four consecutive years. The directors are selected from six (6) major groups namely NGOs, PLHIV, Gender, INGOs, FBOs



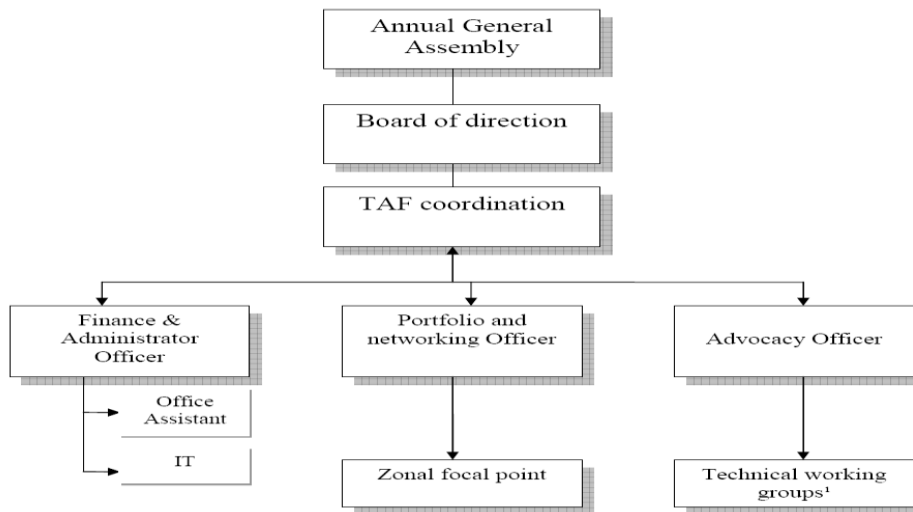
Currently the board of directors are from the following organisations:

HDT, CHAWATA, TNW+, NETWO+, TANOPHA, CONCERN, BWAKWATA, and TANESA.

The Secretariat of TAF

The secretariat is no longer hosted by Human Development Trust, but rather having its office with a support of one full time staff for coordination of programmes.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE



OUR PARTNERS

TAF believes in working together with other partners to influence policy and maximize the outcome of the work. Currently is member of EANNASO and receive receives grant from UNAIDS, TACAIDS, HDT, Concern Worldwide, Oxfam, CADRE, ICASO and Members Fee.

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