



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

PROJECT TITLE: MONITORING CHILD RIGHTS IN PSSN-II project
FUNDED BY THE WORLD BANK IN ARUSHA

ORGANIZATION: FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
AND CAMPAIGN AGAINST POVERTY-ARUSHA

LOCATION: ARUSHA, TANZANIA

DURATION: JUNE-DECEMBER, 2020



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

1. INTRODUCTION

FEMAPO and the Bank Information Center have been working together to improve the welfare of communities affected by World Bank Funded projects in Tanzania since 2016. Currently BIC and FEMAPO are working on monitoring a World Bank Funded project, the Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net ([PSSN-II](#)) in Arusha, to monitor stakeholder engagement and child rights. The Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN-II) aims at reaching out to vulnerable groups of Tanzanians who are living in extreme poverty. Therefore BIC and FEMAPO focused on monitoring to what extent the implementation of the PSSN-II has observed and respected child rights and children who are involved and benefiting from the project. Under the PSSN-II project the World bank has committed 450 million dollars to support the project. The project implementing agency is Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF which is a government agency responsible for the implementation of the PSSN-II project.

The overall objective of the PSSN-II project in Tanzania is to improve access to income-earning opportunities and socio-economic services for targeted poor households while enhancing and protecting the human capital of their children and supporting community socio-economic advancement. The



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

project operates through cash transfers to poor households and supporting public works with the community where the PSSN-II project is operating.

Even though our initial findings from this project indicate that the PSSN-II project has benefited children in extreme poverty in Arusha and other regions in Tanzania. There is still a need for children to be more involved as key stakeholders and to be given a chance to contribute their ideas in shaping the PSSN-II project. This can make it more child focused and address the challenging needs of children in the communities.

The PSSN-II project has not consulted or involved child rights CSOs in the Arusha region which could have served as an alternative pathway for consideration of child rights in the PSSN-II Project in the city. FEMAPO and BIC engaged with TASAF and the World Bank around the PSSN-II to help the implementing agency consider and include the child perspective in the project implementation.

2. ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES

1. Conducted direct consultations with TASAF officials at district and ward levels in Arusha to advocate for the inclusion of children and child rights in the implementation of new PSSN-II project

The PSSN-II project is implemented by the TASAF officials at district and ward levels, who are government employees that have been assigned



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

additional tasks to handle the implementation of PSSN-II project. FEMAPO was able to visit and have a meeting with the Arusha TASAF Coordinator at her office and engaged in a discussion regarding the implementation of the PSSN-II project in the city and to what extent child rights are put into consideration. The TASAF official said that children are given a high priority as project beneficiaries in PSSN-II. Households with children attending school are given additional cash to support those efforts. For TASAF officials, this is an indication that the project puts into consideration child rights. But during discussions, the TASAF official admitted they are not considering children as key stakeholders of the project and as a group to be consulted in order for their opinions to be included into the implementation or design of the project. FEMAPO is interested to see that there is a child-friendly safe mechanism for the PSSN-II project to involve children, especially adolescents (ages 13-17 years), that can provide their sole informed opinion on how the PSSN-II project could positively impact and benefit adolescents and children's lives.

Although stakeholder's engagement for the PSSN-II project has been delayed as a result of the general elections, from our conversations with TASAF officials at ward and district levels we were able to conclude that CSOs generally are not being consulted as key stakeholders for this project. During the conversations, FEMAPO emphasized the importance of CSOs to be involved as key stakeholders in the design and implementation of the



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

PSSN-II project at the district and ward levels. FEMAPO emphasized that CSOs working on child rights should be consulted to get their opinion on how child rights can be incorporated into the PSSN-II project design and implementation.

2. Conduct regular media consultations to create awareness on child rights and engagement in the PSSN-II project

FEMAPO monitored this project during the outbreak of the COVID-19 and followed the standard operating procedures to protect the community and ourselves from COVID-19. FEMAPO conducted several media interviews to create awareness on child rights to the communities and other child rights CSOs. Media can be an instrumental tool in shaping the opinion of communities towards upholding child rights and protecting the interests of children in World Bank funded projects. FEMAPO also visited local government officials at the district and ward level in Arusha to assess their level of awareness of child rights and child protection issues in the communities. BIC and FEMAPO are also advocating for the TASAF to take into account child rights/protection awareness raising during TASAF training with communities, TASAF staff, and other stakeholders. This will increase the level of awareness of community members and local leaders on child rights. FEMAPO disseminated education materials on child rights with CSOs, local leaders and community members. However, the language became a major barrier as most of the community members are Swahili speakers and they



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

would prefer the education materials to be printed in Swahili language instead of English.

3. Conducted online meeting between PSSN-II Team Leaders from the World Bank, FEMAPO, and BIC

FEMAPO, in collaboration with BIC, scheduled an online meeting with the World Bank Task Team leader on the PSSN-II project to share our initial findings and recommendations regarding our monitoring project on child rights in the PSSN-II project within the Arusha region and Tanzania. FEMAPO and BIC also presented a list of Child rights CSOs from different regions in Tanzania that are interested to be consulted during the PSSN-II project consultative processes and throughout implementation. The PSSN-II project team lead also agreed to link FEMAPO and BIC to the National level team for continued consultation and engagement towards the implementation of PSSN-II project in Tanzania.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

After having made consultative meetings with community members in the project areas (TASAF officials at district and ward levels, local leaders in Arusha), and having held online meetings with TASAF Team Leads at the World Bank, FEMAPO recommends the following actions in order to consider child rights in project implementation:



FEMAPO
P.O Box 16094
Arusha
Tanzania

E-mail: Info@femapo.org
Phone: +255765346970
Web: www.femapo.org

1. Include child rights and other CSOs in the consultative process of the PSSN-II project and involve adolescents 13-17 years as stakeholders into the PSSN-II project stakeholders engagement process in a safe manner. In this way, TASAF will look to increase adolescents and children's voices in the PSSN-II project in a way that their needs and interests are considered in project design and implementation. Documents should be drafted in a child-friendly manner and written in Kiswahili as well as English for these activities.
2. Facilitate trainings for project workers on child sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) prevention and integrate information on preventing child SEA into the awareness raising component.
3. Establish a child-friendly referral mechanism for children to raise SEA complaints to the grievance redress mechanism (GRM).
4. Maintain an open line of communication with CSOs in order to receive regular feedback on project progress. The World Bank and TASAF agency should conduct regular meetings with the child rights CSOs to get updates on project implementation and the protection of children.