

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD (IDAC) JUNE 16, 2025



Theme of the day:

‘Plans and Challenges in Access to Basic Rights for all Children especially those living in extreme poverty’.



“African child day, I want to see myself”
- Street Library children from Tandale neighborhood June 2025.

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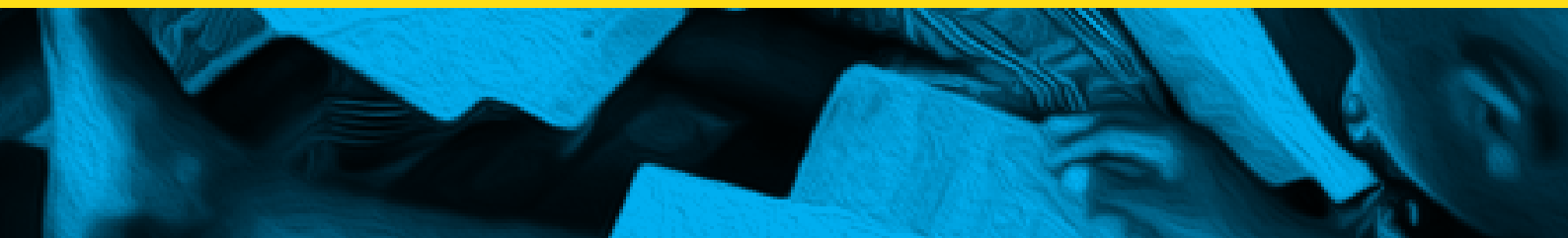


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Abbreviations

IDAC	– The International Day of the African Child
ATD	– All Together in Dignity
NGO	– Non – Government Organization
HDP	– Hidden Dimensions of Poverty
STL	– Street Library program
UNICEF	– United Nations International Children's Fund.
CRC	– Convention on the rights of the child
UN	– United Nations
SDG's	– Sustainable Development Goals
ILO	– International Labour Organization
NFYDP	– National Five – Year Development Plan
TASAF	– Tanzania Social Action Fund
FEP	– Free Education Policy
RITA	– Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency
ECD	– Early Childhood Development
TECDEN	– Tanzania Early Childhood Development Network
CSO	– Civil Society Organization
URT	– United Republic of Tanzania
CRIN	– Child Rights International Network
RMNCAH-N	– Reproductive, Material, Newborn, Child, Adolescence, Health and Nutrition
ACRWC	– The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

Glossary

Fourth World people

- People living in extreme poverty who are left behind or forgotten.

Mbumbumbu

- A fool or an ignorant person.

Swahili

- An International language originating from Tanzania and East Africa.

TUKI

- An institution for Swahili language research at the University of Dar es Salaam Tanzania.

“African child day, I want to see myself”

- A slogan from the Street Library children inaugurated during the celebration of IDAC June 16, 2025.

MMEM

- A special program for primary school education development

Acknowledgement

On behalf of the International Movement ATD Fourth World Tanzania, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Kinondoni Municipal district director office for accepting our call to be the guest of honor in the commemoration. Furthermore, we appreciate the financial support from Anna Mbise Pan Africa Mobile Library and Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC).

In addition, we genuinely admire the strong cooperation and participation of the following non-government organizations (NGOs) during the whole process of organizing the celebration as follows: UBONGO kids, Help2kids, Tanzania Youths Behavioral Change Organization (TAYOBECO), No Limit Foundation.

Furthermore, with the deepest appreciation we thank the solid participation and commitment of the Fourth World families, Activists of ATD Tanzania, Allies and friends of the Movement who gave their time and thoughts in the organization of the commemoration and morally supported the National secretariat of the Movement ATD Tanzania.

Lastly the national delegation thanks the preparatory committee for this year 2025 and the rigorous input of the young people of the Movement who were involved in all aspects of this committee to prepare the commemoration.

Executive Summary

The preparation of the commemoration commenced at the beginning of February 2025, whereby the Tanzania national delegation formed the preparatory committee to organize the entire celebration together with the ATD volunteer corps. We succeeded in producing the concept note of the celebration which aligned with the international theme of IDAC 2025 and with the hindrances encountered by vulnerable children from the families living in extreme poverty in accessing their basic rights.

The committee of preparation prioritized the living experiences of the Fourth World families and the chronic challenges which the children are passing through to acquire their rights. And it brought together the knowledge of the different clusters of people in the community to produce a document which carries the reality of the fights against extreme poverty. It unveils the position of the children from families living in poverty in accessing basic rights.

We did several consultations with different partners from NGOs, government authorities, Allies and friends of the Movement to exchange our thoughts for the celebration with them. The purpose of this initiative was to air out the hidden reality of the families and their children in accessing their rights in general.

In the introduction we spoke about the pull and push factors that led the committee to come up with this theme of the day and we enumerated the groups involved in the presentation of the message to the audience during the commemoration.

The report merges the dynamics of thoughts from the audience which were shared among themselves during the event in different programs which were held at the hall. Several activities took place for example: children dialogues, parents' debates, NGO partner discussions and the presentation of the hidden dimensions of poverty (HDP) by the ATD research team in Tanzania. Also, the children performed several artistic entertainments to present their message - linked with the theme of the day - to the audience.

In addition, all the groups gathered had an opportunity to produce their recommendations based on the experiential knowledge shared by the parents and the children living in poverty. The recommendations stimulate the beginning of a new epoch, strengthening grassroots advocacy and welcoming all people committed to working with the families in finding solutions to the challenges described during the event.

We had time to listen to the speech of the guest of honor who pledged to work together with ATD Fourth World to find solutions to the critical issues raised by the audience on the question of access to basic rights for all children. Also, she spoke about the implementation of some policies at the grassroots level and the participation of different groups to bring about community development.

We concluded the celebration by pointing out common agreements on the issues shared by the audience, as follows: To form the grassroot advocacy platform which will consist of several people from different walks of life in order to advocate for the rights of all children in acquisition of their basic rights; Working together with the local and district authorities in tackling the challenges which result from the implementation of policies in the community; the continued work of ATD creating awareness in the community about the question of participation of the people living in poverty in policy making and evaluation and to embrace the experiential knowledge of the people living in poverty to lead the fight against extreme poverty in all its forms.

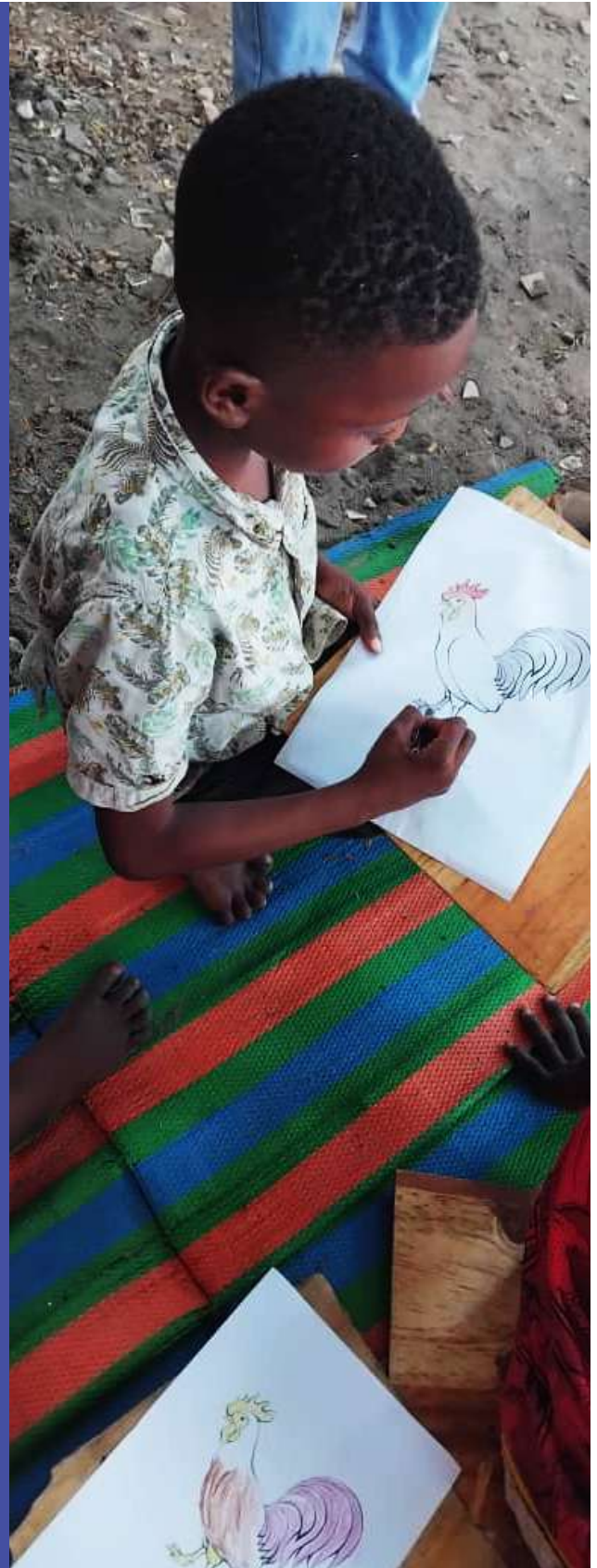
Introduction

"AFRICAN CHILD DAY, I want to see myself". We commenced with this slogan which was proposed by the children and the parents from the families living in extreme poverty from the neighborhoods in which we have a regular presence. The children living in poverty are passing through great difficulties accessing the same basic rights as other children. Due to our regular presence at the Street Library grounds in the slum of Tandale we observed for ourselves the challenges that the children shared on this day, including violences, social discrimination and institutional maltreatment.

The children living in extreme poverty are intelligent and know what they want for their life in the future. They understand the need for a community which respects the rights and welfare of all people. Thanks to the program of the Street Library, they engage in artistic activities, for example, drawing, theater performance, poetry and songs. This helps the children develop their curiosity and understand the many ways of portraying their message to the community. This led to the aspiration to communicate with the community and authorities to air out their intimate grievances about their daily suffering due to the claws of poverty.

When we formed the national committee for the organization of the IDAC June 16 commemoration, the organizers spent several periods interacting with the children living in extreme poverty from the neighborhoods of Tandale and other groups of children from the places of Tegeta, Kunduchi, Boko and Madale.

Due to our regular interaction with children, we have heard most of them speak about punishment and discrimination which results in psychological trauma while at school. Some of the children living in poverty and passing through several adverse life-experiences, which led them to have bad academic performance, are usually named as "MBUMBUMBU". According to the TUKI Swahili dictionary this word means a fool or an ignorant person.





Also, they said that they usually experience some punishment when their parents fail to offer some contribution at school, especially the question of meals, stationery, etc. This has brought difficulties to some families living in poverty where the teachers sometimes perceive them as irresponsible parents by failing to provide these needs for their children.

The children spoke about the challenges they encounter to access good health and the difficulty getting the insurance for their treatment. All these services need to be paid for and in some of the families living in extreme poverty, who are living in extended families, the parents fail to meet all the costs for their children. Hence, they do not have security for their health and find themselves suffering regularly from illnesses and fevers, without effective cures, as they cannot afford the costs to get good health services.

Regarding discrimination on a social basis, the children unveiled how some people maltreat them due to the reality they live every day. Poverty is a mess which can cut off your relationship with others and in turn it might bring a demarcation line between people. These circumstances are where we see the loss of dignity among the people living in poverty as they might no longer be regarded as human beings and not receive the same respect as others. Some children in the slum areas have even been forbidden to play and interact with vulnerable children and those who live in the street because the parents and dwellers think that the street children have bad manners. To stop the children mixing is thought to be a way to rescue them from immorality and behavioral change.

The groups of children from orphanage centers claimed they would not be given a chance to obtain their rights to health and social recognition. These children have no parental details, which leads many of them to fail to get their social rights, for example birth certificates and health insurance. This topic was first raised by the Nuru orphanage center from Mbeya region in 2024 and it has been repeated this year.

Violence is one of the chronic hindrances to Fourth World children and other children from families living in extreme poverty. The children from the places in which we have regular presence have shared with the committee the physical punishment and attacks at their neighborhoods by their own family members and other dwellers, which has led them to be anxious in their own homes.

Children living in the street are vulnerable and have been victims of sexual violence from adult people, as most of them have no shelter and they sleep outside. Beyond that, some people have been convincing the young children by giving them some gifts and meals as an exchange to fulfill their sexual needs.

Children spoke about the need to be listened to and respected when they express their dreams, thoughts and ideas to their fellow children, parents and the people living around them. These are crucial rights, and yet, for the vulnerable ones, these rights are not yet real. This damages their rights to childhood. Children participating in Street Library programs have nurtured a wish to share their own thoughts and have developed this courage to speak on behalf of other children too. For them they believe childhood is to allow a child to fully experience all his/her rights and exclude all forms of oppression and discrimination in the community. STL programs provide a fair and open ground to lead children from families living in poverty to meet with others and share their thoughts and celebrate their childhood together.

The committee organized the questionnaire forms with simple questions for the children and the parents to get the hidden reality of their daily experiences. Also, with a few children, the committee managed to carry out short interviews and discussions to understand their lives in depth. Due to all these realities coming out, we as a Movement, with the families living in extreme poverty, decided to speak about the access of basic rights to all children. But our focal point and emphasis was the children from the families living in poverty since poverty itself is a violation of Human Rights.

The founder of the International ATD Fourth World Movement Fr. Joseph Wrensiscki said that “Whenever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty.” This year’s IDAC theme also identifies the acquisition of human rights as part of the fight against poverty and asks for equitable conditions for all children in accessing their basic rights.

After analyzing the responses to all the questionnaire papers from parents and children we came to a consensus for the chosen theme for the year 2025 as follows: ‘Plans and challenges in access to basic rights for all children, especially those living in extreme poverty.’ Through this slogan the children were to see the end of all forms of exclusion, oppression, injustice and poverty among the vulnerable children which hinder them from being granted the same basic rights as other children. Also, this theme will raise awareness in the community and amongst the authorities to promote the participation of the children in their affairs and lead the community development where everyone will be respected and restore the dignity of one to another.

Main Body



Audience Participation: Children's Views



The message of the children from the families living in extreme poverty was portrayed through artistic performances such as theater, poetry and poems, songs, speeches and dialogues as follows.

In the dialogues the children spoke about the challenge of family separation: most of the families are raised by a single parent, often the mother (knowledge acquired through ATD's regular presence in the neighborhoods). This situation is truly unfavorable for children as one parent alone usually fails to afford the family needs for children. The result of this is that the Fourth World children remain furthest behind to get many of their basic rights, including those of going to school.

Children spoke about the right to nutrition whereby the children from families living in poverty unveil the difficulties of acquiring three meals per day, hence becoming a hindrance for physical growth and brain development which directly affects their academic progress. Children shared this strong message with audiences and shared their testimonies of their daily experience of this subject.

Difficulty accessing public transport to go to school was addressed. Some children go to schools which are very far from their residence, and they regularly suffer from exclusion while on the way to school. Children mentioned the minibus conductors who do not want them to get on the buses because their transport fare is very little compared with the adults. Hence, they prefer adults over them. This act leads the students to arrive very late at school and late back home during the night. The act turns out to have very serious consequences, especially for young girls who are vulnerable to other kinds of violence, for example sexual maltreatment at night, losing comfort and peace of mind and lacking rest when arriving home. This challenge exists among many children who attend distant public schools but the impact of it is very different. To the disadvantaged children it turns out to be worse than other groups of children, that is why they revealed it to the audience to seek the solution together.





One young daughter aged 14 years old shared her experience: she said that “Children in poverty have no privacy because we sleep together with our mother in one square room and we are four children.” This testimony was powerful to the audience and even led other adults to share the difficulties they face in living together with children in the small rooms because they cannot afford to rent big houses or to build their own. From this description it is clear that poverty corrupts the rights of children to enjoy their childhood and privacy but also it may create the possibility of violences. For example, in many families living in the slums where children have no good shelters, rape cases and sexual maltreatment have been reported. Children living in poverty are unwilling victims of this situation which leads to psychological damage and trauma.

Severe punishments for children may lead to dropouts and create distance and mistrust between a child and a teacher. This treatment affects all children, but for children in extreme poverty it becomes worse, because they accumulate their daily sufferings with unintentional “wrongdoings” which lead them to be punished, for example getting late to school, bad academic progress, failing to pay examination fees and other related contributions. The vulnerable children spoke about this situation openly with the audience to seek relief from this treatment. Poverty and its dynamics remain poorly understood by many people in the community. The act of opening regular meetings between the head teachers and the parents might lead all of them to have greater understanding and eliminate unfair treatment of children, which would pave a way to accessing the right to education without leaving anyone behind as explained in SDGs.

Children spoke about indecent jobs which their parents are doing to meet the needs of their family as well as school needs. This was a strong commitment, regardless of the kind of job which the parents are doing, even if they are not safe for their health, they have hopes to earn for their families. The children were proud of the initiatives of their parents despite the community perceiving people living in poverty as lazy and untrustworthy. This is false, and it is not acceptable for the community to continue to embrace this fallacy which deteriorates the fight against poverty. When we acknowledge the role of each and every person in bringing equitable conditions and development for all, we must allow the community to see the strength and the willingness of the people living in poverty to dare to take deliberate measures to eradicate poverty. The community itself must build the environment to allow everyone access to decent work and respect for the sustainable development of our communities.

The children want the preservation of their basic rights as it is also explained by the UN through UNICEF under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which encompasses the key areas of children's rights as follows; rights to education, protection, health, participation, good standard of living etc. During the commemoration they said that they have their dreams, and they need to accomplish them for the betterment of themselves and their families. On the other hand, when the whole community becomes aware of these rights, all children will enjoy their childhood, and it will mark the new underpinning of the fight against extreme poverty and exclusion in our communities.



Message from the parents during the Panel Discussion

Parents raised the challenge of income poverty among the Fourth World families which resulted in failing to pay the school contributions and even meet some basic needs of their children. Parents were very honest in showing the audiences their daily initiatives to raise their earnings and participate in the academic welfare of their children despite the chronic challenges they face at their work sites, for example, bad working conditions, low income per day, violence and discrimination based on gender, etc. According to ILO, in this kind of work the workers' rights, safety and dignity are compromised. The large group of people living in extreme poverty are the ones who are suffering the impacts of these conditions. Due to this, the acquisition of other basic rights to them and their children becomes impossible. The growth of income poverty gives a threat to the attainment of the SDGs and the National Five-Year Development Plan (2021/22-2025/26). In NFYDP the essential aspect of sustainable development has been described to balance economic growth with environmental protection and social equity for all.

The parents from the slum neighborhoods spoke about the increase of the number of children living in the street which leads them to miss their basic rights and become vulnerable to the violence by other members of the community. The parents spoke about their worries about the future of these children, because in the implementation of the development goals from the grassroots, they are not reached by the authorities and other stakeholders, to address their specific needs. Also, it seems to be very important to build a conducive environment to give the chance to those with direct experience of living in the street, to participate in forming strategies for the eradication of this challenge, and to opt for possible solutions to build a community without street children and ensure all the rights of the children are preserved without leaving anyone behind.

Regarding financial contributions in schools, the education policy of Tanzania describes the financial participation of parents and schools. Hence during the commemoration, the parents were wondering about the large number of different contributions that are demanded for academic activities and programs of their children, which leads to the punishment of children when a parent fails to pay that contribution.



This was a cry from the families to the guest of honor, and the government authorities, to think seriously about the proper implementation of the policies and the school program. Despite the increase in the number of students registered since the Government started to implement the FEP, this is not enough. We need to build the environment to make sure that those who are registered in school do not drop out of their studies, and to make sure that we do deliberate measures to reach the children the furthest behind, who, under this policy implementation, cannot access their basic Children's Right to school.

People living in poverty asked the government to recognise those living in abject poverty and to support their initiatives to overcome it. The majority raised the challenges they face regarding engaging in income activities for which they seek financial support, from the local government authorities, and through the program of TASAF, to support their ambitions towards economic liberation. One parent said that "We need the financial support and the right conditions to allow us to create work, for the benefit of our families and be able to send our children to school and even to university. But this remains a dream if we cannot manage to run any businesses, and results in us being beggars and obliged to do demeaning work just to earn the minimum for our family's most basic needs."

Parents are not satisfied with some social perceptions of their children. If a child fails to bring the contribution (stationary, exam fees, etc.) to school, this leads them to be punished by teachers, as the community at large thinks that the children are responsible for what happened. In fact, the parents said that anything concerning the welfare of their children is their responsibility. It brings psychological trauma to the children by being perceived negatively by others. Being punished might lead vulnerable children to hate their studies and lead to dropping out as well. A school must be friendly to allow the children to feel a part of the whole environment and to build confidence to learn, develop curiosity and share knowledge with one another.

ngamoto kufikia haki za msingi
hususani wale wanaoishi katika
masikini uliokithiri"

uri ya
oni

Ukum purpose

AREHE : 21
5 ASUBUHI



Maarifa ni Mta

Leno la Maktaba: Kuchoea mabadiliko ya
kijajili na kiutamaduni kwa kupitia usomaji na
vitabu na mijiada mbalimbali.

Kazi za Maktaba:

- Kuazimisha vitabu vya
- Kuhamasisha usomaji
mbalimbali
- Kutoa ushauri na
waandhishi
- Kuwezesha u
vya maarifa y
- Kutangaza kazi

• Kukuza na kuendelea
vitabu

• Kukuza UTU, Umajum

• Jamii mbalimbali za

• Kukuza na kuitan

• Rahili ki

Message from the NGO Partners during the Commemoration

The representatives of the non-government organizations shared thoughts that were very relevant to the question of participation, and the gap of policy implementation at the grassroots levels. They identified that there are weaknesses which lead to less participation of people from all walks of life, which is needed to develop the community for everyone. As most of these NGOs have a regular presence with groups from the bottom level, they were referring to, and using, experiential knowledge to present their thoughts to the audience. For example, they used the qualitative method to show the existing gap between the local people and the authorities in understating the implementation of policies, whereby there is no rigorous involvement of all people and those who do not know how to read and write are completely left behind.

The NGOs recognize the contribution of parents from families living in extreme poverty to support their children to acquire their basic rights. The representatives were against the false beliefs about families in poverty which exist among a few groups of people in the community, even some people in the authorities. They showed the instances of the parents who commit themselves to engage in indecent work with very low earnings and knowingly risk their safety to get legal income to supply the family needs, treatments and meet the school demands for their children. One partner spoke of her experience working with women from the informal sector and she explained that regardless of the trauma, maltreatment, and violence, most of the women and even the men have never escaped their duties as parents to their children. They participate fully for the welfare of their families.

The representatives spoke about the group of disabled children from disadvantaged families and the importance of development strategies to show how they will bring direct impacts to these children and ensure that the development visions for the country prioritize all groups of the children in the community, including those with handicaps.



They said there is a need for sensitisation campaigns amongst local people and children, about the basic rights of all children and how to claim them for those children who have lost theirs. In their presentation they said that, “There are several people and children who are not aware of the basic rights of their children which leads to the easy violation of their rights”. For example, the rights to birth registration and acquiring the legal documents, security, food, good health, etc. Recently we observed that some people are still struggling with birth certificate issues despite the initiatives and deliberate measures which the government, through its institutions like RITA, have made. In fact, the challenge still exists, hence the majority are still in demand for documents. Therefore, the members thought having the sensitization campaign to all might be the best means to curb the problem and restore the rights and dignity of all children, especially those living in extreme poverty.

Children get enrolled in school late. One woman from the local women's organization offered an example of the situation whereby the parents live in extreme poverty and have no permanent job which could earn enough for the family. This situation causes the children to stay at home for a long time waiting for the parents to produce some money to register them to school. This scenario led most of the vulnerable children to only join formal school when they are older, which results in a lack of self-confidence and failure to realize their innate potential to learn, like others, and to celebrate their childhood. In 2021 ATD Tanzania did an evaluation of the 20 years of the running of the Street Library program (STL) in the slums of Tandale. Many parents who experienced extreme poverty mentioned the same challenge as has been explained here. Also, they went further, and they said that this scenario also caused child labor as children are registered for school too late, and so they engage in economic activities to earn for themselves and their families. What is more, this situation allows the continuation of the circle of poverty in the community and leads to many innocent children becoming victims of the claws of extreme poverty and losing their rights and dignity.

A young child with short, dark hair is sitting on the ground, focused on drawing a rooster on a piece of paper. The child is wearing a patterned shirt. The background is a dry, dusty ground with some scattered debris. The entire image has a warm, yellowish tint. A dark, semi-transparent rectangular box is overlaid on the bottom left, containing the word 'Recommendations' in white text, preceded by a vertical blue bar.

Recommendations



The basic rights of all children should be a service which is given, and accessible to all equally, and not being sold like a commodity. This was reiterated by the older children who have experienced adverse life experiences through poverty coupled with the pain of losing their basic rights because they have experienced discrimination from their neighborhood. For example, they spoke about the right to schools with better facilities for teaching all children, and access to good health, security, nutrition, clean water, as well as being listened to, and participating in the neighborhoods and in school on the issues which interest them. The goal is to make sure that their voices are heard, and that they can do advocacy for their own rights, with the involvement of others, which could result in community development and the future progress of all children.

There is a need to conduct the regular reviewing of policies and influence the strong participation of all groups of people in the community, in order to run an extensive evaluation of their implementation in the community. The regular assessment of policies will allow the government to understand the areas of weakness, and to improve the strategies to bring intensive participation which will result in efficient solutions for the chronic impediments among the people living in extreme poverty. Also, these evaluations will enable the government to ameliorate the implementation of (TASAF) and other strategic development plans and priorities, for example (FYDP III) and the Tanzania development vision.

To build a conducive environment for all children to access the right to pre-primary education through the role of Tanzania early childhood development network (TECDEN). This network affects the policy for early childhood education, hence its functioning efficiently, and recognizing the vulnerable children left behind, will allow those children to access the right to school.

It also appeals to the government to improve the infrastructure and investment in early childhood education for all, without leaving the disadvantaged children behind. In addition, it is necessary to involve other partners like those working in Early Childhood Development (ECD), and community members, to ensure the participation of all potential stakeholders.

The directors of children's desks from district levels should work together with the bottom authorities to support children from families living in extreme poverty to access their basic rights and those of the children living in the street. This coalition will bring rigorous participation of the families which might result in the reaching of many people who are furthest behind in acquiring their rights.

The children's councils - formed by the government at the municipality, which aim to promote child participation in local governance and decision-making processes - should involve the Fourth World children to discover the adverse life conditions and events they are passing through daily. This act of acknowledging and prioritizing them will enable the directors at the municipalities and the local government authorities to get familiar with the problems of the families living in extreme poverty. Also, they will be an important partner with whom to lead the fight against extreme poverty.

We must lead the advocacy from the grassroots level by involving the people living in extreme poverty and allowing them to share their experiential knowledge with other members of the community in order to combat poverty together. The ATD Movement has done research on the field of poverty through the intensive participation of different clusters of people in the community and the results have been different from other organizations' findings. The most important finding was about the hidden realities of the people living in poverty, which helped the organization to understand the dynamics of poverty, and afterwards to think together with the people living in poverty how to eradicate extreme poverty together. Therefore, the use of this method of intensive participation might bring more positive impacts towards the accessibility of basic rights for children and the prosperity of the entire community.





The Ward education officer should ameliorate the program of MEM to the students who delayed commencing their studies, by launching several meetings with school principals and local authorities who govern the grassroots people, to reach those children who lost their right to school. Furthermore, the national and local CSO's must prioritize the promotion of rights to children by maintaining their bottom level presence and organizing casual discussions with different groups of children to ensure that their priorities will have a direct impact on the community at large.

The government of United republic of Tanzania (URT) should build a conducive environment to support the international organizations which work on the field of child rights and welfare. In addition to involving the child rights international network (CRIN) to strengthen their activities promoting child rights programs with the local people, NGOs and individual stakeholders should create awareness about child rights. Furthermore, CRIN and UNICEF must focus on the setbacks for children living in poverty, especially those living in remote areas where their voice is difficult to hear or even be reached by the authorities.

The IDAC June 16 commemoration should be celebrated at the national level and build a sense of solidarity with community members in demanding the preservation of the rights of all children. During our celebration we were all astonished to realize that this day is still unknown to many people and results in the deterioration of the fight against the violation of child rights and violence. This day could be a unique platform to demand access to rights for all children and reflect together where we are and where we want to be in the future for the sake of helping our children flourish. Therefore, it is our solemn duty to bring this day to the community members, by promoting the commemoration of the International Day of the African Child, and encouraging them to participate during the celebration, to launch a remarkable range of advocacy for child rights from the bottom level to the national level.

The government, through the Ministry of Health, should make it easier for children living in extreme poverty and those who are living in orphanage centers to access health insurance to get health services. Furthermore, it should improve the national health program which focuses on reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, adolescence health and nutrition (RMNCAH-N), to reduce child mortality and improve their overall well-being, by scaling up essential health services and improving their quality. The amelioration of this program will reach remote children in rural areas and support the plan for emergency responses and health security which aims to protect children from outbreaks and other health threats.

The community should be strongly involved in finding a definitive solution to the challenge of street children in urban areas and towns. This should commence in local authorities in rural areas to identify the groups of vulnerable children who have no shelter, who are likely to move to town to find opportunities. In fact, when they come to towns, they become street children without homes, and they are likely to be maltreated by the people around them and others, far from where they used to live. The members of the community must also support these children in demanding their rights, including family reunion, attending special centers for childcare and orphanage centers. This is for those who have no parents or siblings and are in the street which endangers them with violence from older people. The African charter on the rights and welfare of the child (ACRWC) should conduct the evaluation with host countries and partners on the accessibility of basic rights to all children especially those living in extreme poverty. This will give a clear picture on setting regional and international priorities through the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and give a regional and international direction towards the access of basic rights for all children without leaving any child behind. Furthermore, to implement the SDGs in the host country and bring welfare to all communities around the World.







Conclusion

To sum up, the annual commemoration of The International Day of the African Child, June 16, should bring the output in the policies for child development and welfare by involving the children themselves, to speak about their own experiential knowledge and teach us what they are passing through in their daily life. The children must be the center of all the commemoration preparation and choose the topic which they want to address to the community and the world at large. Afterwards the government and other stakeholders should form strategies, to tackle those issues raised from the experience of the children and raise their ambition to build a new community whereby rights will be respected, and all children will prosper.

ATD Tanzania has had some success allowing the strong participation of the children in unveiling their adverse life experiences and making recommendations to the authorities, and Community in general, through the platform of the June 16 IDAC celebration annually. We honor the trust and respect which the children and their parents give the Movement to be able to participate again in this year's anniversary, especially by making the theme of the day relevant to the life of the Fourth World families. Our target was to commemorate the day in a way that will awaken a new spirit of advocacy for the rights of children from the grassroot level, with the intensive participation of all people in demanding access for basic rights to all children.

The national plans and development vision should focus sharply on children's welfare and increase the budget at the national assembly to develop children's programs, and projects with partners and local authorities, to ensure that all the children have equal chances to access their rights.



ATD
FOURTH WORLD

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**AGIR TOUS
POUR LA DIGNITÉ.**