



A YEAR AT MS TCDL 2021

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:



In this 2021 edition of our annual report, we are happy to bring you stories of change of how individuals, groups and networks applied their skills and shared knowledge that has transformed their lives. You will also enjoy reading up on how young people have positioned and engaged with their engaged civic institutions, governments, and international bodies, not only in East Africa but Africa as a whole. You will realise the transformative power of social movements and networks in delivering young people's agenda.

Firstly, the achievements of 2021 could have not been possible without our team of committed staff, associates, partners and stakeholders who contributed in various ways to improve the delivery and facilitation of courses, training, and research in an empowering learning culture that is conducive and applies participatory methodologies and approaches to make making learning fun and impactful.

The stage was set for TCDC to position itself as a key player not only in Arusha, Tanzania but in Africa as a pan-African centre for transformational social training, cutting-edge research on governance, engagement with young people, governments, and the captains of industry all anchored in the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA).

Building Forward Better¹, TCDC took the opportunity of the Covid-19 crisis to invest in digital infrastructure to enable blended digital learning and conferencing, considering the fact that training approaches and methodologies need to progressively be aligned to the new world order and the dictates of the Information Age.

TCDC successfully launched the Youth hub, a space to empower young people for change, create a voice for their participation and create ownership that would then enhance youth-led programs in Tanzania.

In 2021, we concluded and signed a hosting partnership agreement with the Global Platforms (GP). The GP is a strategic and unique space that connects young people for knowledge sharing, organising and taking action for transformative change.

TCDC will continue to play a capacity development role for ActionAid Denmark/ActionAid International Federation through her experience in delivering capacity building interventions through online and in-person platforms in the areas of, but not limited to the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA), Log Frame Approach to Programme Quality and Impact

Assessment, Development-Humanitarian Nexus, Civic Empowerment for Climate Action and Feminist Leadership.

Lastly, leadership at TCDC invested in newly forged partnerships with the East African Community (EAC), government agencies, the private sector, and CSOs. This created new frontiers for leveraging strategic joint programming for young people, joint resource mobilisation, shared synergies and better aligned to the local and regional context.

Looking forward, TCDC will collaborate with various partners to strengthen its contribution toward enhancing the capacity of young people in leadership, business, politics, and climate justice in East Africa, the continent and beyond.

¹A phrase which denotes the spirit and mindset guiding the institution in 2022 and beyond.



WORKING TO BRING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR TRANSFORMATION

MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC) is a Pan-African training centre, situated in Arusha, Tanzania, unique in our dedication to high-quality capacity development for social transformation. For more than 50 years, we have delivered high-quality capacity development to state and non-state actors to enhance their ability to influence and champion democratic governance, and equitable, sustainable, and transformative change.

MS TCDC offers academic programs and a range of professional courses, Swahili language training and cultural orientation. We deliver capacity development in areas such as governance, accountability, leadership, human rights, gender, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution as well as soft skills such as project planning and management and monitoring and evaluation.



HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO

We have used several adopted methods to develop this report:

As a learning organisation that aspires to keep ahead of the curve, we apply a raft of public administration and management tools to ensure client satisfaction, proactive troubleshooting, and staff optimisation. We are conscious of the fact that at the end of each service output or cycle, the three aspects (client satisfaction, institutional readiness, and staff capacity) are an integral whole that cannot be delivered in isolation. To this end, below are some of the tools we deploy:

Staff and Trainer Reflections

Oftentimes, as individuals leading and running organisations, we do not take time to understand how and what we are learning as individuals and organisations. Taking a moment to reflect and consider the work and effort one has put in to ensure a given deliverable has been designed and executed allows for introspection and appreciation of individual and collective efforts.

Client and learner experience and feedback

TCDC employs two ways of soliciting feedback on the learner and/or client experiences. One of them is post-course/post-training evaluations which are administered and computed across various measures. The second is in-depth interviews and video clip recordings. These allow the client to reflect on their interaction with TCDC from the onset through to the tail end of an engagement or activity.

Outcome harvesting

Beyond the day-to-day implementation of activities, and the periodical reports that are prepared for different sets of undertakings, the Centre is interested and invested in understanding the long term results of its interventions.

This is made possible through Outcome Harvesting. The process assesses changes in attitudes, behaviour, and practices, with a view to establishing the extent to which these variations can be attributed to interventions.

Industry benchmarking

TCDC is alive to the bustling ecosystem in which numerous governance- and social science-oriented players exist and operate. This realisation inspires us to keep an ear to the ground about trends, innovations, and new horizons that should be considered in our work. This is best done through regular industry benchmarking. It helps with defining good practice, while at the same time warning the Centre about potential pitfalls.



A woman with dark skin, glasses, and dreadlocks is speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a green ribbed top and a beaded bracelet. The background is a bright, outdoor setting with greenery and a white fence. A red banner with white text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

2021

IN REVIEW

FROM YOULEAD SUMMIT TO YOULEAD AFRICA PROGRAM

YouLead Africa is TCDC's flagship Youth Leadership Program working to unlock youth leadership potential for a prosperous continent by identifying, recognising, connecting and fostering cooperation among Africa's vibrant and influential young leaders and their initiatives. YouLead is a joint initiative of MS TCDC and the East African Community (EAC) in Arusha, Tanzania. H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, former President of Tanzania is YouLead Africa's current Patron.

The Africa Youth Leadership Program (YouLead) started out as the YouLead Summit in 2017. Approximately 200 young people from the six East African countries met and directly dialogued with regional and national policymakers within the EAC

region. They were able to hold their leaders and representatives accountable on youth centred policy changes at national and regional levels.

In 2019, to go beyond the routine conferencing event, the YouLead Secretariat created the YouLead Post-Summit Agenda (PSA), a proactive mechanism to ensure that the Summit's discussions continue well into the new calendar year. This leap ensured that YouLead ceased to be a mere Summit and graduated into an elaborate leadership development program of the East African Community.

Following continental demand for YouLead's youth engagement model to be extended to the continent, the year 2020 played a pivotal role in YouLead's growth and transformation. It marked the proliferation of the program from East Africa to the continent. YouLead Africa was presented to African youth as a Pan African platform that nurtures youth leadership in politics and business. In 2021, with the "Going Africa Agenda", YouLead worked at both regional and continental levels to amplify youth leadership and provide a platform for

youth engagement at the continental level through a network of partnerships. This lived up to the billing of making up a "One Young Africa". Peace and security as well as gender equality were (and remain) the cross-cutting themes.

Quotes from the YouLead Action Network of Alumni

“

Joining the YouLead Africa Community provided me the opportunity to be part of a diverse & passion-driven team that helped unlock my full potential and led me to today, to doing what I love. Are you a young person looking for a space to grow and connect? YouLead is your chance to do just that!’

Epiphanie Tuyisenge, Alumni and former YouLead Ambassador, Rwanda

“

When I attended the YouLead summit in 2017, the facilitators were genuinely involved in guiding us. This experience has contributed as much to my career and shaped some of my decisions both in my working environment and social life. I remember at my first job, at CARE International in

Uganda, one of the reasons I was given the opportunity was because I was an alumni of the program. This made me a competitive candidate in my career and for that, I am grateful.

Kayondo Rogers, Forum for education NGOs in Uganda



A woman with short, dark, curly hair is speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a white patterned shirt and a red lanyard with a badge. In the background, other people are seated at a round table, and a flag with vertical stripes of yellow, green, red, white, and blue is visible.

ARUSHA DEBATES

In 2021, alongside YouLead Africa, we inaugurated the Arusha debates to spearhead meaningful conversations in the region, propagate Pan Africanism and home-grown (African) knowledge, generate insights and make social and economic development a reality.

The Arusha Debates aims to put a global spotlight on Arusha City for its rich history and the nostalgia attached to it to galvanise global thought leaders to gather and generate insights into how to make social and economic development a reality forever for greater numbers of Africans.

Arusha Debates seeks to highlight pressing continental development issues that require policy attention and financial investment.

Each debate session explores a problem which, if solved, would lead to improvements in African lives.

The interplay of ideas examines the pros and cons of existing efforts (if any) to solve such problems and put forward alternatives.

YOUTH HUB ARUSHA: BY THE YOUTH, FOR THE YOUTH

At the end of 2021, MS TCDC proudly launched the Youth Hub in Arusha. The purpose of the Youth Hub is to provide a physical and ideation space that allows young people to organise themselves, get mentored and amplify their voices and initiatives.

The Youth Hub is an initiative that strives to mobilise, sensitise, and capacitate youth with skills to overcome the most pressing issues that affect their everyday life in the socio-economic and political domains.

It comprises six implementing partners, all of whom are passionate about the advancement of youth rights in Tanzania. Thus the Hub qualifies as a 'proudly by the youth, for the youth' initiative.

Since its inception, the facility has lined up and rolled out a wide range of topical issues and interventions including economic opportunities, gender equality, healthy living and wellness, climate justice, leadership and governance and sports and arts and culture.



The Youth Hub Arusha is now open to the public and is an indoor and outdoor multifunctional space located at our Usa River campus.



FOSTERING FREEDOM AND THE MAKINGS OF THE UHURU FORUM

Civil society around the world is facing new restrictions in its ability to engage in development. These restrictions stifle progress, contradict international standards and commitments that emphasise the need for an enabling environment, and worsen the plight of vulnerable populations. The operating context of non-state actors the world over has been transformed—for better and for worse.

As a response to this and in recognition of the critical role it plays, MS TCDC in 2019 convened a first-ever Civil Society Conference (now renamed Uhuru Forum in 2021) noting the urgency required in terms of greater attention and investment in civil society. As a training, learning and convening centre in the Global South, it behoves

us as an institution to provide learning and convening space for civic organisations to engage in and to provide thought leadership from the learnings captured – in these gatherings - in order to support a more continental approach and provide recommendations for state and non-state actors in bringing about social transformation on the continent.

In 2021, we successfully hosted, along with ActionAid Tanzania, the third edition of the annual civil society conference, the Uhuru Forum, and co-convened by Freedom House Tanzania, Tanganyika Law Society, and the Legal Services Facility.

Convenings like The Uhuru Forum act as catalysts for social progress and economic growth through the leveraging of the fraternity of civil society. The Uhuru Forum aims to ensure civil society plays a critical role in keeping governments accountable and represents the diverse interests of the population, including the most vulnerable groups.

“Civil society is the oxygen of democracy.”
Ban Ki Moon

CELEBRATING AFRICA THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, ART AND NETWORKING

The third edition of the Knowledge, Art and Networking (KAN) Festival took place from 28th to 30th January 2021. KAN 2021 positioned itself as a call to action for all Africans at home and in the Diaspora to look back and celebrate whence far we have come. This edition featured diaspora conversations (branded as KAN-Frica Chai) and well-narrated knowledge sessions with aligned art sessions.

The Festival featured Pan-African discussions on cross-cutting issues such as culture, gender, governance, financing, climate change and media as a driver of African narra-

tive with pre, during and post-festival programs to sustain the conversations.

Faced with the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time the festival introduced KAN Online, hosting a hybrid Festival giving an opportunity to Pan-Africanists from across the world to tune into KAN. Curated webinars, online panels and artistic presentations were held over our various digital platforms.

KAN 2021 edition also introduced more community participation programs (KANx) with students, youth and communities to promote inter-generational dialogues and amplify

community spaces. KANx series launched Essay competitions, Art competitions, and a Hackathon - featuring a challenge to “Develop a sustainable solution to preserve or promote African culture” The three outstanding ideas came from Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



A DIGITAL CAMPUS

The year 2021 saw us make a holistic digital transformation that encompassed all areas of MS TCDC operations and program offerings, focused on improving the online experience for both our employees as well as our clients.

Through this transformation, one (1) meeting room, three (3) classes and two (2) conference rooms were digitally renovated.

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a person sitting at a wooden desk, working on a laptop. The image is heavily overlaid with a semi-transparent red color. The person is seen from the side, focused on their work. The laptop screen shows some content, but it's not clearly visible due to the overlay. The desk is made of light-colored wood planks.

MERGING THEORIES AND PRACTICES

PUTTING THEORY INTO PRACTICE

The Bachelor of Arts in Governance and Development at MS-TCDC is a crown jewel designed to equip learners with theoretical and practical skills in the understanding of governance and development issues both at local and international levels. Through this program, we have designed a curriculum that merges theory and practice, allowing learners to be equipped with both theoretical and practical skills in the understanding of governance and development issues both at local and international levels.

Some of our graduates have had the opportunity to put their theory to test through placements with government offices, regional bodies and NGOs in and around Arusha. Some of these offices include the East African Community (EAC), Regional Commissioner's Office of Arusha, East African Federation of Employers and East African Civil Society Organisations' Forum (EACSOF), to name a few.

Additionally, for the first time, TCDC has been listed under the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB). This is a critical move aimed at empowering students to be able to apply for government funding to undertake their studies at the centre, breaking boundaries to access quality education.

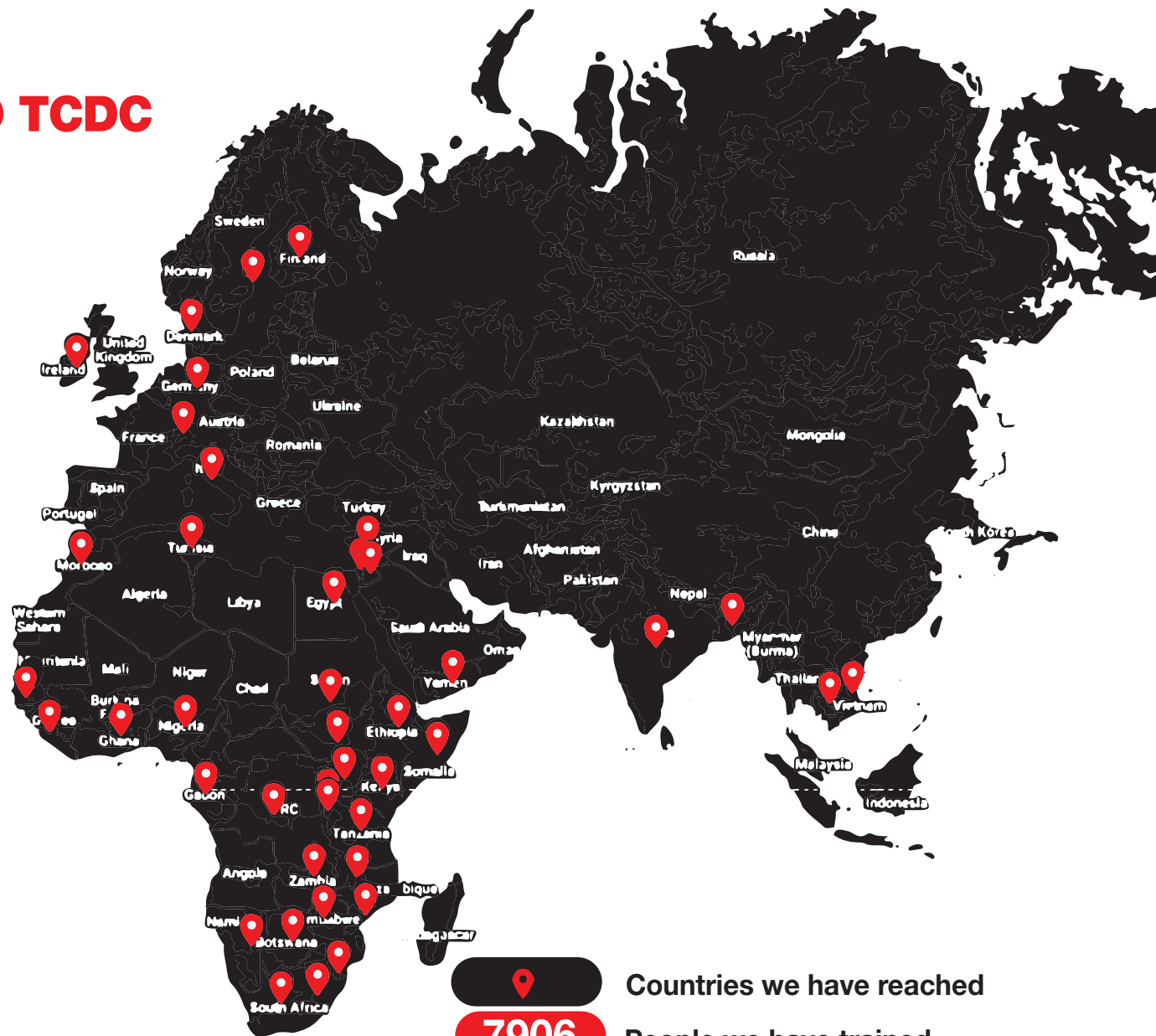
BRINGING SWAHILI FROM ARUSHA TO THE WORLD (WIDE WEB)


COVID-19 and the restrictions that entities around the world faced, limited us too from delivering our training in our normal, picturesque campus setting. However, that did not deter us as we pivoted and explored bridging our world-class Swahili courses to the digital landscape.

Through the implementation of a blended curriculum, we redesigned our methods of instruction. All of this was with the goal of continuing the transmission of knowledge despite the challenges that were occasioned by COVID-19 to the orthodox teaching environment.

The Swahili language online classes continue to be further developed to evolve with the needs and advancements of our groups and we are proud of the adaptability and flexibility the International Culture Unit displayed in adverse times. Some of these achievements include the opportunity to design and train independent Swahili Virtual classes for alumni, increasing credibility in international universities and the innovation behind the pedagogy that is employed to teach online classes which give participants an opportunity for language mentorship and coaching.

BRINGING THE WORLD TO TCDC



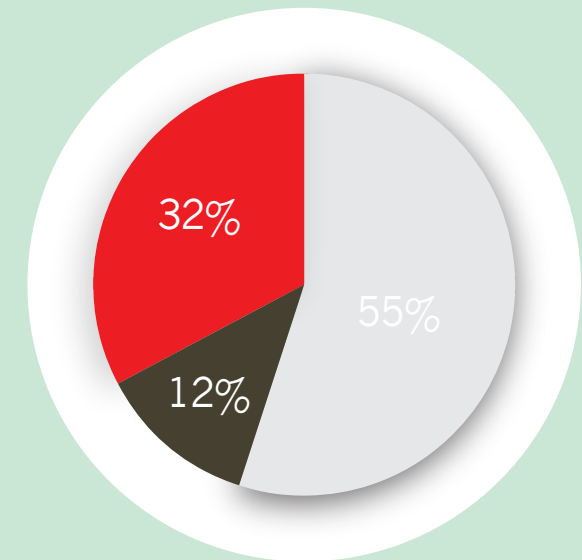
-  Countries we have reached
- 7906** People we have trained
- 1838** People engaged in other activities
- 231** Total activities we have hosted

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Centre continues to give support to local community through offering business opportunities to local traders and service providers such as fruits and vegetable suppliers and casual labour service. In 2021, the Centre bought goods and services worth more than Tshs 179.29 million from the local community within which the Centre operates.

OVERVIEW OF OUR INCOME

Our finances mainly supported the execution of our programs, projects, trainings, staff capacity development and supporting the local community through offering business opportunities. Details of MS TCDC's financial statements are available in our audited report.





PARTNERS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In 2021, MS TCDC relied on funding from DANIDA, its own income, and partnership grants to fund our transformational leadership agenda.

We are grateful to individuals, organisations, government offices, organisations and companies whose support enabled us to fulfil our mission and maintain our financial responsibilities. We extend a special thank you to all those who supported our work in 2021.

IN THE WORDS OF OTHERS



Richard Olong

“There is a big impact that I have seen not only from my perspective but also the perspective of the participant. A lot of them have moved forward to develop resource mobilization strategies but also some of them are using those skills to engage with relevant donors to be able to access funding from their baskets. So, I know quite a few that have access to funding as a result of that training. I can mention our grantees in Rwanda, our grantees in Zambia and the ones in Malawi who have been able to use those skills to access funds from GIZ as a donor”



Hellen Wilson Lutta

“It has been good for me as a project manager, to learn different ways of resource mobilization and how I can improve my skills in proposal writing. This is a very important course that I can recommend for every project or program manager as it is a very important skill that managers need to know how to mobilize resources”