Wajibika



Project full name: Wajibika Tanzania Programme (WTP)

Priority: Protecting and promoting civic space

Phase I: 2024 - 2028

SDC contribution: CHF 8'200'000

Total phase budget: CHF 18'220'821

Contract partner:

The United Kingdom (UK) – Foreign Commonwealth Development Office FCDO (Tanzania)

Implementing partner: Oxford Policy Management (OPM)

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Project overview

Tanzania has experienced a gradual shift towards a more open environment for civil society organizations (CSOs) and the media in recent years. However, there is still a need for further reforms to strengthen the legal framework governing the operation of CSOs and media, to ensure greater space for their activities and contributions to society.

Switzerland brings over 20 years of practical experience in supporting the civil society and media sectors in Tanzania. Through the Wajibika initiative, Switzerland aims to strategically support civil society and media actors to contribute towards a more enabling environment for civic engagement, enhancing their capacities for evidence-based approaches, fostering greater coordination, and building stronger relationships between them, government, and the citizens they serve.

Overall goal

To contribute to a more open and inclusive society in which different tiers of government and civil society actors effectively collaobrate to find innovative public service solutions that better meet the needs of citizens.

Approach

Wajibika is co-funded by UK's Foreign Commonwealth Department Office (FCDO) and implemented by Oxford Policy Management (OPM). It aims to enhance government accountability to citizens demands by supporting CSOs and the media. Wajibika addresses both supply and demand-side challenges through a three-pronged approach:

1. **Convene** civil society and media actors to effectively coordinate on key issues, ensuring

collaborative work, knowledge sharing, and monitoring and evaluation.

Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania

- 2. **Catalyse** the work of civil society and media through small, issue-based grants, such as research and evidence generation, capacity building, events, and advocacy.
- 3. **Influence** elite decision-makers to reduce barriers to civic space and address broader governance challenges that impact the Government's capacity for public service delivery.

Beneficiaries

Primary: CSOs, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), Media, faith-based organisations (FBOs) and relevant government sectoral actors.

Secondary: Tanzanian citizens, particularly the most vulnerable groups (women, youth, people with disabilities).

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 1. Effective civic space and political inclusion: CSOs become more effective, credible and sustainable, strengthening their connections with the public. They use evidence to demonstrate their value to the government and actively engage in constructive dialogue to help improve the regulatory framework.
- 2. Media freedom and access to information: The media advocates for conducive regulations, including those governing the online space, while building its capacity to engage in public interest journalism.
- 3. Government service delivery: Key government actors address long-standing service delivery challenges by implementing innovative and inclusive solutions

