

SADC unknown in Tanzanians due to poor visibility



The Civil Society Organisations says the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) is unknown to ordinary Tanzanians because of poor visibility mechanisms. And the media that has attempted to work with the SADC noted that the Secretariat has not been accommodating.

To effectively identify challenges preventing the involvement of Civil Society Organisation in SADC integration, the Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGCA) in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern Africa small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) held a public debate in Tanzania to enhance their capacity and networks.

Officiating at the session attended by over 60 participants, ESAFF regional coordinator Mr. Joseph Mzinga requested participants to be open and share their real-life experience engaging in the SADC integration processes.

Similarly, the transporters and cross-border also noted that there is unequal treatment of SADC citizens on various borders and that southern business people were given preferential treatment. "There is no enforcement mechanism for most SADC members state's commitment, and the commitment are not binding," explained the cross-border traders.

The traders also stated that the SADC trade rule remain unclear to ordinary Tanzanian's who prefer to do more business with the East African Community (EAC).

The traders further called on SADC to learn from the EAC people's engagement mechanisms

Source - SADC



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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide specialized information to our audience, about highlight news and activities being undertaken by SADC



Tanzanian journalists trained in SADC integration

To enable the media report on SADC integration process effectively, the SDGCA and the ESAFF jointly organized a training workshop in Tanzania. Officiating at the training workshop, Media Institute of Southern Africa Vice Chairperson James Marenga emphasized that the media has a crucial role to play in informing citizens on the happenings around SADC integration.

“Over and above the skills, journalists need to have a platform for sharing experiences and knowledge regarding SADC. As journalists you need to form a loose network to discuss and report on issues around SADC integration,” advised Mr Marenga.

To increase the affinity of the ordinary people on SADC, one of the journalists noted the importance of the media to dispel the misconception that the SADC is merely a regional organization for peace building and liberation, as is believed by the majority of ordinary Tanzanians.

And SDGCA regional director Dr. Ambrose Aheisibwe Rwaheru said the project’s main objective is to contribute to Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2020-2030 and SADC Vision 2050 through enhancing media engagement in regional integration process.

The project entitled “Engagement for Results: Capacitating Regional Civil Society Organizations and their Networks to effectively participate in the SADC Regional Integration” runs for 17 months up to May 2023 and is being managed by CUTS Lusaka and SDGCA.

The project being implemented in four SADC countries namely Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe is funded under the 11th European Development Fund to implement the SADC regional integration project.



Institutes on climate change present their projects at COP27

Several organisations and government departments working on projects to mitigate the effects of climate change in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region made presentations on the margins of the United Nations Climate Change Conference’s 27th Conference of Parties meeting (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

The SADC side event was convened by SADC Secretariat under the title “Best practices and lessons learnt on Intra-ACP Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+) programme in the SADC Region”, and presentations were made from the Environment Investment Fund of Namibia (EIF), Grow a Tree Foundation (GTF) from Zimbabwe, Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles (TRASS), South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), and Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWPSA).

EIF Namibia project manager Mr Cosmos Shaduka gave an overview of his project saying it seeks to promote adaption of

solar energy and de-carbonise the agriculture sector through implementing solar irrigation and solar-powered water projects in the Zambezi Region in north-eastern Namibia.

The project is benefitting 800 direct beneficiaries in Mukango and Muyako areas. About 3,200 people are estimated to indirectly benefit from the project in the two areas.

Mr Shaduka said the project, supported by the European Union through the GCCA+ programme, started in January 2022 and seeks to increase the use of renewable energy and minimise greenhouse emissions by improving access to clean energy.

Further, the project will provide local communities with access to alternatives such as solar water pumps in agriculture, thereby moving away from conventional pumping systems that use generators and pollute the environment. So far, five boreholes have been drilled under the project and pumping water to the communities using solar power.

Source - SADC

CSOs call for formulation of SADC NSA



The CSOs in Tanzania have called for the formulation of SADC Non-State Actors engagement platforms at national level to drive the SADC National Committee (SNCs) that became defunct 10 years ago.

This came to light during the national workshop for enhancing the capacity of CSOs and their networks in Tanzania on SADC integration organized by the SDGCA and ESAFF in Dar-es-Salaam.

The meeting also revealed that Tanzania has a sizable community of NSAs, about 15,000 who are unaware of the advantages of SADC integration. To that effect, the meeting recommended that a communication strategy be implemented to reach the majority of NSAs.

Further, the CSOs called for strong collaboration between the government which has information regarding the SADC processes.

Officiating the event, representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Agness Kayola said the capacity building exercise came at the right time when the Tanzanian government and NSAs are working on ways of effective collaborate in efforts aimed at greater citizen's engagement in the SADC integration processes.

Former Secretary General of the National Council of NGOs, Mr. Focus Magwesera who represented the ambassador Kayola emphasized that government will continue supporting regional integration process with more actions aimed at actualizing the newly approved SADC NSAs engagement mechanism.

And SDGCA regional director Ambrose Aheisibwe Rwaheru said that over the last four decades, regional integration processes have gained momentum and

became significant means for achieving development agendas including SADC vision 2050.

SDGCA and CUTS Lusaka are implementing a project titled "Engagement for Results: Capacitating Regional Civil Society Organizations and their networks to effectively participate in the SADC regional integration process".

This project is part of the Integrated Institutional Capacity-Building by the SADC Secretariat for CSO Stakeholders financed under the 11th European Development Fund, being implemented in Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



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