

Productive Social Safety Net for Vulnerable Households



Project full name:
Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)

Priority:
Strengthening state institutions

Phase II:
2023 - 2025

SDC contribution:
CHF 17,100,000

Total phase budget:
CHF 356.04 million

Implementing Partner:
TASAF

Project Overview

Over the past decade, Tanzania has experienced above average economic growth of 7% per year for Mainland and 6% for Zanzibar, making the country one of the stronger economic performers in Sub-Saharan Africa. However, this growth has not translated to poverty reduction due to unequal distribution of wealth and rapid population growth, resulting in an increase in the absolute number of people living in poverty. Approximately 21.3 million people live below the national poverty line¹.

To address this vulnerability to poverty, the Government of Tanzania has set up a comprehensive safety net programme to assist vulnerable and marginalised households to have access to income, health services and education. The Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) was set-up in 2000 to make a collaborative effort towards poverty reduction.

Since its establishment, TASAF has seen an evolution of its services. The first TASAF programme (2000-2005) provided access to social services and assisted food insecure households in rural and peri-urban areas. The second programme (2005-2010) provided additional income to vulnerable households in rural and urban areas in support of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA) as well as the Millennium Development Goals, piloting cash transfer to households in three districts.

The third programme aims to comprehensively address the needs of vulnerable people. The initial Productive

Social Safety Net (PSSN I) (2012-2018) provided an unconditional cash transfer to food insecure households, a conditional cash transfer for the provision of education and health care to children in vulnerable households and a public works sub-component.

PSSN II (2019-2025) focuses on enhancing livelihoods to allow TASAF recipients to graduate out of the programme through small business development and financial inclusion schemes. Switzerland uses its expertise in skills development, small enterprise fostering and professional training to design and implement this new component.

Swiss support to PSSN II is aligned with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation's objectives for engagement in Social Protection - to reduce poverty and inequality, and to promote gender equality.

Overall Goal

To contribute to extreme poverty reduction efforts of the Government of Tanzania by curbing growing inequalities and vulnerabilities, especially of women, across the country, through economic and social inclusion.

Expected Outcomes

- 1. Social protection coverage:** approx. 1.5 million vulnerable and marginalised households (of which 52% women) are more effectively protected from social and economic exclusion
- 2. Conducive policy environment:** through evidence-based policy dialogue, social protection policies and regulatory frameworks are adopted that leave no one behind.

Beneficiaries

- Approximately 1,500,000 poor and vulnerable people
- President's Office – State House (Mainland); Second Vice President's Office (Zanzibar)
- Ministry of Finance and Planning
- President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government

For more information:
Clara Melchior,
Programme Officer,
Tel: +255 22 266 6008
Email:
clara.minja@eda.admin.ch

Web:
<https://www.eda.admin.ch/daressalaam>

<https://www.tasaf.go.tz/>

October 2023

¹ The World Bank, 2019