

# TANZANIA



**High levels of multidimensional poverty, attacks on free speech, under-resourced refugee camps, and a rapidly growing population mar Tanzania's ongoing socio-economic transformation to achieve its ambitious goal of becoming a semi-industrialized, middle-income country by 2025.**

## Country Context

Due to Tanzania's proximity to countries in conflict, and the increasingly harsh consequences of climate change, the number of refugees and asylum seekers, (mostly from Burundi and the DRC) continues to grow. Most refugees and asylum seekers lack access to livelihood opportunities and struggle to afford enough food, contributing to a high prevalence of malnutrition among children. Concerns are rising over free speech and the state of democracy as the government imprisons journalists and political leaders and bans public rallies. The recent passage and increased enforcement of laws that repress independent reporting and the work of media, NGOs, and political opposition groups is a mounting concern for human rights activists and the humanitarian community.

### How is the U.S. Involved?

The U.S. is Tanzania's largest bilateral donor, helping fund programs to promote economic growth, robust health systems, and democracy.

## Key Figures



**305,921**

refugees and asylum seekers in Tanzania



**45%**

of the population is under 15 years old



**65%**

of the workforce is in agriculture and contributing to nearly 30% of the economy



**\$4,856,000**

requested for humanitarian support for refugees

## On-the-Ground Perspective

- Support for Burundian refugees living in Tanzania is perpetually one of the lowest funded humanitarian situations globally. Lack of funding forced cuts to food rations and left most refugees and asylum seekers in inadequate shelter.
- Since 2015, the government has cracked down on LGBT people and their advocates by limiting health care access and banning organizations from conducting HIV prevention activities.
- New restrictions and regulations on NGOs make it difficult for many NGOs to operate and access communities in need. In August 2017, President Magufuli's administration suspended the registration of new NGOs and began a verification exercise for existing NGOs, severely hindering their movement and action.

## Responses and Actions

- From July to September 2019, 7,687 unaccompanied and separated children were identified, assessed, and placed with foster families with support from UNICEF, Plan International, and the International Rescue Committee.
- Essential reading and math skills remain a daily struggle for thousands of students in Tanzania. Through implementing partners like RTI International and Plan International, USAID has supported over 26,000 teachers and 1.4 million primary school students through the Tusome Pamoja activity since 2016.

References available at [interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport](https://www.interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport).

