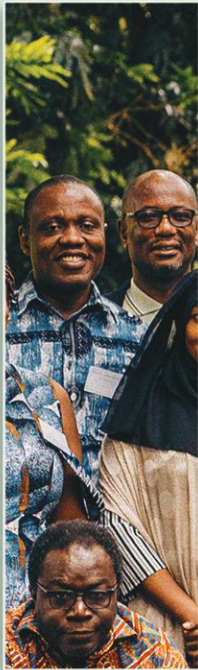


# A YEAR AT TCDC



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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

To our partners who have stood with us and supported us in various ways that given us awesome results in 2023, a great appreciation and gratitude from TCDC fraternity, without your support we could not have made it this far”.

Still recovering from post covid impacts, we started the year by sadly executing the last phase of restructuring, this step saw the redundancy of two director positions and at the same time an introduction of new reporting structures, expanded job roles and I must say a seamless transition of leadership across the organisation. To manage the change, a staff retreat was held to provide the team an opportunity to reflect and bond with each other and also identify strengths and challenges that would help in planning as well as build stronger and dynamic collaborations for improved delivery of work as well as enhance a better working environment and work relationships.

Wonderfully, we started the implementation of our new MS TCDC SRATEGY 2023-2027–Transformational Leadership for Africa. The strategy brings excitement in the ways that TCDC is contributing to achieve its goals by applying experiential learning for transformational leadership, dive deeper into social dialogues in bridging gaps between citizens and decision-makers on processes that lead to public policy from a people-centred lens while building partnerships that will help contribute to African-led knowledge that can be used to contribute to influence matters of governance and policy.

We continued to invest in advancing our teaching and learning approaches and methodologies as our unique niche in developing new products and improving our services. In collaboration with Danida Fellowship Centre, researchers, development practitioners and journalists came together and explored ways of developing innovative knowledge through problem-based learning approaches.

International arena challenges continued to contribute to debates and external analysis that TCDC invested in to align with the strengthening of social movements for relevance and the advancing of rights, linking issues from the local, national, and international for policy influencing based on the learning principles. The Sudan, Ukraine/Russia and the Israel/Palestine had the movement support team analyse the situation and its impact on Africa, the papers developed were presented to various partners for their consideration for programming and policy positions.

The second D4D conference was honoured by the presence of President Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan who graced the Elder’s Retreat as the chief guest. The conference engaged former presidents among them, Ernest Bai Koroma of Sierra Leone who is also the Chair of the D4D conference, Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania, Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, and former Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia. Their insights subsequently contributed to the proposed innovative ideas to advance the democratic space in Africa.

For the first time, since its first edition and as per young people’s voting, YouLead Summit was hosted in Nairobi, Kenya under the theme “Youth Empowerment through Capacity Building: Revitalizing Youth Voice and Agency towards the Africa We Want.

The summit hosted over 300 delegates from across Africa including youth leaders, policymakers and development partners.

What an amazing year of hosting great conferences and events such as the Global People Power Forum, the ActionAid One Africa Climate Campaign, the CAN annual meeting, the Prime Minister’s office of the United Republic of Tanzania strategic retreat, the You Hub FemFest and the Global Kiswahili Promoters Association (CHAUKIDU) among others.

*Makena Mwobobia*







# A YEAR IN REVIEW



# A New Dawn with Partners

TCDC awakened to a new dawn, secured exciting and unique new partnerships that have yielded remarkable results and created new opportunities for fostering the creation of innovative knowledge, strengthening of networking and connected people for influencing and solidarity. These collaborations propelled TCDC into a dynamic phase of growth and impact. Through the collaboration with Danida Fellowship Centre, ActionAid International, MS AADK, CAN Africa, we not only strengthened exciting connections but also created new ones that transcended boundaries and inspired collective actions, amplified our impact in a meaningful way that would encourage movements to thrive.

The thriving partnership between the Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC) and MS TCDC has pioneered the experimentation of concepts like 'co-creation', which will lay the foundations for future efforts in North–South cooperation



DFC's Science Engagement Days 2023



CAN Africa annual strategy meeting



Courtesy visit of the US Ambassador to Tanzania



MOU signing with Swiss Embassy



AAI one Africa Climate campaign



MOU Signing with Tanzania Institute of Accountancy



We continued to strengthen our language and culture initiatives with a renewed partnership with the African Flagship Language Initiative, Critical Language Sponsorship and Carlton University which accorded students an opportunity to get a taste of East African culture through host families and community emersions.



Critical Language Sponsorship



African Flagship Language Initiative



Carlton University

We convened unique conferences, trainings and gatherings such as the ActionAid Emergency Fast Action and Support Team, One Africa Climate Campaign, the Global People Power Forum, Powershift Africa, Africa Drive for Democracy, CHAUKIDU, Science Engagement Days and Youth Hub FemFest.



Africa Drive for Democracy



CHAUKIDU



Global People Power Forum





# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



## Young People the Catalyst to Transformation

In a world where the voices of young people hold the power to being the catalysts of transformation, we are committed to nurturing that flame. In 2023, we continued to offer the ActionAid scholarship programs which aimed at curating knowledge and developing the capacities of young people to influence policies and ignite change, programming and implementing activities that establish connections with the communities they impact through outcome harvesting techniques.

These Scholarship programs spark a dedication to essential knowledge, methods, tools, and skills for strategic policy influencing, climate justice and advocacy in their respective countries.



## Offering programs beyond borders

In 2023, we continued to offer our programs beyond borders. Offering Gender, Social Inclusion and Human Rights-based approach to Action Aid Ethiopia with the overall aim of strengthening systems and institutional capacity to integrate gender and youth, as well as learning how to integrate the core principles of HRBA into all stages of the organisation and its partners' activities.



# Customising Solutions to Support Organisational Goals

In our mission to deliver knowledge and capacity development to strengthen organisations' performance and development, this year we have had the privilege of customising training programs for various organisations. We designed and delivered courses for MSD, WWF, TPDC, GiZ, Traffic East Africa, among others.

The programs covered topics like project formulation, project management, cascading organizational strategy, leadership and governance, organizational development, change management, team building, increasing employee engagement, and fostering team cohesiveness.

What has been most rewarding is the taking of time to understand each organisation's unique needs and objectives, and then crafting solutions that directly support their goals. Working closely with organisations to identify their specific challenges and desired outcomes allows us to tailor our training content, activities, and materials for maximum impact. It has been gratifying to support organisations achieve their broader goals through our tailored capacity programs.





## Launching of the Master's Program

The launch of the Master of Leadership and Governance program in 2023 represented a major step forward in our ongoing commitment to nurturing transformational leaders across Africa.

Welcoming students from various parts of the continent into our first cohort reinforced our institutional vision of contributing to transformative change on the African continent through leadership development. Not only did this achievement set the stage for a productive academic year within the program itself, but it also validated our broader goals and reinforced our position at the forefront of efforts to train a new generation of African leaders equipped to tackle the region's most pressing challenges.

As we move forward, we will build upon this foundation to expand our impact and further strengthen the networks, skills and mindsets needed to realize Africa's tremendous potential





## Milestone Celebrations: the 15th Graduation Ceremony

Last year marked our 15th Graduation ceremony – A momentous occasion that was a testament to commitment and academic excellence. As we conferred the Bachelor's degree in Governance and Development, we celebrated not only their success but also the enduring vision of our institution. The 15th graduation ceremony wraps up a journey of growth, learning, and accomplishment, paving the way for the contributions from our graduates to society.





# GOVERNANCE ACADEMY INSIGHTS









## Overview

It has been yet another galloping year for the Leadership and Governance Academy in the domains of governance, public affairs, civic participation, and the continuous quest for a culture of democracy. Following a successful leadership transition at the helm and reorganisation within the ranks, the department maintained its stride and has added to its portfolio. This addition has brought media practitioners and academics into the fold and is projected to extend the streak of success stories registered by the institution as an integral whole.

Cardinal amongst the success stories is the translation of knowledge into practice by young people who have benefitted from training, workshops, and related learning events. We have registered an increase in direct youth participation through engagement in elective politics with a tangible interest in placing transformational leadership at the fore. This has been evident in the electoral cycles that came full circle in Kenya, Zimbabwe, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo—where the LGA enjoys a presence through its programmes and projects such as YouLead Africa, the Africa Drive for Democracy Initiative, Uhuru Forum, Reclaiming Civic Space, and Data-Driven Advocacy.

*Ergo*, young people who have been part of these interventions have contested for local, district, and national level positions, with a distinct niche to their engagement that speaks to the relevance and timeliness of our areas of focus.

Beyond the continent, the LGA's work through Global Organising and Leadership Development (GOLD) advances support for movements and coalitions on various democracy-related causes and initiatives.





# Africa Drive for Democracy

Suffice to say that now in its second year, the continental Drive for Democracy (D4D) initiative remains the spear's tip for the quest for restoring a culture of democracy through building civic competence, generating knowledge, and connecting movements.

This year we spearheaded a new initiative 'The Elder's Retreat' drawing from the extensive experience of the former President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania, former President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, and former Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia. Their insights subsequently contributed to the proposed innovative ideas to advancing the democratic space in Africa.





## Reclaiming Civic Space

For an electoral calendar that stretches through to 2027 (from Tanzania in 2025, to Uganda in 2026, and Kenya in 2027), we envisage more young people showcasing, nurturing, and providing transformative leadership, which is one of the crown jewels of the 2023-2027 Strategy Paper.

Noteworthy amongst the many examples is the case of Anna Sande, one of the Zimbabwean participants with whom the Reclaiming Civic Space project has regularly interfaced. She attended a training on Digital Security at TCDC, and online stepdown trainings conducted by the Global Platform in Zimbabwe. Sande, 23, was elected Board Chair/Mayoress of Epworth Local Board, a constituency close to the capital Harare. She partly attributes her success story thus far to the interventions by the project.





# The Tanzania Democracy We Want the **Aspirations** and **Visions** of the Youth

Gathering the aspirations and visions of young people regarding the governance system best aspired by young people has been at the center of the Youth Democracy Dialogues. The discussions provided a crucial platform for youth to actively engage in conversations about democracy, civic participation, and fostering a more informed and participatory youth demographic in the country's governance and decision-making processes. The theme of the dialogues was "The Tanzania Democracy We Want."

The project brought together youth from six targeted regions in Tanzania conducted in collaboration with the YouLead consortium, which consists of 10 youth-led and youth-serving organizations and was supported by the US Embassy.





# The **EAC** Youth Fellowship

Nurturing the next generation of leaders committed to regional cooperation and development Through undertakings like the East African Youth Fellowship, the Centre is minting the citizens and leaders who will breathe life into the vision of transformative leadership for the Africa We Want.

This past year, we launched the East Fellowship program, a prestigious initiative designed to engage and empower young people in regional intergration and leadership in the East African Community.

The program started with orientation for the first cohort of fellows, giving them the opportunity to meet their mentors and fellow cohort members. Throughout the year, fellows participated in skills development workshops covering public speaking, leadership, and entrepreneurship. These interactive sessions equipped fellows with practical tools to achieve their goals.

By providing a platform for learning, mentorship, and networking, the EAC Youth Fellowship is nurturing the next generation of leaders who will help advance the East African integration agenda and turn the region's potential into reality. The stories, experiences, and connections made this past year will shape the fellows for years to come as they embark on their journeys to create positive change within their communities and the East African region.





# The YouLead Africa Summit 2023

## Doors knocked and opened in Nairobi, Kenya

The 2023 summit, which marked the 7th convention of the YouLead Summit emphasized the importance of providing the younger generation with diverse skill set and knowledge that align and speak to shifting geopolitics, the evolution of commerce, the ongoing digital revolution as well as increasingly important capacities like post-conflict reconstruction, climate justice, leadership development, and public policy advocacy.

For the first time since inauguration of YouLead, this 7th edition of the Summit unfolded at a new location home, Arusha, Tanzania to the Bomas of Kenya in Nairobi. This highlights our dedication to evolving the program into a continental platform, with plans for the summit to circulate among diverse African countries.





## Celebrating Collective Youth **Actions** at the Youth Hub Arusha

2023 was a breakthrough year with regard to the significant strides made by the Youth Hub to mobilize, sensitize and capacitate youth with a range of skills and knowledge. The facility hosted, for the first time, the Fem-Fest, an event that brought together more than 250 young people in the the Arusha region to deliberate on feminist principles and localized approaches towards socio-economic development. The platform further convened youth in Arusha region for networking and opportunities for collective action around the most pressing issues affecting their everyday life, bridging the gap between the government, development partners (national, regional and international) and relevant stakeholders and young people in a bid to open access to resources and sustainable growth.







# SWAHILI AND CULTURAL SPOTLIGHT







*2023 has been a great year of significant achievement for our Swahili and Cultural Engagements, notably, the year was kicked off by introducing new programs from Molde University from Norway and Pittsburgh University from the United States on Swahili language courses and immersive cultural orientation.*

## **A Renewed Chapter for Language and Cultural Experiences**

The resurgence of the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) and the African Flagship Language Initiative (AFLI) programs in-person this year marks a significant triumph following the adaptation of the virtual model in 2021 due to the global pandemic. These programs, offer an immersive summer experience to American students allowing them to dive deep into the Swahili language and its culture. Our enthusiasm extends beyond as we deepen our engagement with language and culture through our Swahili and Cultural engagement programs.





# A Global Celebration of Swahili Language and Culture

CHAUKIDU 2023 brought the curtains down on our programmatic year, concluding with the Annual International Swahili Conference hosted in collaboration with the Global Association for the Promotion of Swahili. We are delighted to be the host of this significant event that brought together a diverse array of Swahili stakeholders and participants from around the world, creating a harmonious celebration of the Swahili language and culture.

The conference exemplified our steadfast commitment to highlighting the recognition of language and culture as integral elements for sustainable progress.

Graced by the Tanzanian Minister of Culture, Arts, and Sports, adding prestige to the occasion, it underscored our shared dedication to promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural heritage on a global stage.





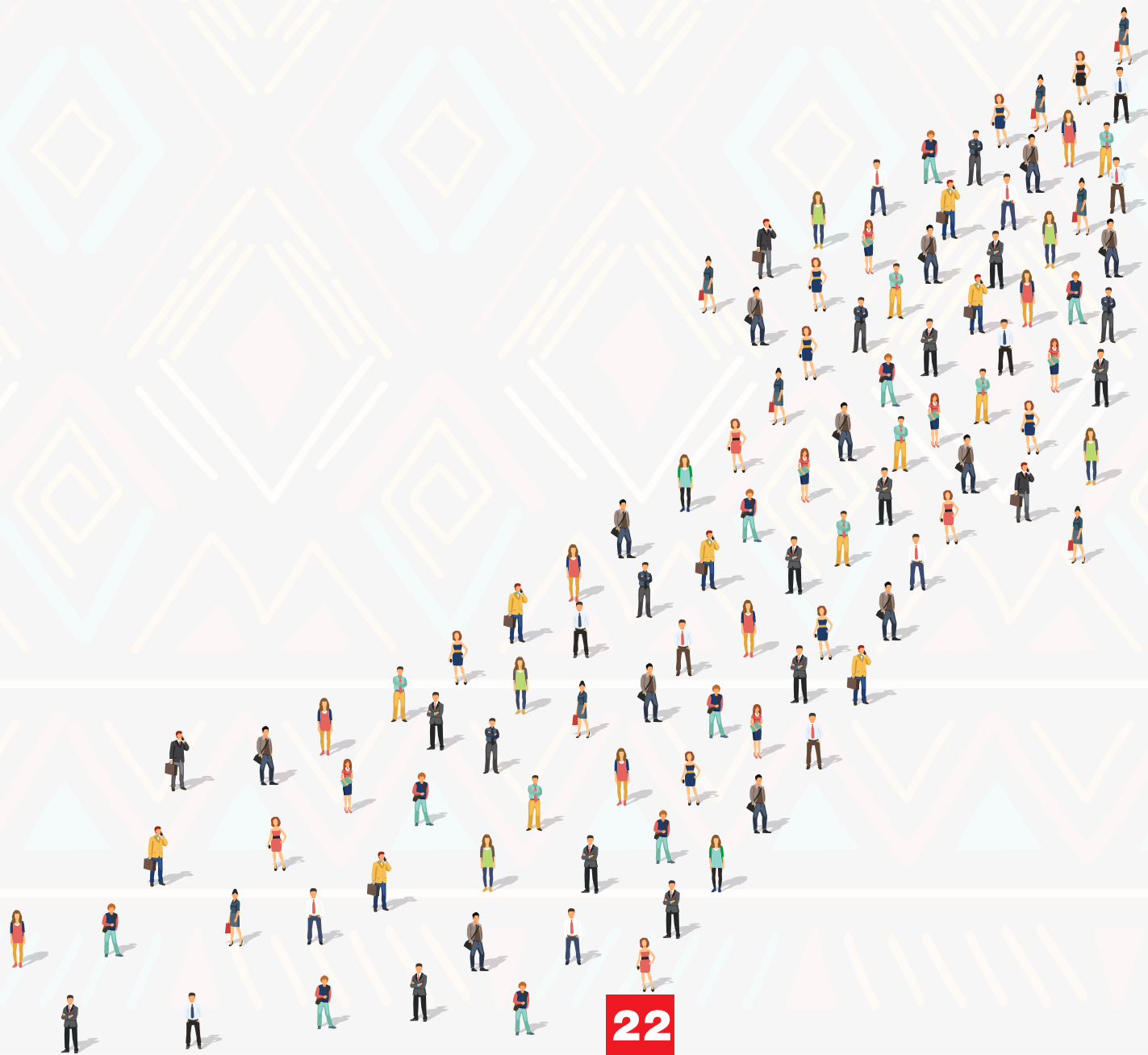
## Enhancing our commitment to linguistic and cultural exploration

A notable aspect of our programs is the distinctive opportunity they provide participants to genuinely experience East African culture. In 2023, we collaborated with Carlton University's Global Engagement program; we hosted a distinctive group of students conducting research on ecology and anthropology. The aim was to equip students with the Swahili language and Cultural skills to seamlessly immerse themselves within local communities





# **INNOVATIONS AND TRANSFORMATIONS**





## A conducive space for meaningful discussions

Our campus's *avantgarde* conferencing and training facilities which are nestled in lush surroundings, have kept a numerous and diverse range of participants enchanted. Coupled with a trove of trainers, facilitators, and subject matter experts, in 2023, we attracted a range of topical gatherings from government institutions, organisations, networks and movements. Among the notable groups we hosted includes: Parliament of Tanzania, Africa Drive for Democracy initiative, Uhuru Forum, Prime Minister's Office, Medical Stores Department, DFC Science Engagement Days, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania-Meru Diocese, Norwegian Church Aid and the Global People Power Forum.





## Connecting global through digitalized venues

With an eye on our commitment to sustainability and navigating the evolving digital world, we infused a digital renaissance into our iconic Kwame Nkurumah and Pan-African venues through marked significant upgrades. With state-of-the-art technology integration, we upgraded audio-visual capabilities, established a robust hybrid conferencing infrastructure, and transformed traditional learning spaces into digitally immersive environments. This strategic initiative aimed at fostering global connections through the hosting of hybrid conferences and learning events.

This digital transformation seamlessly improved the experience of our participants, creating dynamic spaces. Looking ahead, we envision further innovations to enhance the experience of those we host in our space.



## Crafting Conversations, Curating Knowledge- TCDC Studio

We are excited about the new studio we have set up — a hub for knowledge curation and the exploration of diverse formats to deliver impactful discussions and share knowledge. With this space we will be able to curate knowledge and test out different ways of presenting complex issues so we can have meaningful discussions and share what we're learning with others.





## Highlights from the Staff Retreat 2023

In our steadfast commitment to fostering a flourishing workplace, we held a staff retreat with a focused effort on improving workplace relationships fostered a more inclusive and supportive environment, with enthusiastic cooperation from all participants and generating a shared sense of purpose. Simultaneously, the retreat motivated individuals to enhance workplace communications, underscoring the critical role of transparency in our success. Reflecting on this triumph, we are confident that the lessons learnt will propel our organisation towards sustained excellence and innovation in the years ahead.





# Ujamaa Mpya at **TCDC**

Ujamaa Day's goal was simple yet powerful - to build an even stronger sense of community and recognising and acknowledging each person's contributions to this organisation. This awakened a new spirit, and the *Ujamaa mpya* concept was introduced into the TCDC worker's community.

We shared conversations and took part in community-building practices that strengthened our bonds. It was a simple yet impactful reminder of our interconnection and the importance of teamwork, leaving a fresh appreciation for our colleagues and the role each one plays. Small moments like these nourish the team's spirit and motivation, reminding us of our shared purpose beyond individual roles.





# Our Team Update

## Incoming

Ana Haule – Executive Director

Daniela Sizya – Head of Human Resources

Dalton Onesmo – Front Office and Logistics Officer

Maureen Ndelema – Language Trainer

## Promotion

Gurty Rajabu – Head of Finance and Operations

Said Omar – Head of Programs

Andrew Karamagi – Head of Governance and Leadership Academy

Catherine Mossi – Communications Officer

## Outgoing

Makena Mwobobia – Executive Director

Sara Teri – Programs Director

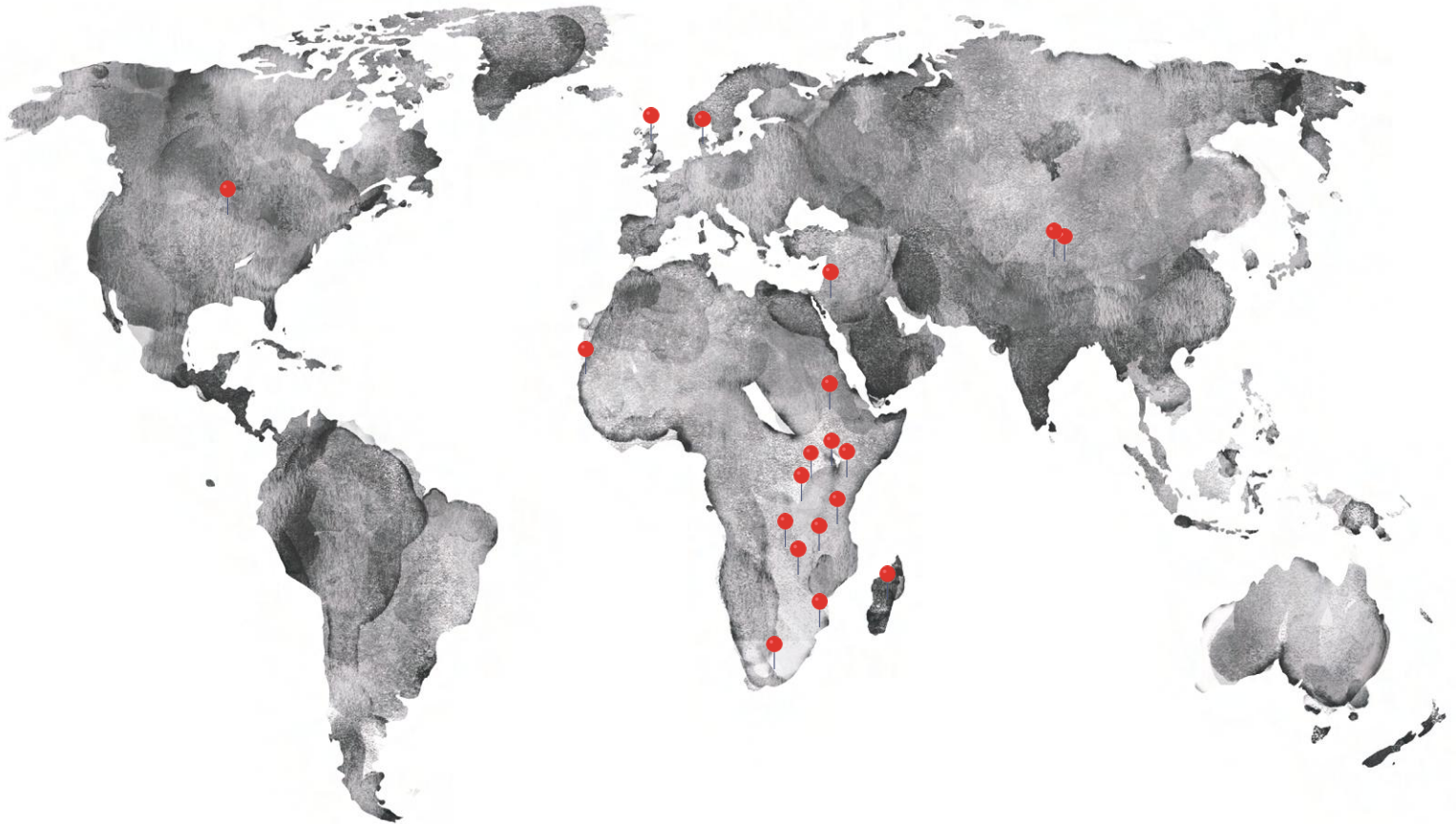
Ivan Atuyambe – Head of Programs

Yusta Mganga – Head of Intercultural Unit

Grace Mkomwa – Language Trainer and Volunteers Coordinator



# Bringing the world to TCDC



People we have Trained: **1312**

People we have convened: **3350**

Activites hosted: **277**





# IN THE **WORDS** OF OTHERS



*“I thoroughly enjoyed the resources provided and felt they enhanced my learning experience. I made an active effort to engage meaningfully with every member of the community I interacted with, and I really used the opportunity to speak presented by the host family stay to improve my language learning.” ~ William O’Neil*

*“I love the Swahili language and was always given the opportunity to speak it, whether it be in class or outside of class. Everyone was so positive throughout my language learning as well which made me want to learn it even more.” ~ Sandor Franch*

*“During my time studying Swahili at MSTDC, I was also able to meet my language goals. Still, I exceeded my language goals due to the welcoming environment my teacher created and the overall community at MSTDC. Seeing everyone's lively faces each day made the Swahili process truly enjoyable. Additionally, as a student at MSTDC, you don't only learn the Swahili language, but you can learn about the beautiful culture of East Africa. MSTDC is a home for all who wish to learn more about the Swahili language and East African culture. The teachers and staff are world-class in teaching strategies and empower each person entering MSTDC.”*

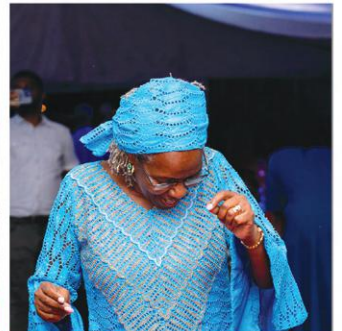
*~ Nicholas Kimble*





**A YEAR IN PICTURES**





**A YEAR IN PICTURES**



# A SNEAK PEEK INTO THE FUTURE LEADERSHIP





# A SNEAK PEAK INTO 2024

The wellspring of a new leadership endures as MS TCDC's testament to resilience, innovation, and steadfast commitment to our mission. The guidance of the previous leadership cemented the paradigm shift to our transformational echo as stewards of progress. Their opening message speaks to their knowledge, courage and steadfast belief in our collective potential reverberated through time.

In this period our focus remains on achieving '**Transformative Leadership In Africa.**'

Throughout this year we are resolute in our dedication to:

- **Empowering young People and Institutions:** Our mission recognizes that young leaders and institutions shape Africa's future. We will continue to support their development providing them with the tools and knowledge for leadership.
- **Strengthening Democracies:** Our goal is to promote inclusive and responsive democracies. By engaging with movements and young leaders we aim to amplify their voices and ensure that public institutions serve citizens.
- **Promoting Climate Justice:** The urgency of climate action cannot be overstated. We commit to nurturing climate justice movements deeply rooted within respective countries that we train. We collaborate with private companies. They provide financing and practical solutions for adaptation efforts.

“ Leadership is about embracing diverse perspectives. I urge each one of you - our team, partners, and supporters to unite with us. By collaborating, we can achieve our shared goals and advance the agenda for transformational change in Africa.

As we progress along this path of transformation, let us forge ahead, making lasting strides toward a better future. ”



## Join us to welcome

*Dr. Ana Luis Hauke*

**Our New Executive Director**