

Resources which can support your initiatives:

- **Sema Tanzania** provides support and counselling for victims of child sexual abuse. It also manages the national child helpline available 24 hours a day. www.sematanzania.org
- The **Christian Council of Tanzania** is the National Council of Churches in Tanzania. www.cct-tz.org
- The **World Council of Churches (WCC)** website has a wealth of resources for the Churches' Commitments to Children: www.oikoumene.org/resources-children
- **Together for Girls:** Proven solutions and best practices to prevent and respond to sexual violence against children and youth. www.togetherforgirls.org/svsolutions
- Child-friendly video: A child-friendly video encourages children concerned to contact a toll-free Child Helpline. (Produced by UK-based **Childline** - www.childline.org.uk) www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCA6EhBhiC8
- **INSPIRE:** Seven strategies for ending violence against children. www.end-violence.org/inspire
- **WePROTECT:** Tackling online risks with the international movement dedicated to national and global action. www.weprotect.org

Online self-help tools for potential offenders

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation's "Stop It Now" campaign has anonymous online self-help tools for potential offenders. www.get-support.stopitnow.org.uk
www.get-help.stopitnow.org.uk

Save the Children Finland provides an anonymous "self-help" website to understand and evaluate these feelings. If in doubt, talk to a trusted doctor to find help. www.savethechildren.fi/selfhelp



**World Council
of Churches**

Helping Children Out of the Shadows and Into the Light

CHURCH RESOURCES FOR ENDING
SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

The divine light shines most brightly in the smiles of children. So Christians have always acknowledged their sacred duty to nurture children and protect them from harm.

Now the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) are together promoting the “Out of the Shadows” campaign through their “**Churches’ Commitments to Children**” programme to support local churches and regional partners in protecting children and adolescents from sexual violence. The campaign can help churches identify important issues and develop ways to address them.

What is the Out of the Shadows Index?

The Out of the Shadows Index, which was developed by The Economist Intelligence Unit, measures how national actors in 60 countries address child sexual abuse and exploitation. The index, which focuses on policies, practices and standards, reveals that much more needs to be done to achieve the United Nations’ goal of ending all forms of violence against children by 2030.

The index evaluated critical issues in each country, including education and awareness-building, reproductive health, gender norms, victim support, law enforcement and child sexual abuse online.

What does this mean for the churches’ efforts to end child sexual abuse?

This index shows that there are proven steps that all countries can take right now to end child sexual abuse. Civil society actors, including churches, are well placed to raise awareness of threats of child sexual abuse, put in place preventive measures, and support victims, especially among the most vulnerable.

God is light; in God there is no darkness at all.
1 John 1:5

Tanzania and Zanzibar

Overall score: 54.2 All countries average: 55.4

AREAS OF PROGRESS

LEGAL: In Tanzania and Zanzibar, it is illegal to purchase sexual services from minors.

MEDIA: The Media Council of Tanzania’s “Professional Code of Ethics for Journalists” provides guidelines for reporting on issues related to sexual violence against children, including protecting the children’s identities.

DATA: Tanzania was the second country in Africa to conduct a national study on violence against children, beginning in 2009 and reporting in 2011.

INTERNET: The Cybercrime Act of 2015 and electronic communications regulations from 2018 requires Internet service providers to report any representation of sexual abuse and exploitation in Tanzania.

Complete rankings and country summaries are available at www.outoftheshadows.eiu.com

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

LEGAL: The Constitutions of both Tanzania and Zanzibar do not specifically protect children against sexual violence or exploitation.

ONLINE: Tanzania has no laws against online grooming of minors for sexual purposes.

OFFENDERS: There is an Anti-Trafficking Act that includes services for child victims of sexual violence, however, there are no preventive measures for possible offenders. Civil society organizations also do not provide preventive or rehabilitation support to those at risk of committing sexual violence against children.

Together, we can help children affected by sexual abuse to step out of the shadows and into the light.