

PRESS RELEASE

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ZANZIBAR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS (ZALGA) LAUNCHES

ZALGA has launched as a member-led initiative to advocate for constituents

The Zanzibar Local Government Associations (ZALGA) has been launched. The association will act as a representative voice for Zanzibar Local Government Authorities (LGAs) to all governments, institutions, organisations and will aim to encourage citizens to be proactive in the civic process of their LGA.

Khamis Juma, Founder and Coordinator of ZALGA and Head of the Department of Urban Planning and Construction, sees the association as an advocacy tool. *"We need to ensure that ZALGA is at the forefront to lobby with the government, connect with partners, and seek support from other organizations,"* said Khamis.

"It is our hope that the organization can help address our needs – health, education, and growth of the economy, especially through the improvement of a business enabling environment in Zanzibar."

ZALGA's revitalization, governance and management strengthening has been made possible through the Feed the Future Tanzania Enabling Growth Through Investment and Enterprise Program (ENGINE), a four-year initiative funded by USAID.

Khatib Abdulrahman Khatib, Mayor of Zanzibar and ZALGA Chairperson, said *"We have many outstanding issues to address but the platform was not there. We had a gap and ZALGA bridges that gap. By addressing the educational needs, we will ensure that the community is more proactive in the civic process."*



The Mayor of Zanzibar and ZALGA Chairperson, Khatib Abdulrahman Khatib, officiated the launch held July 30, 2017 at the Annual General Meeting in Zanzibar.

"If you don't help yourself, no one will help you," said Mayor Khatib.

Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. With a focus on smallholder farmers, particularly women, Feed the Future supports partner countries in developing their agriculture sectors to spur economic growth and trade that increases incomes and reduce hunger, poverty and undernutrition.

USAID is the lead U.S. Government agency working to end extreme poverty and enable resilient, democratic societies to realize their potential.

For more information, visit www.feedthefuture.org, www.usaid.gov/tanzania, www.vegaalliance.org, or www.iesc.org.

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