

1,200 get life skills training

By Correspondent Nasser
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ABOUT 1,200 women entrepreneurs from Ilala, Kinondoni and Temeke districts in Dar es Salaam Region have received life skills training on how to run small businesses aimed at poverty reduction.

Flora Minja, the International Labour Organisation National Programme Manager, Promoting Gender Equality and Decent Work throughout all Stages of Life, made the remarks in Dar es Salaam during the week at a ceremony to inaugurate MUWASIDA SACCOS for women.

She said ILO has put aside 200,000 US dollars to enable women borrow and start their own businesses.

"The money would enable women entrepreneurs to start small businesses and therefore reduce poverty in the society as a way of combating use of children in hazardous jobs," she said.

She mentioned the targeted businesses as including food vendors (*mama lishe*) and stone crushers.

Minja said the programme which started in May 2004, aims at empowering women so that they can be self-sufficient and educate their children without depending on men.

More than 800 poor women workers in selected locations in the informal sector and former commercial sex workers who had been rehabilitated had been assisted to form coherent economic groups, she revealed.