

# Govt-ILO partnership to promote gender awareness

**By Correspondent,  
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THE government and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) have forged a partnership to promote gender awareness in the country.

ILO is implementing the programme in liaison with the

ministry of Labour, Youth, Women and Children Development through workshops and capacity building for women.

The ILO Regional Director, Ali Ibrahim said his organisation was entrusted with the task of promoting gender equality and decent work throughout all stages of

life. Ibrahim made the remarks as he presided over the official opening of a workshop for training and sensitising women on gender issues.

Women drawn from 23 groups with a total population of 755 women workers in the informal sector received training on new labour laws,

women rights, children's rights, child labour issues, occupational safety and health and HIV-Aids.

He said ILO had implemented various projects in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar aimed at consolidating the life cycle approach to decent work and poverty reduction.

"By building and exercising with the learnt lessons, and good practices attained in the previous projects for promoting linkages, women and youth groups would be in cooperated in the decision making bodies, thus reducing Child Labour in Tanzania," he stressed.

He said that some pilot

women groups in the country had attained access to better jobs and their children are receiving basic education and training, which in turn has enabled their families to avoid hazardous forms of work.

"So far the projects have reached 860 working mothers and struggled to organise coherent economic groups and

provide them with various trainings including organisational and leadership skills, business management and entrepreneurship, vocational skills, savings and credit," the ILO Director pointed out.

He observed that 2,253 women workers from project groups in the informal

economy, tea and sisal sectors had also been sensitised and educated on the importance of forming Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies (SACCOS).

He said out of these, 1,944 had recently joined Regional SACCOS in Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Zanzibar and are fairing on well.