



## **ZANZIBAR EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PARTNER'S GROUP**

### **Remarks for the Annual Joint Education Sector Review**

**09 June 2025**

Deputy Minister for Education and Vocational Training in Zanzibar, Mr. Ali Abdulgulam Hussein,

Chairperson of Social Sector Committee of the House of Representatives Zanzibar,

Hon. Sabiha Filfil Thani,

Principal Secretary, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar, Mr.

Khamis Abdulla Said,

Principal Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure, Communication and Transport

Zanzibar, Dr. Habiba Hassan Omar,

Development Partners, and CSOs,

Deputy Principal Secretaries, Ministry of Education and representatives of Deputy

Principal Secretaries from Government of the United Republic of Tanzania,

Retired Principal Secretary and Deputy Principal Secretary MoEVT,

Members of House of Representatives,

Directors from Various Ministries of The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar

Officials from various Departments, Institutions, Regional and District Education Offices

of the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar,

Parents, Teachers, Students and members from the Media,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

**As-salamu alaykum, Good morning, Habari za asubuhi**



On behalf of the Education Development Partners, I am deeply honored to address this esteemed gathering on the occasion of the Joint Education Sector Review 2025. This year's theme, *“Transforming Education for a Sustainable Future: Inclusivity, Technology, and Resilience,”* is both timely and compelling, reflecting not only our shared aspirations but also the global urgency to equip our education systems for the future.

In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4, which seeks to *“ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,”* we commend the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, through the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT), for the tangible progress made in recent years. Transforming education from expanding access to early childhood and primary education, to advancing curriculum reforms and teacher training, the strides made are commendable and represent a strong foundation upon which further transformation can be built.

**Honorable Minister,**

Education is more than a fundamental right and it has the power to shape societies, build resilient economies, and foster inclusive communities. However, the world around us is changing rapidly—with technological advancements, climate challenges, and socio-economic shifts altering the way we live, work, and learn. If our education systems are to remain relevant and effective, they must evolve in tandem.

From our recent joint monitoring field visits, we observed firsthand both the dedication of educators and learners and the persistent challenges that hinder progress. In particular, we noted gaps in the teaching and learning environment, especially with regard to the pedagogical use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Classrooms often lack the infrastructure, tools, and trained personnel necessary to integrate technology meaningfully into instruction.

We therefore recommend increased investment in embedding technology and innovation within the education sector. This includes not only improving infrastructure and access to devices and connectivity, but also focusing on the capacity building of teachers to integrate digital tools into their teaching. Technology, when used effectively, has the power to amplify learning outcomes—through digital platforms, immersive simulations, interactive content, and collaborative problem-solving exercises that cater to diverse



learning needs.

Embracing open educational resources (OERs) and leveraging the global digital commons can democratize access to quality learning materials. In doing so, we empower students from every walk of life—urban and rural, girls and boys, children with disabilities and those from marginalized communities—to participate actively and meaningfully in their education journey. This is the kind of inclusivity we must champion if we are to build a truly sustainable future.

**Dear Guest of Honour, distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen,**

Key to this transformation is the continued investment in teachers. Teachers are the heart of the education system. Their professional development, ongoing mentorship, and well-being must remain a top priority.

True transformation cannot occur in isolation. It requires collective action and coordinated collaboration. Governments, educational institutions, development partners, civil society, communities, and the private sector each play a critical role in shaping the education ecosystem. We all must work together, under the strong leadership of the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, to align our efforts and build synergies that drive sustainable change.

**Guest of Honour,**

In conclusion, transforming education for a sustainable future is not just a **moral imperative**—it is a **strategic necessity**. Through inclusive, technology-enabled, and resilient education systems, we can break cycles of poverty, advance equity, and empower future generations for equitable and sustainable development. To make it a reality, we must be bold, innovative, and united in our approach.

As we chart the path forward, let us fully utilize the **Zanzibar Education Sector Committee (ZESC)** forum, the most vital space for sector-wide dialogue—where all the stakeholders can come together to **share progress, discuss challenges, co- create solutions, and explore complementarities** in the delivery of quality education for all children. We would also urge the MoEVT that these meetings happen consistently to ensure that all stakeholders remain informed, engaged, and aligned.



Additionally, to ensure effective implementation of the agreed deliberations, we urge the Ministry to schedule AJESR meetings in a timely manner, allowing the proposed resolutions to be fully considered during the preparation of the Education Sector Budget, which is presented, discussed, and approved in the House of Representatives each May.

Finally, we, the **Education Development Partners**, reaffirm our unwavering support to the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training to align our efforts with national priorities, coordinate and complement our efforts, avoid duplication, and collectively supporting the government's vision of providing **inclusive, quality, and future-ready education** for all children in Zanzibar.

***Asanteni kwa kunisikiliza! (Thank you for listening)***