WHAT ARE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS DOING TO ADDRESS THE SHRINKAGE IN CIVIC SPACE IN TANZANIA: CASE OF DAR ES SALAAM BASED NGOs

WHAT ARE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS DOING TO ADDRESS THE SHRINKAGE IN CIVIC SPACE IN TANZANIA THE CASE OF DAR ES SALAAM BASED NGOs

By

Gosper FransNgairo

A Dissertation Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of the Degree of Master of Leadership and Management (MLM) of Mzumbe University

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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that he has read and hereby recommends for acceptance by the University of Mzumbe a dissertation entitled *"What are Civil Society Organizations Doing to Address the Shrinkage in Civic Space in Tanzania: The Case of Dar es Salaam Based NGOs",* in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of the Degree of Master of Leadership and Management (MLM) of Mzumbe University

_____

Major Supervisor

_____

Internal Examiner

_____

External Examiner

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I, **Gosper FransNgairo,** declare that this dissertation is my own original work and that it has not been presented and will not be presented to any other university for a similar or any degree award.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ABA	-	American Bar Association
AIDS	-	Acquired Immune deficiency Syndrome
BBC	-	British Broadcasting Cooperation
CIPESA	-	Collation on International Policy for East and Southern Africa
COSTECH	-	Commission for Science and Technology
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
DCAF	-	Democratic Control of Armed Forces
ERGO	-	European Roma Grassroots Organization
EU	-	European Union
FIDH	-	International Federation for Human Rights
FRA	-	Fundamental Rights Agency
HIV	-	Human Immune deficiency Virus
HRD	-	Human Right Defender
INTRAC	-	International NGO Training and Research Centre
LHRC	-	Legal and Human Rights Centre
MCDOs	-	Municipal Community Development Officers
MISA-TAN	-	Media Institute of Southern Africa-Tanzania
NGO	-	Non-Government Organization
ODIHR	-	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
OSCE	-	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SALC	-	Southern Africa Litigation Centre
THRDC	-	Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition
UN	-	United Nations
UNDP	-	United Nation Development Programme
UN-GA	-	United Nation General Assembly
UN-HRC	-	United National-Human Rights Council
URT	-	United Republic of Tanzania
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development

ABSTRACT

The overall objective of this study was to investigate what civil society organizations are doing to address shrinking civic space in Tanzania. The shrinkage of civic space and intimidations of CSOs has been increasing in all parts of the world including Tanzania which affects both, government and private sectors. In most cases, Civil Society Organizations have become the main confronted group particularly those that deal with human rights advocacy. This study used Descriptive Design which helped to describe various aspects of the phenomena and behavior of the population on what CSO are doing to address shrinking in civic space in Tanzania. The results revealed that CSOs uses several methods to address the shrinking of civic space in Tanzania such as raising awareness, capacity building, networking as well as uses of social media. Moreover, results indicated that the existence of ashrinking civic space in Tanzania is perceived differently by the actors, such as government organs and non-governmental organs. On the government side civic space is perceived to be existing and enough. Non-governmental organs such as CSOs perceived the shrinkage of civic space as currently being higher than the past years. However CSOs claim that the government uses various mechanisms to suppress civic space such as establishment of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations and violence or attacks. The revealed effects are categorized into three main groups; these are effects to ordinary citizens, effects to politics and effects to civil society organization. The reported incidences to the individuals as well as their initiatives regarded as the indicators to the shrinkage of civic space. Conclusively, CSOs should make a critical analysis on the effectiveness of their methods together with cooperation with other stakeholders to promote civic space in Tanzania.

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CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Civic space for CSO is shrinking Worldwide and Tanzania is not isolated from this shrinkage. It is manifested through various means which affect democracy of civil society to acquire right to freedom of expression, peacefully assembly and association. Shrinking civic space pose a challenge to people within the country to decide their long run future and sustainable development.

This study focuses on what CSO do to cope and expand the shrink of civic space in Tanzania. This chapter covers the background to the problem, statement of the problem, study research objectives, research questions, significance of the study, and limitation of the study.

1.2 Background to the Study

From 2015 Tanzania witnessed shrinking of civic space to various actors including CSOs, media and ordinary citizens. Several indicators could be seen as evidence that civic space in Tanzania is not sufficient. The limitations posed to mass media, human right violations as well as CSOs intimidation might be regarded as the visible indicators for the shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania (Mosha & Kagaruki, 2019).

In Niger the studies show that several NGOs were banned and others were prohibited from doing their duties in some parts of the country. In Rwanda the fear to report concerning government is high, and some have reacted by self-censoring their publication (Deen, 2019).

The shrinking in civic space is not only in Africa, but also in other parts of the world like Russia whereby the Russian government has enacted laws which limit the activities of CSOs such as receiving funds from abroad. The laws require CSOs to undergo periodic check-ups and at the same time. The government has the right to

remove all NGOs that seem to harm the country meanwhile supporting NGOs that align with government policy (USAID, 2017).

In Poland, CSOs have raised concerns regarding the Counter Terrorism Act adopted in June 2016. The provisions allegedly excessively violate a number of rights, including the freedom of peaceful assembly. The definitions and terms which were provided in the Act did not appear to meet the requirement and anticipation of a law in relation to freedom of peaceful assembly (Amnesty International, 2017).

There are many ways of expressing the shrink of civic space in Tanzania. This includes the limitation of freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and the freedom of association (CIVICUS, 2020).

The Citizen magazine (2017) published that the government of Tanzania is connected to the shrink of civic space in various occasions through restricting political rallies that oppose the right to freedom of assembly, from 2016 to 2020. The presidential announcement for ceasing peaceful assembling, demonstrations and other democratic movements could be interpreted as a means of shrinking civic space (The Citizen, 2017).

It is during this period when people are not allowed to conduct pubic political meetings or forming associations for common matters. Recently it has been difficult to fight for accountability from government apparatus that go against the civil and political right of 1966. These influence the motives to struggle for civic space expansion so as to maintain if not, reforms its standards.

Again Tanzania government various formulated laws and regulation such as Electronic And Postal Regulation Act (2010),Online Regulation(2018),Statistic Act(2015),Cyber Crime Act (2015),Media Services Act (2016),Information Act (2016).

These laws and regulation were rushed to parliament for formulation with little participation from stakeholder which restrict freedom of expression, freedom of association and peacefully assembly and limit citizens practice their human rights.

A case of mass media limitation occurred in 2018 when the government of Tanzania formulated the electronic and postal communication regulation. The by-law demanded owners of radio, television, blogs and discussion platforms to register under Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA). Following this by-law, owners of mass media which streams online content are required to pay a sum of 250,000/- Tshs (USD 110) yearly as license fees.

The license must be renewed after every three years at cost of 88 USD. The initial license for provision of online content services cost 1,100,000 Tshs (484 USD) whereas 44 USD for application and initial licensing fees 440 USD. The consequence of this regulation is that it hinders small media corporations which fail to comply with TCRA's cost requirement of operating online content. Also, according to the regulation, the operation license can be taken away any time when it seems to be necessary (CIPESA, 2019; SALC, 2018).

This cause fear to mass media practitioners and the general public which want to conduct online discussions. It restricts the freedom of expression for journalist, citizens and human right defenders because they are not comfortable to make discussion on political matters and criticize the government freely.

Not only that, but also there are several situations which indicate the shrink of freedom of expression such as banning newspapers for publishing what is called "sedition news". A good example of this occurred in Feb 2019 when the government of Tanzania suspended seven days license to publish CITIZEN new paper after publishing what is known to the government as "false", "misleading" and seditions.

The suspension based on two articles published on 23 February 2019 about the inflation of the Tanzanian shilling. The articles were interpreted by government of Tanzania's information services department as misleading and false. Earlier on 22 July 2018 the CITIZEN newspaper quoted a statement from American senator Bob Menendez claiming that there is erosion of democracy in Tanzania (CIPESA, 2019).

In July 2019 the government of Tanzania by using police forces, arrested Erick Kabendera freelance journalist at his place of residence and prohibited communication with his lawyer for a long period of time. He was accused of his citizenship status; this is one of the government's tactics used to pin down HRD, mass media practitioners and political Opponents. Other charges that Kabendera was given include; money laundering and tax invasion which resulted to his heavy punishment along with those who were found guilty (SALC report, 2018).

Again In 2017 human right defenders Mr. Onesmo Olengurumwa and Mr. Baraka John were arrested and detained were charged for criminal tress pass after raid at book lunch conducted at private promises. All practice restricts performing their advocacy role.

 In 2018 UN wrote letter to government of Tanzania for collaborative effort to address shrink of civic space in order to limit increase the situation also government of URT was required to provide statement at 39th regular session of human rights council held in 2018, the government was also required shows effort done by government to address the situation of shrinking of civic space and human rights. This happened due to decline of environment for human rights defenders, civil society, journalists, media practitioners, and blogger which reduce voice among Tanzanians (CIVICUS, 2020).

Freedom of expression violation can also be seen through the government's actions towards human right defenders. For instance, the government of Tanzania denied the right of its citizens to demand their human rights in the African Court (CIVICUS, 2020).

This situation indicates that civic space in Tanzania is at danger and thus it needs some remedies.

1.3   Statement of the Problem

Tanzania is experiencing high shrinkage of civic space through various mechanisms introduced by the state to safe guard their interest for their existence in power by formulation of laws targeting CSOs and other civic activists, threatening, intimidation and stigmatization (CIPESA, 2019).

In July, 2016 President announced that there should be no more political activities until 2020 during the campaign period. Many activists reacted that, this proclamation was contrary with the country's laws which restrict freedoms of peaceful assembly and freedom of association (The Citizen, 2018).

In December 2019, the government of Tanzania decided to withdraw NGOs and individuals rights to open cases against the government at the Arusha–based African court on Human and People's Rights which limit freedom of expression.

CIVICUS (2020) reports evidences of 28 out of 70 cases which were filed by individuals and NGOs in the African Court came from Tanzania.

Shrinking of civic space reduce citizens' voice, create security risk to local staff and existing CSOs. It also causes the declining of democratic freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association. Despite the undertaking done by CSOs to expand the shrink of civic space in Tanzania; deterioration of human rights, limitations to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and free association still exists.

It is well known that the responsibility of safeguarding civic space is primarily the focus of CSOs as well as human right defenders. This is due to the fact that these associations constitute arenas in which individuals can express and pursue different interests, identities and aspirations. They also serve to preserve a robust sphere of liberty in which citizens can examine government policy critically and mobilize for and against the hundreds of choices while monitoring the implementations and accountability of the public officials (Edward, 2004)

However, little has been done to investigate what Civil Society Organizations do to address the current shrink of civic space in Tanzania. Hence this study was done to address an existing phenomenon of shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania as it has been reported by various journalists, scholars and other CSOs. The study was conducted to know what has been done so far particularly by Civil Society Organizations as the main victim of civic space shrinkage, to cope with, and expand shrink civic space in Tanzania

1.4   Research Objectives

1.4.1   General Research Objectives

The general objective of this study was to investigate what civil society organizations are doing to address shrinking civic space in Tanzania.

1.4.2   Specific Research Objectives

The study was guided by the following specific objectives

(i.)   To investigate mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space.

(ii.)   To identify effects of shrinking civic space to ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives in Tanzania

(iii.)   To determine what CSOs are doing to cope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania.

1.5   Research question

In line with the specific objectives, the following research questions were developed to guide the study.

(i.)   What are the mechanisms used the state to suppress civic space?

(ii.)   What are effects of shrinking civic space for ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives in Tanzania?

(iii.)   What are CSO doing to cope with the shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania?

1.6   Significance of the Study

The findings that were obtained from this study will increase a better understanding of the prevailing situation of shrinking civic space for CSO in Tanzania, on how the government restrict freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and take appropriate measure to cope with shrinking situation to create common ground favorable for operation of CSO activities.

The data and information that was obtained from this study is expected to assist policymaker on designing policy to work with CSO in favorable environment. This could be done by considering demand of stakeholders as guideline to work between state and CSO as partners for development. Also the information generated by this work is essential as a reference point for future studies relative to CSO for researchers and academicians in the field of social sciences who intend to develop a study where the researcher ended.

The findings are expected to be useful to ordinary citizens by creating awareness on shrinking civic space in Tanzania. Also with these findings, the state in cooperation with stakeholders may find an appropriate way of working in partnership with CSO for the development of the country's democracy.

1.7   Limitation of the Study

The study faced shortage of fund for data collection, traveling, accommodation and stationary. The time was also limited to carry out research activities due to other commitments and there was difficulty of accessing data on issues which directly may affect the government negatively. Also, the spread of pandemic disease (COVID-19) has limited the accessibility to the targeted population, hence made the decrease of sample size from 50 respondents to 20 respondents.

CHAPTER TWO
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1   Introduction

This section focuses on the review of the related studies such publications, reports and researches done about civil society organizations (CSOs). It also focuses on civic space shrinking as a discipline. The literature used (Theoretical and Empirical review) are those which are related to the topic and objectives of the study for the purpose of providing a base for this study.

2.2   Definition of key terms

CSO is a term which explains non-state organizations, association or groups which target to improve shared (common) interest of its members. It is an organization which operates independently from government. It includes all organizations which are formed voluntary, which citizens work to achieve their common goal, express their concerns and demands to the state (Leeuwen, 2015).

Shrink means becoming smaller in size, amount, and cause something to become smaller.

Civic space is the main feature of democratic societies which encourage citizens to participate actively in common interest or concerns. It assists the government to be transparent and accountable. It is an environment which covers political legislative, social and economic which allow citizens to share their common interest, concerns. It helps government to shape policy making in line with the peoples interest and needs at large.

Shrinking civic space implies repressing space for operation of civic activities by limiting engagement, reducing work environments, violating human rights, suppressing freedom in order to reduce to challenge to the government. Shrinking civic space also involve silencing voice from individuals or an organization which

operates independently from the government. In shrinking civic space environment, governments and their institutions tend not to be responsible to the request of their citizens.

Cope means the ability to deal with certain difficult situation and obtain degree of success, or combating certain terms and achieve a certain level of success.

2.3   Theoretical review of Marxism and liberalism on CSOs

Liberalism and Marxism are two schools of thought which have left deep marks in political, sociological and economic theories. Both have been very successful in enlightening a wide range of common issues across these fields. However yet are usually perceived as opposite, rival approaches contradicting each other in general.

In Marxism theory the concept of civil society can be traced back to the nineteenth century. During that era Karl Marx (1818-1883) developed his views on civil society by calling it a bourgeoisie society. Lahiry argue that bourgeoisie society in Marxian perspective represented all non-state aspects of society which utilize the state and its apparatus to promote their own interests.

In other words, the economic scope of labor, production, and exchange became the fundamental aspects for civil society according to Marx. Moreover, civil society, in the Marxist perspective, is the arena for selfish competition, wage-linked exploitation, and class inequality (Lahiry, 2005).

In this perspective, the State by maintaining the narrative of equal rights and freedom, actually guarantees the dominations of civil society. Dash (2001) argues that liberals concentrate on the dominations of the state, but they do not inquire about the dominations of civil society. And the Marxist concentration upon the dominations of this sphere has led them to neglect any analysis of the institutions and values of civil society.

Contrary with the contemporary liberalism scholars in the social sciences and political philosophy, a liberal aspect of civil society is to enhance social and political liberty (Giorgini, 2013).Contemporary *liberalism theory* states that the liberal justification for civil society rests on a vision of politics in which the ability to choose a free life.

The major difference between Marxist theory and contemporary liberalism theory is that, the new liberal aspect of civil society focus on the democratic sphere on politics, while Marxist theory focus on the dominations of civil society in the economic sphere. Civil society organization in liberal view therefore, is the basic premises that citizens should be able to freely choose and pursue their individual life. They are also free to be connected with the existence of a vibrant set of groups of the state.

These associations or groups constitute arenas in which individuals can express and pursue different interests, identities and aspirations. They also serve to preserve a robust sphere of liberty free of the state in which associations operate as centers of power. The groups are free to compete with the state and that enable their members to critically debate on the existing situations.

Furthermore, through civil society, citizens can examine governments' policy and mobilize for changes or amendment. They are also free to decide against the hundreds of choices made by elected and appointed public officials (Tushnet, 2010).Foremost among these, the state must guarantee the fundamental rights of freedom of speech and association.

This is important to acknowledge, as civil society groups have an essential role to play in terms of implementation, monitoring and accountability of the government. Governments and businesses often tend to target media outlets and journalists in order to avoid being held accountable. Such practice in most case might be considered as intimidation for civil societies and their people thus creating a tendency of self-censorship (Civicus, 2020).

Significantly, rationalization of liberalism theory on this study is crucial because it expose the fundamental ideology of civil society in promoting and maintaining liberty of the citizens. As the topic of this study suggest; an investigation on what CSOs are doing to address the shrinkage of civic space, the contemporary liberalism theory is the appropriate thought to be used as a basis for examine the phenomenon due to its emphasis on the maintenance of civic space and freedom. Together with this theoretical standing point, the researcher used a conceptual framework as a guiding tool towards examining the research objectives as shown below:

2.4   Conceptual frame work

In this study, the researcher assessed the problem in two main angles, governmental and non-governmental perspectives. The rationale of this arrangement is to help the researcher to understand the context from both points of views, the oppressed and those who were accused of being the oppressors. The framework contains both variables; independent and dependent variables.

On this accounts, civil society organization stands for independent variable, while civic space maintenance or expand stands for dependent variables. Others are intermediary variables, such as the extent and mechanisms by which civic space is shrinking, effects of shrinking civic space as well as what CSOs are doing to cope with shrinkage in   civic space. All variables are illustrated on the figure 1 below:

Figure 2.1:   Conceptual Framework
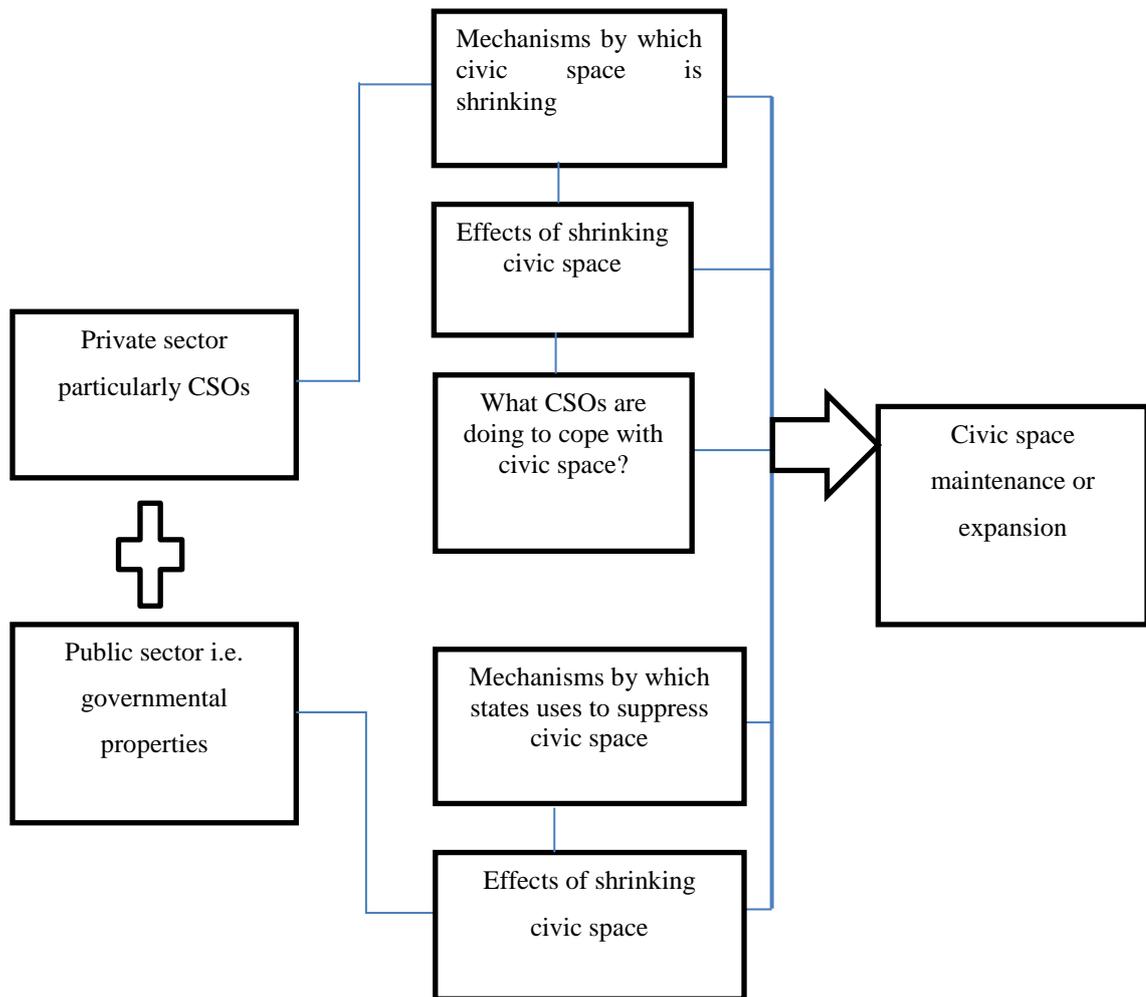
Source: Researcher, 2020

2.5   Empirical review

This section is based on analyzing the concepts and research related with civil society organization functions on expanding civic space shrinkage as written by different scholars. The key concepts under this section are the extent and mechanisms used by the state to suppress civic space, the effects of shrinking of civic space as well as what civil society organizations are doing to cope with and expand civic space.

2.5.1   Mechanisms used the state to suppress civic space

In sub-Saharan Africa, shrinking of civic space has been witnessed since the early 2000s in various countries. Activists have been arrested and intimidated by the

governments and publicly criticized for their advocacy work. Most of the governments also introduced restrictive policies, such as laws that limit foreign funding of domestic civil society groups and restricting civil society's operating space through unwieldy registration processes for civil society organizations (Assogbavi, 2015).

Historically, CSOs in Africa have become more active since the end of the Cold War. By that time unions, church-based groups and student organizations took a large part of the credit for a wave of political liberalization and democratization that grew across the continent in the 1990s (Gyimah-Boadi 1996).It was during an era in which a number of NGOs, human rights and pro-democracy agenda gradually increased.

Charitable and independent private organizations referred to as CSOs which were active in monitoring government accountability. It was also stands for defending human rights, advocacy for democracy and the struggle against corruption. These efforts threatened some government leaders in sub-Saharan Africa, and sometimes even caused their removal from office, for example government overthrow in Senegal in 2012 or Burkina Faso in 2015(Assogbavi, 2015).

Currently in sub-Saharan African's governments have certainly established a wide range of democratic reforms in response to the CSOs assertions. However, many react with either co-opted or acting on these initiatives or their activities. For example various countries in Africa have established different restrictions to CSOs mostly in the early years of the 21st century onwards. The governments of Tanzania for example, Zambia, Uganda, Niger and Senegal introduced unusual registrations process and ban of those who fail to follow the procedures (Assogbavi, 2015).

However, restrictions are not common throughout the regions. For example in East African countries such as Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Sudan, civil society faced more restrictions in 2015 compared to 2000.In West Africa restrictions noticeably dropped in the last 10 years (Vandeginste, 2019).

Dahl (2003) believes that democracy is an essential requirement to civil association's autonomy. Through democracy an individual citizen has complete authority of molding political motivation. Subsequently, CSOs allow citizens to viably take part and communicate their request to individuals who are into power through increased awareness, mobilize voters and organize protests.

Generally, CSOs act as overseers of civic education which facilitates access of information to citizens and opening doors for discussion. As an independent initiative CSOs are responsible to promote political aptitudes and ideas. When governments oppress or boycott CSOs, they jeopardize the entire implementation of the system of majority rule.

Countries use different mechanisms to suppress civilian space by intimidating CSOs in their daily operations. A number of countries in the world show that CSOs are under pressure. Buyse, (2018) said that the Government of Ethiopia constrained organizations dealing with human rights issues from receiving more than 10% of funds from external donors.

Also activists were attacked verbally and physically, and even brought to justice because of receiving funds from abroad. Independent mass media have been restricted and controlled by the government, while other form of protests and demonstrations were banned by the government. There are several mechanisms used by States to suppress civic space in accordance with previous studies, these are some of them:

2.5.1.1 Restrictions, complex procedure and law

This was reported in Sub-Saharan Africa concerning the increase of restrictions against various CSOs operating in each country by using a variety of forms. Governments of various countries such as Uganda, Zambia require CSOs operating in their countries to practice periodical registration and checkup process. Whenever CSOs fail to follow the introduced practice they are taken to court (Smidt, 2018).

Operations carried out by CSOs based on freedom of expression, association and assembly are strictly limited by imposing legal regulation of the media and information. Ayvazgan (2019) reported that regulations were introduced to prohibit news, media filtering, limiting the distribution of newspapers and closing media companies.

Tanzania is a good example of these imposed regulations. Despite the presence of laws under Article 18 (b) of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania which emphasize the right to pursue, obtain and publish information, the actual freedom of CSOs operations and access to information was limited by the introduction of statistical Act which passed in 2015 (Kwayu, 2018). Efforts were done to ensure the freedom of information law is made nonetheless they were inhibited by the government in June 2015 (MISA-TAN, 2006; Rweyemamu, 2015).

In the same year Cybercrime and Statistical Act were passed which imposed restriction to communicate or publish any official statistical information (Article 37 (2). Such laws hinder the freedom of expression and access to information (LHRC, 2014).Formal law and procedure which cover administrative and criminal conducts are tools which States use to regulate duties done by civil society organizations.

Registration of CSO is an important role in identifying rights and benefits but can be used another way round. The procedures are settled in a complex way in order to make it difficult to the implementers. Civil society organizations are required to pay high fees for registration and provide regular information concerning their operations, hence it make difficult to perform their daily activities (Buyse, 2018).

Human rights defenders which were noted by the Russian state as dangerous groups lost some of their members. The media decreased to cover their activities, groups of youths which are loyal to the Russian state supported to gain more members. In other words, NGOs laws create a favorable environment in Russia for CSOs which are

affiliated with the state and an unfavorable environment for CSOs that do not support the policy of the government (USAID, 2017).

In 2017 Burundi established legal admission control and activities monitoring of foreign organizations. This action resulted to ceasing of more than 130 non-governmental organizations. Also the law requires all NGOs working in Burundi to respect the ethnic distribution by employing staffs of approximately 40 percent of the Tutsi, and 60 percent of the Hutu. However this was strongly opposed by non-governmental organizations in Burundi (Vandeginste, 2019).

All these forms of regulations and laws are just created as obstacles to suppress CSOs on performing their duties. By doing so, the space of civic activities is shrinking because there is deficiency of initiatives that deals with defending citizens' rights those which are difficult to be attained through their own efforts.

2.5.1.2 Banning of CSOs

Buyse (2018) argue that most of states are mandated to regulate CSOs' operations. The initiatives dealing with political issues are banned only to pave way for those dealing with non-political matters. Similarly, CSOs which provide services to communities are more accepted by the government than those which are engaged with policy advocacy.

Smidt (2018) explains that in Niger, several CSOs were banned and others restricted from operating in a certain parts of the country. In Rwanda, it was reported by a Human Rights group that the Rwandan government tend to sponsor harassments to, and censoring different publications of their CSOs. Smidt (2018) conclude that there is an increase of government repression in Sub-Saharan Africa to crackdown CSOs which deal with Human Rights matters.

2.5.1.3 Limitations to fund

One of the fundamental part of the right to freedom of association, is access to res or funds, as defined in article 22 of the global convention of civil rights, political and other human rights instruments together with the Charter of the European Union of basic rights (Article, 12) (UN-HRC, 2013).Article thirteen of the UN Declaration on the rights and obligations of individuals, groups and organs of society, promotes and protect human rights by recognizing essential elements of freedom as well as the right to ask for, achieve and utilize res for the sake of human rights defense (UN-GA, 1998).

Here the idea of re consists of financial assistance, material res, access to global funds, the harmony, the capacity to travel, talk without undue interference and the right to enjoy the security of the country (UN-GA, 1998).There is a broad agreement that the structure and policies related to res have a significant impact on the freedom of association and on the capacity of CSOs to work successfully (UN-GA, 1998). Unfortunately, various CSOs face some violations and difficult barriers to access funds although their practices and operations are generally known.

It is easy to find in many countries, legal restrictions of CSOs to access res, especially restrictions governing CSOs which rely on financial support from external donors. These restrictions are usually dealing with policy making by the so-called international attention in the world.

Buyse (2018) describes more than 50 countries with adopted laws restricting foreign funding for CSOs. For instance he showed that Mauritania decided to establish a special bank dealing with CSOs that receive overseas funding.

In 2004 Zimbabwe formulated CSOs' bill that prohibits local CSOs involved in issues of governance to access foreign funds. Also, it prohibited foreign civil society organizations which are involved with this kind of activity from the registration by

the government. The bill was interpreted as a direct attack on human rights groups and an aim to suppress the human rights record of Zimbabwe (Smidt, 2018).

Indeed, after introducing the bill, President Mugabe of Zimbabwe stated that He could not allow CSOs to be used as a channels or instruments of foreign interference in their national affairs. Mugabe eventually refused to sign the debated bill, citing one or two issues he wanted address, but there are concerns that the bill will be revived (Smidt, 2018).

Limitations to fund are also seen in Eritrea where the government introduced a Declaration that prohibits the United Nations and other organizations to fund CSOs. Similarly in 2004, the Uzbekistani government required foreign donors of CSOs to deposit funds in one of two government-controlled banks, thus enabling monitoring and control of all transfers of money. Within a short time following the adaptation of this declaration, the government obstructed the transfer of more than 80 percent of foreign grants to CSOs (International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, 2016).

Bad enough, such systems are governed in accordance with unwritten policies and oral instructions thus making it difficult for CSOs to follow the rules or to write appeal of unfavorable decisions. More recently, the Uzbekistani government suspended the operation of different CSOs particularly those which receive fund from foreign governments and ceased registration of new CSOs (International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, 2016).

Some governments set a particular limit on the amounts of international funding organizations can receive. For example, the Algerian authorities set a limit on how much foreign currency NGOs can legally receive, while Ethiopia has stated that human rights organizations cannot receive more than 10% of foreign funds (International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, 2016).Studies show that the restriction grows because of the preference of channeling donor assistance through non-

governmental mechanisms, contrary to the preference of the government (Acht, Mahmoud, & Thiele, 2015).

This is especially true for countries with poor governance records. In this case, donors highly prefer to send their support through non-governmental actors. Official aid statistics do not always track the aid to the government as opposed to NGOs. This is due to many States with these restrictions are either low or middle income economies so their governing capacities are likely to be weak. In such cases, previous research has shown that donors are routinely turning to locally operating NGOs.

2.5.1.4 Counter-terrorism/state of emergency laws

New counter-terrorism measures and state of emergency laws may also have an impact on the right to freedom and peaceful assembly. In France, the state of emergency initially allowed authorities to ban gatherings as a precautionary measure on the grounds of 'threat to public order' The banning helped to reduce space of CSOs operations however the French government claimed that the intention of the laws was to deal with activists who protested new labor laws (Amnesty International, 2017).

Civil society in Belgium claimed that a new constitutional change in the counter-terrorism laws threatened basic rights. For example, an amendment to the penal code that criminalizes the act of leaving Belgium "with terrorist intent" contains unclear language that could restrict the travel of people without evidence that they intend to commit or support terrorist's acts abroad.

In Hungary, planned assemblies have been prohibited by the court, based on the opinion of the counter-terrorism center. The state did not provide specific evidence of the reasons for the decisions (HCLU, 2013). In Bulgaria, civil society showed concern about a 2016 counter-terrorism bill that would, allow the government to involve a blanket ban on all public gatherings. It includes those unrelated to the terrorist attack in question (Amnesty International, 2017).

In other areas security levels declared possible bans on public gathering or mass events. The lack of justification for such bans and the absence of appeal against the decision declared by the state of security itself could potentially lead to excessive interferences to key human rights and fundamental freedoms including, freedom of peaceful assembly.

Buyse (2018) explain that discourse or labeling is the mechanism used by the state to suppress civic space by portraying bad picture of CSOs before the public eyes. The intention of doing so is to reduce trust from the public and discouraging any effort of CSOs towards maintenance and expansion of civic space. High Commission for Human Rights argues that labeling is practiced to impose fear and discourage expressions, impact negativity over CSO actors before the public and draw away the attention of the issue at hand (Buyse, 2018).

 It is the responsibility of the state to protect people against actions that reduce the freedom of expression. Labeling is also associated with stigmatization since people who serve in CSOs are taken to court or detention. For example, in Ecuador CSOs are named as Agents of American influence which demands to destabilize the country under President Correa. Similarly, the Malaysian government and media owned state, called CSOs treacherous (dangerous) because CSOs are funded by foreign agents (Buyse, 2018).

In Sub-Saharan Africa some countries use false counter-terrorism measures against CSOs which seems to threat the government and defending human rights. Restrictions to CSO under the umbrella of national security were propagated following the US terror attack in 2001 which stimulated worldwide levels of initiatives against terrorism by a number of legislations (Ayvazygan, 2019).

2.5.1.5 Threats

Threats continue to be a mechanism used by several States to suppress civic space. It is done through various actors including paramilitary, business groups and media. Recent threats in some countries are severely limit the ability of CSOs to operate freely, independently and effectively. At the individual level, human rights defenders and their families are sometimes harassed, imprisoned, tortured and even killed because of their work.

A number of examples of physical attacks and acts of intimidation can be found in civil society reports. These include, among others, a physical attack by two men on a member of the Human Rights Institute in Slovakia, and physical attack on the Head of the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee. Also the member of the FRA Management Board in Bulgaria experienced the same actions (FRA, 2016; FIDH, 2016).

Other acts of intimidation include threats which were made against Greek Human Rights NGO members in 2011. He encountered threats due to his complaints of racism against members of the Coast Guard which occurred during an Independence Day parade. State Authorities tend to ignore the responsibility of protecting citizens and abolish the similar acts of intimidations. The state failed to investigate and bring to court or punish those who accused to threat the activists (UN, Committee against Torture, 2008). There is no fundamental record of data and any measures which have been taken to abolish such action.

2.5.1.6 Co – option

Co-option is among of major setback which reduces the ability of CSOs to act as watchdog over states. Through governmental supports, collaboration and political favors, many CSOs are often politically contaminated and thus conduct their operation as accordance to the state- welfare-provision (Muneri, 2016).Recently, many CSOs became silent and refuse to speak up the failure of governments on power. This is due to fear of harassment, little or no financial support from the State and its biased political treatment.

Slovenia for example, imposes no formal limitation to advocacy activities but many CSOs actors are not in position to criticize the government. This is because they are scared of indirect consequences of such criticism from both national and local authorities (Muneri, 2016). In the same vein the communist governments like China and Vietnam, NGOs are considered to be part of the state apparatus and therefore have little independence to query their governments.

They operate according to the established political views of the government in power. Zimbabwe was another good example for co-option. Civil society organizations in Zimbabwe negate their core principles and main functions and have agreed to be co-opted into the country's partnership government. This co-optation not only caused a division in the civil society in the country, it also made the CSOs to fail to perform their responsibilities (Muneri, 2016).

2.5.1.7 Bribery

Another informal method used by the state to suppress civic space is bribery. In this method, an important person of the organization is convinced by offers and bribes by the government so that the particular Organization will accept conditions of the government. Bribes are given to ensure that CSO is working in nets and also walking within wishes of the state. This in turn closes down the place for contestation or arguing of CSO (Helmut et al, 2019)

2.5.1.8 Violence

Across the globe, violence by various groups trends towards CSOs especially targeting the leaders of CSOs' initiatives and opposition parties. Studies show that in 2015, approximately more than 100 activists were killed because of protecting human rights (Buyse, 2018).The attacks include using tear gas bombs to disperse protestors, live ammunition and flogging protestors with sticks. In Lebanon, CSO staff received judicial harassment for defending human rights of people who disappeared mysteriously (Ayvazygan, 2019).

In Ethiopia, the government in power control operations of NGOs media and force CSO activist to leave the country. There were killing of protestors by the state, arrest of activists and imprisonment without legal procedures. This has been done to CSO activists such as journalists, bloggers and oppositions leaders (Brechenmacher, 2017).

Within violent and highly opposed contexts, CSOs may become aligned with parties as a result of fear, distrust or intimidation. This hinders their core function of being positively committed to the agendas they pursue. Similarly, CSOs reactions against violence may (perhaps inadvertently) adopt positions or tactics that increase distrust violence and insecurity.

2.5.2. The implications of closing civic space

Closing space for civil society in countries wide reduce the ability of citizens to demand for their advance human rights. It keeps their governments more unaccountable, and neglect saving the endangered communities affected by various decisions made by the government in power. Through legal and regulatory tools used by the government to shut down civic space extra-legal intimidation and harassment of activists influences the shrinking of civic space.

Since 2015 more than 64 laws have been formulated by different governments around the world in order to restrict NGOs' operations (The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, 2016). These include the registry procedures, operation regulations, and receive foreign funding. The governments are using these legal processes as a tool to limit the function of CSO across the globe.

Meanwhile, the CIVICUS Monitor shows that more than 3.2 billion people live in countries in which civic space is either closed or withdrawn. The net effect of worldwide crackdowns in civil society activities is increase of insecurity and absence of freedom. The cruel murder of Honduran human rights and environmental activist

Berta Caceres, who was killed in March 2016 some days before conducting a forum which deals with   protection of native people from land mining areas, is an obvious example of crackdowns.

The closing of civic space is not only affecting human rights and democracy organizations. Respected development agencies, humanitarian organizations, community groups, environmental and educational charities have also been targeted with restrictions. These organizations are involved in anti-poverty activities, peace and conflict resolution work, and efforts to prevent corruption and increase advance government responsibility (Funders' Initiative for Civil Society, 2016).

When governments shut down space for independent civil society activities, they block meaningful participation by citizens in basic governance. The key groups from the social, economic and political life of the country are excluded in development contribution. Close space weaken the social interactions between it and the citizens hence violence and terrorism as a means of addressing grievances becomes more likely.

2.5.3   CSOs activities to cope and expand civic space.
There are a number of strategies CSO members use to regain back lost or shrunk civic space from the repressive government (USAID, 2017). These are some strategies to be used to fight against shrinking civic space in different regimes:

2.5.3.1 Coalition building and alliance
Alliance and coalition-building is done to different civil society organizations ranging from international to national CSO groups. This method assists the protection of civic space due to fact that it provides different advantages. Alliance tends to put together res to the groups, increase acceptance to society and decrease the chance for the government in power to fight against the CSO. It assists groups to learn democracy and various principles of governance. Generally, groups which work together may

assist each other to reduce redundancies; save time and well manage res (USAID, 2017).

For example, domestic alliances between Malaysian Sisters in Islam and another Muslim Women's rights group, that work together in researching, publishing and interpreting the Quran. These groups decided to create close cooperation with journalists, Islamic scholars, political leaders, students, professionals, lawyers, and government officials of a women ministry in Malaysia. Therefore alliances assist Sisters in Islam to rival local religious leaders in Malaysia and urge the State to promote women's rights (USAID, 2017).

2.5.3.2 Non-violent resistance and protest

Non-violent Resistance and protest are methods against an increase of suppression by the state. Participation of people in CSO activities is more non-violent resistance movement than violent movement. This implies mixed gender and age groups can participate in the movement and more likely the movement will be accepted by the government. This kind of protest movements help to create awareness to the local and international community on the prevailing repressive regime.

Such movements also influence mass opinion and increase pressure on the government to defend human rights (FIDH, 2016).

Therefore the success non-violent protest is not constant and it depends on how the CSO group was organized and connected. However, non-violent protests at the local level are in nature and provide a good chance for CSO to operate freely because the government does not take into consideration protests at the local level (USAID, 2017).

2.5.3.3 Indirect strategies

Indirect strategies are those strategies which not directly anti-regime done without concealment or secrecy. These indirect strategies include; charitable activities, services provision and artistic expressions. Generally, indirect strategies are done to

avoid squashing from the State. Among of the strategies includes the participation in service provision such as HIV/ AIDS awareness programs, assisting people with disabilities, and education on environment matters (FRA, 2016). CSOs which provide such social services tend to survive longer because they are non-threatening to the existing regime.

Other indirect strategies are artistic protest, in which CSO demand civic space in forms of art work. Studies indicate that it is safe to express a message to the government using theatre performance music, drawings or writings. An example is seen in Peru where women's organizations posed challenges against the Fujimori dictatorship regime using art works (USAID, 2017).

2.5.3.4 Digital technology

Another strategy which CSO use to cope and expand shrink of civic space is Digital communication by using internet and cellular phones for communication. This strategy provides advantages to increase civic space in locations which are not easily to reach by state due to limited control or decentralized power. For instance in Russia social media assisted in the wave of revolution in Russia.

CSOs in Russia protested against corruption from 2011 to 2012 using Facebook. Vkontake network in Russia also helped to mobilize protesters. Social media are an important instrument for organization of resistance in Asia as civil society actors use in Asian countries such as Indonesia to bring more mass participation (USAID, 2017).

Social media like facebook, twitter, web pages, became important mechanisms for reaching wider audience within a short period of time (Ayvazygan, 2019). Bodrunova and Litvinenko (2016) said online communication played an important role in movements in Tunisia which protested the problems of unemployment and unequal distribution of wealth. Therefore internets helps to organize and convince people who do not know the problem and share grievances.

Digital communication is also used by autocratic states to expand their power. States establishes various laws to limit online communication. Also online communication is more located in town and limited to rural areas. However, locating servers far away from state makes online communication safer. For example, Hungarian opposition group named Milla applied facebook to organize their supporters using such distant servers (Bodrunova and Litvinenko, 2016).

2.5.3.5 Autonomy

It is one of the strategies of maintaining civic space on the backsliding regime. CSO should be independent and self-governing. Operation of CSO activities close to the government, make international activists directly linked with high opposition. Autonomy must be given to CSOs to make them free from control of the state and reduces the government's influence of modeling duties performed by the CSO. For CSO to fight for real democracy, it must have its own internal democracy. CSO and donors must have legitimacy, independence, and accountability together with representation in preparation of policy and decision making; in order to counter various strategies posed by the state against CSO (Smidt, 2018).

2.6   Research gap

From reviewed related literature, it is evident that a good number of researches related to this study have been done extensively. However, there is no documented evidence which indicates that the same study has been done where this is going to be done. Therefore finding from this study, conclusion and recommendation will cover and bridge the gap.

CHAPTER THREE
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter deal with various methods used to carry out a Research study; it is organized into various sections such as research design, study area, research approach, and target population, sampling techniques, research instruments, data collection procedures and data analysis, Data management, Ethical considerations in data collection

3.2 Research Approach

This study used a qualitative approach. Qualitative research approach helps the researcher to be close with respondents during the data collection process procedure.

It provides thick detail, opinions, feedings, and the number of experience of respondents (Rahman, 2016).

During the study, the researcher was directly engaged with respondents and interviewed them, in order to come up with in-depth information. Qualitative approach to the study showed closeness between the researcher and respondents. It is useful for understanding the problem and generating enough information. It also helped the researcher to get a deep insight in relation to design, administration and interpretation of language (Kombo& Tromp, 2014).

Generally, the approach has assisted the researcher in looking on the natural setting of CSO in Tanzania and created a report that provide more information about what are civil society organizations doing to cope and expand shrink of civic space in Tanzania.

3.3   Research Design: Descriptive design

Descriptive research design is a description of state of affairs which exists. It involves facts-findings formulation principles and solutions to problems. This study used Descriptive Design which helped to describe various aspects of the phenomena and behavior of the population on what CSO are doing to cope and expand shrinking civic space in Tanzania.

Advantage of descriptive design is it is cheap and quick to conduct because it allows researcher to collect data at the natural environment of the respondents. The respondents in turn produce high quality and truthful data. Therefore the design will form a large basis for data collection as data will be collected from a sample (Kombo, & Tromp, 2014).

Disadvantage of descriptive research design is that results of a study can change with time. It also requires more skill in using this design and confidentiality. Respondents may also give answers that the researcher wants to hear. Therefore it is highly

subjective and can lead to error in the research. Due to these disadvantages of descriptive design, the current study mostly used the descriptive survey method.

Descriptive design method is one of the methods of gathering information through interviewing or administering question to selected samples of individuals. It is applied when researchers want to collect information on attitudes of peoples, their opinions, habits or different education or social issues. It involves construction of questions on issues, selecting respondents to be surveyed, arranging means of carrying out the survey and summarizing collected information/ data that gives the study descriptive information (Kombo, & Tromp, 2014).

3.4   Area of study

This study was carried out in Tanzania specifically, the region of Dar es Salaam. This region is found in the Eastern part of Tanzania and it has five districts namely; Ilala, Temeke, Kinondoni, Ubungo, and Kigamboni. This study was done in Dar es Salaam due to the fact that it is the largest populated region and with the highest number of CSO operations in Tanzania (Kiwanga, 2018).

3.5   Target population

Houser (2014) explains the target population involves all individuals or objects the researcher is interested in and to which the investigation is going to be conducted. It comprises a large population that the researcher could not access as a whole. In this study the target population was mixed population comprised governmental and non-governmental personnel particular CSOs found in Dar es Salaam. However, not all were successfully reached due to the challenge of COVID-19 which caused most of activities to cease.

3.6   Sample and Sampling Techniques
3.6.1 Sample size

The sample size involves selected individuals from the population to represent a sample. The sample size was moderate which assisted in a simple analysis of data

(Kothari, 2019). In this study, the primary targeted size was 50 respondents, but due to accessibility challenges as well as limited social movements and interaction caused by COVID-19, the sample size was reduced to 20 respondents. This sample comprised of 15 members from 6 CSOs, and 5 Government Officials drawn from the target population.

CSOs personnel comprise the Board members, CEOs and other staffs whereas government officials include Municipal Community Development Officers who are the main registrar and supervisors of non-governmental organization in Tanzania.

(i.) Board members of CSO were involved to provide information about how CSO work because of their attendance to CSO meetings. In such meetings they would set direction for and make decisions on behalf of CSO. They were also involved because they monitored and evaluated CSO performance.

(ii.) CSO staffs were involved as respondents because they implemented board decisions and carried out CSO day to day activities such as; programs, plans and mobilization of res.

(iii.) CEOs of CSOs were involved because they carried out supervision of day to day CSO activities on behalf of the board of directors, prepared the annual budget, provided education, legal aid, supervised of staff and found res from donors.

(iv.) Government officials were involved as respondents because they registered CSO operations, controlled and monitored projects and programs conducted by CSO in their area of administration. They were able to provide information basing on their experience of CSO operations in Tanzania.

Table 3.1:   Composition of Sample Size

S/N	Category of Respondents	Number of Respondents
1	CEO of CSO	5
2	Board members of CSOs	5

3	Staffs of CSO	5
4.	Government Officials	5
TOTAL		**20**

Source: Researcher, 2020

3.6.2 Sampling techniques

This study used non-probability sampling. Non-probability techniques provide enough chance to a researcher to choose a group of the sample which he/she is interested with. Again in non-probability sampling, selection of the sample is easy and time-saving (Dhivyadeepa, 2015). The non-probability sampling technique under this study involved purposive sampling techniques to government official and CEO of CSO while board member s and staff of CSO Convenience sampling techniques was used.

3.7 Data collection methods and instruments

Data collection means a systematic way of gathering information that is aimed to provide some facts in relation to the study (Kombo, & Tromp, 2014). In order to get the required information in this study, the following methods and instruments were used to collect both, primary and secondary data as shown in the table below:

Table 3.2: Data collection methods and instruments

S/N	Data collection method	Data collection instruments
1	In-depth Interview	Interview guide
2	Documentary Review	Documentary Review schedule

Source: Researcher, 2020

3.7.1 In-depth Interviews

An interview means questions which are asked orally (Kombo, & Tromp, 2014). In-depth interviews is one of qualitative techniques which involve conducting intensive interview with a small number of respondents for the purpose of collecting information, opinions, ideas, perspective on matter in hand.

Advantage of in-depth interview is to provide detailed data about individual thought and behavior. It also helps to understand the topic in depth, provide the whole picture about ongoing program operation and provide relaxed environment during data collection since, respondents feel free and more comfortable talking about an area of program of operation (Boyce, & Neale, 2006).

In order to obtain primary data, in this study the researcher used in depth interviews to collect information from the all respondents.

3.7.2 Documentary review

This method is basically the main of secondary data collected in this study through reviewing document materials such as; reports, books, articles, journals, websites and other electronic materials with information related to CSO. Documentary review data collection method helps a researcher to understand the magnitude of the problem (Kombo& Tromp, 2006).

3.8 Types and s of Data

This study comprised of two types of data which are primary data and secondary data. Below are given these types of data and their respective s.

3.8.1 Source of Primary data

The researcher collected primary data from selected respondents as mentioned in the sample size. These were CEO of CSO, Government Officials, CSOs' staff and board members. In-depth interviews with these respondents were used to collect primary data generated in the study.

3.8.2 Source of secondary data

The researcher collected data from various documented material (hard copy and soft copy) such as books, reports articles, journals, websites, etc. this data assisted in supporting undocumented data.

3.9 Ethical considerations in data collection

The researcher dealt with people during data collection therefore he was required to observe the ethical conduct of research. The number of ethical consideration which were observed by the researcher during the data collection process are as follows;-

The researcher obtained a permission letter from Mzumbe University which he submitted to DSM RC office with a request to conduct research in his area. He further obtained another letter from DSM RC office directed DC offices to allow him to conduct research in CSOs which were located in DCs' areas of administration under prescribed conditions up to District Municipals level where MCDO are found. Also permission letter from Mzumbe University helped to work and get access to CSO.

The researcher explained to respondents the importance of the study and necessity of data collection. He also explained to respondents that the information they provide will be used for academic purposes not otherwise.
Confidentiality to respondents was observed; names of participants were not mentioned otherwise under consultation or nickname as per agreement with the respondent.

The researcher asked participants to provide information regarding their will, and they were not forced to provide information (voluntary participation) (Kombo, & Tromp, 2014).

3.10 Data management

Data management involves validity and Reliability;

3.10.1 Validity

Validity refers to the acceptable and quality procedures and instruments in research (Kombo and Tromp 2006). Instrument/tools for data collection were pre-tested before using them in the field for data collection.

3.10.2 Reliability

Roberts and Priest (2006) define reliability as the consistency of research tools or procedures. In this study, data was collected through two main methods which are interviews and documentary reviews to obtain the reliability of data.

3.11 Data analysis and presentation

Data analysis means examining information collected through various methods such as experiments or surveys and making a deduction (Glessine, 2016). In this study, the researcher used inductive thematic analysis method which consists of reading through textual data, identifying themes in the data, coding those themes, and then interpreting the structure and content of the themes (Guest, MacQueen, &Namey, 2012).

After data collection, the researcher conducted coding and arranged them according to relevant subjects and themes as per objectives, and other themes that emerged out of data in order to answer the research questions. The general procedures for data analysis that were used are shown in the table below:

Table 3.3:   Data analysis Procedure

Data Analysis Procedure	Qualitative Data
Preparing	Transcription and organizing data
Reviewing and exploring data	Reading data and notes and developing qualitative codes
Analyzing data	Coding data and assigning labels; grouping of data and looking for related themes
Presenting data	Presenting findings in discussion or text form, use of quotations

Source: Researcher, 2020

CHAPTER FOUR
PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

4.1   Introduction

This chapter presents findings of study according to specific research questions. The chapter is organized   as follows mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space, Effects of shrinking civic space to ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives in Tanzania and what CSOs are doing to cope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania.

4.2   The extent and mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space

In this research objective the researcher extracted three sub-themes, namely 'meaning of civic space', 'current status of civic space' and 'mechanisms used by the state to suppress civic states in Tanzania'. From these sub-themes therefore, the findings were obtained from CSOs and government respondents. The findings as follows

4.2.1 Meaning of civic space

The meaning of civic space is the actual freedom of the citizens, their apparatus and attitude towards what they believe is correct. As one of the respondent from CSO said:

> *Generally when we talk about civic space actually we are talking about space or freedom that is provided to civilians. Civilians in other words mean all citizens and their apparatus which are called non-state organs*

Another respondent provided

> *To an ordinary citizen, civic space is all about freedom of doing his daily undertakings. But for the intellectual minded it means beyond that, it is all about freedom of speech, freedom to access information, and the freedom to claim for their rights*

In government perspective, the meaning of civic space

> *Is such a freedom which a Tanzanian citizen possesses in all aspects of life, such as in politics, economic and socially. But he/she must not break the law*

Another respondent from government had this to state:

> *Civic space means each Tanzanian has a right to do whatever without breaking the law*

4.2.2 Current status of civic space in Tanzania

Primary data particularly respondents from CSO indicated that the current status of civic space in Tanzania as follows.

> *For now I can say the situation is not good, civic space is shrinking in one way or another.*

Another CSOs staff had this to say:

> *Extreme intimidation of civil society organizations, human right violations, hindrance of freedom of expression is highly experienced during this time.*

Again other respondents had this to say

> *The current status on my side I can say is not favorable especially for those who conduct advocacy, activists and journalists.*

The government officers claimed that there is enough civic space in the country
As one respondent said:

> *I can argue that in Tanzania there is enough civic space, because people are free to do their daily activities without any interference.*

Another respondent from governments said that

> *Currently in Tanzania there is massive communication stream including more than 50 media such as magazines, newspapers, radio and TV which are privately owned and are not interfered by any organ from the government about what to publish or what to not publish*

In Tanzania there is wide range of democracy in doing daily under taking

> *There is Multi-party system in the country, and all parties are given equal chance of doing their politicalrole and there is a parliament where the representatives are chosen through free and fair election according to the law and the constitution of Tanzania.*

Other findings from government's respondents indicate that

> *There are more than 100 non-governmental organizations within a single district. Also the citizens are free to choose their leaders during each election. They are also free to join any political party as well as form of political party.*

4.2.3 Mechanisms used by the state to suppress civic states in Tanzania

This research questions the mechanisms that the government uses to suppress civic space was asked from both government and CSO respondents the findings were these are: the government does not suppress Civic Space in Tanzania; and Government suppresses the Civic Space through various ways. The mentioned mechanisms

includes establishment of restrictive laws, assertions, threats as well as attack or violence.

4.2.3.1 The government does not suppress civic space

Government side, the finding revealed that civic space in Tanzania is not suppressed by the government. What is said to be suppression is based on wrong interpretation of laws.

For example one of the respondents said:

> *This question is supposed to be reformed or deleted because the government can never suppress civic space*

Another respondent said, the issue of demonstration in Tanzania is not prohibited.

> *For example, people want to conduct a demonstration; our task is to observe if the laws and regulations are preserved, so when we ask about those regulations, they start complaining that we are oppressing them, but that is not oppression, it is all about rule of law.*

4.2.3.2 The government suppresses civic space.

On the CSOs side findings revealed that the government uses various mechanisms to suppress civic space. These mechanisms include the introduction of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations as well as violence and attacks.

4.2.3.2.1 Introduction of restrictive laws

The interviewed personnel of CSOs mentioned several laws These includes the statistic Act, Cybercrimes Act, Information Act, the adoption of 2018 regulations which requires anyone with a website to pay heavy fees for the contents amendment of political parties Act which was done in January 2019. The intention of such laws and regulation is to limit the freedom of expression, freedom to access of information,

For example, in a short period after the new government to be formed, several laws and regulations were established by the government.

One of the respondents stated that:

> *For example if you want certain information as an ordinary citizen concerning people who were murdered in this year, or last year, or those people who have been unjustly convicted to be jailed, it will be difficult to find out because of the imposed laws.*

Another respondent revealed that

> *One is information Act, which prescribes who is supposed to give information, from who, and for which purpose. Another law is that one concerning TCRA, I don't remember well about its contents.*

4.2.3.2.2 Uses of threats

Findings revealed that threats are among of the mechanisms which the government uses to suppress civic space in Tanzania. This makes them to be afraid to involve themselves in politics or human rights related issues because of fear of being arrested Examples

> *We have witnessed CSOs being threatened to be revoked while they are in operations according to the laws.*

On the side of the freedom of the media the findings revealed that the owners have been threatened by the state authorities

> *For example the owner of Jamii Forums MaxenceMelo was arrested for rejecting to expose the identity of a user who wrote information concerning corruption within the government.*

4.2.3.2.3 Proclamations

The findings revealed that since the currently government took power there have been numerous proclamations which hinder the freedom of access to information, freedom of peaceful assembly as well as freedom of associations.

Examples restriction on political   activities

> *Since it was announced, several opposition politicians have been imprisoned for seditions and many other false charges*

Again civil society organizations in many regions have also encountered such a challenge since it was announced by the regional officers that they should not release any information or reports to the public before passing them to TAMISEMI for its review

He had this to say:

> *For example nowadays you won't see those announcements of HAKIELIMU which criticizes the government as previous time because all information and announcements must be reviewed first by the government.*

4.2.3.2.4 Uses of violence or attacks

The findings reveal that there are number of incidents of physical attacks and violence which have been reported during this period of ruling. The government uses excessive police force to suppress its opponents. Others have been attacked through kidnapping, assassination attempts, using live ammunition, water cannons with capsaicin liquid, tear gas and sticks to clamp down their movements.

In Tanzania this can be proved by the statement of the respondent who said:

> *On February 2018, one of the CHADEMA's leaders called Daniel John was kidnapped by unknown people during the by-election at Kinondoni*

Journalists, CSOs members who are dealing with advocacy and artists have been attacked several times as the respondent said:

> *Roma Mkatoliki is an artist, but where is he now? Since after that incidence of kidnapping he lost courage of criticizing the government unlike how he was doing before*

In similar regard, it was also asserted by another respondent

> *On November 2017, the journalists of Mwananchi Communication Limited called AzoryGwanda disappeared and he was never found until today. Besides many CSOs have raised their voice concerning his disappearance*

4.3 Effects of shrink civic space in Tanzania

The findings show that due to the shrinkage of civic space different groups are affected whether directly or indirectly. The research question was asked both CSO and government staff

One of the government officers said:

> *I have not seen shrinkage of civic space here...there is no one who has been prohibited to provide services or conducting daily activities. So it if difficult to talk about non-existing effects*

On CSOs side, the respondents categorized the effects of shrinking civic space in Tanzania into three main domains which are; to ordinary citizens, to the politics and to the civil society organization.

4.3.1 To ordinary citizens

During the interviews, the respondents mentioned this group as one of the affected groups due to the shrink of civic space.The direct effect of the shrink of civic space to the ordinary citizens is the fear to express their views.

This is what a respondent said:

> *The main effect is that ordinary citizens live in fear…fear of asking, fear for reasoning, and fear of expressing their opinions.*

Indirect effect of shrinking civic space is an absence of the organs which can operates freely on behalf of the citizens by asking concerning their collected tax and expenditures. As the respondent said:

> *Failure to question means the government can spend the re as they want, because no one can ask them. And if they spend as they want it means that there is a great possibility of missing the citizen's priorities.*

4.3.2 To politics

Findings revealed the limited space of expression gives them difficult situation of communicating with their people through public meetings and thus misses the opportunity of stabilizing themselves as well as their political parties

> *The respondents believe that the only way for politicians to build their capacity is through meetings where they can express their views and listen to their citizens.*

4.3.3 To Civil Organization Society

Civil society organizations are affected in many ways including loss of jobs for its members, missing funds from the donors as well as lack of experts.

4.3.3.1 Job loss and unemployment

The respondents said that due to several proclamations and laws concerning civil society organization operations in Tanzania, many CSOs have failed to fulfill the government requirements and thus they are banned. This results too many people losing their jobs. Economically this has a significant impact to them as well as the national income.

4.3.3.2 Missing funds from donors

The findings revealed that in Tanzania, most of the advocacy initiatives fail to secure funds from donors because of the limited space of their operations as a respondent said:

> *For instance when many donors find out that the particular program has been prohibited by the government, they cancel grants*

Shrinking of civic space may cause some of the CSOs which depend upon funds from donors to miss such access because of the limited programs.

4.3.3.3 Lacking of the experts

Another effect of shrink civic space to the CSOs is lacking of experts. The findings This was spoken by one of the respondent:

> *This has already happened, an international expert who came to Tanzania was prohibited by immigration officers that he has no permits of working in Tanzania, so they he to go back to his country.*

4.4   How CSOs cope and expand shrink of civic space in Tanzania

Findings from primary s particularly respondents from CSO exposed the four methods which are used by CSOs in Tanzania to cope with shrinkage in civic space, these are: uses of social media, capacity building, networking as well as raising awareness to the communities.

4.4.1   Uses of social media

The findings show that social media such as Whatsapp groups, Twitter and Facebook pages are the mostly methods which CSOs using to cope and expand civic space in Tanzania.

One of the respondents stated:

Uses of social media such as Facebook, Whatsapp groups, and Twitter is a solution… but not on newspapers or other media because the editors are usually rejecting to publish an issue which seems to be critical to the government

The power of social media on mobilizing and expanding civic space in Tanzania can also deemed through the past incident of disappearance of young billionaire Mohamed Dewji, in 2018.Activist and individuals wrote and organized the campaign on their social media accounts with the hash-tag #BringBackMO".

The respondents believe that the organized campaign could be a reason why the authorities guaranteed that Mohamed Dewji is found as one stated that:

I believe the authorities were shocked, they didn't expect that people could unite in such a way… perhaps that was the reason MO Dewji was found

4.4.2 Capacity building

Capacity building based on the findings from the respondents is the process of strengthening skills, characters, capabilities, and res that CSOs, partners and communities need to adapt and thrive for changes. An essential aspect of capacity building is transformation of the individuals which goes beyond performing tasks, to changing mindsets and attitudes.

One of the respondents had this to state:

Currently our tasks are to strengthen our abilities through capacity building programs in order to reach the desired goals.

Other respondents stated:

Currently we are using internal meetings, trainings and workshops to strengthen our capability of working under pressure

A respondent continued to say:

> *The organizations which do not invest on capacity building consequently fail*
> *to operate*

4.4.3   Networking and cooperation

The findings revealed that organizational networks are vital and essential techniques in expanding civic space in Tanzania.

To justify this concept, one of the respondents had this to say:

> *It means the organizations of Tanzania may use other organizations across*
> *the globe with similar function to express our issues. This is how networking*
> *and cooperation is done*

One of the respondents from an advocacy organization said that:

> *There are many issues which have been mentioned by our fellow partners*
> *around the world. If the authorities will close their eyes towards us, they will*
> *see the same issue reported from abroad*

4.4.4   Raising awareness

Another method which CSOs are using to cope and expand civic space in Tanzania is awareness rising to the communities.The programs are intended to promote changes on attitudes and perceptions and build a common understanding to citizens.

Asa one respondent stated:

> *There are some notions which have been inserted in our minds about CSOs,*
> *such as they are sent by "mabeberu", or they are here for the interest of*
> *foreigners…so all these false notions must be cleared out through the right*
> *education*

Findings show that there are two approaches on raising awareness which are used by CSOs in Tanzania. These include; provision of education and supporting the communities.

4.4.4.1 Provision of education

The findings revealed that CSOs are using educational programs such as public meetings, advocacy campaigns and publications in order to increase the individual's knowledge on a particular issue as a respondent said:

> *It promotes openness and transparency, thus everyone participates fully and being able to hear from others including community's members and CSOs staff*

4.4.4.2 Supporting the communities

Another tool of awareness rising as it was mentioned during the interview is community support whereas CSOs are using their res to support communities

Good example is Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP's), which provide special programs of legal supports to the communities. The findings show that TANLAP is one among many CSOs which are working closely with the communities to ensure that great awareness is created through supporting the individuals. As the respondent said:

> *For example in Ngara we have managed to provide legal support to the communities on the issues of land, marriage and inheritance.*

This was stated by the one of the respondent during the interview who said that:

> *The problem is that CSOs are having a limited engagement on policy formulation, so the government and CSOs lacks an avenue to harmonize their interest.*

4.5   What should be done to ensure the adequate civic space in Tanzania?

Based on the primary data, the respondents exposed different strategies that they think could be effective such as transparency, cooperation with the government, political will and community involvement.

4.5.1 Transparency

The findings show that transparency is one of the basic strategies that should be considered by CSOs in their activities

As he stated that:

> *Many Organizations are not open to the government; they don't want to tell the truth about funds they receive, or about their missions. When the government comes to realize is when the conflicts arise.*

It is also about the government to be transparent as the respondent stated that:

> *Also on the government side, they must be transparent, because there are some issues they do not speak openly at the beginning, then you will find they announce this is not allowed at the end of action.*

4.5.2 Cooperation with the government

The findings showed that another useful strategy of ensuring civic space is expanding is to involve the government in every step of action

> *CSOs must cooperate with the government on every aspect prior to any action, such as involving them in our seminars, trainings, workshops and meetings*

4.4.3 Presence of political will

On this aspect the respondents suggested that the government should accept the challenge, criticisms and any political undertakings from the CSOs

As the respondent said:

> *They told us that there are some NGOs which have already provide civic education concerning the election, but it was not the truth because we know each other, no one had done that activity*

4.4.4 Community involvements

On this aspect the respondents mean that members of the communities should participate in all aspects of the activities on identification of the problems, influencing policy, implementing policy, monitoring and evaluation as well as criticizing or encourage the good work done by their leaders. As the key stakeholders of projects, to obtain legitimacy

As it stated during the interview:

> *If the communities are not accepting what we are doing, then we have no legitimacy of being existed. And the only way of making them acknowledge is to involve them in all aspects.*

CHAPTER FIVE
DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

5.1   Chapter Overview

This chapter presents analytical interpretation and discussion of the collected data from both secondary and primary s. It presents the answers of all research objectives stated in chapter one as per methodology elaborated in chapter three. The study was about "what civil society organizations are doing to address shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania".

The aims were to investigate the mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space; to identify effects of shrinking civic space to ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives in Tanzania and lastly; to determine what CSOs are doing to cope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania.

Analysis of data was done through qualitative method called 'inductive thematic analyses. The method consists of reading through textual data, identifying themes in the data, coding those themes. The next step after coding is an interpretation of the structure and content of the themes so as to write a report (Guest, MacQueen & Namey, 2012).

In analysis of the data, the researcher used direct quotes to support and illustrate themes which were extracted from the data. The following are the discussion of findings as presented below:

5.2 The mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space

To examine this research objective the researcher extracted three sub-themes, namely 'meaning of civic space', 'current status of civic space' and 'mechanisms used by the state to suppress civic states in Tanzania'. From these sub-themes therefore, the findings can be categorized into two main perceptions based to the standing point of the respondents. These are CSOs and government point of views. The findings encompass some similarities and contrasts, therefore the interpreted data discussed as follow:

5.2.1 Meaning of civic space

It was necessary for the researcher to ask about the meaning of civic space. This helped to assess the general understanding concerning the matter from both, government and CSOs. The findings on this aspect were apparently the same since the respondents from both sides claimed that the meaning of civic space is the actual freedom of the citizens, their apparatus and attitude towards what they believe is correct.

This freedom includes the freedom of speech, freedom of associations, freedom of worship, movements and selection of the government which they prefer. The meaning of civic space can be defined differently according to the level of education.

Based on this point of view, to the normal citizen the definition of civic space is generalized as the freedom of doing daily activities. On this definition the respondents did not mentioned specifically which activity. The intellectual minded define civic space with more specific terms such as freedom of asking, claiming, seeking information and rights.

The combination of these two definitions from the respondents relates to what Civicus (2020) wrote concerning the space of the civic. The study shows that when the citizens are free, civil society organizations are able to organize their duties and people are able to claim their rights without hindrance. This concept is agreed with the respondent's view from CSOs as they mentioned the issue of freedom of expression and freedom of speech.

In government perspective, the meaning of civic space is not far away from what is said by the respondents from CSOs. The additional concept in their definition is the terminology 'law'. To the government civic space means the total freedom which citizens should possess in the country or place of residency but without breaking the law

On the government side, the issue of law is mentioned often by the respondents during defining civic space but, the general meaning seems to be similar which insists the freedom of individuals. Perhaps it is due to the fact that to enforce the established laws in Tanzania is one among the government's functions.

These findings show that the concept of civic space in Tanzania is well known, simply because they are not differing with what has been written by several scholars concerning the meaning of civic space.

From the definition of Civicus (2020) together with the responses from government and CSOs it seems ideologically the concept is clear. The similarities of their views prove that the respondents are aware about the concept, and the primary role of the all

actors is to safeguard such freedom against deterioration. This is apparently true by considering the National Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania under Article 18.

The constitution states the rights to freedom of conscience under Article 18 that every person has a freedom of opinion and expression of his ideas. Also it states about the right to seek, receive and, or disseminate information regardless of national boundaries. The constitution has put this clear by insisting that it is unlawful to hinder or violate any among the mentioned rights for the sake of democratic society and for the security and peace in the society (National Constitution of 1977; Article 18)

This implies that the respondents are not only aware with the definition of civic space, but also they are aware about laws and national constitution which govern the state.

5.2.2 Current status of civic space in Tanzania

Secondary data particularly magazines and newspaper indicate that the current status of civic space in Tanzania is shrinking since after the general election of 2015.Based on the findings, Tanzania seems to adopt a new kind of governance which is said to be unfair on the aspect of civic space. The findings indicate that freedom of expression, associations and peaceful assembly have limited through various forms of undertakings imposed by the government.

There are numbers of civilians' intimidation cases which have been reported by various media, local and international media. The reports indicate that journalists in Tanzania have been made to work in a limited space, murdered and even made to disappear. The intimidation of journalists goes parallel with the arrest of the human right defenders, banning of CSOs as well as violation of human rights to the individual citizens (The Citizen, 2018).

The former politician and Academician Professor MwesigaBaregu on the Citizen Newspaper' pages illustrated a number of incidences which indicate the shrinking of

civic space in Tanzania. He categorized them into four; political spaces, social space, economical space as well as human rights (Baregu, 2018).Critically he evaluated the situation by tracing back where the democratic doctrine came from in Tanzania.

Baregu (2018) stated that several procedures and reforms have been made so as to build a democratic state. The democratic state is that state which respects the rule of law as well as individually liberty. Unfortunately, since the current government has formed many things become worse particular on the issue of the individual liberty.

Based on Baregu point of view, there is no freedom of peaceful and public assemblies. The opposition leaders and the member of political parties such as MPs Halima Mdee of Chadema, Freeman Mbowe of Chadema as well as Ester Bulaya have often arrested because of their political responsibilities.
The citizens experienced threat to their live for instance assassination attempt of the opposition chief-whip TunduLisu. All these actions, to mention just a few indicates that civic space is at risk (Baregu, 2018).

In terms of general election Prof Baregu argues that an excessively uses of police force threaten the civilians' involvement in their essential democratic activities. This kind of practice destroys the whole concept of free and fair election. In conclusion on the aspect of political incidences which have been occurred, civic space in Tanzania is shrinking.

Economically, Prof. Baregu mentioned the issues of limited and unfriendly environment for consumption, saving and investment. This has resulted to shutdown of many business and bank failure. It goes parallel with the illegalization of economic activities which were previously conducted by small and medium enterprises such as fishing, land ownership, hunting, and sales of crops.

Currently, many economic activities which were conducted by small and medium enterprises have given a label of "illegal activity". For example the issue of cashew

nuts at Mtwara raised a great debate between the stakeholders after the government engagement in a business.

Lastly, Prof. Baregu show how civic space have shrink socially by mentioning the issue of the threats to CSOs and intimidation of human right defenders. For example muzzling of the press and limited control of media by introducing cybercrime law and media law are indicating the limited access and flow of information.

From this perspective, Prof. Baregu concludes that the civic space status in Tanzania is shrinking. The reason is that fundamental freedom of the citizens is hindered by the state. The civilians have no freedom and they are living on fear because even their right to live is at danger (Baregu, 2018).

These findings from secondary s are not differing with those obtained from the primary s particularly the respondents who are the member of non-state organs such as CSOs. For example, out of 15 respondents who were interviewed about the current status of civic space most of them agreed with Prof. Baregu's statements that the current status of civic space in Tanzania is not conducive compared to the last 10 years.

Based on their views, the current situation of civic space in Tanzania is not satisfactory compared to the past. There are high numbers of incidences witnessed during this era which directly indicate the shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania. One of the respondents perceived that the higher risk of shrink of civic space goes to the organizations which perform advocacy duties such as the activists and journalists.

These kinds of operation in Tanzania are currently seemed to be hostile to the government. The advocacy CSOs encounters several intimidations compared to those which are service deliverers such as NGOs which deals with health improvement, education and agriculture.

The main reason of intimidations basing upon the findings is that, the activist's abilities of mobilizing people to form quickly and massively unity with the common interests can affect the ruling class. The government authorities fear people's unions because they can remove it from power. The only solution is to shut down all efforts of activists.

The establishment of restrictive laws, banning of media, arresting of the member of opposition party like CHADEMA and other political parties are among of deterioration practices of civic space. The incidences like arresting and disappearance of journalists are just other methods used to shut down any effort of remove the government from the power. All these are the good indicators for the deterioration of civic space in a country.

However, the researcher asked the same question to the government bodies in order to obtain general overview concerning the current status of civic space in Tanzania. The government responded to this question with a different view. The government officers claimed that there is enough civic space in the country, that's why CSOs are able to operate their works and be registered.

Actually, the government officers doubted the claims from CSOs and other activists that civic space is shrinking in Tanzania while every individual is free to operate his/her daily activity without interference from anyone. They supported their views by considering the fact that currently there are many registered non-governmental organizations which operate their activities freely all over the country.

From this point of view, many government officers were suspicious to hear that there are some claims concerning the shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania. To clear that notion they said that currently in Tanzania there is massive communication stream including more than 50 media such as magazines, newspapers, radio and TV which are privately owned and are not interfered by any organ from the government about what to publish or what to not publish.

They doubted the claims concerning democracy because there is multi-party system in the country, and all parties are given equal chance of doing their political role. Additionally, there is a parliament where the representatives are chosen through free and fair election according to the law and the constitution of the united republic of Tanzania.

Indeed the government officers wonder why someone would talk about shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania while there are more than 100 non-governmental organizations within a single district. Also the citizens are free to choose their leaders during each election. They are also free to join any political party as well as form of political party or associations such as NGOs and they are given freedom to peaceful assembly.

To them, these are main indicators which show that in Tanzania there is enough civic space and all people are free to conduct their daily activity without any interference from the government. Generally, this aspect has little contradiction since each side is trying to illustrate their views in different ways. While non-governmental organs such as CSOs state that the situation is not conducive concerning civic space in Tanzania, the government insist that the condition is good, thus there is enough civic space in the country.

To measure these opinions and find what is a true concerning the current status of civic space in Tanzania it might require more investigation. The question to why non-governmental organs are contrasting with the government on the same matter should be addressed. Also, a quantitative approach might provide a good conclusive data by examining how many respondents says what.

However, in most cases the government is not ready to admit its faults to the citizens. The reasons are not well articulated, but often the government fears to be removed into power if they will admit their faults. On the respondent views, the government is formed by the people to serve the people.

This means that the government must be accountable to its citizens. Any fault can influence the people to remove it from power at any time. When the government fails to deliver what is supposed to be delivered such as preserving human rights or social services, the people have the mandate to remove it from power through the arranged procedures.

Perhaps, this could be a reason why the government officers fear to admit that there is shrinkage of civic space in Tanzania despite the presence of various evidences. They are afraid that by admitting the phenomenon, citizens will react against them and they might remove it from power.

However, it is difficult to conclude such assumptions that they are true because there is no proof concerning it. More research should be done in relation to why the government is contrasting with non-governmental organs on the same existing phenomenon in the same settings.

5.2.3 Mechanisms used by the state to suppress civic states in Tanzania

The mechanisms that the government uses to suppress civic space still seem to be a contrasting issue due to the occurrence of two main opposing concepts. These are: the government does not suppress Civic Space in Tanzania; and Government suppresses the Civic Space through various ways. The mentioned mechanisms includes establishment of restrictive laws, assertions, threats as well as attack or violence.

The concept that government does not suppress civic space is manifested in the findings from government officers, while the opposite concept came from the CSOs. Each side has some explanations about their arguments as discussed below:

5.2.3.1 The government does not suppress civic space

Starting with the government side, the finding revealed that civic space in Tanzania is not suppressed by the government. What is said to be suppression is based on wrong

interpretation of laws. The holders of this notion were shocked to hear that the government can suppress civic space and suggested the researcher to restructure or skip to another question

The findings indicate that perhaps the main challenge is in interpretation of the law but not the shrinkage of civic space. They believe that the government is organized and working according to the established laws and regulations in order to provide equal rights to all citizens. They insisted that the interpretation of the law is a source of all these claims that is, when people are told to follow the laws, they perceive that they are suppressed.

For example, the issue of demonstration in Tanzania is not prohibited. The instructions regards that those who want to organize it have to obey the law such as getting permits from the responsible authorities.

On this perspective the findings are contradicting with Buyse (2018) who said that the government uses various mechanisms to suppress civic space. This situation motivated the researcher to find out more about the phenomenon by asking CSOs personnel concerning the same issue. On the CSOs side the responses were similar with various scholars that the government uses various mechanisms to suppress civic space. These mechanisms include the introduction of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations as well as violence and attacks.

5.2.3.2 The government suppresses civic space.

The finding from On the CSOs side   and scholars indicates that the government uses various mechanisms to suppress civic space. These mechanisms includes the introduction of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations as well as violence and attacks as discussed

5.2.3.2.1 Introduction of restrictive laws

The interviewed personnel of CSOs mentioned several laws which were established the past four years as a state of emergency in Tanzania. The intention of such laws and regulation is to limit the freedom of expression, freedom to access of information, freedom to peaceful assembly, freedom to demonstration as well as hindrance of human rights.

For example, in a short period after the new government to be formed, several laws and regulations were established by the government. These includes the statistic Act, Cybercrimes Act, Information Act, the adoption of 2018 regulations which requires anyone with a website to pay heavy fees for the contents. Also there was an amendment of political parties Act which was done in January 2019.

The respondents said that all these Acts, regulations or amendments have affected the civic space at large. That is why they believe that the intention of such adoption was to safeguard the interest of the government rather than the citizens' freedom

Based on the respondents' opinions these Acts were established to hinder the journalists working freely, NGOs to operate under restrictive environment as well as to limit ordinary citizens accessing and sharing information for free. The literature shows that most of the laws are carefully organized and enacted to limit civic space with the complicated terms that enable the states to interpret them subjectively so as to suppress civil society and any other non-state organs (Kode, 2018).

It is by using such a trick that most of human rights have been violated by the excuse of the law, restrictions of demonstrations, freedom of expression, and so many things by the excuse of the formulated laws. For instance in 2018 there was a regulation concerning the websites users adopted in Tanzania.

The law requires anyone who wants to own a blog or page and publish some contents on a website will have to pay heavy fees in order to reach his/her audience. For those

who fail to pay for any reason must stop running the blog or online TV. The implication of the restrictive laws particular Cybercrime Act, information Act as well as 2018 regulation for website users hinders the freedom of expression at large.

Generally, the enactments of laws and regulations which suppress civic space have been discussed in many ways. The reports show the policies and law which established to suppress civil society are not the same. For example African countries such as Uganda, Malawi, Kenya and many other have introduced regulations and laws which intend to restrict rather than open up the space for CSOs operating their function (Kode, 2018).

One among of the directly impact of the restrictive laws as Mendelson (2015) suggested is that they reduce the ability of citizens to demand for their advance human rights. Another impact is limiting the citizens to hold governments' accountability., Also they limiting CSOs to serves the marginalized communities who are affected from various decision made by government on power.

For instance the enacted of the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations 2017 in Tanzania, led to the greater changes on uses of media and many bloggers and online TV stopped to operate. Under these circumstances it is difficult to access or transmit information that can raise awareness on the issues which requires some immediate measures.

5.2.3.2.2 Uses of threats

Findings revealed that threats are among of the mechanisms which the government uses to suppress civic space in Tanzania. In his publication Prof. Baregu mentioned the excessive uses of police force which threat the civilian's involvement in their essential democratic activities (Baregu, 2018).

Several Civil Society Organizations have been threatened by its members being brought to courts and accused of operating their activities without permits. Others have been charged for the civil crimes. This makes them to be afraid to involve themselves in politics or human rights related issues because of fear of being arrested.

On the side of the freedom of the media the findings revealed that the owners have been threatened by the state authorities. These practices made them being afraid to report the bad things which have been done in the government. For example the owner of Jamii Forums MaxenceMelo was arrested for rejecting to expose the identity of a user who wrote information concerning corruption within the government. On March 2017, President warned the media owners that they should be very careful on the thought of freedom. If you think you have that kind of freedom, [it is] not to that extent (Wanjiru, 2018)

These circumstances as well as the findings from both, primary and secondary s prove that civic space can be reduced by using threats. Generally, people are afraid to criticize unaccountability of the public officers because they are threatened to be arrested if they will oppose what the government has said.

5.2.3.2.3 Proclamations

These are announcements given out by the people from authorities such as government or police forces. They are figured out to cease certain movements for the national or state interests but at the same time, can shrink the civic space because usually are targeted to limit those who protest or oppose the government.

The findings revealed that since the currently government took power there have been numerous proclamations which hinder the freedom of access to information, freedom of peaceful assembly as well as freedom of associations. The reports show that in July, 2016 President announced that there should be no more political activities until 2020 during the campaign period. Many activists reacted that, this proclamation was contrary with the country's laws (The Citizen, 2018).

Wonderful enough, opposition parties have witnessed the ruling party CCM continue with political activities. The activities like public gathering and peaceful assembly are still conducted by CCM while the ban was selectively applied against the opposition as a Civil society organizations in many regions have also encountered such a challenge since it was announced by the regional officers that they should not release any information or reports to the public before passing them to TAMISEMI for its review. This situation limit CSOs to inform the public about what they have achieved and what are the challenges they have encountered during the implementation of a certain project.

Also it is difficult for them to publish some announcements particularly those which seems to be linked with the criticisms towards the government and its programs. For example one of the respondents talked about HAKIELIMU organization as an example which usually criticizes the government on education issues. Due to such proclamations from the government officers they decided to form some kind of partnership with the government instead of criticizing.

Literature shows that there is difference between executive orders and proclamations. Executive order is the public notice which is directed to the government officials and its agencies for implementation and action, while proclamations are usually set up to affect directly the private organs and individuals (ABA, 2018).

This is to say proclamations deals with the activities of private individuals whereas in most sub-Saharan African counties it becomes a law. The police forces and other state authorities are using those announcements regardless of whether they are in the constitution or not to obstruct the individual's rights by using a statement that 'it is an order from above authorities'.

It is by using such methods many leaders in Tanzania such as Regional Commissioners (RC) and District Commissioners (DC) use their power unethically and unlawfully by announcing several restrictions even to the issues which are legally

allowed to be conducted freely by any individual in the constitution. Therefore, to reactivate and expand civic space in Tanzania, unlawful proclamations should be discouraged.

5.2.3.2.4 Uses of violence or attacks

The findings reveal that there are number of incidents of physical attacks and violence which have been reported during this period of ruling. The government uses excessive police force to suppress its opponents. Others have been attacked through kidnapping, assassination attempts, using live ammunition, water cannons with capsaicin liquid, tear gas and sticks to clamp down their movements.

The uses of attacks and violence to cease the activists' movements have been reported often. This could be similar with what Buyse (2018) wrote about the uses of attacks and violence across the globe as a method to cease the leaders of opposition parties and CSOs. Literature show that the activists who deal with defending human right are killed hence increases the record of attacking and threatening (Buyse, 2018).

The findings indicates that attacks and uses of violence to silence the opponents of the government are not focused to the politicians only, but may other innocent citizens who have lost their lives and others missed. Journalists, CSOs members who are dealing with advocacy and artists have been attacked several times.

Generally the incidences of attacks have suppressed civic space at most because the citizens are afraid to conduct their activities freely as per the national constitution. The activists are not conducting peaceful demonstrations any longer, opposition politicians are not doing politics, artists and journalists are not free to express their opinions, and thus it is intimidation of civic space.

5.3 Effects of shrink civic space in Tanzania

On this research objective, the researcher intended to explore the opinions from the respondents towards the impacts of shrinking civic space in Tanzania. The findings show that due to the shrinkage of civic space different groups are affected whether directly or indirectly. However on the government side this question was perceived differently by insisting that there is no shrink of civic space at all in Tanzania, thus it is difficult to speak about its effects.

On CSOs side, the respondents categorized the effects of shrinking civic space in Tanzania into three main domains which are; to ordinary citizens, to the politics and to the civil society organization.

5.3.1 To ordinary citizens

On this study, these are the normal individuals who are not affiliated to any organization or associations that can be, or not be aware of ongoing issues within their country. During the interviews, the respondents mentioned this group as one of the affected groups due to the shrink of civic space. On their responses, they believe that ordinary citizens may be affected in both ways, direct or indirect.

The direct effect of the shrink of civic space to the ordinary citizens is the fear to express their views. In other words, the shrink of civic space in Tanzania obstructs the freedom of expression and speech. Failure to express their opinions results to unaccountable government because citizens fear to questions and upholding the accountability of the government.

This is similar to the study of Mendelson (2015) about the impacts of closing civic space to ordinary citizens that, it reduces the ability of citizens to demand for their advance human rights, keep their governments more accountable, and save endangered communities affected from various decisions made by government in power.

Freedom of expression is vital not only because it is a fundamental human right and a democratically ideal but also because it is a source of new ideas that change and improve a society. The constitution of United Republic of Tanzania under article 18 (a), (b), (c) and (d) express the rights to freedom for every citizen of Tanzania (U.R.T. Const. Amend. 1985).

Indirect effect of shrinking civic space is an absence of the organs which can operates freely on behalf of the citizens by asking concerning their collected tax and expenditures. For a long time Tanzania civil society organizations have been on the front line to defend the people's interests by asking the government about public expenditure, but since the space begun shrinking, many CSOs failed to accomplish their responsibilities.

This is not affecting the CSOs rather affecting indirectly the ordinary citizens because they lack the organs that can represent their inquiries concerning public spending of their tax as Failure to question means the government can spend the re as they want, because no one can ask them. And if they spend as they want it means that there is a great possibility of missing the citizen's priorities.

It is clear that shrink of civic space is affecting ordinary citizens in many ways particularly by hindering of their fundamental rights. The government therefore should make an amendment to its laws such as cybercrime Acts and Media Act of 2016, Statistical Act of 2015 and the online content regulation of 2018 in order to reduce if not removing the negative effects of shrinking citizen's freedom of expression.

5.3.2 To politics

Politicians are among of the disadvantaged groups which were mentioned during the in-depth interviews. The limited space of expression gives them difficult situation of communicating with their people through public meetings and thus misses the opportunity of stabilizing themselves as well as their political parties. The

respondents believe that the only way for politicians to build their capacity is through meetings where they can express their views and listen to their citizens.

Where there is no room for public gathering or political meetings it will be difficult to understand the grievances of the people, thus making more difficult to fulfill the needs of the people which may affecting the party. An implication of this circumstance is that many political parties will die, thus the government would not be accountable anymore because there are no challenges from opposition parties. This leads to uneven distribution of the national cake, high rate of corruptions as well as violation of human rights because there is no political party that threatening the power of the ruling party (Schröder & Young, 2019).

In Tanzania this should be addressed by all stakeholders in order to promote democracy and transparency of the government. The new constitution is essential for the current political reforms since the one which is used was designed for a one party rule. This is why opposition political parties are working under hostile environment although the country entered into multi-party system since 1992.

5.3.3 To Civil Organization Society

Civil society organizations are affected in many ways including loss of jobs for its members, missing funds from the donors as well as lack of experts. On this aspect, the respondents said that shrink of civic space is affecting directly CSOs because many laws and regulations seems to be made for the intention of limiting the non-governmental organs.

5.3.3.1 Job loss and unemployment

The respondents said that due to several proclamations and laws concerning civil society organization operations in Tanzania, many CSOs have failed to fulfill the government requirements and thus they are banned. This results too many people losing their jobs. Economically this has a significant impact to them as well as the national income.

The findings revealed that when a person loses a job he/she will not be able to contribute to the national economy anymore. The reason is he/she will not be able to pay a tax as previously, thus the government is also losing revenue. The governments are no longer collecting the same levels of income tax as before, because the unemployment rate of its people is high.

5.3.3.2 Missing funds from donors

Shrinking of civic space may cause some of the CSOs which depend upon funds from donors to miss such access because of the limited programs. For example, the findings revealed that in Tanzania, most of the advocacy initiatives fail to secure funds from donors because of the limited space of their operations   due to some pregame restricted by government which result donors to withdrawal their grants.

This could be similar with (Pallas & Sidel, 2020) whose said that local CSOs are often expected to reach the marginalized population where the government cannot reach. The participating of local CSOs can ensure the efficiency uses of fund and less corruption while promoting measurable development and democracy as well as government accountability. The limited space of operations by prohibiting some programs to be conducted by CSOs may cause inability of reaching the marginalized population and inefficient uses of funds, thus many donors opt to withdraw from funding those CSOs under such conditions.

5.3.3.3 Lacking of the experts

The findings show that most of the CSOs in Tanzania are working in corporations with other international initiatives. Through this cooperation CSOs can exchange their personnel in the related fields for capacity building as well as sharing of knowledge and experience. Due to the limited space, currently it has been difficult for the international experts to get permits in Tanzania particularly those who deal with good governance and human right defenders.

Generally, the establishment of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations and attacks or violence in Tanzania has led to the various impacts to several groups. Organizations, politicians as well as ordinary citizens are not freely to conduct their daily activities, expressing their views, questioning their rights as well as upholding accountability of the government. The consequence of missing these necessities is that people will no longer trust their government.

In terms of right to life, the extrajudicial killing and assassination attempts are deteriorating the peace and unity among Tanzanian citizens (BBC, 2019).Therefore, it is a time now for the government, CSOs, members of parliaments, politicians and other stakeholders to encourage the rule of law and promoting human rights in order to maintain the unity and peace of the country. Without peace and unity it is difficult to achieve the national goals as deterioration of peace has cross-cutting effects.

5.4   How CSOs cope and expand shrink of civic space in Tanzania

The question about what CSOs are doing to cope and expand shrink of civic space can be explained by examining the findings from both, secondary and primary data. The previously studies indicate that CSOs are used to cope and expand shrinking of civic space in various undertakings categorized into the following works (UNDP, 2005; Cooper, 2018; Abdullahi&Gana, 2017):

Advocacy: CSOs uses the activities which involve direct actions related to strive for changes through campaigns, raising awareness through media and public education as well as lobbying (UNDP, 2005 & Cooper, 2018).

Funding: This is usually done by the large CSOs which their missions are to support other small organizations by offering funds for initiatives that are responsible for promoting democracy and good governance.

Legal assistance: Involves the provisions of legal support to both, individuals and organizations for the sake of promoting justice and human rights.

Networking: Strengthening effective communication and cooperation programs between organizations and organizations or individuals within a particular sector or on a particular interest area.

Policy: Involves mobilization and influencing policy formulation through participatory mechanism that guarantees positive outcomes to ordinary citizens, organizations and the government.

Research: Collecting detailed information and doing thoroughly investigation on erupted issues as well as making publications (Gall, Millot, & Neubauer, 2009).

Technical assistance: This includes consultancies and daily activities to support any efforts of building democracy, accountability of the government as well as general election observation

Training: Includes workshops, conferences and short courses for creating awareness to the communities as well as capacity building for the personnel (UNDP, 2005).

These are the methods mentioned in the reports and scholarly works which are used by CSOs to cope and expand civic space in general context. In Tanzania some of them seem to be similar with what has been mentioned by the respondents during in-depth interviews. Findings exposed the four methods which are used by CSOs in Tanzania to cope and expand civic space, these are: uses of social media, capacity building, networking as well as raising awareness to the communities.

5.4.1 Uses of social media

The findings show that social media such as Whatsapp groups, Twitter and Facebook pages are the mostly methods which CSOs using to cope and expand civic space in Tanzania. Most of the media such as TV, Radio and Newspaper in Tanzania have been intimidated or banned for publishing what is so called "sedition information".

This results most of the media do not accept to publish or broadcasting such news because of fear to be banned.

In order to address those challenge; CSOs, activists, independent journalists and other individuals opt to use social media as means of spreading information. Social media are used facilitate meetings and inform their fellow international organizations about the situation so as to capture the attention worldwide.

In a similar vein, Elytantawy and Wiest (2011) argue that most of the activists are currently using social media to organize various activities. For instance boycotts, public protests and demonstrations can be organized through social media as a powerful tool for mobilizing people among CSOs.

Data indicates that currently, many government bodies and heads of states have accounts on social media such as Twitter and Face book pages.

Sometimes these state authorities or officers are the once who have the power to stop intimidation of CSOs, violence and mandated on making or amending the laws. Uses of social media by CSOs therefore is not focused on communicating with their clients only, but also to send their claims on responsible authorities through social networks such as Twitter or Facebook pages so as the appropriate measures will be taken.

A very recent example that CSOs operates through social media is the statements of TANZANIA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' COALITION (THRDC) on Twitter concerning cost reduction of internet service during this period of Covid-19. On their account, THRDC asked the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) to instruct mobile service provider to reduce service costs so as to ease the burden on Tanzanians during this period in which many people are working from home. This was published on Twitter on 29th April, 2020 (THRDC @THRDCOALITION, 2020).

On 31st May, 2020 the general secretary of Tanzania Communication Authority – Consumer Consultative Council (TCRA-CCC) stated that they wrote a letter to all

mobile service providers so as to reduce the internet cost during this period of Covid-2019. Their statement came 32 days after the THRDC proposal concerning the matter.

Furthermore the issue of freedom of expression has been expressed by several activists and CSOs on promoting democracy in Tanzania. A good example is given on May, 29, 2020 when the independent journalist Maxence Mello who is the owner of Jamii forum tweeted on his accounts that:

> *Freedom of expression is the cornerstone of Democracy. It's Fundamental Human Right enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We must promote and support artistic freedom and innovation as part of participatory democracy [Maxence M. Mello @macdemelo]*

This tweet came after the prosecution of an artist Idris Sultan who was accused of committing a cyber-crime after laughing at an old picture of President. There are many other tweets and statements of individuals as well as organizations who uses social media as the platform to communicate with their clients and at the same time, sending a message to the responsible authorities so as action can be taken.

The power of social media on mobilizing and expanding civic space in Tanzania can also deemed through the past incident of disappearance of young billionaire Mohamed Dewji, who was abducted by unidentified gunmen on Thursday, the 11th of October, 2018. Various organizations, activists, journalists and ordinary citizens used social media at large to express their solidarity towards protesting against such incident (Nsehe, 2018).

Activists such as Maria SarungiTsehai, CarosNdosi, MwamvitaMakambaa daughter of former CCM General Secretary, and many other individuals, wrote and organized the campaign on their social media accounts with the hash-tag #BringBackMO".The respondents believe that the organized campaign could be a reason why the authorities guaranteed that Mohamed Dewji is found .

From the documentary review and the results from the respondents it is clear that social media plays great roles to enhance CSOs reaching their goals regardless the operation environment is limited. Through face book, twitter and other social media CSOs can organize public debate, influence changes and mobilize people towards the occurred incidences.

This is due to the fact that social media platforms are affordable to many users thus enhance simultaneous sharing of contents by transcending not just spatial distances, but also temporal distances.

In doing so, social media platforms have become concrete and real places where individuals could search or access information and become connected on issues which affect their life.

5.4.2   Capacity building

Capacity building based on the findings from the respondents is the process of strengthening skills, characters, capabilities, and res that CSOs, partners and communities need to adapt and thrive for changes. An essential aspect of capacity building is transformation of the individuals which goes beyond performing tasks, to changing mindsets and attitudes.

Results demonstrate that capacity building is one of the most significant methods to ensure sustainability of CSOs as well as coping with, and expand civic space in Tanzania. The results are directly related with INTRAC (2012) on its viewpoint concerning capacity building for advocacy as the method to strengthen the knowledge and skills towards improving the environment in which CSOs operates.

During this process staffs and other targeted individuals are encouraged to strengthen their skills and abilities in order to deliver substantial outcomes related to the organizations' goals.

Protection of civic space under the pressure from the government requires good skills, abilities and re utilization that enhance CSOs to comprehend goals, making decisions and to implement the organized action plans. .

This indicates that capacity building is an ongoing process which is done according to the circumstance. For instance, during the shrink of civic space in Tanzania, organizations try to find the alternatives ways through capacity building in order to operate their functions without affecting the interest of the authorities or being affected by the authorities.

In Tanzania this process is usually done through internal meetings, trainings and workshops which are used to encourage CSOs personnel to utilize the available re and space to reach the desired outcomes. This is similar with the study done by UNDP (2005) which mentioned trainings as the one among of the methods in which CSOs are using to cope and expand shrink of civic space.

Staffs are encouraged to maintain their abilities, secure the organizations interests and focus on the organizations' visions and missions in order to deliver required services to their clients regardless of the present hostile operation ground. The impacts of this method can be seen when several CSOs continue to conduct their activities despite threats and intimidations from the authorities. The findings show that organizations which fail to operate during this period of intimidations and threats are those which did not invested much on capacity building.

Capacity building is supposed to be one of the core functions of CSOs. It should be focus on upgrading the skills or bridge the skills gap of those directly or indirectly involved in operations to enable them perform their tasks more effectively and efficiently. In this respect, the method is essential to identify suitable communication strategies and improving leadership abilities. Also it must be used as a tool for updating technologies and improving evaluation methods to measure how the organizations' objectives have been achieved (Claussen, 2011).

When capacity building is effective, it strengthens organization's aptitude to fulfill its mission over time. It is also enhancing CSOs to have a positive impact on its persistence in communities.

5.4.3 Networking and cooperation

The findings revealed that organizational networks are vital and essential techniques in expanding civic space in Tanzania. CSOs are using collective efforts (National and International) by collaborating with other organizations with the common goals to discuss the issues, develop strategies and work as an alliance.

Similar with the study done by UNDP (2005), Cooper (2018) and Abdullahi&Gana (2017) argued that networking is a suitable tactic which strengthens effective communication and cooperation between organizations.

Therefore organizations of Tanzania may use other organizations across the globe with similar function to express their issues. There numbers of issues which have been reported by other organization worldwide particularly on issue on advocacy.

This is can be proved in the report published by ISS (Institute for Security Study) which is located in South Africa but condemns the violation of human rights done in Tanzania (Fabricius, 2019). The reports condemn President for his oppressive measures towards human rights by identifying that during his rule the highest number of cases filed by individuals and NGOs in the African Court were from Tanzania.

Effectiveness of this tactic requires a higher sense of unity and solidarity, together with trust and collective effort in order to deliver valid and useful information. Borgh and Terwindt (2014) on their writing concerning "NGOs under the pressure in partial democracy" argue that networking is an effective tool that unites hundreds of CSOs together which can operate widely.

From Borgh and Terwindt perspective the united organizations have a great chance to work under any circumstance without compromising with any form of restriction in a

given country. The method involves unions of many CSOs ranging from small to larger organizations, closely related organizations and single organization with great relationship with its neighboring associations (Borgh and Terwindt, 2014).

Generally, the maintenance and defending of civic space is not an individual role, rather it is a global concern. Networking and cooperation between organizations facilitates the increase in scope of operations in which CSOs can reach large and diverse audiences through partnership rather than working independently. The shared values are usually inspiring people to take a collective attention towards the common undertakings.

5.4.4 Raising awareness

Another method which CSOs are using to cope and expand civic space in Tanzania is awareness rising to the communities. The organizations develop communication and information exchange programs in order to create a common understanding concerning a certain issue through communities' mobilization. The programs are intended to promote changes on attitudes and perceptions.

Based on the findings, lack of basic knowledge may results in unnecessary issues for communities such as negative perceptions towards the functions of CSOs, civic rights and government responsibilities. Under this circumstance, CSOs in Tanzania have been spending their time to increase the community's knowledge of civic education, good governance and the role of CSOs in promoting democracy and changing behavior of the individuals.

For example there are several negative perceptions towards CSOs operations especially which deals with advocacy that they are used to serve the interests of foreigners "mabeberu" rather that the particular community. To clear out this notion, CSOs managed to inform the communities and provide knowledge about its functions through civic education to individuals so as to build a common understanding to all.

Scholarly works suggest various channels through which organizations may use to raise awareness. These include issuing press releases, briefings and commentaries, disseminating reports, working with the media, holding public meetings and events as well as, contributing to educational materials (UNDP and DCAF, 2008).

The campaigns for raising awareness are recognized as efficient and effective tool to spread knowledge of a particular problem or cause. The initiatives should focus on altering the individual attitude and perceptions rather than just providing information (Kisić & Tomka, 2018). It is important to take into consideration the target audience when communicating key messages.

Findings show that there are two approaches on raising awareness which are used by CSOs in Tanzania. These include; provision of education and supporting the communities.

5.4.4.1 Provision of education

The findings revealed that CSOs are using educational programs such as public meetings, advocacy campaigns and publications in order to increase the individual's knowledge on a particular issue. The aim is to bring changes on individual perceptions, attitudes and behavior which limit their capacity on involvement in the critical issues. Awareness is therefore essential to agenda setting for policy formulations, checking accountability of their leaders as well as defending human rights.

Public meetings: Basing on the findings, these give the citizens an opportunity to express their necessities as well as discussing with common bond. The significance of public meeting during the provision of education is that way of sharing information with a large number of people in a form of conversation that is open to all.

Advocacy campaigns: The respondents explained that these are the long terms educational programs usually last for 1 to 3 years. The focus of these campaigns is to insist changes or an issue to be achieved through concise and persuasive messages.

Based on the findings, advocacy campaigns include a set of activities which are organized to influence policies and actions to be taken by those who hold power.

Publications: The findings indicated that publications is one among the best strategy for raising awareness as it contains the current and analytical information on a certain issue. The respondents said that publications on magazines, briefing notes and position papers about a particular issue facilitate the accessibility of information and required knowledge to the targeted audience.

Generally, as one among of the tools for raising awareness, provision of education must be focus to all types of audience such as ordinary citizens as well as the members of the government. Because, the primary focus of rising awareness is to increase knowledge and changing people's perceptions, hence every individual including those holding power should sharpen their mind through these educational programs.

5.4.4.2 Supporting the communities

Another tool of awareness rising as it was mentioned during the interview is community support whereas CSOs are using their res to support communities. These include legal supports as well as facilitating the accessibility of good social services. Through these kinds of activities, the communities are able to understand the role of civil society organization practically, and thus they can change their perceptions because of the given support.

Good example is Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP's), which provide special programs of legal supports to the communities. The findings show that TANLAP is one among many CSOs which are working closely with the communities to ensure that great awareness is created through supporting the individuals.

Based on the findings, legal support to the communities focused on raising awareness concerning the rule of law and access to justice in Tanzania. Through these support, the individuals could understand the role of CSOs and at the same time gain knowledge concerning their rights as well as how to access justice. This is similar to the study done by Cooper (2018) who argued that the support provided by CSOs should involve direct actions in order to promote changes on attitude and perceptions.

To conclude on this aspect, raising awareness is a vital strategy to maintain and expand civic space in Tanzania. Although there is no conducive environment of conducting awareness campaigns, CSOs should act as the main influencer to policies and programs formulation based on community's needs. Active raising awareness will help bring about the abolition of intimidations and oppressions to the CSOs as well as civilians due to the presence of common citizens' voices and evidence that influence national policies.

However, the effectiveness of all mentioned strategies to cope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania is hindered by the limited engagement on policy formulation. The scope of involvement on policy making is inadequate, hence many claims from both, government and CSOs cannot be harmonized so as to come up with the mutual and acceptable policy which does not oppress or affect the interest of the other side.

This is similar with Court (2006) argument that the main challenge facing CSOs on expanding the shrink of civic space is poor engagement during policy formation which is mainly caused by political factors. This leads CSOs to act on their own, and the government on their own perspective, thus influence the conflicts of interests between them.

This might be the truth based on the findings discussed on the previous objectives where the government and CSOs seem to be contradicting each other. While CSOs claimed that they are intimidated, and civic space is shrinking; the government rejects saying, there is no shrink of civic space in Tanzania.

There is the importance of integrating CSOs and policymakers for the prosperity of good governance and liberty to the citizens. The term policy implies the purposive course of action followed by the actors (Court, Mendizabal, Osborne, & Young, 2006). It encompasses changes of the behavior, attitudes and practices of the key policy actors.

Inaccessibility of partnership during policy making process between CSOs and the government is significantly affecting the accountability of the actors (Court, Mendizabal, Osborne, & Young, 2006). To address this challenge, a respondent suggested that CSOs should not stop to raise their voice about any obstacle which limits their operation until people who hold power understand claims from our organization.

Generally, the formulation of public policy and laws must comprehend the needs of its actors, whether they are government agencies or private sectors. This will promote accountability and transparency of each stakeholder because they are all playing their role in a fair ground regardless their different responsibilities.

5.5   What should be done to ensure the adequate civic space in Tanzania?

On this aspect the researcher intended to explore more details concerning strategies that can be effective to expand civic space in Tanzania. Based on the primary data, the respondents exposed different strategies that they think could be effective such as transparency, cooperation with the government, political will and community involvement.

5.5.1   Transparency

The findings show that transparency is one of the basic strategies that should be considered by CSOs in their activities. This implies the openness to the public insights as well as to the government which enable to inspect the work of CSOs as well as monitoring their tools.

The finding indicates that when the organization works in transparency; everything being known by the public as well as the government, then there will be no more suspecting and intimidating. He believed that through transparency the government would be aware of the amount of fund which CSOs are receiving from their donors, and also would be familiar with the vision and the missions of the organization.

This is definitely true as it was mentioned by one of government officer on the second objective of this study. She said that there is no shrink of civic space; instead the organizations are not willing to obey the law such as being transparent. This can be similar with the study of ERGO (2018) which argue that being transparent and accountable is important to civil society organization in dealing with the people they target to serve.

CSOs should be truthful and honest to all stakeholders such as the government, donors, members and partners in order to promote acceptable standards and ethical practices. This is not about civil society organization only; it is also about the government to be transparent on various issues in which governments make decision and should not restrict   at the end various matters to stakeholders without participatory.

Transparency based on the findings of this study can be important to all actors such as government, organizations and the public in general, since it provides a room to check and balance while serving the communities. As the studies suggest, transparency promote fighting against corruption, thus it motivate the communities and donors to be active participants in various programs (ERGO, 2018).

5.5.2   Cooperation with the government

The findings showed that another useful strategy of ensuring civic space is expanding is to involve the government in every step of action. This will enhance to create a mutual direction towards supporting the communities. The cooperation between

CSOs and government must done using seminars, trainings, workshops and meetings by involving before taking action.

This is contrary with Prof. Shivji as he argues that Non-governmental organization should act as the watchdog by criticizing the government shortcoming rather than working together as partners.

Shivji (2003) call upon the re-think and awakening of CSOs about the so called 'participation by substitution' which means through the cooperation between CSOs and government, many private organization have lost their sight of what they should be, what they should do and what they should not do. To him, the cooperation contrasts the organization's belief of helping people, thus it alienate the core focus of civil society organization.

From the general concept about the meaning and the role of CSOs, Professor Shivji (2003) has a point on his perspective while the respondent has the point also. However, based on the Prof. Shivji perspective, CSOs must stand on their role as the watchdog of the government. Any cooperation must not alienate the core functions of CSOs in order to help the communities with competences and efficiency.

5.4.3 Presence of political will

Finding indicates that the government should accept the challenge, criticisms and any political undertakings from the CSOs. One of the noted challenges in Tanzania is that many officers are not ready to accept the political contribution from their counter organs such as CSOs. For example during the by-election of 2019 CSOs were not involved in the process despite their being recognized by the law.

Before the election, CSOs proposed to conduct seminars and trainings to the communities in order to encourage them to participate in voting as well as contesting for any leadership position as their civic rights. Unfortunately the National Election

Commission (NEC) told the CSOs that the election education has already been provided to the citizens, a statement which was not true.

On this account the political will which is discussed here is that accountability of the people who holds power in the government. It is also based on their willingness to accept challenge from the private sectors. Towards the achievement of CSOs operations, every actor must be accountable on their position. This includes provision of the required permits on time, facilitating the activities as per available laws as well as accepting challenge or criticisms.

In Tanzania this has been a challenge for a long time, where many undertakings which were proposed by the private sectors or opposition political parties continue to encounter some rejections from the government. The issues of establishing a new constitution in Tanzania, peaceful demonstration as well as the free commission of election has not been well accepted by many people who are in power (Mnette, 2016).

To ensure the space of civic space is expanding therefore the government actors should understand the importance of political will as well as being ready to accept changes from their opponents. Development is not geared by the one actor only, but all citizens, organs and systems should work together for the betterment of all.

5.4.4   Community involvements

On this aspect the respondents mean that members of the communities should participate in all aspects of the activities. In other word, the community members should be involved on identification of the problems, influencing policy, implementing policy, monitoring and evaluation as well as criticizing or encourage the good work done by their leaders.

As the key stakeholders of projects, local communities must be considered with honor because they have the power to accept or reject any activity to be conducted in their areas. Failure to deliver a service to a particular community means the organization

has no legitimacy to continue with its operation and it must be banned .And the only way of making them acknowledge is to involve them in all aspects.

When the community is involved in a project, it creates a sense of ownership hence facilitating the attainment of successful outcome. The community members always feel good after realizing that the fruits of their labor have become visible. This include; justice being practiced on their lands, livestock and other res, schools being built, and civic space being available.

Therefore it is call upon the civil society organizations to involve the communities in all aspects of their activities. This will ensure their legitimacy of being supportive to the communities, and at the same time enabling their mission to be successful.

CHAPTER SIX
SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

This Chapter presents the conclusion and recommendations resulting from the findings of the study. It is organized into three sections; the first section presents summary of the study findings in accordance with the objectives; the second section presents the conclusions from the study; and the last section presents the recommendations resulting from the findings of the study. The subsections are presented below.

6.2 Summary of the Findings

This section presents the summary of the study in accordance with the objectives. The first objective was to investigate the extents and mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space in Tanzania, it was found that there are contrasting responses on this objective. While the government holds that there is enough civic space in Tanzania and that it has never suppressed civic space; CSOs claim that civic space in Tanzania is highly shrinking particularly during the current rule.

Furthermore, CSOs mentioned a number of incidences which indicate the shrink of civic space. These include the introduction of restrictive laws, uses of threats, proclamations as well as uses of attacks and violence against CSOs. The intention of

using these mechanisms is to safeguard the interest of the government instead of protecting civilian's rights.

The second objective sought to identify effects of shrinking civic space in Tanzania. This objective was asked to both, government officers and CSOs personnel. The responses also differed since; the government held that there is no shrinkage of civic space and thus made difficult to depict the effects of shrinking civic space which in government's opinion it was not shrinking at all.
CSOs however, mentioned different effects of shrinking civic space to specific groups such as ordinary citizens, politicians as well as civil organizations.

In addition to that, it was found that CSOs are affected in three main angles, which are loss of fund, loss of expertise as well as job loss or unemployment. The last objective was to find out what CSOs are doing to cope and expand civic space in Tanzania. The following strategies were reported by the respondents; raising awareness, capacity building, networking as well as uses of social media.

6.3 Conclusion

From the findings of this study it can be concluded that, CSOs use several methods to cope with shrinking in civic space in Tanzania. However this does not mean that through those mentioned strategies the shrinkage challenges are solved. It is therefore important for organizations to do critical analysis on the effectiveness of their methods together with cooperation with other stakeholders so as to come up with concrete mechanisms of solving the problem. Again government should assist to prevent more deterioration of human rights and shrink of civic space claimed by CSO and international organization through adhere various international human treaties assigned by Tanzania so as to keep long-term record of practice of openness, engagement and respect of human rights.

6.4 Recommendations

With regard to the findings and conclusions, the following were recommended.

• The government in collaboration with the private sector should make sure that there is consistent civic space among Tanzanians as well as to non-governmental organizations. This should go hand in hand with the involvement of private sector during policy making and law establishment in order to mitigate the contradictions arising during interpretation and implementation of the established laws. Government should consider the private sector as the key partners on development rather than perceiving them as the protestors.

• CSOs should invest in building technical capability for maintenance the government accountability as well as secure civic space by increasing awareness to the ordinary citizens, government agencies as well as other partners for the development of non-government organs. CSOs also should work in transparency in order to reduce unnecessary conflicts with the government authorities. This transparency should be manifested from the early stage of registration, fund raising and projects which is going to be conducted.

6.5   Areas for further study

Find what is a true concerning the current status of civic space in Tanzania it might require more investigation. The question to why non-governmental organs are contrasting with the government organs on the same matter on the same setting should be addressed. Also, a quantitative approach might provide a good conclusive data by examining how many respondents says what.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Interview guide for CEOs and Staff of CSOs.

- *Target population:* CEOs and Staff of Civil Society Organization

- *Sample size:* 30 Respondents *(CEOs of CSOs 10 and Staffs 20)*

- *Themes:*

- The extent and mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space

- Effects of shrinking civic space for ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives CSO in Tanzania

- What CSOs are doing to cope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania

Introduction:

I am *Gosper FransNgairo,* a student of Mzumbe University, carrying out a research on **What are Civil Society Organizations doing to address Shrinkage in Civic space in Tanzania** as part of the requirement Master of Leadership and Management (MLM), therefore kindly request you to spare some time for the interview concerning this study. Please be assured that all information will be strictly for academic purposes and will be treated with great confidentiality.

During the interview I will take some notes in my notebook as well as I ask for your consent to record our conversation so as I can do transcription for data analysis process.

Interview Questions:

THEME 1: MECHANISM THE STATE USES TO SUPPRESS CIVIC SPACE

Question one: What is civic space?

Swali: Uhuru wa raia ni nini?

------------------Probing questions if any------------------------

Question two: What is the status of civic space in Tanzania?

Swali: Hali ya uhuru wa raia ipo je nchini Tanzania?

------------------Probing questions--------------------------

Question three: Which are mechanisms the state uses to suppress civic space?

Swali: Mbinu gani serikali hutumia kuminya uhuru wa raia?

------------------Probing questions---------------------

Question four: Why civic space is shrinking?

Swali: Kwa nini uhuru wa raia unaminywa?

------------------Probing questions---------------------

THEME 2: EFFECTS OF SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE FOR ORDINARY CITIZENS, POLITICS AND ALL CIVIC INITIATIVES CSOs IN TANZANIA

Question five: What are the effects of shrink civic space to the ordinary citizens, politics and civic initiatives such as CSOs?

Swali:Ni madhara gani yanayotokana na kuminywa kwa Uhuru wa raia kwa watu wa kawaida, katika siasa ,na asasi za kiraia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question six: Which group is most affected by space shrinkage?

Swali: Kundi ganil inaathirika zaidi na kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question seven: Why a certain group is more affected than other groups?

Swali: Kwa nini kundi Fulani linaathirika zaidi kuliko makundi mengine?

THEME 3: TO COPE WITH CIVIC SHRINKAGE IN CIVIC SPACE IN TANZANIA

Question eight: What are the roles of CSOs towards civic space maintenance or expansion?

Swali: Majukumu ya asasi za kiraia ni yapi katika kuimarisha au kukuza uhuru wa raia?

------------------Probing questions-----------------------

Question nine: How are CSOs cope with shrinkage in civic space?

Swali: Namna gani asasi za kiraia zinakabiliana au zinaongeza uhuru wa raia?

---------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question ten: What are the effectiveness of the strategies used by CSOs tocope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania?

Swali: Ubora wa njia zinazo tumiwa na asasi za kiraia katika kuongeza au kukabiliana na kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia upo je nchini Tanzania?

Question eleven: Why civic space in Tanzania is still shrinking despite the presence of CSOs which are responsible for human right defense?

Swali: Kwa nini uhuru wa raia nchini Tanzania bado unaminywa japokuwa kuna asasi za kiraia zinazo husika na kutetea haki za binadamu?

Question twelve: What should be done to ensure that there will be a reliable civic space is Tanzania?

Swali: Nini kifanyike kuhakikisha kwamba kunakuwa na uhuru wa uhakika kwa raia nchini Tanzania?

-----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Thank you very much for your time and cooperation

Appendix 2:   Interview guide for the Government Officers

- *Target population:* Government Officers

- *Sample size:* 10 Respondents

- *Themes:*

- The extent and mechanism the state uses to suppress civic space

- Effects of shrinking civic space for ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives CSO in Tanzania

<u>Introduction:</u>

I am *Gosper FransNgairo,* a student of Mzumbe University, carrying out a research on **What are Civil Society Organizations doing to address Shrinkage in Civic space in Tanzania** as part of the requirement Master of Leadership and Management (MLM), therefore kindly request you to spare some time for the interview concerning this study. Please be assured that all information will be strictly for academic purposes and will be treated with great confidentiality.

During the interview I will take some notes in my notebook as well as I ask for your consent to record our conversation so as I can do transcription for data analysis process.

<u>Interview Questions:</u>

THEME 1: THE EXTENT AND MECHANISM THE STATE USES TO SUPPRESS CIVIC SPACE

Question one: What is civic space?

Swali: Uhuru wa raia ni nini?

------------------Probing questions if any-----------------------

Question two: What is the status of civic space in Tanzania?

Swali: Hali ya uhuru wa raia ipoje nchini Tanzania?

------------------Probing questions--------------------------

Question three: How civic space in Tanzania is shrinking by the state authorities?

Swali: Namna gani uhuru wa raia unaminywa Tanzania kwa kupitia mamlaka za serikali?

------------------Probing questions--------------------

Question four: Why state authorities used to suppress civic space?

Swali: Kwa nini mamlaka ya za kiserikali zinatumika katika kupunguza uhuru wa raia?

------------------Probing questions--------------------

THEME 2: EFFECTS OF SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE FOR ORDINARY CITIZENS, POLITICS AND ALL CIVIC INITIATIVES CSOs IN TANZANIA

Question five: What are the effects of shrink civic space to the ordinary citizens, politics and civic initiatives such as CSOs?

Swali:Ni madhara gani yanayotokana na kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia kwa watu wa kawaida, katika siasa na asasi za kiraia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question six: Which group is most affected by space shrinkage?

Swali: Kundi gani linaathirika zaidi nakuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question twelve: What should be done to ensure that there will be a reliable civic space is Tanzania?

Swali: Nini kifanyike kuhakikisha kwamba kunakuwa na uhuru wa uhakika kwa raia nchini Tanzania?

Thank you very much for your time and cooperation

Appendix 3:   Interview guide for Members and Chairs of CSOs Board

- *Target population:* Members and Chairs of the Board
- *Sample size:* 10 Respondents *(member of the board 5, and chairs of the board 5)*
- *Themes:*
- Effects of shrinking civic space for ordinary citizens, politics and all civic initiatives CSO in Tanzania
- What CSOs are doing to cope with civic space in Tanzania

Introduction:

I am *Gosper FransNgairo,* a student of Mzumbe University, carrying out a research on **What are Civil Society Organizations doing to address Shrinkage in Civic space in Tanzania** as part of the requirement Master of Leadership and Management (MLM), therefore kindly request you to spare some time for the interview concerning this study. Please be assured that all information will be strictly for academic purposes and will be treated with great confidentiality.

During the interview I will take some notes in my notebook as well as I ask for your consent to record our conversation so as I can do transcription for data analysis process.

Interview Questions:

THEME 2: EFFECTS OF SHRINKING CIVIC SPACE FOR ORDINARY CITIZENS, POLITICS AND ALL CIVIC INITIATIVES CSOs IN TANZANIA

Question one: What are the effects of shrinking in civic space to the ordinary citizens, politics and civic initiatives such as CSOs?

Swali: Ni madhara gani yanayotokana na kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia kwa watu wa kawaida, katika siasa na asasi za kiraia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question two: Which group is most affected by civic space shrinkage?

Swali: Kundi gani linaathirika zaidi na kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia?

----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question three: Why a certain group is more affected than other groups?

Swali: Kwa nini kundi hilo linaathrika zaidi kuliko makundi mengine?

THEME 3: TO COPE WITH CIVIC SPACE IN TANZANIA

Question four: What are the roles of CSOs towards civic space maintenance or expansion?

Swali: Majukumu ya asasi za kiraia ni yapi katika kuimarisha au kukuza uhuru wa raia?

------------------Probing questions-----------------------

Question five: Which strategies used by CSOs to cope with civic space?

Swali: Mbinu gani zinazotumiwa na asasi za kiraia katika kukabiliana au kuongeza uhuru wa raia?

---------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Question six: What are the effectiveness of the strategies used by CSOs tocope with shrinkage in civic space in Tanzania?

Swali: Ubora wa njia zinazotumiwa na asasi za kiraia katika kuongeza au kukabilianana kuminywa kwa uhuru wa raia upoje nchini Tanzania?

Question seven: Why civic space in Tanzania is still shrinking despite the presence of CSOs which are responsible for human right defense?

Swali: *Kwa nini uhuru wa raia nchini Tanzania bado unaminywa japo kuwa kuna asasi za kiraia zinazohusika na kutetea haki za binadamu?*

Question eight: What should be done to ensure that there will be a reliable civic space is Tanzania?

Swali: *Nini kifanyike kuhakikisha kwamba kuna kuwa na uhuru wa uhakika kwa raia nchini Tanzania?*

-----------------------Probing questions----------------------------

Thank you very much for your time and cooperation