

# AFRICAN MEDIA BAROMETER

The first home grown analysis of the  
media landscape in Africa

## TANZANIA 2015





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# CONTENT

SUMMARY: 7

SECTOR 1: 11  
Freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, is effectively protected and promoted.

SECTOR 2: 27  
The media landscape, including new media, is characterised by diversity, independence and sustainability.

SECTOR 3: 45  
Broadcasting regulation is transparent and independent; the state broadcaster is transformed into a truly public broadcaster.

SECTOR 4: 55  
The media practise high levels of professional standards.

WAY FORWARD: 67

# The African Media Barometer (AMB)

The African Media Barometer (AMB) is an in-depth and comprehensive description and measurement system for national media environments on the African continent. Unlike other press surveys or media indices the AMB is a self-assessment exercise based on home-grown criteria derived from African Protocols and Declarations like the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa (2002) by the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights. The instrument was jointly developed by fesmedia Africa, the Media Project of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in Africa, and the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) in 2004.

The African Media Barometer is an analytical exercise to measure the media situation in a given country which at the same time serves as a practical lobbying tool for media reform. Its results are presented to the public of the respective country to push for an improvement of the media situation using the AU-Declaration and other African standards as benchmarks. The recommendations of the AMB-reports are then integrated into the work of the 19 country offices of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) in sub-Sahara Africa and into the advocacy efforts of other local media organisations like the Media Institute of Southern Africa.

## Methodology and Scoring System

Every three to four years a panel of 10-12 experts, consisting of at least five media practitioners and five representatives from civil society, meets to assess the media situation in their own country. For 1½ days they discuss the national media environment according to 39 predetermined indicators. The discussion and scoring is moderated by an independent consultant who also edits the AMB-report.

After the discussion of one indicator, panel members allocate their individual scores to that respective indicator in an anonymous vote according to the following scale:

<b>1</b>	Country does not meet indicator	
<b>2</b>	Country meets only a few aspects of indicator	
<b>3</b>	Country meets some aspects of indicator	
<b>4</b>	Country meets most aspects of indicator	
<b>5</b>	Country meets all aspects of the indicator	

The sum of all individual indicator scores will be divided by the number of panel members to determine the average score for each indicator. These average indicator scores are added up to form average sector scores which then make up the overall country score.

### **Outcome**

The final, qualitative report summarizes the general content of the discussion and provides the average score for each indicator plus sector scores and overall country score. In the report panellists are not quoted by name to protect them from possible repercussions. Over time the reports are measuring the media development in that particular country and should form the basis for a political discussion on media reform.

In countries where English is not the official language the report is published in a bilingual edition.

Implementing the African Media Barometer the offices of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and – in SADC countries the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) – only serve as a convener of the panel and as guarantor of the methodology. The content of the discussion and the report is owned by the panel of local experts and does not represent or reflect the view of FES or MISA.

In 2009 and again in 2013 the indicators were reviewed, amended, some new indicators were added and some were replaced.<sup>1</sup>

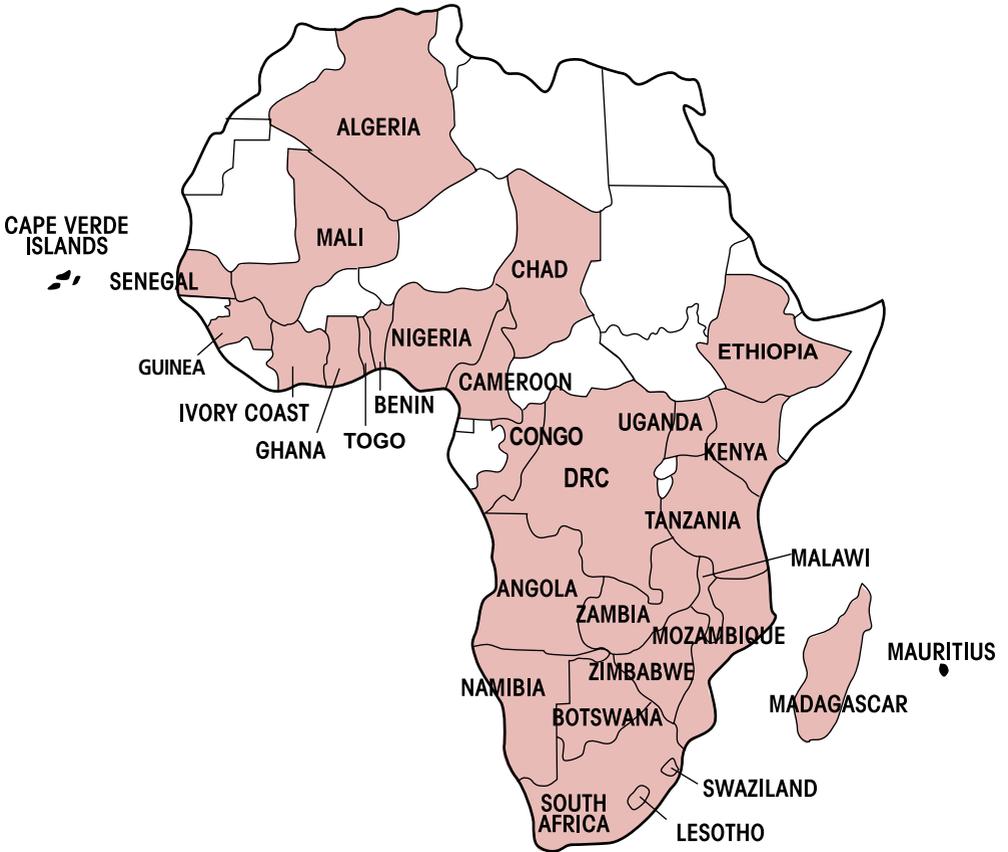
By the end of 2013 the African Media Barometer had been held in 30 African countries, in some of them already for the fifth time.

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<sup>1</sup> Consequently, the comparison of some indicators of previous reports is not applicable (n/a) in some instances in which the indicator is new or has been amended considerably. Furthermore sector scores are not applicable (n/a) as indicators have been moved.



*See above 30 AMB Countries (2005-2015)*

# African Media Barometer Tanzania 2015

## Summary

Tanzania is undergoing significant legal change with the recent passage of two laws - the Cybercrimes Act and the Statistics Act – which were rushed through the Parliament early in 2015, although signed copies of the laws were still not publicly available as at early June 2015. Other draft laws which are likely to negatively impact the media environment, such as the Media Services Bill and the Access to Information Bill, remain pending. In addition, a vote in a referendum on the draft constitution, which was to take place following a two-year constitutional review process, has been delayed indefinitely.

With presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in October 2015, a state of uncertainty prevails in the country.

This AMB took place at a time of this uncertainty. Although the Cybercrimes Act and the Statistics Act have not yet been gazetted and no regulations have been published for their implementation, stakeholders have seen the earlier drafts of these bills and there are serious concerns that their contents appear to reverse years of progress on media freedom in Tanzania.

Currently, freedom of expression is guaranteed to all citizens in both constitutions of Tanzania (1977) of Zanzibar (1984). Although Zanzibar is legally an autonomous unit within the United Republic of Tanzania, Zanzibari law is governed overall by the 1977 Tanzanian constitution. But freedom of the media is not specifically mentioned in either constitution.

Article 38 of the proposed draft constitution of September 2014 guarantees freedom of expression while Article 39 also guarantees freedom of information and the news media. But it is not certain when the new constitution will be adopted.

Tanzania has numerous laws that severely infringe upon this basic human right, with more than 20 of them that curtail freedom of expression, including the Newspaper Act (1976), the Penal Code (1945), the National Security Act (1970) and the Public Service Act (1962).

However, the increased use of social media in recent years has provided a new platform for journalists and members of civil society to express themselves more freely on various issues.

But the environment remains hostile for journalists and vocal civil society activists who are regularly intimidated, threatened or even physically attacked. It is particularly risky for private and community media journalists, including those working for state-owned media outlets to criticise the President, the ruling party Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) or the government.

Entry into journalism is not restricted by law in Tanzania. However, journalists needing state access require press cards, which are issued to 'accredited' journalists by the Information Services department and such journalists must be accredited by a particular media house or have proof of relevant qualifications.

There is no statutory protection of confidential sources of information for journalists and access to information is not legally guaranteed while information held by state authorities and public institutions is not easily accessible to citizens. The Public Service Act of 1962 restricts what public information civil servants, even those employed as information officers, can reveal.

While internet service providers (ISPs) are required to register with the state, websites and blogs are not. This is expected to change, however, with the recently passed Cybercrimes Act, which is not yet in operation. There have been incidents where the state has sought to block internet content that was critical of the government and ruling party in general. No such cases have gone before the courts, however, and there is currently no requirement that a court warrant first needs to be obtained before a site is blocked.

There are a number of active media support groups in Tanzania, which lobby for a more media-friendly legislative environment and the government generally engages media stakeholders in consultations about pending media-related legislation but the meaningful participation of non-state stakeholders was highly questionable with the passing in parliament of the Cybercrimes Act.

There is a wide choice of media, particularly print media, but these are not necessarily affordable to the majority of the population. As at June 2015, 854 newspapers, magazines and journals were registered with the Registrar of Newspapers with the majority of them privately owned.

According to the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA), there are 26 television stations in the country and 84 radio stations as well as a growing number of cable and subscription television operators. According to TCRA figures, there were 700,000 decoders as at December 2014.

However, according to the panellists each of the country's 30 regions has its own television and radio station.

Radio remains the most accessible and affordable media in the country.

Mobile telephony has also taken off in the count and most adults own at least one mobile phone line. Figures from the TCRA as at December 2014 showed that mobile penetration was 67% of the population. Also, in the past few years, access to the internet has increased with the result that as at the end of 2014, 11 million people had access, comprising 3.4 million via organisations and institutions and 7.7 million households. There were 239,000 internet cafes as at December 2014. But the internet is still largely inaccessible in rural areas, due to lack of electricity and poor infrastructure.

There is no law prohibiting media concentration and monopolies or cross-ownership.

Men continue to be much more visible in the Tanzanian media than women. They are mostly the sources for stories, the authoritative voices that get heard and newsmakers, especially political sources, tend to be men. The media is, therefore, still not gender-sensitive.

Minorities – in terms of ethnicity, language and religion – are also not fairly represented in Tanzania. Homosexuality is criminalised under the Sexual Offences Special Provisions Act of 1998 and as such, it is a socially taboo topic and homophobia is common. As a result, homosexual issues are ignored by the media.

The government is the biggest advertiser in the country, followed by mobile telephone companies and breweries, but some media outlets that are overtly critical of the government or those that publish outspoken opinions get little or no advertising from the state. The advertising market is too small to support the many media outlets in Tanzania.

Community radio stations are often owned by local governments, while community television stations are either owned by a faith-based organisation or a local government. Community based organisations struggle to source sufficient funding to be involved in this sector.

There are no legal provisions guaranteeing the independence of the two public broadcasters: the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC) and the Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC). In addition, since their boards are appointed by the President and the Minister of Information, they are not independent. The two state broadcasters are also not considered to be adequately funded, particularly due to political interference in their budgets.

Most reporting in Tanzania is not considered to be of a high professional standard. With up to 80% of the country's journalists working as freelancers who earn very little for the media work they do, many will only write reports about organisations or events if they are paid to do so by their sources. Even those

journalists employed full-time at media houses are susceptible to this syndrome because their working conditions and remuneration are poor.

The political atmosphere also affects the media's impartiality as some journalists are used as public relations agents for particular political parties.

The non-statutory, self-regulatory body, the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), has a code of conduct for both the print and the broadcast media, to which most media houses reportedly adhere. The MCT also encourages newsrooms to have their own codes of conduct to prevent journalists from being sent to the council.

In terms of their safety, media houses generally do not provide journalists with protection. Some investigative journalists are reported even to carry their own firearms for self-defence purposes. Sexual harassment by colleagues or superiors in the workplace is also a common occurrence for young female journalists.

There are now many media training institutions in Tanzania but most of them are centred in the capital, Dar es Salaam while it is difficult to access similar training in rural areas. A handful of journalism schools have had their licences revoked by the government for not offering credible training.

For the purposes of this AMB, the participants assessed the situation in the quantitative grading (scoring) as it is now and not as it may be in future, although potential scenarios were discussed and are summarised in the fuller report.

# SECTOR 1:

Freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, is effectively protected and promoted.

# Freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, is effectively protected and promoted.

## 1.1 Freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, is guaranteed in the Constitution and supported by other pieces of legislation.

Freedom of expression is guaranteed to all citizens in both constitutions of Tanzania – the 1977 constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, which was passed when the state was under one-party rule, and the 1984 constitution of Zanzibar. While, legally, Zanzibar is termed an autonomous unit within the United Republic of Tanzania, Zanzibari law is governed overall by the 1977 Tanzanian constitution.

Article 18 of the constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania states that:

(1) Without prejudice to expression the laws of the land, every person has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and to seek, receive and impart or disseminate information and ideas through any media regardless of national frontiers, and also has the right of freedom from interference with his communications.

(2) Every citizen has the right to be informed at all times of various events in the country and in the world at large which are of importance to the lives and activities of the people and also of issues of importance to society.

Article 18 of the Zanzibar constitution is very similarly worded.

The right to freedom of expression, however, is limited because it is not supported by any other legislation. In addition, Article 30 of the Tanzanian constitution contains clauses that can override citizens' rights to freedom of expression under the name of 'public interest', privacy and defence of the nation, among others, which negates the Bill of Rights.

Freedom of the media, specifically, is not mentioned in either constitution.

In the proposed draft constitution of September 2014, under Article 38, freedom of expression is similarly guaranteed as it is in the 1977 constitution, while Article 39 of this 2014 draft also guarantees freedom of information and the news media. A referendum on the draft constitution was scheduled to take place in April 2015, but this was delayed apparently because the National Electoral Commission had not managed to register all voters.



## 1.2 The right to freedom of expression is practised and citizens, including journalists, are asserting their rights without fear.

There was consensus that only a small portion of civil society in general and journalists in particular feel free to express themselves. Most feel intimidated by the draconian anti-media laws that exist in Tanzania, as well as by the powerful interests of the owners of the various media houses, be they state- or privately run.

“With the new Statistics Act and the Cybercrimes Act, citizens will be even more fearful of expressing themselves.”

The uptake in recent years of the use of social media in Tanzania has provided a new platform for journalists and members of civil society, especially, to express themselves more freely on various issues.

“As long as you are a citizen, you can say what you like, until your voice becomes too amplified, and then you become the focus of the state and unseen forces come into play.”

The Cybercrimes Act, however, appears likely to empower the state to control this popular platform for free expression: the internet, and social media in particular. This Act is seen as the Tanzanian government’s reaction to the Arab Spring of 2010, and its attempt to avert a similar uprising of citizens by clamping down on freedom of expression.

“Generally, freedom of expression (in traditional media) is only restricted if it touches on certain subject matters, such as politics.”

In January 2015, the circulation of the privately owned regional weekly newspaper, *The EastAfrican*, was banned in Tanzania, ostensibly because of its lack of registration as required by the 1976 Newspaper Act, although those in the media fraternity believe it was banned because of its critical coverage of Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete. *The EastAfrican* is published by the Kenyan-based Nation Media Group and had been circulating in Tanzania for 20 years.

Journalists and vocal civil society activists do operate in a hostile environment in which they are regularly intimidated, threatened or even physically attacked. Staff members of a non-governmental organisation, for example, while informing communities of their legal or human rights, were intimidated by a regional commissioner and the police “because the authorities were unhappy with what we were doing”.

In late 2012, two journalists were murdered, allegedly in connection with their work. Also, in July 2012, the government, invoking the 1976 Newspaper Act, imposed an indefinite ban on the Kiswahili *MwanaHalisi*, a daily newspaper known for its investigative and analytical reporting. The reasons given by the state were that the newspaper had published articles, without specifying which articles, that were “seditious, inciting, promoted violence and were likely to jeopardize peace in the country”.

In addition, *Mwananchi* and *Mtanzania* newspapers were suspended from operating by the government in September 2013, for two weeks and 90 days respectively, for publishing articles deemed “seditious” and a threat to national security. As such, panellists felt “citizens in general have some fears about expressing themselves” when it comes to criticism of the state or other powerful interests.

Private and community media journalists, as well as those working for media outlets owned by the state, face high risks for criticising President Jakaya Kikwete, the ruling party Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) or the government. Not surprisingly, there is little such criticism in Tanzanian media.

“Editors are sometimes forced to collude with politicians to guarantee their safety.”

Journalists working for private media houses also feel restricted in their freedom of expression by the business interests of the owners or their wives or other family members.

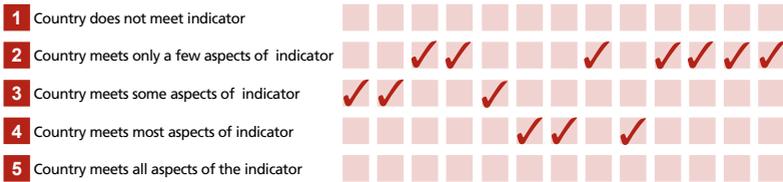
“They are always aware of the owner’s interest and this leads to self-censorship... They feel they need to be loyal to their bosses or they may lose their job. The fear is definitely there... We express ourselves very carefully in Tanzania.”

One of the panellists felt that despite the violence and intimidation experienced by some journalists and members of civil society, “the situation is better than it was 15 years ago when citizens could not express themselves at all”.

But others felt that, while it may seem to be an improvement on the surface, there is a deep underlying fear. “The government wants you to report on what is seen, not what is under the carpet. If you try to bring this to light, you are done for, blacklisted.”

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



### Average score:

2.7 (2012 = 3.3; 2010 = 2.0; 2008 = 2.8;  
2006 = 2.1)

## 1.3 There are no laws or parts of laws restricting freedom of expression such as excessive official secrets, libel acts, legal requirements that restrict the entry into the journalistic profession or laws that unreasonably interfere with the functions of media.

There are more than 20 laws that curtail freedom of expression in Tanzania and thus impact negatively on the operations of the media. These include the draconian Newspaper Act of 1976 (which empowers the Ministry of Information, Youth, Culture and Sports to silence critical coverage by outright banning publications), the Prisons Act on 1967 (which prohibits journalists from interviewing prisoners), the National Security Act of 1970 (“a thorn in the side of the media”) and the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Act of 2007. In addition, the recently passed Cybercrimes Act and the Statistics Act are seen by media stakeholders as not having “been made for the purpose of promoting media freedom, but of restricting it”. The Cybercrimes Act grants the police broad powers of search and seizure, and criminalises the publication online of information that the state deems false or misleading, making it risky for anyone sharing information on social media.

A panellist described the Statistics Act as “the ‘election law’ because its intentions appear to be to target, not statistics related to the economy or population, but political statistics”.

Entry into the journalistic profession is not restricted by law in Tanzania. The Newspaper Act of 1976 makes no mention of minimum qualifications for journalists. However, journalists needing state access require press cards, which are issued to ‘accredited’ journalists by the Information Services department (accredited by a particular media house or with proof of relevant qualifications).

Panellists were unanimous that “anyone can become a journalist”, regardless of their qualifications, and depending on the procedures of each media house. Some media outlets, however, do have strict hiring procedures.

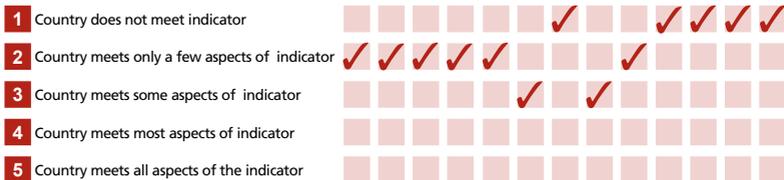
Newspapers are known to commission inexperienced people to write for them in remote areas where there are no other options, while even urban-based newspapers hire unqualified journalists, usually on a freelance, not a permanent, basis, “because they can pay them less”.

“Many people have no experience as journalists, but even they manage to get a press card just so they can get the ‘brown envelopes’ (cash handed out to journalists at press briefings).”

Restrictions in this regard are coming, however. The draft Media Services Act, which has not yet been passed by parliament, for example, stipulates that journalists will have to be accredited under the Act in order to practise and such accreditation will be carried out by the statutory Media Services Council, which is not yet in operation. Section 15 establishes a journalist accreditation board which shall consist of seven members appointed by the minister. The Chief Executive Officer of this board shall also be appointed by the minister. This composition makes sure that the majority on the board will always be government representatives.

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



### Average score:

**1.8** (2012 = n/a; 2010 = n/a; 2008 = n/a;  
2006 = n/a)

## 1.4 The government makes every effort to honour regional and international instruments on freedom of expression and freedom of the media.

Although the Tanzanian government has ratified every regional and international instrument on freedom of expression, it rarely implements these by incorporating them into local laws and regulations; thus it fails to honour these instruments.

One example is the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which protects all forms of expression and the means of their dissemination, and which the Tanzanian government has signed. In Tanzania, publications have been banned for speaking out against the government and the ruling party, thus the state does not honour this international instrument in practice. In addition, the African Charter on Broadcasting stipulates that broadcasting licences should be allocated transparently by well-funded independent regulatory bodies. This is not happening in Tanzania, where the granting of licences appears to be politically motivated and the commissioners of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) are “riddled with political and economic corruption”.

In the rare case where it does enact laws to protect rights related to these regional and international agreements, these rights are not guaranteed and can be taken away by other laws. This is the case with the Whistleblower and Witness Protection Act of 2015, which is ostensibly aimed at protecting those exposing corruption within the government. The Cybercrimes Act, however, makes it a criminal offence to publish information deemed incorrect by the state, meaning that whistleblowers could be charged.

“The criteria of these international and regional instruments is very clear, with regard to registration requirements, operation restrictions and resolving disputes. But in reality, we are in a bad situation. There is no real public broadcaster in Tanzania. And are commercial broadcasters doing what international guidelines stipulate? Also, community media has no support.”

On a more positive note, mention was made of the opening up of the media sector in the past two decades. “Before 1992, there was only one radio station and a handful of media outlets in Tanzania, but today there are so many TV and radio stations and newspapers. We have not reached the ideal, but there has been a dramatic shift.”

Other panellists criticised this praise, saying that one should not be blinded by the numbers of media outlets: what was important was the diversity, the quality and the freedom of the media. “In this country, if you criticise someone in power, you’ll be shut out of business.”

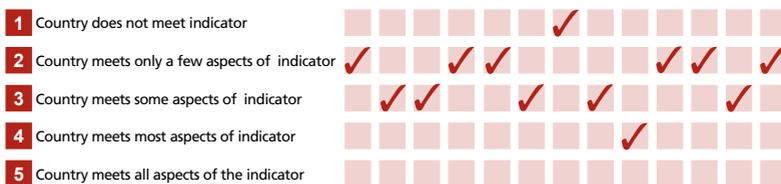
While the African Charter on Broadcasting divides the regulatory landscape into the three tiers of public, commercial and community broadcasting, no law in

Tanzania sets this out, although all three of these different types of broadcasters do nevertheless exist in the country.

“In any civilised society, we need to perform according to laid-down regulations, which are not determined by any particular interest. In Tanzania, however, the future of any media outlet is determined by those people in authority who have the discretion of whether or not to register or suspend such an outlet. The media is at the mercy of the people in power, who are using laws which go against these international standards on freedom of expression and media freedom.”

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



**Average score:**

**2.5 (2012 = 3.3; 2010 = 2.2; 2008 = n/a; 2006 = n/a)**

## 1.5 Print publications are not required to obtain permission to publish from state authorities.

A media outlet is required by law (the Companies Act of 2002) to register with the government as a company. Print publications are also required by law, under the 1976 Newspaper Act, to obtain permission to publish, in the form of a licence from the state body, the Registrar of Newspapers. Under this law, even newsletters and in-house publications should seek such permission.

“With the new Statistics Act, even research or non-governmental organisation reports will require permission from the government before they can be published. This will certainly change the climate in Tanzania, making it much more restrictive in general.”



## 1.7 Public information is easily accessible, guaranteed by law, to all citizens.

Access to information in Tanzania is not legally guaranteed and information held by state authorities and public institutions is not easily accessible to citizens. There is still no access to information law in Tanzania, although some steps have been taken in this regard and a draft Access to Information Bill exists. The draft has been beset by many failed promises on the part of the state and numerous delays. Almost a decade ago, in October 2006, the government published on its website a draft Freedom of Information Bill, which “they tried to rush through”. This was rejected by stakeholders, however, because of its numerous omissions and deficiencies. Although stakeholders have been consulted on the content of the proposed freedom of information legislation, the current draft does not reflect their input.

The civil society-based Coalition on the Right to Information has been working to halt this bill from proceeding into legislation as in its current state it is, ironically, mostly restrictive.

“It is a mockery. The draft Access to Information Bill contains about two statements on the right to access information and 10 statements on why publicly held information cannot be disclosed.”

The Public Service Act of 1962 restricts what public information civil servants, even those employed as information officers, can reveal.

This is despite the fact that the government, in September 2011, signed the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Initiative, showing its commitment to make government business more open to its citizens, and thus “improve public service delivery, government responsiveness, combating corruption and building greater trust”, according to <http://www.opengovpartnership.org>. As a result, the web portal <http://opendata.go.tz/> was set up to collect and publish data, and to date some information has been published here on what are largely considered to be non-sensitive or non-confidential issues such as health, water and education.

“With the OGP initiative, government has shown some commitment towards access to information, but it is still not law.”

One of the biggest problems facing e-governance is the difficulty that even government officials face in obtaining information from their colleagues.

There was consensus that most civil servants are inefficient and will deliberately hide sensitive information from the public, while there is also an unspoken fear among many civil servants about the repercussions of disclosing such information.

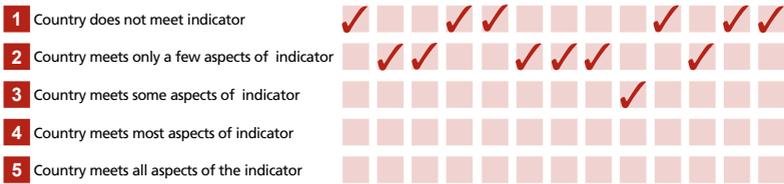
“Even if you can get some information from the government, with the new Statistics Act and Cybercrimes Act you will probably be charged with a criminal

offence if you make this information public... Government stamps everything 'confidential', even routine correspondence."

In 2014, the Tanzanian chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA-Tan) awarded the judiciary, the "so-called soldiers of human rights", with the 'Golden Padlock' award for being the most secretive public institution in the country.

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



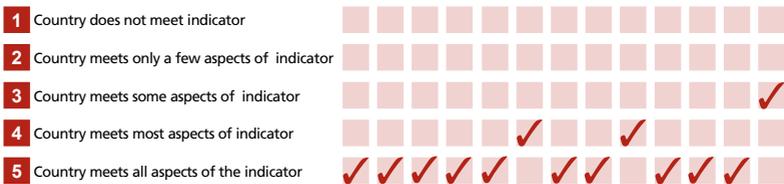
**Average score:** 1.6 (2012 = 2.5; 2010 = 1.6; 2008 = 1.3; 2006 = 1.1)

## 1.8 Websites, blogs and other digital platforms are not required to register with, or obtain permission, from state authorities.

While internet service providers (ISPs) are required to register with the state, websites and blogs are not. This is expected to change, however, with the recently passed Cybercrimes Act, which is not yet in operation.

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



**Average score:** 4.7 (2012 = 4.8; 2010 = 3.0; 2008 = n/a; 2006 = n/a)

## **1.9 The state does not seek to block or filter Internet content unless in accordance with laws that provide for restrictions that serve a legitimate interest and are necessary in a democratic society, and which are applied by independent courts.**

There have been incidents where the state has sought to block internet content that was critical of the government and ruling party in general. No such cases have gone before the courts, however, and there is currently no requirement that a court warrant first needs to be obtained before a site is blocked.

“In other incidents where bloggers have been told by state officials to remove specific content, and they have been bold enough to refuse, these websites have subsequently been denied government advertising.”

The JamiiForums website (previously known as JamboForums), which has become a very popular online forum for social debate in Tanzania, has also been a target of state ire. The site’s founders, Maxence Melo and Mike KcKee, have been intimidated and threatened numerous times by state actors who have claimed that user-generated content on the site was defamatory. Because the website’s servers are in the United States, the Tanzanian government could not actually shut down JamiiForums. Jamiiforums was targeted during a parliamentary session early 2015 when MPs warned the founders that the new Cybercrimes Law would “get them”.

While panellists felt there was generally no obvious blocking of content by the state, and no judicial procedures or systems in place yet to permit this, “such blocking may take place without people even being aware of it”.

It was noted that the TCRA apparently has a new monitoring device. In the past it used a device to filter key words in e-mails, SMSes and on websites, including social media such as Facebook and Twitter. “They cannot monitor WhatsApp and BBM though.”







# SECTOR 2:

The media landscape, including new media, is characterised by diversity, independence and sustainability.

## The media landscape, including new media, is characterised by diversity, independence and sustainability.

### 2.1 A wide range of sources of information (print, broadcasting, internet, mobile phones) is accessible and affordable to citizens.

There is a wide choice of media, particularly print media, in Tanzania, but it is not necessarily affordable to the majority of the population. Nevertheless, in the past 15 years there have been a lot of improvements in communication infrastructure, transport and electrification, which have improved citizens' access to broadcast and print media, as well as mobile phone communication and the internet.

#### Print

In June 2015, 854 newspapers, magazines and journals were registered with the Registrar of Newspapers. The majority of these publications are privately owned. The government owns four newspapers: *Daily News*, *Habari Leo*, *Zanzibar Leo* and *Sunday News*. At an average cost of Tsh1 000 (US\$0,44), newspapers are out of reach for most of the 44.9 million citizens, 68% of whom live below the international poverty line of US\$1.25/day, according to Unicef statistics.

The long distances and poor road infrastructure in Tanzania also results in the delay of newspapers reaching commercial centres timeously, while there are many outlying areas that the print media never reaches at all.

"Even on Zanzibar, you won't get the newspapers before noon, while in Kigoma you are reading yesterday's news."

As an indication of the great distances involved, the far north-western parts of the country are 1,800km away from the capital Dar es Salaam, which is 560km north of Mtwara near the south-eastern border. The penetration of newspapers remains low, with one possible reason being that "people living outside the capital cannot relate to a Dar es Salaam newspaper".

In an effort to address these shortfalls, *Mwananchi* set up a printing press in Mwanza in 2014, from where the newspaper is distributed to the regions, instead of only from Dar es Salaam. This means that newspapers take one to two days to reach the far northern parts of the country, compared to the four or five days previously. *Mwananchi* has also tried to improve accessibility by bringing out different editions for rural areas.

## Broadcasting

According to the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority - TCRA, there are 26 and 84 licensed television and radio stations respectively which are commercial and non commercial. Their coverage varies from the national, regional and district level.

Mention was made that most television stations do not cater for deaf people by providing on-screen sign-language interpreters, making television largely inaccessible to people with hearing impairments.

In 2010, digital terrestrial television (DTT) was launched, providing citizens with more than 100 channels offered by the three licensed multiplex operators/signal distributors: Agape Associate Limited, Basic Transmission Limited and Star Media Limited. There are higher costs associated with DTT, making it less affordable than before, as citizens need to buy their own set-top boxes as these are not yet subsidised by the government (although this is reportedly in the pipeline), and there are fees to pay to the multiplex operators, ranging from TSh5,000 to TSh7,000 per month. The price for set-top boxes can range from TSh100,000 to TSh250,000. According to TCRA figures, there were 700,000 decoders as at December 2014.

“The digital migration is a positive development for accessibility, and it has opened up the bandwidth, but there are extra costs involved so it is not that affordable to the majority, only really for the middle class. Rural people, especially, will suffer.”

Prior to the introduction of DTT, most rural areas without analogue television reception were using satellite decoders to receive the analogue signals of local television stations. Currently, there is still a dual broadcast of digital and analogue signals, although analogue television signals reach only part of the country. Panellists estimated that in rural areas, there is one television for every eight households. The owners of televisions will commonly charge neighbours to watch programmes on his or her TV set.

Radio remains the most accessible and affordable media in the country. There are no licence fees for owning a radio and, even in rural areas, the majority has access to radio. Televisions are less common but in rural and poor urban areas, community members share TV sets.

## Mobile phones

Mobile telephony has really taken off in Tanzania in the past few years, and most adults own at least one. “Even those who can’t afford a meal a day will have a mobile phone.”

Mobile phones have become affordable with a flood of cheap Chinese handsets, selling at about Tsh10,000 (US\$4.38) each.

Figures from the TCRA for December 2014 showed that mobile penetration was 67% of the population, taking into account the fact that many people have multiple mobile phone lines, with 31.8 million mobile telephone contacts officially registered. The number of fixed lines was only 10,000 and dropping.

“Mobile money (transferring money using mobile telephones) is one of the reasons mobile phones are so popular in Tanzania – people are using their phones as banks. In rural areas, mobile phones are a necessity, not a luxury.”

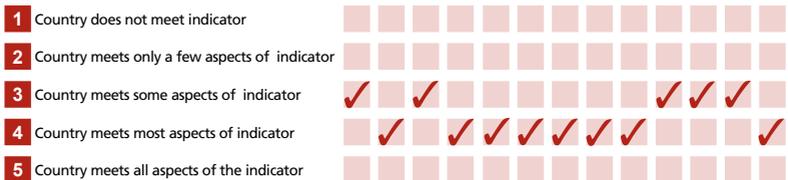
**Internet**

In the past few years, access to the internet has increased in Tanzania. By the end of 2014, 11 million people had access, comprising 3.4 million via organisations and institutions and 7.7 million households. There were 239,000 internet cafes in Tanzania in December 2014.

The internet is still largely inaccessible in rural areas, which are hampered by the lack of electricity and poor infrastructure. Although mobile telephones are very popular in Tanzania, these are used more to facilitate financial transactions than for access to news or information through the internet. Data is also prohibitively expensive for the majority of citizens, with the cheapest 1GB data-only bundle retailing for anything between US\$ 2 and US\$ 5.

**Scores:**

**Individual scores:**



**Average score:** 3.6 (2012 = 3.3; 2010 = 3.0; 2008 = 2.8; 2006 = 2.9)

**2.2 Citizens’ access to domestic and international media sources is not restricted by state authorities.**

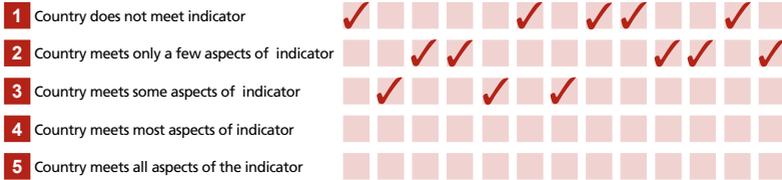
The state in general does not restrict citizens’ access to local or foreign media. Apart from a ban on the print version of *The EastAfrican* in January 2015, no other printed international publication has been banned by authorities. This publication is still available online, however, and those people who could previously afford to buy this print version can probably afford internet access.



The legal structure within Tanzania also does not allow for the separation of state entities. “Everything is connected: the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC), the *Daily News*, *Habari Leo*. Ministers can interfere in the operation of the state-owned media because there is no separation, no clear-cut law or policy to ensure that these ‘public’ entities operate independently.”

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



**Average score:** 1.8 (2012 = 2.3; 2010 = 1.9; 2008 = 1.8; 2006 = 2.4)

## 2.4 Transparency of ownership of media houses in print/broadcasting is guaranteed by law and enforced.

The ownership of media houses is meant to be transparent although some media owners find legal loopholes to circumvent this so they are not immediately identified with a specific publication or broadcaster. This can be done by hiding ownership under multiple companies or by hiding behind family members who are listed as the owners.

Publications are required by law to register their ownership with the Registrar of Newspapers, and this should be made public. Ultimately the owners can be traced, however, through due diligence, which will ultimately reveal the names of the directors.

The policy with broadcast media is stricter, through the TCRA, as greater transparency is required with regards to the company’s directors.

“The print media falls under the Newspapers Act of 1976, which was a socially oriented law, and the government is not well-versed in monitoring this ownership. The electronic media, governed by the TCRA Act, is more robust and the state is tasked with enforcing the transparency of ownership.”

“People generally know who owns what, although certain newspapers are clearly party-political mouthpieces, but when you look into their ownership, an unknown company is listed, not an individual.”







Most media houses have introduced a women's page or programme to profile women. Some panellists saw this as a positive development, while others felt that this practice of compartmentalising women continued to marginalise them. "We are all affected by politics and economics, so when covering these issues journalists should look at both perspectives."

"Unfortunately, the sensational news of a politician being caught in some scandal will always take precedence always over issues such as domestic violence, female genital mutilation, the marriage of young girls or maternal mortality."

However, the MCT's media monitoring project, conducted in 2011, showed that while there was definite gender blindness in news coverage, particularly by the 'yellow press'/tabloids, there was also a small amount of gender-transformative reporting. The MCT research showed that in *Mwananchi*, *The Citizen* and a tabloid, *Uwazi*, women represented only about 20% of all sources, while in two other tabloids, *Ijumaa* and *Risasi*, this percentage was over 30%. In 40% to 80% of the 1,066 articles analysed overall, only single sources were used. Interestingly, even in supplements published by *Mwananchi* and *The Citizen*, which were specifically aimed at women, men appeared as sources more often than women. The research showed that women were especially marginalised in the sports section (10%), business (20%) and politics (24%).

Advertisers and potential sponsors of NGO broadcast programmes are also guilty of negatively stereotyping women by only wanting to be associated with 'soft' programmes like beauty pageants instead of those about issues such as maternal health.

Panellists felt that because culturally men are more dominant in Tanzania than women, the media reflected this. In addition, about one-third of the population is Muslim: "Culturally, a Muslim woman cannot speak in front of men, so this inhibits women from having a higher profile."

The media in Tanzania is still not gender-sensitive and panellists noted that gender training for media staff was critical.

On a positive note, women's empowerment has created an emphasis on girls' education to the degree that many more women than before are attending tertiary training institutions. "There are more women journalists now and most of the staff on community radio stations are also women. There is a definite shift."

Panellists noted, however, that on television talk shows, most of the presenters and those attending debates and being interviewed are men. Most top-level media positions are also held by men in Tanzania.

"There are more women in the media in Tanzania but the 'glass ceiling' is still there. Women may become news or features editors but they rarely go beyond that."









## **2.11 The country has a coherent ICT policy and/or the government implements promotional measures, which aim to meet the information needs of all citizens, including marginalised communities.**

The 2003 Information Communications Technology (ICT) Policy of Tanzania encourages citizens to use the internet more to broaden their knowledge by gaining health and educational information, for example. Ironically, the Cybercrimes Act, and the other draconian anti-media freedom legislation mentioned earlier, does just the opposite by tightening the online space and criminalising just about everyone who uses the internet.

“The Cybercrimes Act curtails freedom of expression. The entire Act is not bad, though – the provision about child pornography is important – but some of the other provisions have the effect of criminalising human rights.”

Access to adult pornography, for example, is considered a basic human right, according to international standards, but the Cybercrimes Act criminalises this and lays down extremely harsh punishments for anyone found in possession of it.

“There is no definition of pornography in this Act, however, and something that the government sees as pornography may be educational material.”

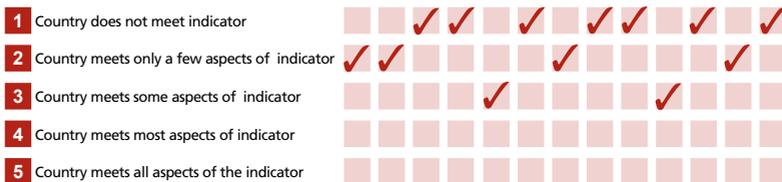
Panellists noted that JamiiForums continues to exist, despite the intimidation its staff have faced, because the ICT environment has been very conducive to internet freedom of expression up until the Cybercrimes Act was passed. Jamii Forums is Tanzania’s number one most visited website and the most popular destination for Kiswahili speakers. “JamiiForums is unique in Africa in terms of the openness of the platform, and the site has a moderator to try to keep by validating claims.”

In 2011, the Tanzanian Commission for Science and Technology established a technology hub called Buni, to “foster innovation and technology entrepreneurship through capacity building, mentoring programmes and community empowerment”.



## Scores:

### Individual scores:



### Average score:

**1.6 (2012 = 2.2; 2010 = 2.1; 2008 = 2.0;  
2006 = 2.4)**

## 2.13 The advertising market is large enough to support a diversity of media outlets.

The advertising market is too small to support the many media outlets in Tanzania. *Mwananchi*, for example, has about 30% advertising per edition, compared to 70% content, while the standard ratio to ensure sustainability is 40% advertising to 60% content. The newspapers can also not count on a significant amount of income from circulation due to the small number of newspapers sold. For example, the combined circulation of the two biggest newspapers in the country, *Mwananchi* and *The Citizen*, is barely 50 000, while in neighbouring Kenya, which has a smaller population, the combined circulation of the two largest newspapers, *The Nation* and *The Standard*, is about 600 000.

“There is very little reading culture in our country, which impacts on the number of pages newspapers have and on their circulation figures.”

Panellists noted that because there are very few manufacturers in Tanzania, there is less advertising. “Advertising levels are very low because most businesses are reselling goods made in China.”

The fact that there is little competition in the commercial sphere in Tanzania also means that there is less advertising.

Accessing corporate sponsorship from multinational companies is also problematic in Tanzania. “Our proposals will be referred to the company’s head office and we can wait months to hear if our submission has been successful. The whole of Tanzania gets less budget than Nairobi.”

In addition, it is believed that 50% of companies’ marketing budgets is directed towards brand activation, like road shows, rather than traditional forms of advertising in newspapers, or on radio and television.



# SECTOR 3:

**Broadcasting regulation is transparent and independent; the state broadcaster is transformed into a truly public broadcaster.**

## Broadcasting regulation is transparent and independent; the State broadcaster is transformed into a truly public broadcaster.

### 3.1 Broadcasting legislation has been passed and is implemented that provides for a conducive environment for public, commercial and community broadcasting.

The Broadcasting Services Acts of 1993 enabled the establishment of commercial radio stations, while the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Act of 2003 provided for the division of broadcasting services into public, commercial and community broadcasters.

“The structure is there, but the implementation is problematic.”

In Tanzania, community broadcasters are not clearly defined and do not meet the requirements of the African Charter on Broadcasting, in terms of being community owned and controlled, with the community’s interests at heart. The term ‘community broadcasters’ seem to refer to broadcasters with coverage only within a specific geographical area – usually limited to a district.

In Tanzania, community radio stations are often owned by local government, while community television stations are either owned by a faith-based organisation or local government. Community based organisations struggle to source sufficient funding to be involved in this sector.

In a way, the local government-run community broadcasters function as public broadcasting should, at a community level, while the ‘public’ radio and television stations, under TBC, are more state- than public-owned, with the ruling party’s interests at heart.

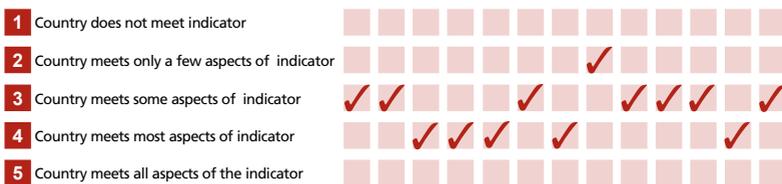
“The former director general of the TBC Tido Mhando was very keen to transform TBC into a truly public broadcaster, but his contract was not renewed. This happened soon after the ruling party criticised TBC in 2010 for having made its election candidates look bad. Religious stations, like the Catholic Charge Radio, are registered as community stations, and have limited district coverage although strictly they should be national in terms of their broad target. The Maasai radio station, Orkonerei Radio, is not comparable to those targeting small, rural communities but they are registered in the same way as those with a limited focus.

The TCRA is seen less as a regulatory ‘policeman’ and more as a partner in the media. The body’s licensing procedures have become more lenient in the last three years, granting community broadcasting licenses even to politicians, which was not previously allowed.

There is the fear that these ‘community’ stations are just building the power of parliamentarians with their invested interests, rather than those of the community concerned.

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



Average score:

3.3 (2012 = 3.8; 2010 = 2.1; 2008 = 2.8;  
2006 = 2.6)

## 3.2 Broadcasting is regulated by an independent body that is adequately protected by law against interference and whose board is not dominated by any particular political party and is appointed – in an open way – involving civil society and not dominated by any particular political party.

Broadcasting is regulated by the TCRA, which is protected by law through the TCRA Act, but not in practice. The appointment of its board is not done in independent or transparent manner and does not involve input from civil society.

In terms of the actual functioning of the regulatory body, panellists were unsure about its practical independence. It was noted that the TCRA’s current Director General (DG) John Mkoma “has been resisting government pressure” and has been producing results in the process. However, he retires at the end of June 2015. “The independence of the TCRA really depends on the integrity of the individual DG.”

In 2011, a clause was introduced into the TCRA Act saying that the Information Minister must approve the registration of broadcasters. This has introduced a political element to the registration process, which previously depended on the

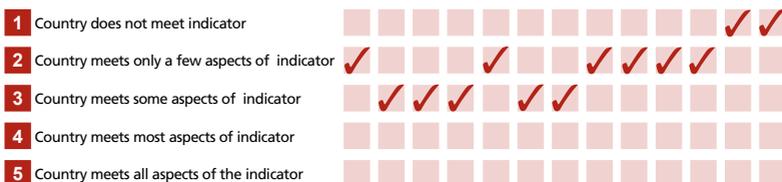






## Scores:

### Individual scores:



Average score:

2.2 (2012 = n/a; 2010 = n/a; 2008 = n/a;  
2006 = n/a)

### 3.6 The state/public broadcaster is adequately funded in a manner that protects it from political interference through its budget and from commercial pressure.

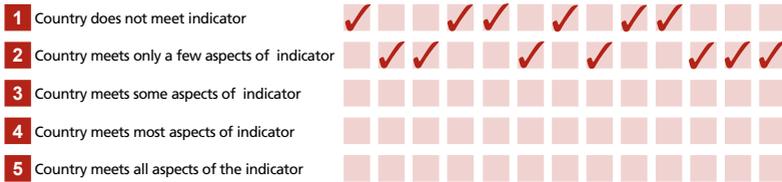
The two state broadcasters are not considered to be adequately funded, particularly due to political interference in their budgets. In practice, the broadcasters draw up budgets and present these to the Ministry of Information. The minister routinely slashes these budgets in half before they go before a parliamentary committee, where they are cut further.

In this way, the amount required from government for these broadcasters to operate optimally is drastically reduced. It is also common practice for the state not even to provide the budget that it finally agreed to. As a result, the state broadcasters are left running around trying to source sufficient funding for the running costs, making them susceptible to economic pressure from commercial interests. Fortunately for the staff, as civil servants, they are paid directly by the government.

“Not only is there political interference with the state broadcasters’ editorial content, but there is also economic dependence.”

## Scores:

### Individual scores:



### Average score:

1.5 (2012 = 2.5; 2010 = 2.1; 2008 = n/a;  
2006 = n/a)

## 3.7 The state/public broadcaster offers diverse programming formats for all interests including local content and quality public interest programmes.

While the state broadcasters' political programming is definitely biased towards the ruling party, with political opposition voices rarely being aired, other programming formats – on health or environmental issues, for example – offer more diversity and focus on issues of public interest. The state radio stations – TBC Fm, TBC Taifa and TBC International – are particularly effective in this regard.

Although the TBC is known to try to provide crews to go out and cover news in outlying areas, certain non-governmental organisations, such as the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), have been blacklisted by the state broadcaster. "Human rights and constitutional issues are generally suppressed by TBC. These issues are considered by the state to be politically dangerous and are, as such, controversial in the ruling party's eyes.

The state broadcasters have to meet a quota of 60% local content, which they do, although the quality of these programmes is often very poor. "The enforced 60% local content quota is one of the reasons these stations are branded 'boring'."





# SECTOR 4:

The media practise high levels of professional standards.

## The media practise high levels of professional standards.

### 4.1 The standard of reporting follows the basic principles of accuracy and fairness.

Most reporting in Tanzania is not considered to be of a high professional standard for a number of reasons, all of which impact on its accuracy and fairness. One of the factors responsible for biased reporting is the “brown envelope” syndrome. With up to 80% of the country’s journalists working as freelancers who earn very little for the media work they do, many will only write reports about organisations or events if they are paid to do so by their sources: thus, the “brown envelope”.

Even those journalists who are employed full-time at media houses are susceptible to this syndrome because their working conditions and remuneration are poor.

“If you want to get your news reported and get attendance at press conferences, you must pay the journalists. This will usually guarantee coverage.”

Often non-issue stories take precedence for publication over the coverage of more important issues because the journalists have received these kinds of bribes.

“Fair reporting also depends on the subject matter and if it is in a particular media house’s interests to report on it in an unbiased way, or even to report on it at all.”

The generally low level of journalistic skills also impinges on the professionalisation of the media. If journalists attending press conferences are not provided with notes or press releases, often reports about the event will not appear or will be inaccurate.

Many reporters go for the brown envelopes and ‘cheap’ coverage, without taking the time to conduct proper research and write balanced reports. The result is reporting with very little depth or analysis.

There is also a strong tendency for newspapers to cover only sensational news or to make ordinary events sensational in order to boost sales. Television and radio stations are reportedly better at reporting the news accurately than newspapers, which “use any means to sell their papers”.

The newspapers that arise shortly before elections are often guilty of reporting inaccurately and unfairly. Politicians are allowed to establish media houses and in the event that they do, their reporting is unlikely to be unbiased.

The political atmosphere also affects the media’s impartiality as some journalists are used as public relations agents for particular political parties. “It is hard to be



## 4.2 The media follow voluntary codes of professional standards, which are enforced by independent/non-statutory bodies that deal with complaints from the public.

The non-statutory, self-regulatory body, the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), has a code of conduct for both the print and the broadcast media, to which most media houses reportedly adhere. The MCT also encourages newsrooms to have their own codes of conduct to prevent journalists from being sent to the council. The MCT's complaints committee is used by aggrieved members of the public to complain about ethical shortcomings in the media. The council received about 30 to 40 such cases each year, "but twice this number in an election year".

"There is a 90% compliance rate from media houses accused of inaccuracies or unfairness, and they are normally very quick to apologise and publish retractions. We are doing well on self-regulation."

The MCT usually orders defaulting media houses to publish an apology, a retraction and a right to reply of the aggrieved party. It is very rare for the MCT's complaints body to order a fine. If this is done, it is usually not so much as a penalty but to compensate the aggrieved party. Cases brought to the MCT are settled within three months.

If people do not agree with the council's decision, they can take their cases to court, although this can be a very costly and lengthy process, sometimes taking up to five years. Media houses that are taken to court for defamation and found guilty are usually punished severely with very high damages.

"In one case, a court ordered a media house to pay damages of Tsh1.3 billion (US\$1 million). Because of these stiff penalties, the compliance rate with MCT decisions is very high."

Section 4 of the draft Media Services Act proposes the establishment of a statutory media council, which could impact severely on the media. Sanctions listed in the draft for erring media houses and journalists have created a chilling effect among media practitioners. The penalties range from fines of up to Tsh20 million and journalists' licences being revoked. "This could kill the industry."

"The government wants to control the media completely. The MCT's self-regulatory system is working effectively, but the state has no control in this area. If there is a statutory media council, a parallel structure, this will make the MCT's existence superfluous. There won't be room for both."

A concern for media practitioners is who would be nominated to such a statutory media council. "According to the draft, the chairman will be appointed by the





## 4.4 Journalists and other media practitioners are organised in trade unions and/or professional associations, which effectively represent their interests.

Private media practitioners in Tanzania do not belong to trade unions, although there is awareness among journalists that they may be exploited to a lesser degree if they had the support of a union. Those working for state media houses belong to the Research Academics and Allied Workers Union (RAAWU).

The Trade Union for Journalists (TJ) ceased to operate in 2011, after numerous attempts to revive it. State media professionals were not members of TJ.

“It was difficult to recruit members of the media, partly as a result of the attitudes towards such a union by owners of media houses. But mainly, because most journalists don’t have permanent contracts or job security, they are so busy hassling for their daily bread that they don’t have time to think about organising themselves.”

The country’s media owners have since signed a code of conduct, according to which they are not allowed to restrict their staff from joining unions.

Fresh attempts to revive the TJ have recently begun with the writing of a new constitution. The Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) recently held a meeting in Morogoro to this effect. “To become a recognised union, there need to be at least 500 members, something which the TJ failed to achieve.”

The Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) has stepped in and tried to resolve issues, which are not in its mandate, such as low pay and poor working conditions.

Journalists do have the right to be protected by law through the Employment and Labour Relations Act of 2004, although this is rarely taken up.

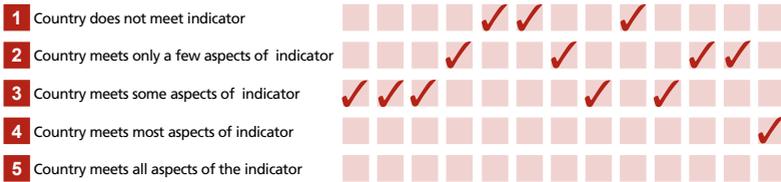
Other active media associations include the MCT; the Editors Forum, which was an MCT initiative; the Media Owners Association; and the Union of Tanzania Press Clubs.





## Scores:

### Individual scores:



### Average score:

2.3 (2012 = 1.8; 2010 = 1.5; 2008 = 2.0;  
2006 = 2.1)

## 4.7 Media professionals have access to training facilities offering formal qualification programmes as well as opportunities to upgrade skills.

There has been a blossoming of media training institutions in Tanzania in recent years, most of which are centred in the capital, Dar es Salaam. It is more difficult to access similar training in rural areas. The School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Dar es Salaam, which offers degree programmes for a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Journalism, BA in Mass Communication, BA in Public Relations and Advertising and Master of Arts (MA) in Mass Communication. The Journalism and Media Studies Department at the Open University in Zanzibar offers a BA in Journalism and a BA in Mass Communication, as well as the post-graduate MA in Mass Communication and MA in Journalism. The Open University has a number of branches across the country and also offers certificate and diploma courses. The Kilimanjaro Film Institute offers excellent training for camera people. Many institutions also offer in-house training to media houses.

There are four other universities and many colleges in Tanzania that offer some form of journalism training, fellowships and scholarships, and there are also online courses. A handful of journalism schools have had their licences revoked by the government for not offering credible training.

Some media houses, such as the Clouds Media Group or the publishers of *Mwananchi* and *The Citizen*, encourage their staff to improve their qualifications with further studying. The media house and the staff member each pay 50% of the tuition costs.

“Not all media owners are willing to allow their staff to take time off work to study full-or part-time.”





# The way forward

## 1. What were the developments in the media environment the last 3-4 years since the last AMB panel discussion?

### Positive

1. The uptake of social media by journalists and civil society activists has provided them with a new platform for free expression.
2. Digital broadcasting will boost accessibility; increase viewers' choices and open up the bandwidth.
3. Exposé by the media of the Tegeta/escrow multi-million-dollar corruption scandal, which resulted in the ousting of senior government officials. "It's a wake-up call that we in the media can effect change!"
4. The registration of new print publications.
5. SIMO TV, an online television app.
6. Heightened interest from citizens in the constitutional review process, which could be used to leverage more public involvement in legislative changes in future.

### Negative

1. Excessive use of open force towards the media by security officials in the last three years; the increase in state hostility towards journalists.
2. Lack of meaningful consultation on new media-related legislation, which appears intent to clamp down on media freedom and freedom of expression.
3. Temporary suspension of *Mwananchi* and *Mtanzania* newspapers for allegedly publishing seditious articles.
4. The continuing existence of draconian, media-unfriendly legislation.
5. Digital set-top boxes are not subsidised by the state, making citizens' access to digital television more costly than before.
6. Reduction in funding from state to public broadcasters.
7. Increasing political interference from the state in the public broadcaster's editorial content.
8. The delay in the constitutional review process, which became dominated by politics.

## 2. What kinds of activities are needed over the next 3-4 years?

- **Protection of journalists:** Campaign for the safety of journalists by feeding into international resolutions taken to increase the safety of journalists and end impunity in crimes against journalists; sensitisation campaign of government and law enforcement officials.
- **Media law reform:** Continue campaigning for the draconian and media-unfriendly laws to be reformed. Invite Pansy Tlakula, the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa, or David Kaye, United Nation Special Rapporeur on Freedom of Expression, to do a mission to Tanzania to pressure the government to reform the legislation.
- **Protect internet rights and freedoms:** build bridges to, rather than demonise, the technocrats; generate an international outcry about the Tanzanian situation by talking to internet freedom activists in donor countries, so the activists can put pressure on their governments, which can put pressure on the Tanzanian government.

*The panel discussion took place from the 5th to the 7th of June 2015, at Travellers Lodge in Bagamoyo, Tanzania*

## Panellists:

### Media:

1. Fatma Almasi, private broadcast journalist
2. Absalom Kibanda, editor
3. Hassan Mitawi, state media director
4. Pili Mtambalike, media advocate/journalist
5. Henry Muhanika, media owners organisation/columnist
6. Joseph Sekiku, community radio representative

### Civil Society:

7. Siham Ahmed, trade unionist
8. Natasha Issa, community activist
9. Judith Kapinga, lawyer
10. Damas Ndumbaro, lawyer/academic
11. Rose Ngunangwa Mwalongo, human rights advocate
12. Maria Sarungi, social activist
13. Salim Abdallah Zagar, interfaith organisation representative

### Rapporteur:

Edetaen Oyo

### Moderator:

Sarah Taylor







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