

Good morning, excellences, civil society colleagues, fellow child delegates.

My name is Tatu. I am 16 yrs old. I am the Vice chairperson of National Children Advisory Board of Zanzibar in Tanzania.

Often when governments think of SDG 11 on infrastructure, they think of the construction of roads, bridges, and buildings. But, infrastructure also applies to social infrastructure, such as education health. The following are my recommendations:

Recommendation One, on Education: girls, boys and children with disabilities need to access education equally. Community awareness on gender based violence and violence against children for community to understand their role in protecting children. Children to be capacitated on their rights and self- protection to be able to report and seek support when at risk/experience abuse

Recommendation Two, on Child participation: Improve junior councils and children clubs. Government to provide sports materials and resources for children from junior councils and children clubs to meet and have joint sessions. Junior councils to be provided with digital equipment ie phones/tablets and have online platforms to engage with peers at national/ regional level and discuss their agenda

Recommendation Three, on Social protection: government to provide financial support to poor families to be able to engage on income generating activities and hence be able to provide basic needs for their children. Eg during C19 parents lost jobs and source of income hence children experienced difficulties in accessing basic needs

Recommendation Four, Children's involvement in SDG reporting: This year, I was a part of a group of children who fed into the Government-led VNR and on the CSO Parallel report. Children's involvement is critical to understanding the whole of society and progress on SDG 11. It will help on improving the services since children understand better on challenges they are facing eg, limited desks in schools and priorities for children on services they need in the community

Reporting is one of the child right to participation and share their voices on matters affecting them

Improvement of health centres : in some areas health centers are far from the community and hence children cannot access services. Health centers to be build close to the community and parents need to be educated on importance of health services including sending children to clinics (post- natal services) as some of them ignore.