

The Danish Union of Teachers in Zanzibar

Partner in Zanzibar	Zanzibar Teachers' Union, ZATU, organises all teachers from pre-school to university level. ZATU has approx. 7500 members out of a potential of approx. 14-15,000 teachers. ZATU was established in 2002 as a politically independent trade union and it is the only professional teachers union in Zanzibar.
Development goal	The goal of the project is further development of a democratic and efficient trade union that strengthens the members professionally as well as socially. ZATU also works on being a recognised social partner vis-à-vis the Zanzibar authorities.
Time frame and budget	The project cooperation began in 2003. The current phase of the project began in January 2018 and will run until 2021. The annual project budget of 16,000 € (120,000 DKK) is primarily financed by Danida through the LO/FTF Council. The local DLF Branch of Gribskov supports ZATU regarding professional in-service training.
Country facts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zanzibar consists of the main islands Unguja and Pemba as well as a few minor islands off the eastern coast of Africa. Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous part of the United Republic of Tanzania since 1964, but with its own Parliament that to a large extent decides on most domestic issues, e.g. the labour market and the educational sector• Zanzibar has 1.2 m inhabitants and the population density is one of the highest in Africa• The majority of the population on Pemba is employed in the agricultural sector. On Unguja – the main island also called Zanzibar – tourism is a substantial income.
School situation	Zanzibar has introduced 10 years of compulsory schooling for all children, starting at the age of 7. This has led to lack of qualified teachers, and a quarter of the educators at the primary level do not have a recognised teaching degree. Crowded classrooms and lack of teaching materials are also a problem, however, to a lesser degree compared to the rest of the United Republic of Tanzania.
Background and project development	The cooperation aims at capacity building to ensure the quality service to the members. Furthermore, the project shall strengthen the school representative system and contribute to a better social dialogue. Parallel to this programme is support to less qualified teachers through a professional training programme. This part is directly financed by the DLF Branch of Gribskov. The Tanzania Teachers Union, TTU, has assisted ZATU in training its local leaders in accordance with the principle of south-south cooperation, where the most developed countries and organisations help and assist the less developed ones. ZATU has held a series of conferences with participation from central and local authorities. Pedagogical development, labour market/ public sector legislation and the relationship between teachers and government have been the main issues discussed. The conferences have contributed to the authorities having a better understanding and appreciation of the role of ZATU as a positive ally in further developing the educational sector in Zanzibar.

