

**Factors that drive children away from rehabilitation centres back to the streets: a case of Dar es salaam region.**

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This study was done to identify push factor that drives children from rehabilitation centres back to streets in Dar es Salaam region. In achieving the goal of the study, the study sought to examine daily routines of children living in the rehabilitation centres RCs. The main interest was to see relevance of routines in keeping children for behavior change programs and other development processes. Also the study sought to identify incentives that retain children in the RCs for rehabilitation programs and other further development process. To understand and whether RCs have sustainable capacity of providing respected incentives for children; to identify environments that force children of the RCs for back for street life; to identify unfavorable environments for the children in the RCs; and to identify environments that attract children back to the streets. A total of 141 respondents were drawn from children who were in the streets and in the RCs. Others were key informants as social welfare officers from the Department of Social Welfare in the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, staff and directors of RCs, workers from development partners and NGOs. Research design used was explanatory done through qualitative and quantitative research approaches. Data collection methods included questionnaire, interviews to key informants, focus group discussion and documentary review. The study found that since 1990s when the problem of children living in the streets alarmed in Tanzania, no study gave special attention on elimination of the problem of street children. Majority of respondents claimed that insufficient incentives in the RCs pushed children in the streets. The study revealed that there was disunity between stakeholders and government system in dealing with the problem of children who run away from RCs back to the streets. This study recommends that there is a need for solutions that will prevent children from going to the streets from their families and RCs.