

### **Launching of KAS Alumni and Scholars Network**

KAS Tanzania has been supporting government initiatives to financing students to acquire tertiary education. It has been granting scholarship to eligible Tanzanian men and women for over 20 years especially M.A. students to study various programs, from undergraduate to doctorate studies, at the local universities. These outstanding students are deemed to possess potential leadership capabilities and up to 2021, more than 20 Tanzanians have benefited already from the program. These students have been supported with both direct university fee and related costs and personal stipend, hence lessening financial constraint to the students and their families.

In order to ensure lasting impact, KAS plays a great role in bringing Scholars and Alumni together as well as creating a sustainable network among them, sharing success stories and opportunities along with identifying their potentials and possibilities of supporting the KAS country program in Tanzania.

A new initiative officially re-started in 2021 and in the year 2022, fourteen beneficiaries participated in the alumni and scholars network meeting. The event was convened at Coral Beach Hotel. The meeting was attended by the KAS Country Director, Dr. Tilmann Feltes and his team, two Lectures namely; Dr. Jacob Lisakafu and Dr. Philibert Komu from Open University of Tanzania and University of Dar es Salaam.

During the discussion the Director Dr. Tilmann Feltes said that KAS is proud to what scholars has been doing to Tanzania and that he is looking forward to engaging more scholars and alumni in the future.

Amongst the Alumni was the former Government spokesman and Director of Communication Mr. Assah Mwambene and Advocate Jonathan Mndeme. On the one hand Mr. Assah Mwambene explained how he got his scholarship with KAS 20 years ago and his experience working with KAS in media and gender based violence in different regions. A current Scholar, Ms. Maria Kayombo gave her word of thanks on behalf of others and acknowledged that the scholarship program in Tanzania is very important to support students in need and requested to widen its scope to more Tanzanians.

Following this event, KAS is looking forward to maintaining regular communication with Alumni and Scholars respectively, growing their database for its Scholars and Alumni, and establish a sustainable working relationship with KAS partners and Universities.