



Elsie S. Kanza was appointed to the Presidency in March 2006, as Personal Assistant to H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania responsible for Economic Affairs.

Prior to that, she worked with the Ministry of Finance from 2002 to 2006 on secondment from the (central) Bank of Tanzania. At the Ministry, Elsie served as Personal Assistant to the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury (2004 – 2006), Acting Commissioner for Debt Policy and Principal Policy Analyst for Finance and Capital Markets (2002 – 2004). While at the Ministry she was instrumental in the successful preparation of Tanzania's proposal for eligibility for USA's Millennium Challenge Account assistance, development of government credit guarantee schemes, establishing frameworks to facilitate private sector lending in the mortgage finance sector, and concluding HIPC debt cancellations with 16 countries.

From 1997 to 2002 Elsie worked with the Bank of Tanzania as a Financial Market Analyst and as a Money Market Dealer in the Directorate of Financial Markets. Elsie was instrumental in the computerization of the Government Securities auction system, as well as introducing Government Treasury Bonds and Repurchase Agreements.

Elsie holds a BSc (cum laude) in International Business Administration from the United States International University – Africa, an MSc in Finance from the University of Strathclyde and an MA in Development Economics from Williams College. She is also an Archbishop Desmond Tutu Leadership Fellow (2008), an Honorary Committee Member of the 1x1microcredit.org, and is a Member of the World Economic Forum's Regional Agenda Council on Africa for 2010-11.