



policy forum

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Policy Forum has decided to dedicate this month's debate to the issue of the implementation of Decentralization by Devolution in Tanzania. The debate is titled "**The implementation of Decentralization by Devolution in Tanzania: have we achieved?**"

The Government of Tanzania adopted in 1998 'Decentralization by-Devolution (D-by-D) as the policy option which could deliver improved governance and service delivery within the socio-economic and institutional context in Tanzania. The Government policy of Decentralization by Devolution (D-by-D) was chosen as a means of bringing decision making on services closer to the people, to make government and service delivery more responsive, efficient and effective.

Also, the implementation of Decentralization of Devolution policy intended to make LGAs more accountable for resource management and service delivery in their areas. The intention is to limit the role of Central Government ministries in providing policies, setting guidelines, determining service delivery standards and providing overall co-ordination and support. How then have all these been achieved?

It is, however, worth noting that since the adaption of (D-by-D) Tanzania has persistently been implementing policies and development strategies that aim at improving the livelihood of all citizens without discrimination. For example, social accountability has been instituted to strengthen transparency in the public sector and also empowering citizens and communities to give them more voice in public decision-making processes. What then are their achievements and challenges that the government is facing in the implementation progress?

These issues, together with what the government can do to review the current constitution in order to provide for local government protection from interference with the central government and how best D by D need to be implemented in a manner that ensures the central government does not govern by directives that override local priorities and interests will be featured as part of the discussion during the Breakfast Debate on Friday 27th January 2012. Invited participants at the meeting include representatives of Government, private sector, civil society, donors, the media and concerned citizens. The discussions are held over light breakfast and enable participants to reflect and debate the issues.

The 7:30 People and Policy Debates are held on the last Friday of every month and the venue will be the BRITISH COUNCIL along **Ohio Street**, from 0730 to 0930. Their main purpose is to examine and debate the extent to which policies serve ordinary people, and identify imaginative questions and solutions.

The main presentations will be made by Cleophus Manyangu, Legal office of ALAT and Hamis Mboga, Secretary General of Association of Local Government of Kenya.

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Signed for Policy Forum