



policy forum

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKING
GROUP
Progress Report
2013**

LGWG Progress: January through December 2013

The Objectives of LGWG are:

- Promotion of good local governance
- Increased knowledge of local governance issues
- Stronger ties with Parliament and PMO RALG
- Increased citizen's voice
- Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM)

The 2013 Annual Plan:

In respect of the LGWG objectives, members of the group had agreed the following in their annual work plan:

1. **Four policy documents/processes rendered in simplified form:**

This involves producing four policy documents on; - Constitution (upon members consensus), Member's publications upon demand, CDCF "survey report", TEITI law, Oil and Gas law and the Governance Review 2010/2011

2. **Constituency Development Catalyst Fund (CDCF) Survey:**

Since Policy Forum has been advocating for the government to nullify the CDCF law for some time now, the LGWG shall develop a methodology for conducting the survey on CDCF and undertaken the survey in six constituencies in collaboration with REPOA

3. **Media used strategically to improve awareness, understanding and mutual responsibility in governance and accountability within the Tanzanian public:**

The group planned to produce a documentary and a television spot so as to create awareness and understanding to the public on issues related to governance and accountability, In regards to the latter, both the LGWG and the BWG will suggest on the focus of the TV spot and the documentary will be about social accountability monitoring (SAM).

4. **Produce preliminary analysis and commentaries on demand to assist members with advocacy:**

The group intends to engage with 2 major stakeholders such as the media, Donors or other CSOs, this engagement can be during the *National consultation on GBS/PER and MKUKUTA, PMORALG on Local Government Reform or Constitution.*

In light with the above plan of the group, the following were the agreed activities upon for implementation:

1. A popular version of the Guideline on Good Governance (*Mwongozo wa Utawala Bora*) produced by the LGWG in collaboration with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), the publication is on good governance, it aims at sensitizing both leaders and the community on good governance and accountability, the publication was launched on

25/09/2013 where the guest of honor was the Deputy Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Hon. Angellah Kairuki who said that she was very proud to be associated with the collaboration.

2. **Reprint of *Utawala wa Kidemokrasia katika Jamii*** booklet. Due to great demand, this year the publication on *Utawala wa Kidemokrasia katika Jamii* was reprinted and has been disseminated to members
3. A simplified version on the roles and responsibilities of councilors. It was suggested, in one of the LGWG meeting, that we should produce a hand booklet highlighting the major role and responsibilities of the councilors so that to enable councilor and citizens engage fully on issues pertaining to governance both at national and local level. The draft booklet has been produced and is currently being reviewed

4. **Constituency Development Catalyst Fund (CDCF) Survey.**

Policy Forum in collaboration with Repoa (a member of Policy Forum) entered into an agreement to conduct a research on CDCF. 7 members of the group had gone to the field (a total of six electoral constituencies of Tanzania mainland, namely Kinondoni, Lindi Urban, Kilosa Kati, Singida West, Siha, and Karatu, which were chosen based on the CAG report and from the Poverty and Human Development Report 2011), after the survey repoa produced a draft report which was shared by LGWG members for their inputs, the report is now being finalised by REPOA and being evaluated.

5. **Strategic Use of Media.**

Policy Forum LGWG have continued working with the media in the following ways:

- a) **Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) – Documentary.** Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) – Documentary. This year PF decided to produce a SAM documentary which is a continuation of the previous documentary on SAM in Ileje-Mbeya to capture the success story of the healthcare centre which is now functioning after some SAM interventions. The documentary was previewed at the international conference on SAM slated on August 2013.
- b) **TV Spot on Constitution:** This year the idea of the TV spot that came out from Policy Forum members was to produce a TV spot on tax justice and transparency, the spot has been produced and was pretested to members during the November 2013 Quarterly meeting and aired in two Tanzanian TV stations namely ITV and StarTV.
- c) **Press Statements:** In the year 2013 PF produced 4 press statements; on Government's Decision to Nullify 2012 Form IV Results, Statement by the Policy Forum's Budget Working Group (BWG) on the 2011/2012 CAG's

Report, Open Letter to EITI Chairperson on Consultation for Contract Transparency and 4th Tanzania Offshore and North Lake Tanganyika Licensing Round.

Challenges: The challenges that were experienced during the implementation of the work plan were as follows; poor attendance in the meetings of some of the members who were assigned tasks and attendance of LGWG members was irregular.

Conclusion

With the continued cooperation amongst its members, the LGWG remains committed to promoting good governance and accountability at the local level.