



## **SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY TRAINING IN KAHAMA DISTRICT OF SHINYANGA REGION**



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***Cover photo Mr. Anthony Benedict Ndeawio, Councillor of Moshi Municipal. (Photo credit: Elvis Engelbert)***

Before i was trained on Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) I had been doing my work using the experience I have without knowing the documents that guide the process, for instance documents on budget, its process, districts and councils. Before SAM training I had little knowledge on how best the government can serve its people by providing them with requisite information concerning grants from the central government to the districts government and keep tracking those grants to the sectorial-allocation areas such as the health centers, schools, roads and which preferences used on such allocation.

Through Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training I became aware of the budget process at all levels – from the village to the district level and also know how to outline priorities from wards and identify the challenges and opportunities for developments .Similarly the Government agreed with Civil Society Organizations to share different documents, through the training I became aware of these documents and how the access to the documents can benefit the people, Lastly through SAM training i became aware of the memorandum of local Government, budget of the Government, laws/regulations and processes that guide the local Government budget.

Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training has equipped me with requisite knowledge in terms of how best to serve my people based on the rights based approach, sensitizing citizens to attend different meetings and know among other things on what their leaders have agreed with investors, also citizens

have the right to identify their priority needs to their leaders so that they mainstream them into different levels from the ward level to district level.

I intend to enhance transparency in my council through providing information to my citizen on income and expenditure and by revising all agreements made with the citizens and the council.

My suggestion is that, SAM training should be provided to all institutions in Tanzania because it will help officials to be accountable to their citizens. For instance after evaluating myself before the training and after training I have realized that SAM training is very important for development of our country especially at different local levels.



***Cover photo Mr. Fredrick Katulanda, Journalist and editor of Mtanzania Newspaper in Mwanza office. (Photo credit: Elvis Engelbert)***

Before Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training I had little knowledge on the budget process and social accountability, after this training I am now aware on budget issues on its priorities which emanates from the councils.

Social Accountability Monitoring training has built my professional capacity as an editor on knowing the rules and procedures used by councils, also this training has promoted my knowledge on how LGA leaders should be accountable to their councils, this acquired knowledge will help me in my career through writing good balanced stories with the aim of making leaders to be accountable this is part and parcel of journalist duties which is to educate, entertain and criticize.

If social accountability will be applicable to civil servants there is a possibility to have a community which is developed and transformed due to good budget allocations to specific areas.

SAM training has built my capacity in writing articles related to LGA issues in order to sensitize the community to demand for accountability from their leaders.

My suggestion is that, SAM training should be provided to all Journalists because through articles, features and editorial opinion it can be used to enhance leaders to be accountable to their councils also to have an effective budget allocated to specific priority areas. .

As a zonal Journalist and editor I intend to train other journalist on social accountability for the purpose of capacity enhancement so that they can be able to question different issues for the betterment and development of our society.



**Cover photo Mr. Paul James, Teacher of Mwime primary school at kahama. (Photo credit: Elvis Engelbert)**

Before Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training I was not aware on how payments in councils take place and I also had little knowledge on corporate social responsibility on how the small companies assist the main companies in performing mining duties. Related to this, I am now aware of the procedures, the rules and regulations that are to be used in the negotiation of mining agreements.. Through the training I now know the procedures of the LGA meetings from village up to council level Training contributes a major role in my career by questioning things, to be courageous and to be accountable and to claim for my rights as a citizen of Tanzania not only me but also to all Tanzanian communities . Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) gave me awareness to know what exactly councils had been doing and what they should be doing so the training enlightened me on the roles and responsibilities of our local leaders and what exactly they should be doing in their respective locales.

I expect to participate in different meetings involving the communities and contribute my thoughts on what I learnt from this workshop.



**Cover photo Mrs. Lugano Henry Nicodem, Teacher of Kinaga Secondary school. (Photo credit: Elvis Engelbert)**

Before Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) training I had little knowledge on the government budget process. I have learnt that the process should be inclusive, I previously thought that only the government has authority on such process which is not the case, and the budget process should start on ward level, district level where the citizens are located. I was not aware on the right that citizens have in accessing different LGA documents, this knowledge will help me to be accountable to my society.

SAM training led me to know on different issues of strategic planning, social accountability, time management and effectiveness in my duties all these are the vital things I learnt from the training. one the most important aspects I learnt during the training is expenditure management this is an area that faces problems because most of the leaders fail to manage the resources they have leading to failing projects and investments activities due to poor management and expenditure.

My suggestion is that, SAM training should be provided to all people so that they can be able to demand for social accountability from their leaders.

I will train my staff member on social accountability process and also my surrounding communities because they are the ones who can make changes in this country so all citizens are accountable in their responsive areas