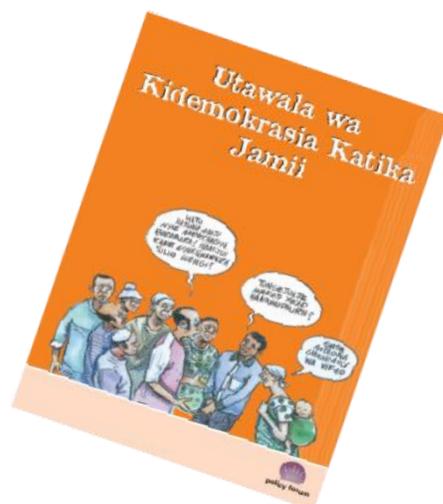




**policy forum**

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP Annual Report 2012



## LGWG Progress: January through December 2012

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 2012 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 (which highlight the major weaknesses in the current constitution), TEITI law, a brief on Decentralization by Devolution (D by D) and one is to be produced upon demand by members.

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 undertake a pilot in two constituencies so as to have an evidence based advocacy to support their concern.

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

The group will 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) which shall all be aired in Tanzanian television stations.

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:

Activity 1: **The Local Government Working Group Annual Plan for 2012.**

The 2012 Annual plan was formulated and approved as the guide for the work of the LGWG.

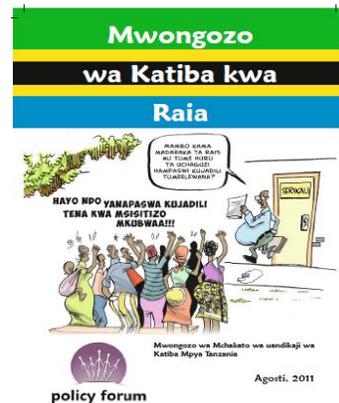
Activity 2: **Four policy documents/processes rendered in simplified form**

In this year the group planned to produce popular versions of 4 publications. The documents that were produced for popularization are:

- i. A simplified version highlighting the major weaknesses of the current constitution at the local level. This activity has already been done by a team of members from our Local Government Working Group (LGWG). 25,000 copies of this simplified version were printed and disseminated widely.



- ii. A popular guide for citizens on the Constitutional review. PF commissioned *Jukwaa la Katiba* (CSO Constitutional Forum) to prepare this document prior to the country-wide public hearings planned for the review of the Constitutional Review Bill. The objective of this publication is to enlighten citizens on the propriety of the process of reviewing the constitution and giving background on previous constitutional amendments in Tanzania. It also provides expert opinion as to how the process could be carried forward based on experiences from neighboring jurisdictions that have undertaken successful constitutional reviews. Due to a great demand of the booklet from our members and the public at large we reprinted 32,000 copies of the booklets this year and disseminated to our members and other stakeholders.



- iii. A simplified version of *Utawala wa Kidemokrasia*. due to an unending demand from PF members and other stakeholders and the public for this document, PF reprinted 33,000 copies for this year for dissemination particularly to areas where members and different stakeholders have reported urgent need.



- iv. Simplified campaign brief on extractive industries transparency initiative (EITI). As part of continued advocacy for transparency in extractive, we reprinted 1000 copies of the EITI briefs and disseminated.

**Activity 3: 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 and is now being finalized and is to be out soon in 2013

**Activity 4: Strategic Use of Media.**

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

1. **Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) – Documentary.** This year Policy Forum produced a documentary with a SAM partner networks namely, MIICO the documentary captures the findings of social accountability monitoring that was conducted in Ileje district. A 15 minutes documentary was produced and aired on three TV stations and uploaded on PF website
2. **TV Spot on Constitution:** *This year the members agreed that the TV spot that is to produced should focus on the constitution that is the citizens participation in giving out their opinions regarding the making of the new constitution therefore the advert was made and was pre-tested to PF members, the general public before it was aired in 3 Tanzanian TV stations.*
3. **Press Statements:** Up to date Pf has issued three press statements on extractive industries, position of CSO's on doctors strike (Swahili and English), and Pre-Press Budget Statement issued by PF's Budget Working Group.

**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.