



The Foundation News

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The Foundation for Civil Society Newsletter

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The Foundation's Strategic Plan 2009-2013:

Support to achieving the Tanzania vision 2025



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- Eighty organisations benefit from the Foundation's free web service
- The Foundation increases its grant size, revisits thematic areas
- Biharamuro West MP urges leaders, public servants to work on challenges from the civil society
- Leadership training that brought changes to Kiteto Coos
- Confusing words

.... and much more

The Foundation's Strategic Plan 2009-2013:

Support to achieving the Tanzania vision 2025



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We envision a bright future for the Tanzania Civil Society Sector

We are standing in an era that is highly characterized by competition. An era that calls for citizens' empowerment to enable them become drivers of their own development. If we are to have active citizens who are capable of participating actively in the local and global development processes we must, as a Nation, find ways of improving and strengthening ourselves in all these areas.

In coming to terms with its developmental challenges, Tanzania prepared a National Development Vision which will guide economic and social development efforts up to the year 2025.

The Tanzania Vision 2025 strategy, aims at improving the quality of life of the people of Tanzania and to realize an environment of peace, security and unity; good governance; a well educated and learning society; and a competitive economy. It is envisaged that by 2025 Tanzania should be a middle income country with a high level of human development, free from abject poverty.

The Foundation Strategic Plan 2009-2013 which builds on achievements of the first plan 2005-2008 focuses on contributing to attaining the Tanzania Vision 2025 for growth, reduction of poverty, improved governance and a better quality of life for all its citizens. The strategic plan is prepared under the assumption that citizens and civil society are very important to the future of development and poverty reduction in Tanzania. Governance and accountability will only improve if it is demanded by everybody. Policies can only succeed if people can see that they are in their interests and are mobilised to ensure that they are implemented.



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Based on the strategic plan 2009-2013, the role of the Foundation is to help Tanzanians to know their rights and work towards change. The Foundation will support citizens empowerment, through their civil society organisations, in three ways; by giving grants, by providing training and by strengthening links between organisations with similar goals. We see opportunities in the fact that there has been a growth of goodwill from the government and that there are good relations between civil society and the media, development partners and the private sector. Main changes to be attained through the implementation of the Foundation strategic plan 2009-2013 are mentioned below:

- **The Foundation will be more active in rural areas**
We will concentrate more on rural areas which receive little support and where majority of Tanzania citizens lives.
- **The Foundation will ensure that our training and grants produce results**

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"The Foundation News" is a newsletter issued by The Foundation for Civil Society to inform the public about its activities and the civil society sector in the country.

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Editorial

Civil Society Organisations should consider ICT vital for their businesses

During this era, information technology is becoming very important in almost every aspect of life. Information Communication Technologies, especially the internet, have hastened dissemination and exchange of information, a process that has increased interaction and knowledge development.

Information technology is a quick way of disseminating and accessing information. For the civil society and other development activists, who undertake advocacy and other development campaigns, information technology should be treated as the best option.

However, it is discouraging to note that some civil society organisations have not yet paid

due attention to the use of ICT in their undertakings. The less response of organisations to utilise the free service of website designing and hosting provided by the Foundation for Civil Society is just one example.

The Foundation for Civil Society introduced a free website designing and hosting for civil society organisations, but since then only eighty organisations have utilised the opportunity.

Eighty civil society organisations have benefited from the Foundation for Civil Society's free website designing and hosting service since its introduction in 2007. The support of eighty organisations is a great credit to the Foundation, but it is unpromising on the part of the large number of civil society organisations which have not yet utilised the

opportunity up to the moment. This is especially with regard to the fact as stated on the story on page seven of this newsletter; that the Foundation still has enough space yet to be utilised.

It is important for the civil society to recognise the fact that during this era, ICT is increasingly replacing the conventional methods of communicating information. One who disregards ICT is likely to be left behind.

Therefore, it goes without to say that civil society organisations should see ICT as vital for their businesses and utilise it effectively.

Sitta Peter
Editor

Appreciation to the Foundation for Civil Society

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Foundation for Civil Society for its efforts to bring about changes. The Foundation's spirit of learning, listening and working on stakeholders' recommendations has brought about the following changes:

First: It has introduced a pre-award visit (due diligence) to CSOs before it awards grants. That has helped to reduce complaints and has enabled the Foundation to learn practically about the capacity of organisations it is working with, instead of just depending on their project proposals. The programme has also helped the Foundation to meet the project beneficiaries and hear their views.

Secondly: The Foundation has a capacity building programme to CSOs that include leadership, project formulation, fundraising and Public Expenditure Tracking. The programme has resulted into growing CSOs and strengthening of their working capacity.

Thirdly: The Foundation has significantly improved its Manage Your Grants training. For those who attended the training will support me that now they are not just training but a "school" because after attending the training, you can efficiently implement your project. That is why organisations have now given high priority to the training such that they are ready to pay for their travel expenses to attend the training.

Fourth: The introduction of CSOs Excellence Award of the Foundation has increased a competing spirit among CSOs and contributed to improve the efficiency of implementing projects among the Foundation's grantees thus benefits to people.

Fifth: The introduction of annual CSOs exhibitions has provided opportunity for CSOs to sell their work, to learn from each other and to make people appreciate the work of CSOs. Therefore, we would like to request the Management and Board of the Foundation to sustain those achievements.

Sixth: The Foundation has introduced a CSOs Annual Forum that enables CSOs to meet and measure their achievements, challenges as well as discussing the implementation of government policies.

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We invite news, features, letters, opinions and analyses about the civil society and development



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Silvanus Sulu, Secretary of the Tanzania League of the Blind -Tabora Branch as captured typing a Braille document at his office in Tabora.

Visually impaired appreciates Braille documents from the Foundation

The initiative to print documents and publications in Braille for the visually impaired people has been applauded by the target group as well as other members of the civil society sector.

The Foundation purchased Braille equipment last year and has already been printing training manuals, correspondence letters and other vital documents to serve for the visually impaired.

manuels during the Manage Your Grants (MYG) and other tailor-made trainings expressed great appreciation stating that the documents have enabled them to follow the lessons appropriately.

“Some visually impaired who were served with Braille training manuals during the Manage Your Grants (MYG) and other tailor-made trainings expressed great appreciation stating that the documents have enabled them to follow the lessons appropriately”.

Some visually impaired who were served with Braille training

The chairman of the Tanzania League of the Blind, Bukoba branch Deogratias Katto who attended the recent MYG training held at Dodoma hotel in Dodoma said that it has been quite easy to understand lessons because the visually impaired can listen as well as make references on

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Foundation introduces batch messaging for grants feedback

The Foundation for Civil Society has introduced a batch messaging system in order to ease and ensure quick delivery of feedback to its grant applicants.

The system has been recently introduced and has already been used in sending feedback about receipt of grant applications during the First round of grant applications for 2010.

The system has already received great appreciation from CSOs as a quick and easy feedback mechanism.

Some grant applicants have said that by using the system, the Foundation demonstrates effective use of technology in its course of working with its partners and stakeholders.

They said that unlike in the previous where by printed letters delayed or sometimes got lost on the way, the current telephone messaging system can ensure delivery of

feedback of their grant applicants.

The system can furnish and deliver messages to a number of applicants instantly and simultaneously into grant applicants' mobile phones.

The Foundation for Civil Society will use the system to send information to applicants about the status of their applications from the time when they are received to the point of approval or rejection.

Although some detailed information through other means like printed letters and electronic mails might later be sent to individual applicants, the batch messaging system will be used as quick and general feedback mechanism.

However, grant applicants are cautioned not to personalise the messages they receive and that they should not reply to the messages as the system does not provide access to replied messages. ■

Visually impaired appreciates Braille documents from the Foundation... >>>from page 5

written documents during and after the sessions.

Katto urged the government and other non-governmental organizations and institutions to learn from the Foundation in ensuring that the visually impaired are able to access vital information through Braille documents.

On the other hand a member of TLB in

Bukoba Annarse Rubago wondered to see that the government has not been able to print Braille publications in the midst of flourishing science and technology.

He said that the visually impaired are left behind science and technology and are treated unfairly because of being forced to memorise different information as they don't have written references thus easy to forget. ■

From the Director's desk...

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In the past we have concentrated on providing organisations with grants and training to improve their ability to do their work. We have spent less time looking at the results that these organisations have been able to achieve. Starting 2009 to 2013 we will provide more resources to CSOs who can show that they are enabling citizens to hold their leaders to account and who have been able to bring changes in government policies and activities that benefit marginalized.

The Foundation envisages that Tanzania, as a nation, will reach a point at which its citizens are empowered, realize their rights and are in control of a democratic process of change and development. The Foundation will continue to work through and strengthen civil society organisations to become key catalysts of this ongoing change and development process, supporting them with their strategic engagement in **Policy-making processes; Governance and Accountability** at all levels and especially at Local Government; and **Political processes**.

The Foundation for Civil Society goal is to work with Government and citizens to ensure that we live in a peaceful, well governed, democratic country, where citizens are well educated and able to make good livelihoods in a strong and fair economy.

This goal will only be achieved if all Tanzanians know their individual and community rights and responsibilities and can demand that their leaders act accountably. With better knowledge of rights and responsibilities, citizens and communities can work together to improve their lives.

With the Foundations' support, civil so-

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Eighty organisations benefit from the Foundation's free web service



A group of people as captured surfing the internet. In this era of science and technology, the new media, which includes websites and internet, is increasingly becoming dependable sources of information thus CSOs are advised to couple with the situation.

Eighty civil society organisations have benefited from the Foundation for Civil Society's free website designing and hosting service since its introduction in 2007.

The Foundation introduced the service in 2007 as part of capacity building to CSOs, aimed at enabling them to move in line

with era of science and technology.

Organisations who have benefited from the service have expressed appreciation stating that it has facilitated wider understanding and recognition of their activities.

Nanyumbu Development Foundation is

one of the organisations benefited from the service and shown great appreciation after their website www.nanyumbu.or.tz was connected in the global sphere.

The Secretary General for Nanyumbu Development Foundation Namagongo Lilas said that without the support from the Foundation, it would be very difficult for the organisation to establish its website.

Established websites have enabled CSOs to upload different information regarding their programmes and activities, making them well known to their partners and stakeholders.

Information uploaded in the websites of CSOs has also helped to add information about the civil society in Tanzania into the global web content, which can also facilitate in creating interest for support from external donors.

The Foundation further encourages CSOs to come out and utilise the service as there is still large space available.

Those who seek for the service are asked to submit profiles of their organisation, bright photos expressing their activities, logo if available as well as reports and other information about their programmes and projects. ■

MCODEA directs its efforts to improving governance in rural areas



A section of Hinga village, Ngumbo ward in Mbinga district listening to a sensitization for good governance meeting organized by MCODEA.

The noticeable poor administration and governance in rural areas of Mbinga district, Ruvuma region has made Mwambao Community Development Association (MCODEA) recommend and call for education and sensitisation for good governance, to be directed to rural areas.

During implementation of its project on Good Governance in 15 villages of Ngumbo and Kihagara wards in Mbinga district, MCODEA noted that the situation on the ground in the rural areas differed significantly from national plans, policies and directives of local

government administration.

The Chairperson for MCODEA, Restuta Ndumbaro says that in the course of implementing their project, they learnt that the problem of governance in rural areas emanates from the ignorance of both citizens and leaders at village and ward levels in regard to national plans, policies and directives.

Restituta says that citizens are not aware of different projects implemented in their localities while leaders do not know the regularity of conducting meetings and means of involving citizens and planning

and implementation.

“In our analysis of citizens’ awareness on development projects being implemented in their villages, we learnt that most of them are quite uninformed. That was contributed by leaders who did not call meetings and involve villagers in discussion and decision making,” she says.

She adds that most of the local government leaders and executives at the ward and village levels are not aware of the local governance system and directives hence do not call meetings and lead as per stipulated procedures and directives.

Restituta added that ignorance of leaders contributed by villagers’ poor understanding of their rights result into some leaders violate the rule of law by assuming the role of the judiciary whereby they rule out and seize villagers’ properties like chicken and goats.

Also, some ward and village executives decide to arrest people and detain them in office village buildings.

According to Restituta the MKUKUTA, MKURABITA and National Vision 2025 which are crucial national strategies and focus for development are nothing but bombastic vocabularies to rural dwellers in Mbinga.

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Staff members of the Foundation for Civil Society during one of the meetings for processing of grants applications.

The Foundation increases its grant size, revisits thematic areas

The Foundation for Civil Society has raised the size of fund under its different grant programmes effective from this year 2010).

The decision has been made considering stakeholders' recommendations and economic changes including the rate of inflation since when the rates were introduced in 2003 during the inception of the Foundation.

In the revised grant sizes, the maximum amount under Strategic Grant (SG) programme has been raised from 100mil to 125mil shillings per annum, with a room for a project of up to three years hence maximum of 375mil shillings.

The maximum amount of funding under Medium Grant (MG) becomes 45mil shillings per year instead of the previous 35mil shillings whereby this programme also allows a project of up to three years hence maximum support of 135mil shillings.

Under those changes, the maximum grant under Rolling Small Grant (RSG) has been increased from the maximum of 5mil to 7.5 mil shillings in a three-month to one year project.

The grant size under the Registration Development Grant (RDG), which is the programme designed and introduced in 2006 to support small and active civil society organisations and groups that seek for formal registration

remains unchanged at Tshs. 200,000/=.

Meanwhile, the Foundation has revisited its thematic areas trimming them down from four to three.

The new thematic areas that will guide the Foundation in the implementation of its new strategic plan, 2009 -2013 are Policy Engagement, Governance and Accountability, and Capacity Strengthening.

Notable changes from the previous thematic areas are the removal of Safety Nets from the thematic areas, and the renaming of Advocacy and Network Strengthening thematic area into Civil Society

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Revealing information to the public is a sign of accountability and good governance-District official tells village, ward executives



Villagers listening attentively to their leaders during one of the public meetings in Tanzania. Leaders are supposed to constantly feed the public with information about progress of different undertakings of the government as a sign of accountability and good governance.

Ward and village executive officers in Liwale district have been urged to cooperate closely with community committees undertaking public expenditure tracking in the district.

The call was made recently by the Liwale district Administrative Officer, Guabert Mbujira when he was officially opening a

ten-day workshop on public expenditure tracking organised by the Union of Liwale District NGOs (ULIDINGO), held at Liwale Teachers Centre.

Mbunjira who was representing the District Executive Director asked the executive officers who attended the workshop to reveal all the necessary information available in

their offices as requested by the community public expenditure tracking committees, saying that was important in demonstrating good governance and accountability to the citizens.

He promised the civil society that he will ensure that community public expenditure

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Revealing information to the public is a sign of accountability...

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tracking committees are getting close cooperation and support from every executive officer in the district.

"I want to assure you, executives in the wards and villages will provide significant cooperation to you, that is their responsibility they can not escape. But, in case an executive fails to adhere to this, let us know as soon as possible and we will act on it," Mbunjira told members of the civil society.

He said the formation of public expenditure

tracking committees in the wards was vital in fastening development but that was only possible if the ward executives who are representing the District Executive Director provide enough support to the committees.

In his introductory remarks, the Project Coordinator for ULIDINGO Ali Ligai said that the training was intended at empowering the community public expenditure tracking committees, which are focusing on education sector.

He said that the project is implemented in seven wards of the district namely Nangano, Mirui, Liwale B, Ngongowe, Mlembwe, Mkutano and Liwale urban whereby 80 people will be involved in the exercise.

"The ward committees are going to undertake public expenditure tracking in education.....we hope that this one-year project will bring about significant changes in our district. We have seen in agriculture and health where we started, big changes have been made, we expect more in education sector," he said.

The Chairman of ULIDINGO Mudhihir Mewile informed the guest of honour and participants of the workshop that the project was supported by the Foundation for Civil Society with Tshs. 35mil and that the training was facilitated by Abdallah Shamte from Dar es Salaam and Sharif Maloya from Lindi. ■

"The ward committees are going to undertake public expenditure tracking in education.....we hope that this one-year project will bring about significant changes in our district. We have seen in agriculture and health where we started, big changes have been made, we expect more in education sector,..."

The Foundation increases its grant size, revisits thematic areas...

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Organisations' Capacity Strengthening.

Despite removal of Safety Net thematic area, the Foundation's thrust remains to support projects which are of particular relevance to the poor and vulnerable people in the society.

Therefore, projects which were supported under Safety Net thematic area will be mainstreamed in the three new thematic areas.

Revisiting of the thematic areas was done with the intention of making them precise and avoiding confusion both to applicants during their application process and internally in the Foundation during processing of applications.

Under the current Policy Engagement thematic area, the Foundation will fund projects that enable the civil society sector to contribute to deepening the capacity of citizens to effectively engage in policy processes so as to contribute towards poverty reduction initiatives.

On the other hand, projects to be supported under Enhancing Good Governance and Civic Rights (Governance and Accountability) will be those which raise awareness of people's rights and of responsibilities of the government, strengthening cooperation among organisations working on rights issues at local and national level and increase access to justice for all Tanzanian citizens.

Regarding Civil Society Capacity Strengthening thematic area, the Foundation focus on development of individual civil society organisations as well as their networks hence making a creative, imaginative, effective, sustainable and accountable civil society sector, which contributes to making differences in the Tanzania's development processes.

For that matter, under Civil Society Capacity Strengthening, the Foundation will ensure existence of links amongst civil society organisations for information sharing and learning and facilitate effective advocacy to take place while at the same time developing individual organisations to be able to advocate effectively. ■

Biharamuro West MP urges leaders, public servants to work on challenges from the civil society

Member of Parliament for Biharamulo West constituency, Honourable Oscar Mukasa has urged leaders and public servants to accept challenges and blames thrown to them by people during public debates for they contribute to improvement in their performance.

Hon. Mukasa made the call during a public dialogue organised recently by the Biharamuro NGOs Forum (BINGO Forum), in Kagera region to discuss issues pertaining to the achievements and shortcomings of the National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction (well known in its Kiswahili acronym as MKUKUTA).

He said at times leaders were supposed to accept blame especially if there were significant development achievements expected by the members of the community.

He said in a way there

“Statistics presented at the dialogue, indicated only 6,519 people out of the total district population estimated at 220,000 were using services rendered by financial institutions in the area”.

could be some public servants or other individual personalities who would feel hurt in a course of openly debating opportunities and obstacles against development but urged those touched to take them with positive perception.

Hon. Mukasa expressed his gratitude to The Foundation for Civil Society for sponsoring the event which was the first to be held at district level in the region and he was grateful to see that it provided a platform for people from all walks of life to debate development issues irrespective of political ideology and social affiliations.

However, in his contribution at the dialogue, the Biharamulo constituency MP said there was a need for strengthening capacity of CSO so that they could link up their expertise with those of the Local Government Authority personnel and work collaboratively to serve the benefits of entire community.

He said the people in his constituency were living in abject poverty and therefore it was high time

for concerted efforts among development stakeholders in the district including civil society organizations to prioritize on cash crops as means to beef up the local majority income.

During the dialogue it was unveiled that a number of local community members reached by financial credit facilities in rural areas remained low despite countrywide effort of introducing savings and credit cooperative societies (SACCOS) as way of boosting local income.

According to the survey by FinScope which was commissioned by Financial Sector Deepening Trust in 2006, only 9 percent of the Tanzanian population was being reached by commercial bank services and 2 percent was using savings and credit associations while 35 percent relied on informal lending systems.

Statistics presented at the dialogue, indicated only 6,519 people out of the total district population estimated at 220,000 were using services rendered by financial institutions in the area.

The Chief executive Officer of the Facilitation for Integrated Development

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Biharamuro West MP urges leaders...

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and Relief Services, Christian Byamungu said there was insignificant increase of clients accessed with financial lending facilities in the district for the past five years.

Byamungu pointed out that there were about 3,501 members linked with financial institutions in the district in 2005 but the figure had increased to 6,519 in a period of five years which was indicative that a good number of the district population are still left out.

The statistics closely tie with FinScope data which indicate that about 54 percent of more than thirty million Tanzanians in 2006 were yet to use financial credit facilities and according to the Biharamuro District scenario the situation was even worse among women clients.

About 2,262 women in Biharamuro District which was equivalent to 36.5 percent of the total lending clan were enjoying financial credit services between 2005 and 2009 as opposed to the majority male borrowers according to statistics taken over the same period.

Even the rural dwellers cluster at the dialogue complained of being sidelined in accessing financial opportunities including the presidential offer popularly referred to as “Mabilioni ya Kikwete” which they said was not accessed by anticipated

beneficiaries in the rural areas.

A number of resolutions were passed at the dialogue, including utilising the youth as a very important workforce in pursuing development, building partnership between CSOs and Local Government Authority, enhancing community access to financial credit services and strengthening crop market chain as way of promoting income of farming communities.

A number of resolutions were passed at the dialogue, including utilising the youth as a very important workforce in pursuing development, building partnership between CSOs and Local Government Authority, enhancing community access to financial credit services and strengthening crop market chain as way of promoting income of farming communities.

Other resolutions included reinforcement of transparency and accountability among public institutions all of which were anticipated to pave way for realization of objectives in the National Strategy for Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction better known as MKUKUTA.

All the resolutions of the dialogue were expected to be presented at different Biharamuro District council statutory meetings including the District Consultative Council for further deliberations and implementation.

Also the MP promised to pick some of the burning issues from the dialogue to the parliamentary sessions as one of his obligations in his capacity as representative of the constituency.

Approximately 70 people participated in the dialogue, including public servants at the district level, representatives of civil society organisations working in the district, local government leaders and representatives, members from the private sector, smallholder farmers as well as journalists. ■

From the Director's desk...

>>>from page 6

ciety is better able to take part in Government decision making and to ensure that development policies are implemented well. The strategic plan will also help to citizens through their organizations are empowered to ensure that local governments make good use of resources, provide better quality public services and ensure that Parliament, Ministries, the development partners and the private sector work together in the interests of the citizens and the country.

We are confident that with the cooperation with various stakeholders, we will succeed in the implementation of this strategic plan and hence contribute to the attainment of Vision 2025. What can be done today should not wait for tomorrow. ■

The Foundation's Strategic Plan 2009-2013: Support to achieving the Tanzania vision 2025

In 2008, The Foundation for Civil Society completed its first Strategic Plan (2005 - 2008). As such, it was a year of celebrating achievements, considering lessons learnt and thinking of the future.

It was encouraging to see that during implementation of the first Strategic Plan, nearly 1,400 projects have received grants from the Foundation and one third of all the civil society organisations in Tanzania have received training on managing grants. Also grant application procedures were made easier to understand hence small civil society organisations were able to apply. In addition, most of the organisations that have worked with the Foundation have reported that their ability to manage their organisations and projects has improved.

While celebrating those achievements it was important to work on the lessons learnt so that they support in determining the future. Thus, the Foundation somewhat readjusted its programmes and changed the way it operates. The new strategic plan, 2009 -2013 reveals.

In the new strategic direction of the Foundation, the main focus will be to support towards achievement of the Tanzania Vision 2025. The national vision for 2025 sees a peaceful, well governed, democratic Tanzania, where citizens are well educated and are making good livelihoods in a strong and fair economy. But, the Foundation believes

that the achievement of this vision will only be possible if the citizens of the country are aware of their rights and in control of its development. Therefore, the purpose of the Foundation will be "to enable citizens to become a strong driving force for change in improving the democratic governance of Tanzania, in fighting poverty and in achieving a better quality of life for all Tanzanians."

In considering the shift in focus and strategic direction the Foundation has revisited its vision and mission. Now, the Foundation envisions of "A Tanzania where citizens are empowered to realise their rights and engage in change processes that enhance their quality of life." The mission is now "To empower citizens through the provision of grants, facilitating linkages and enabling a culture of ongoing learning in civil society."

The changes have also led to rethinking of the target. Although the services of the Foundation are still needed countrywide, concentration will be more on rural areas considering the fact that those areas receive little support. As such, the Foundation

intends to allocate 70% of its funding and training to organisations in rural areas, or to organisations from urban areas that do a lot of work in rural areas

In the new Strategic Plan, amount of funding under different grant programmes have also been increased while the thematic areas are revisited.

In the revised grant sizes, the maximum amount under Strategic Grant (SG) programme has been raised from 100mil to 125mil shillings per annum, with a room for a project of up to three years hence maximum of 375mil shillings. The maximum amount of funding under Medium Grant (MG) becomes 45mil shillings per year instead of the previous 35mil shillings whereby this programme also allows a project of up to three years hence maximum support of 135mil shillings.

Under those changes, the maximum grant under Rolling Small Grant (RSG) has been increased from the maximum of 5mil to 7.5 mil shillings in a three-month to one year project.

"Under those changes, the maximum grant under Rolling Small Grant (RSG) has been increased from the maximum of 5mil to 7.5 mil shillings in a three-month to one year project"



A house built of mud bricks and thatched with grasses but connected to a satellite dish as captured at Wami-Sokoine in Mvomero district of Morogoro region, demonstrating quest for information. This an exemplary indication of the importance of information as a human right by itself and facilitator in educating people about other rights. During implementation of its Strategic Plan 2009 -2013, the Foundation focuses on ensuring that people, including those living in rural areas are aware of their rights.

The grant size under the Registration Development Grant (RDG), which is the programme designed and introduced in 2006 to support small and active civil society organisations and groups that seek for formal registration remains unchanged at Tshs. 200,000/=.

Meanwhile, the thematic areas have been trimmed down from four to three. The new thematic areas are Policy Engagement, Governance and Accountability, and Capacity Strengthening.

Notable changes from the previous thematic areas are the removal of Safety Nets from the thematic areas, and the renaming of Advocacy and Network Strengthening thematic area into Civil Society Organisations' Capacity Strengthening.

Despite removal of Safety Net thematic area, the Foundation's thrust remains to support projects which are of particular relevance to the poor and vulnerable

people in the society.

Therefore, projects which were supported under Safety Net thematic area will be mainstreamed in the three new thematic areas.

Revisiting of the thematic areas was done with the intention of making them precise and avoiding confusion both to applicants during their application process and internally in the Foundation during processing of applications.

Under the current Policy Engagement thematic area, the Foundation will fund projects that enable the civil society sector to contribute to deepening the capacity of citizens to effectively engage in policy processes so as to contribute towards poverty reduction initiatives.

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ability) will be those which raise awareness of people's rights and of responsibilities of the government, strengthening cooperation among organisations working on rights issues at local and national level and increase access to justice for all Tanzanian citizens.

Regarding Civil Society Capacity Strengthening thematic area, the Foundation focus on development of individual civil society organisations as well as their networks hence making a creative, imaginative, effective, sustainable and accountable civil society sector, which contributes to making differences in the Tanzania's development processes.

For that matter, under Civil Society Capacity Strengthening, the Foundation will ensure existence of links amongst civil society organisations for information sharing and learning and facilitate effective advocacy to take place while at the same time developing individual organisations to be able to advocate effectively. ■

TUSPO dedicates to public education, awareness creation on mental health

Tanzanian society has not yet paid attention on mental health despite the increase of the number of people affected mental related illnesses. Some sources estimate that Dar es Salaam alone has more than 80,000 people with mental health problems. Drug abuse and other psychosocial problems contribute to rising of the problem.

The Tanzania Users and Survivors of Psychiatry Organization (TUSPO) understands the problem of mental health in Tanzania and has devoted to awaken the public.

Elieza Mdakilwa says that his organization has resorted to providing health education to the public through seminars, public meetings and other awareness creation campaigns in line with rehabilitation of the affected people.

Mdakilwa says his organisation has started with sharpening of its leaders on organisation management as well as lobbying and advocacy in order to enable them carry mental health campaigns effectively.

The Foundation for Civil Society supported TUSPO with Tshs. 5mil in order to facilitate the capacity building of its 11 leaders.

Mdakilwa says that TUSPO's capacity building to its leaders has facilitated them in identifying and supporting some people with mental health problems. Salma Hassan from Pugu Bombani in Dar es Salaam is one of the people with mental health who were identified by TUSPO members and facilitated to get rehabilitation.

“Without The Foundation for Civil Society’s support to TUSPO, I would still be roaming around the streets.”

“Without The Foundation for Civil Society’s support to TUSPO, I would still be roaming around the streets.”

Salma says that TUSPO rescued her and took her to hospital for treatment where she got healed. Now she has joined Msimbazi Centre’s Nursery course.

Likewise, Samson Robert Kuboja of Kipunguni B, Ukonga benefited from TUSPO support after he was identified and taken to hospital for rehabilitation. Kuboja says that now he has recovered and has joined the community for different development activities. ■

MCODEA directs its efforts to improving governance in rural areas...

>>>from page 8

“We also learnt that there are many committees established at village levels but are not functioning,” she said and mentioned some committees which have remained idle including HIV/AIDS Committees, Environmental Committees and Land tribunals.

MCODEA has made efforts in educating both leaders and villagers on issues regarding good governance, rule of law and human rights.

Restituta says that after the training some leaders started to organise and call for meetings regularly and villagers are sensitised to attend and participate.

She says that some village governments have formulated meetings calendars which are announced and made known to all villagers.

Also, villagers have recognised the importance of participating in implementing village development projects at their localities.

The Ward Executive Officer for Ngumbo, Gustaph Kapinga appreciated the training from MCODEA saying that it has contributed towards solving a number of challenges in the villages of his ward.

Executive Secretary for MCODEA, Aloyce

Milinga appreciated the support from the Foundation for Civil Society, which enable his organisation to implement the project on good governance.

Milinga advised donors to focus on good governance in rural areas in order stating that it has potential impact to the development of the poor people.

He says that most of the organisations work in urban areas addressing HIV/AIDS, environment, malaria and orphans but forget about good governance, which his important in contributing to development. ■

COTWU Zanzibar facilitates formulation of HIV/AIDS policies at workplace



People on a queue for HIV testing during a testing campaign of 2008. People's understanding of their HIV status is one of the measures to curb the disease.

Workers of five departments and institutions of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar have been able to formulate HIV/AIDS policy and rules at workplace through facilitation by the Communication and Transport Workers Union of Zanzibar (COTWU Zanzibar).

The departments and institutions which formulated the policies include the Zanzibar Shipping Corporation, Zanzibar Ports Corporation, Civil Aviation

Department of the Zanzibar government, Zanzibar Aviation Services and Travel Limited and the Construction and Road Service Department.

Implementation of the project was initiated by a meeting between COTWU Zanzibar and the AIDS Secretariat of the Ministry of Communication and Transport lead by the Principal Secretary of the Ministry, thereafter followed by meetings and trainings involving directors, managers and branch leaders.

Draft policies received some inputs from the ILO office and the Zanzibar Commission for AIDS.

Policies of the respective institutions and departments will therefore be used as guiding tools in dealing with HIV and AIDS issues at workplace.

COTWU ZNZ has also asked the institutions and departments involved in the project to set aside budget line for dealing with HIV and AIDS issues in their offices.

In 2009 COTWU ZNZ's was granted with Tsh. 34,877,500 by the Foundation for Civil Society to implement a project focusing on enabling workers and management of the five departments and institutions to sit down and formulate their own policies, particularly regarding HIV/AIDS policy at workplace. ■

“They said that it had helped to build their capacity to write quality project proposals in a professional manner...”

AFNET fights gender based violence in Iringa and Dodoma

Gender based violence (GBV) is the social problem that reflects gender dynamics in the society. In the past it was regarded as a private affair, but now it is recognized as an obstacle to development because of the many ways in which it retards women's full participation in development processes.

In recent years, acts of gender based violence have been on the increase while many people are ignorant of that fact. Having noticed that, the Anti-Female Genital Mutilation Network (AFNET) devised a project that aimed at empowering communities to fight GBV.

The project has already reached more than 35,000 beneficiaries including women, men, youth and children, and expects to benefit 108,000 directly and 300,000 indirectly at its end.

So far some signs of change in the community have already been noticed including increased awareness on gender based violence among members of the community as well as taking some actions.

Informed community members have started to report cases regarding gender based violence to relevant authorities while the seriousness in deal-

“So far some signs of change in the community have already been noticed including increased awareness on gender based violence among members of the community as well as taking some actions”.



Representative of the Women Work-Up-WOWAP (in red T-shirt), explains about activities undertaken by her organization in fighting against gender based violence during the CSOs Bunge exhibition in Dodoma. WOWAP is one of the members of AFNET.

ing with cases regarding gender based violence among Ward Executive Officers (WEOs) has also increased. WEOs have started to take suspects of gender based violence to police or court.

The changes have resulted after sensitization activities to different groups in the community and workshops with law enforcers and local government leaders held in both regions of Iringa and Dodoma.

So far, seven cases regarding GBV have been reported to police while three women have been linked to Iringa paralegal organization for legal support of their matters.

Cases reported to police are about rape, abandonment, mutilation, divorce and separation while those linked to Iringa paralegal are on land dispute.

AFNET is being supported with the Foundation for Civil Society to implement a project that seeks to empower communities to fight GBV. The project is funded with Tshs. 299,965,500 under Strategic Grant Programme and will be implemented for a period of three years starting from March 2009. ■



A group of members of civil society organizations in Manyara region during a CSOs Bunge exhibition in Dodoma.

Leadership training that brought changes to Kiteto CSOs

Focusing on improving the life standard of pastoralists and farmers in its district, Kiteto Civil Society Organisations Forum (KCS Forum) has embarked on training to its members such that their capacity in management and advocacy is improved.

The knowledge obtained from the training has made some organisations in the district decide to realign their structures and operation systems and procedures.

Among the organisations which have made changes in their management and operations so far are Naadutaro and Kibaya, Kiteto institution (KIKITA).

Naadutaro managed to conduct its general election after 10 years of its existence, during which the organisation had remained with the same leadership.

After the training, Naadutaro members

held their general meeting and recruited new members of the executive committee. They also did some amendments in their constitution in order to match with the current structure and needs.

The knowledge gained from KCS Forum on the importance of increasing organisational efficiency through regular changing of faces in the executive committee is what inspired

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PRINMAT direct efforts towards rural maternal health



A doctor attends a child. Child health is one of the priority areas of PRINMAT.

By staff writer

Improving maternal health is one of the main current issues of emphasis at global and national level thus forming part of the Millennium Development Goals and the Tanzania Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA).

Much as we make efforts to improve maternal health and health of the children under five, the challenge remains in the rural area where accessibility of health services is still a hindrance.

Private Nurses and Midwives Association of Tanzania (PRINMAT) has shown an exemplary initiative of directing its efforts to support in improving child and maternal health

in the rural areas through centres operated by registered nurses and midwives.

Narrating about the efforts of PRINMAT, its members Novelist Matee, Pascal Mugabe and Rita Kulwa said their role is to oversee the provision of motherly and child health services at the Small Community Maternal Homes recognised and registered by the Nurses and Midwives Council of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. The Small Community Maternal Homes are privately established by individual nurses and midwives who voluntarily agree to provide their services under the patronage of PRINMAT hence its conditions and regulations. One of the main conditions of PRINMAT is to provide free health services to children of less than five years and preg-

nant mothers.

“By working under PRINMAT, owners of the Maternal Homes benefit from several exemptions while taking advantage of PRINMAT goodwill to provide other health services apart from maternal and child health services, which they charge” Says Rita.

According to Rita, PRINMAT boasts of the standard of health services provided by its centres such that since 2005 to date, no any maternal death has been recorded at its centres.

Other achievements of the organisation include increase in the number of centres operating under its auspices from 22 in 1999 to 55 in 2008 and increase in the number of mothers delivering at its centres from 600 in 2000 to 4396 in 2007.

However, financial constraint is a drawback of PRINMAT’s efforts to reach its objective of overseeing 100 centres by 2010. Its goal is to make sure that it has centres that it supervises in all regions of Tanzania and that it supports the government’s aim to ensure that mothers do not walk more than five Kilometres for maternal health services.

Currently, the organisation has supervises some centres in Kilimanjaro, Mwanza, Mara, Mbeya, Arusha, Manyara, Dodoma, Singida, Rukwa, Ruvuma, Morogoro and Dar es Salaam. The organisation has its headquarters at Mwananyamara kwa Msi-siri in Dar es Salaam. ■

Leadership training that brought changes to Kiteto Coos ...

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members to make those changes.

Similarly, KIKITA which existed for eight years without a proper structure and leadership decided to recruit new members and elect new leadership with some changes in the structure and constitution.

The organization had only 3 members of the executive committee who were active and they had not conducted any executive committee or general meeting since its establishment. Hence, by the support from the Foundation for Civil Society they conducted 3 days training on leadership and management to leaders and 3 days training to members on good governance, leadership and management.

“He said that, the Foundation, while honouring the support it has been receiving from different donors, should think of other sources of income as well as look around for other donors.”

After the training members decided to remove the existing leaders and elected new leadership as well as making some amendments in their constitution to match with the current leadership structure. Initially the coordinator solely had the mandate to appoint members of the executive committee and the director was also the chairperson of the executive committee something which was somewhat

undemocratic and defeating the principles of good governance.

The amendments made by members of the organisation included that the executive committee should meet after 3 months while general meeting should be conducted after 1 year.

KCS Forum is funded with 104.9mil under the Medium Grant Programme of the Foundation for Civil Society and its project aspires to benefit 360 leaders and project officers of different CSOs member to KCS Forum in the period of three years starting from December 2008. ■

FACTS AND FIGURES

Breast Cancer in Tanzania

It is estimated that 2500 women with breast cancer register as patients in hospitals around the country each year. Of those, less than 300 actually make it to Tanzania's specialist cancer hospital, the Ocean Road Cancer institute, in Dar es Salaam. Ocean Road Cancer institute is the only hospital in the country of 35 million people that offers the full remit of cancer treatment including chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

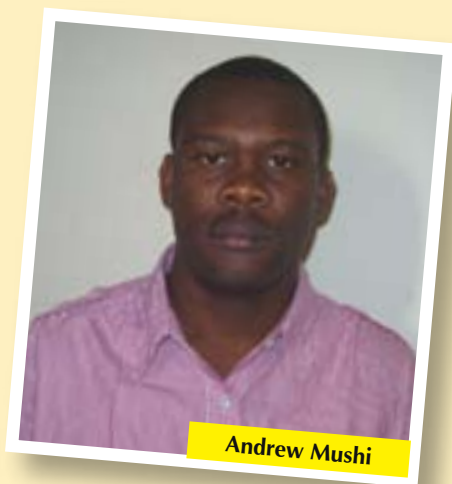
- Tanzania Breast Cancer Foundation

Quotes and Quips

Separate the greedy from the needy and any poverty programme will work.

It would extremely be helpful if the poor were to get half the money that is spent studying them.

Tanzania CSOs need to sharpen participatory skills



Andrew Mushi

By Andrew Mushi

In the past 20 years or so, Participatory Action Research (PAR) has been popular with non-academic institutions. CSOs/NGOs are leading in opting for PRA vis-à-vis other conventional research approaches. Advocates of PAR contend that the end product of this research practice leaves participants (community) more empowered than before.

Although many CSOs and other organisations have been conducting PARs, but there is very little evidence that communities have been empowered as a result of this initiatives.

Most of these researches do not qualify to be called participatory because they fail to realise the main goal of participatory methodology, that of empowering and democratising communities. If done properly, PAR knowledge increases participants' ability to control their situations and environment.

Without a process of democratic empowerment, through which the local practitioner gain their own knowledge production and

action, action research end up being not more than complicated exercise with fixed rules and at the end of the day it ends up becoming the instrument of facilitating the ruling class to continue to 'jail' knowledge instead of letting it be a catalyst of democratisation and change.

Advocacy activism in Tanzania does not yield many results as expected. This is so partly because when PAR is conducted as a means of informing, advocacy follows conventional ways of doing research.

Many researchers will claim they are following PAR techniques, but a close examination of what they claim to be participatory practice is nothing more than a normal survey. Mostly, they end up producing statistics that are mere 'teethless dogs' outcomes.

Any CSO and individual conducting PAR, should always remember the immediate and long term objective and aim of participatory research should aim at empowering the powerless, who eventually is extensive community participation. Once local people are organised, may move their organisations in the direction of more radical goals than were initially intended.

This dynamic character is one of the PAR great virtues. It is a method that puts people in the motion in three pronged initiatives;

First it should involve fully participation of the community, as a dialogical educational process and as a means of taking action for change. This allows people to rediscover the realities of their lives and their potential capabilities to built self-reliance and re-humanise their world.

Secondly, it should be treated as a way to democratise knowledge and to erode the boundaries between knowledge and action, researcher and actors successful participation involves a double democratisation. The research process is democratised through full participation and co-learning between outsiders and insiders, with power shifting to insiders over the course of project.

Thirdly, this method should involve understanding the world in order to participate in its transformation. Action research is dialogical. It requires democratic communicative relations among the practitioners and professionals engage in a co-operative learning process.

Without this process of practitioners gaining the capacity to control their own knowledge production and action, action research degrades into more than a sophisticated exercise in regulations and it ends up being instrument for the ruling elites, and not a catalyst for democratisation.

PAR reports are designed to be written-up, published and made available to all members of a grassroots organisations for the political consideration. They are not in some sense special or unique. Rather they are intended to provide on a day to day basis, the scientific ground for political action.

CSOs should revise the way they conduct research, and make sure they embrace all the requirement of PAR. That way, CSOs will be sure of empowering communalities. Let CSOs take communities back to the driving sit.

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This page brings you clarification of words mostly used by the civil society but have some elements of confusion in their use. The words or rather terms are clarified in a simple language to make use easily understand. In this issue, we are talking about beneficiaries, target group, stakeholders and partners.

Beneficiaries: this term is mostly used in project processes. It refers to people, institution or other grouping of people that benefits from the actions described in a case. In other words it refers to those whose life or situation will improve or change positively after the implementation of the project.

Target group: This term is also used in project processes and is closely confused with the term beneficiary. But, target group refers to those people who will be involved

or who will participate during project implementation. In other words, it is the group of people who will be approached, trained, sensitised, educated or made aware. For that matter, through understanding and change of their mindset, the target group can act or influence for action to be taken to address the particular problem that was prevailing in the community and for which the project was implemented.

Stakeholders: Stakeholders are people who in one way or another will be touched by your project or have some kind of relationship with the project you are planning to implement. Stakeholder is a broad term that encompass all but not limited to beneficiaries, the target group as well as partners.

Partners: Partners and stakeholders are also

sometimes confused. However, partners are organisations, people or institutions with similar minds with yours and whom you plan to work together with them in the course of implementing a project or undertaking a certain venture.

Take the case of a project that seeks *“to influence for construction of infrastructures, which are user friendly to persons with disabilities.”* In that project, your beneficiaries would be persons with disabilities; your target group would be engineers, architects, masons as well as planners; your stakeholders would include persons with disabilities, engineers, architects, masons, planners, parents of children with disabilities and social workers; your partners might be an organisation called Hope for People with Disability and/or the Department of Social Welfare.



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NEW GRANT APPLICATION FORMS

The Management for the Foundation wishes to inform the general public that new forms for grants application are ready. They are available in our offices and also can be downloaded from our website: www.thefoundation-tz.org.

We also wish to inform you that from now on deadlines for submission of all grant application forms for **ALL GRANTS** will be as follows:

Type of Grant	Deadlines of Submission
Strategic Grants	1 st March, 1 st July, and 1 st October
Medium Grants	
Rolling Small Grants	
Registration Development Grants	