

MAIR

MKUKUTA Annual Implementation Report (MAIR) - 2006/07



Cluster Three: Governance and Accountability

Cluster three deals with activities which promote “Governance and Accountability”. The broad outcomes will be (a) Good governance and the rule of law, (b) Accountability of leaders and public servants, (c) Democracy and political and social tolerance, and (d) Peace, political stability, national unity and social cohesion.

Goals

- To ensure that structures and systems of governance as well as the rule of law are democratic, participatory, representative, accountable and inclusive
- To ensure equitable allocation of public resources - with corruption effectively addressed
- To put in place an effective public service framework as a foundation for service delivery improvements and poverty reduction
- To ensure that the rights of poor and vulnerable groups are protected and promoted in the justice system
- To reduce political and social exclusion and intolerance
- To improve personal and material security, reduce crime and eliminate sexual abuse and domestic violence
- To enhance and promote national cultural identities

Key Challenges

- Inadequacies in the legal system
- Implementing legal reforms
- Managing fiscal decentralisation (by devolution)
- Promoting human rights
- Making better use of public notice boards
- Making better use of information and communications technology

Lessons Learned:

Improvements in this cluster can help to achieve the goals in the other clusters. Three main lessons have been learned.

Inadequate Use of Public Information:

Government offices provide public information but there are very low levels of awareness and use of it at the grass root level. There is a need to disaggregate the available information.

Topics that the public need better information on are many but include:

- who has Certificates of Customary Rights of Occupancy (CCRO) at household level and by gender
- the working conditions of law enforcers

Fighting Corruption:

The Government will continue with its efforts to fight corruption. The efforts include:

- Creating awareness to change the mindset of public office holders
- Strengthening the auditing activities of the public institutions to reduce the misappropriation of resources
- Strengthening the ability and willingness of ordinary people to pay attention to the accounting processes of public offices

Harmonisation:

Items in need of harmonising include:

- The process of Decentralization by Devolution to ensure its consistency, continuity and efficient implementation
- Formal coordination among various reform programs (e.g Legal Sector, Public Sector and Local Government Reform programmes etc)
- Contradictions in some sector laws

The Way Forward

The way forward involves addressing the challenges which are noted above. The government in collaboration with stakeholders will need to:

- Scale up awareness raising activities to the community concerning the role and usefulness of public information.
- Conduct more training on ethics and integrity in the professions so as to enhance good governance and accountability.
- Conduct a baseline survey for key performance indicators for future monitoring and evaluation purposes.
- Improve working infrastructures and conditions.
- Involve non state actors in improving the public accountability including through the use of public notice boards.
- Recruit more staff and provide capacity building interventions as required.
- Reduce the legal case backlog.
- Improve the communication infrastructure.
- Put in place a comprehensive system for good governance, accountability and representation.
- Involve communities more heavily in managing natural resources.
- Build the capacity of Local Government Authority staff to manage resources and deliver services.
- Expand prison facilities and install offenders' information management systems.
- Scale up systems to control and monitor the national borders
- Scale up the Community Service Program and Fire and Rescue Services in all regions.

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