

HAKIKAZI CATALYST

**Knowledge
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THIRD FRIDAY
Development Issues Seminars

Series will resume in January 2006

Subject to be announced

Contact Allan Nswilla at 027-2509860 or Email hakikazi@cybernet.co.tz for further details

KARIBUNI

Welcome to the third edition of the Friends of Hakikazi newsletter.

Thanks to all those who sent messages of support and feedback. Please keep them coming.

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CAPACITY BUILDING IN MBUYUNI VILLAGE

The Arumeru community of Mbuyuni has produced a development action plan and formed four livelihoods groups following a recent Hakikazi Catalyst intervention. Mbuyuni is one of four communities in Arumeru District where Hakikazi Catalyst is currently involved in capacity building work.

The community development action plan includes the construction of a dam to provide water for livestock and the introduction of soil conservation measures such as tree planting and growing ngwara (a type of bean).

The four livelihoods groups comprise 160 households and are focused on ngwara and maize production and chicken

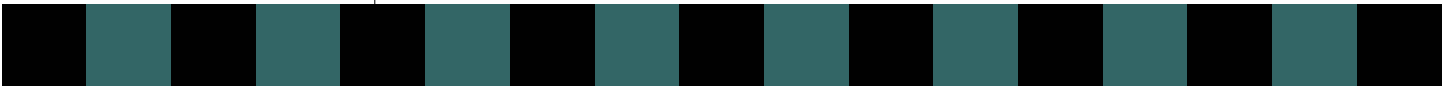
and sheep rearing. Livelihoods group members are planning to access extension advice collectively to support their activities. They also intend to facilitate group members to attend seminars on good practices in livestock keeping and the proper use of modern farm implements, fertilizers and improved seeds.

This intervention is being carried out in collaboration with facilitators from Arumeru District PADEP project team and CSOs in the project area. A representative group of community members was elected at village assembly to take part in the capacity building work. This group was made up of all sectors of the community. PRA techniques were used over a

four day period to produce an action plan for the village. The plan identifies problems faced in the community and their root causes, before detailing solutions, schedules, responsibilities and resource requirements.

The plan was presented to the village assembly to receive feedback and endorsement before work began on projects and the formation of groups.

Hakikazi will soon conduct policy analysis activities with group members on opportunities presented in poverty reduction policies. We will also facilitate community actions aimed at strengthening good governance and enforcing accountability.



CIVIL SOCIETY TRADE NETWORKING IN BANGLADESH

Hakikazi participated in an international Civil Society Forum in Bangladesh aimed at advancing LDC interests in the upcoming WTO Ministerial meeting in Hong Kong.

Allan Nswilla, Hakikazi's Public Engagement Manager, was one of 46 delegates from 25 countries who were joined by more than 500 civil society actors from Bangladesh. Allan traveled with assistance from Oxfam Ireland.

The Forum was organized into eight parallel working sessions covering areas such as agricultural market access, trade in services, trade related international property rights, special and differential treatment, trade facilitation and trade related technical assistance. On the basis of recommendations originating from the working sessions a declaration known as the Dhaka Declaration 2005 was adopted by the Forum. The Declaration, to be submitted to LDC Trade Ministers prior to the Hong Kong Ministerial, states a list of LDC priorities for consideration at this

meeting. They include:

1. Duty-free and quota-free market access in developed country markets, bound in the WTO and with flexible rules of origin, for all LDC export products.
2. Developing countries in a position to do so are requested to accord zero-tariff market access for all LDC export products.
3. Ensure market based prices for all agricultural products in developed countries by phasing out all types of market distorting supports. In this context, adequate measures should be taken to address the concerns of net food importing LDCs.
4. Phase out the subsidies given to cotton growers in the developed countries.
5. WTO – TRIPS Agreement should not in any way constrain access to essential medicines in LDCs.
6. Protect the rights of farmers, indigenous people and local communities, and ensure benefit sharing arrangements in the patent process and in order

forms of intellectual property rights (IPRs).

7. Free temporary movement of service providers from LDCs including less skilled workers under GATS Mode – 4.
8. Transparent and fully inclusive decision making during the run-up to and at the Hong Kong Ministerial.
9. Strengthening of Integrated Framework Initiative and provision for adequate and effective technical and financial assistance for LDCs to build trade related supply-side capacities.
10. Equitable distribution of benefits from trade through practice and promotion of good governance, social justice, transparency and accountability by the LDC governments.
11. Institute a framework agreement on Special and Differential Treatment premised on the level of development
12. Uphold unity of LDCs in the multilateral trading negotiations.
13. Flexibility for LDCs in agricultural policy to enable these countries to protect their domestic agricultural sectors, safe-

guard food security and the livelihoods of farmers

The likely effects of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) currently being negotiated between the EU and many African countries were also discussed.

The Forum felt strongly that, in discussions involving partnerships between African LDCs and the EU, priority should be given to the principle of non-reciprocity and the protection of African producers and African domestic and regional markets.

In this context the Forum demanded a halt to EPA negotiations in their current form and supported the ongoing efforts of African countries to work towards regional and continent-wide integration.

Our thanks go to Oxfam for facilitating Hakikazi Catalyst's participation at this important event.



Hakikazi Catalyst plain language guides are available on our website:

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ARUSHA PRESS CLUB AT MIRERANI

Hakikazi recently facilitated a group from the Arusha Press Club to investigate some of the development issues found at Mirerani in Simanjiro. Here is one of their reports:

Mirerani area may be the one and only source of the precious Tanzanite gemstones, in the world. But while the valuable blue minerals, said to be 'ten times rarer than diamonds,' are commanding huge, profitable sales worldwide, Zaire village in Mirerani area, where the precious stones originate, gains practically nothing from the blue gems and is being forced to tap its earnings from taxing snooker game pool tables.

This rather sad revelation was made recently by the Chairman of the Zaire village committee, Oscar L. Gunewe, who explained that whatever revenue is being raised from the precious gems of Mirerani goes direct to the Simanjiro District Council, based at Orkesumet, about 150 km away, leaving the Mirerani ward with nothing, despite the fact that all Tanzanite quarries are based there.

Asked how, therefore, did his authority manage to run its office without such important revenue, Gunewe replied that the village depended on daily charges being imposed on local snooker games outlets each of which is subjected to pay a daily fee of Tsh.200 per pool table. According to the chairman, there were a total of 140 such pool tables currently operating at his village.

Snooker games are a very popular sport and pass time activity

in the Mirerani area, whose center of mining operations is set at the Zaire village, with an estimated population of 10,000 permanent residents. Zaire, where all the central business and administration offices are located, is one of the four villages making up the entire Mirerani area. About 500 other people also move in and out of the area on daily basis.

Apparently, the daily revenue of Tsh.28,000 from the snooker game taxation is not enough, therefore the village authority has just formulated another by-law which may soon establish another source of revenue; a TSh. 200 daily charge for local hawkers and small scale traders. "We suggested this at a recent village meeting, but the by-law is yet to be endorsed!" explained the chairman.

Revenue from trading premises such as shops, bars and restaurants also goes straight to the District Council as do the earnings got from transport vehicles such as passenger buses and



commuter Land-Rovers which normally pay Tsh.1000 per vehicle when leaving the Mirerani bus terminal. Despite being the only source of the world's tanzanite, the township is in pathetic condition with most of its buildings in a poor state. Most road maintenance works, as most residents admit, are being done by the Tanzanite One mining company.

The ward depends on two primary schools; Mirerani and Jitegemee with a total of 2400

pupils between them. These are heavily congested since a single classroom has up to 130 pupils.

Mirerani also lacks basic community services such as a public hospital and as a result, the area is now depending on private health facilities like the Catholic Dispensary and Marie Stopes clinic. However, according to the Mirerani Ward Executive Officer (WEO), Lawrence Munga, a public health center is currently under construction and is set to go into operation sometime in 2006.



DIRECTOR'S COMMENT

Private sector expansion is an important objective of new National Strategy for Growth and the Reduction of Poverty. But, as anybody involved in business knows, growth requires investment funds. The vast majority of the Tanzanian population have no access to such capital inputs because they have no recognizable collateral and are therefore excluded from the formal banking system. So, how can private sector expansion benefit the poor?

One possible approach to solving this problem is being explored by a programme funded by the Norwegian Government on behalf of Tanzania, known as the Programme to Formalise the Assets of the Poor of Tanzania and Strengthen the Rule of Law. The Programme is based on the thinking of Peruvian economist Hernando De Soto who contends that the creation of formal property systems will allow the poor to transform assets held under traditional systems into collateral and therefore invest in productive activity.

In the Tanzanian context this entails the creation of one property and business legal system that brings together, standardizes and modernizes local customary arrangements.

For civil society, this approach throws up a number of issues that will require attention.

The most important of these is the need to ensure that the systems created to define and grant solid land tenure are not open to abuse by elites. At present 89% of land in Tanzania is held in a non-formal manner, usu-

ally under local systems of customary rights. The challenge faced is to provide an alternative system which formalises these customary rights in an equitable manner. An intensive process aimed at mapping out all existing entitlements to land down to the level of the individual will be required. These might include entitlements to farm, to live, to draw water from the land and to rights of way. This will be a time consuming and hugely expensive process if it is to be done correctly.

An essential prerequisite to this process will be the establishment of an administrative legal framework which has the confidence of all levels of society and which negates political and financial influence. The rights of women to participate equitably in the formalization of assets must also be protected in order to avoid institutionalize inequality in asset ownership.

Both the establishment of the legal framework and the mapping of rights are areas that civil society should be heavily involved in to ensure that the resultant system is not an imposition from above.

A deeper issue for consideration is the relevance of the philosophy behind the formalization of assets. In effect, what is being proposed is the individualization of property rights and the acceptance of all aspects of the Western model of economic development. Tanzania has encountered practical problems in the recent past which suggest that complete deregulation of economic activity often leads to instability in markets and livelihood insecurity.

I would suggest that one advocacy channel could be to ask the Tanzanian government to investigate the possibility of a system of formalization which recognizes the rights of commu-



Emmanuel Kallonga, Director, Hakikazi Catalyst

nities (both agriculturalist and pastoralist), family groups and cooperatives as economic entities. In this way the cohesion existing within communities could be maintained and we can improve the possibility that private sector development will benefit a greater proportion of the Tanzanian population.

