

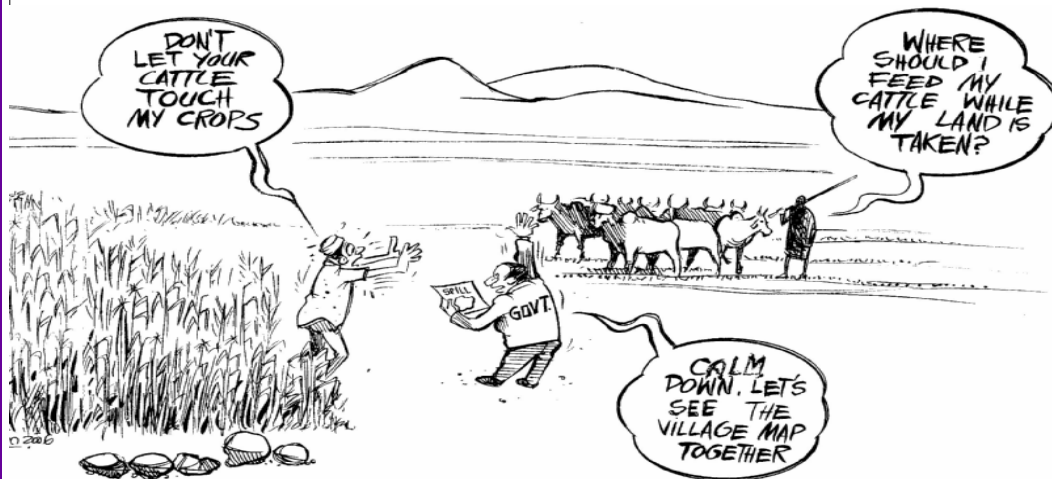
HAKIKAZI CATALYST

Knowledge
Action
Change

Fourth FRIDAY
Development Issues Seminars

22nd September -
Ethics and Integrity in Public
Life
Romuald Rwechengura

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PARTICIPATORY MONITORING FINDS INEQUALITY AMONG VILLAGES

Local Government Authorities provided 15% of the funds used for development in a sample of villages in Arusha Region.

This statistic came to light in the course of participatory monitoring into pro-poor expenditure in the agricultural sector, facilitated by Hakikazi. Monitoring was carried out in thirteen communities, spread over Arumeru and Monduli Districts and Arusha Municipality.

Local Government Development Plan funding was received in only four of the monitoring communities. World Bank PADEP funding provided over 30% of the total receipts of the monitoring communities, making them the biggest single

source of funds. However, all these funds went to just three communities. The PADEP programme, which is administered by District Authorities supports agricultural development. The three monitoring communities receiving funds from PADEP, Karangai, Ngejusosia and Kingori, were facilitated to do so by Hakikazi Catalyst and the Arumeru Council PRA team. Their combined income from PADEP in 2004/2005 was in excess of TSh.66m.

Community contributions provided 10% of total monitoring community receipts. In some communities they are a vital source of income as receipts into each village varied widely. In the year 2004/2005, Mbu-yuni village income was only

TSh.550,000, purely from community contributions, while Lolkisale accrued more than Tsh60m. from a variety of sources including tourism and donor receipts.

Forty per cent of expenditures went to education related projects, while over 50% went to agriculture related projects, usually development of water sources.

Overall, from the thirteen communities, it was found that about 35% of received income had not been spent. However, most of this discrepancy could be accounted for by two large projects in the process of construction.

One of the indicators in the

KARIBUNI

Welcome to the September 2006 edition of the Friends of Hakikazi newsletter.

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

In this issue:

- Participatory Monitoring
- What is SPILL?
- Director's Comment



PARTICIPATORY MONITORING (CONT.)

MKUKUTA governance cluster will be levels of satisfaction with local government services. Therefore, monitoring communities were also asked to rate their satisfaction with these services as they affect the agricultural sector.

In particular, it was found that there are very low levels of satisfaction with the standard of agricultural extension services. Only two communities reported being satisfied with these services.

When asked to rank the constraints to improving production, communities ranked poor extension services as second overall. Only insufficient rainfall was seen as a bigger problem. However, when District Authorities were asked to do the same ranking exercise, poor extension services came only fifth in the list of problems.

The need for an improvement in extension is made all the more urgent by another monitoring finding. Communities are diversifying the types of crop they produce. This diversification of production can be seen as risk spreading behaviour in the face of uncertain climatic and market conditions and requires advisory support.

District Authorities must accept that extension services are deficient and work with local communities to optimise the use of limited resources in this area.

Communities requested improved advice in the areas of environmental management, soil conservation, improved seeds, drought resistant seeds, pest management and improved farm technology.

Deficiencies were also noted by communities in the areas of credit availability and market accessibility.

Only one community of the thirteen had access to a formal line of credit, in the form of a SACCOS. The establishment of this SACCOS was facilitated recently by Hakikazi through liaison with the District Cooperative Officer.

With regard to market access, monitoring communities were asked to report whether any construction or maintenance work was done to improve their access to market in the monitoring period. No community reported new road construction. Seven reported some degree of road maintenance. In

four of these cases, community members using their own labour and financial contributions undertook the maintenance. Three communities reported that the district authority undertook some maintenance. Unsurprisingly, communities whose market access was improved in the study period reported higher levels of satisfaction with road maintenance activity.

The issues described so far are the most prominent of those mentioned by the participatory monitoring committees. Each community has generated an agenda of issues to be discussed at interface meetings with District officials.

The participatory monitoring process began with District scoping workshops to mobilise support amongst stakeholders. Facilitators were selected from Local Government officials, CSOs, CBOs, community leaders and community members and trained on MKUKUTA and conducting participatory monitoring. In all 31 facilitators, 26 community animators and 208 monitoring committee members took part in the monitoring exercise. The primary stakeholders are the 13 rural

communities, ranging in size from 410 to 1348 households.

Step two involved holding community based debates on MKUKUTA and the problems facing small producers. Plain language guides were used to facilitate this process.

Each community selected 16 community members to form a monitoring committee who were then trained on how to conduct the monitoring activity. Committee members were selected to ensure a broad gender and age balance. For monitoring purposes, Hakikazi uses a modified community scorecard, which we have entitled a PIMA Card. The PIMA Card for this project was designed to collect information on inputs, outputs and service provision as they relate to small producers and traders specifically.

Following collection of the data by the monitoring committee a village meeting was held in each community to disseminate the results and agree that the information collected represented the true situation in the community. Communities then identified their primary issues of concern for later dialogue with District officials.



Hakikazi Catalyst plain language guides are available on our website:

www.hakikazi.org

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WHAT IS SPILL?

The National Land Policy (NLP) came into effect in 1995 and the new land laws in 1999 and 2002. However, they are still not having a significant impact. This means that the many contributions that proper land use and management could make to national development and poverty reduction are not being realised.

At the local level most land users do not know about the NLP and the new land laws and they therefore feel insecure about their land rights. This leads to more conflicts and disputes than the judicial system can adequately cope with.

The Land Administration Infrastructure has suffered from under-investment in recent times. It is also in a period of transition as a result of the government policy of decentralisation. This means that essential land information and land delivery systems are not as effective as they need to be and this has resulted in a lot of unplanned development taking place.

At the central, policy level there has been a lack of horizontal and vertical linkage between and within the various land-using sectors. This means that many land users receive conflicting messages about their land rights and obligations. There is an urgent need for harmonisation of policies across sectors.

It was therefore felt necessary to develop a **Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Lands Laws (SPILL)**, a planning tool with a ten year time frame which outlines a way of implementing the existing laws. It is estimated to cost around 300 billion Tanzanian shillings over the period (2005-15).

Hakikazi Catalyst is producing a plain language guide to the Strategic Programme for the Implementation of the Land Laws (SPILL). The guide is being funded by Irish Aid.

The draft guide was tested in Kilombero, Mbozi and Ngorongoro recently. Pictured right are participants in the Mbozi testing.



Amongst other things the plan aims to lay the foundation for a Land Administration System that:

- respects the Fundamental Principles of the NLP
- encourages the best possible use of land and its resources
- does not threaten the nation's natural environment
- encourages investment and improves productivity, and
- maximises the contribution of the Lands Sector and the Land Laws to the Government's priority sectors and policy goals (especially poverty reduction)
- addresses emerging land tenure issues (including changing conditions of land use and tenure insecurity) and thus return the confidence of land owners and users to the official legal system
- streamlines land administration and land delivery through developing an efficient and effective Institutional Framework and Land Administration Infrastructure (LAI)
- facilitates ownership of the plan by land users and to facilitate its internalisation and thus sustainability by the

government.

The SPILL has been designed to :

- involve a large and systematic process of consultation and participation to make sure that it meets the needs and concerns of all stakeholders and
- harmonise well with other development initiatives which include, amongst many others, the National Strategy for Growth and the Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA) , the Local Government Reform Programme (LGRP), the Rural Development Strategy (RDS), the Agriculture Sector Development Strategy and Programme (ASDS and ASDP), and the Property and Business Formalisation Programme (MKURABITA).

SPILL recognises nine key results areas and 39 principles. An extensive action plan is built around these. Many of the objectives focus on the effective mapping and secure certification of land ownership, while respecting the rights of those who have established long standing traditional rights. However, nomadism is seen as

incompatible with these objectives.

A key feature of the SPILL is the public education, awareness creation and enhancement (PEACE) initiative. This is intended to ensure that all the stakeholders (ie land users and the various other people who support implementation) know about the developments which are outlined in the SPILL.

Civil society organizations should encourage all land users to take advantage of all opportunities that are offered through public awareness campaigns, consultations and training courses. This will help to make them more effective in raising their own issues and having them addressed.

Local communities should also be willing to participate in the reform process by working with their local government contact points eg village and district land registry offices. Amongst other things, land users should participate in decision-making processes at the local level and in particular, they can be actively involved in a) helping to establish the Land Administration Infrastructure in their local areas and, b) assisting the process of demarcation of village land reserves and general lands.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENT

Hakikazi's recent participatory monitoring of pro-poor expenditures and services among small farmers in Arusha Region has illustrated a number of the factors constraining the ability of this important sector to assist in reducing poverty.

Farmers are reporting that they are not receiving adequate extension services. This is having effects at two levels, food security and ability to trade.

At the food security level, there is a need to provide advice on drought resistant crops and soil conservation to communities living in areas suffering from environmental degradation.

Also, communities have reported that they are diversifying their crops in order to reduce the risks associated with erratic rainfall patterns. More extension advice is required to ensure that each community optimizes production while keeping risk

to a minimum. In the area of trade, inadequate extension services combine with lack of market information, poor access to markets and lack of cooperation to constrain the ability of small farmers to exert any market power.

If small farmers were empowered to capture more of the potential added value of a particular crop, the poverty reduction dividends would be significant. However, many factors conspire to ensure that this rarely happen.

At the macro level, barriers to international trade in the form of tariffs tend to increase with the level of crop processing.

At the meso level, nationally based crop processing businesses are capable of controlling the market for raw produce through cartel behaviour. Government should get serious about enforcing existing Fair Trade legislation prohibiting the operation of cartels in crop

purchase. It would also help to incentivise crop processing through the imposition of export duties on crops which could be processed in Tanzania, such as cashew. As things stand the added value available in cashew is captured by large companies in India, where most Tanzanian cashew is processed.

These macro and meso level issues must be dealt with through focused national and international advocacy activities. However, change at this level must be accompanied by change at the micro level. Participatory monitoring revealed that many communities had farmer groups who cooperated on the production side. However, when the time comes to sell crop, every farmer acts alone, thereby reducing their market power.

Extension officers and District Cooperative Officers should work together, possibly with CSOs, to facilitate the establish-



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ment of viable processing and marketing cooperatives. Current Government policy encourages both the establishment of cooperatives and the development of crop processing. Effective cooperatives could reduce the power of middle man traders and ensure that small producers gain improved market information and access.

