GOVERNANCE - UNDP TANZANIA

LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT PROJECT II

THE ISSUE

The Parliament of Tanzania is the country’s supreme organ for legislation, oversight, budget approval and representation. It is the key accountability mechanism between citizens and the government. Institutional and operational weakness. In advancing participatory and inclusive governance, the institution faces institutional and operational challenges that must be addressed, if it is to be more effective, transparent, accountable and inclusive in its work.

Some of the challenges, which are not uncommon to parliaments of the developing world include inadequate physical, human resources and technological infrastructure for at the Bunge premises in Dodoma and in constituencies. Others include a rather high number of new MPs, social distance between MPs and citizens, limited citizen literacy of the modus operandi of Parliament and its committees, and limited access to and use of ICTs in parliamentary business. There is also insufficient gender analysis of legislation, budget and in oversight of the Executive branch of government.

THE RESPONSE

For more than a decade, UNDP has supported the National Assembly, most recently with the Legislative Support Project I (2011 – 2016). Building on the LSP I and the need for more support for the National Assembly to meet international standards for democratic parliaments, UNDP continues to support the National Assembly through the LSP II.

Citizens must have the opportunity to actively participate in the work of the National Assembly. The project supports informed public participation in sectoral committees’ engagement in bill scrutiny, budget review and oversight of government policies and programmes.

Enhancing the National Assembly’s capacity to monitor the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Physical and online tools are being developed for the National Assembly to conduct effective outreach and public communication.

Gender equality and women’s representation are key democratic governance pillars. In partnership with UN Women, the project supports men MPs and staff as HeForShe champions for gender equality within and outside the National Assembly. It also supports whole-of-institution gender training and mainstreaming in legislative, oversight, budget approval as well as National Assembly administration, and customized training for women MPs.

Through South-South cooperation, the project supports peer to peer exchanges, mentoring and coaching of MPs and staff.
Duration: 2017-2021

Budget: USD 12,765,600

Responsible Parties: The National Assembly of Tanzania

Geographical Areas: National

Donors:
- Embassy of Ireland
- Embassy of Denmark
- Department for International Development (UK)

Training on parliamentary reporting

Building of CSO database for use by parliamentary committees

Procurement of ICT equipment to support e-parliament agenda

MPs’ Awareness-raising on Parliaments Role in the Implementation of SDGs

Communication strategy and revamping website www.parliament.go.tz

Development and use of toolkits such as Bill Scrutiny Guidelines, Public Hearings Guidelines, Field Visits Guidelines, Youth Parliament Toolkit, Private Member’s Bill and Private Member’s Motion Guidelines, and CSO Engagement Guidelines.

Public Accounts Committee and Local Authorities Accounts Committee training

Benchmarking visits for the Parliamentary Budget Office to Kenya, Uganda and South Africa

Targeted training for the Budget Committee

Development of Gender Strategy and HeForShe strategies.

MORE INFO:
Takawira Musevengana, Chief Technical Advisor
takawira.musavengana@undp.org +255 689 151 704

Godfrey Mulisa, Programme Specialist
godfrey.mulisa@undp.org +255689119721

Visit our website or follow us on Twitter!
@UNDPtz
tz.undp.org