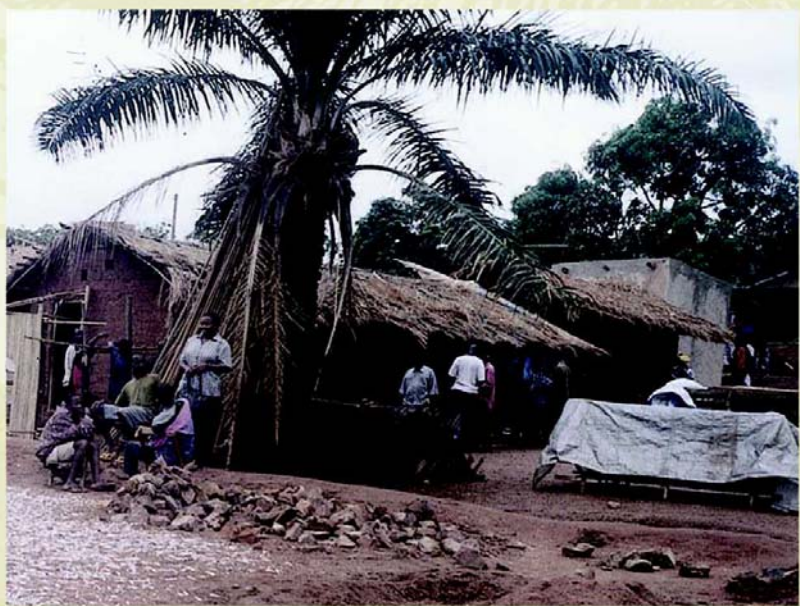


# Social Watch Program in Tanzania



10 years of Implementation of  
Copenhagen commitments, Beijing Platform  
of Action and 5 years of MDG's

The Case Study of Iramba and Kibondo Districts



Funded by **NOVIB**

# **SOCIAL WATCH PROGRAM IN TANZANIA**

**10 years of Implementation of Copenhagen  
Commitments, Beijing Platform of Action and 5  
years of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

**THE CASE STUDY OF IRAMBA AND KIBONDO DISTRICTS**

**FUNDED BY NOVIB**

**Publication by:**

Women's Legal aid centre (WLAC)

P.O.BOX 79212

DAR ES SALAAM

on behalf of SAHRiNGON TANZANIA CHAPTER

© WLAC 2005

# INTRODUCTION

In 2004 Women Legal Aid Centre (WLAC) coordinated the fact finding – mission for the Iramba -Singida and Kibondo – Kigoma on the progress of the implementation of Copenhagen Social Development commitments, Beijing Platform of Action(BPFA) both of 1995, Millennium Development Goals, 2000, (MDGs), PRS and other related national and international commitments on behalf of Southern African Human Rights Non Governmental Organisational Network (T) chapter members.

Women’s Legal Aid Centre (WLAC) acknowledges and appreciates the researchers who participated in the fact finding mission in Singida and Kigoma regions. These researchers were Mr.Adam Mambi, Ms.Safina Hassan, Ms.Rehema Kerefu, Mr.Richard Shilamba, Mr.Koshuma Mtengeti, Ms.Edda Maliki, Ms.Mery Kessy, Mr.Juma Kilimba and Ms.Natalie J.Bourdon

Mr. Adam Mambi, and Mr. Richard Shilamba did the compilation of data, analysis, presentation, and preliminary drafting and the editing work. WLAC values and appreciates their formidable task and contribution in this work.

WLAC wishes to express sincere thanks and high appreciation to the Social Watch program officers Ms. Rehema Kerefu and Ms. Safina Hassan in collaboration with the above mentioned research team who were successfully involved in data collection, and consultants from the two selected regions namely Singida and Kigoma.

The Centre further extends special gratitude to the District Officers, village leaders, ward Executives and the public for their priceless cooperation and contribution during the field research.

WLAC would like to single out special appreciation to NOVIB for their financial support, which enabled the work to take place and facilitated the editing and final publication of this report.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	ii
CHAPTER ONE .....	1
1.1 Historical background .....	1
1.2 The fact finding mission in Kibondo and Iramba districts ...	1
1.3 General Methodology .....	1
CHAPTER TWO .....	4
2.0 Literature Review .....	4
2.1 Introduction .....	4
2.2 Human rights .....	4
2.3 Poverty Eradication .....	5
2.4 Health .....	6
2.5 Education .....	7
2.6 Gender Equality .....	8
2.7 Democratic Development .....	9
CHAPTER THREE .....	11
3.0 Fact Finding Mission in Iramba .....	11
3.1 Introduction .....	11
3.2 Poverty Reduction and Eradication .....	11
3.3 Education .....	12
3.4 Health .....	14
3.5 Gender Equity and Equality .....	19
3.6 Human Rights .....	21
3.7 Democratic Development .....	23
3.8 Conclusion .....	24
CHAPTER FOUR .....	25
4.0 Fact- Finding Mission in Kibondo district .....	25
4.1 Introduction .....	25
4.3 Observation in the field .....	25
CHAPTER FIVE .....	39
General Recommendations .....	39

# CHAPTER ONE

## 1.1 Historical back ground

The government of Tanzania is party to the The Ten Copenhagen commitments on Social Development(1995), the Beijing Platform of Action(1995) and the Millennium Development Goals (2000).The government has formulated different policies,laws, and strategies to implement these social development commitments at the national levels.Some of the strategies include the TAS, and The Economic Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy.

The Women's Legal Aid Center was assigned in 1999 by members of Southern African Human Rights Non -Government Organizations Network-(SAHRiNGON)Tanzania Chapter, to Coordinate Social Watch movement across the country to determine the extent to which the government is fulfilling its international pledges and national commitments for bringing social development to all Tanzanians in both rural and urban areas.

SAHRiNGON-Members decided to focus on five areas to be monitored under the Social Watch, These are:-

- 1) Poverty eradication,
- 2) Gender equity and equality,
- 3) Health and education,
- 4) Human rights, and
- 5) Democratic development.

## 1.2 The fact finding mission in Kibondo and Iramba districts.

WLAC as the coordinator of the Tanzania Social watch program on behalf of the SAHRiNGON Tanzania Chapter in October 2004 commissioned and deployed a Fact finding team to undertake the above mentioned task in Iramba and Kibondo districts.

The fact finders were given the following terms of reference:

- To assess the social developments and poverty situation in rural areas at Kibondo and Iramba districts, ten years of the implementation of Copenhagen commitments, Beijing Plat Form of Action and five years of Millennium Development Goals
- To observe to what extent the Government of Tanzania has practically implemented its domestic and international commitments towards poverty eradication and social developments.
- To recommend the means and better ways of improving social services and strategies on poverty alleviation at remote areas.

## 1.3 General Methodology

The main methods used for collecting data in the two districts were both

field and library situ. The researchers applied focused groups interview and rapid assessment through probability and non-probability sampling procedures. In this report the analysis and presentation of data was made using qualitative and quantitative techniques.

The Iramba-Singida research team utilized semi-structured individual interviews, focus group interviews, surveys, observation, and archival research as research methods. The team conducted individual and focus group interviews totaling 1087 people. The team visited ten wards in the district where they conducted focus group interviews. Short surveys were used with randomly selected village members in order to obtain more personal detailed information.

Archival research was conducted by utilizing reports and other statistical data collected by the district administrative officers. Using observation researchers were able to observe the entire environmental conditions of the areas.

The team also interviewed government officials, key officials of the district hospital, students and a primary school teacher in Kiomboi, and conducted individual interviews with vendors in the market. When conducting focus group interviews among people in each of the wards, villagers were typically divided into smaller focus groups including the following groups: community leaders, women, men, and youth. The groups were divided as such so as to enable people to speak freely so long as other groups like women might be intimidated to speak freely when men are present, as well as youths may be intimidated when elders are present. This method allowed for more lively interviews with more accurate data being obtained.

On the other hand the researchers in Kibondo applied the same methods such as focused group interview and they interviewed the district government and political leaders holding senior and lower rank. Other stakeholders interviewed in Kibondo were; District Executive Director, Medical Officers, Educational Officers, Social welfare and developmental workers, magistrates, village governments etc.

Questionnaires, oral interview and observation methods of data collection were used to collect information needed by the fact finders. The questionnaires and oral interviews were administered to 1092 respondents who included village leaders, community members, NGOs, government officials and other normal people in the district.

Observation method of information collection was used by physically

looking to social development indicators, i.e. roads, food, provision of quality basic social services to people and development activities in the districts.

Probability and non-probability sampling methods were used to collect information from 13 wards composed of 46 villages. The 13 wards included Misezero, Kibondo urban, Kitahana, Bunyambo, Murungu, Kasanda, Kakonko, Kasuga, Busagara, Mabamba, Itaba, Mugunzu and Kizazi.



# CHAPTER TWO

## 2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Introduction

Many countries in the world have recognised the importance of social development as an important part of human life to their societies. In 1995 the UN convened the World Summit on social development (WSSD) which came out with ten Copenhagen Commitments<sup>1</sup>. Some of the commitments born out of that landmark World Social Summit were based on; human rights observation, gender equality and equity, Poverty eradication, improvement in Education and Health and democratic development

On the other hand, The United Nations fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in September 1995 adopted the “Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action” which, among the twelve critical areas of concern addressed is on achieving equality between men and women in decision making positions.

Furthermore, in 2000 the United Nation convened another important world conference which came out with Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)<sup>2</sup> which reaffirmed the collective responsibility of all governments to uphold human dignity, equality and equity and improve social developments at the national and the global level.

### 2.2 Human rights

Human rights in Tanzania are enshrined in the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania as basic rights<sup>3</sup>. These rights are globally enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, two International Covenants (The International Covenant on economic, social and Cultural Rights)(CICESCR), The International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights(ICCPR) and other UN Conventions such as the Convention on the Children Rights(CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against women (CEDAW) whereby Tanzania is part of some of these conventions. The United Nation has long recognized that human rights are indivisible, interdependent, vital and necessary for the

---

<sup>1</sup> See the SAHRINGON report (preface) on the fact finding conducted by WLAC in Lindi and Cost Region in 2002.

<sup>2</sup> Tanzania Country Report on MDGs progress 2001. See also the paper presented by Mambi.J.A on Monitoring of the MDGs implementation by the Media, at the Workshop held in Peacock Hotel Dar es salaam

<sup>3</sup> Article 12 and 13 of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania.

enjoyment and safeguarding of human life and human security. Due to the fact that these rights may be claimed by every human being, human rights are obviously universal. A related cardinal principle is that human rights must be enjoyed without discrimination based on either: attributes over which a person has no choice (such as gender, age, or ethnic origin) or attributes that if denied, would result in the infringement of other human rights (such as religion and political ideology).<sup>4</sup> Indeed all these rights are inalienable, to the effect that they cannot be taken away. Consequently, it is imperative to safeguard human rights against violations, abuse, or neglect in the world.

Furthermore, CEDAW provides for special, need-based rights of women. CEDAW aims at promoting gender equality by removing gender-based disparities, and to foster the full development, participation, and advancement of women.<sup>5</sup>

Despite the enshrinement of the Bills of Rights in the Constitutions of the United Republic of Tanzania the country still experience human rights abuse by some of the Law enforcers such as the police, Prisoner's officers, the army and other security agents<sup>6</sup>. Therefore, this report will reveal the real situation on human rights abuse and observation on the selected areas.

### **2.3 Poverty Eradication**

The strategies for poverty eradication in Tanzania have long history. Tanzania's targets for poverty reduction are set out in various important documents such as Tanzania Assistance Strategy (TAS), The National Poverty Eradication Strategy (NPES)<sup>7</sup>. Tanzanian strategy on Economic Growth and poverty Eradication. However, various studies and the reality shows that majority in Tanzania live below poverty line and cannot afford the basic social services. The situation reveal further that, changes in the levels of poverty in Tanzania do not reflect the good macroeconomic performance of the 1990s. The majority of the poor at rural areas depend

---

<sup>4</sup> *ibid* at page 20

<sup>5</sup> *ibid*

<sup>6</sup> See Peter.C., Human Rights in Tanzania, Selected Materials 1997. See also Mambi.A "The Common Wealth Human Rights Initiatives Report on the Media Content and Human rights analysis in Tanzania 2004/2005".

<sup>7</sup> Poverty Reduction Strategic Targets. See also Social Watch Programme in Tanzania on the fact finding report 2001 at page 15. Refer also The role Media on Monitoring the implementation of Millennium Development Goals, the paper presented by Mambi A. in the social watch Workshop organized by WLAC at peacock Dar es salaam in May 2004.

on agriculture with unreliable rainfall for their livelihood, and much more needs to be done to address the constraints that limit its growth and reduce its potential impact in reducing poverty.<sup>8</sup>

The government of Tanzania has been undertaking various initiatives towards poverty reduction and attainment of social and economic development. Founded within a broad policy framework, the Vision 2025 stipulates vision, mission, goals and targets to be achieved with respect to economic growth and poverty eradication by the year 2025. To operationalise Vision 2025, the Government formulated the National Poverty Eradication Strategy (NPES). Later on, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) was formulated as medium-term strategy of poverty reduction, in the context of the enhanced Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative.<sup>9</sup> The PRS was eventually expected to contribute to the longer-term aspirations of vision 2025, therefore, in reviewing the PRS the government in consultation with different stakeholders formulated the Economic Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy with goals which are more broadly in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

### **The Status of Poverty in Tanzania**

Tanzania is said to be the third country in Africa to qualify for the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)<sup>10</sup>. The recent data on household poverty do not mirror the success in the macro economic data. Information obtained from the household budget survey of 2001/2002 and based on the results of this survey, draws the following conclusions. Arguably the level of income poverty of the majority has declined slightly between 1991/92 and 2000/01. There are significant variations in the levels of income poverty between rural and urban areas, and within rural and urban areas. Thus, whereas income poverty declined significantly in Dar es Salaam, it declined only slightly in the other urban areas and there was hardly any change in rural areas<sup>11</sup>. The poverty burden continues to weigh heavily on those living in the rural areas. The proportion of rural households who are poor is 36 percent compared to 18 percent in Dar es Salaam and 26 percent in other urban areas.<sup>12</sup>

## **2.4 Health**

### **2.4.1 Fight against HIV/AIDS and Malaria;**

The Millennium Development Goals on HIV/AIDS aims at halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015. However the spread of HIV/

<sup>8</sup> Poverty and Human development Report, 2002 at page vii.

<sup>9</sup> *ibid* at page 1.

<sup>10</sup> See Poverty and Human Development Report 2003, Tanzania at page 3.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid* at page 66.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid* page 67.

AIDS and Malaria is becoming the major obstacles for the achievement of the longer-term development aspirations of Tanzania. It can be safely predicted that none of the PRS targets will be met, unless the spread of HIV/AIDS is contained and curbed.

The National Health Policy aims at promoting equal access to health care services to the communities specifically on Primary Health Care (PHC) and Community based Health Care (CBHC). However, the majority especially at rural level has no equal access to health care.

#### **2.4.2 Reduction of infant and Under-five Mortality**

Infant and under-five mortality rates which are among Millennium Development Goals are good indicators of the well-being of young children and their mothers. Analyses of the trends in infants and under-five mortality rates since the 1960's reveals that there was significant dropped in these rates between 1960 and 1985. But since the late 1980s the rates have been stagnant<sup>13</sup>. Various studies show that the 1990s have shown no substantial progress in the reduction of infant and under-five mortality<sup>14</sup>. This can be evidenced from the PRS targets which aimed to reduce under-five mortality by half from 158 per 1000 live births by 2010 and to 127 per 1000 by 2003, reduced maternal mortality by half from 529 per 100,000 to 265 per 100,000 by 2010, reduced maternal mortality from 529 per 100,000 live births (1996) to 450 by 2003.<sup>15</sup>

#### **2.5 Education**

Universal Primary Education is among the ten Copenhagen commitments and MDGs that have to be improved and implemented. Despite the impressive rise on children enrolment rate, there is however a large group of children whose right to education is at risk because they are over-age and cannot be accommodated in primary schools. In accordance with the priorities and targets of the PRS, the government of Tanzania has recently increased its budget allocation to education, and in particular for primary education. The Government introduced the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP), which aims to provide real opportunity for all Tanzanians to access decent primary education. Some PRS targets include reducing illiteracy by 100% by 2010, increasing enrolment rate in primary school to 85% by 2003, achieving gender equity in enrolment rates etc<sup>16</sup>.

---

<sup>13</sup> *ibid* at page 26

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>15</sup> Country Report on IDT/MDG Progress, The United Republic of Tanzania, February 2001. See also The role Media on Monitoring the implementation of Millenium Development Goals, the paper presented by Mambi A. in the Social Watch Workshop organized by WLAC at Peacock Dar es salaam in May 2004.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid*.

However the Poverty Human Rights Development Report (PHDR) 2002 concluded that the PRS target of eliminating literacy by 2010 seemed very challenging particularly for rural women<sup>17</sup>.

The introduction and implementation of the Primary Education Development Plan (PEDP), in late 2001 and the early 2002, brought about real change and hope<sup>18</sup>. In one of the most important policy decisions of our times, all primary school fees and mandatory contributions were abolished. Most studies consulted indicated that net enrolment rate increased from 59% in 2000 to 91% in 2003 while Gross Enrolment Rate increased from 78% to 108%.<sup>19</sup>. Over 16,000 classrooms were built with the help of development grants and community labour. Furthermore, about 7,000 new teachers were recruited<sup>20</sup>.

### **Education Quality**

The resources used to provide primary education influence the level of education quality. Among the most important of these resources is the size and quality of the teaching force and facilities. The number of teaching staff in primary schools, who were 109,936 in 1997, declined by 3.7 percent to 105,921 in 2001<sup>21</sup>. This decline went hand in hand with an increase in the number of students, so that the teacher-pupil ratio went from 1:37 in 1997 to 1:46 in 2001 (MOEC, 2002). The ratio is likely to decline further given the rising enrolment ratios.

### **2.6 Gender Equality**

The Government of Tanzania has been taking deliberate efforts and measures in implementing the Millennium Development Goals and CEDAW on Gender Equality and equity. The main government's goal is to achieve equal access for boys and girls to primary, secondary Schooling and higher learning institutions. The move is also mainly focusing in achieving equal opportunities between women and men on political, economical and social matters. To that effect, the government has formulated policies and passed legislations which provide room and equal opportunities to women vis-à-vis men<sup>22</sup>.

---

<sup>17</sup> Poverty and Human Development Report 2003 at page xv.

<sup>18</sup> Rakesh Rajani, Is Primary Education Heading in the Right Direction?. Thinking with Nyerere, HakiElimu Working Paper Series No.2003.4 at page 1

<sup>19</sup> Marjore Mbilinyi, Equity, Justice and Transformation in Education; The Challenges of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere HakiElimu Working Paper Series No.2003.5 at page 5

<sup>20</sup> *ibid*

<sup>21</sup> Rakesh Rajani, Is Primary Education Heading in the Right Direction?. Thinking with Nyerere, HakiElimu Working Paper Series No.2003.4 at page 1

<sup>22</sup> See Land Act 1999, Village Land Act 1999, Election Act and The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania.

However women still seem to be vulnerable to many cultural practices that discriminate against their ownership of productive assets especially at village level. Many traditions and customs prevent women from owning land. In events of separation or death of a spouse or a father, women face discriminatory cultural practices that negate their rights to own assets left behind. Women are far behind in higher and tertiary education and bear the largest brunt from the weak health system-high maternal and children mortality, high HIV/AIDS incidence, and high morbidity<sup>23</sup>.

### **2.7 Democratic Development;**

Since 1990s the government of Tanzania has taken some landmark steps on democratic development in the country. The Country has departed from the era of mono-party system and party supremacy to multipartysim. This was successfully achieved through the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> amendments of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, enactment of the Political parties Act<sup>24</sup> and amendment of the National Elections Act. Democratic multiparty grew hand in hand with the emergence of the free press, which has facilitated the development of political parties transparently.

The Media has been playing a pivotal role in enhancing progress towards democracy and participation through enforcement of government transparency and accountability, and guard against human rights violation. The Media has been as watchdog to the citizens against misuse of powers by State. However the two elections period (1995 and 2000) has witnessed some chaos between the so called opposition parties such as CUF and the ruling party CCM which led to death of some people<sup>25</sup>.

---

<sup>23</sup> The Report on Poverty and Human Development 2002 for Tanzania page 91.

<sup>24</sup> Act No. 5 1992 which enabled the birth of many parties in the country.

<sup>25</sup> See the Political Handbook & NGO Calendar 2004 Tanzania by FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG at page 68-69.

The official statistics in the Table below shows the effect of recent government interventions to improve people livelihood by tackling poverty in order to reach MDGs targets. It is clear that the interventions have succeeded with respect to two targets only: net enrollment in primary education and access to safe drinking water. The status has changed from being off-target to being on-target (possibility of reaching the targets by 2015).

Assessment	2000* E(V) Status	Mainland 2004 E(V) Status Assessment
1. Extreme poverty (food) (%)	10.3 31.5 off target	8.7 20.1 off target
2. Primary education net enrolment	72.5 59.5 off target	82.1 90.5 on target
3. Under-five mortality/1,000	106 159 off target	89 154 off target
4. Maternal mortality rate/100,000	371 529 off target	311 529 off target
5. Population with access to safe water	67.2 65.7 off target	58 63 on target
6. HIV/AIDS prevalence in adult population (%)	5 < 8 off target	<8 11 off target

**Notes:**

1. E(V) = Expected Value Computed as 40% time passage for 2000 and 56% for 2004, since 1990, towards 2015

**Sources:** URT (various), for 2004 information: NSGRP/MKUKUTA, December 2004 version.

# CHAPTER THREE

## 3.0 FACT FINDING MISSION IN IRAMBA.

### 3.1 Introduction

The Iramba District is within the Singida Region located in Central Tanzania. The administrative headquarters is in Kiomboi, approximately 100 kilometers from Singida. In total, the district land area is approximately 7,900 square kilometers, which is divided into 7 administrative divisions, 26 wards, 126 villages and 775 hamlets.<sup>26</sup> The district is divided into three agro-ecological zones including the Western Lowlands (Wembere plains, along the western plains of the Great Rift Valley); the Central Plateau, characterized by scattered hills and plains; and the Eastern Zone which consists of lowlands along the Great Rift Valley with scattered hills. The main types of economic activities in all three semi-arid zones are farming, fishing and livestock keeping. The main farming crops include maize, sorghum, millet, sunflower and cotton. The district's average domestic annual income is 140,000-// compared to the country's 270,000-// national average<sup>27</sup>.

The research team visited the district headquarters at Kiomboi and nine wards namely: Nduguti, Gumanga, Tulya, Ntwike, Shelui, Mtekente, Ndago, Ulemo and Iguguno. The following is the compilation of the information and data collected from all nine wards.

## OBSERVATION IN THE FIELD

### 3.2 Poverty Reduction and Eradication

During the field it was observed that poverty is still highly prevailing among many people at rural areas. The researchers learnt that there exist no reliable markets in the visited wards where people can sell their goods, commodities and crops and some few markets are too far away with no reliable transportation and roads. Since most economic activity included farming and keeping of livestock, residents complained that those products produce little money. For instance in Iguguno Ward, residents stated that there was a further problem with their livestock. People were not getting enough medicine for their livestock and as a result there were many livestock diseases leading to death. Also, the environment was deteriorating and as a result, livestock like goats and chickens were beginning to eat plastic, which led to ill health and death.

The other major causes of poverty noted in the wards were that there was unemployment and famine in the areas, due to dependency on unreliable

---

<sup>26</sup> Iramba District 2002 Report.

<sup>27</sup> *ibid*



rainfall for their crops and lack of modern agricultural equipment. Child labour and lack of family planning was also noted. In an illuminating discussion in Ulemo and Nduguti villages, community leaders viewed what they thought could be some of the causes of poverty in their area. One man noted and lamented as follows:

*“Poverty is not just here; it is a result of poor infrastructure and social developments. However, people here cooperate and work together very well with leaders to try to implement Millennium Development goals”. Another man said, “Here there is high poverty and poor education”. The participants argued that they have been taking different steps to eradicate poverty like through working very hard and training people better methods of farming.*

Others commented that the government has somehow helped farmers by providing medicines, dips to prevent the death of cattle. It was further observed that there is a problem with cash crops and other commodities due to the fact that the prices are not reliable. Another says, “For example one cow can be sold at 5,000 only.

The conclusion to be drawn here is that the reality shows that Tanzania has a long way in practically implementing its commitments at the rural areas.

### **3.3 Education:**

The assumptions going into the fact finding mission concerning education was that though primary education is free, economic hardship and lack of teaching facilities and human resources remain a problem in this sector. For instance, during the field it was observed that many families still can not afford uniforms, school supplies and transportation. It was further noted that families still privilege boys going to school over girls hence lack of gender equality in education. It was also learnt that the teacher to student ratio remains low hence low quality of education.

The researchers observed that Primary school enrollment data for all wards has been increasing due to the abolition of school fees, sensitization of the society on the benefits of educating children as well as good cooperation between teachers and parents needed.

In all wards visited, the biggest concern voiced among residents was that the quality of education was low due to inadequate staffing and training materials (See Table 1 below for some general indicators of educational capacity in Iramba). A notable positive development in primary school enrollment is that in all wards researched, girls and boys are all encouraged to attend to primary school and enrollment rate between girls and boys appears to be growing progressively. The problem encountered in gender balanced enrollment appears to be in secondary schools, where boys are more heavily represented in secondary schools than girls.

**Table 1: Indicators of Education in Iramba District Council**

No. LEVEL	INDICATOR NATIONAL LEVEL	DISTRICT	
1	Enrollment	69%	81.2%
2	Desk pupil ratio	1:2	1:2
3	Classroom pupil ratio	1:45	1:72
4	Book pupil ratio	1:1	1:5
5	Teacher pupil ratio	1:40	1:52
6	Toilet pupil ratio	1:20-1:25	1:40-1:35
7	Teacher house ratio	1:1	1:3

Source of data on the above table: Iramba District Council Report 2002

### *Availability of Resources*

The availability of teachers, and educational materials were reported to be in short supply in most wards. The most notable complaint in the wards concerning education was that the number of teachers is not proportional to the enrolled pupils. This leads to a low quality of education in the primary schools. In the most extreme example, in Mtekente Vilage one participant noted that there are only 7 teachers for 650 students, nearly 100 students per teacher.

Other respondents said, *“The government has promised that we will get better schools and that we would have one teacher for every 45 students, but that hasn’t happened”*. Further, the other problem is that some children enter primary schools at age 7 while others enter at much older ages, around 10 years old.” This problem is exacerbated by the fact that there are no enough school supplies. In most wards, it was common for three up to seven children to have to share one textbook while others sitting in unfurnished benches.

### *Availability of Secondary Schools*

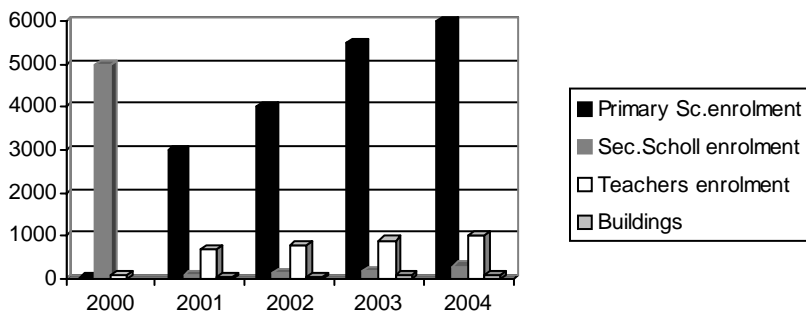
In seven of the nine wards visited in Iramba , it was revealed that only two wards Ndago and Shelui ,had one secondary school. Most children therefore are still completely finishing their education at Standard 7 and have no access to secondary schools irrespective of their ability. Additionally, there remains a significant drop out rate among secondary school students due to early pregnancy for girls and inability of parents to afford school fees (see Table 2 for drop out rates).

While Primary Education Development programme (PEDP) buildings in the areas have enhanced the learning environment, it remains difficult for

parents to send their children to secondary school. One woman in Nduguti stated, "After I went to primary school, I continued onto secondary but they said there weren't enough supplies so they asked me to contribute but I was not able to. I had to leave." In Ulemo, one teacher commented, that, "about 16 students were selected to go to secondary schools last year. About 36 children passed but only about 16 were chosen to go to secondary because there are not enough spaces in secondary. And out of those 16, only 7 were able to join Secondary schools due to poverty."

Other reasons observed with regard to the failure of children to primary school in these areas is that some parents do keep their children at home to help them with the housework to curb the poverty at household level and other factors. For example in a couple of the wards, respondents said that children of herders don't attend or finish primary school because the families are constantly moving around with their livestock and their children cannot continue going to schools which are too far away given the poor infrastructure.

Table 2 showing the extent approximation of Education enrollment rate improvement between the years 2000-2004.



Source: Iramba District Council and interview with the stakeholders in Iramba District.

The table indicates that though there is an increase of Children enrolment at Primary School the number of Teachers and training materials is not proportion to the number of Pupils On the other hand analysis indicates that very few students have access Secondary Schools.

### 3.4 Health

While the government of Tanzania has committed to improving health, health education and health care services most importantly by upgrading the primary health care sector, the spread of communicable diseases such as malaria and HIV continue to increase.

Analysis from both quantities and qualitative information and data from Iramba, indicates that the main reasons for fast spread of these diseases are lack of health facilities, trained medical personnel and inadequate medicines. This has led to death and loss of abled human resources. Most participants in all areas reported that malaria remains the number one disease and cause of death with typhoid following as well as intestinal problems and HIV/AIDS.

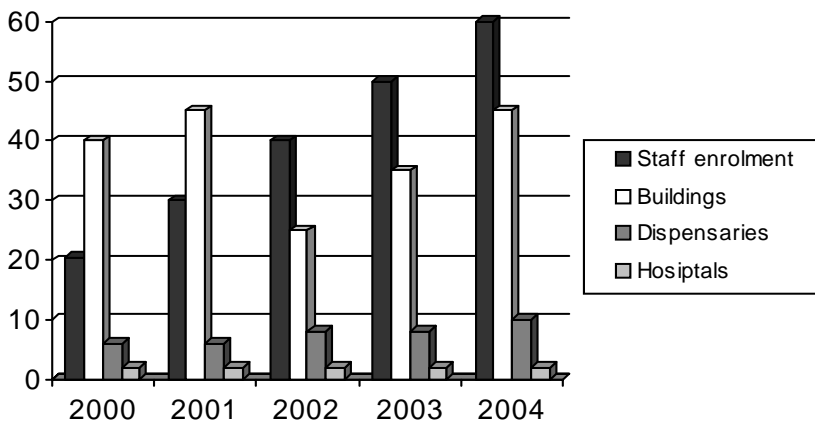
Below, Table 3 outlines the top ten diseases with the number of deaths and table 4 indicates the availability of staff and buildings in the District.

**Table 3: Top Ten Diseases with Number of Deaths**

DISEASES	Number of Patients		Number of Deaths	
	Under 5 years	Above 5years	Under 5years	Above 5 years
Malaria	63,581	2,610	28	20
Acute Respiratory Infections	26,897	0	0	0
Pneumonia	17,792	463	6	14
Diarrhea	10,448	479	4	10
Eye Infection	7,774	-	0	0
Intestinal worms	5,021	67	0	0
Skin Infection	3,782	0	0	0
Ear Infection	1,309	0	0	0
Fungal	0	2,695	0	0
Asthma	0	2,352	0	0
Total	136,604	8,661	38	44

Source: Iramba District Council Report 2002

Table 4 Shows the Health Sector and situation on the availability of Staff and buildings at the Hospitals and Dispensaries. The table indicates that there is at least 10 staff employed every year in the District. The number of staff is not proportion to the number of patients.



### 3.4.1 District Hospital - Kiomboi

The research revealed that the Kiomboi district is composed of one government Hospital and one Private Hospital. A roundtable interview was conducted with the District Medical Officer (DMO), as well as some of the hospital staff to obtain information about overall health trends in the district including prevalent diseases, the administration of the government hospitals, availability of training, facilities, medicines and specialists in the area of health services. During discussion and interview the hospital staff lamented that their main issues and challenges in the hospital is that there are inadequate trained staff; facilities and the water supply is sporadic and not as safe as it should be, and transportation remains a serious challenge.

The DMO stated that one of the biggest obstacles faced by the hospital is the gap in numbers between hospital staff and clients received. There is inadequate of trained staff. For instance, the personnel serve only 45% of the requirement for the hospital. It was further observed that there are only 26 medical attendants while 60 are needed, 19 doctors and nurses while compared to 45 required, and 6 clinic officers out of 17 needed. Additionally, there are not enough trained specialists in the hospital. It was also noted that there is no anesthetic officer, no radiology officer, no pediatrician, no gynecologist and only five medical officers. In cases where there is a need of referring a patient to a specialist, the patient is referred to KCMC in Moshi or to Nairobi, a very long distance, costly, leave alone poor infrastructure and lack of transport facilities.

The staff further reported that malaria remains the leading killer disease in the district. While mosquito nets are available, they are not free, but provided at a cost of 2,000 shillings which are not affordable to the majority who are poor. Another major threatening disease is HIV/AIDS although the DMO reported that it does not appear to be that serious due to remoteness of the area. There exist four health centres and four counselors who have been trained to counsel and test for HIV/AIDS victims. There also exist three World Vision centers that deal with HIV/AIDS in the area. The fact-finding revealed that most of these Health centers and dispensaries are faced with big shortage of medicines, medical attendants and poor infrastructure.

In nearly all wards, respondents named malaria to be the number one disease and killer in their area. In Gumanga and Nduguti wards, people reported that the government had made efforts to provide their areas with malaria medication and nets but these were all supplied on a cost basis and people do not have enough money to pay for nets which cost between 2,000 to 3,000 shillings.

The staff had also the following views as far as health and health centers are concerned.

- ♦ The flying doctors from KCMC and Nairobi come only 4 days out of the year. There is a need for more specialists at the hospital.
- ♦ To reach the grassroots level is a problem, because of lack of transportation and staff. Many people in the wards are scattered therefore it is difficult to reach for sensitization / education on health issues.
- ♦ The hospital and dispensaries need more renovation especially for water, roofing, laboratories and beddings.
- ♦ There is a need to train trainers to fill in the gaps between the district and the rural areas in health care education and health care services.
- ♦ Nurses need more training.
- ♦ There are no adequate facilities at the Hospitals and health centre.

### **Health Care Facilities**

The fact-finding revealed that the biggest problem faced by most villagers is lack of primary health care facilities. In all visited wards, the participants complained that there were no hospitals apart from few small dispensaries. The very two hospitals are located too far away and costly to the majority who are poor. While there are few dispensaries, they do not supply enough medicines and medical attendants. People claimed that they receive medicines from the government, once per month and they are in such high demand. In Tulya, where respondents commented that *“even where the dispensaries did have enough medicines for a while, still people were not able to get them because they cost too much making them to opt to the use of traditional medicines.”*

### **Cost Sharing**

Cost sharing for social services has been among the strategies introduced by the government to facilitate the supply of medicines and health care services at an affordable rate and also to have ordinary people contribute to the cost of these things, without paying too much within this scheme, children under five, pregnant/expectant mothers and elderly people are supposed to receive health care and medicine at no cost. Overall this research shows a mixed picture and responses regarding the success and the level of implementation of cost sharing measures. While the money needed for cost sharing may not seem like much, ordinary villagers found it difficult to pay even 2,000 for medicines or medical attention. In Nduguti, Tulya, Shelui, and Iguguno respondents told the researchers that there was no health assistant for elders pregnant Woman and/or children under five. One man from Ulemo commented and opinioned that,

*“The government needs to do something to make health insurance better. We have to pay for every thing to get examined, to pay for shots, at around 6,000 or 7,000*

*each month just for health care.” Another woman from Iguguno said, “I don’t understand as we are supposed to freely access health care for children under 5 but you go to the dispensary and you can get only aspirin but for other things, you must go to Singida. We need more and better supplied dispensaries.” Some elders also complained, “Though it is stipulated in the government policies that we are supposed to get free medical treatment but at rural areas we have never enjoyed such rights”.*

### **Other Health Issues**

While official statistics and nearly half of the wards claimed that maternal mortality has decreased due to education and free medical services, it remains a problem mainly due to poor road conditions and inadequate medicines and nurses. If an expecting mother needs to be brought to the hospital, there are no emergence cars available to transport her and so she has to go by bicycle where the roads are very poor and the hospitals are located very far away. Another significant health care concern from all wards is that there is no enough clean and safe water in the wards and the finding reveal that poor households are more likely to use water from unsafe sources hence causes stomach diseases such as diarrhea.

There remains a worrying perception in some of the areas that AIDS comes from the cities or “other areas” and so is not a big problem in their own villages. Some residents conceded that many people in some area like Gumanga are dying from HIV/AIDS, but others stated that AIDS comes from Dares Salaam, Mwanza or Mbeya and so is not a big problem in their areas. Others commented that the situation is very complicated and due to the lack of medical facilities to test for the disease. Because of this, many people do not know the rate of HIV/AIDS in their own communities, leading to inaccurate reporting and statistics of the victims in the areas. Further, few people are educated and learn on AIDS through the radio and other district officials. Others commented that HIV/AIDS continues to increase in their area and it is mainly brought by those who reside in towns.”

Some argued that HIV/AIDS is also being contributed by witchcraft beliefs.” The disease is also said to be a serious social phenomenon with many different perceptions and problems with accessing accurate information and testing.

### **3.5 Gender Equity and Equality**

Despite good policies and laws passed by the government such as Land Act, Village land Act<sup>28</sup> etc, signing and ratification of international instruments such as CEDAW, the Copenhagen Commitments and the

---

<sup>28</sup> Land Policy 1995, Land Act of 1999 and Village Land Act of 1999



MDGs, women especially in rural areas still remain underrepresented in political, economic and social decision making. The research teams hypothesized that this was due to poor implementation of laws combined with customary practices and customary laws, which still prevent women from attaining, gender equality. The research finding shows that while the notion of gender equality have permeated the rural areas and in some cases improved, on the whole, women in Iramba still struggle to attain social equality.

The most notable differences between men and women in Iramba fall under several categories namely work, inheritance, education, political participation, representation and domestic violence, distribution of wealth that, after selling the family property women do not given any share.

From the fact-finding point of view, it appears that with respect to housework, women still have the higher workload, although these things appear to be changing in some areas. When asked if women and men have equality in the ward of Mtekente, one woman responded that *"there is no equality in our area! Women do much more work in the house than men. Women do not get rest they make breakfast in the morning, they cook food, they go to fetch water, they get the firewood far away, they sweep etc while, men sit on the house mart and play bao.."* While most men vehemently opposed the move some few men admitted that, *"Yes, but women do these things according to the African culture."* In another scenario some men from Tulya ward, said that, this is a division of labour between men and women. Many participants in different wards argued that it really depends on the house. In many cases women said that men help them out but in others, they don't.

### **Inheritance**

In nearly all of the wards, equality in inheritance matters remains unequal and generally tends to favor men. For instance in Iguguno it was noted that, there appears to be a significant problem as one man stated, *"Inheritance not equal. There are many disputes about this. The inheritance always goes to the family of the man. This has been a problem for a long time because of traditions and customs."* However, finding indicates that these customs and traditions seem to be changing in some other areas such as Shelui ward where respondents told the researchers that inheritance was now being equally divided among both boy and girl children and to wives as well. When asked how this came about, a Shelui woman commented, *One thing which has helped us is that many seminars have started like the one we had last year which teaches us that we must all cooperate. The government has also made some efforts in educating people on gender equality* However, much work is still needs to be done in implementing equal inheritance practices among men and women in Iramba.

## Political Participation and Representation

All of the wards visited by the research teams it was noted that in groups of community leaders, there were consistently more men represented than women, sometimes even only one woman was in the group of leaders. Therefore, we can conclude that at the grassroots level there remains a gender imbalance in political participation and representation favours men irrespective of good laws and policies. It was further noted that in Ulemo for instance, interviewees said gender issues were not too bad in their area. They commented that many women are teachers and businesswomen. It was also noted from some women point of view that most organizations where there are 10 positions, men and women are not equally involved.

Below, Table 5 shows gender representation in political positions. It is evident that vast gender disparities still remain in political representation.

**Table 5: Representation by Gender**

LEVEL	ELECTED	SPECIAL SEATS		
		Male	Female	Male
Councilors	2	24	10	1
Village Chairman	2	124	-	-
Hamlet Chairperson	-	-	-	-
Viongozi Chairperson	15	696	-	-
Total	20	844	10	1

Source: Iramba District Council Report 2002

## 3.6 Human Rights

Human rights are still not observed to their fullest in Iramba district. It was observed that many people in the rural areas would not have access to justice through institutions which allow people to fully enjoy their human rights before the law such as courts, legal aid services, police stations, magistrates and local authorities. This proved to be true according to the participants who confidently aired their views before Police officers and Ward executives who are the law enforcers. It was also observed that law enforcers still abuse human rights in the rural areas and that the *concept* of human rights is still not fully integrated into every day living in rural Tanzania.

The most serious issues concerning human rights in Iramba are that there is no access to legal machinery and that people in positions of power like

the police are corrupt despite the effort taken by the government to combat corruption through PCB. Indeed even the qualitative and quantitative analysis from various research reports indicates the police and Judiciary are ranked among the most corrupt Institutions<sup>29</sup>.

The finding indicates that there are very few primary Courts and Magistrates at ward level whereby it is common to find one ward composed of 7 villages is manned by a single magistrate and dilapidated primary Court.

The most common complaint among residents of all wards was that there was insufficient legal machinery. People did not seem to have much faith in the legal system. They complained that there are not enough staffs for the courts and that the cases take too long hence justice delayed justice denied. Furthermore, there was at most, one police station to a ward, hardly enough.

The police stations located at division level are also very few and understaffed with inadequate facilities. Instead, many wards and villages still mainly depend on *sungusungu* or *mgambo*, which act as police, mainly often without any appropriate training, which in many instances leads to human rights abuses. One resident in Gumanga voiced his frustrations saying. Overall, residents of Iramba did not complain of serious political conflicts in their areas but the situation with petty criminals can lead to human rights abuses and insecurity where there are no courts or police stations nearby. In some cases, the criminals are kept in ward executive offices for days or weeks in improper facilities with too little food given to them because they must wait to be transported a long way with rough roads to the district.

Other major human rights abuses noted in the field were rape, domestic violence and corruption. Many women and girls are vulnerable and subjected to human rights abuse due to lack of law enforcers. A woman in Shelui put it well responding to a question about domestic violence, *"Our men have not yet accepted the changes in the world". The affected women go to complain to the Ward tribunal ("baraza" or to the "ten cells leader ("balazi") in most cases they end up losing their rights.*

While the legal machinery was seen to be ineffective, there are also cultural reasons, which make people to refrain from reporting cases of domestic violence. In Shelui, the discussion of rape illuminates how society may be acting to prevent women from reporting rape: One woman was noted

---

<sup>29</sup>The Afro-Barometer reports that 54% of respondents views that corruption is very common in Police. For further discussion see Poverty and Human Development Report 2003 at page 116.

saying that “ a woman can be raped here, but she may feel shame to report. Even where they decide to go to the elders to report the rape, the family will decide to solve amicably or keep it quiet.” Lack of legal and human rights awareness on most people was also noted in the field. For example if a child is raped and gets pregnant, the father might not want to bring that child to court.

### **3.7 Democratic Development**

A deep commitment to democratic development remains apparently low in Iramba district. If one takes democratic development to mean a proliferation and entrenchment of multipartyism along with equal representation in local government structures where people have an equal say on how to guide local government and development, then we can conclude that democratic development is insufficient in all wards visited in Iramba.

The supposition of the research team going to Iramba was that low democratic development was contributed to by two main factors. Firstly, there is a lack of awareness about democracy and the benefit of party diversity in the rural areas. Secondly, due to lack of education, workload and societal norms, there is low political participation among women in the rural areas. The fact finding in Iramba district proved both of these situations to be true.

A positive thing noted in all visited wards, is that people were aware of and preparing themselves for national elections and all wards had carried out local elections.

In all wards except one (Tulya), the only *de facto* party to exist was CCM and very few were aware on the existence of other political parties. While four wards reported that the CUF party was the only opposition party in their area, in none of the wards did have CUF office. As there was not much further response about the situation, one may be able to assume that the respondents saw nothing wrong with having only one party leave alone lack of awareness on political matters. As a woman from Ntwike said, “we are happy here with CCM. We have faith in them.” One man commented that it was in fact a problem in Ulemo. He declared, “We only have CCM here. There are other parties, but they have problems. There are no offices and enough members for other parties.

Aside from multiparty poor representation in Iramba, political representation between men and women, as noted above, is highly skewed with few women securing places in political posts. This typically leads to women not having a strong voice in community decision-making

and therefore leads to their issues being underrepresented in many development matters. Table 6 below illustrates the low number of women compared to men in different political leadership positions in Iramba.

**Table 6: Participation in Decision Making in Relation to Gender**

No.	Leadership Level	Requi- rements	No. of Females	No. of Males
1	Ward Councilors	26	2	24
2	Councilors (special seats)	10	10	-
3	Village Chairmen	126	2	124
4	Sub-village Chairmen	715	16	699
5	Division Secretaries	7	0	7
6	WEO's	26	2	24
7	VEO's	126	12	114
	District Head of Departments	13	0	14
	Total	1049	45	1005

Source: Iramba District Council Report 2002

### 3.8 Conclusion

It is clear by the evidence presented from the research that the first five Copenhagen Commitments, Beijing Platform of action, Millennium Development Goals and other development commitments signed and developed by the government even after ten years of implementation have a long way to go before being realized. While it is promising to see areas improving such as primary school enrollments, for the most part, people continue to suffer from lack of very basic necessities such as clean water, medical facilities, dispensaries, medicines, courts, police and law enforcers.

# CHAPTER FOUR

## 4.0 FACT FINDING- MISSION IN KIBONDO DISTRICT

### 4.1 Introduction

The second group of researchers conducted a fact-finding mission in Kibondo district, Kigoma. Geographically, Kigoma region is situated in the far west of Tanzania on the shores of Lake Tanganyika about 1200kms from Dar es Salaam. The selection of Kigoma for fact finding was based on the fact that the region has remained to be one of the poorest regions in the country with an estimated GDP of 0.27 in 1967. Between 1980 and 1994, for example, contribution of the region to the national GDP remained slow averaging only 2% per year<sup>30</sup>. In 1990, there was a drastic negative growth of the region's GDP to a tune of 35.7% and in 1988 Census, Kigoma region ranked 15<sup>th</sup> among 20 regions in literacy rate<sup>31</sup>.

Kibondo district is among 4 districts of Kigoma region and is situated about 274 km from the regional headquarters. The district has an area of 16058 square kilometers..

### 4.2 POPULATION:

According to 2002 census, 137864 female and 117493 male populations inhabit the District. The main indigenous ethnic groups in the district are the Waha who are also dominant in the entire Kigoma region.

### Administrative Division

Kibondo District is divided into four administrative divisions namely kibondo, Mabamba, Kasanda and Kakonko with a total of 20 wards and 67 villages.

## 4.3 OBSERVATION IN THE FIELD

### 4.3.1 Human rights.

It was generally revealed that there is low level of awareness on human rights among the public and government implementaors in Kibondo. The situation which has limited the observation of human rights principles and particularly to the disadvantaged groups such as women, persons with disabilities and Refugees. Another obstacle for the realization of Human Rights in Kibondo is the shortage/non availability of basic institutions to deal with rights and welfare issues. For example the social welfare division is not available in Kibondo. The institution which mainly deal with the maintenance of the family, conflict resolutions and other

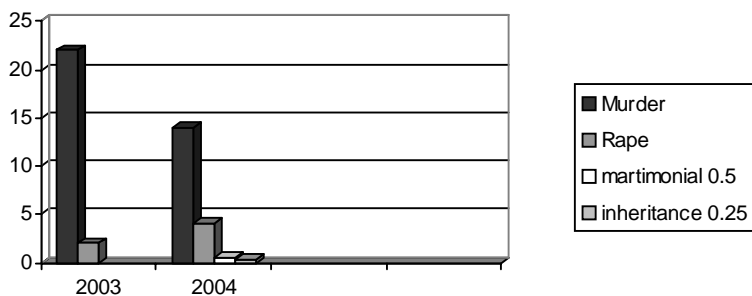
<sup>30</sup> National Accounts of Tanzania 1976-1994, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, August 1994

<sup>31</sup> The Palanning Commission Dar es salaam and the Regional Commissioner's Office Kigoma, Joint Publication on Kigoma Region Socio-Economic Profile, December 1998.

welfare issues in the district. So if people need this service have to travel all the way to Kigoma the thing which majority cannot afford. Furthermore, the fact finding revealed that there is only one district Court, 12 primary Courts but with only 3 magistrates, who are expected to serve and rotate in these 12 primary Courts. The situation which has contributed to the delay in finalization of cases hence the justice delayed to the majority in Kibondo.

The fact finders were told by the district court that there are many murder cases reported at the court. The killings in the district are caused by traditional beliefs and witchcraft. People in the district are being tortured or killed under allegations that they are traditionally preventing rain and bewitching children. In terms of statistics, 36 murder cases were reported to the Court for the last two years<sup>32</sup>. The participants lamented that some refugees having criminal behavior and practices in the district were causing some murder cases. For instance during field research it was observed that in 2003 there were 22 murder cases reported in the Kibondo District Court. In 2004 there were 14 cases reported in the same Court. The participants further reported that women were vulnerable to sexual abuse and though many women were raped few cases were reported in the court. For instance in 2003 there were only 2 rape cases and in 2004 there were only 4 cases reported.

**Table 7 indicating the reported cases on Murder and rape between 2003 and 2004.**



Source: Kibondo District Court

#### 4.3.1.1 Women's rights

About 90% respondents confirmed that women's rights in Kibondo are not observed due to the existence of the strong patriarchy principles. However the Kibondo district authorities upheld that local government

<sup>32</sup> Fact finders discussion with the Court Clerk on 9 November 2004

authorities have been charged with a duty of ensuring protection of women's rights everywhere in the district.

Evaluation of the situation in the field revealed that sex based discrimination and some customary practices continue to undermine women's ability to fully enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms.

It was also observed that most women in the district do not enjoy their rights mainly because of their low level of education, ignorance of their rights and lack of confidence to strive for the rights.

Among incidences reported to the fact finders in this regard is that *"one woman was beaten and her clothes were torn out by village militia on the reason that she was a vagabond. When she was consulted and advised by another person to report the matter to relevant authorities, she refused giving the reason that there is no where she can report because who did that were the villages militia and so, reporting the matter against them would be wasting time"*

Considerably, this woman could not seek redress on her violated right because she does not know that her rights are superior and over any law enforcement official.

About 90% respondents who were interviewed by the researchers confirmed that women in the district are discriminated on access and ownership of matrimonial assets, and over inheritance matters due to bad customary practices.

Women were reportedly being denied to own properties; instead all properties belong to their husbands. In case of divorce women were reportedly being returned to their parents empty handed. If a husband dies, the widow has to be inherited by the deceased's relatives otherwise, if she refuses, is returned to her parents.

It was reported that husbands do not involve women in making important decisions at family level. Husbands are the ones who decide issues regarding the number of children, bride price, selling of the family agricultural products and other matrimonial properties at family level. Sometimes women were reportedly not allowed by men to even decide issues concerning their own bodies.

It is here recommended that women should be empowered on their rights through education programmes and provision of legal aid in the district.

#### **4.3.1.2 Rights of Persons with disabilities**

It was observed that in Kibondo there is low level of awareness on the



rights of people with disabilities the awareness in the society on the rights of persons with disabilities. In the circumstances, the district education academic officer told the researchers that parents have been urged to enroll in primary schools children with disabilities, instead of doing so, the parents are hiding the children arguing that it is a shame and non-profitable to take a disabled child to school.

Arguably these goes contrary with Rule 1 of the UN Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities adopted by the UN General Assembly on 4 March 1994 declares that "States should take action to raise awareness in society about persons with disabilities, their rights, their needs, their potential and their contribution".

It is hereby recommended that awareness rising on the rights and capacity of persons with disabilities in the district should be undertaken to the general public besides government and political leaders in the district.

#### **4.3.2 The impact of Refugees on social developments.**

Burundi refugees were present in refugee camps in Kibondo district at the time of conducting this research. During this time, Tanzania was hosting some 500,000 refugees from Burundi<sup>33</sup>. Most of them are members of the Hutu ethnic group who fled to Kibondo district in Tanzania to escape civil war which erupted in Burundi.<sup>34</sup>

The researchers were informed by district leaders and villagers about criminal incidences that have been carried out by some refugees. This information was also supported by other library information reviewed by the researchers. It was evident that there are criminal elements among the refugee population, the refugees had committed various criminal offences including murders, rapes, and armed robberies in refugee camps as well as against local community. The Police arrested seven Burundian refugees in May 2000 for robbing a local hospital and this was the first time whereby refugees attacked an institution in Tanzania. Security officers stated that such kind of incidents have continued and have caused fear among residents and patients<sup>35</sup>.

The researchers also observed that the problems of insecurity in the district caused by some criminal elements of refugees are still continuing. Normal buses full of passengers are still being escorted by armed Police officers for protection, the buses were reportedly being attacked by armed refugees. Due to the above and many other continued criminal incidences, the researchers noted that the

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.ippmedia.com/ipp/observer/2004/12/19/27848.html>

<sup>34</sup> [http://www.hrw.org/reports/2000/tanzania/P289\\_40384](http://www.hrw.org/reports/2000/tanzania/P289_40384)

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.refugees.org/world/countryrpt/africa/2001/tanzania.htm>

government and political leaders have been angered by these criminal elements of refugees.

In the circumstances, the government has called for forceful repatriation or threatened refugees to go back to their home country Burundi. Some criminal refugees were reportedly returned to their home country. President Benjamin William Mkapa, for example, has repeatedly called refugees to go back to safe zones in Burundi<sup>36</sup>.

In order to ensure respect of refugee rights, the government is urged to halt extending burden of criminal refugees to those who are genuine and innocent. It is only On the other hand refugees in Kibondo have been committing serious crimes to innocent residents. Other refugee criminal offenders should be imprisoned in Tanzania and the international community should provide assistance to the government for these imprisoned refugees because they carry their refugee status in prisons that is why they are not expelled to their home countries.

In order to control and monitor insecurity caused by refugee criminal elements, it is important to ensure disarmament of all refugees upon arrival into the country and to ensure as well that refugees are placed in refugee camps very far from the local communities and from their home country.

The fact finders further observed that not all persons who cross boarder to Tanzania to seek refuge status are genuine asylum applicants because the Kibondo District Commissioner told the fact finders that some asylum applicants provide false information during pre-screening exercises at transit camps(Way Stations) so as to be given asylum basing on wrong information. The fact finders feared that all or some of these asylum applicants might have participated in grave breaches of international humanitarian and human rights laws in their countries and hence, they tend to provide wrong information in order to hide their offences. some might be running away from hardship life and come to stay in the refugees camp with their families a place where they can easily get all the basic needs.

It is here advised that the government need to establish strict rules for screening asylum applicants in the country and if one is found to have committed international crimes should be prosecuted in our domestic courts or be surrendered to the International Criminal Court.

#### **4.3.3 Health**

Health is one of the fundamental human rights which is crucially important

---

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp? ReportID=23470>

to the lives of people and their well-being. The fact finders appreciated progress made by the government in bringing health services closer to people in the district. In terms of statistics, out of 69 villages in the district, 59 have dispensaries. There are 4 health Centres in the district and each has an ambulance car and a radio call.

It was observed that the establishment of such kind of facilities have facilitated implementation of health programs in the area such as maternal and child health care, family planning, vaccination, pre and post natal care, treatment, education on communicable diseases, sanitation and local diseases control.

The fact finders further observed that HIV/AIDS has been recognized as a problem affecting people in the district and various measures including provision of HIV: Counseling, testing, treatment of opportunistic infections and awareness services are being provided.

Furthermore, the researchers noted, however, that numerous obstacles, difficulties and constraints exist and prevent meaningful provision of health services to the people in the district.

Some of these include the shortage of medical personnel, drugs and equipments in all dispensaries, health centres and the district hospital. Consequently, researchers saw Tanzanians including local government leaders living near refugee Camps going to seek medical treatments in the Camps. This was considered to be among contributing factors for Tanzanians in these areas not to actively strive for having their own better medical services.

Researchers were told during focused group discussions that each dispensary in the district is provided with only one kit per month. The kit does not accommodate patients in each village and are finished in a week leaving the villagers with no medicine. Consequently, people opt to seek treatment to traditional healers.

This was supported by one of the community member from Mkarazi village who stated that *“our village is at the boarder of Burundi that, the district government has provided us with medical kit in March at our village dispensary. The Kits drugs finished in less than a week because Burundians are crossing boarder to seek medical treatment at our village dispensary leaving us without drugs for the entire remaining period of the month”*.

The Ambulance Cars available in health centres were reported to be useless to poor people in the district because a patient or his/her relatives must

buy fuel for taking the patient to the district hospital to a tune of between Tsh. 3,000 and 12,000. Villagers complained that fuel prices have gone-up to the extent that most of them cannot afford this amount. In the circumstances, patients are being transported to the district hospital which is very far from most of the villagers on feet. In different cases patients being taken to the district hospital on feet pass away while on route and the majorities are pregnant women, some were reportedly to be delivering on the way.

The following sad elastration was given by Kasunga villagers just to serve as an example *".... In August 2004 we took our friend on feet from our village Kasunga to the health centre for delivery. There she developed some problems they referred us to Kibondo district hospital. We took her to the hospital on feet and she delivered twins on the way but all the babies died after few minutes"*.

It is recommended here that the government should ensure continued drugs availability in the dispensaries, health centers and the district hospital. Medical personnel and equipments should be increased. Moreover, Services in the government health facilities should be equal to those provided in refugee camps.

#### **4.3.4 Education**

Education is a key to all progress and is among the basic social services and objectives of the Copenhagen ,Beijing and MDGS,which, among other things, seek to give full primary education to all children, boys and girls.

In Kibondo district, appreciable progresses were noted to have been made in the following areas: Construction of 128 primary schools in its 67 villages whereby each village has at least 2 primary schools.Out of these 128 primary schools, 57 schools have bicycles. Moreover, there are secondary schools in the following wards; Kitatana , Nyaruyoba, Kibondo, Mabamba, Busagara,Kakonko,Gwanumpu and Muhange. Some of these are still under construction.There is also a Community Development College in Kakonko ward and a District Social development Training Centre in Kibondo Town. In all these schools, students enrollments have increased over the past five years.

All the above schools and training centers are well connected with good roads especially during dry seasons.

All these achievements are good indicators of positive willingness on the part of the government to ensure realization of the poverty reduction strategies and the MDGs targets in the district In spite of the above progresses that were noted to have been made, the researchers observed several obstacles which impact negatively on the actions taken including:

Incidences of school girls drop-outs due to pregnancies and early marriages are many in the district, for example Six school girls in standard six at Kibingo Primary school were reported to have been married. In the circumstances, some parents and primary school teachers have complained and reported such kind of incidences to Mama Munyongwa who is the District Education Officer. Mama Munyongwa reported that she has submitted names and letters to Ward Executive Officers and the Police officers calling them to take criminal actions against persons who have married these school girls in the district under established school rules/regulations 2002. The rules provides for three years imprisonment for those who marry or impregnate school girls. According to the district education officer explanations, the Ward Development Officers and the Police have neglected or refused to take actions against men who have married or impregnated the school girls and she underlined to have given-up taking actions in such kind of cases. when interviewed on this issue the Ward Development Officer pointed that there is a big confusion on which law or legal punishment for the offenders and we have been arguing whether to take the matter under which law which provides for 3 years imprisonment or the sexual offences (special provisions) act 1998 which provide for 30 years and /or life imprisonment?

#### **Over emphasize on quantity than quality**

Adequate supply of teachers, teaching facilities and materials is essential for a successful education system. It was reported that the ratio between teachers and students in primary schools in the district is not compatible with required quantity. In some Primary schools like those in Kizazi Ward, the number of pupils per one class is 150 with only one teacher. The Nyakanyazi primary school has 80 pupils in each class but has only one teacher.

It was pointed out by district education officers that in this year 2004, 250 new teachers were allocated to come and teach in the district. Out of these 250 new teachers, only 143 reported and nearly all of them refuse to teach English because of their poor language education quality.

The government has introduced new subjects in primary schools especially a subject called "*Vocational skills*" which requires teachers to teach elementary technical things on Civil and Mechanical engineering for example making or repairing furniture, radios, car etc. Teachers who were interviewed stated that the schools in the district have no teachers with such kind of special skills, as such, the subject remain un taught or badly taught in almost all schools.

The fact finders were further informed that secondary schools in the district

have severe shortage of teachers and teaching facilities. Consequently, Students in the schools are being taught by form four leavers who have not performed well in exams hence low quality of education.

**Table 8 indicating the number of pupils enrolled at Primary School and those who set for exams and passed.**

Enrolled					Candidates sat for Examination				Passed Exams			
Year	Boys	Girls	Total	%	Boys	Girls	total	l %	Boys	Girls	Total	%
2001	1987	1970	2770	70	421	250	677	24	149	185	334	12
2002	1905	1952	3279	85	510	294	804	25	146	182	328	10
2003	1915	2005	3693	94	848	536	1389	38	495	320	815	22

**Source; Kibondo District Council**

Note; According to the data collected from the Kibondo District Council, the District is composed of 67,402 Pupils at the Primary Schools i.e 34,627 boys and 32,775 girls.

It is recommended here that English course should be conducted to the existing English teachers and emphasis on English grammar in all levels of education from primary schools to the higher learning Institutions should be a first priority.

### **Lack of Adult Education Programs**

It was observed by the researchers that illiteracy prevails among many adults in the district. Even some of those who completed primary schools have joined the district illiteracy group. This was reported by people in the district to have created many problems during elections, poverty reduction endeavors and provision of social services. About 89% of respondent stated that, following removal or reduction of adult education teachers in the district, adult education programs in the district do not exist the situation which has increased high rate of illiteracy among adults in the district.

### ***Impact of poor education in the district***

With all the above obstacles hindering effective education system in the district, the fact finders were told that poor education in the district has created more harmful effects in the district. For example, all Special seats Councilors in the district are standard seven leavers. The councilors are members of the district council with full responsibilities of planning development strategies and enacting by-laws for the entire district. A

question that remained unanswered was if a district council has members with very low education, how can they be able to plan, make by laws and ensure effective development plans and implementation in the district particularly in this era of globalization?

It is here emphasized that the government should ensure expeditious implementation of above 2003 education rules; put equal emphasis over education quality and quantity. Moreover, adult education programme should effectively be applied in the district.

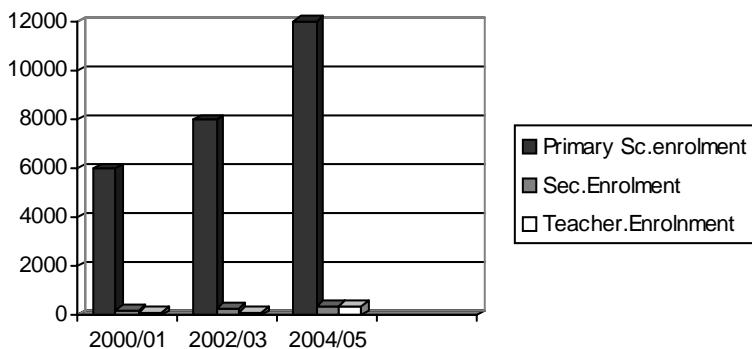


Table 9 above indicates the enrolment rate of students and recruitment of teachers at Primary and Secondary Schools.

The analysis indicates that although more pupils are enrolled at Primary Schools very few join Secondary Schools due to some factors discussed in this report. The recruitment of Teachers is not proportional to enrolment of pupils. Gender equality is a necessary condition for effective recognition of both men’s and women’s interests and capacity on equal basis.

However, the research revealed that gender equality and equity is not well observed in Kibondo District. A slight notable progress on women’s involvement in decision making structures was observed in Kibondo district. For example, There is a Secondary school by the name of Codicil that is being operated by women and the current Officer Commanding Station (OCS) at Mabamba police station is a woman. Moreover, the district Education officer is a woman. The District Executive Director (DED) is also a woman and has reportedly performed very well compared to her former DED male counterparts.

However the fact finding revealed that, a persistent mennisation practice has dominated all administrative structures in the district. For example, out of the 20 Wards in the district. There is only one woman who is a Ward Executive Officer based at Nyakasanda Ward at the time of conducting this research.

Non-is an elected Ward Councilor apart from those given special seats. Only one is a Ward secretary (Mratibu kata) based at Kibondo town at the time of conducting this research.

Such kind of practice is an evidence of undervaluing women at all levels in the district, hence, making the agreed results of 50% men and 50% women composition in all decision making levels illusory despite the fact that girls in the district have persistently demonstrated high potential and intelligence than that of men.

**Table 10 below shows the number of men and women who have passed and selected to join secondary schools over the last ten years in the district.**

Year	Who were selected		Total
	men	women	
1995	65	69	134
1996	64	66	130
1997	70	103	173
1998	62	60	122
1999	62	143	205
2000	64	145	207
2001	149	185	334
2002	146	182	328
2003	495	320	815
2004	0	0	0
Total	1177	1273	2448

**source:** Kibondo District Education Officer Notice Board in her office, November, 2004.

### **Observation:**

The observation indicates that more women have passed to join secondary education than men portraying that women are more potential and intellectual than men in the education history of Kibondo district..This finding on potential and intellectual capacity of women can be generalized to apply through out the country and worldwide. It would therefore be expected that more than 50% of leaders in the district could have been women.

It was noted that negligible number of these intelligent girls pass beyond secondary schools and are able to enter into leadership system due to largely malenisation and femininised poverty forces in the system.It is here underlined that awareness raising and plan of action should be



undertaken to ensure effective gender equality in the entire district.

#### **4.3.5 Poverty Reduction**

During the field research, it was observed that poverty has been recognized by both local government and political leaders as a cross cutting problem undermining human progress and development in Kibondo district.

Researchers noted that some appreciable efforts have been undertaken to implement the government poverty reduction Strategy (PRS), Copenhagen commitments, Beijing Platform of action and also to meet the first Millennium Development Goal "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and, in particular target number 1 "halve, between 1990 and 2015 the proportion of people whose income is less than US\$ 1 a day".

It was learnt that Poverty reduction actions undertaken in the district include establishment of loan schemes for women, allocation of land areas to young people who have no land, construction of roads, schools, public water supplying centres and some markets.

While such kind of actions and strategies have been undertaken by the government, the majority in the district still live under extreme poverty due to the following factors. The qualitative and quantitative analysis indicates that about 95% of the households in the district still depend their living from small-scale substance farming. Agricultural production is basically for local consumption and for selling in the district domestic markets and no surplus. There is little export of agricultural produce to other districts or outside the country from the district.

Although most parts of the district have excellent land and climate for agricultural production, there is no permanent cash crop that is being practiced in each village to guarantee permanent income to every household. Agricultural production depends mostly on natural rains for crop growing. Many peasants continue using traditional farming methods and tools like hand hoes, axe and pangas. The district has only one tractor in the district agriculture department and its working condition was questionable at the time of conducting the fact finding.

The fact finding revealed that only 5% of the entire population are engaged in professional activities, for example, teachers, nurses, clerks, civil servants and other few business people.

Most people in the district have poor houses constructed of trees, mud and glasses. Most households have larger families contrary with family

planning requirements and the Tanzania population Policy. Moreover, balanced diet is illusory to most people in the district.

It was further observed that poverty in the district is aggravated by corrupt practices by some government and political leaders in the district. Some Police officers, Judicial, education, and health service providers in the district were said to be among the most corrupt departments in the district. Corruption was reportedly to be draining small income of the majority who are the most poor in the district.

The fact finders urge the government in this area to attract private large scale farmers to invest in the district. This will enable people to acquire and practice methods of large scale farming. Agriculture experts should be deployed to the district to explore and advise some kind of cash crops that can be cultivated in each village. People in the district should also be helped to conduct irrigation farming. In this regard, Water from Lake Tanganyika would be made to pass in each village of the district.

#### **4.3.6 Democratic Development.**

In present days, there is growing recognition that the objectives of development go beyond on increase in GDP: International community is concerned with promoting democratic development in which social development watchers are not required to look only at incomes of the people, rather on people's democratic participation on, both development programs, information delivery to the people and within the broader political arena<sup>37</sup>.

##### ***Participation in political arena***

Appreciable progress was recorded by the fact finders in Kibondo district on opportunities for people's democratic participation into various political parties. Six political parties namely; Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), Civic United Front (CUF), United Democratic Party (UDP), National Convention For Construction Reform – Mageuzi (NCCR – Mageuzi), Chama Cha Maendeleo na Demokrasia (Chadema) and Tanzania Labour Party (TLP), are very known to people in kibondo villages. People have joined these parties as a means of ensuring democratic development in the district.

Although the above appreciable progress were recorded, there were factors reported which affect negatively effective democratic participation in political parties by citizens in the district. Researchers were informed that

---

<sup>37</sup> Joseph E. Stiglitz Word Bank Senior Vice President and Chief Economist, Keynote + Address, Industrial Relations Research Association, American Economic Association Meetings, January, 2000, Boston, USA

most opposition political parties become active only during election period.

It was also pointed out that some political leaders who are elected to represent people and to bring feed back to them, do disappear in Dar es Salaam or else where after being elected. The participants in Buyungu and Mhambwe constituencies complained against their members of Parliament that they have not shown good cooperation with people since they were elected. People expressed their deep concerns over their Members of parliament, as to whether they can be provided legal aid;

They lamented that;

*"We are ready to sue our members of parliament for their deliberate disappearance from us and to claim compensation against them over problems we have suffered due to their disappearance and lack of cooperation we expected"*

### ***Participation in development Programmes***

In order to ensure that all people are involved in decision making and understanding status of development programmes in district villages, worth to mention Section 103(2) of the Local Government (District Authorities Act) No. 7 of 1982 which provides that "There shall be held an ordinary meeting of the village Assembly at least once in every three months".

Researchers were informed by people in villages that village leaders do not convene such kind of village assembly meetings thereby denying people an opportunity for making decisions and getting updates on development programmes in the district

### ***Information delivery to the people.***

Delivery information to the people in time is vital for ensuring democratic development in any area. In Kibondo district, the fact finders observed that people can not well access to information through media. Radio Tanzania is not heard in the entire district during day time. the only radio station which is heard is Radio Kwizela which use the Burundians language throughout the day the situation which cause many tanzanians not to understand the message. People in the district get some news papers of long time ago.

It is recommended here that political leaders should be sensitized on the necessary to be closer and work for the people who put them to power. Legal government leaders should also be enlightened on the necessity to conduct village assembly as required by law. Radio Tanzania and other media should be reached to the district timely and at all time.

# CHAPTER FIVE

## **General Recommendations;**

Basing on the above fact find information, it is hereby recommended as follows.

### **1. Social Services (Health & Education)**

- ♦ The government needs to take immediate measures to improve social services at rural areas. This can be done through recruiting more trained personnel and providing adequate facilities to social services institutions in the rural areas.

### **2. Human rights**

- ♦ Human rights can be observed much better through improving Law enforcement departments such as the Judiciary, Police and other related institutions.
- ♦ The government has to train, sensitize and create awareness to the public on their rights.
- ♦ The refugees information procedures of entering the camp at the way station to be reviewed and strengthened to avoid forgery information.
- ♦ The government should recruit more primary court magistrate and supporting staff
- ♦ The government should also increase more primary courts at rural areas

### **3. Democracy Development**

- ♦ The ongoing local government reforms such as transparency, accountability, democratic election, full public participation in planning and decision making should benefit all people at the village level where majority live.
- ♦ There is a need of increasing the efficiency, transparency and accountability in law enforcement Institutions.
- ♦ There is a need of enhancing all efforts that are geared towards full participation in all matters related political and socio-economical for all groups in terms of gender and age in the rural areas.
- ♦ There is a need of creating awareness to the public on democratic development

### **4. Poverty Eradication**

- ♦ The government should equally allocate to rural areas the benefits from all resources in the country. The government should improve infrastructure and create markets in rural areas.

- ◆ The government should regulate the price of farmers' produce
- ◆ Farmers must be given access to loans to improve production
- ◆ Government should find investors in farming to improve markets for the produce
- ◆ Ensure availability of pesticides and insecticides to enhance means of food storage

### **Gender Equality and Equity**

- ◆ There is a need of raising awareness and social mobilization to change the old attitude towards the rights and roles of women and children and young people at grass root.
- ◆ Central and local governments are required to take responsibilities in protecting vulnerable groups and allocating equal and more resources for social development at rural areas. It is imperative that local governments especially district councils to closely work and in a joint action and collaboration with Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and NGOs as a better way of planning and implementing social development services.

### **General remarks:**

- ◆ The Media and NGOs and other civic societies need to play a big role in creating awareness on social services, democratic development and human rights to the public at the grass root especially rural areas.