

URBAN GOVERNANCE ISSUES FROM THE FIELD

We will be discussing impressions on.....

- Our achievements and shortfalls in these early days of federalization and devolution;
- Our priority action areas as we move forward;
- The challenges that need to be addressed;
- The problems and constraints that are expected to impede our efforts to address the challenges we face.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND SHORTFALLS

Functions in which performance was good

- Management of the municipal assembly, mediation and arbitration
- Protection and development of languages, cultures and fine arts
- Management of the local services
- Management of senior citizens, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

Functions in which performance needs improvement

1. Distribution of land ownership certificates
2. Collecting statistics on the unemployed
3. Management, operation and control of agricultural extension
4. Small hydropower projects, alternative energy
5. Local market management,
6. Local records management
7. Protection of watersheds, wildlife, mines and minerals
8. Local taxation and resource mobilization

Some major reasons why we did poorly..

- Most of us were sworn in before the enabling laws were passed, so we just carried on guided by the old laws;
- Inadequate staff and financial resources;
- Organizational structures and operating procedures were not in place for some time;
- Naturally, there was confusion in the implementation of devolution.

Priority Activities

Priority Functions

- Management of local services
- Local roads
- Health and sanitation
- Agriculture, livestock and related facilities
- Basic education
- Local records management
- Local revenue generation

CLUSTERING OF PLANNED PRIORITY ACTIVITIES

- Activities to upgrade service delivery through improved management systems, procedures, technology as well as facilities.
- Activities leading to the adoption of enabling local laws, rules and regulations required to legitimize executive action and budgetary allocations.
- Activities to re-organize the service delivery units and re-allocate personnel.
- Activities towards hastening the devolution of functions and assets.
- Activities to strengthen the wards

**Number of Mentions: Need for Enabling Law
Mayors' Roundtable Discussion**

Function	Total
Town Police	6
Cooperatives	7
Local Taxes	5
Management of Local Services	5
Local statistics	0
Planning and projects	3
Basic and Sec Education	5
Basic Health and Sanitation	4
Markets, environment and biodiversity	3
Roads and irrigation	2
Local Assembly, Judicial comm, courts	4
Local records amangement	0
Distribution of land, house certificates	2
Agriculture, livestock, poultry	3
Senior citizens, PWDs and vulnerable	1
Unemployment data	0
Agricultural extension	1
Hydropower, alt enery, potable water	2
Protection of watershed, wildlife	1
Disaster management	1
Language Culture and arts	2
Gender and Inclusion	1
Transparency and accountability	2
Total	60

Cases of Undeveloped Functions/Assets Mayors' Roundtable Discussions

Function	Number of Cases
Basic Health and Sanitation	1
Roads and irrigation	1
Distribution of land, house certificates	1
Agriculture, livestock, poultry	1
Potable water	1
Protection of watershed, wildlife	1
Language Culture and arts	1
Total	7

Anticipated Problems and Constraints

Problems and constraints that impede our work

- Gender discrimination in governance
- Low levels of private investment in planned growth sectors
- Non-operational organizational structures and staff attitudes
- Insufficient knowledge of the tax base and weak collection infrastructure.
- Obstructionism and un-cooperative citizenry.
- On-going reconstruction.

Gender discrimination in governance

Trend towards undermining authority of elected officials especially women.

ECONOMIC

Two resource constraints:

- **Low levels of private investment, and**
- **Haphazard land use, land encroachment and fragmentation.**

Organizational Constraints

- **Non-operational Organizational Structures**
- **Staff Attitudes.**

LOCAL FINANCE

**Insufficient Knowledge of the Local Tax Base
Collection and Inadequate Connectivity**

POLITICS AND CITIZEN'S SUPPORT

Obstructionism

Harmful Habits: e.g. Solid Waste Disposal

On-going Reconstruction

For some municipalities, reconstruction from the earthquake of 2015 is unfinished and will have to continue, alongside the current effort to establish a strong municipal government.

Thank you.