

PROGRESS REPORT

Capacity Development for Results-Based Monitoring, Evaluation and Auditing Projects

Reporting period: *[June 2013 – September 2013]*

Reporting Agency: Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)

I. PURPOSE

Output(s): *[Output 1.9: Mapping study to identify audience and knowledge audit on social protection, poverty reduction and environment; Output 6.2: Mapping study on availability and use of ICT in rural areas and its impact on people's life; output 6.5 supporting ICT platforms, including community radio, website (including Tzonline and TAKNET) and mobile phones through South-South Cooperation; Output 7.1: Baseline studies on current practices of MDGs localization and benchmarking the best practices, and output 7.5 Capacity development to designing local ecosystems based interventions]*

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania through Ministry of Finance - Department of Poverty Eradication (MOF-PED), The Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF), and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) implement the UNDP project ID/ Title: 61947: Capacity Development for Results-Based Monitoring and Auditing. The objective of the Initiative is to respond to expressed needs of the government and other actors in the context of the PFM IV agenda, as well as addressing the capacity gaps in the national poverty monitoring and evaluation institutions and systems, including sub-national and community monitoring systems. Furthermore, the performance gap between good macro stability and persistent increase in income poverty at community level needs to be addressed through localization of MDGs and piloting community supported programmes.

Through this arrangement, ESRF was assigned to implement the following output during the period between June and September 2013;

- 1.9 Facilitate implementation of e-communication/advocacy strategy for social protection, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability using the Tzonline and TAKNET platforms. This include conducting a mapping study to identify audience and knowledge audit on social protection, poverty reduction and environment, and document tangible evidence of knowledge needs, usage, challenges and recommend interventions.

- 6.2 To carry out a mapping study on availability and use of ICT in rural areas and its impact and contributions on people's life, - e-health, e-governance, e-agriculture etc
- 6.5 To support ICT platforms, including community radio, website (including Tzonline and TAKNET) and mobile phones through South-South Cooperation
- 7.1 To conduct a baseline study on current practices of the implementation and execution modality of MDGs localization and benchmarking the best practices.
- 7.5 To conduct a study with the intention of designing a local ecosystem based set of interventions to address the widespread and persistent environmental related challenges in Tanzania.

II. IMPLEMENTATION (RESULTS)

During the period under review ESRF conducted several activities/outputs that will bring positive results; among them are the following:

A. The four studies; Output 1.9, 6.2, 7.1 & 7.5

1. The situation analysis prior to the study was conducted in Bukoba Rural and Bunda districts from 17th to 23rd June 2013. From the visit the team observed several MAF and ATI success and achievements as well as bottlenecks that needed to be addressed in the concept notes and proposal for the coming studies.
2. After the situation analysis the concept notes for the above four studies were developed. Also the research tools such as questionnaires, interview guides and FGD guides were developed by the team.
3. After testing the tools, the team went to the three districts namely; Uyui, Bunda and Bukoba Rural for field and data collection. The data collection in three districts took place between 14th and 28th July 2013.
4. During the field work, the team carried out assessment and mapping studies on knowledge management, Ecosystem, Livelihood and ICT. Recommendations from the assessment form part of the 3 district reports for implementation and scaling up MAF and ATI projects.
5. Data entry and analysis were followed with report writing. 10 reports written on the basis of districts and themes (4 for Bunda, 4 Bukoba Rural and 2 for Uyui) were prepared. They are;
 - a. An Audit Report on Social Protection, Poverty Reduction and Environment on Information and Knowledge among Selected Audiences in Bunda District
 - b. An Audit Report on Social Protection, Poverty Reduction and Environment on Information and Knowledge among Selected Audiences in Bukoba Rural District

- c. Mapping Study on Availability and Use of ICT in Rural Areas and Its Impact on Peoples' Life: Case of Bukoba Rural
- d. Mapping Study on Availability and Use of ICT in Rural Areas and Its Impact on Peoples' Life: Case of Bunda District
- e. Baseline Study on Current Practices of MDGs Localization and Benchmarking the Best Practices in Bukoba Rural
- f. Baseline Study on Current Practices of MDGs Localization and Benchmarking the Best Practices in Bunda District
- g. Baseline Study on Current Practices of MDGs Localization and Benchmarking the Best Practices in Uyui Rural
- h. Capacity Development to Designing Local Ecosystems based Interventions in Uyui District
- i. Capacity Development to Designing Local Ecosystems based Interventions in Bunda District
- j. Capacity Development to Designing Local Ecosystems based Interventions in Bukoba Rural District

These reports were synthesized into three, one for each district. Later a meeting was organized at ESRF conference hall and reports were presented to clients (MOF and UNDP) and other invited stakeholders. The final reports have been submitted to MoF and UNDP.

B. Platform for sharing information and Knowledge; Output 6.5

1. Enhancement and creation of platforms for sharing community knowledge and best practices were done. The ICT platforms i.e Tzonline and TAKNET have been newly designed and enhanced to accommodate more data and support different user groups, including the sub-national level.
2. Tzonline supports the localization of MDGs through enhancement of the online Internet-based databases with full text documents and information for planning at sub-regional levels. Special focus is on the information, and data on Social protection, sustainable environment and poverty alleviation.
3. Tanzania Knowledge Network (TAKNET) continued to provide Tanzanians with the facility to network generate and promote the sharing of experiences and research through the use of ICT. During the period under review three very interesting topics were discussed, they are: Tanzania Human Development Report 2014: Economic Transformation for Human Development; 2013/2014 Government Budget: What is your opinion? And Fish Farming for the Attainment of MDG1.
4. In order to strengthen the services offered by Tzonline and TAKNET, the project procured communication tools and computers. During the same period, marketing and promotional materials were printed.

5. Radio equipment for Bunda Community Radio was also purchased during the reporting period. The radio will scale up the use of ICTs to enhance impact of e-agriculture development and support the role of CSOs and LGA in analyzing the targeted success and development in Bunda district.
6. Three zones were visited during the period with the purpose of marketing and promoting the Tzonline and TAKNET, as well as collecting documents for Tzonline database. Lake Zone (Mwanza), Southern Highlands (Mbeya, Iringa) and Central zone (Dodoma and Morogoro) were visited. All Institutions of higher learning, NGO, CSO, private sector and government institutions in the zones were visited. Brochures, fliers, banners, posters and pens were produced and distributed to potential users of TAKNET. As a result of the above, Most of the stakeholders have shown great enthusiasm to participate in the discussion forums. Some members have contributed online very useful comments on how to make the Network more fruitful.
7. Tanzania Online collaborates with most Institutions of higher learning, Research institutions, Government, Development partners as well as individuals. During the period under review we visited Universities with the aim of developing partnership and collaborations on sharing information and knowledge relevant to people at sub-national level. Universities, Research and higher Learning Institutions visited were Dodoma University, St John University, IRDP, CBE, Sokoine University and Mzumbe University, Mzumbe University Mbeya Wing, Uyole Agriculture Centre, NIMR Mbeya centre, Mbeya University of Technology, Open University Mbeya campus, Ruhaha University College, Mkwawa University and Tumaini University

III. RESOURCES

The financial implementation status of the activities is attached to this report.