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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Special Paper 16: *“Local Government Finances and Financial Management in Tanzania: Observations from Six Councils, 2002 – 2003”*

By Odd-Helge Fjeldstad, with Florida Henjewe, Geofrey Mwambe, Erasto Ngalewa and Knut Nygaard

This special paper is an overview of local government finances and financial management of six councils: Bagamoyo District Council, Ilala Municipal Council, Iringa District Council, Kilosa District Council, Moshi District Council and Mwanza City Council. The data covers the period 2000-2003 and provides a reference point with respect to various dimensions of local government finances and financial management. The following topics are covered in the study:

- the degree of fiscal autonomy;
- methods of revenue collection;
- financial management, including budgeting, accounting and auditing;
- transparency in fiscal and financial affairs; and
- tax compliance and fiscal corruption.

This special paper is available in printed form from REPOA and you can download the report from our website - go to Research Activities – Local Government Reform.

Project Briefs 6 – 10: Local Government Reform Programme

In addition to the special paper mentioned above, we have published further project briefs relating to this programme. The project briefs have proved to be popular amongst those wishing to have a brief and easily digestible summary of our findings.

LGR6 *“Low awareness amongst citizens of local government reforms”*
By Odd-Helge Fjeldstad and Kurt Nygaard

LGR7 *“Citizens’ access to information on local government finances”*
By Odd-Helge Fjeldstad

LGR8 *“Primary education since the introduction of the Primary Education Development Plan”*
By Siri Lange

LGR9 *“Are fees the major barrier to accessing public health care?”*
By Deograsias Mushi

LGR10 “Is the community health fund better than user fees for financing public health care?”

By Deograsias Mushi

These project briefs are available in printed form from REPOA, or you can download the briefs from our website - go to Research Activities – Local Government Reform. Please contact REPOA if you would like to be placed on our mailing list to receive new briefs as soon as they are published.

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WEBSITE

We are currently improving and expanding our website and your comments and suggestions for further or improved content will be welcomed. We will soon have a links web page; if your organisation would like to link their website with ours then please contact REPOA to arrange a **reciprocal link**.

new documents and reports posted to our website, vacancies for training, calls for proposals, staff vacancies, etc.

Use our web page “What’s New” to keep up to date with current events at REPOA. We regularly announce on this web page notices of

We have updated our website so that the full text of current year research reports are available to download from our website. Go to our web page: Publications – Research Reports. These reports are available to purchase in a printed booklet.

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REPOA ATTAINS 10 YEARS

On 30th November 1994 REPOA officially came into existence; though actual operations did not commence until early 1995.

Commemorative events and material are being planned to coincide with REPOA’s 10th Annual Research Workshop, scheduled for April 7th and 8th, 2005.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF LIBRARY

We regret that our library has closed temporarily. We hope to reopen as soon as possible.

We will advise on our website when the library is open to the public oncemore.

NEW COLLEAGUES AT REPOA

We are pleased to announce that a senior researcher and two assistant researchers have joined REPOA.

Masuma Mamdani has a solid background in planning, evaluating and reporting on research and development programmes, particularly in the areas of essential drugs, environmental, reproductive and sexual health, including HIV/AIDS. She has worked in several countries and her professional connection to Tanzania dates back to 1979.

Masuma is a senior researcher at REPOA and is currently coordinating the Tanzania Governance Noticeboard and Afrobarometer and Children's Rights projects, to name a few. We are pleased that a person with such a breadth of experience has joined us.

Magreth Henjewe and Chelaus Rutachururwa have joined REPOA to work on the Tanzania Governance Noticeboard project (further information later in this newsletter).



Masuma Mamdani

EXTENSION OF REPOA'S PREMISES-INCREASED CONFERENCE FACILITIES

Due to demands for more office space, REPOA has expanded its premises. We now have a new two-storey building at the rear of our complex, housing the library, a computer laboratory, meeting room, seminar/training room, offices and storage, as well as an outdoor dining/entertainment area. This extension means that we have significantly increased our capacity for training and workshops. Please contact REPOA for further information.



THE STRUCTURED RESEARCH PROGRAMME

(ALSO KNOWN AS WINDOW II)

SOME RESEARCH COMPLETED BY REPOA SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER

Bridging Research and Policy

REPOA provided support to the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) (www.cmi.no), on a study on the role of research in four African countries: Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda. This study focussed on the role of domestic research and local knowledge in the formation of national strategies and policies for reducing poverty. In Tanzania the focus was on the current policies on primary education.

Guidelines for Preparation of Anti-Corruption Action Plans by Local Government Authorities

The Local Government Reform Programme (LGRP) commissioned REPOA to prepare guidelines for local government authorities on preparing action plans for anti-corruption. The adoption of anti-corruption action plans at the council level presents a valuable opportunity to engage stakeholders in improving the standards of accountability, transparency and integrity in local government. A team of consultants from REPOA, the University of Dar es Salaam, and the Prevention of Corruption Bureau carried out this assignment.

Malnutrition Trends in Tanzania

The main objective of this study was to analyse trends, determinants and differentials of malnutrition of children under five years old. This study was conducted using demographic and health survey data and Household Budget Survey data. The study was commissioned by the World Bank and fed into a country report on malnutrition.

Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Tanzania

REPOA was commissioned by UNICEF to carry out an update of the situation analysis of children and women in Tanzania.

Changing Vulnerability

This study was commissioned by UNICEF in order to identify changing patterns of vulnerability to crises in Tanzania, with special reference to children. The hypothesis of this study was that rural people have adopted livelihood strategies to hedge against risk, but multiple concurrent shocks and strains impose too much stress, and precipitate a collapse into destitution and hunger. Field studies were conducted in Kagera and Makete, focusing on HIV/AIDS as a chronic stressor, and also the acute shocks of drought, floods and severe drops in the market prices of cash crops.

The initial observations from this study are that there is a need for an immediate and coordinated response, especially to support the most vulnerable children and their caregivers. It is recommended that the hardest hit districts be targeted, with the government ensuring access by the most vulnerable to quality essential social services. Also, financial, capacity building, and manpower support should be given to non-governmental organisations (NGOs), faith based organisations (FBOs) and community based organisations (CBOs) for HIV/AIDS related prevention and support activities.

To address this situation there needs to be simultaneous responses to: general developmental issues such as agricultural support, etc; focused prevention interventions on HIV/AIDS, and mitigating the impact of HIV/AIDS, especially for those most vulnerable.

Social Protection Assuring a Minimum Income for the Poor

This study focused on examining the dimension of social protection that deals with supporting household consumption and income levels through interventions at the household and individual level. These interventions include transfer payments, public works with a large

safety net' component, micro-credit and insurance schemes.

The study was commissioned by the Research And Analysis Technical Working Group and was carried out by a team of consultants from Oxford Policy Management (www.opml.co.uk) and REPOA.

SOME RESEARCH CURRENTLY BEING UNDERTAKEN BY REPOA

Tanzania Governance Noticeboard

This four year project commenced in September. The project's overall objective is to collect, process and present information relevant to the strengthening of accountability, transparency and integrity in Tanzania. The aim is to present this information in an easily accessible manner that is useful to stakeholders from all sections of society.

The project's main activities are to:

- Collect data on strategic issues, and develop a database;
- Have this information available through REPOA's website and printed material;
- Train stakeholders on how to access and use the data presented on the Noticeboard; and
- Support CSOs and media to develop and implement tools and methodologies for improving transparency and community oversight at the district and village level.

Our aim is that the data presented on the noticeboard will be able to be manipulated on-line so that each user can produce a table of



Chelans Rutachururwa, Magreth Henjeweje and Geir Sundet

data resulting in information that is relevant and meaningful to them. We are currently working on entering and cross-checking data; so keep checking our website for the first data release.

Our partner in this project is PADCO Inc (Planning and Collaborative International), (www.padcoinc.com), a U.S.A. based institution. USAID is funding the project.

Dr Geir Sundet, a consultant from PADCO Inc, is working with REPOA on this project. Geir has a strong interest in the areas of governance, transparency, decentralisation, electoral democracy, human rights and public sector reform; Geir did his doctoral dissertation on

Tanzanian politics. After spending some of his teenage years in Tanzania, he has worked in Tanzania since 1998. Geir is pleased to be involved in this landmark project, as is REPOA.

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list to receive the project briefs from the Tanzania Governance Noticeboard then please contact REPOA.

Poverty Mapping

The main objective of this study is to develop poverty estimates and statistics at the lowest geographical level possible, e.g. wards or divisions, by linking Household Budget Survey data of 2000/01 to the 2002 Population and Housing Census. The poverty mapping is mainly a statistical/econometric process involving regression analysis and modelling of household consumption estimates that were derived from the 2000/01 Household and Budget Survey. A study of this kind has not been done in Tanzania before and it should prove to be a vital tool for addressing poverty. For the first time Tanzania will have poverty estimates at the lowest level - we will be able to know exactly where the poor people are located. Until now, survey estimates have only provided information at the regional level.

The poverty mapping project was commissioned by the Research and Analysis Technical Working Group and is being carried out by a team of consultants from REPOA, the National Bureau of Statistics and the University of Dar es Salaam, with technical supervision by the World Bank. The project started in May this year and is expected to produce its first results by December 2004. Final results will be presented in geographical maps. We will present a summary of our first findings in our next newsletter.

Civil Society Project

This study is on the role, potential and effectiveness of civil society organisations (CSOs) in the broader development agenda. Also examined will be the relationship between CSOs, the government and development partners and how this impacts on development projects. REPOA has been commissioned by Dublin City University (www.dcu.ie) to carry out the Tanzanian case study as part of a larger study also involving Ethiopia and Nicaragua. This bulk of this project will be conducted during 2005.

Establishment of a Local Government Monitoring System for Land Management Programme (LAMP) Districts

REPOA has been commissioned to support the Land Management Programme (LAMP), a Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) (www.sida.se) supported district development programme. The objective is to complement the efforts of the Local Government Reform Programme (LGRP) to establish monitoring and evaluation units with comprehensive databanks at local government authorities. These databanks will be used to measure trends in council service delivery and performance, and the population's poverty status. This study is being conducted in the Babati, Kiteto, Simanjiro and Singida districts.

Tobacco Control Policy

REPOA is undertaking a situation analysis on tobacco control policy with funding from Research for International Tobacco Control (RICT), a research programme of the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (www.idrc.ca). This study will

culminate in a national workshop, co-hosted by the Tanzania Public Health Association (TPHA), with the objective of charting a research strategy on tobacco.

Children's Rights in Tanzania

Three proposals for research have been approved for funding and are currently underway. An important component of the successful research proposals is that they include capacity building on the methodologies of working with children. The funded research projects are:

“Attitudes of Men and Women in Tanzania Towards Female Genital Mutilation Performed on Girls of Under 18 Years: A Case Study of the Musoma Rural and Manyoni Districts.”

By Nuru Nguya, Justina Samson, M.A. Madubi and E.E. Chingonikaya

This study will assess the attitudes of people towards the practice of female genital mutilation, as well as its social value in the communities.

“Coping Strategies of Specially Vulnerable Children: A Case Study of the Lake Zone in Tanzania.”

By Kuleana Center for Children's Rights

The study seeks to identify the coping strategies of vulnerable children and sustainable strategies to address their problems.

“The Changing Patterns of the Social Caring of Orphans Since the Advent of HIV/AIDS in Northern Tanzania.”

By Severine Kessy and Fratern Urio

This study asks: Has the increase in the number of orphans altered the practice of caring for orphans? To what extent has the advent of

HIV/AIDS altered the social responsibility of caring for orphans?

Furthermore, two themes for commissioned research have been identified:

1. **Vulnerability and children's rights**
How children's rights are more susceptible to violation when a household or community is vulnerable.
2. **Access to health services by children**
Whether children from particular socio-economic groups encounter more problems in accessing health services and what these problems are.

We are planning a methodology workshop on research with children. This will be held as soon as a specialist to run this workshop is available.

A report on the brainstorming workshop held at the commencement of this programme is available on our website, go to Research Activities - Window II: the Structured Research Programme (SRP).

If you have an interest in children's rights please contact REPOA to be put on our children's network mailing list. Those on this list will receive information on the progress of this research programme.

Vulnerability and Social Protection Survey

Risks and uncertainty such as health, climate and market process dominate the lives of the poor; the survival of a household depends on how they can manage these risks. The World Bank has commissioned a study on vulnerability and the demand for a commodity insurance scheme. A workshop was held in November to discuss the initial findings from the first round of a survey, which is being conducted on 1,900



farmers from the Ruvuma and Kilimanjaro regions. Initial findings are that 73% of households in the Kilimanjaro region and 57% in the Ruvuma region have experienced at least one shock during the past five years.

The health risk is pervasive for both regions, but the climatic risk is more serious for those farmers from the Kilimanjaro region. Farmers and their families used accumulated assets to cope with these shocks. Informal assistance, usually from family members, is very important, with formal assistance almost non-existent. This survey is continuing with the second round of data collection.

Local Government Research Project

(also known as “**Formative Process Research on the Local Government Reform Programme**”)

With this programme nearing the conclusion of its first phase, team leader Odd-Helge Fjeldstad of Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) (www.cmi.no) offered his reflections on the project's progress and development. Odd is pleased with the progress of the project, especially the dissemination of the research findings in short policy briefs each focusing on a specific issue. These project briefs are considered to be well argued and policy relevant and Odd has been pleasantly surprised with the widespread interest the research has received from the general public, local government practitioners and academics from Tanzania and other countries.

Since reform processes take time and it can be difficult to trace any direct impacts over the short term; the project's term of up to five years provides the opportunity to trace the changes occurring in the six case study councils. This means that valuable policy recommendations can be made in the areas of governance, finances and service delivery.

When asked what changes had had to be made to the original plans for the research, Odd advised that they had underestimated how demanding this type of empirical research is. Initially the team had attempted to cover too many topics and this had prevented them from digging deeply into each issue for each council. This overstretching was addressed by focusing on key reform issues such as the local planning processes, financial accountability and local government revenue enhancement, and service delivery in the key sectors of education, health, and water supply.

The research is continuing; in the near future policy briefs will be available on: the challenges of improving water supply, participatory planning, privatised tax collection, gender budgeting and the quality of local government data and statistics. Research reports on local governance and service delivery will soon be published.

Odd concluded by expressing his gratitude for the positive and extremely valuable support given by the Local Government Reform Team (LGRT) and the management teams from the case study councils: Ilala Municipal Council, Iringa District Council, Mwanza City Council, Bagamoyo District Council, Moshi District Council and Kilosa District Council.

The project briefs are available in printed form from REPOA, or you can download the briefs from our website - go to Research Activities - Local Government Reform. Please contact REPOA if you would like to be placed on our mailing list to receive the printed copies of the briefs as soon as they are published. These are available at no cost.



RESEARCH FUNDED BY REPOA UNDER THE OPEN COMPETITIVE SYSTEM (ALSO KNOWN AS WINDOW ONE)

The following research proposals have been approved for funding since our last newsletter.

Agricultural and Rural Issues:

“Improving the Health and Productivity of Domestic Poultry Towards Poverty Reduction: The Case of Mwanga and Same Districts, Tanzania.”

By P.L.M. Msoffe and G. Emmanuel

This research is on the potential of domestic poultry to reduce household poverty, improve the economic empowerment of women and improve rural livelihoods.

“Agro-biodiversity and Food Security Amongst Smallholder Farmers in the Uluguru Mountains, Tanzania.”

By Johnathan Mbwambo

This study analyses crop diversity and its linkage to household food security amongst smallholder farmers. Socio-economic factors influencing crop diversity and food security are also examined.

“Harnessing Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEKS) Systems for Rural Livelihood Diversification and Poverty Reduction in the Bukoba Area.”

By Dr P.K. Mwanukuzi and Dr C.J. Sawio

This study, conducted in the Bukoba rural area, is on identifying ecological and social economic impacts resulting from changing land use and management; local knowledge based capital; and locating wetland assets and recommending strategies for land use.

Environmental Issues

“Community Participation as a Strategy for Poverty Alleviation in Swagaswaga Game and Chinyami Forest Reserves.”

By Dodoma Environmental Network (DONET)

This study is based on the contention that the use of natural resources as a way of earning income might endanger conservation efforts. The research assesses the extent to which community based natural resource conservation contributes towards alleviating poverty in the Dodoma region.

Finance and Business

“The Role Small Businesses Play in Poverty alleviation: The Case of Dar es Salaam Region, Tanzania.”

By Raymond Mnenwa and Emmanuel Maliti

This study analyses the role of small businesses in poverty alleviation and will determine existing and potential constraints and prospects.

Cultural and Health

“The Livelihoods of Youth in the HIV/AIDS Ravaged Areas of Tanzania – Their Living Arrangements and Coping Strategies: The Case of the Mbeya Region”

By Kizito Mwajombe, Adam Mwakalobo and Emmanuel Nyankweli

This study assesses the living arrangements, coping strategies and vulnerabilities of youth living in the Kyela and Mbozi districts of the Mbeya region. One objective of this study is to suggest possible policy measures to be incorporated into programmes addressing HIV/AIDS among the youth.

Education

“Socio-economic Backgrounds and Participation in Private Sector Higher Education in Tanzania: Implications for Equity in Higher Education.”

By Dr Johnson Ishengoma

This study probes the socio-economic backgrounds of undergraduate students enrolled in the privately paid study programmes at the University of Dar es Salaam and other private learning institutions. The study poses the question if the establishment of private sector education has really expanded access to and participation by all socio-economic groups.



THE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP OF THE POVERTY MONITORING SYSTEM

REPOA has created web pages for the Research and Analysis Technical Working group (R&AWG) on our website. On these pages we will advertise calls for proposals to the R&AWG and some reports the group has commissioned. Recent reports posted to this web page are:

“Policy and Service Satisfaction Survey”

By REPOA, October 2003

The Policy And Service Satisfaction Survey (PSSS) investigates public knowledge and perceptions of the Government of Tanzania’s Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and other policy initiatives. This survey also documents people’s views on the availability, quality and cost of basic social and economic services under the PRS. 3,002 households from seven regions were surveyed.

“Equity Implications of Health Sector User Fees in Tanzania. Do we retain the user fee or do we set the user f(r)ee? Analysis of Literature and Stakeholder Views”

By ETC Crystal, The Netherlands, July 2004

This report examines the equity implications of health sector user fees in Tanzania, with particular reference to the dispensary and health centre levels.

To learn about the Poverty Monitoring System and the Research and Analysis Technical Working Group go to

www.povertymonitoring.go.tz

SOME WORKSHOPS WE HAVE HOSTED SINCE JUNE



TSED Seminar Participants



Budget Debate

Following the presentation of the 2004-2005 budget in Parliament on the 10th of June 2004 by the Minister of Finance, Hon. Basil Mramba, REPOA in collaboration with the NGO Policy Forum (NPF) organised a forum for NGOs and CSOs to discuss the implications of the budget for poverty reduction. Approximately 60 people representing various organisations attended; including local and international NGOs, CSOs, banks and donors.

The report from this debate is available on our website at Training and Workshops – Recent Workshops and Forums.

Training on the Tanzania Socio-Economic Database (TSED)

During June, REPOA held a TSED thematic seminar on the environment in collaboration with UNDP through the Vice President's Office, and the National Bureau of Statistics. 35 representatives from government institutions and ministries, research and environmental institutions and NGOs attended.

The major objectives of the seminar were to strengthen the understanding and use of TSED within the environment and natural resource sectors (including environment, water, agriculture, wildlife, forests and fisheries); to use TSED in the development of poverty analysis for policy in environmental and natural resource

sectors (including agriculture), and PRS targets and MDGs; and to identify data gaps and needs of TSED in the area of environment and natural resource sectors, and the development of poverty-environment indicators.

The report from this seminar is available on our website at Training and Workshops – Recent Training. Or you can contact REPOA to request a printed copy.

To learn more about TSED go to www.tsed.org

Local Government Research Project

(also known as “**Formative Process Research on the Local Government Reform Programme**”)

A two-day workshop was held during August at REPOA for members of the research team, representatives from the case study councils, researchers, representatives of donors and some members of the project's reference group: the Local Government Reform Team (LGRT), the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT), the Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD), the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR), the Department for International Development (DfID) and the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI). The main objective of the workshop was to provide input on the draft progress reports.



Kim Sedara and Eng Netra

Two representatives from the Cambodian Development Resource Institute (CDRI) (www.cdri.org.kh) attended the workshop and shared their experiences on the process of decentralisation in Cambodia; before joining in on some fieldwork for the local government research project. Kim Sedara and Eng Netra shared some thoughts on their major impressions from their visit to REPOA and Tanzania, which was courtesy of NIBR.

The methodology of the fieldwork for the local government research project impressed them, including that the researchers on this project reflect a broad field of expertise, for example

political science, economics and social anthropology. They were also impressed that the research included discussions with a range of stakeholders, from national to local level.

They noted that Tanzanians were curious about taking part in the research and were serious about expressing their ideas. Kim and Eng appreciated that the researchers interviewed the women separately from the men and village councillors. This enabled the women to criticise their leaders and freely express their own ideas.

Our visitors' first impressions were that the process of local government reform in Tanzania was well structured and improvements had been made in responding to the demands of society. At the ward, village and district council level they found people to be similar to Cambodians, in that they were well informed about the activities of the government and were curious to know more. Kim and Eng noted the high level of education of the government officials in Tanzania.

Tanzania's vibrant society of mixed religions and tribes was fascinating to Kim and Eng; coming from a country that is approximately

Participatory Research Methodology Workshop





Training on Participatory Research Methodology

During September REPOA held a six day training course for representatives from CSOs, local government employees and other stakeholders. The aim was to give an overview of participatory research methodology. The training included an introduction to social and action research and emphasised research design, participatory methods, practical training in data collection and report writing. Field research trips to two villages were made as a practical exercise; with the course participants writing a report and giving a presentation on their findings from the fieldwork.

90% Buddhist and having only a small proportion of differing ethnic groups. They thought that this diversity could create difficulties when trying to introduce political reforms in Tanzania, due to the different beliefs and backgrounds of the constituents. They admired the way the government and people of Tanzania manage with these potential areas for disagreement, especially when compared to the performance of other African countries.

This training was part of REPOA's activities aimed at building the capacity for qualitative research and strengthening the linkages with CSOs and the grassroots communities they represent. Over 300 applications were received for this course, which was open for only 30 participants. REPOA plans to hold future workshops to meet this strong demand for training in this area.

All photos on this page are from the Participatory Research Methodology Workshop



FEEDBACK ON THE DIPLOMA COURSE

This one year part-time course commenced in August. It consists of three modules:

- Conceptualising poverty, vulnerability, and socio-economic insecurity;
- Exploratory data analysis (EDA) as a research tool, and
- Policy analysis for poverty reduction and socio-economic security.

Each module is conducted via distance learning, supplemented by an intensive ten day workshop held in Dar es Salaam. Students are required to study approximately twelve hours a week and must attend each workshop. The course results in either a diploma in itself, or constitutes as the first phase of a Masters in Policy Analysis.

During the first module, two students: Jane Mwangi, a data manager with the National Bureau of Statistics and Charles Assey, an economist with the Bank of Tanzania, shared their experience of the course so far. Jane's work often involves the poverty sector, so she was first attracted to the course as a way of learning more about the concepts, terms and jargon used with development issues. As she began her studies she realised what an interesting subject this is and that this study may be an avenue for a possible career change. An added attraction to this course in particular is that it uses material relevant to Tanzania, rather than other courses that rely heavily on literature from other countries. An added incentive for Charles was that he wanted to further his studies but did not want to leave his job, or have to live away from his family.

Keeping the correct balance of work, study and private life was proving difficult for both students. Strict planning, effective organisation and dedication are vital; with supportive employers, family and friends regarded as crucial.



Charles Assey and Jane Mwangi

The class of 22 comprises students from central government, private enterprise, NGOs, development partners and academic institutions. The students reside in Arusha, Iringa, Morogoro, Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam. Jane and Charles appreciated the diversity of their fellow students' backgrounds and careers. They said that they were learning from each other and had made friends, which was an unexpected bonus.

Feedback from Jane, Charles and fellow students is that they are enjoying the course. The clarity and simplicity of the teaching style, the supportiveness and constant encouragement from the tutors, the well designed course and quality of materials were often commented on.

The organisers of this course are the Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) (www.esrf.or.tz), the Institute of Social Studies (ISS, The Hague) (www.iss.nl) and REPOA. UNDP is sponsoring the first year of this course.

REPOA's Objectives

Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) is an independent non-profit Tanzanian NGO, established in 1994. It has the overall objective of deepening the understanding of the causes, extent, nature, rate of change and means of combating poverty in Tanzania. Our specific objectives are:

- To build and strengthen local capacity and competence to undertake rigorous independent research on poverty issues;
- To build an effective and autonomous poverty research network with local to global connections;
- To deepen the understanding of poverty issues among grassroots organisations, local researchers, research bodies, policy and decision makers;
- To contribute to the development of policies aimed at combating poverty, both locally and globally; and
- To disseminate research output and forge linkages between poverty research and interested parties, including decision makers in government, NGOs and grassroots organisations, business, academic and donor communities.

It is our conviction that research provides the means for the acquisition of knowledge and information that are necessary for improving the quality of welfare of Tanzanian society.

REPOA's Publications

A list of publications currently available is available from REPOA and on our website. For more information about the content of these publications refer to REPOA's website or contact REPOA. Our charges (on a cost recovery basis only) are:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Books | TSH 9,000 each
or US\$ 9.00 |
| • Special Papers | TSH 2,500 each
or US\$ 2.50 |
| • Research Reports | TSH 3,500 each
or US\$ 3.50 |

Postage charges will be added to orders received from outside Tanzania.

Mailing List

If you would like to be placed on our mailing list to receive our newsletter, project briefs, notices of forthcoming events, etc, please contact us. This subscription is a free service.

Feedback

We would appreciate your feedback. Please contact REPOA if you would like to comment on the content of this newsletter, make a query, or offer a suggestion for future content.



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